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Karen & Mr. Frizzle ©2008 Davida G. Breier
For The Birds is a “must read” for everyone!

AMAZON REVIEW: This book is a “must read” for everyone.

Karen Davis's book For the Birds is a masterpiece. Brilliantly written, passionate, eloquent, engaging, and witty, it combines Davis's vast knowledge of facts about the lives of chickens, turkeys, and other birds, with her gift for presenting multiple perspectives on the problems facing them and the horrors we humans inflict on them. These essays span political and advocacy issues, beautiful and fascinating descriptions of the lives of these magnificent birds and their capacities, courageous and helpful stories from Davis's own life, and more, always informed by Davis's unwavering adherence to her moral principles and her example to all of us in this.

As a psychologist, I was particularly struck by Davis's keen psychological insights and her exquisite sense of empathy for these innocent creatures we humans do such violence to. Her depictions of the psychological experience of a battery hen and the ancestral memories in a “broiler” chicken house cannot fail to change us and our outlook, if we have any empathy ourselves. This is a “Must Read” book for laypersons and experts alike.

– Deborah Tanzer, PhD

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The Boys of the Egg Industry

By Ryan Hill, Cofounder of The Sky’s The Limit Sanctuary
Reprinted and edited by United Poultry Concerns with permission from All-Creatures.

We often think about the hens in the egg industry – of battery cages where hens are confined, cramped, covered in feces, suffering from infections and reproductive diseases, unable to stretch their wings or even to take a single step in their entire life. But how often do we consider the boys of the egg industry, including the backyard arm of this industry? Whether male chicks are ground up alive or suffocated to death in trash bags or shipped across the country as “warmers” – packaging material – for hens being airmailed to backyard chicken keepers, these victims are often forgotten. Why?

Roosters are born into this world unwanted and even hated by many, who want only hens for eggs. If they are spared the macerator at birth, they are often discovered three months later to be roosters by people who cannot or will not keep them due to sexist and speciesist laws that prohibit roosters within the majority of homes in the United States. Even if the laws allow you to have roosters, truculent neighbors can cause them to become homeless due to subjective and discriminatory noise ordinances that allow barking and lawn-care machinery, but not crowing.

Once a rooster is discovered, he has only a few options:

- He may be abandoned in parks or wilderness.
- He may purposely be fed to captive animals.
- If he is extremely lucky, he may find a home with someone who will love him.

The overpopulation of roosters, created by the egg industry, has become a crisis across the country. The biggest hurdle is that there are so few homes for them and so many are abandoned. And while their means of communication may not be the same as those of a furry mammal, their feelings are just as real. They feel loss. They feel pain. They feel love and trust.

Imagine being so marginalized by society that the very sound of your voice incites anger in 90% of the people around you. Imagine that all of the misconceptions about your personality are manifested in being ostracized and abandoned. Imagine that people fear you because you are trying to protect your family who continues to be taken away from you and abused right in front of you.

Due to the sheer numbers of these beautiful beings in the world, and the many ways we harm them, chickens are the most abused, exploited, and tortured land animals on the planet. Not only by the egg industry and the chicken meat industry and the cockfighting industry, but as Easter gifts and classroom hatching project “lessons” for school children.

For all of these reasons, there can never be a “humane” egg. Until you’ve held in your arms a hen dying from a reproductive disease and watched her take her last breath, or caught a stray rooster – or several roosters dumped to fend for themselves, or turned away dozens of roosters in need, or seen firsthand the way thoughtless people treat and talk about these innocent birds, you cannot truly understand the harm eggs really cause.

If you are guided by compassion, PLEASE for the love of all the forgotten roosters: SPEAK UP. Give roosters, whose glorious voices have brought grief to their lives and their families, a voice. If you can give one or more roosters a permanent loving home, please do.
Robin: Rescued from the Dead - A New Film by Unparalleled Suffering

Robin: Rescued From the Dead is a new documentary produced by Unparalleled Suffering. It debuted on Sunday July 28th at the Animal Rights National Conference in Washington, DC. Vanessa Dawson, cofounder with Steve Dawson of Penelope’s Place in New York, and Karen Davis of United Poultry Concerns, moderated the Q & A session following the film.

Robin: Rescued From the Dead documents the rescue from a plastic trash bag of a “dead” chicken – a baby rooster – who was slaughtered during the ritual of Kaporos in Brooklyn, New York in the fall of 2018 along with thousands of other chickens. Watch Robin’s amazing recovery from trauma and terror, as he experiences human love and medical care at Penelope’s Place sanctuary in New York, by visiting: www.upc-online.org/videos/190802_robin-rescued_from_the_dead.html.

The film is also posted on the Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos website.

What is Kaporos?

Kaporos (“atonements”) is a custom practiced by a segment of Orthodox Judaism in parts of the U.S. and the world where these communities are located. The ritual, which precedes Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement, consists of practitioners swinging chickens over their heads as a chant is recited stating that the chicken is a substitute for the practitioner’s punishment. The substitute punishment is fulfilled by the chicken being slaughtered. Prior to the ritual, thousands of chickens sit crammed in transport crates for days without food, water, or protection from the weather.

Kaporos practitioners stand around the Kaporos sites idly chatting while holding the chickens painfully suspended by their fragile wings. They lie that they give the slaughtered birds to “the poor” when in fact they throw the chickens, who are often still alive and crying with bleeding throats, into plastic trash bags to be hauled by city sanitation workers to a landfill.

In 2010, United Poultry Concerns founded the Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos in New York City with a small group of dedicated animal rights activists. Since then, our campaign has grown to include thousands of supporters including organizations, rabbis, and people in general who are sick of this merciless medieval ritual of “atonement.” Those who care to practice “Kaporos” can swing a packet of money for charity over their heads. Chickens are not required for Kaporos, nor, for that matter, is Kaporos required by anyone.

As we go to press, the Alliance and affiliates are preparing our End Chicken Kaporos activities in Brooklyn, New York during the week leading up to October 8th, the Day of Atonement. In the next issue of Poultry Press we will report on our activities and those taking place in Los Angeles and elsewhere this year, including the rescue of as many chickens as possible.
Will Birds Sing or Will They Be Silent? Our Choice is Their Fate

Originally published by Animals 24-7 on May 18, 2019.

By Karen Davis, PhD, President of United Poultry Concerns

In “How chicken became the rich world’s most popular meat,” The Economist reported on January 19, 2019 that “the total mass of farmed chickens exceeds that of all other birds on the planet combined.” This startling news comprises 1) The unimaginable number and size of chickens suffering for food worldwide and 2) The disappearance of wild birds from the world. As the prison population of chickens grows, the number of birds living free declines. The dwindling population of free birds includes the chicken’s tropical forest ancestor and wild relative, the jungle fowl, whose habitat is being destroyed acre by acre, in part to grow soybeans for industrialized chickens.

In Silent Spring, Rachel Carson opens chapter 8, “And No Birds Sing,” with the observation that

Over increasingly large areas of the United States, spring now comes unheralded by the return of the birds, and the early mornings are strangely silent where once they were filled with the beauty of bird song. This sudden silencing of the song of birds, this obliteration of the color and beauty and interest they lend to our world have come about swiftly, insidiously, and unnoticed by those whose communities are as yet unaffected.

Silent Spring documents the effects of industrial chemicals on the planet and the reckless and careless conduct of human beings of which this chemical catastrophe is a prime example. When it first appeared in 1962, the book was ridiculed and dismissed by corporate interests; but even after Silent Spring was hailed, grudgingly or gratefully, for its accuracy and justifiable urgency, nothing really changed. Half a century later, wild animals are being harmed and killed every day by pharmaceutical waste, plastics, poisons, and the aggregating crises of global heating.

Even so, more taxpayer dollars will probably be spent on trips to Mars and the moon than will ever be spent caring for the Earth and its creatures. Just last week, an MSNBC show host rhapsodized over a renovated Space program. Listening, I wondered – if he knew how his fellow earthling chickens are mired in misery and filth in metal sheds out of hell for his food – would he care?

Something I learned about chickens when I started knowing them decades ago is how vocally charged they are from morning to night. All day long I hear their voices outside ringing and singing. Since we built our predator-proof outdoor aviary in 2014, so that our roosters and hens could perch safely in the bushes and trees if they liked, I have felt the true sense of their vocal exuberance and how utterly their voices express their vitality. Their comical commotion each evening as they rustle around in the branches and leaves before settling down for the night evokes the tropical forest in which they evolved and the primal chords in the heart of each bird.

By contrast, if you open the door of a Tyson or Perdue chicken house after the newborns have been there a week or so, you will not hear a peep or a rustle. If you enter a facility where hens have been caged for eggs a few months, the sound of silence will strike you more forcibly than commotion. Of all the indicators of their suffering, the sound of thousands of chickens
Karen’s Letter to the Editor was published on the Delmarva Now website on July 12th and in the Salisbury, Maryland Daily Times the following day. The letter is a response to “Hundreds of geese euthanized in Salisbury, meat goes to local shelters,” where we are told that “Kevin Sullivan of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Wildlife Services confirmed his team humanely euthanized 362 resident Canada geese two weeks ago, brought in by request of the city of Salisbury to manage ‘an excessive population.’”

The terror attack on the geese in Salisbury, Maryland followed the terror attack on thousands of migrant Canada geese in Denver, Colorado in July – a brutal roundup that infuriated people in Denver and beyond.

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The terror attack on the geese in Salisbury, Maryland followed the terror attack on thousands of migrant Canada geese in Denver, Colorado in July – a brutal roundup that infuriated people in Denver and beyond.

To the Editor:

I object to use of the term “euthanize” in this coverage of the cruel roundup, transport and gassing to death of the Canada geese. This government-industry term is a euphemism designed to disguise great suffering inflicted on defenseless creatures. “Euthanasia” is a Greek term meaning “a good death.” It means a death that is merciful, peaceful, compassionate, and humane – the opposite of being attacked, shoved into transport crates, and delivered to a slaughterhouse and exposed to the slow, terrifying experience of suffocation. Inhalation of carbon dioxide is painful and distressing to birds because they, like humans, have chemical receptors that are acutely sensitive to carbon dioxide.

There are reams of studies demonstrating the panicked effort of birds to escape chambers filled with carbon dioxide, which simultaneously burns and freezes their lungs. This gas is used in mass-exterminations of birds because it is cheap. The fact that CO2 is “approved” by the American Veterinary Medical Association defies the well-documented fact that CO2 is inhumane. The roundup of the geese in Salisbury is sickening to contemplate. It shows a failure of compassion and civility toward birds we should cherish rather than banish from our world. – Karen Davis, President, United Poultry Concerns
WAMU 88.5 Responds to Our Request to Remove Ads for Nellie’s Eggs!

In June, we posted an internet alert asking people to politely inform WAMU 88.5 – Washington, DC’s NPR station – that they objected to the station’s promotion of Nellie’s Eggs. Contrary to claims by Pete and Gerry’s Organics, the owner of Nellie’s Eggs, their hens are NOT treated humanely, they are not “free-range,” and a public radio station should not engage in commercial advertising. We asked WAMU to stop promoting Nellie’s Eggs, and they listened!

WAMU 88.5’s Response:
“Thank you for this feedback regarding Nellie’s Free Range Eggs. Your voice is critically important to WAMU and we take feedback seriously as an institution. WAMU evaluates all corporate sponsor messaging closely before it airs to ensure it meets our messaging guidelines. However, we greatly value listener feedback and at times may reverse our decisions on the content we elect to air on behalf of our sponsors. We have reassessed the Nellie’s Free Range Eggs messages and have elected to suspend the campaign at this time.”  
– Allison Kennedy, Senior Manager, Audience Engagement, July 3, 2019

We thank everyone who took action on behalf of the hens who are falsely portrayed by Pete and Gerry’s Organics as enjoying “humane practices” and being “loved.” If Nellie’s Eggs are advertised on your local NPR Radio station, politely ask the station to remove these ads and post your objection on the station’s Facebook page.

UPC’s Letter to WAMU 88.5 on June 26, 2019:
Dear WAMU 88.5:

On behalf of United Poultry Concerns, I am writing to express our objection to your promotion of Nellie’s “Free-Range” Eggs. More than just naming Nellie’s as a sponsor, you are advertising for Nellie’s Eggs, the brand name for Pete and Gerry’s Organics, which is currently being sued by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals for false advertising.

WAMU 88.5 is supposed to be noncommercial. That, plus the fact that Nellie’s hens do not live the life portrayed in their advertising, is disturbing. A Certified Humane label does not mean that the hens have good lives. Nellie’s does not disclose the part about the factory-farm hatcheries, the destruction of the male chicks at birth, the painful debeaking of the hens, the culling of hens who aren’t laying enough eggs for profit, the factory-farm sheds, the minimal or nonexistent “range,” the brutal catching crews, and the slaughter or gassing of the hens after a year of laying an abnormal number of eggs for retail.

We want more of public radio than a double standard where chickens and other animals are concerned. We object to WAMU 88.5’s advertising for a commercial product that is misrepresented as coming from a “humane” source. Nellie’s hens are not treated humanely. They are not “loved” by their owners. They are mass produced. Mass production and humane treatment of animals are mutually exclusive. Please stop being a voice for Nellie’s Eggs.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Karen Davis, PhD, President
United Poultry Concerns
The most formidable challenges of my veterinary career in food safety can be boiled down to the two primary foodborne pathogens of poultry: Salmonella and Campylobacter, says Robert O’Connor, DVM, senior vice president at Foster Farms. August 11, 2019.

**Plant-Based Chicken vs. Contaminated Corpses**

Highlights from “Chicken: The Most Contaminated Food Ever?” in Good Medicine, published by the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, Summer 2019.

The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM) sued the U.S. Department of Agriculture in April 2019 for ignoring concerns over widespread fecal contamination of chicken products.

**Chicken “Fecal Soup”**

Although USDA implements a “zero-tolerance” policy for fecal contamination, this policy applies only to visible fecal contamination. Chicken products pass inspection as long as feces are not visible to the naked eye.

Cooking chicken does not remove the feces, which may contain roundworms, hair worms, tape worms, and leftover bits of whatever the bird excreting the feces may have eaten, not to mention the usual components of digestive juices and various chemicals the bird was in the process of excreting.

In addition to feces, pathogens, carcinogens and cholesterol are also hiding in every bite, increasing the risk of foodborne illness, urinary tract infections, breast and prostate cancers, and heart disease.

**Poultry Pathogens**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that every year about 1 million people get sick from eating poultry products contaminated with harmful germs. New CDC research shows that foodborne illnesses from bacteria found in chicken products are on the rise, in particular Salmonella and Campylobacter infections.

**Urinary Tract Infections**

E. coli, another bacterium found in chicken feces, may be a major cause of urinary tract infections (UTIs). A 2018 study found that a strain of E. coli – E. coli ST131 – found in retail chicken products can be passed to people, leading to UTIs. E. coli ST131 is particularly adept at traveling from the bladder to the blood, killing thousands of people in the United States each year, according to the study.

**Carcinogens and Cholesterol**

Carcinogens occur naturally in chicken products. In a PCRM study compiled from independent laboratory tests, 100 percent of 100 grilled chicken samples from top restaurant chains in California contained a federally recognized carcinogen linked to breast, prostate, and other cancers.

Chicken products contain nearly as much cholesterol as red meat. Four ounces of beef and 4 ounces of chicken both contain approximately 100 milligrams of artery-clogging cholesterol, which contributes to heart disease.

**Choosing Plant-Based Chicken**

As the danger of eating chickens becomes more evident and the popularity of a vegan diet grows, even Chick-fil-A and KFC are looking at plant-based chicken options. A KFC spokesman told the media recently: “Veganism as a trend has really blown up. We’re currently in the process of working on both vegetarian and vegan options in the innovation kitchen.”

**United Poultry Concerns Postscript:** Please choose vegan over “vegetarian.” For delicious animal-free vegan recipes, visit [www.upc-online.org/recipes](http://www.upc-online.org/recipes), and check out our latest recipe in the Vegan Recipe Corner of this magazine.
Stop Kaporos Cruelty

By Joel Freedman

This article originally appeared in the Messenger Post, in Canandaigua, New York, on February 20, 2019.

Joel Freedman is a member of United Poultry Concerns.

“We shouldn’t stereotype people. But to the extent that cultural factors contribute to animal abuse — certainly a factor in Kaporos cruelty — we shouldn’t be reluctant to identify and hold accountable the people, group, culture or subculture involved in such wrongdoing.”

Every year in Brooklyn, many laws are broken when some ultra-Orthodox Jewish communities engage in inhumane “swinging” and slaughtering of about 60,000 chickens in Kaporos rituals the week before Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement. Although New York laws require animals to have food, water and protection from the weather, Kaporos chickens are confined for several days in crowded crates stacked on the streets, trapped in their own waste with no food, water or protection from the weather. After the swinging rituals — which are supposed to transfer sins from humans to chickens — most of the chickens are stuffed dead or alive in trash bags bound for landfills, including landfills in the Finger Lakes, which accept 30 percent of New York City’s trash.

According to Rina Deych, of the Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos, “Every year I see chickens thrown into dumpsters. Not just dead ones, but also birds who are dying of dehydration, injury, exhaustion and pain. We have footage of live chickens writhing on the ground with their throats cut and being thrown into plastic bags.”

Kaporos cruelty derives from a medieval practice that is not a tenet of Judaism and is practiced by only a very small segment of the Jewish population. In fact, Hasidic Rabbi Yonassan Gershom believes Kaporos cruelty violates Torah mandates to show compassion for animals. Gershom has appealed to Kaporos participants, “Please do not torture a bird this way — it will not cancel your sins.” Orthodox Jewish Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz advises that “Jews should not be perpetuating pain on sentient creatures in the name of piety.”

Karen Davis, president of United Poultry Concerns, points out that Kaporos cruelty also violates health and sanitation laws: “All sites we observed were filthy. There were dead chickens, blood and feathers on the sidewalk. People entering Kaporos areas left without disinfecting footwear and carried chicken feces outside of the Kaporos area.”

The Alliance went to court in hopes of compelling the New York City Police Department and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to enforce state and NYC municipal laws and ordinances governing animal welfare and public sanitation. The case reached the Court of Appeals, New York’s highest court, last year. The court on Nov. 14, 2018, upheld an appellate division’s 3-2 decision that “the laws which plaintiffs seek to compel the city defendants to enforce in this action involve the judgment and discretion of those defendants” — notwithstanding the use of the word “must” in the state’s cruelty statute — therefore, the courts can’t compel enforcement of these laws.

Rabbi Shea Hecht, chairman of the National Committee for the Furtherance of Jewish Education, said, “We knew the law was on our side. Today’s opinion is a victory not only for our community, but also a victory for New Yorkers and religious freedom as a whole.”

I agree with Nora Constance Marino, attorney for the plaintiffs, that “the Court of Appeals was entirely incorrect in this decision. The judges ignored the clear ‘mandate’ or direction of the state legislature by allowing New York City and the New York City Police to fail to enforce laws that are mandated to be enforced.”

How Rabbi Hecht can call the court’s decision a victory for all New Yorkers and for religious freedom is beyond me.

It is a victory only for a tiny segment of a Jewish community that deviates from mainstream Judaism, whose Torah prohibits the kinds of cruelty that Hecht supports.

I suspect that many New York City police and sanitation officers would like to stop Kaporos cruelty. The court’s decision is a slap in their faces, too.

Subcultural or cultural deviations should not nullify our laws. Several years ago, two Amish men in Wayne County were arrested for shooting a mother dog and her puppies because there was no market to sell them. Both men told police that part of the Amish dog breeding tradition is to kill unwanted dogs. They told police
the practice is to “shoot, shovel and shut up.” Then-Wayne County District Attorney Richard Healy said, “I understand that to the Amish this may be acceptable, but it is not acceptable to this office or to the laws of this state.” The two men were sentenced to 30 days in jail.

We shouldn’t stereotype people. But to the extent that cultural factors contribute to animal abuse — certainly a factor in Kaporos cruelty — we shouldn’t be reluctant to identify and hold accountable the people, group, culture or subculture involved in such wrongdoing.

There was a tragic time, particularly in Southern states, when laws prohibiting murder, rape, assault and robbery weren’t enforced if the victims were black. And the courts offered weak responses to such injustices, showing the same kind of reluctance the New York Court of Appeals showed in the Kaporos case.

If the Kaporos victims had been dogs or cats, rather than chickens, I doubt NYC officials or the courts would take such a “what’s all the fuss about?” approach to the cruel goings-on in Brooklyn.

I believe God and Jesus want us to respect all life, not just the lives of humans or animals regarded as pets. I also believe strict enforcement of laws prohibiting cruelty to animals benefits humans, too. As the humanitarian Dr. Albert Schweitzer wrote, “Until he extends the circle of his compassion to all living beings, man will not himself find peace.”

Joel Freedman, of Canandaigua, is a frequent Messenger Post contributor.

District Attorney Will Pursue Justice for Duck Beaten To Death By College Men In Tallapoosa County, Alabama

O

n May 5, 2019, Thomas “Landon” Grant, a 19-year-old former college student, and 19-year-old Jacob Thomas Frye, went to the pond at Central Alabama Community College in Alexander City, in Tallapoosa County, looking for an animal to abuse following a party.

Alexander City police Det. Robert Oliver said they and others grabbed a white Muscovy duck and “beat the duck with a bat,” then took the duck to a nearby apartment, put the beaten duck in a bag, beat the duck more, then disposed of the wounded, still living bird in the woods.

A baseball coach, overhearing a commotion, found the beaten duck in the woods, and took her to a veterinarian to be euthanized. The coach notified the authorities.

Thomas “Landon” Grant was arrested on May 31st and booked into the Tallapoosa County Jail on a Class C felony charge of aggravated cruelty for the “infliction of torture to the animal.” We understand that Jacob Thomas Frye has also been charged.

On July 2nd, we posted an internet alert urging our supporters to urge the District Attorney of Tallapoosa County, Alabama to prosecute the two men who savagely beat this duck with a baseball bat on May 5th.

We are pleased to share with you the encouraging response we received from District Attorney Jeremy Duerr: “Please let everyone know that I intend on seeing this case through till the end. . . . The cases will go to the next available Grand Jury here in Alexander City, and if they [the accused] are indicted, they will be set on the trial docket. Thank you and everyone for your letters of support. I have full intentions of seeing the 2 men are punished for what they did to this poor defenseless animal.”

Mr. Duerr said in his message that he and his 5-year-old son go often to the college pond where the duck had been living peacefully, to feed the ducks and spend time with them, “as do many people in our community.”

We are extremely grateful to Mr. Duerr for his sensitivity to the situation, his commitment to prosecuting the case, and his kindness in letting us know that he values the outpouring of support. We will update everyone as new information on the progress of this case is available.
**Freddaflower Memorial & Appreciation Fund**

The pain of losing them is the price we pay for the privilege of knowing them and sharing their lives . . .

We thank those people who have contributed to our work with recent donations In Loving Memory and in Honor and Appreciation of the following beloved family members and friends, both those who have passed away and those who are with us.

My donation is in memory of Tallie, beloved chicken of Rebecca Wrock, from Bee and Don. – *Beatrice Friedlander*

In memory of our beautiful and precious dog, Luna, who was so loving and sweet. We were so fortunate to have her in our family. She will remain in our hearts forever. – *Ronnie and Steve Steinau*

Please accept this donation given in memory of Jelly Bean, a rescued cockatiel much loved by Anna Piccolo. – *Holly Pearson*

In memory of our beloved hen Gabby, who died on July 4th of a gastrointestinal illness our veterinarian tried unsuccessfully to heal. Every rescued bird who dies in our care is deeply mourned and missed, only we had Gabby from the time she was a tiny chick living in the kitchen with Felix, who died suddenly on September 4, 2015. Gabby, still a baby at the time, ran into my office cheeping her heart out to tell me something bad had happened to Felix. She knew exactly where to find me to follow her into the kitchen that sad morning. I will never forget her cheeping cries urging me to where Felix lay dead of congestive heart failure. Now these two precious friends rest together in peace. – *Karen Davis, United Poultry Concerns*

**Luna**

My donation is to honor Karen Davis and her wonderful helpers. Thank you and love you for all that you do. – *Joan Martin*

In honor of Nero, Fredericka, Julie, Nathaniel, Leonard, and Bertha, remembered forever and sadly missed. – *Paul Deane*

My gift is in honor of All God’s Creatures. – *Brien Comerford*
UPC Summer Activities Gallery

Animal Rights March, DC

Animal Rights March, DC

Animal Rights March, DC

Vegan Soul Fest, Baltimore, MD

Animal Rights National Conference, VA

Lancaster, PA Vegfest

Vegan Soul Fest, Baltimore, MD

Triad Vegfest, Greensboro, NC

Sonoma County, CA Vegfest

Salisbury University Environmental Studies class visit to United Poultry Concerns on April 5, 2019.
United Poultry Concerns Annual Report for 2018

United Poultry Concerns holds that the treatment of chickens, turkeys, ducks and other domestic fowl in the areas of food production, science, education, entertainment, and human companionship situations has a significant effect upon human, animal, and environmental welfare. We seek to make the public aware of the ways poultry are used, and to promote the compassionate and respectful treatment of these birds and the benefits of a vegan diet and lifestyle. UPC conducts full-time educational programs and campaigns through our quarterly magazine Poultry Press, our Website at www.UPC-online.org, and our chicken sanctuary in Machipongo, Virginia.

United Poultry Concerns maintains a permanent office, sanctuary and education center at our headquarters at 12325 Seaside Road, Machipongo, Virginia 23405. We respond daily to Internet and telephone requests for help with bird-care problems, student projects, alternatives to classroom chick-hatching projects, and numerous other communications on the care, treatment and abuse of domestic fowl. We are grateful to all of our members and supporters for enabling us to fulfill our mission in 2018. From all of us at United Poultry Concerns, thank you for your support!

Highlights of Our Activities and Accomplishments in 2018

For a complete listing of UPC’s action alerts, news, photos & activities in 2018, please visit What’s New 2018 at www.upc-online.org/whatsnew/2018.html.
UPC Sanctuary - 2018

Adopted 70 wonderful chickens, 4 peahens, and 4 ducks in need of a loving home into our 12,000 square foot predator-proof outdoor aviary for the total safety of our rescued birds!

International Respect for Chickens Day May 4/ Month of May - Celebrating the Life and Dignity of Chickens & Protesting Their Abuse in Farming Operations. For a full view of our 2018 campaign, please visit www.upc-online.org/respect.

- Hosted our annual public outreach demonstration & leafleting at the White House.
- Promoted Chicken Run Rescue Chicken Photo Contest in May.
- Distributed UPC chickens literature & posters through our activist members in offices, libraries, shopping centers & university campuses in the U.S. and Canada.
- Garnered media coverage across the USA via PR Newswire and media interviews!
- Throughout May, we advertised for chickens and International Respect for Chickens Month on Philadelphia’s commuter rail line into New Jersey featuring a mother hen protecting a rescued chick under her wing and a handsome rooster proclaiming “What Wings Are For” and “Life Can Be Beautiful – Go Vegan!”

Further Actions, Investigations & Outreach Campaigns: A Shortlist - 2018

- Protested Dr. Bronner’s Humane Washing Enterprise.
- Campaigned against the Annual February “Chicken Toss” in Ridgeland, Wisconsin.
- Condemned the NYC Dept of Health for Failing to Enforce Health Codes Violated by Practitioners of Kaporos.
- Promoted New York State Bill to Ban School Chick-Hatching Programs.
- Protested “Steve’s Wonderful World of Pets” Rent-a-Chick Promotion.
- Protested “Easter Duck” Promotion and Release into the “Wild.”
- Urged Permanent Elimination of the Annual “Turkey Drop” from Airplanes in Yellville, AR.
- Protested “Killing It,” a Show Featuring an Animal Slaughterer on NPR’s “Fresh Air.”
- Condemned Comedian Jason Alexander for Becoming the Image of Col. Sanders for KFC.
- Protested Breeding and Killing Pen-Raised Pheasants as “Sport” in Wisconsin and Elsewhere.
- Criticized NPR’s “Bird Notes” Host, Dwight Davis, for Denigrating Turkeys On the Air.

Alliance to End Chicken Kaporos Campaign - 2018

The Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos is a project of United Poultry Concerns launched in 2010 to expose and eliminate the ritual of Kaporos in which chickens are abused and killed for “atonement” in many ultraorthodox Hasidic communities. On July 26, 2017, Nora Constance Marino, attorney for the Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos, was informed by the New York Court of Appeals (the highest court in New York State) that our appeal of the NYS Appellate Division’s decision regarding Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos v. New York City Police Department, et al., would proceed. On December 18th, Ms. Marino submitted her brief to the Court of Appeals and the hearing was held at the NYS Court of Appeals in Albany on October 17, 2018. The Arguments, which focused on the 15 laws being broken with impunity by Kaporos practitioners, were dismissed. An ongoing record of media coverage, protest demonstrations and legal actions can be viewed on the Alliance website at www.EndChickensAsKaporos.com.

Fabulous Kiosks & Bus Posters for Chickens and Turkeys! - 2018

- Bus posters for turkeys in Dallas, TX; Washington, DC; College Park and Silver Spring, MD; & Omaha, Nebraska, November.
University of Maryland *Diamondback* full-color
display ad series, Spring & Fall: “Compassion is a
Beautiful Thing” * “Misery in Every Mouthful,” *
“Don’t Gobble Me!”
Full-page glossy display Ad, VA Association of
Science Teachers Program, November.

New Website Documents - 2018

- Chickens: Their Life and Death in Farming Operations
- It Isn’t Just Tyson: The Whole Chicken Industry is Horrible
- The Rescue of Kukkuta and the Rooster Dilemma
- Yellville, Arkansas Turkey Trot Festival: What Happened in October 2018?
- The Thanksgiving Turkey as Ritual Scapegoat in The Carnivalesque Tradition
- 3.4 Million “Live Inventory” – Chickens and Turkeys – Drowned or Starved to Death in North Carolina Storm
- Last Words on Anthony Bourdain & His “Vegan” Fan Club
- Regarding Anthony Bourdain: Thank You for Reading and Writing
- Honoring Anthony Bourdain (A Disgrace!)
- Are Feminists Right to Resist Comparison with the Females of Other Species?
- The Hen is a Symbol of Motherhood for Reasons We May Have Forgotten, So Let Us Recall
- “Killing IT”: “It’s a Deeply Personal Thing,” Slaughter Practitioner Tells NPR’s Fresh Air
- Motherless Days – In the “Broiler” Shed, He Remembers
- For the Love of Chickens in Honor of International Respect for Chickens Day
- Should Farmed Animals Be Genetically Modified to Remove Their Capacity to Feel Pain?
- AlterNet: #MeToo for Animal Victims of Sexual Assault
- The “Easter” Chick - A Lost Soul
- California Ballot Initiative to “Prevent Cruelty”
- Troubled Chicks & “Fighting” Hens
- Find Loving Homes
- Hidden Suffering by Chickens’ Lib. (1992)
- Animalens Promo Video (1990s) (promoting red plastic contact lenses for battery-caged hens.)
- Remembering Dear Turkeys - Two Short Videos Show Different Worlds

Speaking Engagements, Lectures & Exhibits – 2018: Karen Davis, Hope Bohanec

- **UPC’s 16th Annual Conference – “Conscious Eating” – Berkeley, CA, March 10.**
  - Sactown VegFest, Sacramento, CA, January 26.
  - Thinking About Animals Conference, Brock University, St. Catharines, ON, March 1-2.
  - Salisbury University Animal Rights Club Lecture, Salisbury, MD, March 27.
  - Veggie Pride Parade, New York City, April 8.
  - We the Future Social Justice Conference, Petaluma, CA, April 13.
  - Asheville Vegan Fest, Asheville, NC, June 8-10.
  - Marin Speaker Series, Marin Humane Society, Novato, CA, July 14.
  - Bhakti Yoga Retreat, Lake County, CA, September 2.
  - Anti-Fur Conference, New York City, September 15.
  - Vegan Love Cookout, Baltimore, MD, October 14.
  - World VegFest, San Francisco, October 27.
  - World Vegan Summit 2026, Phoenix, AZ, October 28.
  - Hampton Roads VegFest, Chesapeake, VA, October 28.
  - Santa Rosa Junior College, Santa Rosa, CA, December 6.

Additional Community Outreach - Exhibits & Demonstrations – 2018

- Central Coast VegFest, San Luis Obispo, CA, February 17.
Leafleting at the White House for International Respect for Chickens Day, May 5.
Intern’l Respect for Chickens Day Outreach, Good Earth Natural Foods, Fairfax, CA, May 5.
First Annual Pottstown, PA EcoFest, May 12.
Lancaster PA VegFest, June 2.
Richmond Vegetarian Festival (VA), June 23.
Thrive Baltimore Presents Vegan Marketplace, July 7.
Sonoma County VegFest, Santa Rosa, CA, August 18.
Vegan SoulFest, Baltimore City Community College (MD), August 25.
End Chicken Kaporos Vigil, Brooklyn, NY, September 17.
Vegan Roots Fest, Charlottesville, VA, September 29.
Hudson Valley VegFest November 3.
Leafleting for Turkeys at the White House, November 10.
Virginia Association of Science Teachers Convention, Williamsburg, November 15-17.
Vegetarian Society of Washington, DC Thanksgiving Celebration, November 22.

UPC in the News:

PRINT MEDIA (Including Internet Publications):
Published Letters, Columns, Citations, 2018

“#Me Too for the Voiceless: Why We Can’t Ignore the Animal Victims of Human Sexual Assault,” AlterNet, March 1.
“Should Farm Animals Be Genetically Modified to Remove Their Capacity to Feel Pain?” AlterNet, April 9.
Boston Globe Reports Huge Cockfighting Seizure in Massachusetts, May 30.
“The Thanksgiving Turkey as Ritual Scapegoat in the Carnivalesque Tradition,” Animals 24-7,

BROADCAST MEDIA - 2018

Conscious Eating Conference, March 10.
www.upc-online.org/forums/2018/videos.html
In Tune To Nature, WEFG Atlanta, Georgia, May 8.
In Tune To Nature, WEFG Atlanta, Georgia, September 25.
In Tune To Nature, WEFG Atlanta, Georgia, October 30.
Louie B. Free Radio, Brainfood from the Heartland, Youngstown, Ohio, September 27.
WUSB 90.1Stony Brook University, December 14.
Additional UPC videos for 2018 are posted on www.upc-online.org/videos.

Financial Report - 2018

United Poultry Concerns Fiscal Year: January 1 - December 31, 2018

Revenues............................................$643,000
Public Support.....................................638,000
Expenses............................................$452,000
Programs and Education....................386,000
Organizational Management..............66,000
Net Assets/Fund Balance at End of Year……$1,300,000

United Poultry Concerns gratefully acknowledges the kind assistance of

Estate of Nina Joan Rosen
Harold B. Larson Charitable Trust
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund for The Marino Foundation
Estate of Nancy Hild
Dharma Trust
Donors Trust, Inc.
Carol Lushear Estate
Estate of Sherry Ward

Thank You for Your Support!
Warm Parslied New Potato Salad

Recipe by Stacy Zarin Goldberg for The Washington Post

Servings: 6 - 8, Yield: Makes about 6 1/2 cups.

Ingredients
- 2 pounds new-crop or thin-skinned potatoes
- 5 tablespoons mild olive oil
- 1 medium sweet onion, cut into 1/4-inch dice (1 cup)
- Salt
- 1/4 cup loosely packed chopped parsley
- 1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
- 2 teaspoons Dijon-style mustard
- Freshly ground black pepper

Directions
1. Place the potatoes in a large pot; add enough cool water to cover by several inches. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat; cook for 15 minutes (small potatoes) to 30 or 45 minutes (larger ones). Test for doneness by inserting a thin skewer, which should meet with little resistance.
2. Meanwhile, heat 1 tablespoon of the oil in a small nonstick skillet over medium-high heat until the oil shimmers. Add the diced onion and a light sprinkle of salt; stir to coat. Reduce the heat to medium, further adjusting as needed to keep the onion from browning. Cook for 6 to 8 minutes, until the onion is tender.
3. Whisk together the parsley, vinegar and mustard in a mixing bowl. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Slowly whisk in the remaining 4 tablespoons of oil. Taste, and adjust the seasoning as needed.
4. When the onions are done, stir them into the parsley dressing.
5. Use a slotted spoon to transfer the potatoes to a cutting board. Let them cool for 5 minutes, then cut them into 1/2-inch cubes. Immediately add them to the onion-parsley dressing mixture, tossing to combine. Taste, and adjust the seasoning as needed.
6. Serve warm or at room temperature.

For more great recipes, go to www.upc-online.org/recipes!
POSTCARDS
20 for $4.00, 40 for $7.50

“Love is Best”
“Peaceable Kingdom”
“Chickens – To Know Them is to Love Them”
“Misery Is Not a Health Food”

FACT SHEETS
20 for $3.00
“Viva, the Chicken Hen / Chickens Raised for Meat”
“Jane-one tiny chicken foot”
“Starving Poultry for Profit” (forced molting)
“Poultry Slaughter: The Need for Legislation”
“The Rougher They Look, The Better They Lay” (free-range egg production)
“Intensive Poultry Production: Fouling the Environment”
“Philosophic Vegetarianism: Acting Affirmatively for Peace”
“The Rhetoric of Apology in Animal Rights”
“Providing a Good Home for Chickens”
“Chicken Talk: The Language of Chickens”
“Celebrate Easter Without Eggs”
“Chicken for Dinner: It’s Enough To Make You Sick”
“Guide to Staffing Tables: Do’s & Don’ts”
“Henny’s New Friends”
“Avoiding Burnout”
“The Life of One Battery Hen”
“Bird Flu - What You Need to Know”
“How I Learned the Truth About Eggs”

“Peeper the Turkey, a Story of Endless Love”
“Factory Farming vs. Alternative Farming: The Humane Hoax”

BROCHURES
20 for $3.00
“A Wing & A Prayer” (Kapparot ritual)
“Don’t Plants Have Feelings Too?”
“Chickens”
“The Battery Hen”
“Turkeys”
“Ostriches & Emus: Nowhere To Hide”
“Japanese Quail”
“The Use of Birds In Agricultural and Biomedical Research”
“Free-Range’ Poultry and Eggs: Not All They’re Cracked Up to Be” - New & Revised!
“Live Poultry Markets” (in English, Spanish, & Chinese)
“Chicken-Flying Contests”

LEAFLETS (FLYERS)
10 for $1.00, 25 for $2.50
“Chicken for Dinner?”
“The ‘Human’ Nature of Pigeons”
“The Truth about Feather Hair Extensions”
“Birds Suffer Horribly for Pillows & Coats”

Bumper Stickers $1 each
Don’t Just Switch from Beef to Chicken: Get the Slaughterhouse out of your Kitchen.
Don’t Just Switch from Beef to Chicken: Go Vegan.

Beautiful Chicken and Turkey Buttons
$2 each. 3 for $5. 10 for $10. Any mixture.
Stick Up For Chickens • Chickens are Friends, Not Food
Turkeys are Friends, Not Food • End Chickens as Kaporos
Be Kind to Turkeys - Don’t Gobble Me

T-shirts
Too Neat to Eat (Hen & Egg or Rooster) • Give a Cluck. Go Vegan! • What Wings Are For • Available in Unisex (S, M, L, XL) or Ladies (S, M, L, XL) $20

UPC Ordering Information:
All Prices Include Postage
To order indicated items send check or money order to:
United Poultry Concerns
P.O. Box 150
Machipongo, VA 23405-0150

Or order online at upc-online.org
BOOKS

Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: An Inside Look at the Modern Poultry Industry
By Karen Davis
This newly revised edition of *Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs* looks at avian influenza, food poisoning, chicken suffering, genetic engineering, and the growth of chicken rights activism since the 1990s. Presents a compelling argument for a compassionate plant-based cuisine. “Riveting... Brilliant.” – *Choice* magazine, American Library Association $14.95. 40% off bulk orders of 5 ($8.97 each) = $44.85 for 5.

The Holocaust and the Henmaid’s Tale: A Case for Comparing Atrocities
By Karen Davis
In this thoughtful and thought-provoking contribution to the study of animals and the Holocaust, Karen Davis makes the case that significant parallels can – and must – be drawn between the Holocaust and the institutionalized abuse of billions of animals on factory farms. “Compelling and convincing... this bold, brave book.” - Charles Patterson, author of *Eternal Treblinka* $14.95

More Than a Meal: The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual, and Reality
By Karen Davis
Karen Davis shows how turkeys in the wild have complex lives and family units, and how they were an integral part of Native American and continental cultures and landscape before the Europeans arrived, while drawing larger conclusions about our paradoxical relationship with turkeys, all birds and other animals including other human beings. “The turkey’s historical disfigurement is starkly depicted by Karen Davis in ‘More Than a Meal.’” - *The New Yorker* $14.95

Instead of Chicken, Instead of Turkey: A Poultryless “Poultry” Potpourri
By Karen Davis
This delightful vegan cookbook by United Poultry Concerns features homestyle, ethnic, and exotic recipes that duplicate and convert a variety of poultry and egg dishes. Includes artwork, poems, and illuminating passages showing chickens and turkeys in an appreciative light. $14.95

Animals and Women: Feminist Theoretical Explorations Edited by Carol J. Adams & Josephine Donovan
“Karen Davis’s brilliant essay [Thinking Like a Chicken: Farm Animals and The Feminine Connection] brings together the book’s central concepts, leading to conclusions that rightly should disturb feminists and animal advocates alike.” - Review by Deborah Tanzer, Ph.D. in *The Animals’ Agenda* $16.95

The Ultimate Betrayal: Is There Happy Meat?
By Hope Bohanec
*The Ultimate Betrayal* lifts the veil of secrecy surrounding animal farming, offering a rare look inside the world of alternative animal agriculture. $14.95

Sister Species: Women, Animals, and Social Justice Edited by Lisa Kemmerer, Forward by Carol J. Adams
*Sister Species* presents the experiences of fourteen women activists who are working on behalf of non-human animals and a more just and compassionate world. $14.95
Hatching Good Lessons: Alternatives To School Hatching Projects
By United Poultry Concerns
A guide booklet for elementary school teachers and other educators including parents. 16 pages of information, storytelling, classroom activities & color photos. Grades K-6 (some activities are designed for K-12). $2.50 per booklet. 5 for $5. It can be viewed and printed out at www.upc-online.org/hatching/.

A Home for Henny
By Karen Davis
Melanie is a 3rd grader who is excited about a chick hatching project in her class at school. The project seemed like a good idea at first, but unexpected problems arise and the whole class learns a lesson in compassion. When the project is over, Melanie adopts one of the chicks she names Henny. A Home for Henny explores the challenges and concerns with school hatching projects while evoking the lively personality of Henny and her loving relationship with Melanie. $6.99

The Great Cage Escape
Grades 4-7. By Louise Van Der Merwe
The birds in a pet shop think they are happy until a brown box punched full of air holes is left overnight on their front door step. The creature inside looks very weird at first. But as his feathers begin to grow, his true identity becomes apparent, and the stories he tells inspire the pet shop birds to pull off a Great Cage Escape. This is a story that encourages respect for all forms of life and helps learners realize that heaven can be right here on earth if we choose to make it so. $4.95

Goosie’s Story
By Louise Van Der Merwe
A touching story about a “battery” hen who is given a chance to lead a normal life – a happy life. This moving book will be warmly welcomed and shared by children, parents and teachers, highlighting as it does the concern and compassion we ought to feel for all our feathered friends on this earth. $4.95

A Boy, A Chicken and The Lion of Judah – How Ari Became a Vegetarian
By Roberta Kalechofsky
This wonderfully gifted children’s story, set in modern Israel, is about a young boy’s quest for moral independence. An intelligent book for all ages. Winner of the Fund for Animals “Kind Writers Make Kind Readers Award.” $10

Dave Loves Chickens
By Carlos Patino
Dave is a quirky monster from another planet who loves chickens and all animals on Earth. He encourages people to share his love and not eat any animals! Filled with fun and bold colors, this book is perfect for young children to learn compassion for chickens and all animals in a sweetly told, lovable story. $10

Minnie’s Dream
By Clare Druce
What happens when a young girl from the city discovers a battery-hen operation in the country? What happens when a “battery hen” named Minny speaks to her? What must she do when her friend Minny is going to be killed? This book is a must for the young person(s) in your life, age 8-14. $10

A Chicken’s Life!
Grades 4-6. PETakids Comics
This cute comic book illustrates a group of children visiting an animal sanctuary where they meet a flock of chickens and learn all about them including the differences between Nature’s Way and The Factory Farm Way. “Are these chickens really your friends?” they ask. “I’ve never met a chicken before.” A Chicken’s Life includes a puzzle for elementary school students to unscramble words including barn, beak, cluck, feathers, grass, hatch, peck, peep, wings, and lots more. $1.50 each. 10 for $10.

More Books, plus Videos available at upc-online.org/merchandise
(continued) CHILDREN’S BOOKS & EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Where’s the Turkey?, by Caroline Jones, is a charming and adorable book for young children. The child is engaged in a journey, with visual clues in the illustrations, toward discovering where the turkey is, which is not on the table. Young children love the “look-and-find” challenge page by page. I recommend this book most highly. It illustrates a Happy Thanksgiving with the whole family and a delicious Thanksgiving feast for which the turkeys themselves can give thanks for enjoying the day in their own happy “turkey” way. $6.99

“Where’s the Turkey?” by Caroline Jones

‘Twas the Night Before THANKSGIVING

Story and Pictures by Dav Pilkey, Scholastic Book Shelf
Turkeys don’t usually celebrate Thanksgiving. And they wish we wouldn’t either! Here is a tale of eight children who meet eight turkeys who are in big trouble. Only the kids can keep the turkeys from meeting their Thanksgiving fate. But how will they save the turkeys? $6.99

More books and videos available at upc-online.org/merchandise
Stickers  Send a message with your mail! Order our eyecatching color stickers! 100 stickers for $10.

POSTERS

International Respect for Chickens Day
Celebrate 12.5” x 17” Wings 12” x 16”

A Heart Beats in Us the Same as in You
Photo by PeTA
Full-color poster vividly captures the truth about factory chickens for the public. Vegetarian message. 18”x22”.

Friends, Not Food
Photo by Franklin Wade
Liqin Cao & FreddaFlower. Full color 19”x27” poster.

WHAT WINGS ARE FOR

CHICKS NEED THEIR MOTHERS

Photos by Jim Robertson & Karen Davis
Great educational tool. Full color 11-1/2”x16” poster.

Walking to Freedom After a Year in Cages
Photo by Dave Clegg. Full color, 18”x22” poster.

“Battery” Hens
Roosting in Branches After Rotting in Cages
Photo by Susan Rayfield
This beautiful color poster shows the rescued Cypress hens at UPC. Perfect for your office, your home, your school. 11.5”x16”.

Great Turkeys Poster!
Photos by Barbara Davidson & Susan Rayfield
The posters are in color, and come in two sizes: 11.5” x 16”, and 18” x 27”.

UPC posters in any mix:
One for $4. Two for $5. Three for $7.
In their Animal Rights Conference session on the Abuse of Land Animals for Food, UPC’s Karen Davis and Hope Bohanec explain why “humane” farming and “factory” farming are the same, regardless of the label.