



# NEW HAMPSHIRE ANIMAL RIGHTS LEAGUE

Newsletter May 2022

## Tribute: Katherine Rogers

*by Jean Slepian*

On April 10th, we lost one of the most powerful voices for animals we've ever had in the New Hampshire Legislature. Rep. Katherine Rogers passed away after a months-long battle with cancer.



Rep. Rogers was as tough as they come and just as kind-hearted. She never backed down in her advocacy for vulnerable people and animals—an inspiration for all of us.

More than anything else, she loved her little pug, Romeo... He will go to live with dear friends of Katherine's who helped to care for him during her illness.

Hopefully, 2023 will be a better year for animals in the NH Legislature, and Representatives and Senators on both sides of the aisle will be guided by the memory of their late colleague, Rep. Rogers. Tough, tenacious, and sometimes a bully, she never backed down in fighting for vulnerable people and animals. I was privileged to know her... her spirit inspires me to work harder and never give up.

Rest in peace, Katherine, free from pain.

## Upcoming Tabling Events

### Paws Walk 2022

Date: Sunday, June 5th, 2022

Time: Festival begins at 10 am

Location: Stratham Hill Park (270 Portsmouth Ave, Stratham, NH 03885)

### Concord Market Days

Date: June 23rd, 2022, thru June 25th, 2022

Time: Daily 10 am to 10 pm

Location: Downtown Concord, New Hampshire

We are always looking for volunteers to work at our tabling events. If you are interested, please email [nhanimalrightsleague@gmail.com](mailto:nhanimalrightsleague@gmail.com)

## Miękki Update

We are delighted to report that Miękki—the snapping turtle formerly named Shelly, whom NHARL liberated [from life in a fish tank after 24 years](#)—is enjoying her vastly improved existence at the [Turtle Rescue League](#) in Southbridge, MA.

Miękki can now move about freely, is losing the excess weight, enjoys interacting with her caretakers, and reportedly has a favorite turtle friend. **Thank you to our members and donors** for making her new life possible!



## SUCCESSFUL DAY AT NH FISH & GAME EVENT

New Hampshire Animal Rights League is delighted to share the news of our successful outreach efforts at NH Fish & Game's Discover Wild NH Day held on April 16th in Concord.



During this popular family event that attracts thousands, we spread a message of kindness toward mice and other “uninvited houseguests.”



Despite being stationed in a back corner, our tent attracted non-stop visitors, with people waiting in long lines to spin our “Save the Mouse” wheel.

### Accomplishments

- Educated hundreds of people, young and old, about the cruelty of using glue traps and poison bait blocks.
- Sounded the alarm about the dangers rodent poisons pose to owls, foxes, bobcats, and other predators, who can become sick and die from consuming poisoned mice.
- Connected with fellow exhibitor NH Falconers in our shared desire to protect raptors from rodenticide poisoning.

### Eye-Catching Poster

We displayed the following eye-catching poster from Raptors Are the Solution (RATS) and discussed it with visitors to our booth.



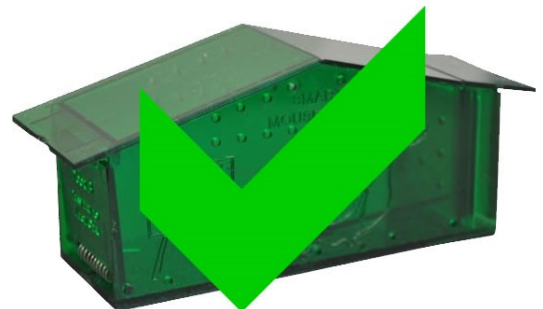
### Literature

We handed out copies of [Are You Poisoning Pets and Wildlife?](#) and our own brochure created for this event, [Living with Our Wild Neighbors](#) (also attached).

### Smart Mouse Trap Giveaway

We gave out more than 50 safe and humane **Smart Mouse Traps** and provided hands-on, personal instruction.

You can order your own Smart Mouse Trap on our [web site](http://www.nhanimalrights.org/living-with-wild-neighbors) (www.nhanimalrights.org/living-with-wild-neighbors)—free with \$3.00 shipping.

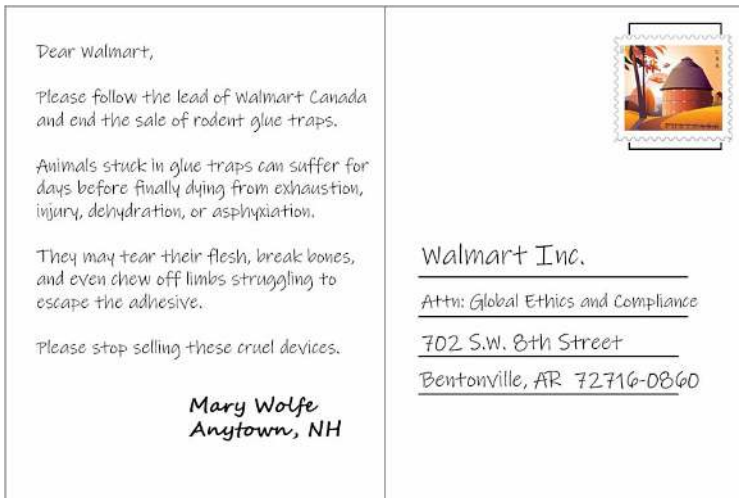
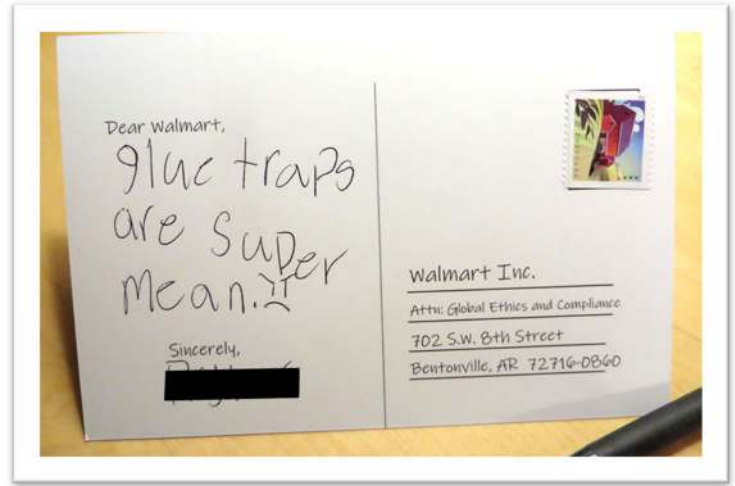
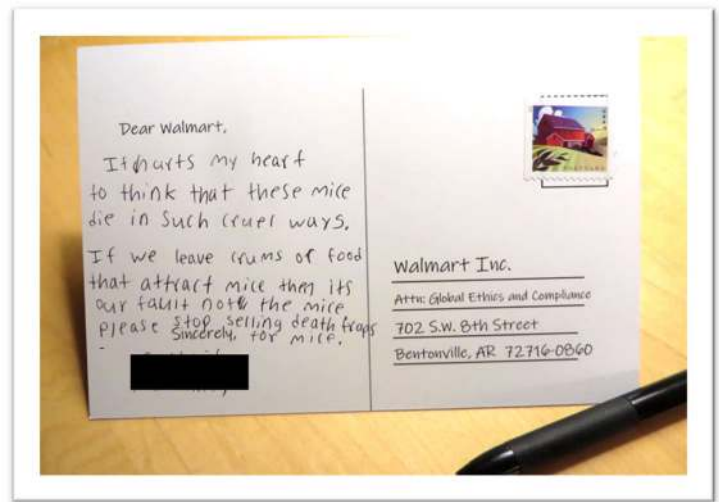


## Postcard Campaign

We invited children and adults to sign or write postcards asking Walmart to stop selling glue traps and JP Pest Services to offer a more responsible approach to rodent control than indiscriminately littering the landscape with deadly poison.



Hundreds of postcards were mailed to Walmart and JP Pest Services. Photos of a few favorites are included below.



## Mouse Toy Prizes

As a reward for sending a postcard, kids got to choose from an assortment of adorable catnip mouse toys. The mice were a huge hit, even in households without a cat!

## Thank you!

Thanks you to our volunteers and everyone who stopped by to learn about the many reasons to be nice to mice.



## Legislative Update

Dear NHARL Friends,

Below is a list of the current status of animal-related bills in the NH Legislature for 2022, as of May 7th, 2022. Bill status can change very quickly at this time of year, so for the latest information, check the Legislature's website at [www.gencourt.state.nh.us](http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us).

**LSR 1186**, Eric Gallager, relative to companion animals during a declared state of emergency. House: Passed with an amendment; Senate: referred to Energy and Natural Resources Committee; Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment. Passed on May 5th in the Senate floor vote.

**HB 1004**, Gary Hopper, relative to penalties for failure to provide information after an animal injury. House: Inexpedient to Legislate

**HB 1433**, Brian Sullivan, relative to penalties for poisoning dogs. House: Inexpedient to Legislate

**HB 1226**, Cam Kenney, prohibiting declawing of cats. House: Inexpedient to Legislate

**HB 1107**, Ellen Read, establishing a Committee to study rental or lease of housing to a person who has pets. House: Laid on Table

**HB 1108**, Ellen Read, relative to the prescribed manner of posting land (this bill would allow property owners to post their property for NO HUNTING by painting purple stripes on trees at regular intervals). House: Inexpedient to Legislate

**LSR 2598**, Kevin Verville, prohibiting the discharge of a firearm in the direction of a building, livestock, or pets. House: Inexpedient to Legislate

**HB 1308**, Edith Tucker, prohibiting the capture, possession, and propagation of hares and rabbits for hunting dog training and field trials. House: Inexpedient to Legislate

**HB 1356**, Amanda Bouldin, establishing a season for the taking of gray squirrels. The original bill called for a 2-week delay in the start of squirrel hunting season to allow Mama squirrels to spend more time with their babies. The House Fish Game and Marine Resources Committee amended the bill to allow squirrels to be hunted year-round and voted it ought to pass. The amended bill passed on the House floor. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources

Committee voted it INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE, and on May 5th it was killed on the Senate floor! **Our Senators deserve a thank you** for seeing through this terrible bill that the citizens of NH did not ask for.

**SB 202**, David Watters, prohibiting the sale of cosmetic products tested on animals. Senate: passed with Amendment House: referred to Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee; Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment. Before getting too excited about this bill, read the amendment—the bill has been so watered down with exceptions that it's almost meaningless.

**SB 368**, Jeb Bradley, regarding the sale of live animals by unlicensed vendors. Senate: passed with amendment House: referred to House Environment and Agriculture Committee, Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment.

SB 368 is a complicated bill. Originally, the bill was written so that animals could be removed from unlicensed pet vendors (pet stores, breeders, shelters, and rescue groups), but that didn't work because animals are "property" and can't be confiscated without due process.

Instead, the bill was amended in the Senate to increase fines for unlicensed pet vendors, with the money going into a new fund in the Dept. of Agriculture, Markets & Food.

The fund would be used to pay "agricultural hearings officers," who would be contracted to hear each animal cruelty complaint, effectively outsourcing this responsibility.

A few years ago, our state veterinarian requested a bill (successful) that removed the Dept. from any responsibility for intervening in animal cruelty complaints.

If SB 368 passes, Dept. staff will no longer be responsible for resolving complaints involving pet vendors. It's hard to imagine what they will be doing if they no longer have this responsibility!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Jean Slepian  
[jeans1155@hotmail.com](mailto:jeans1155@hotmail.com)

## NHARL participates in

### “Stop the NH Puppy Mill Pipeline” campaign

As attempts to pass a law prohibiting the sale of dogs and cats in pet stores have yet to succeed in New Hampshire, a campaign was launched to build support for a ban from the ground up.

Led by Kurt Ehrenberg, NH State Director for the HSUS, the “Stop the NH Puppy Mill Pipeline” campaign was launched. The goal was to pass resolutions opposing the retail sale of dogs and cats in as many towns as possible across the state. While not legally binding, resolutions send a message to elected officials about where citizens stand on a particular issue.

In March, the resolutions were voted on at town elections and meetings around the state and passed in seven towns. We expect more towns to follow suit in the next election period.

**Contact us if you want to pass a resolution in your town, and we'll help you do it.**

Fortunately, there are only a few stores in NH that sell dogs (other states, such as Florida, have hundreds), but there's always risk of new stores opening up or relocating here.

Therefore, NHARL is working with Voice for Animals Maine to step up efforts to undermine NH pet stores still selling dogs. In April we held a large protest at Family Pet & Aquarium in Nashua, followed by smaller ones each weekend.

We will continue demonstrating at various stores through the spring and summer. The larger the crowd, the more attention we can bring to the issue, so **please consider joining a future demonstration**. It will lift your spirits to see how many passersby wave, tap the horn, or give you the thumbs up sign.

As of this writing, the following NH pet stores still sell dogs:

- **Family Pet & Aquarium**, Nashua
- **Bill's Pet & Aquarium**, Manchester (web site says that they are moving, billspetstore.com)
- **Puppies on the Run**, Hudson (puppiesontherun.net)
- **Fetch a Pet**, Hudson
- **Steve's Pet Shoppe**, Lebanon (nhpets.com/steves/)

Two others closed within the past year. They will blame the pandemic, but customer complaints, poor reviews, and negative publicity from protests surely contributed to their demise.

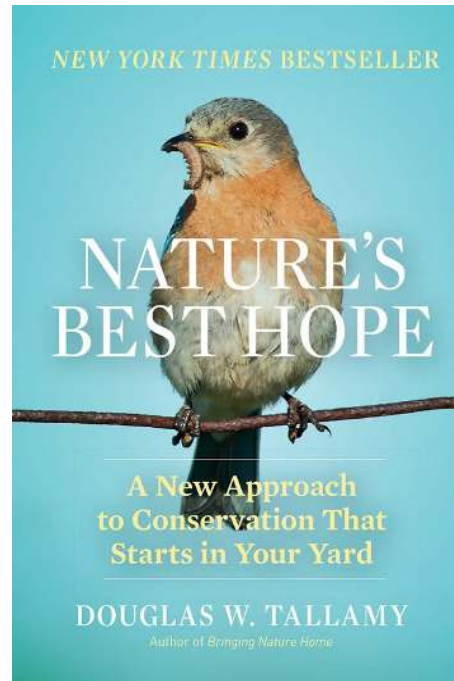
- **Little Shop of Pets**, Portsmouth -- CLOSED
- **Pick of the Litter**, Salem -- CLOSED

### Bloomin' 4 Good

In May, the NH Animal Rights League has been selected to receive a \$1 donation for every Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet with the red circle sticker sold at the Hannaford located at 73 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, NH. Do not miss this easy way to support your favorite local animal rights non-profit.

## Book Corner

### Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard by Doug Tallamy



Nature's Best Hope advocates for homeowners everywhere to turn their yards into conservation corridors that provide wildlife habitats. This home-based approach doesn't rely on the federal government and protects the environment from the whims of politics. It is also easy to do, and

readers will walk away with specific suggestions they can incorporate into their own yards.

## Contact Us/Become a Member

To become a member or make a donation, please use the forms on our web site. A printable version of our Membership Form is available for those who prefer to mail a check. Membership is \$20.00/year (just \$10 a year for students, juniors, and seniors) or \$200 for a Lifetime Membership for you and one other. Thank you! PO Box 4211, Concord 03302

[nhanimalrightsleague@gmail.com](mailto:nhanimalrightsleague@gmail.com)

<http://www.nhanimalrights.org>

<http://facebook.com/NHARL603>

<http://twitter.com/NHARL603>

## Board Members

James Glover, President

Elisa O'Neill, Vice President

Cindy Glenn, Treasurer

Joan O'Brien, Secretary

Michelle Fransen-Conroy, Representative

Linda Dionne, Representative

Liz Herrick, Representative

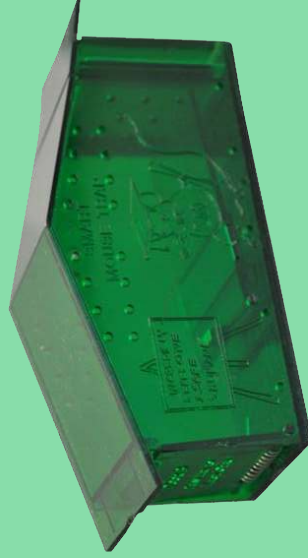
## What to do about unwanted house guests

Compassionate and responsible approaches for dealing with mice include exclusion and removing attractants.

- Remove or secure food sources
- Determine how mice are getting in and plug these access points. (Note that mice can squeeze through spaces smaller than a dime.)
- Fill gaps with steel wool, caulk, or expanding foam sealant.

This approach requires more up-front effort than using glue traps or poison, but once complete they are permanent solutions that will save you money in the long run.

If uninvited guests still manage to get in, use the **Humane Smart Mouse Trap** to catch and relocate them outside in a brushy or wooded area.



You can find the Humane Smart Mouse Trap on Amazon. These traps cost more than glue traps or poison, but you can use them over and over.



## Don't be a bystander —speak up against glue traps!

If you discover that a business or property manager is using glue traps, contact the person in charge.

Explain that glue traps are inhumane and also fail to address the source of the problem.

Countless companies and organizations, including CVS, Walgreens, and Rite Aid have sworn off glue traps, thanks to caring consumers like you.

## Learn more

- Wild Neighbors: The Humane Approach to Living with Wildlife** by John Hadidian
- Humane Society of the United States** ([humanesociety.org/wildlife-management-solutions](http://humanesociety.org/wildlife-management-solutions))
- Raptors are the Solution** ([raptorsaresolution.org](http://raptorsaresolution.org))
- 6 Steps to Save Animals Stuck on Glue Traps** ([peta.org/action/steps-to-rescue-animals-from-glue-traps](http://peta.org/action/steps-to-rescue-animals-from-glue-traps))

## Living with Our Wild Neighbors



*Be kind when dealing with mice and other unwanted house guests. It's their world, too.*

[nhanimalrights.org](http://nhanimalrights.org)

NEW HAMPSHIRE ANIMAL RIGHTS LEAGUE, INC.

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CONCORD, NH 03302

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## Never use glue traps

Glue traps are among the cruelest pest-control devices sold today. For this reason, **glue traps are banned in many countries**, including Ireland, New Zealand, Wales, Iceland, and much of Australia.

Animals stuck in glue traps can suffer for days before finally succumbing to death from exhaustion, injury, or dehydration. They may tear their flesh, break bones, and even chew off limbs struggling to escape the adhesive.

Glue traps are also indiscriminate, trapping birds, salamanders, beneficial insects, and other non-target animals.

Just because something is sold in a store, doesn't mean it's okay. Don't buy these products or any other brand of sticky trap!



## Never use bait blocks

Poison bait blocks are also inhumane, as well as irresponsible.

Rodent poison is formulated to work slowly, which means that animals can suffer for days before dying.

The most common types of rodenticide are **anticoagulants**. These prevent blood clotting and cause animals to slowly **bleed to death internally**.

Often we don't see the suffering, because the mouse dies back in her nest, perhaps leaving orphaned young to starve.

Rodent poison is everywhere, often concealed in nondescript black boxes and fake rocks that are regularly re-filled to continue poisoning wildlife.



## Poisons don't just kill mice — they also kill animals who eat mice

In their sluggish state, poisoned mice are easy targets for owls, foxes, bobcats, and other animals, who often become sick and die from consuming poisoned mice.

New Hampshire wildlife rehabilitators have seen a **dramatic increase in sick owls and other predators**. Hemorrhaging and seizures are just two of the painful ways they die.

Increased deaths of non-target wildlife are due in part to **"second-generation" anticoagulants**. These were developed in the 1970s because rodents became resistant to the older poisons.

Second-generation poisons remain in animal tissues longer, **posing a greater risk to owls, foxes**, and other nontarget species.

Remember, companies that sell rodent poison or supply bait stations make money by **not** solving your mouse problem. The mice keep coming, and you keep paying!

Rodenticide exposure in wildlife is widespread. In a recent study conducted by New Hampshire Fish and Game, all but one of 35 foxes and fishers killed by trappers and submitted as samples had been exposed to rodent poison.