Photo of Rockie Roo & Sandra Rose by Ashley Connon. Rockie is a very feisty rooster who just loves being held by Sandra. As for the rest of us, Watch Out!
Why Are Farmed Animals Forsaken – By Their Advocates?

By Karen Davis, PhD, President, United Poultry Concerns

Back in the early 1980s, when I joined the emerging Animal Rights Movement, little attention was paid to farmed animals. The general attitude back then was: “It’s hard enough to get people to care about whales. How can we ever hope to get them to care about a chicken?” Back then, most if not all of those running the traditional animal welfare organizations ate animals. Animals were on their plates, not off them.

But in the mid-1980s, a Revolution was getting underway. New animal advocacy groups sprang up: Farm Animal Reform Movement, Farm Sanctuary, PETA. These groups were founded and led by activists who practiced and promoted, veganism – ethical veganism for the animals, not just about food and diet.

In the 1990s, farmed animals started appearing on the animal advocacy agenda. Veal calves isolated from their mothers in wooden crates comparable to a coffin. Hens caged for life in Henitentaries. These two abuses, especially, drew attention. At the same time, the idea persisted that being vegan is a personal choice rather than an ethical imperative. “We can’t impose our values” kind of thing.

But today, most animal organizations in the U.S. include farmed animals, whose plight on factory farms they acknowledge. The question is, what form does farmed animal advocacy take in our contemporary animal advocacy movement? What are groups actually doing? What are they asking, or urging, their supporters and others to do for the largest population of abused animals on the planet: those billions of chickens, turkeys, cows, pigs, ducks, aquatic animals and so many more, each of whom is an individual, an embodied consciousness with feelings, the same as ourselves.

The question involves asking: What is our goal for farmed animals?

I take this opportunity to express a concern I have, looking forward.

One group’s long-term goals for several categories of animals are: ending fur-wearing, ending puppy mills, ending the use of animals in personal-care product testing. By contrast, this group’s long-term goal, or “vision,” for farmed animals is, vaguely, “a better life” – a “better life” in conditions that cannot be good, compared to the life these animals need and deserve to enjoy every bit as much as you or I, a cat or a dog. For farmed animals, the long-term goal for this advocacy group is merely to eliminate “extreme confinement and other inhumane practices.” The single exception: “Dogs are no longer raised and killed for their meat.”

Unlike wearing fur, for example, dining on animals other than dogs is not an issue as long as the animals on the plate were treated “humanely” on the farm and during slaughter. The term “humane” in this context is whitewashed not only by animal-abusing industries, but by animal advocacy societies that support the continuation of animal farms. One’s eyes glaze over just looking at the word, “humane.” No wonder. The cruelest, most brutal and atrocious industrial farming conditions and practices have become the standard by which “humane” treatment of farmed animals is measured.

What does “animal advocacy” even mean when it condones cutting an animal’s throat for cuisine? When it condones “culling” – removing and killing animals who aren’t “producing” enough flesh, milk or eggs for profit? And when it hides the realities of so-called humane animal farming in a way that hardly differs from how agribusiness and its affiliates bury their brutalities in euphemisms and lies?

Seldom, if ever, does a “humane farming” advocacy group reveal the atrocities of one of its humane-certified farms. Typically it takes an OUTSIDER – an investigative journalist, an accidental visitor, a whistleblower – to reveal what goes on in those places. Only then might we learn that a “humane certifier,”
so-called, has “suspended” certification of a particular farm. Doesn't this say something about the entire “humane farming” enterprise?

Workers Treated as Badly as the Animals?

Another large animal advocacy group posted an article in December advocating what its president called, “Smaller farms that treat animals humanely,” going on to say that “factory farming . . . is just as brutal to humans as it is to animals.” It is painful to read this false equivalence and to quote it.

Factory-farming is NOT just as brutal to humans, by which the writer means small rural farmers and factory-farm workers, as it is to the animals. Yes, it is brutal to workers, in corporate slaughterhouses especially. But there's a Huge Difference here: Unlike the chickens, turkeys, cows, pigs, fishes and other victims of factory farming, the workers are not the legally enslaved property of corporations. They are not the ones being SLAUGHTERED.

Moreover, the workers are not intentionally mutilated (without pain relievers, of course) as the animals are (debeaked, detoed, ear-cropped, etc.). They do not endure the terror and indignity of artificial insemination and masturbation that “breeding” turkeys and pigs helplessly endure; they are not subjected to genetic assault to produce bodies and body parts designed for human consumption. “We are no longer selling broilers, we are selling pieces. A knowledge of how broilers of different strains and sexes grow and become pieces is increasingly important” (“Latest research findings reported at annual poultry science meeting,” Feedstuffs, Sept. 7, 1992).

The workers and rural farmers are not forced to live without respite in filthy, polluted buildings and feedlots from which they cannot escape. Unlike the animals, workers can walk outside for a breath of air if they choose. Not being enslaved property like the animals, they can walk away for good; and, unlike the animals, the workers get to go home, even after a miserable work shift. By contrast, the animals never get to “go home,” ever. The only “home” they will ever know is that Home in the Sky where they are finally free, in other words, Dead.

As we begin the New Year, I urge my fellow animal rights advocates to think about what we want to say and do on behalf of farmed animals and their plight in 2023 and beyond. A fellow activist sent me an email in December about the situation I have described.

He wrote:

If they had said that their ultimate vision was that no animal should be exploited and raised for food, no animal should be killed, and the animal-based food industries should pass out of existence, but until that happens it is a good thing to lessen the suffering of captive animals if we can do that, that would be an argument that might work. But they couldn’t bring themselves to say that.

Why couldn’t they? What are the forces that put farmed animals forever in the Land of the Forsaken by their “advocates”?

In The Divine Comedy, Dante passes through the gate of Hell, which bears the inscription: “Lasciate ogne speranza, voi ch’intrate,” typically translated as “Abandon all hope, ye who enter here.”

Translation: “Long-term vision” for farmed animals. Is this our vision? As farmed animal advocates, we really do have to choose. – Karen Davis
Fall into Activism – UPC is Out There!

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Hampton Roads VegFest, VA

Richmond Vegfest, VA

Peaceful demonstration in Olney, MD
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Kaporos Chicken Rescue Report 2022

By Jill Carnegie, Rescue Team Coordinator for the Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos

Freezing rain passed through New York City the last few days of the ritual in October. After the first temperature drop, rescuers arrived at sites of some of the most extraordinary mass suffering we have seen in the crates. In one afternoon, we witnessed no fewer than 4,000 baby chickens intensely shivering, blue, soaked, all dying together with no reprieve. Many were having seizures as their organs shut down. Pleas with NYPD and Kaporos site managers yielded no result to help these chickens.

The Official Kaporos Rescue Team faced a massive first-time obstacle as well as the closing of a significant chapter for 2022 Kaporos. Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has been sweeping the United States since the start of 2022, meaning we would have to implement complicated additional biosecurity protocols at our triage hospital and with our fosters. We also received word that the home to our triage hospital since 2019, The Muse Brooklyn, lost their last appeal with their landlord, and on December 12th would be vacating the incredible space they had so generously provided to us.

The complications with avian flu impacted every stage of our rescue. The responsible homes in our networks were having to house their birds differently, which reduced capacity and therefore would drastically lower our placement numbers. The incubation period for the virus in chickens is 14 days; therefore, on top of testing, we needed to foster the birds for the full incubation period in biosecure spaces separate from any other domestic birds for two weeks in order to protect their final homes from possible infection.

Finally, because the rescue team takes in birds throughout the ritual week (starting early October in 2022), we had to maintain separate quarantines in entirely separate fosters - this is a huge added burden, but necessary to safeguard as many birds as we could. Due to the need for more separate foster spaces than usual, the Official Kaporos Rescue fostered a flock of 92 birds at The Muse during the full week of rescue! This kept space open at other trusted spaces for the more sickly birds who tend to be rescued as the week progresses. As you might imagine, this was significant added work for the rescue team and a few additional volunteers since we were not only responsible for triage and transport to fosters, but also now caring for nearly 100 birds WHILE continuing rescue operations.

In order to keep that first large flock safe, we would keep them in a protected aviary outside during the day, and then we had a sanitary pen for them inside a large predator-proof shipping container overnight, all in the backyard of The Muse Brooklyn. Volunteer rescuers and helpers would move the birds daily, clean their areas, and feed twice daily with consistently refreshed
medicated water. Booties, coveralls, changes of clothing, gloves, and the like were used consistently to maintain the integrity of the flock's quarantine.

Each day, rescuers who brought in new birds were not allowed to touch the quarantine flock, and the carers of the flock couldn't handle the new intake. As complicated as this was, everyone on the team was mindful and dedicated to the birds' safety. Each day, new rescues would go to an experienced foster home on Long Island.

There was a surprise in store, however, as freezing rain passed through New York City the last few days of the ritual. After the first temperature drop, activists and rescuers arrived at sites of some of the most extraordinary mass suffering we have seen in the crates. In one afternoon, we witnessed no fewer than 4,000 baby chickens intensely shivering, blue, soaked, all dying together with no reprieve. Many were having seizures as their organs shut down. Pleas with NYPD and Kaporos site managers yielded no result to help these chickens. One could see them huddled together, many spreading their soaked and freezing wings over the others in a futile attempt to warm them. Babies trying so desperately to protect babies. It was haunting and we all felt a new level of helplessness. That day, we did manage to liberate 12 birds and of course many more the following days. But the sight of this added layer of excruciating torture will haunt everyone who saw it forever.

The rescue team started to carry larger numbers of pre-loaded syringes of steroid due to the higher number of live birds we were finding in “dead crates.” When Cornish-cross chickens start to shut down from low temperatures, they very nearly cease to breathe and their cold pale skin makes workers assume they’ve died when in fact they haven’t. Rescuers are experienced in looking for lesser-known signs of life, and as we identified living birds, we could inject them on the spot with steroid to help revive them long enough to get them to our ambulance and hospital. With this process, we experienced only one fatality from exposure at our triage which is nothing short of a miracle given the exposure these birds had faced.

The final night of ritual, our ambulance was parked and turned on with the heat full blast. As Kaporos workers tossed birds they thought were dead under the transport trucks, rescuers identified anyone alive, injected steroid, and rushed them to the ambulance. Viola Agostini of Tamerlaine Sanctuary single-handedly revived 12 birds initially thought dead by Kaporos workers. After she and her birds got to the hospital, rescuer Michael Dolling took over the ambulance where he single-handedly revived another 9 birds. Few people are aware of our use of a stocked ambulance near Kaporos sites because we keep their locations secret to avoid sabotage by the Kaporos practitioners.

For years we have kept a vehicle fully stocked with medications and supplies to stabilize birds on the spot, staffed with one or two experienced caretakers on their own quietly working inside to save lives. This practice has undoubtedly been responsible for saving hundreds of lives over the years, lives that might have been lost en route to our triage hospital.

Sunrise after the final night is always the most fraught day of rescue. This is the day where rescuers dive into dumpsters, crawl under slaughter tables and transport trucks, and use all of their negotiating power to rescue survivors of Kaporos week. We did receive one bird who had survived a slit throat, but who sadly died.
(cont.) Kaporos Chicken Rescue Report 2022

On the final day, we had another first: three veterinarians joined our triage hospital in a volunteer capacity. No one is better at triaging Cornish-cross chickens than our long-standing volunteer rescuers. But of course, having veterinarians now involved is wonderful for new access to controlled medications, catheter insertion when needed, and emergency stitches if required. They are committed to continuing to work with us, and so 2022 has brought unprecedented growth to our hospital team!

Throughout the week, we observed that the Department of Agriculture completely ignored the Kaporos sites and provided no intervention to prevent the spread of avian flu. Even though we all are aware that the vast majority of birds are discarded in the trash and not eaten, a small proportion of the bodies ARE prepared for consumption by humans. Supposedly that flesh is donated to food kitchens. With no biosecurity measures in place, the risk of potentially feeding a person HPAI-infected flesh was extremely high. The irresponsibility of local, state, and federal government when it comes to this practice knows no bounds.

Thanks to our veterinary volunteers and The Wild Bird Fund, we were able to test our flocks for avian flu. Our rescue team is filled with caregivers to Cornish-cross chickens who were able to ensure we maintained every precaution. As a result of these measures, we are proud to say that we had not one single positive HPAI case out of our 238 total rescued Kaporos survivors this year.

We express our deepest gratitude to The Muse Brooklyn for their generosity and support over the years. We will miss them and the space they opened to us so much. They, too, are responsible for the saving of over 1,000 lives since 2019.

Thank you to the incredible donors who continue to enable the work of the Official Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos Rescue Team! Especially this year, we appreciate the understanding of our increased expenses relative to the number of birds rescued; due to the foster set-ups and increased time, as well as cost increases for transport, this rescue could not have happened without every donation.

With avian flu showing no signs of going away, and with the now increased involvement of our veterinary contacts, a lot of what we witnessed, documented, and learned in the 2022 Kaporos Rescue will be informing campaign strategy moving forward. Please stay tuned for more information on what the future holds for the Kaporos birds and our fight to end the use of birds for this hellish ritual.

The total financials for the 2022 Kaporos rescues are:

- Triage/Foster Total: $5,628.48
- Transport Total: $7,005.08
- Sanctuary Support Total: $3,250
- Medical Total: $13,120.21
- Grand Total, Expenses: $29,003.77
- Total Raised: $32,051
- 2022 surplus: $3,047.23

Special thanks to:

- Tamerlaine Sanctuary and Preserve, triage and rescue partner
- Uncle Neil’s Home, rescue and foster
- They All Want to Live, foster
- Jessica Chiarello, foster
- VINE Sanctuary, foster
- Herd and Flock Sanctuary, West Coast foster
- Tikkun Olam Farm Sanctuary, West Coast placement partner
- Dawn Ladd, foster and triage
- The Muse Brooklyn, home to our triage hospital
- All of our incomparable transport drivers, integral members of the rescue team, and the volunteers who were indispensable helping to set up and break down our triage hospital and to care for the flock of birds we fostered before taking them to their new, loving homes.

Photo by Jenni Poole
No One Came. The Baby Turkey Cries for His Mother in Vain

By Kathryn King, a longtime rescuer of turkeys and chickens in Ohio and a member of United Poultry Concerns

So nice and warm and safe here in my egg. I wonder what my Mom will look like? I keep trying and trying to come out and see my Mom. Oh my – I did it! I’m out! But where is Mom? Is she here, is she there, where is she?

But no one came. Here I am with hundreds just like me. What is that strong smell? It burns my eyes. Some of my friends are dying. Someone, please help them!

Still no one came . . .

I am getting bigger by the day; so hard to stand and walk. So painful. No room to walk if I could walk. I see my friends lying lifeless – someone, please help them. I cry, but no one comes.

Finally, someone has come! They are taking us to crates and loading us on a truck, but why are they shoving us so tight? Can’t move or breathe. It’s cold and raining. Someone help us PLEASE.

But no help comes.

At last we are here. Now maybe we can get out of the crates. I got out, but they tied my feet. They are hanging us upside down. What did we do wrong? They are moving us – I see BLADES coming toward me!! I have to get Out of Here - SOMEONE HELP!

But no one ever came.

In her letter, Kathryn King wrote to UPC:

“This story has been on my heart for a long time. I feel it helps people to have an idea of what these dear creatures go through. They have done nothing wrong, yet they are put through hell. Hopefully, this message will touch people . . .

I miss my dear Molly. She was blind but so touched my heart and made life more tolerable.

Now the Lord has blessed me with a chicken with a deformed mouth. Her name is Little Bit. No one wanted her, so she is now a part of my life.

I care for two hundred chickens and seventy-five turkeys. I love them all and do my best for them.

Thank you for all you do for God’s precious birds. They are such special little lives.”

– Kathryn King, November 2022

Read more about Kathryn’s own beloved birds:

Peep: A Story of Unending Love
Cutie, My Precious Turkey, Was a True Joy to Me

These stories and more about turkeys are featured here:

www.upc-online.org/turkeys


**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.

Dear UPC, This Donation is on behalf of all the birds you have ever known and all the birds you will get to know... Thank you for all you do. – Rita, Duckie Doo, Rockie Roo, Maggie & Sadie Lady. Our love to you all. – Rita Lemongello

Beth, In honor of your lovingly watching over the eagles on the island... although this concentrates on chickens. Birds of a feather need to flock together. Love you this holiday and always, Annie. – Anne Boguslavsky

My gift is for Muriel. – Anne Boguslavsky

Dear UPC, I’m sending my 2023 membership donation to you in honor of our beautiful and gentle tom turkey, “The Professor.” We were blessed with him for only 2 weeks, when he died suddenly from an unknown cause. He was a true “gentleman,” and we loved him. Please keep up all of your good work for the birds everywhere, and I am proud to be a part of what you do. – Barbara Moffit

Dear Karen and UPC Staff, Thank you so very much for ALL that you do for the Animals – especially the Birds! Our Roosie & Girls are always in our hearts, though physically gone. – David & Cheryl Hopkins

My donation is in honor of our precious brother and sister fowls. Thank you for all you do. God bless. – Salene Seymour

Dear UPC, My donations are 1) in honor of Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos volunteers; 2) in honor of my beloved and esteemed father, Murray Rothman, R.I.P.; and 3) in honor of my late partner, Mel (Melvin Lewis) Wallman, precious to me for eternity, R.I.P. With gratitude and admiration to everyone at UPC, Susan Rothman

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Karen & Mr. Frizzle ©2008 Davida G. Breier

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The Professor
My gift is in honor and memory of Roberta Kalechofsky, who died on April 5, 2022 at age 91. Roberta became vegan after Richard Schwartz asked her to publish his first book. “Bob and I had no idea what we could eat,” she exclaimed. They learned quickly, and she wrote a vegan book of her own, the first of several. They were always eager to pack up and table at expos and veg fests. Roberta is remembered as an outstanding animal rights advocate and a valuable friend. – Roberta Schiff, Hudson Valley Vegans

My donation is in remembrance of our beloved peacock, Frankincense, who died unexpectedly in our sanctuary on Saturday night, October 29th. Frankincense first visited and then chose to live permanently with our chickens and ducks, from November 2000 until the morning I found him lifeless in our Big Bird House next to a stack of straw facing the wall. He was our oldest sanctuary resident, a beautiful, vibrant bird remembered with love. – Karen Davis, UPC

My gift is a memorial to my parents, Florence and Joseph Mandell. – Risa Mandell

Happy Birthday, Denise! – Charles Bivona

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

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Membership includes our quarterly *Poultry Press* Magazine to keep you informed on current issues, and how you can get involved in many other ways. If you would like to support us by credit card, please go to our website at www.upc-online.org and click on DONATE to make your donation. It’s that easy!

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Do you want to be removed from our mailing list? Please tell us now. The U.S. Postal Service charges UPC for every returned mailing. Remailing the magazine costs UPC an additional sum. Due to the enormous cost of remailing, we can no longer provide this service. Thank you for your consideration. Please keep up your membership. We need your continuing financial support.
From “Autobiography of a Revolutionary” by Roberta Kalechofsky


Roberta Kalechofsky (1931-2022)

My membership in the Animal Rights Movement was unpredictable. I did not join the movement. I was catapulted into it. I did not go looking for it. I did not know it existed. I turned a page in a book, I turned a corner in the universe and was confronted with a terrible evil. But now I know, and my life has changed. An immense detour in myself, foremost as a writer, has developed. I ache for my old themes. . . .

The day before I read this passage [about a horrible experiment on devocalized dogs described in a novel] I had seen an advertisement in a newspaper about an animal rights organization, and had thrown it out with the paper. Now I went to my garbage can, found the advertisement, and called the telephone number on it. Like so many other people, I had avoided the literature on the subject. Only a week before, I had seen a copy of Dallas Pratt’s book, Alternatives to Painful Experiments on Animals, in a local library, peeped into it, and had immediately shut the book. I had said to myself, what so many others now say to me, “I can't bear to look at that.” Now the material forced its way into my consciousness. It clutched me by the throat.

I had thought, after I had absorbed the literature on the Holocaust, I would never again have to rebuild the world I knew. Now again, everything unraveled and had to be pieced together, had to be rethought, particularly that such evils could take place a short distance from where I lived and I could be so ignorant of them. . . .

– Roberta Kalechofsky, founder of Jews for Animal Rights

A Boy, A Chicken & The Lion of Judah
How Ari Became A Vegetarian

By Roberta Kalechofsky
Micah Publications

A Boy, A Chicken & The Lion of Judah: How Ari Became a Vegetarian is available from United Poultry Concerns. $10 includes shipping. To order, go to www.upc-online.org/merchandise or send check or money order to our PO Box 150 address.

Review by Karen Davis, PhD, President of United Poultry Concerns

“The problem had begun for him when he was about four and he had asked Ima where the chicken on his plate came from.”
about many things, but not about these things.”

For Ari it is dreadful to eat something that was once a living, “frightened creature.” His morality is rooted in his perception of the difference between “the birds who were free and the birds who were not free.”

“He noticed that the birds who were free were always beautiful, their feathers were soft and silky and brilliant with color, their wings opened like fans as they mounted the air with confidence and song. He loved to watch the birds in the air. Their migration patterns were like paintings in the sky, moving pictures against the blue air as the birds jockied for their different places and lined up behind their leader, predetermined by the forces of sun and wind and light to make this journey. The journey was part of their being. A cage was a terrible thing.”

Unlike these birds, the chickens kept for meat and eggs smell bad, cannot move in their cages, make “low moaning sounds,” and stare with “gloomy eyes.” And then there is Ari’s beloved hen, Tk Tk, named for her quiet clucking. Tk Tk is clean, soft, independent, and loving. She often sits on the porch step with Ari making sweet sounds that come “from deep inside her breast, deep under her feathers, deep inside a well of animal happiness.”

Ari asks his mother, were there different kinds of chickens?

“Ima said there were. ‘A chicken that you eat and a chicken that’s a pet are two different kinds of animals.’

“Does the cage make them different?’ Ari asked.

“The question disturbed Ima. ‘Not exactly,’ she said.”

Ari ponders the difference in his parents’ attitude towards Tk Tk, the chickens in the cages, and the millions of migratory birds – storks, pelicans, eagles, kestrels – whose ancient route across the Negev is threatened by the government’s plan to build a radio station in the Arad Valley. These are the “birds in the air that people admired and wanted to protect.” Ari wonders “why his parents felt so strongly about the birds of the air, and did not seem to care at all about the chickens in the cages.”

Their answers are evasive, and Ari suffers a “secret misery” that keeps him from being happy. His pain becomes a family matter when he starts washing his meat with water at the table before eating. He scarcely understands his compulsion, but persists in doing it, even when his visiting Grandma Ellie from New York taunts him about his “disgusting habit” and does everything she can to make him feel even worse than he already does about hurting his parents and becoming a weakling if he does not eat meat.

Although Ari’s parents have always encouraged their son’s quest for moral independence, they never dreamed where their teachings might lead. Ari finds unexpected support from them, however, and even from his “henpecked” grandfather; but the most astonishing revelation is that his teacher, Ms. Greenblatt, is a vegetarian and that her brother Yossi, the famous soccer player, is a vegetarian, too. Ms. Greenblatt washes away Ari’s fears so that he no longer has to wash the blood out of his food or be defensive when baited by his classmate, Yonatan, who thinks that being big and being strong are the same.

When Ari tells Ms. Greenblatt that he informed his mother he did not want to eat meat, she praises him. “Good. So now you own your own stomach.” This idea becomes Ari’s “personal truth.”

Roberta Kalechofsky dedicated A Boy, A Chicken & the Lion of Judah to her son, Hal, “whose parents did not understand,” and “to other parents who might also miss the clues.” Ari’s practice of washing his meat is based on Hal’s childhood habit. Only years later did Roberta learn that her son always hated meat. Now a vegetarian herself, she sees washing the meat as a purification ritual designed to wash away every sign of blood from the flesh so as not to feel there was ever any life in it.

A Boy, A Chicken & The Lion of Judah is an intelligent, adventurous, and beautifully written book. Although it is specially intended for young people seven to fourteen years old, it really is a book for all ages. – Karen Davis
Recent issues of Poultry Press have targeted the American Veterinary Medical Association’s unethical support for the use of Ventilation Shutdown-Plus (VSD+) to exterminate – “depopulate” – millions of chickens, turkeys, ducks and other factory-farmed birds in response to the Avian Influenza disease sweeping the global poultry and egg industries. Millions of birds with no sign of this infectious disease of factory-farming have been exterminated along with birds diagnosed with the disease.

The VSD+ procedure consists of depriving the birds of air and inflicting heatstroke, to which carbon dioxide poison is added to facilitate suffocation. Our alerts feature photographs of hens dying in experimental isolation boxes in the Poultry Science Department at North Carolina State University (NCSU) in 2016. Ventilation Shutdown experiments at NCSU continue to be funded by the poultry industry, while avian flu reimbursements to poultry corporations are being funded by U.S. taxpayers through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The photos we’ve been showing are extracted from 10 hours of excruciating footage obtained by former Animal Outlook attorney Will Lowrey through a public records request and posted on the Internet in April 2022.

In November, we decided, in addition to targeting the AVMA, to target NCSU by placing a full-page ad in the university’s student newspaper, Technician. The ad was set to run December 1, 2022 – only to be rejected by the Editorial Board, without explanation, the day before.

Our Internet alerts have urged people to contact NCSU Chancellor Randolph Woodson and the Technician’s Editorial Board regarding two fundamental issues: 1) the atrocity of the experiments, and 2) the Technician’s disregard of the university’s Free Speech policy in rejecting our ad. For information, see the Ad and the NewsBlaze Press Release, composed by UPC president Karen Davis and reproduced in these pages.
Tell the AVMA to OPPOSE the use of Ventilation Shutdown-Plus and related methods of torture (e.g., firefighting foam and electricity) to exterminate birds on factory farms. Tell the AVMA to SUPPORT eliminating the squalor and overcrowding in the confinement buildings that spread the avian flu virus. Anyone with a modicum of medical training should know that lack of hygiene creates a Paradise for Pathogens. Request a reply to your concerns.

Dr. Janet Donlin & Dr. Cia Johnson
American Veterinary Medical Association
1931 North Meacham Road, Suite 100
Schaumburg, IL 60173-4360
Phone: 800-248-2862
Fax: 847-925-1329
Website/Contact: www.avma.org

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Slaughter Free Network used our “Dying for Dinner” cards at a protest in front of the home of the Chief Operating Officer of Koch Foods, Mark Kaminsky

Send check or money order to UPC or order online at www.upc-online.org/merchandise.
MACHIPONGO, Va., Dec. 16, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- An ad submitted to North Carolina State University’s student paper Technician was approved for publication by the marketing department only to be rejected without explanation by the paper’s editorial board the day before the ad was set to run on December 1.

Titled “They Shut Their Ears to Her Cries as She Died a Merciless Death,” the ad was produced by United Poultry Concerns, a nonprofit organization that promotes the compassionate and respectful treatment of chickens and other domesticated birds. The purpose was to inform students, faculty and staff of inhumane experiments being conducted on chickens by the Poultry Science Department in 2016 and continuing. It urged campus residents to express concern to university Chancellor Randolph Woodson and Interim Head of the Poultry Science Department, Peter Ferket.

The experiments involved ten hours of torturing chickens slowly to death in Ventilation Shutdown research of a mass-extermination procedure referred to as VSD Plus. Hens were placed in individual see-through isolation boxes and subjected to oxygen deprivation, extreme heating, and carbon dioxide poisoning in combinations designed to cause suffocation and heatstroke in the hens whose voices were muted by the researchers who cavalierly fanned themselves and drank ice water as they watched the agony they had arranged.

Recent VSD Plus studies at North Carolina State include injecting hens with nitrogen. The Poultry Science Department’s “injection of nitrogen during ventilation shutdown plus heat” experiment was funded by the USPoultry Foundation in 2022.

In “A Big Win For Animal Abusers As Student Paper Censors Cruelty Ad,” NewsBlaze journalist Martha Rosenberg broke the story on December 5. She quoted Animal Outlook, the advocacy group that obtained the VSD footage through a public records request: “As the boxes get hotter and the air inside more stagnant, and as carbon dioxide is sometimes added, the chickens writhe, gasp, pant, stagger and even throw themselves against the walls of their confinement in a desperate attempt to escape.”

Citing ethical opposition to the procedure, Rosenberg wrote that “A group of veterinarians and American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) members who asked the AVMA last summer to remove support for the mass kill method was ignored.”

To alert the public, United Poultry Concerns published two full-page ads in Philadelphia’s largest circulating newspaper Metro Philadelphia, targeting the AVMA’s annual convention in Philadelphia July 29-August 1. It asked people to urge the AVMA to oppose VSD Plus as a method to control chronic diseases like avian influenza in factory-farmed birds whose susceptibility to infection reflects unnatural breeding and squalid living conditions.

“We think the public has a right to know what is being done to birds and other farmed animals for the sole purpose of protecting and advancing agribusiness interests,” says UPC President Karen Davis.

Davis continues: “Instead of cleaning up the squalor and eliminating the debilitating breeding practices, industry prefers to cruelly destroy tens of millions of birds, pigs, and others at taxpayer expense through U.S. Department of Agriculture indemnities. As a government-supported institution, North Carolina State University is part of a financial system that extends even to the student newspaper that claims to promote free speech.”

Wrote Rosenberg in her NewsBlaze article, “Apparently, lobbyist requests and the almighty dollar are more powerful than standard University policy.”
They Shut Their Ears to Her Cries as She Died a Merciless Death

“The suffering is extremely profound.”

Attorney Will Lowrey watched 10 hours of footage, obtained through a public records request to NCSU. The footage shows birds being subjected to ventilation shutdown procedures known as VSD and VSD-Plus.

Watch the footage: www.upc-online.org/vsd-footage

VSD and VSD-Plus are used to exterminate millions of birds on farms by depriving them of air. “Plus” means adding intolerable levels of heat to the suffocation process. Ventilation deprivation plus intolerable heat is designed to asphyxiate the birds and induce heatstroke. Carbon dioxide poisoning is often added to assist suffocation, as the birds struggle to breathe while baking to death.

In the NCSU study, researchers subjected chickens for each phase of the experiment—plus additional birds for pilot phases—to VSD in various forms. The birds’ suffering was documented and, in some instances, recorded on video, in graphic detail. Each video depicts a single hen enclosed in a small box with a glass/plastic front panel for observation.

As the boxes get hotter and the air inside more stagnant, and as carbon dioxide is sometimes added, the chickens writhe, gasp, pant, stagger and even throw themselves against the walls of their confinement in a desperate attempt to escape. Eventually the birds collapse and, finally, die from heat and suffocation.

The cries of each bird as she suffers, alone without mercy from these people, are blocked out.

If you are sickened by such experiments, and believe that North Carolina State University has a moral obligation to act honorably toward our fellow creatures, let your voice be heard for the sake of these helpless, innocent birds whose pitiful voices were muted by their abusers.

Email W. Randolph (Randy) Woodson, Chancellor: chancellor@ncsu.edu.

Email Professor Peter Ferket, Interim Head of the Poultry Science Department: peter_ferket@ncsu.edu.

Submit a letter to the editor of The Technician.

This ad is sponsored by United Poultry Concerns, a nonprofit organization that promotes the compassionate and respectful treatment of domestic fowl. www.upc-online.org

Photos shown here are from experiments conducted by NCSU researchers who obtained funding from the U.S. Poultry and Egg Association, to observe and videotape the effects of VSD on chickens in 2016. Animal Outlook explains:

Photos of UPC sanctuary hens by Davida G. Breier.
Black Bean and Corn Enchilada Stuffed Shells

Recipe by giantfoodstores.com slightly modified

Ingredients
• 24 jumbo pasta shells
• 2 (10 oz) cans enchilada sauce, divided (For an extra kick, use one can mild and one can spicy.)
• 1 (15.5 oz) can black beans, drained and rinsed
• 1 (15.2 oz) can whole kernel corn, drained
• 1 ½ cups shredded vegan cheddar cheese, divided
• 2 tbsp thinly sliced green onions

Instructions
1. Preheat oven to 375°F. Heat a large pot of salted water to a boil on high. Cook the pasta shells according to package directions. Drain well.
2. Spread half of 1 can enchilada sauce on bottom of a 9x13-inch baking dish. To a medium bowl, add remaining half of sauce from can, the black beans, corn, and 1 cup vegan cheddar cheese, stirring to combine. Season with salt and pepper. Divide filling among cooked pasta shells. Arrange shells in baking dish.
3. Pour remaining 1 can enchilada sauce over stuffed shells and top with remaining vegan cheese. Cover loosely with foil and bake 20 min. Remove foil and bake an additional 10 min., until vegan cheese is bubbly and filling is hot. Garnish with the green onions.

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”

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

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

United Poultry Concerns • (757) 678-7875
P.O. Box 150 • Machipongo, VA 23405-0150
**Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: An Inside Look at the Modern Poultry Industry**

By Karen Davis


$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

**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

**For the Birds: From Exploitation to Liberation**

Essays by Karen Davis

*FOR THE BIRDS “Can Only Be Described with Superlatives”* – *Animal Culture Magazine*. $20

**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
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

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 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

– Karen Davis, United Poultry Concerns

‘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

A Rooster’s Tale: A Year in the Life of a Clan of Chickens, by Claudia Bruckert, transports readers to the fascinating world of Change, who tells the real life story of his chicken family during his first year of life. Enchanting experiences and intriguing facts, chronicled and photographed beautifully over the course of one year, convey deep insights into the daily life of chickens. Grades 3-12 and a reading joy for all ages. $20

Cha Cha Chicken Coloring Book by Marc Chalvin
Narrated by Cha Cha the hen, this book invites children to visit Green Farm sanctuary and learn about the happy animals who live there. Written by Marian Hailey-Moss and illustrated by Marc Chalvin, Cha Cha shows children that chickens are people too and invites them to color their world beautiful! Cha Cha Chicken Coloring Book is a delightful gift for children K-3. $10

Chickens at Play
By United Poultry Concerns
This vibrant video shows chickens at the United Poultry Concerns sanctuary accompanied by lively music, with brief explanations of what the chickens are doing throughout their daily activities into the evening as, one by one, they hop up to their perches for the night. Narrated by a young child. 10:04 minutes. DVD. $5. $12.50 for 5.
Watch: http://vimeo.com/13210456

More books and videos available at upc-online.org/merchandise
**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”.

**“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.

**Stickers**
Send a message with your mail! Order our eyecatching color stickers!
100 stickers for $10.

**With Heart and Voice - a Beautiful Greeting Card from UPC**
$19.95 for 20 cards. $38.95 for 40 cards, envelopes included. Single card & envelope $1.00.

**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.

**Stickers**
Send a message with your mail! Order our eye-catching color stickers!
100 stickers for $10.
Wishing you comfort & joy in 2023!
Please renew your membership for 2023

Karen Davis & Rainbow, a gentle rooster now living on our porch with Wanda and Maggie, due to his infirmity with aging. They all love green peas!