

Summer 2016



Animal News

The Newsletter of the Alliance for Animals and the Environment
Wisconsin's Voice for Animals Since 1983

SAVE THE DATE

Vegan Chili Cook-off
Saturday, October 8, 2016

Check our website and Facebook page for more upcoming events, meetings, and volunteer opportunities.

www.allanimals.org
www.facebook.com/afaewisconsin
608-957-2392



Tributes and Memorials

Theron Ris, artist, outspoken advocate for animals, and longtime Alliance member and volunteer, passed away on May 7, 2016 in Madison. Theron spoke up for animals at hearings and protests, and her unique and whimsical paintings demonstrated her love for all animals. She will be remembered for always saying, “What a shame, that person walking without a dog.”



We will miss you, Theron.

A generous gift was made to the Alliance in memory of Fran Remeika.

Lesley Gennrich made a donation in honor of her son, his beloved kitty, Persia, and to all her wildlife friends. All animals deserve respect.

6th Annual Mad City Vegan Fest Recap

The sixth annual Mad City Vegan Fest, which took place at the Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall on Saturday, June 18, was a fantastic success!

We had a record turn-out of 3,467 attendees and received much positive feedback from exhibitors, speakers, and attendees. They loved the large food court, products sampled and sold in the exhibitor hall, and inspiring speakers! The most common complaint was that it was a bit crowded, even at the larger venue. We may need to expand our space again next year!

There are countless numbers of people to thank for making this such a success, but we want to thank Gina Stuessy for her dedication and enthusiasm for this event, first as an unpaid volunteer and then as a contracted employee. She is stepping down after this year, but her legacy will remain.

A special thanks to all our volunteers (nearly 100 the day of the event!) and especially our core volunteers: Aaron Yarmel, Dave Friedman, David Gohdes,

Elissa Blaeser, Evan Cameron, Lucy Pearson, Mikey Stewart, and Mollie Stolbov.

We'd like to thank all the companies that donated samples and prizes, and the sponsors who helped us host the event at a new, larger location this year:

Gold Level

Metro Market and A Well-Fed World

Silver Level

Mother Fool's Coffeehouse, Pig Minds Brewing Co., and Willy Street Co-op

Bronze Level

First Unitarian Society of Madison, Green Singles, Heartland Farm Sanctuary, Imperial Garden Chinese Restaurant, NessAlla Kombucha, Serenity Osteopathic, Sheraton Madison, Sierra Club - Four Lakes Group, and Vegan Outreach

If you couldn't attend the Fest or if you missed a speaker's presentation, don't fear. You can find videos of all of them here: <http://tinyurl.com/jvfm1rc>

Don't Walk Away From Dogs in Hot Cars!

State Law Exempts Citizens to Enter a Vehicle to Assist Domestic Animals

Many of us have been in a situation where we notice a dog locked in a car in a grocery store parking lot on a warm day. We also know that when it's 72 degrees outside, the temperature in a car can heat up to 99 degrees in only ten minutes. Rolling down the windows has shown to have little effect on the temperature inside the car. What can we do?

Wisconsin now has a state law addressing this issue. You can read the entire act at <http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2015/related/acts/103>

If you see an animal or a person that you believe is endangered by the heat (or cold) inside a locked vehicle, you may forcibly enter that vehicle to remove the animal or the person

Before taking that drastic action, however, you must first make sure the vehicle is locked, call 911 or law enforcement, and only use as much force needed to enter the vehicle. Other steps to help an animal in a hot car:

1. Collect the vehicle's make, model and license plate number. If you are at a local business, ask the store's manager to make an announcement to find the owner.

2. Call 911 or law enforcement.

3. Remain with the vehicle until law enforcement arrives. You have the power to save a life!

Give Animals a "Brake"

by Michael Finn

Every day in the United States, over one million animals are hit by cars, buses, and other motor vehicles. But the dangers aren't only for the animals. An estimated 200 people die each year from accidents involving collisions with wildlife. While we have an ethical obligation to watch out for animals on the road, altering our driving habits can help save our lives and those around us.

Consider adopting the following tips:

Travel at or below the speed limit.

Not only does a slower pace provide you with more time to scan the road/brush as you drive along, but you'll be better prepared to brake without posing dangers to your and animals' lives.

Be conscientious of the season and time of day.

Be extra cautious from spring throughout summer. Because many animals become active between dusk and dawn, you'll want to be especially focused at these times.

Stay to the center of the lane in one way traffic.

When it's safe for you, driving towards the center lane can help increase your visual field.

Be especially careful on two-way roads that wind through woods, corn fields, or brush.



Because human activity is often limited in these areas, animals are less prone to take caution when crossing.

Avoid throwing garbage or discarded food out of your car.

Discarded food on the road attracts hungry animals.

Use your high beams whenever possible.

As you drive, try to spot the reflection of your lights in the eyes of animals that may be in the distance. Many times this will be your first indication of an animal hiding ahead of you.

Be careful in neighborhoods where squirrels, rabbits, and domestic animals may dart out.

It's helpful to take caution when passing large trees or parked cars where animals may suddenly lunge into view. An estimated 1.2 million dogs and 5.4 million cats are killed each year on U.S. roads.

By considering the tips above you'll help ensure your safety, the safety of wildlife, and others.

Milwaukee Pridefest

Several of the Alliance's Milwaukee volunteers worked all three days of this year's Milwaukee Pridefest to spread awareness of conditions in factory farms and to hand out samples of vegan food.

Over 100 people watched a video about where animal products come from, and hundreds more tried samples of vegan meat and cheeses and received literature about choosing a vegan lifestyle.



Many thanks to our Milwaukee volunteers!

Alliance Continues to Take On Pig Wrestling in Wisconsin

by Lynn Pauly

The Stoughton Fair's annual pig wrestling event in Dane County has been **canceled!**

The outpouring of support for our Change.org petition caught the attention of several Stoughton City Council members who quickly put the issue on their June meeting agenda. Alliance supporters and others opposed to this cruelty attended the meeting and made thoughtful comments opposing pig wrestling; the meeting lasted long into the night. City Council members also listened to those who wanted the event to continue, but then voiced their own concerns and voted unanimously to ask the Fair Board to cancel the event, which the Fair Board did. The Stoughton City Council is now working on a city ordinance to ban pig wrestling for good. Times are changing!

The Monroe County Fair, held in Tomah, has scheduled a "Hug-A-Pig" contest for July 27. The goal at this event is to chase a pig and stuff him/her into a barrel while a crowd shouts and cheers. The Alliance has purchased billboard space at a busy intersection in Tomah. The billboard reads: "Say No to Hug-A-Pig at the County Fair" and directs people to our NoPigWrestling.org website. It will be displayed during the entire month of July. Again, we have contacted City Council members and Fair Board members. Our online petition now has over 100,000 signatures from all over the world.

It's Bullying, Plain and Simple

Anyone can Google "pig wrestling" and watch many videos online. These spectacles are like older or bigger kids ganging up on a smaller child on the playground. It's bullying, plain and simple. Society at large, our President and First Lady, the American Federation of Teachers, and celebrities like Ellen DeGeneres are speaking out against bullying, as a serious issue, and as a behavior that shouldn't be tolerated.

Others Agree That It's Unacceptable

We don't normally get a chance to quote pork producers saying something good, but even the Swine Care Handbook published by the National Pork Board says: **"At all stages, pigs should be handled with care, gentleness, and patience. Pigs are very alert and curious when put into a new situation. ... Even very small disturbances in their surroundings can frighten them."**

A spokesperson for the Indiana 4H Headquarters at Purdue University has said plainly that: **"Pig wrestling as a sport or entertainment is not consistent with what we teach in 4H. Thus we want to be explicitly clear that pig wrestling is not an activity endorsed in any way by the Indiana 4H Program."** The Wisconsin 4H Headquarters at the UW has not responded to our request for their position.

Pig wrestling has been illegal in the state of Minnesota for 45 years. Let's do the same in Wisconsin! We can't do it without you.

What You Can Do

1. Visit our NoPigWrestling website at www.nopigwrestling.org. There you will find current online petitions and the names and addresses of people to write, urging them to end pig wrestling in Wisconsin. Share the page on FaceBook.
2. If you hear of pig wrestling events in your area, send us newspaper clippings or email links to their events.
3. Boycott any summer event that has pig wrestling and let the organizers know why you aren't attending. Let us know if you get a reply.
4. Attend our Animals in Entertainment meeting on July 27 at 6:00 pm at the Lakeview Branch of the Madison Public Library. Contact Lynn Pauly at lynn@allanimals.org with questions.
5. Make a donation to the Alliance for our pig wrestling campaign so we can purchase more billboards, newspaper advertisements, and print more literature.
6. Go vegan so all animals are treated with respect and dignity.





**Alliance for Animals and
the Environment**
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Introducing New and Returning Board Members



Lynn Pauly
Board President

Lynn has worked for several national animal rights groups and locally shared the Executive Director position at the Alliance with husband Rick Bogle from 2008-2013. During that time the Alliance was instrumental in the Dane County ban on elephants in circuses, Mad City Vegan Fest, and the Alliance's strong vegan and anti-vivisection presence in Madison.

She is committed to strengthening the Alliance as the voice for the animals of Wisconsin who cannot speak for themselves. Lynn resides in Madison with husband Rick and a most superior canine, Micky.



Megan Ryan
Board Secretary

Megan became interested in animal rights around the time that she gave birth to her son, Jackson in 2004. Upon

making a connection with this little being, she started really thinking about the connections that animals have with each other, specifically farmed animals, and how those relationships are broken by humans. When she thinks about a mother cow having her calf ripped away from her, it fills her with great sadness.

She became vegetarian shortly after Jackson was born and then gradually went vegan. She learned about the Alliance at the Dane County Farmer's Market one morning, when Jackson was attracted to a stuffed monkey. Ann Emerson struck up a conversation with them and described some of the terrible things that were being done to animals in labs in Madison. That day was the catalyst for her involvement with the Alliance.