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Home for the Holidays with the Legal Vegan!







Animal Law 2013!

Animal law luminaries go back to school at Stanford University

IT WAS ANOTHER SMASHING SUCCESS for the up and coming leaders in animal law! In October, the Animal Legal Defense Fund co-hosted the 21st annual Animal Law Conference at Stanford University, in collaboration with the Center for Animal Law Studies at Lewis & Clark University. Top speakers presented on some of the hottest topics in animal law. We are excited to share some of the highlights from this one-of-a-kind, all-vegan, pro-animal event. With some of the world's most innovative entrepreneurs in attendance, this was definitely an event not to be missed.

Renowned TV journalist Jane Velez-Mitchell—a tireless animal advocate, vegan, all-around animal hero, and host of her own cable news show on HLN TV—lent her expertise in crime and justice as the weekend's keynote speaker.

"Ultimately, I don't believe animals are property for us to purchase. I adopt animals because animals need guardians. For example, my three rescued Chihuahuas wouldn't do very well without me on the streets of New York. What are they supposed to do? They can't beg on the street corner, 'please, I'm out of work, give me some food!"

"The whole problem with pet overpopulation is a problem with people breeding for profit," Jane says. "We need to curtail that ... there are so many animals out there that need homes. You can continued on page 4



LETTER FROM THE **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

One Million **Signatures**



FOR THE RECORD S'

THE ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND ADVOCATES for animals to receive the full protection of the law as a fundamental right. Without legal protection, animals are defenseless against exploitation and abuse by humans. From the

shameful confinement of exotic animals like Ben the bear and Tony the tiger, to wildlife who are hounded, penned, trapped, and terrorized, to puppies treated like disposable machines in puppy mills, to ducks who are cruelly force-fed to become high-priced gourmet appetizers, to animals confined by hoarders in the most horrifying of conditions—the Animal Legal Defense Fund fights every day to protect the lives and advance the interests of animals within the legal system.

For example, in a successful end to our false advertising lawsuit against New York-based Hudson Valley Foie Gras, we have withdrawn our groundbreaking lawsuit, after the company agreed to stop advertising its products as "humane." We continue to fight the cruelty of forcefed foie gras and are making headway in our lawsuits against a Napa-based restaurant, and have helped ensure that California's ban continues to stand, despite industry challenges.

That is why more than a quarter of a million Americans have signed ALDF's Animal Bill of Rights, and supported the right of animals to be free from exploitation, cruelty, neglect and abuse, and to have their interests safeguarded by the laws of the land. During November's Election week, we hosted a week of action to build a groundswell of support for ALDF's Animal Bill of Rights. From classrooms to campuses to courtrooms, we helped spread the word through letter-writing campaigns, distribution of leaflets and bookmarks, and participation in our online photo collage. People across the nation shared their reasons for signing the Animal Bill of Rights!

The Animal Legal Defense Fund is aiming for one million signatures to let Congress know that the law must protect the basic needs and rights of animals—and provide justice for those who are abused or exploited. Please join us today and support this important campaign by signing the Animal Bill of Rights at AnimalBillofRights.org, Check out our video and other ways you too can help support animal rights!

For the animals,

Stephen Wells **Executive Director**

"If these were kittens, the whole country would be in an uproar."

-Bob Schenck, owner of Animal Instincts Aquarium and Pet Center in Fall River, Massachusetts, who said he would like to see the suspect who smashed fish tanks charged with animal cruelty



Stephen Wells Executive Director

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Pregnant Pigs Confined at State Fair

WARM SUMMER DAYS BRING THE EXCITEMENT of

state fairs—cotton candy and dunk tanks, carnival rides and country music! Family-friendly and filled with festivities, state fairs are usually fun for just about everyone. But this year, at the California State Fair, animal advocates were outraged to witness the cruel and unnecessary intense confinement of momma pigs.

Pregnant, birthing, and nursing pigs were displayed in body-gripping "farrowing crates" for three weeks this summer, unable to walk, turn around, or stand comfortably. That is why ALDF filed a lawsuit against the California State Exposition and Fairs ("Cal Expo") and the University of California Board of Regents for violating California's state anticruelty laws. Cal Expo is held in Sacramento in collaboration with the University of California at Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

California's anti-cruelty laws mean animals must receive adequate exercise and not be subjected to needless suffering. And yet, this year mother pigs were purposefully transported in the final days of their pregnancy so that they would give birth while on display. Upon arrival, the pigs were immediately placed in farrowing crates, up to a mere five feet from spectators, placing severe stress on mothers whose instinct is to isolate while nursing.

State tax dollars fund the fair; in fact, last year, taxpayers increased their educational funding to the UC Board of Regents, which already receives millions of taxpayer dollars annually. Who knew these school tax dollars would be contributing to the violation of animal cruelty laws?

"As a Californian, I oppose the use of my tax dollars to fund this cruel exhibit," said Berkeley's Bonnie Mencher, a plaintiff in ALDF's lawsuit. "As an expecting mother myself, my heart breaks for these pregnant pigs, who are kept in such unnatural and stressful conditions."

Humane alternatives to the intense confinement of farrowing sows were available, like the ones used at California's Alameda County Fair, that allow pigs to give birth offsite. These alternatives keep the pigs in open pens that permit exercise, nest building, and comfort. ALDF is asking the court to enforce state law, which would effectively bar the transport of pigs during the final two weeks of their pregnancy and mandate the provision of adequate exercise for the confined pigs.

"California's animal cruelty law protects pigs and dogs alike," said ALDF attorney Chris Berry. "The Fair should not be exempt from the prohibition against confining animals without adequate exercise simply because the confined individuals happen to be farmed animals."

ALDF knows Californians aim to protect the health and well-being of farmed animals. The State Fair should be a celebration of what is best about California—but the intense confinement of pregnant and nursing pigs does not reflect our laws or the values of its citizens.

THE ANIMALS' ADVOCATE

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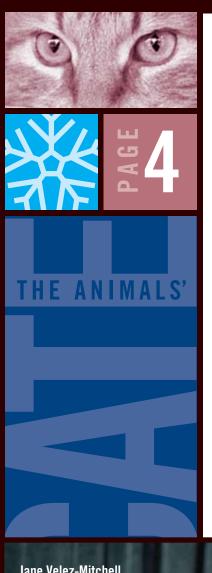




"As a Californian, I oppose the use of my tax dollars to fund this cruel exhibit."

—Bonnie Mencher, a plaintiff in ALDF's lawsuit





Animal Law 2013

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go to AdoptAPet.com and put in your zip code, and every possible dog you can think of is looking for a home."

"I'm passionate about all animal rights issues." She said she had covered many of the conference topics on her show as well, with one exception—so far. "That was about the registry of animal abusers created by the Animal Legal Defense Fund, and I have to do a story about that. This is my responsibility as a journalist."

"The Animal Legal Defense Fund is an incredible organization doing the most important work you can imagine for animals—and that means for people, too. Laws dictate society, and they're not going to change on their own. Whatever disenfranchised group has seen progress, it's because lawyers took action and advocated through the law and helped the law evolve. The lawyers at the Animal Legal Defense Fund are doing that for animals. Ultimately, what hurts animals hurts people."

ALDF executive director Stephen Wells opened the event by urging the next generation of animal lawyers to take action for ani-



mals no matter what type of employment they seek, whether as pro bono counsel, or in policy or government agencies. As Stephen says, "any legal system that relegates living, sentient beings to the status of mere property can never provide real justice." And that is why it is so important for us to fight for justice for animals within the legal system, and to improve that paradigm at the same time.

Another highlight of this weekend's events was a panel starring ALDF founder and general counsel Joyce Tischler, along with Jen Sorensen from the National Resources Defense Council, law professor Deborah Sivas, and Kathy Hessler, head of Lewis & Clark's animal law clinic. Together, they addressed important issues in the fight to reform factory farming.

Alternatives to meat were also a hot topic.





THE ANIMALS' ADVOCATE

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Josh Tetrick, CEO of Hampton Creek Foods (which produces the radical new vegan product, "Beyond Eggs," celebrated by the likes of Bill Gates) and David Benzaquen, founder of Plant Based Solutions, joined Dr. Patrick Brown, a professor of biochemistry from the Stanford School of Medicine. Their panel featured an illuminating discussion of how plant-based meat alternatives are taking off in business trends—an engaging discussion many attendees highlighted as their favorite that weekend.

Josh Tetrick explained that, as a former athlete, he "probably has had more steak, bacon, and eggs than anyone." But after learning about the system of intensive animal agriculture, he decided veganism was the best fit for him. "It was a natural path," he says. "I like to think of myself as being compassionate and kind, and I think it's pretty important that I eat that way." His plant-based sustainable food company was created "so people like my dad, who aren't even thinking about these things, can eat in a way that aligns with the welfare of animals...without even knowing it." And that is why, Josh says, "when you look at the legal system and its impact on animals," ALDF's work "helps to create a legal environment to change things in the first place."

Alternatives to animal testing, our ethical obligations to wildlife, and the intersections of issues of race, gender, and animal rights were other exciting topics considered during our wide variety of expert panels. ALDF's own attorneys Matthew Liebman and Justin Marceau discussed the complex dangers of "ag gag" laws, as well as the landmark lawsuit filed by ALDF and others against the state of Utah for violating the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution by targeting animal advocates and disrupting the collection of evidence of animal abuse.

Scott Heiser, ALDF's criminal justice pro-

gram director, spoke about new ways to protect animals by using civil laws to prosecute criminal acts. Carter Dillard and Chris Green, directors of ALDF's litigation and legislative programs, spoke about hot topics in animal law. Meanwhile, Pam Hart, Tom Linney, and Nicole Pallota spoke about ALDF's Animal Law Program and celebrated the work of student chapters.

ALDF was thrilled to have had so many innovative and passionate animal advocates in attendance and teaming up with us in our fight to win justice for animals. Thanks to our gold-level sponsor, Animal Welfare Financial Development, our silver-level sponsor Rick and Elaine Rosen-Laminack, our bronze-level sponsor Wendy B. Morgan, as well as VegNews media, who provided copies of their magazine *VegNews* for each attendee, and of course, Om Nom Nom Cookies, who donated delicious vegan cookies.

With the help of these and other donors, along with Liberty Mulkani, our conference organizer, this event was one of the great highlights of the year for animal advocates across the country! Check out aldf.org/animal-law-conference for video highlights!





Jane Velez-Mitchell with ALDF Executive Director Stephen Wells

Bob Klonoff, Dean of Lewis & Clark Law School with Stanford Law School Dean Liz Magill





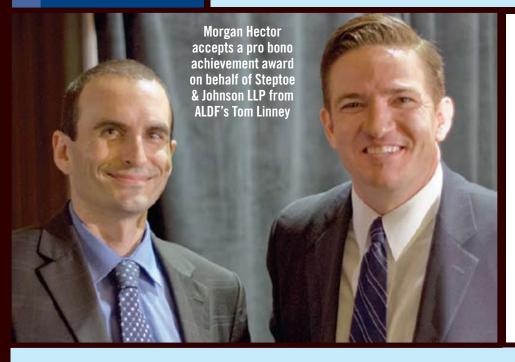
Year-End Giving Helps Animals

TIS THE SEASON TO BE GIVING! Right now, you can take a stand against animal cruelty at a crucial time of the year. You can easily double your dollars—to win justice for neglected, abused, or murdered animals—thanks to the generous anonymous donation from an ALDF supporter. Dollar for dollar, your contribution will be doubled, up to \$30,000!

Your tax-deductible year-end support helps defend innocent and defenseless animals, like Kyera and Dozer Boy, two innocent dogs in Colorado who were fed poisoned meatballs by a neighbor, Joseph Losinski. ALDF was able to assist in the successful conviction of this abuser. ALDF is winning the case against animal cruelty with landmark law-

suits that procure important victories, like the cases that helped free Ben the Bear from a roadside zoo in North Carolina. We tackle cruelty on factory farms, as we did representing against A &L Poultry in the largest farmed animal rescue in California history. We also work with lawmakers to develop the nation's first animal abuser registries. And of course, we are winning our case to free Tony the Tiger, housed at a Louisiana truck stop.

Justice for animals is a hard battle, but your help makes it possible. As a donor, you are a voice for the truly voiceless among us. Visit aldf.org for more information on how your generous donation will double the impact of our fight against animal abuse.



The Legal Vegan!

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compassionate choices isn't all about saying no. ALDF knows being a vegan means eating delicious, healthy, natural, and organic foods that derive from plants, rather than sentient, conscious beings. We wear sustainable fashions and use cruelty-free household products so our environmental impact is better for animals and humans, too. We avoid marine theme parks, zoos, rodeos, and circuses that exploit elephants, tigers, lions, bears, orcas, and many more animals in the most cruel and uncaring ways for profit.

Check out our online resource for more information at aldf.org! And keep your eyes out for our upcoming Legal Vegan brochure!

Pro Bono: Giving Back to the Animal Community

WORKING FOR THE ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND IS AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY to provide legal justice for animals. But there are many other ways that people can work in the field of animal law. The amount of work we do wouldn't be possible without pro bono assistance. Winners of the 2013 Advancement in Animal Law Pro Bono Achievement Awards helped contribute to nearly 5,000 hours of donated legal service last year alone. Such assistance includes helping ALDF protect ducks and geese by fighting the cruel foie gras industry's attempt to overturn the California force-fed foie gras ban; taking action against a pet store chain that sells puppy-mill dogs; submitting amicus briefs in cases that challenge the legal status of animals as property; and petitions to federal agencies to enforce animal cruelty laws and to better regulate those that break them.

ALDF is proud to honor the following individuals with the 2013 Advancement of Animal Law Pro Bono Achievement Awards:

Virginia Coleman—Ropes & Gray LLP Anthony Eliseuson—Dentons US LLP Zachary Golden—Ropes & Gray LLP Erik Ideta—Troutman Sanders LLP Alison Langlais—Proskauer Rose LLP Jessica Rostoker—Latham & Watkins LLP David Zaft—Caldwell Leslie & Proctor, PC In addition, the following law firms were awarded **Advancement of Animal Law Pro Bono Achievement Awards:**

Bingham McCutchen LLP • Fenwick & West LLP Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP • HendlerLaw Irell & Manella LLP • Kirkland & Ellis LLP McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP • Moye White LLP Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP Steptoe & Johnson LLP • Winston & Strawn LLP Thank you for your hard work!



Rescue Tails for the Holidays!

EVERY YEAR, THE ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND cel-

ebrates those kindhearted folk who become guardians of animals who need loving "forever" homes. Whether a chicken rescued from a factory farm, or a dog rescued from a puppy mill, adoption is always the best option. So many animals need loving care!

Every year we hold an online "Rescue Tails" contest in which we ask our supporters to send in "tales" and photos of the rescued animals in their lives. We allow everyone to vote for their favorite rescue story—showcased on our Facebook and Pinterest pages.

This year, all the wonderful stories of compassion and companionship had our tails wagging! More than 1,200 animal lovers voted for their favorite photo story! We are happy to announce that "Gracie" won by a landslide and will be featured on ALDF's holiday card! Visit aldf.org/shop to order your own ALDF cards to share with friends and loved ones. Congratulations Gracie and family!

Eight week old Gracie was a shelter dog with severe sinus, esophageal, and digestive problems. She couldn't keep food down and ate in a contraption that kept her body upright while eating. Returned to the shelter by her first foster, Gracie was unadoptable. But an advocate at the shelter wouldn't give up on her, even after she contracted aspirational pneumonia six times in one year. In jeopardy of euthanasia, she was adopted by her foster mom. With faith and love, today Gracie is well and happy.



The 2013 contest is now closed, but it's not too early to start taking pictures for next year! We are always on the lookout for rescued animal photos to share on social media! Email us your high-resolution photo and story to photocontest@aldf.org.



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2013 Rescue Tails winner — Gracie!



Runner-up "Taylor," who was dumped onto the streets of Long Beach, California. The landlord threw bleach at Tavlor to get him to stay away from the apartment house. When Taylor's new guardian took him in. his fur was like straw, with patches missing. His skin was covered with small sores. As you can see, he is completely recovered and gorgeous!



Photo finisher
"Flaco" really
gave us something to bark at.
His animal
guardian rescued him from
the TriCounty
Animal Humane
Society animal
shelter, and
named him Flaco
(Spanish for
"skinny").

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Send Congress a
Message With the
Animal Bill of Rights



ALDF's Rescue Tails winners!

The Legal Vegan!

Holiday Recipes for Animal Lovers

WE ALL KNOW THE HOLIDAYS ARE A TIME FOR FOOD, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS... emphasis on the *food!* While we give thanks and celebrate the season of giving, we also reflect on why the work we do is so important to protecting the lives of animals. Part of that means thinking about the way we eat, the choices we make, and the impact of our choices on our nonhuman companions.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund supports a plant-based, *vegan* (vee-guhn) diet because the power we have through our purchases is one of the best ways to affect industries that harm animals. Meanwhile, ALDF works through the legal system to make groundbreaking advances for animals and to fight landmark cases of cruelty on factory farms and in laboratories.

Check out ALDF's Pinterest boards at http://www.pinterest.com/ALDF/vegan-holiday-recipes/ for delicious cruelty-free options this holiday!

Don't want to support agricultural industries that torture, abuse, and maim *billions* of animals every year? Don't eat meat. Don't want to support cruel and unnecessary exploitation of animals in laboratory facilities? Don't buy products that have been tested on animals!

But a vegan lifestyle, a plant-based diet, and making continued on page 6

