



# SanctuarySCOOP

Keepers of the Wild | 13441 E. Highway 66 | Valentine, AZ 86437  
[www.keepersofthewild.org](http://www.keepersofthewild.org) | [info@keepersofthewild.org](mailto:info@keepersofthewild.org)  
Phone: (928) 769-1800 | Fax: (928) 769-1805



## Habitat Switcheroo

While Mercury is thriving in his new habitat, Sampson lacks the necessary muscle strength to navigate his habitat. Due to his advanced age and the lack of proper exercise throughout his life, we had to find another solution.

We decided to swap Sampson and Hope (jaguar). Hope's former habitat is much flatter and easier for Sampson to navigate and he enjoys hanging out by the palm trees. He has been much more active and walking around with this new setup. Hope is happy in her new home

also. She seems to enjoy the challenge of a steeper habitat and loves her new pool.

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### **EXOTICS AS PETS** **"Another Tragic Lesson"**

The following story is yet another example of why exotic animals should not be kept as pets.

On July 14th, two chimps escaped from a private residence in Las Vegas. The male named Buddy was shot and killed by a police officer on the spot, while a short time later, CJ the female was darted.

We are greatly saddened by this news as we are well acquainted with these chimps and over the years trying to get them placed in a proper sanctuary-- where a tragedy such as this could have been avoided.

We will continue to monitor CJ's situation and hope with enough outside pressure, she will be surrendered to a chimp sanctuary. To read the full story [click here!](#)

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### **NEW DONATION OPTIONS!**

We've had several requests from supporters wanting to set up automatic payments from their credit cards or checking accounts. We are very excited to announce that you can now make your **one-time or recurring donations** using your **debit card, credit card, checking or savings account**.

You can also make gifts in memory/honor of a loved one as well as determine the frequency of recurring gifts including monthly, quarterly or annually.

[\*\*Click here to make a secure on-line donation!\*\*](#)

If you prefer to **mail** in your enrollment form, please print our [\*\*Giving Form\*\*](#) and fax it to (928) 769-1805 or mail to:

**Keepers of the Wild  
13441 E. Highway 66  
Valentine, AZ 86437**

#### **Benefits:**

- **Save time and postage- eliminate the need for writing checks**
- **Choose a payment option that works for you— debit, credit card, checking account, or savings account**
- **Easily adjust amount or timing of recurring donations**

#### **Flexible Options and Complete Financial Control**

You have complete control over your online giving. You adjust your donation at your convenience, making changes to the timing or amounts. All this from the comfort and security of your home, office, or anywhere with an Internet connection.



### **AROUND THE PARK**

We recently revamped our gift shop and added a variety of new merchandise- be sure to come by for a visit and check it out!

Currently, we are in the process of rearranging the entire area up top. This includes moving our storage and maintenance buildings to another part of the property. This will in turn open up a lot of space for us to reconfigure and expand the primate and smaller animal habitats.

In addition, we are adding some badly needed storage cabinets and workspace to our office.

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### **Break the Chain- Help Stop Circus Animal Suffering Minutes of Entertainment = A Lifetime of Misery for Exotic Animals.**

Traveling Exotic Animal Protection Act, H.R. 3359

We urgently need you to contact your member of Congress and ask them to support HR 3359, the Traveling Exotic Animal Protection Act, to restrict the use of wild animals in traveling circuses.

The Traveling Exotic Animal Protection Act, HR 3359 was introduced in congress by Congressman Jim Moran (Virginia) Ringlings home state.

#### **H.R. 3359**

[Read a copy of the bill](#)

#### **Take Action!**

Contact your member of Congress and ask for their support and co-sponsorship of this important animal protection legislation.

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#### **FREE BIRD**

After observing Palmer (raven) in the flight cage for some time we determined he was flying well and suitable for release. We released him on our property a couple of weeks ago and he is doing great. He continues to visit us daily but has complete freedom and some new raven friends.





**Bengal Tiger: Sheena 7/1/1997**

**Brown Capuchin Monkey: Lola 7/13/1988**

**Fallow Deer: Clint, Shadow & Spooky were acquired on 7/30/2008**

**Cleopatra ( Leopard tortoise), Leopold ( Russian tortoise) & Uri (Uromastyx lizard) were all acquired on 7/1/2001**



**Montana: Grey Wolf**

**4/20/1999-7/13/2012**

**Our alpha wolf passed away on Friday the 13th**

**Edgar: Raven**

**(acquired on) 5/1/1999 - 7/17/2012**

**Edgar passed away on 7/17**

**We miss you both!**

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## New Arrival: Welcome Home Savannah!



Savannah is a 7 year old bobcat that was brought to Keepers of the Wild by the local Arizona Game & Fish Department on August 13th. Game & Fish confiscated the emaciated bobcat from a private owner in Bullhead, AZ. Her droopy ear is a result of a blunt trauma she suffered on the left side of her head. She was previously declawed and had old stitches inside her ear and underneath her chin. We are happy to report she has gained weight and is doing very well. In fact, her feisty little personality is starting to manifest itself. The photo above was taken on 8/31/2012.

If you would like to sponsor Savannah or another animal resident of Keepers of the Wild, [click here](#) to complete the on-line sponsorship form.

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## Support the Big Cats and Public Safety Protection Act (H.R. 4122)

On February 29, 2012 Rep. Buck McKeon (R-CA) and Rep. Loretta Sanchez (D-CA) introduced bipartisan bill H.R. 4122 to prohibit the private possession and breeding of big cats. The bill will insure that lions, tigers and other dangerous big cats – which are kept as pets and exploited in roadside zoos and traveling exhibits – do not threaten public safety, diminish the global big cat conservation efforts, or end up living in deplorable conditions where they

can be subject to mistreatment and cruelty.

Read H.R. Bill 4122, Big Cats and Public Safety Protection Act: [H.R. Bill 4122](#)

This is the bill that can stop the abuse – please call and email your elected representative and urge him or her to cosponsor H.R. 4122.

## **Break the Chain- Help Stop Circus Animal Suffering Minutes of Entertainment = A Lifetime of Misery for Exotic Animals.**

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**H.R. 3359**

[Read a copy of the bill](#)

**Take Action!**

**Contact your member of Congress and ask for their support and co-sponsorship of this important animal protection legislation.**

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### UPDATE: CJ the Chimp Relocated to Oregon

CJ, the chimpanzee who escaped twice from her northwest Las Vegas enclosure in recent weeks, has arrived safely at an Oregon sanctuary, Chimps, Inc.

According to a news release from Chimps, Inc., CJ arrived in Bend, OR on August 17th. They had some of her favorite food and comfort items on hand and CJ was greeted by 7 members of her new chimpanzee family.

George Knapp, longtime investigative journalist for KLAS-TV Las Vegas, was one of the people to escort CJ to her new home. Read how the expected 2 day journey turned into a 5 day fiasco. [Click here](#) to read his story.

We are happy to know that she will be well cared for and has a new chimp family.

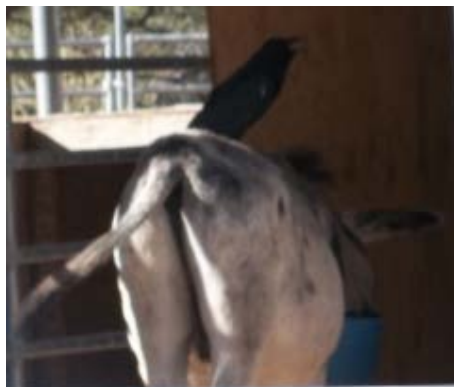
### **Around the Park**





**We recently received a large donation from Kingman Food Bank including 600 pounds of beef and a variety of produce. Kingman Food Bank donates on a regular basis to Keepers of the Wild. This is a great help to the animals and we appreciate your thoughtfulness and care for our organization. From everyone here at Keepers of the Wild—THANK YOU!**

### **JUST FOR FUN**



**As you may already know, we released Palmer the raven last month. He continues to make daily appearances to oversee the staff's cleaning chores as well as dropping in on Caesar the donkey. As we were passing by we were able to snap a shot of the visit.**

# **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**





**PJ: Bengal Tiger 8/9/2006**

**Sampson: Royal White Bengal Tiger 8/19/1995**

**Precious: Ring-tailed Lemur 8/2004**

**Stanley: Potbellied Pig 8/13/1998**



**Pawnee: Grey Wolf**  
**4/20/1999-8/1/2012**

**Our sweet girl passed away due to complications of old age.**  
**We miss you!**

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## "ANIMAL ODD COUPLES"

We are so excited to share that Anthony (lion) and Riley (coyote) will soon make their debut on "Animal Odd Couples" on PBS. Producer, Susan Fleming and cameraman Keith were on-site at Keepers of the Wild for a few days to shoot footage for the documentary back in May. The focus of this documentary is to reveal inter-species relationships – animals of different species who have formed a unique bond or friendship. The "Animal Odd Couples" documentary is scheduled for broadcast on PBS Nature on November 7th (Wednesday at 8 p.m.). It will also be broadcast multiple times throughout December. DON'T MISS IT!

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## HAPPY 17th ANNIVERSARY KEEPERS OF THE WILD!

While Jonathan started rescuing animals a few years prior, he filed Articles of Incorporation for Keepers of the Wild on October 2, 1995 with the Nevada Secretary of State.





## DESERT TORTOISE

We received a call from a local business in Truxton asking if we would pick up a desert tortoise they had "rescued" off of Historic Route 66 Highway. They proceeded to tell us that they had the tortoise in a large box and had thrown some apples in for her to eat.

Jonathan was concerned and sent a staff member to pick the tortoise up and bring it back to the sanctuary. Jonathan wanted to determine if it was wild or a pet someone had released but more importantly wanted to make sure that the tortoise was properly hydrated. Disturbing a tortoise in any way, such as picking it up, can cause it to release the contents of its bladder which could lead to dehydration and death.

Jonathan contacted our local Game & Fish Department and they told him that our area is too far outside of its known territory and most likely a pet that escaped or was set free.

The only situation in which a wild tortoise should be handled is if it is crossing the road and is in immediate danger. In this case you can gently lift it (not too high and keep it level) off the road, being mindful of traffic, and carefully put it on the other side, facing the same direction it was going. Otherwise, simply let the tortoise be and enjoy the opportunity to observe such a remarkable ancient animal.

If you find a tortoise in a residential area, away from any natural areas, it is likely an escaped captive tortoise. Please contact your nearest desert tortoise adoption facility to make arrangements to get this tortoise in the adoption program. If you cannot bring it to one of Arizona's adoption facilities (listed below) immediately, keep it in a clean, dry box in a quiet location, either inside or in the shade. If you would like to care for it, you will need to legally adopt it from the state of Arizona. **Before adopting a desert tortoise, we strongly encourage you to learn more about them and the care they require. Please read through the captive tortoise care packet by following this link:**

[http://www.azgfd.gov/w\\_c/documents/CompletePacket\\_FORM9082\\_20111006.pdf](http://www.azgfd.gov/w_c/documents/CompletePacket_FORM9082_20111006.pdf)

### State-sanctioned Adoption Facilities

Phoenix: Phoenix Herpetological Society (602) 550-7029; (480) 513-4377

Bullhead City: AGFD Region III Office (928) 692-7700

Lake Havasu: AGFD Region III Office (928) 692-7700

Kingman: AGFD Region III Office (928) 692-7700

Yuma: AGFD Region IV Office (928) 342-0091

Tucson: Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum (520) 883-3062

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## TIGERS IN NEED OF REFUGE!

We were recently contacted to take in three showbiz cats from Korea, they are being retired in November and there is nowhere for them to go. These tigers have performed their entire lives! We currently house two of their former "show-mates" and are hoping to be able to integrate some of the tigers together. Temporary quarantine/holding enclosures to hold the cats will be in the neighborhood of \$14,000 and to build a new habitat will cost around \$50,000.

**If you would like to donate supplies or finances toward the retirement of these 3 showbiz cats, please contact us at (928) 769-1800 ext. 24 , submit a secure on-line donation by [clicking here](#), or send a check to:**

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### **Lion Burgers- Not So Appetizing**

A recent victory to get African lion meat off of a restaurant menu was realized. Chef Jason Febres promoted his "Ultimate Dining Experience" a meal of exotic meats including African lion at Taste and See restaurant in Wichita, KS. Thankfully, after public outcry , Chef Febres removed African lion from the menu.

All of the world's big cats, especially lions and tigers, are occasionally poached for meat. It wasn't all that long ago we had to fight to get lions off the menu in our own state of Arizona.

While we wait for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to make their decision on whether to list African lions as Endangered under the US Endangered Species Act, the responsibility to help protect lions and other big cats is on us all.

### **Another Milestone Reached in Big Cats and Public Safety Act**

U.S. Senator John Kerry (D-MA) has introduced S. 3547, the Senate companion to H.R. 4122, the House version of the Big Cats and Public Safety Protection Act, aimed at prohibiting breeding and private possession of captive big cats in the United States. The House version of the bill was introduced by U.S. Reps. Buck McKeon (R-CA) and Loretta Sanchez (D-CA) last March.

Kerry's action comes on the eve of the one-year anniversary of the Zanesville, Ohio animal massacre where the owner of a backyard collection of tigers, lions and other exotic wildlife, committed suicide after freeing the animals from their cages. Local police were forced to shoot and kill nearly 50 animals – 38 of them big cats – before they could enter populated areas.

With some states banning private ownership of big cats and other states imposing partial bans or no restrictions, current regulation of big cat possession and breeding fails to protect public safety and animal welfare.

"It's a little hard to believe that there's a crazy patchwork of regulations governing people who try to keep wild cats as pets. I know it sounds like something you just read about when there's a tragic news story, but it's all

too real for first responders who respond to a 911 call and are surprised to come face to face with a Bengal tiger," said Sen. Kerry. "This bill will ensure that these endangered creatures are kept in secure, professional facilities like wildlife sanctuaries rather than in small cages in someone's backyard or apartment building."

It is estimated that there are 10,000 to 20,000 big cats currently held in private ownership in the U.S. In the past two decades, more than 300 dangerous incidents involving captive big cats have resulted in the deaths of 21 people (including 5 children) and close to 250 additional humans have been mauled or injured. In addition, scores of big cats have been killed.

"We are grateful to Senator Kerry for his leadership in seeking protection of big cats and citizens," said Tracy Coppola, IFAW Big Cat Campaign Manager. "Federal control is essential toward effectively knowing how many dangerous big cats are being kept in private hands, under what conditions, and where."

S.3547 would make it illegal to possess any big cat except at adequate facilities such as accredited zoos and wildlife sanctuaries. Violators of the law could have their animals confiscated along with any vehicles or equipment used to aid in their activity and could face stiff penalties including fines up to \$20,000 and up to five years in jail.

SOURCE International Fund for Animal Welfare





# Happy Birthday!



**Fred** (*Mule Deer*) 9/2009  
**Majic** (*Pekin Duck*) 9/1/2008  
**Raskell** (*Raccoon*) 9/1/2008  
**Bandit** (*Cougar*) 9/16/1998  
**Mateo** (*Alpaca*) 9/23/2005  
**La Cota** (*Alpaca*) 9/1/2005  
**Mercury** (*Bengal Tiger*) 9/13/2002  
**Annie** (*Ostrich*) 9/3/1997

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**Bob Barker** was awarded the Lord Houghton Award.



From Left to Right: Jonathan Kraft, Founder and Executive Director of Keepers of the Wild with Founders of ADI (Animal Defenders International) Jan Creamer and Tim Philips, and Assistant Director (KOTW), Tina Matejek.



**Jorja Fox** received the ADI Animal Champion Award.



From left to right: Photo 1: Tina Matejek, Bob Barker, & Jonathan Kraft  
Photo 2: Maissa Dauriac, Billy McNamara, Dr. Conrad, Jonathan Kraft, and Cristina Colissimo

## ADI Lion Ark Fundraiser



On October 13th, Jonathan & Tina were able to attend the ADI (Animal Defenders International) "Lion Ark" fund-raising event hosted at James Costa's home in the Hollywood Hills. This extraordinary gala honored Bob Barker (The Price Is Right) and Jorja Fox (CSI) for their trail blazing efforts to stop animal abuse. Bob Barker was awarded the international Lord Houghton Award for Services to Animal Welfare, an honor bestowed only once every four years. Fox received the ADI Animal Champion Award for her work to protect animals used in entertainment.

Other guests included Corey Feldman (The Lost Boys), Alexandra Paul (Baywatch), Kate Linder (Young And The Restless), Billy McNamara (Animal Intervention) Marianna Tosca (Equine Destiny), Fawn (Top 10 Billboard Hit Singer/Songwriter), Shannon Keith (Skin Trade/Arme), Ellen Lavinthal (Animal Alliance), Cindy Landon (After Koney: Staging Hope), Patty Shanker (Free Animal Video), Ady Gil (Whale Wars), , Tonya Kay (Bold Native), Dr. Jenn Bermann (VH-1 TV Couple's Therapy), James Reynolds (Days Of Our Lives), Mindy Sterling (Austin Powers), among others.

Lion Ark Night was themed around ADI's Operation Lion Ark in Bolivia, which closed every animal circus and rescued all the animals (Peru and Paraguay now have bans in place). There was a private preview of selected scenes from the new documentary, Lion Ark The Movie, introduced by ADI founders Jan Creamer and Tim Phillips, who led the dramatic rescue mission in Bolivia. Keepers of the Wild is one of the sponsors of the movie and will be noted in the credits.

It was a great opportunity for Jonathan and Tina to mingle with other animal advocates who are doing their own unique projects for animals including **Maissa Dauriac** and **Billy McNamara**, Executive Producers of ***Animal Intervention***, the new series on National Geographic Wild with co-host Alison Eastwood. In addition, Billy McNamara is working on ***DASY Squad*** which will document a team of former Navy SEALs that will uncover extreme animal cruelty throughout the United States including dog fighting rings, cock fights, inhumane treatment of animals, domestic and exotic, illegal ownership and or exhibition of exotic animals, underground trade of exotics, etc. The DASY Squad named in honor and memory of Marcus Luttrell's beloved Golden Retriever.

**Dr. Conrad**, founder of ***The Paw Project*** and well known for her ground breaking work to rehabilitate big cats maimed by declawing. (Declawing is an amputation of the last bone in a cat's toe. Declawing often cripples these magnificent creatures, both from the pain caused by the bone fragments left behind and from the progressively debilitating arthritis produced by abnormal stress on other joints as the cats try to avoid walking on their painful, amputated toes.) Keepers of the Wild is working on a joint venture with Dr. Conrad to help promote The Paw Project.

#### ABOUT THE PAW PROJECT

The Paw Project's mission is to educate the public about the painful and crippling effects of feline declawing, to promote animal welfare through the abolition of the practice of declaw surgery, and to rehabilitate cats that have been declawed.

[Click Here](#) to watch the official trailer of The Paw Project!

To find out more about The Paw Project and get involved...Go to [www.pawproject.org](http://www.pawproject.org)

**Cristina Colissimo**, a writer and producer at Crossover Productions, most recently produced, co-wrote and provided additional cinematography for the award winning and critically acclaimed feature documentary One Lucky Elephant which aired on Oprah's OWN network on December 1, 2011. Cristina is currently developing the landmark documentary series IVORY WARS, with producing partner Jordana Glick-Franzheim at Crossover Productions.

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#### Make Way For The Tigers!

We are excited to announce that long-time magician and performer Rick Thomas of Las Vegas has had a change of heart and will no longer use tigers in his shows. This is a rare occurrence in the entertainment industry and we applaud Rick's decision. After seeing how well Mercury and Sampson are doing, Rick not only decided to retire his remaining three tigers here but plans to be an advocate for animals in entertainment while helping to promote Keepers of the Wild in future shows.

Sampson & Mercury's former "show mates", Rocky, Maximillian & Kaos will be making a journey all the way from Korea and will arrive here on November 5th. ♂ Rocky and Maximillian are brothers and are orange Bengal tigers, Kaos is a Royal White Bengal tiger.



With fairly short notice, this called for immediate action on our part. We had to rush order custom panels so they would be finished and delivered by November 1st. In order to make a quarantine area, we decided to move storage containers that were near the animal care center to the other side of the property. The containers were already in place when we acquired the property and have probably been sitting for over 20+ years. The previous owners had built a roof over the containers which we had to tear down. We also had to prepare the other side of the property which included several dump truck loads of dirt, leveling the property, and pouring cement footings for the storage containers to rest on. The following week, the roof was dismantled, trees trimmed, and equipment was relocated to make way for the crane moving the storage containers. Once everything had been moved, we had to clear and level the area for the enclosures. We are now prepared for the enclosure panels to arrive. This will leave us a few days to setup the enclosures before the tigers arrive.

This re-organization will not only make room for the tigers but will enable us to enlarge all of the small animal enclosures including the primates, raccoons, coatimundis and more. We recently had a generous donor sponsor the coyote habitat! We are so grateful and will start this construction soon. If you would like to sponsor a habitat, please contact us at (928)769-1800 Ext. 24.



*A BIG Thumbs Up From Jonathan Kraft*

The projects described to you would not have been possible without gifts of time from volunteers and money from supporters like you. Your on-going support is crucial to maintaining the animals at Keepers of the Wild.

If you would like to make an online donation, [Click Here to Donate!](http://www.keepersofthewild.org), visit our website at [www.keepersofthewild.org](http://www.keepersofthewild.org), or send check to: Keepers of the Wild, 13441 E. Highway 66, Valentine AZ 86437

**\*REMEMBER-** Your year-end gift today will help us continue our life-saving mission and better the lives of the animals in our care. In order to take advantage of a tax deduction in 2012, your contribution must be postmarked by December 31, 2012!

## Keepers of the Wild's New Book

Children's book author, Doreen Ingram made another trip out to our sanctuary. Doreen brought along her friend, Shara Johnson who is a travel blogger (be sure to read about her adventure here by visiting her website at [www.skjtravel.net](http://www.skjtravel.net)).

Doreen's 3rd book in the "My Sanctuary- A Place I Call Home" series is completed and features true stories of animals that reside at Keepers of the Wild. The book's proceeds will help support our animal residents. Doreen's first two books were inspired by world renowned primatologist, Jane Goodall and feature several of the chimp residents of Chimp Eden South Africa. To learn more about Doreen and her books, visit her website at [www.mysanctuarybooks.com](http://www.mysanctuarybooks.com).

These books will help young people – and their parents – understand the dangers faced by these animals in the wild and the often brutal treatment they receive in captivity. It will not only educate but generate empathy and a desire to help.

We will let you know when the new book is available for purchase.



*Some people want it to happen, some wish it to happen, others make it happen!*

***A Great Big "Thank You" to ALL of Our Volunteers...We Could Not Do It Without You!!!***

We would like to introduce you to our latest volunteers: Elise Bacca, Ginney Stubbe & Steve Perry  
The time, love, care, and compassion you show towards the animals at the sanctuary is a true blessing and we are grateful to each and every one of you!



Keepers of the Wild in The Media  
**WATCH THIS!!! Anthony(lion) & Riley(coyote) on PBS Nature!**



*"Animal Odd Couples" premieres Wednesday, November 7 at 8/7c (check local listings)*

Watch the trailer by clicking the link below!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xg5YcEBUGz4>

WATCH NOW !!!

*"Furthest from the Wild" Trailer*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2Ya-sCSV4M>

Tellus Films presents "Furthest From The Wild" which is a documentary about the many struggles that non-profit animal sanctuaries go through. The documentary features a variety of sanctuaries including Keepers of the Wild. This project is meant to be a window into the world of animal sanctuaries world wide. *For more information about the founders, Alex and Sam Tello, visit their website at: [www.furthestfromthewild.org](http://www.furthestfromthewild.org).*

Billy Connolly, world famous Scottish comedian, musician, and actor traveled the world's most famous highway, Route 66, all while filming a four part documentary which features Keepers of the Wild. He recently sent us a copy of the documentary and his book- the DVD was great and we noticed he dedicated 7 pages to time spent at Keepers of the Wild. Be sure to order the DVD set and the book!



Ruckus (Bengal Tiger) 10/10/2007  
Nathan (Pigtailed Macaque) 10/01/1998  
Bogie (Lilac Crowned Amazon) 10/01/2003 \*\*\*  
Mr. Bird (Green Cheeked Conure) 10/11/2003 \*\*\*  
Sunny (Sun Conure) 10/11/2003 \*\*\*  
Highway (Emu) 10/30/2002 \*\*\*  
Lancelot (Emu) 10/14/2006 \*\*\*

\*\*\*We don't always receive actual birth dates so we like to acknowledge the dates we acquired the animal\*\*\*

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*Happy Holidays*

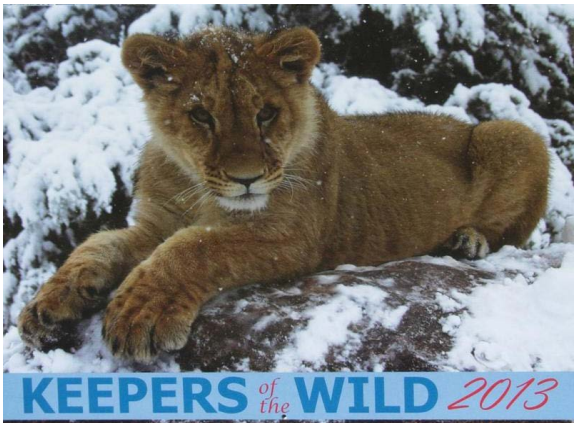
L O V E P E A C E H O P E

**NEW!!!** 2013 Keepers of the Wild Calendar

This beautiful 11" x 14" calendar is filled with stunning photos of our animal residents. These make great gifts and the proceeds benefit the animals at Keepers of the Wild.

Calendars are available in our gift shop or on-line. To order calendar(s) on-line, click the PayPal button below.

LIMITED QUANTITY...ORDER NOW!



Showbiz Cats Retired

Welcome home Rocky, Maximillian, & Kaos! The boys had to endure a long arduous journey from Korea and finally arrived at the sanctuary around 9 PM on November 5th. Maximillian was the first to be unloaded from the trailer into the holding enclosure- everything went smoothly. Then it was Rocky's turn...Rocky was frightened and unwilling to load. After several failed attempts we decided to move on to Kaos. First we had to move Kaos to the other side of the property near Sampson's habitat. Kaos went into the holding area without hesitation and

walked over to greet Sampson (former show-mate) at the fence. Then it was Rocky's turn again and we were finally able to load him in the transport and wheeled him up to the enclosure. Being Rocky refused to leave the transport cage, we pushed the transport cage into the enclosure and left the door open so he could come out when he was ready.

The following day Maximillian was calm and doing well, Rocky and Kaos were still very skittish. Once we were able to move the transport cage out of Rocky's enclosure, he started to relax almost immediately. Kaos was allowed into a small habitat and he cautiously inspected it but would bolt into his den box if he heard noise or people nearby.

Both Maximillian and Rocky welcome our presence with friendly chuffs, Kaos is still adjusting but doing better.



Maximillian



Rocky



Kaos

Around the Park...



The recent airing of Anthony and Riley on the PBS Nature special "*Animal Odd Couples*" has garnered attention from schools, news media and even travel bloggers for Virgin Atlantic that made a visit to the park. If you were unable to watch the PBS Nature special, [click here to watch the full episode of "Animal Odd Couples"](#).





Channel 3 News Phoenix



School Children on Field Trip Interviewed by  
Channel 3 News, Phoenix

[Channel 3 News](#) (Phoenix) visited the park to capture footage of Anthony & Riley for a news special. While here, they interviewed school children that were here on a field trip. The news special aired on November 29th and can be viewed on-line by [clicking here](#).

Anthony & Riley made front page news of the Kingman Daily Miner after reporter JC Amberlyn visited the park to meet the duo for herself. [Click here to read KDM article](#).

Travel Bloggers for Virgin Atlantic Travel, Maxine Sheppard and Andrew Bowman, visited the park and will be featuring an article about their time spent here, we hope it raises more awareness and attracts more visitors to the sanctuary. We do not know the exact date that the article will be featured but we will let you know. Also, you can keep an eye out for it by visiting their [blog site by clicking here](#).

Welcome Henry! We received a couple calls about an emu running loose in Mohave County. A woman concerned he would be killed or starve to death, captured him while he was in her yard. She fed and watered him until Jonathan & Tina were able to pick him up. The woman's granddaughter started calling him Henry so we kept the name.



We cannot begin to express our gratitude to **Chris Burkett** owner of **Kingman Landscape & Maintenance** enough for a donation of several trees. Most everything is evergreen, which will keep the park looking great all year long and of course the animals will enjoy the shade from all the trees in the summer. Thank you again!



We finally finished the last den box for our leopard habitat. These are state of the art permanent boxes with interchangeable panels. The average cost is \$1,800.00 per den box.

**\*\*\*A special thanks goes out to our long time volunteer Red Harper and Don Martin for all their hard work and dedication to the sanctuary.\*\*\***



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



**Apollo**  
Bengal Tiger  
11/22/2007



**Caesar**  
Donkey  
11/10/1996



**Hercules**  
Bengal Tiger  
11/22/2007



**Marvin**  
Ostrich  
11/1/2001



**Billy**  
Olive Baboon  
11/24/1999

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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMPASSION & SUPPORT

Thanks to the help of committed supporters like you, over 175 animals call Keepers of the Wild home. Most of these innocent animals were rescued from lives of neglect and abuse but can now live the remainder of their lives being cherished and well cared for. New arrivals and longtime residents all benefit from quality care on a daily basis.

While most of our animals have spacious habitats we are still in need of funds to expand some of our smaller animal habitats. Please consider a special donation to the "Expansion Fund". Your on-going support is crucial to maintaining the animals at Keepers of the Wild. If this is possible for you, we would appreciate your support.

**Your year-end gift today will help us continue our life-saving mission.**

**In order to take advantage of a tax deduction in 2012, your contribution must be postmarked by December 31, 2012 - or you can make a secure on-line donation by clicking the "Donate Now" button below.**

**DONATE NOW!**

### **Support the Big Cats and Public Safety Protection Act (H.R. 4122)**

Earlier this year, Rep. Buck McKeon (R-CA) and Rep. Loretta Sanchez (D-CA) introduced bipartisan bill H.R. 4122 to prohibit the private possession and breeding of big cats. The bill will insure that lions, tigers and other dangerous big cats - which are kept as pets and exploited in roadside zoos and traveling exhibits - do not threaten public safety, diminish the global big cat conservation efforts, or end up living in deplorable conditions where they can be subject to mistreatment and cruelty.

Read [H.R. Bill 4122](#), Big Cats and Public Safety Protection Act: H.R. Bill 4122

This is the bill that can stop the abuse - please call and email your elected representative and urge him or her to cosponsor H.R. 4122.

### **Break the Chain- Help Stop Circus Animal Suffering Minutes of Entertainment = A Lifetime of Misery for Exotic Animals.**

#### **Traveling Exotic Animal Protection Act, H.R. 3359**

We urgently need you to contact your member of Congress and ask them to support HR 3359, the Traveling Exotic Animal Protection Act, to restrict the use of wild animals in traveling circuses.

The Traveling Exotic Animal Protection Act, HR 3359 was introduced in congress by Congressman Jim Moran (Virginia) Ringlings home state.

Read a copy of the bill  
[H.R. 3359](#) Take Action!

Contact your member of Congress and ask for their support and co-sponsorship of this important animal protection legislation.

## **Saying Goodbye to Some of Our Long-time Friends**

*"Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge. When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that animal goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable. All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by."*

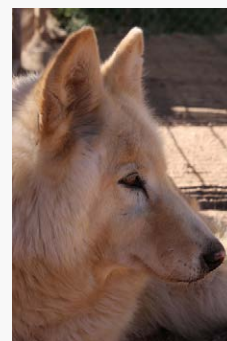
*Author Unknown*



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December 2012



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**

**You have made this a wonderful year! A year filled with great accomplishments and lots of happy animals. We look forward to an even better 2013! Thank you so much from all of the animals and staff at Keepers of the Wild.**

## A New Life...

We're very excited to announce that Rocky & Maximillian were moved into a new habitat on Wednesday, December 19th.

Maximillian and Rocky have performed in showbiz for approximately 15 years and both of them were always housed individually. Jonathan and Tina monitored them carefully and felt they could be successfully placed together in a habitat.

Both Rocky and Max were loaded and transported up to the new habitat area. Their former show mate, Mercury, was very excited to see his old friends and greeted both of them. For the first time ever, Rocky & Maximillian met face to face.



Without hesitation, they walked in, greeted each other and started to explore every nook and cranny of their new habitat. After some exploring- they settled in and rolled, nibbled, and nestled in the grass. The expression on their faces as they gazed at the new world around them was priceless.



Being in close proximity to all their former show mates, they are all able to see each other and communicate. For the first time since his arrival, Kaos started to vocalize with the other tigers.

## Hope's Habitat

Hope was moved to a new habitat next door to her old leopard friends. She has a large play area complete with new trees and a platform. We also installed an in-ground sprinkler, over-head mister system and a new den box. She loves her new home!





# AROUND THE PARK





Earlier this year Girl Scout Troop #2074 visited Keepers of the Wild and took a group tour of the sanctuary. They learned all about the animal residents and enjoyed their time here. Months later, they contacted us to see if they could volunteer a day of their time to help with clean up at the park.

A group of approximately 15 came out and raked, picked up and bagged leaves and other chores such as helping with food prep for the animals. It is inspiring to see the younger generation learning the value of giving back. We are so grateful for all of their help and enjoyed their visit.



***"Troop 2074 just wants to send a big thank you for letting us help out this past Saturday. The girls had a blast and felt good about themselves knowing they made a small difference for the animals. Thank you for all you do for the animals and the community. It does not go unnoticed."  
- Kingman Girl Scout Troop 2074***

**Welcome Home Boomer!**



Meet Boomer, our newest resident. Boomer was intended to be kept as a pet and ended up going from home to home. Normally, we do not take in farm/domestic animals but Jonathan and Tina made an exception for Boomer. They felt he would be a good match for some of our other animals. He has settled in nicely and is making new friends.

# Happy Birthday!

Shadow: 12/17/1998  
Black Leopard



Shadow: 12/27/1992  
African Grey



Cuzco: 12/24/2010  
Alpaca



Sherman: 12/1991  
Leopard Tortoise





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Read a copy of the bill [H.R. 3359](#)

*Minutes of Entertainment =  
A Lifetime of Misery for Exotic Animals*

**Take Action!**

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**Support the Big Cats and Public Safety Protection Act (H.R. 4122)**

The bill will insure that lions, tigers and other dangerous big cats - which are kept as pets and exploited in roadside zoos and traveling exhibits - do not threaten public safety, diminish the global big cat conservation efforts, or end up living in deplorable conditions where they can be subject to mistreatment and cruelty.

[Read H.R. Bill 4122](#), Big Cats and Public Safety Protection Act: H.R. Bill 4122

This is the bill that can stop the abuse - please call and email your elected representative and urge him or her to cosponsor H.R. 4122.

**Saying Goodbye to our Friends!**



Sampson was 17 years old and diagnosed with cancer. After several consults with the vet, we realized his condition could not be treated and the most humane action we could take was to euthanize him. This was heart-breaking and we miss him terribly. We are happy he had the opportunity to retire here and experience a better life.





Uri was a long-time resident at Keepers of the Wild and passed away due to old age. We miss you Uri!

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