

# OCPA E-Alert July 2007



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### **Action Items**

- Contact Costa Mesa/Huntington Beach City Councils Objecting Recent Cattle Drives
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### **Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other**

- Ringling Bros Demonstrations – July 25 – August 5<sup>th</sup> at the Honda Center in Anaheim
- Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club – Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup> 1:30 p.m. at The Stand in Laguna Beach

## **Good News for the Animals!**

### ***Louisiana Becomes 50<sup>th</sup> State to Ban Cockfighting***

Louisiana recently voted to ban cockfighting – which makes it the 50<sup>th</sup> state to legislate against this blood sport. Earlier this year, New Mexico banned cockfighting in that state, while federal legislation passed that makes animal fighting crimes a federal felony.

### ***Section 123 Removed from Farm Bill***

Section 123 of Title 1 (which would have nullified many state and local animal protection laws) was removed from the farm bill earlier this month. The proposed \$12 million veal industry subsidy was also removed.

## ***Wendy's to Seek Suppliers with Improved Animal Welfare Standards***

Wendy's International, the world's third-largest hamburger chain, said it would give preferential treatment to pork and chicken suppliers who improve animal welfare standards. Wendy's said that 10 percent of its pork products come from hogs raised outside of gestation stalls – and it hopes to raise that figure to 20 percent by the end of 2008 and increase it over time. Wendy's will also give purchasing preference to chicken suppliers who explore and test more humane controlled atmosphere stunning systems.

## ***USDA's Downed Cattle Ban Made Permanent***

The USDA recently made permanent its prohibition on slaughtering downed cattle for human food. The interim policy was first instituted at the end of 2003 after a downed cow in the U.S. was confirmed to have mad cow disease.

## ***Two Humane Bills Moved Forward in CA***

AB 1477 and AB 449 recently passed the Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee. If passed, AB 1477 and AB 449 will work in concert with each other to establish fundamental standards that will provide basic protections for wildlife in California when wildlife control operators are hired to deal with conflicts between humans and wild animals.

AB 1477 will require that wildlife control operators inform customers of available non-lethal methods and that lethal methods actually will be used, if necessary, to kill the animal. In addition, non-target animals (such as family dogs and cats) found in traps would be immediately released or, if injured or diseased, would receive treatment. Finally, wildlife control operators would need to complete continuing education coursework.

AB 449: In situations where the animals must be killed, AB 449 would require that the animals captured by these individuals could be killed only by methods approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) panel on euthanasia.

## ***CA Cities/Counties Maintain Right to Enact Anti-Trapping Laws***

AB 815, legislation that would have stripped away the rights currently held by cities and counties in California — to enact local, community-specific anti-trapping laws — has come to a grinding halt in the Senate Natural Resources committee. If AB 815 had passed, the state Fish and Game agency would have become essentially the only entity with the power to adopt laws or regulations regarding the taking of fish and game in California.

## ***Nike Suspends Vick Contract***

Following protests outside Niketown stores and countless calls and emails to the company asking that they cut ties with Michael Vick in light of horrific allegations of his involvement with dogfighting rings, Nike released the following statement: "Nike has suspended Michael Vick's contract without pay, and will not sell any more Michael Vick product at Nike-owned retail at this time."

Reebok has also made the decision to stop sales of Michael Vick apparel, stating: "While we respect the legal process, we find the allegations against Mr. Vick too disturbing to ignore, therefore, we have decided to immediately suspend selling Vick NFL product, both at retail and online through the Reebok website."

This is great news for anyone who is concerned about cruelty to animals, and hopefully, it sends a strong message to the NFL that they need to do the same thing and suspend Michael Vick immediately, pending the outcome of this case.

## **Action Items – Your Letters/Calls Needed**

### ***Contact Costa Mesa/Huntington Beach City Councils Objecting Recent Cattle Drives***

Earlier this week, the OC Fair featured a cattle drive where cattle were driven through the streets of Costa Mesa to the fairgrounds. Now the city of Huntington Beach also apparently approved a cattle drive down PCH to the Huntington Beach pier (using the same cattle and horsemen as those in Costa Mesa).

Please contact the two city councils and voice your objection to subjecting the cattle to unnecessary chaos, confusion, and possible injury – not to mention the risk of injury to spectators – by parading farm animals through public city streets in our communities.

Contact Costa Mesa City Council Members, Costa Mesa City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, PO Box 1200, Costa Mesa, CA 92628-1200; Huntington Beach City Council Members, City of Huntington Beach, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA, 92648. For individual council member names, visit: <http://www.ci.costa-mesa.ca.us/council/councils.htm> and <http://www.surfcity-hb.org/ElectedOfficials/CityCouncil/>.

### ***Ask Denny's Not to Partner with Ringling Brothers***

Denny's family-style restaurant chain has developed a marketing partnership with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. According to a joint press release, this partnership is designed to provide families with an affordable and fun opportunity to spend time together. However, circuses with animal performers are certainly no fun for the animals involved who are trained through intimidation and abuse to perform tricks for a few minutes of "entertainment."

On behalf of the animals in the circus, please take this opportunity to let Denny's know your opinion of this partnership. Please contact Denny's CEO and politely urge him to end the marketing arrangement with Ringling Bros. and to let him know that the abuse and exploitation of animals for profit is not a fun form of family entertainment.

Contact: Nelson J. Marchioli, Chief Executive Officer and President, Denny's Corporation, 203 E. Main Street, Spartanburg, SC 29319, 864-597-8780 fax.

You can visit [Animal Protection Institute's](http://www.animalprotectioninstitute.org) website for more information and talking points for this issue.

### ***Urge Petsmart Not to Sell Rabbits***

PetSmart has recently announced plans to begin selling dwarf rabbits in its stores. This disturbing decision goes against its previous policy of not selling rabbits but instead partnering exclusively with local rabbit rescue organizations, thus allowing these groups a place to showcase the many homeless rabbits in need of adoption around the country.

PetSmart needs to hear from you in opposition to this decision, which is detrimental to the lives of countless rabbits who end up abandoned in shelters each year — often facing euthanasia. As the third most relinquished animal, behind dogs and cats, rabbits need all the protection they can get towards obtaining a good home, with a caregiver who can adequately meet their needs.

Please contact PetSmart and ask that it not sell rabbits, and instead continue in its tradition of partnering exclusively with rescue groups to find homes for the many homeless rabbits around the country. Additionally, ask that PetSmart discontinue the sale of all live animals in its stores.

Contact: PetSmart, Inc., 19601 N. 27th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85027, phone: 800-738-1385; fax: 623-580-6502.

You can visit [Animal Protection Institute's](http://www.animalprotectioninstitute.org) website for more information and talking points for this issue.

## Recent OCPA Activities

### ***Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club – Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup> 1:30 p.m. at Zen Vegetarian Restaurant in Westminster***

The Veg\*n Lunch group met on Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at the Zen Vegetarian Restaurant in Westminster for our monthly lunch get-together.

The Zen Vegetarian Restaurant is located at 9329 Bolsa Ave, Westminster, California 92683 (between Moran and Bushard in Little Saigon, Orange County); (714) 895-3637 – “vegan-friendly, Vietnamese, Chinese, Thai.”

### ***AR 2007 National Conference – July 19-23<sup>rd</sup> at the Westin LAX***

It was another great success this year – the largest animal rights conference in the U.S., AR 2007 National Conference, was held between July 19<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Westin LAX.

The conference featured over 100 sessions including workshops, raps and reports, 80 speakers from all sectors of the animal rights/welfare movement, vegan meals, free exhibits, videos and much more.

OCPA sponsored a table at the conference containing literature about our organization, foie gras campaign and other activities.

Visit <http://www.arconference.org> to view photos and other information about the event

## Upcoming Events – OCPA and Other

### ***Ringling Brothers Demonstrations – July 25 – August 5<sup>th</sup>, at the Honda Center in Anaheim***

Please set aside just a couple of hours this month to show up to protest the Ringling Brothers Circus on Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m. at the Honda Center (formerly known as The Arrowhead Pond.) Opinion polls show that most people are opposed to using animals for entertainment purposes. Let's inform those who still support this cruel and barbaric practice so that it will come to an end sooner than later.

Meet at 6:00 p.m. on the east side of the building. The Honda Center is located on Katella Ave at the 57 fwy in Anaheim. Bring signs if you can.

The circus runs from Wednesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. Protesting and leafleting any and all of these dates is encouraged.

Contact Evelyn at (714) 846-7081 for more information or Jason at [JasonB@peta2.com](mailto:JasonB@peta2.com)

#### **From PETA:**

Here is your chance to put your compassion into action for animals! We need animal advocates like you to take a stand against the Ringling Bros. Circus when it comes to Los Angeles and Anaheim. We hope you'll join us for our **Outreach Leafletings Wednesday, July 25 to Sunday, August 5 in Anaheim.** Demonstrations and leafletings like these are making an impact. Many potential circus goers turn around and go home after finding out how animals suffer in the circus.

**What:** Outreach Leafletings in Anaheim

#### **When:**

Wednesday, July 25, 6:00-7:30pm

Thursday, July 26, 11:30am-1:00pm and 6:00-7:30pm

Friday, July 27, 9:00-10:30am and 6:00-7:30pm

**Saturday, July 28, 10:00-11:30am, 2:00-3:30pm, and 6:00-7:30pm**

Sunday, July 29, 12:00-1:30pm and 4:00-5:30pm  
Tuesday, July 31, 6:00-7:30pm  
Wednesday, August 1, 11:30am-1:00pm and 6:00-7:30pm  
Thursday, August 2, 9:00-10:30am and 6:00-7:30pm  
Friday, August 3, 11:30am-1:00pm and 6:00-7:30pm  
Saturday, August 4, 10:00-11:30am, 2:00-3:30pm, and 6:00-7:30pm  
Sunday, August 5, 12:00-1:30pm and 4:00-5:30pm

**Where:** Honda Center (meet at the corner of E. Katella Ave. and S. Douglas Rd.), in Anaheim.

A Ringling review that ran in The Providence Journal says it best: "There was the usual bunch of animal acts, but none of them was all that dazzling... It seems, too, that the animal right people are starting to get to me despite reams of counter-publicity from the circus on the tender loving care all the animals receive."

Please contact **PETA's Lead Circus Monitor, Jason Bayless, at [JasonB@peta2.com](mailto:JasonB@peta2.com) or 757-943-7442** to RSVP or any questions you may have about the leafletings. Jason is also looking for volunteers to help video tape the animals! For more information on this campaign, to learn what former employees say about Ringling, and to view PETA's videos showing behind-the-scenes training, please visit [Circuses.com](http://Circuses.com).

We're in this fight together, and we couldn't do it without you. Thanks so much for everything that you do for animals!

### ***Veggie/Vegan Luncheon Club – Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup> 1:30 p.m. at The Stand in Laguna Beach***

Join us at our monthly veggie/vegan luncheon club on Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m., at The Stand in Laguna Beach.

The Stand is located at 238 Thalia Street, Laguna Beach, CA 92651 (about five blocks south of Main beach, ½ block north of PCH on the left); 949-494-8101. The Stand features outdoor seating and vegan/international cuisine.

We hope to see you there! Everyone – vegetarian, vegan or otherwise – is invited to join us for lunch. For more information or for carpooling, contact Wanda at 714-995-4889 or Evelyn at (714) 846-7081. And stay tuned for upcoming e-alerts for information about more of these types of gatherings in the future.

#### ***Special Note:***

If you are interested and available for tabling (distributing veg\*n, OCPA and animal rights literature) on Thursdays between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at Orange Coast College, contact Evelyn at (714) 846-7081 for arrangements.

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## **Thank you for everything you do for the animals!**

Orange County People for Animals is a Southern California-based 501(c)3 non-profit animal advocacy organization founded in 1988 to help create a compassionate, healthy and peaceful planet for all living beings.

For more information about OCPA, visit our web site at <http://ocpausa.org>. To become an OCPA member or to make a donation using a secure online form, visit <http://ocpausa.org/join.htm>, e-mail [donations@ocpausa.org](mailto:donations@ocpausa.org) or [subscription@ocpausa.org](mailto:subscription@ocpausa.org) for additional information.

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