

NH ANIMAL RIGHTS LEAGUE



NHARL Newsletter

October 2017

Lolita Update

Lolita's continued suffering at the Miami Seaquarium (MSQ) will be the topic of much conversation in the coming months. Two significant events are taking place in Florida that could affect Lolita's chances of feeling the ocean again. On Tuesday October 17th, Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine petitioned his city commission to pass a resolution calling on the MSQ to retire Lolita. This vote passed unanimously, and now letters are being sent to other Florida Mayors to sign. When Howard Garret of the Orca Network was asked if Miami Beach has any jurisdiction over MSQ, or if this is symbolic, he stated, "Miami Beach has no direct jurisdiction over the MSQ so this is symbolic, but in a very big way. Mayor Levine is a very prominent businessman in Miami and is probably running for Governor. He has many friends in high places." The other major event will take place on Wednesday, December 6th. This will be a hearing for the appeal for Lolita under the Endangered Species Act. The court will hear the oral arguments in the appeal of the dismissal of the case vs. the MSQ for violations of the Endangered Species Act, or "harm or harassment" of Lolita. Both sides will have 15 minutes to present their arguments. Delci Winders will be arguing this appeal on behalf of Lolita. Delci is Vice President and Deputy General Counsel for Captive Animal Law Enforcement at the PETA Foundation. Delci was also a speaker this summer at the March for Lolita in Portsmouth, NH. For more info on the fight to Retire Lolita visit <http://www.orcanetwork.org/Main/> or www.RetireLolita.com

Lolita's family also needs our help. The Southern Resident Killer Whales who call the waters of Washington State home, are endangered and are dying at an alarming rate. This population is starving to death and they need action now. We must get Washington State leaders to pay attention to this issue and ask them to support breaching the Lower Snake River Dams NOW. Breaching these dams will open-up critical habitat for Chinook salmon, which makes up 80% of the Southern Resident Killer Whales' diet. You can help by calling Senator Patty Murray: (206) 553-5545 or email these state representatives today: shawn_bills@murray.senate.gov, maria@cantwell.senate.gov, david.postman@gov.wa.gov, keith.phillips@gov.wa.gov, robert.duff@gov.wa.gov, Mary.Anderson@gov.wa.gov.

More information can be found on page 4 of this newsletter. Also you may contact James Glover at glover31188@yahoo.com

NHARL Board of Directors

Linda Dionne
Cindy Glenn
James Glover
Emily Murphy
Karen Wayment

Veterinary Adviser
Barry Taylor, DVM

Newsletter Editors
Linda Dionne
Ruth Tanner Isaks

NHARL Board Election

Attached/Enclosed is the election ballot for the NHARL Board. The newly elected board will be announced at our annual meeting and Gentle Thanksgiving celebration. Your ballot should be returned to our election assistant, Ruth Tanner Isaks, before November 20. If you aren't sure if your membership is up-to-date to be eligible to vote please contact Linda Rauter at 603-798-5776 or llr@tds.net.

Become a Member

NHARL, P.O. Box 4211, Concord, NH 03302-4211

nhanimalrightsleague@gmail.com www.nhanimalrights.org

To become a member or make a donation use the membership/donation form at the website or send a check, made out to NHARL, to our P.O. Box. Yearly membership is \$20 and Students, Juniors, or Seniors are only \$10. Lifetime membership \$200 for you and spouse.



Pig Scrambles

In September, NHARL member Kristina Snyder collected thousands of signatures on a Care2 petition and organized a successful protest, attended by dozens of protesters, against pig scrambles.

The protest was held on the opening day of Deerfield Fair. Deerfield Fair, as well as many fairs in NH and elsewhere, have pig scramble events in which children and adults participate. The media took an interest in the issue and had articles in several local newspapers, in their hard copies and online. Kristina gave many interviews, before, during, and after the protest. She was invited to speak at the October meeting of the Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals. Kristina has also formed a Facebook group called *New England Pig Scramble Awareness Coalition*. If you are interested in helping or have any questions, please drop Kristina an email at khsnyder22@yahoo.com

Some Traditions Deserve to Die by Barry N. Taylor, DVM

When the Fall fair season rolls around, I am often asked to voice my opinion of the many forms of abuse our domesticated animals are subjected to, under the guise of "entertainment". Amongst the most heinous of these is the "pig scramble".

In a pig scramble, a young pig, usually two to three months of age, is chased by a group of children, all competing for the "prize" of grabbing the terrified animal by a hind leg and shoving him into a bag.

I know that the mere fact that the shrieking pig is panic-stricken is not enough incentive to bring about a ban of this cruel "game", although we would never consider subjecting a dog – an animal of similar intelligence and emotion – to the same treatment. Renowned animal behaviorist Dr. Temple Grandin has this to say about fear and suffering: "In assessing criteria for suffering, psychological stress-- which is fear stress--should be considered as important as suffering induced by pain." The barbaric act of chasing a baby animal, which truly believes that it is fleeing for its life, is as cruel as shocking it or beating it.

And make no mistake, there is physical pain involved as well. The hind limb of a young pig is not mechanically designed to support the weight of the entire animal when suspended upside down. Add to this the fact that this 30 to 40 pound young animal will be literally "pig-piled" upon by a dozen or so children, each pulling at it in opposite directions, and the likelihood of severe musculoskeletal injury or eye trauma is very high.

Perhaps many of you have fond memories of competing, or having a child compete, in these events in years past. In fact, many of our "traditional" uses of animals were steeped in cruelty and a misunderstanding of the complex nature of the emotions and intelligence of our companion animals. The life of an animal destined for the slaughterhouse is unhappy enough without adding another level of horror to its brief existence.

Upcoming Events

Fur-Free Friday– This year we will hold this protest at the corner of Loudon Rd. and Hazen Dr. in Concord, NH. At this location we will simultaneously reach holiday shoppers and send a message to the NH Fish and Game Department that recreational fur trapping should end. Trapping is nothing more than a hobby that is both cruel and unnecessary. Please meet on the corner for this 2 hour protest at 12 pm.

Gentle Thanksgiving Celebration and NHARL Annual Meeting– This vegan potluck event has been growing every year. Last year we had a full room at the Marion Gerrish Community Center in Derry so we determined it was time to find a larger venue. This year we reserved Fellowship Hall at the Unitarian Universalist Church on 274 Pleasant Street in Concord, NH. This room will hold about 100 for dining. Please join us on Sunday, November 26 at 2 PM for this celebration and annual NHARL meeting. Each person should bring a vegan dish to share with everyone. NHARL will provide the vegan roasts. You can sign-up to attend at the NH Vegan/Animal Rights Meetup Group www.meetup.com/vegan-2014/ or write nhanimalrightsleague@gmail.com or call (603)-377-0225.

The Year in Brief (2017)

January– Attended legislative hearings and wrote our legislators about animal bills beginning in January.

February– Protested in Manchester for Cecil/against trophy hunting.

April– March for Lolita in Portsmouth.

April– Leafletted Dartmouth College over animal research violations.

April– Trapping Protest outside of the annual Discover Wild Day of the NH Fish and Game Department.

May– Tabled at Concord Pride for captive marine animals.

May– Tabled at NH Vegfest.

May– The last ever Ringling circus protests at the arena in Manchester.

June– Tabled for veganism at the Stratham SPCA Paws Walk.

June– Tabled for veganism at Concord Market Days.

June and September– Protests for Lolita outside of Water Country.

July– Had a light brigade event for Lolita in downtown Portsmouth.

July– Protested Kelly Miller Circus in NH and MA.

August– March for Lolita in Portsmouth.

August– Our annual summer vegan potluck outing in Portsmouth.

September– Did weekends of vegan tables at Pet Fair (Bedford Animal Rescue League), Mutt Strut (Manchester Animal Shelter), and a table for captive marine animals at the Walk for Animals (Concord Pope Memorial SPCA).

September– Vegan talk at Dartmouth College.

September– Pig scramble protest at Deerfield Fair.

October– Protested pheasant stocking/hunting in Concord.

October– Screened Cowspiracy at the MUB theater at UNH.

October– Vegan talk at UNH.

October– Attended the Boston Animal Rights March.

We may have another fur protest in December if the weather cooperates and if there is enough interest.

Thank You to Everyone for continuing to support animals and our work for them. Have a Great Holiday Season and Happy New Year.

Legislative Update

Dear NHARL Friends,

Below is a list of legislative service requests for animal related bills sponsored by members of the NH House of Representatives for the legislative session beginning January 2018. As of this writing, bills sponsored by members of the NH Senate have not been completely listed on the state's website so we may be seeing several more LSRs in the next few weeks. We should start to see bill numbers and bill full text later in November. The bills will be formally introduced in January, assigned to a Committee, and then can be tracked on the state's website: www.nh.gov .

- 2018-2075**, T. Horrigan, relative to cruelty to non-captive wildlife
- 2018-2078**, B. Stone, relative to animals in motor vehicles (this bill would allow civilians to rescue animals left in hot cars without liability for damages)
- 2018-2085**, J. Janigian, relative to service dogs
- 2018-2101**, M. Moffett, relative to trespassing fowl
- 2018-2165**, S. Darrow, relative to dog licenses
- 2018-2189**, W. Marsh; V. Irwin; B. Nelson; E. DesMaris; L Massimilla, relative to animal cruelty and costs of care for such animals (this bill would clarify some of the circumstances under which animals may be removed in cruelty situations, including costs of care)
- 2018-2285**, S. Smith, relative to transferring dogs , cats and ferrets by animal shelter facilities
- 2018-2292**, J. Spillane, D. Itse, A. Baldasaro, M. Costable, N. French, relative to live trapping of wild rabbits and hares by sporting clubs
- 2018-2292**, J. Spillane ; J. Reagan; R. Howard, permitting hunting with an air rifle
- 2018-2294**, C. Mathews; P. Francese, relative to the protection of beavers
- 2018-2463**, G. Dickey, relative to the forfeiture fee regarding dog licenses
- 2018-2688**, M. Scruton, establishing a Committee to study animal welfare in NH

It looks like it could be an interesting session! If you have any questions about tracking bills or the legislative process, don't hesitate to contact me at: jeans1155@hotmail.com .

Jean Slepian

(Jean is a local activist who keeps track of legislation for us. Thanks Jean!)

The Case for Breaching the Four Lower Snake River Dams to Recover Wild Snake River Salmon

Carl Christianson, Biologist, retired USACE; Sharon Grace, Attorney; Jim Waddell, P.E., retired USACE

Salmon are keystone species, critical to preserving the Snake River ecosystem. All four Snake River wild salmon runs are threatened with extinction and listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The four lower Snake River dams are a major cause. Recovery measures for wild salmon costing billions of dollars have failed. Problems inherent in the huge slack water reservoirs created by the dams cannot be fixed. The reservoirs have flooded out the natural river flows and riparian habitat, destroyed spawning grounds and rearing habitat, decreased river flow, and exposed juveniles to a host of aquatic predators and pathogens that thrive in the reservoirs. As a result, wild salmon are not meeting even minimal survival goals, much less recovering. This is despite a decade of favorable ocean conditions. Dam breaching offers the only opportunity to recover the natural flowing Snake River and its wild salmon, and with them, the Snake River ecosystem. All other previously identified recovery measures have been tried. It is time to do the right thing and breach the Snake River dams. To meet survival goals and provide wild salmon a fighting chance to recover, dam breaching must begin immediately.

For this full report visit: <http://www.orcanetwork.org/Main/>