



2007

# Victories & Highlights



## Our Mission

To advocate for and protect the rights, welfare and habitats of animals ... to make the world a more just and compassionate place for all our fellow beings.

**F**or the past 24 years, IDA has been at the forefront of the fight to end animal exploitation, cruelty and abuse. This year was no exception. From our work to free elephants from abuse in our nation's zoos; to our efforts to end the horrors of vivisection and factory farming IDA continued to be on the cutting edge of the fight for animal rights. From our efforts to end the Korean dog and cat meat trades; to our campaigns to stop Japan's slaughter of dolphins and Canada's killing of baby seals; to fighting the cruelty of foie gras; to protecting the wild horses of Arizona, our efforts on behalf of animals intensified. From fighting the chimpanzee bush meat trade in Cameroon, Africa; to rescuing, and caring for abused and abandoned animals in rural Mississippi; to providing ambulance service and veterinary care to the street dogs, cattle, and ponies of Mumbai, India, IDA continued to be a powerful force for animals in need.

We hope you will take pride in our achievements, for they could not have occurred without you. On behalf of the animals that so desperately need our help, we thank you.

## Historic Lifesaving Petition Filed with FDA

In November 2007, a coalition founded by IDA, filed a petition with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) mandating the use of non-animal research methods in the development and approval of drugs and devices. The petition seeks changes in FDA regulations and policies that would require, and not merely recommend, that companies regulated by the FDA, submit data only from scientifically satisfactory non-animal test methods, whenever such methods are available. If put in effect by the FDA, thousands, if not millions of animals would be saved from torture and death in our nation's laboratories.

## 122-year-old Fur Store Goes Out of Business

On May 31, Schumacher Furs—after 18 months of picketing and protests—officially closed its doors, bringing great pleasure to compassionate people everywhere. Accusing IDA of illegal activities, Schumacher Furs went to court in a last ditch effort to damage IDA and to threaten the free speech of caring people everywhere. In June, a federal judge dismissed the case. The court's

decision is a victory for free speech, for the animal-rights movement, and, especially for the millions of animals brutalized by the fur industry.

## Three More Elephants to Sanctuaries

Working with a team of elephant experts, IDA has become the galvanizing force for the largest land mammal. By making public the medical records of elephants kept in zoos, IDA has turned the tide against the zoo industry. This year saw IDA staff, working with local activists, secure the transfer of Dulary from the Philadelphia Zoo, Ruby from the Los Angeles Zoo and, and Maggie from the Anchorage Zoo to spacious elephant sanctuaries. To end the abuse and deaths of elephants and other animals at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, IDA filed two formal complaints with the United States Department of Agriculture.

## IDA Halts Medical Sales Training

While reviewing hundreds of pages of University of Colorado (CU) documents obtained through an open records request, Rita Anderson, Director of the Committee for Research Accountability, a project of

IDA, discovered that hundreds of dogs and pigs were being killed for unapproved Valleylab medical sales training exercises at the University. Embarrassed by her revelations, CU cancelled the lethal exercises after Ms. Anderson brought the killings to the attention of CU's Board of Regents.

## Major Guardian Victory

This year saw San Jose, Calif., the 10th largest city in the U.S. add the term "guardian" to its animal-related ordinances. In so doing, it joins St. Louis, Mo.; Sherwood, Ark.; Memonomee Falls, Wis.; Amherst, Mass.; Woodstock, N.Y.; Wanaque, N.J.; Bloomington, Ind.; Boulder, Colo.; the State of Rhode Island; Windsor, Ontario, Canada; West Hollywood, Berkeley, San Francisco, Sebastopol, Albany, Marin County and Santa Clara County, Calif., in recognizing the value of the term "guardian" in that it encourages greater levels of respect and responsibility toward the animals with whom we share our lives.

## Fighting the Korean Dog and Cat Meat Trades

Working with the South Korean organization, Coexistence of Animal Rights on Earth (CARE), we intensified our efforts to end the horrific dog and cat meat trades. Highlighting this year's joint efforts between IDA and CARE was an extremely successful international day of protest against the Korean government's unwillingness to enforce its own laws. Pressure did result in stronger laws protecting animals from abuse, including banning the killing of dogs by hanging.

## World Week for Animals in Laboratories

IDA once again spearheaded grassroots activism against the horrors of vivisection. Serving as national coordinator of this weeklong series of events, IDA helped organize demonstrations, rallies, teach-ins, protests, tabling, and video showings. Across the nation and around the world, caring people reminded the vivisection industry that we will not turn our backs or ever forget the tragedies befalling our animal friends under the guise of research and science.



## IDA-Africa

Under the direction of Dr. Sheri Speede, IDA's Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue Center continued to provide much-needed protection and sanctuary for the abused and orphaned victims of Cameroon, Africa's chimpanzee bush meat trade. Today, 59 adult and baby chimpanzees enjoy their lives in our large, secure, forested sanctuary. IDA staff continued to work with the Cameroonian government in increasingly successful efforts to stop the bushmeat trade through educational programs, radio advertisements and increased law enforcement.

## Fighting the Cruelty of Foie Gras

The production of foie gras, has been banned in 13 European countries. In the United States, California's ban is to go into effect in 2012. The city of Chicago banned the sale of foie gras in 2006, and legislation to ban its sale is pending in Philadelphia, San Diego, and New Jersey. To ensure that the momentum continues, IDA staff continues to send out hundreds of information packets and undercover videos to restaurants that still serve foie gras. One by one, restaurants, after viewing the videos, contact us with their decision to remove foie gras from their menus. To date, more than 150 restaurants have stopped serving foie gras.

## Protecting Wild Horses

When IDA discovered that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) had rounded up 36 wild stallions likely to be sent to slaughter, and was planning on rounding up another 1400 horses from the Sheldon

National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon and Nevada, we acted quickly. Our threat of a lawsuit against the FWS for violating its own regulations resulted in the roundup being called off, and the return of the 36 stallions to the Sheldon Refuge. At the time of this writing, we are poised to take immediate action should the horses once again face danger, as we focus on legislation that would permanently protect these "wild" horses from roundup and abuse by the FWS.

## Project Hope

IDA's Project Hope continues to bring justice and compassion to the animals of rural Mississippi. Conducting cruelty investigations and working with local law enforcement agencies, Project Hope has rescued thousands of abandoned and outrageously abused animals, providing them with safety, veterinary care, and permanent loving homes. Project Hope's sanctuary is currently home to over 100 formerly abused, starved, and abandoned dogs, cats, rabbits, chickens, pigs, horses, goats, and cows.

## Protecting Wildlife

This year once again saw IDA be in the forefront of the fight to protect free-living animals from the onslaught of hunters and local, state and federal agencies. From working to prevent the killing of deer and wild turkeys because they were "non-native," to working to end Canada's clubbing of baby seals; to defending Florida's endangered manatees and Canada's cormorants; to protecting cougars in California and bears in Colorado and Virginia, IDA continues to be a vital part of the



ongoing struggle to protect the habitats and wellbeing of our nation's wildlife.

## IDA India

Our mission: to spay and neuter, and to provide veterinary care to the injured, starving, and abused street animals; to rescue wildlife from traders so they may be returned to the wild; and to advocate for and care for the mistreated donkeys and ponies of Mumbai, India. This year, over 2000 dogs and cats were spayed and neutered, another 2000 received veterinary care for their wounds and injuries. To educate young people, IDA India created the "Compassionate Children's Club."

## Protesting the Cruelty of Fur

For the 12th year, IDA coordinated Fur-Free-Friday (FFF), a day of marches, rallies, street theatre, and protests designed to educate the public about the cruelty of fur. IDA mobilized activists and organizations around the globe, providing them with banners, posters, and flyers. With the resurgence of fur, and the exposé of the use of dogs and cats by the Chinese fur trade, FFF became more important than ever to fight this barbaric industry.

## IDA to the Rescue

Acting on a tip, IDA set in motion a plan that freed eleven horses from the most horrific conditions imaginable. For over three years, several of the horses had been forced to live in small concrete cinderblock cells, with no place to lie down except in their own waste. Gaining the trust of the "owner," IDA volunteers spent weeks caring for the starving horses, and cleaning their manure filled stalls. The stench was so intense that the

eyes of the volunteers were continually filled with tears. Negotiations with the "owner" and the local animal control agency eventually led to the horses being transferred to loving homes and caring sanctuaries.

## World Go Vegan Days

To bring awareness to the health, environmental, and life-saving benefits of a meat and dairy-free diet, IDA once again spearheaded "World Go Vegan Days" (WGVDs). This year, we expanded our efforts by inviting a broad range of organizations to co-present this vitally important event with us. They included the American Vegan Society, Animal Acres, Animal Place, APRL, AVAR, COK, FARM, Farm Sanctuary, Go Vegan Radio, United Poultry Concerns, Vegan Outreach, and VegNews Magazine.

## Protecting Marine Mammals

As a founding member of the Save Japan Dolphins Coalition, IDA intensified its efforts to end the slaughter of thousands of dolphins off the coast of Japan. This year the cruelty extended to innocent children with the serving of mercury-laden dolphin meat in school lunch programs. IDA initially exposed this annual slaughter several years ago, when we sent IDA investigator Ben White to Japan, where he swam underwater in the dead of night to cut the nets that imprisoned 40 of the dolphins.

## Undercover TV (U-TV)

U-TV was created to reveal the stark realities of industries that exploit, harm, and kill animals for entertainment, fashion, research, and food. Hosted by vegan bodybuilder Kenneth Williams, U-TV airs undercover videos taken by

courageous activists and organizations determined to reveal the truth. U-TV has become a powerful eye-opening and motivational vehicle through its weekly airing on 110 community access stations across the nation.

## And Much, Much, More

From campaigning to end dog chaining, dog fighting, cockfighting, puppy mills and the exotic bird trade; to funding a contraceptive research program for black bears; to testifying against the cloning of animals for food; to assisting whistleblowers within the research industry; to spearheading World Go Vegan Days, World Week for Animals in Laboratories, and Fur Free Friday, to co-sponsoring the Great American Meat Out, World Farm Animals Day, the San Francisco Vegfest, and the 2007 Animal Rights conference, IDA continued the fight for the most vulnerable among us. From offering rewards for the arrest and conviction of animal killers and abusers; to supplying free literature and guidance to countless activists across the country; to exposing the cruelties of amusement parks, circuses, and rodeos; to working to end the deaths of millions of dogs and cats, puppies and kittens in our nation's shelters; to fighting to end the Navy's deadly sonar tests; IDA staff and volunteers continued to be an effective and powerful force for our animal friends.

**Our special thanks** to IDA's more than 85,000 members, supporters and volunteers without whose participation, generosity and support none of these victories, campaigns and accomplishments would have been possible.

# For The Animals, We Thank You!



**In Defense of Animals**

3010 Kerner Blvd. San Rafael, CA 94901  
(415) 388-9641

ida@idausa.org • www.idausa.org

