



# Poultry Press

Promoting the compassionate and respectful treatment of domestic fowl

UPDATE

## Anti-Cockfighting Legislation

In February, Senator Wayne Allard of Colorado introduced Senate Bill 345. The bill seeks to prohibit the interstate transport of live birds for the purpose of fighting to states in which animal fighting is still legal. S. 345 will "clarify that possession of fighting birds in any of the 47 states should then be illegal, as shipping them out for cockfighting purposes would be illegal." For example, it will be a crime to ship birds intended for cockfighting from Arizona, where cockfighting is illegal, to Louisiana, where it is still legal.

*"What Can I Do?"*

- Contact your two U.S. Senators and urge them to support S. 345.

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator: \_\_\_\_\_

- Contact your U.S. Representative and urge him or her to support House companion bill HR1275, introduced by Rep. Collin Peterson.

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_

**The U.S. Postal Service and the Airlines Ship Birds Intended for Cockfighting from the States (the Mainland) Through Hawaii to Guam, American Samoa, and Saipan – Where Cockfighting is Legal**

*"This 'Live Express Mail' is going without food and water, in a 6 to 8 inch cubicle, full of noise, dust, rough handling and very poor ventilation for up to 3 to 5 days."*

– U.S. Postal Service Employee, Air Cargo, Honolulu

**Senator Allard's bill should ban this practice.**

*"What Can I Do?"*

- Thank Senator Allard for introducing S. 345. Urge him to make sure that this bill prohibits the movement of live birds intended for cockfighting through the U.S. Postal Service. (For more information, see below.)

Senator Wayne Allard  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

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Visit Our Web Site:  
[www.upc-online.org](http://www.upc-online.org)



# WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US

## UPC'S Direct Action for Animals Conference

### June 26-27, 1999

◆ Send \$20 Registration to UPC To Reserve Your Place ◆

The topic of our Direct Action for Animals Conference grew out of the lively debate that appeared in *The Animals' Agenda*, July/August 1998 and November/December 1998.

This Conference is an Opportunity for activists to meet and share their strategies, goals, and concerns regarding justice for nonhuman animals and how to accomplish this. It's an opportunity for people who have met through the pages of magazines and on the internet to meet face to face in a friendly, informal, yet focused setting. **It will place the discussion about direct action at UPC's chicken sanctuary.** While animals are unable to take part in the movement on their behalf, their presence inspires us and reminds us of what we are working to accomplish, and for whom.

Starting Time: The conference starts at 1:00 pm on Saturday June 26. We will have a catered vegan meal with live

guitar music by Jim Harris on Saturday evening (and other food, of course!), plus mingling and foodsharing with the chickens and ducks. On Sunday the conference goes from 9 am to 5 pm.

Direct Action for Chickens: A Direct Action for Chickens will take place early Monday morning June 28th for those who are interested in taking part. Every weekday thousands of chickens are trucked to the slaughterplants on Rt 13 and Rt 50. In addition, there's a Perdue chicken complex being built down the road that's crying for a protest demonstration (see p. 11). Monday's Direct Action will be worked out at the conference.

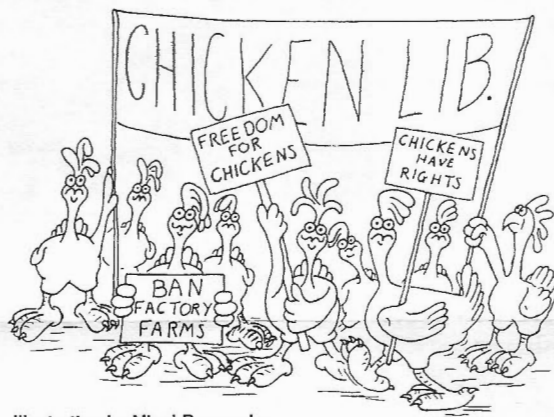


Illustration by Nigel Burroughs

**MEET PATTY MARK,**  
the Greatest Rescuer of  
Battery Hens in the World  
A Keynote Presenter at the  
Conference

Please turn to page 4 for  
Patty's incredible story – then  
meet her in person at UPC!

## NEW! AS PROMISED!

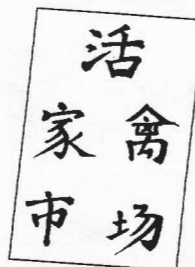
# EN ESPANOL!

UPC is pleased to announce that our brochure, *Live Poultry Markets*, is now available in Spanish as well as English. We wish to thank Marion Zinowski for her translation and Patricia Vandenberg (the illustrator of *A Home for Henny*) for her artwork. If you are in an area that has a live animal/poultry market, please order our brochures and distribute them. Live poultry markets are cruel and a major source of avian influenza virus.

**ALSO JUST ARRIVED!**

## "LIVE POULTRY MARKETS" IN CHINESE!

**CALL 757-678-7875 FOR INFO**



# U P C F O R U M O N

## Direct Action For Animals

### J U N E 2 6 - 2 7 , 1 9 9 9

***"What I think is right strategy  
and right psychology is for the  
people who liberate animals  
to come forth and identify  
themselves as the people  
who did it."***

— Tom Regan, **Civil Disobedience**



Do you agree? This is one of the many questions we will discuss. United Poultry Concerns will hold an informed and even heated debate about Direct Action for Animals: What does it mean? How does it work? How does it help animals? Is it the only way?

Participants include Freeman Wicklund (Animal Liberation League), Katie Fedor (NA-ALFPO), Bruce Friedrich (PETA), Karen Davis (United Poultry Concerns), Norman Phelps (The Fund for Animals), Debbie Leahy (Illinois Animal Action); Miyun Park (Compassion Over Killing); Kim Stallwood (The Animals' Agenda), Pamela Rice (VivaVeggie Society), Richard Griffin (BRAVE), Zoe Weil (Center for Compassionate Living), Dean Smith (The American Anti-Vivisection Society), and Patty Mark (Animal Liberation Action Magazine – Australia).

**Where:** United Poultry Concerns, Machipongo, VA, located on Virginia's Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay.  
**When:** Saturday June 26, 1-6 PM & Sunday June 27, 9 AM-5 PM.  
**Registration fee:** \$20.00 per person, pre-paid.

Send check or money order and a SASE to United Poultry Concerns, PO Box 150, Machipongo, VA 23405 (757/678-7875). You will receive an agenda, directions, airport & motel information.

For updates on the conference, followed by our Direct Action for Chickens on Monday June 28, visit our website: [www.upc-online.org](http://www.upc-online.org).



# GOOD FRIDAY RESCUE OF BATTERY HENS

(APRIL 2, 1999)

## Compassion by ACTION in Canberra, Australia

*By Patty Mark\**

Canberra, Australia – This action by 40 people received enormous TV, radio and print coverage for 4 days. It made the front page of the *Canberra Times* and

aid equipment. The lights automatically came on in the sheds at 4 a.m. and we began to look for sick and injured hens. Diana Simpson videotaped our inspection.\*\*

I immediately saw that a majority of the hens had gross inflammation (erythema) and swelling on various parts of their bodies. The most notable were on the abdominal region and around the vent area. The erythema was also prevalent on the crop area of many birds. This is all documented in the video footage.

What gave me particular distress was that the birds suffering this gross inflammation had no choice but to sit against a wire floor. This is comparable to a person with severe bed sores being made to lie on a wire bed frame instead of a mattress.

I also witnessed horrific debeaking on the majority of hens, several combined with a top crossed-over beak. How hard it is for these deformed, mutilated birds to eat properly.

I removed several very sick birds from the cages and tagged them with an ID Number. These birds were removed by team members from the shed at 4:30 a.m. and taken to a veterinarian for treatment. The birds with severe erythema and swelling were quite heavy, possibly from excess fluid. This made it hard to get them out of the cages. The cage door was very difficult to take on and off. The opening was not large enough to remove the hens without severely distressing them.

*continued on page 5 ➤*

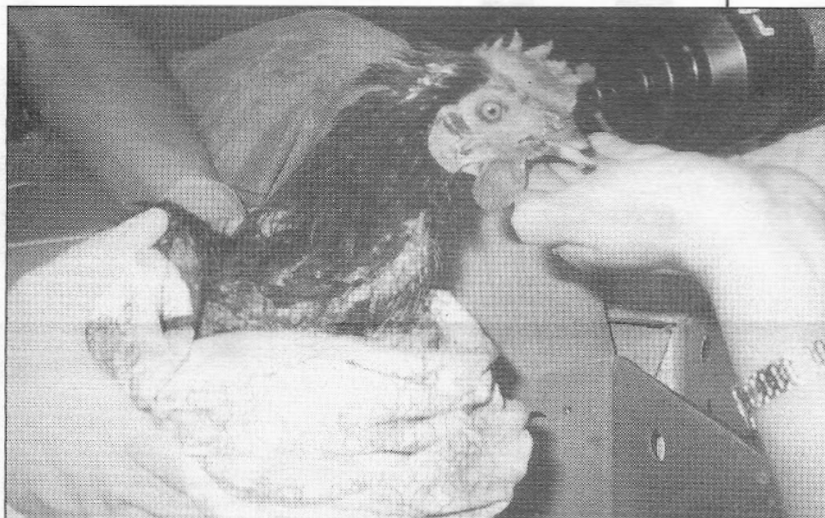


Photo by Gloria Gamboz

**Distressed and sick hens, this page and opposite, from Montalto Poultry Farms in Australia.**

ran nationally on *TV News*. Thirty-eight hens were rescued from Parkwood Eggs – the largest battery egg factory in the ACT [the Australian Capital Territory, comparable to Washington, DC] by our undercover rescue team.

On Friday, April 2, I entered the first battery shed with 39 other people, all with rescue bags holding first-

aid equipment. The lights automatically came on in the sheds at 4 a.m. and we began to look for sick and injured hens. Diana Simpson videotaped our inspection.\*\*

## Replacing Eggs

Sick of salmonella? Our exciting booklet invites you to cook and eat happily without eggs! 16 delicious recipes.

Send \$3.50 to: United Poultry Concerns  
P.O. Box 150 • Machipongo, VA 23405-0150



► *continued from page 4*

At 5:30 a.m. I rang the police for assistance and urged them to bring a veterinarian. By the time the police arrived two and a half hours later, many other sick birds needing immediate medical attention had been found by other team members working in the sheds. Several of

and 17 others were arrested and driven to the lock-up cells. I felt terrible being led out of the shed by police, walking along the whole length of the shed past the crying hens in their hideous predicament . . .

\*Patty Mark is the Editor of *Animal Liberation Action Magazine*, the quarterly publication of the national organization, Animal Liberation, in Australia. Patty and her team have been investigating and documenting the treatment of battery-caged hens and rescuing these hens since the early 1990s. She has been jailed numerous times. Patty and her team put the plight of battery hens before the Australian public through the national news coverage they've received. Their publicity recently led the conservative RSPCA to urge the Australian public to boycott battery hens' eggs.

\*\*Diana Simpson films the conditions inside the hen houses. Patty Mark told UPC: "Diana is the wonderful, amazing woman on our rescue team who takes ALL THE VIDEO footage. She is an exceptionally quiet, shy person. She refuses to speak in public, but comes into her own once in a shed

Photo by Debra Tranter

these hens died later in the morning after our appeals for veterinary help failed.

One very ill hen had symptoms that suggested Marek's disease [a fatal viral cancer of the nervous system in factory-farmed chickens]. She was unable to hold her head up. It just twisted and curled limp.

The police refused to call a veterinarian. At noon, I

with her video camera. She is also one of the bravest people I've ever met. She was hit by a farmer the last time we were at Montalto Poultry [documenting conditions and rescuing hens]."

***Diana will be with Patty at our Conference in June!  
We Hope to See You, too!***

**New! Order From UPC**

**The Most Powerful Video of Poultry Slaughter**

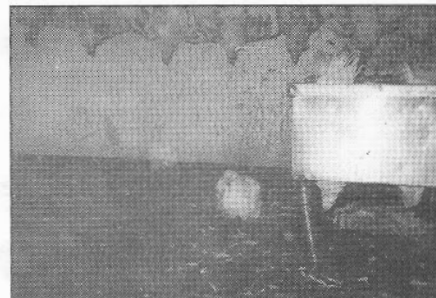
## HUMANE SLAUGHTER?

**HUMANE SLAUGHTER** takes the viewer into poultry slaughterhouses to witness the horrendous suffering endured by chickens and turkeys. The video contains undercover footage obtained by Farm Sanctuary investigators of standard poultry slaughter operations, where terrified chickens and turkeys are slowly bled to death - sometimes on the slaughterhouse floor.

Scenes from **HUMANE SLAUGHTER** have prompted thousands of people to eliminate poultry from their diets. When you see this video you'll see why:

"Undercover footage [**HUMANE SLAUGHTER**] of a poultry slaughterhouse in Los Angeles shows chickens having their throats manually cut . . . and then being stuffed alive into bleeding holes in an idle manner by the employees. Blood-soaked chickens with partially cut throats try vainly to lift themselves out of the troughs into which more bleeding and writhing birds are casually flung before being picked up and shackled. Bleeding, flapping chickens fall off the line onto the floor - no one pays any attention."

- Karen Davis, "The Death," ***Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: An Inside Look at the Modern Poultry Industry***, p. 114.



9 minutes VHS  
Produced by Farm Sanctuary  
Documentary, narration,  
music, what you can do.  
Send check or money order  
to UPC  
\$15.95 + \$2.00 Shipping

photo by Farm Sanctuary

# AMBERSON FARM HENS NEED YOUR HELP

ISSUE: Keith Amberson of Amberson Farms in Lake Stevens, Snohomish County, Washington left 50,000+ caged hens used for egg production to starve to death and die of thirst in their cages. Cited by the Department of Ecology for gross environmental violations, Keith Amberson, the owner, decided it was cheaper to starve his hens than to pay the \$21,000 fine and clean up the filth.

Despite the evidence submitted by the Snohomish County sheriff's deputies and animal control officers, and a video that showed live chickens forced to eat dead chickens to stay alive and rats swarming in the chicken houses, the County Prosecuting Attorney's Office said on March 25th it is declining to file charges, but said the office could change its mind.

## "What Can I Do?"

• Prosecutors' offices base their priorities on public reaction. Hearing from YOU encourages them to proceed with prosecution. Please politely contact:

Mr. James Krider  
Snohomish County Prosecuting Attorney  
3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 504

Everett, WA 98201

Ph: 425-388-3333; fax: 3572

E-mail: prosecuting.attorney@co.snohomish.wa.us

**Politely** urge them to file second-degree animal cruelty charges against the farm's owner, Keith Amberson.

• Please thank the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office for their investigation and for recommending that second-degree animal cruelty charges be filed against the owner in their report to the Prosecutor's Office.

Ms. Jan Jorgenson

Snohomish County Sheriff's Office

3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 606

Everett, WA 98201

Ph: 425-388-3393; fax: 3805

E-mail: sheriff.office@co.snohomish.wa.us

• For more information and updates contact Pasado's Safe Haven, a sanctuary for abused and neglected animals:

Susan Michaels, Director

Pasado's Safe Haven

PO Box 171

Sultan, WA 98294

Ph/fax: 360-793-9393

E-mail: susmichael@aol.com

➤ *continued from page 1*

• Write to the Postmaster General and urge him to prohibit the shipment of live birds through the U.S. Postal Service. This shipment is cruel and inhumane. The crates in which the birds are packed together for days are not even inspected for additional contents (such as illegal weapons, drugs, etc.). The breathing holes are so small you cannot see inside the boxes. What you hear is the incessant crowing of suffering roosters, the suffering cheeps of baby chicks, and the silence of dying and dead birds. Why doesn't the U.S. Department of Agriculture

check crate contents? Because Guam, Saipan, and American Samoa are not classed as international packages, but as domestic packages. The U.S. Postal Service should stop profiting from this business. The majority of Americans do not support cockfighting, which is banned in 47 states.

William Henderson

Postmaster General-CEO

Room 10022

475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW

Washington, DC 20260-0010

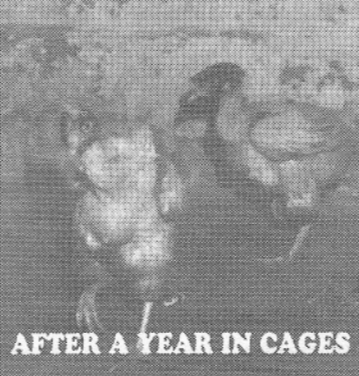
## Full Color 18 x 22" Posters

\$4.00. Two for \$5.00.

**Order Today!**

*photo by  
Dave Clegg*

**WALKING TO FREEDOM**



**AFTER A YEAR IN CAGES**



## IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU SICK

### Scientist Finds Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria in Chicken Feed

"A University of Maryland researcher [Dr. Glen Morris] who recently found a vancomycin-resistant bacteria in a single bag of commercially produced chicken feed views the finding as a warning sign of the growing penetration of highly resistant bacteria throughout the environment and has urged closer attention to be paid to antibiotic use in animals and humans. . . .

"The identification of a highly resistant enterococcal strain in feed raises disturbing questions about the potential for penetration of VRE [vancomycin-resistant enterococci] strains into farms and food animal production in the U.S. and subsequent risk of transfer into human populations,' Morris wrote in a recent letter to *The Lancet*, a British medical journal."

(Excerpt from *Feedstuffs*, March 15, 1999: 5; reported in *The New York Times* and *The Lancet*, Feb. 26, 1999).

### Salmonella-Infested Chicken Dinner Poisons Firemen

"Health officials in Kent County [Maryland] have confirmed that five people\* contracted salmonella poisoning at a firemen's chicken dinner last month [March] and suspect that 18 others were sickened at the event. . . . Four of those who became sick required hospitalization. One, an elderly man, was reported in critical condition. Dr. John A. Grant, the Kent County health officer,

said infants and the elderly are especially vulnerable to bacteria such as salmonella, a microscopic bacteria found in animal or human feces. It can cause diarrhea, nausea, vomiting and fever [and death]."

(Excerpt from the ASSOCIATED PRESS report in the *Montgomery Journal* [Maryland], April 6, 1999)

\*On April 13, the number was boosted up to more than 50 people believed sick.

### The Sickness and Suffering Are Linked

"Chicken . . . is widely considered a benign part of a healthful diet. But the July/August 1996 issue of *The Animals' Agenda*, an animal-rights publication, Dr. Karen Davis describes the inhumane conditions under which the majority of industry-raised chickens in this country survive. Of the 2.4 million egg-laying hens in the United States, Davis wrote, over 97 percent are confined in cages in which four to nine hens have a total average space of 48 square inches per hen. 'Modern poultry . . . are confined by the thousands in stressful, densely packed houses permeated with excrement in the form of accumulated droppings, feed ingredients and excretory ammonia fumes. Disease is inevitable.'

"Davis goes on to quote a May 1991 article in *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, which reported that every week, "millions of chickens leaking yellow pus, stained by green feces, contaminated by harmful bacteria or marred by lung and heart infections, cancerous tumors or skin conditions are shipped for sale to consumers."

(Excerpt from Cover Story: "The changing face of farming in America," *National Catholic Reporter*, February 12, 1999: 13+)

**Send SASE to UPC for "Chicken for Dinner: It's Enough to Make You Sick"**

## The Cruel Price of Eggs Exposed!

### A Must!

From United Poultry Concerns

Taken from the videotape: a suffering, dying hen at Boulder Valley Poultry Farms

## "RAW FOOTAGE, RAW PAIN"

**Powerful New Video Takes You Inside a U.S. Battery Egg Farm**

Buy Now! Only \$18. Please send check or money order.

## S\*M\*A\*R\*T Cancels Chicken-flying Contest Thanks to Our Members!

In the Summer/Fall 1998 issue of *PoultryPress* we asked our readers to contact the Special Military Active Retired Club (S\*M\*A\*R\*T) and urge them to cancel the chicken-flying contest scheduled for their 1999 military social in Shawnee, Oklahoma in April. Mission accomplished!

United Poultry Concerns is pleased to announce that S\*M\*A\*R\*T took our objections seriously. Roy H. Allen, President informed UPC that they "are not having any sort of contests or games that involve any live animals."

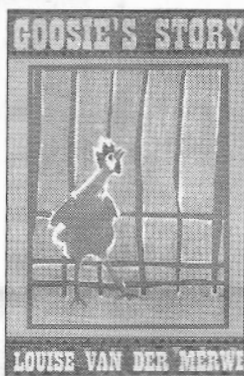
We would like to thank everyone who took the time to write a thoughtful letter to S\*M\*A\*R\*T. We have written to Mr. Allen thanking him and S\*M\*A\*R\*T for their compassionate response to our concerns.



Photo by Robert Schafer

## New from UPC!

We are proud to introduce **Goosie's Story**, a wonderful new illustrated children's book by Louise Van Der Merwe. **Goosie's Story** is about a "battery" hen who is given a chance to lead a normal life a happy life. Goosie tells her own story in her own words! We share her discovery of the world outside the battery prison and realize that, far from being a mere unit of production, she has a robust ability to live life to the full. 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. Order from United Poultry Concerns, P.O. Box 150, Machipongo, VA 23405. \$4.95.



## UPC Goes to Washington!

UPC held an information table and leafleted thousands of people for the second year in a row at the White House Easter Egg Roll in Washington DC. The Easter Egg Roll is held each year on the Monday after Easter. About 20,000 people attend the event, which uses 7,000+ hard boiled eggs from battery-caged hens. Thousands of people received our new flyer, "Where Do Eggs Come From?" Available from UPC. 20 for \$2.

# P L E A S E

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY

### We NEED Your Strong and Continuing Financial Support

- ☐ New Membership **\$30**  
☐ 1999 Membership Renewal **\$25**  
 Additional Tax-deductible Contribution:  
☐ \$20 ☐ \$35 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### A Lasting Gift for the Birds

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: United Poultry Concerns, P.O. Box 150,  
Machipongo, VA 23405-0150

**Are you moving?** Please send us your new address before the next newsletter.

**Do you want to be removed from our mailing list?** Please tell us now. The U.S. Postal Service charges \$.50 for every returned mailing. Remailing the newsletter costs UPC an additional \$.55 to \$.78. Due to the enormous cost of remailing newsletters including the time it takes, we can no longer provide this service. Thank you for your consideration. Please renew your 1999 membership. We need your **continuing** financial support.



# UPC Campaign to Eliminate Forced Molting

## "Several Thousand Letters"

United Egg Producers, the U.S. egg industry's national trade group, has been deluged by mail demanding that the forced molting – deliberate starvation – of hens used for egg production be stopped. In the April 5, 1999 issue of *Feedstuffs* ("the weekly newspaper for agribusiness"), United Egg Producers reported that letter-writing campaigns mounted by United Poultry Concerns and the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights have led to "several thousand" letters sent to United Egg Producers' headquarter office in Atlanta, Georgia.



## "Rotten eggs"

In "Rotten eggs," *New Scientist* (Jan. 30, 1999: 14) reported on UPC's press conference on forced molting, January 20th, in Atlanta. Summing up the practice, it said, "But at last week's International Poultry Exposition in Atlanta, Georgia, Karen Davis of the Virginia-based animal welfare group United Poultry Concerns said the practice makes chickens and their eggs more prone to *Salmonella* infection. Forced moulting is banned in Britain though still widespread in the US.

"Her claims are backed by Peter Holt from the US Department of Agriculture in Athens, Georgia. The Food and Drug Administration says it is considering the group's call for a ban."

## UPC Urges FDA to Grant Forced-Molting Petition

In March, UPC wrote to the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) requesting the agency to reach a decision on our petition to ban forced molting and to notify us immediately. Last December, the FDA wrote to UPC president Karen Davis that it was still considering our petition filed in April 1998 by United Poultry Concerns and the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights. The petition asks the FDA to ban forced molting based on documentation that starving the hens wrecks their immune systems resulting in *Salmonella Enteritidis* bacterial poisoning of the hens and their eggs.

## "What Can I Do?"

- Urge the FDA to grant the petition, filed under **docket #98P-0203/CP**, that would eliminate the practice of forced molting.

Dockets Management Branch  
Food & Drug Administration  
Dept. of Health & Human Services  
12420 Parklawn Drive, Room 1-23  
Rockville, MD 20857

**Be sure to include docket #98P-0203/CP. This is the petition's ID Number. Keep After Them! Thank You!**

## UPC Letter in The New Yorker

*"The game is over."*

UPC president Karen Davis wrote to *The New Yorker*, urging writer Calvin Trilling to quit bemoaning the removal of the "ticktacktoe" chicken from New York City's Mott Street arcade in Chinatown. Her letter was printed in the March 1999 issue of the magazine. She said, "There is nothing cute about a caged chicken playing ticktacktoe."



Taylor and Bradley spend some time with their feathered friends at UPC.

Photo by Karen Davis

# American Veterinary Medical Association Should Have A Consistent Ethic On Animal Care

By Karen Davis, PhD and Holly Cheever, DVM

Society has every reason to applaud the strides that are being made against cockfighting in this country. Last year, voters in Arizona and Missouri banned cockfighting, leaving only three states to go. Now, this year, Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) has introduced a bill (SB 345) that if passed into law will ban the shipment of birds intended for cockfighting from states where cockfighting is illegal to states where it is still legal. By introducing this bill, Senator Allard, a veterinarian, has proposed legislation that accords with the position of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), which holds that cockfighting should be classed as a felony offense.

Given the AVMA's strong stand against cockfighting, it is deeply disappointing that the association has refused to take a stand against a practice that is every bit as cruel as cockfighting and one that puts many more birds in a state of continuous suffering. The practice, which is known as forced molting, involves the starvation of entire flocks of hens by the egg industry for purely economic objectives. Each year the U.S. egg industry deprives millions of hens – six million hens at any given time – of all food for up to fourteen days in order to manipulate their metabolism and force exhausted birds to pump out a few hundred more eggs before going to slaughter. During the forced molt, food-deprived hens peck desperately at empty metal troughs and are driven to pluck and eat each others' feathers to obtain nutrients. Countless hens die from the stress. When food is finally restored to the surviving hens, many of them choke to death in trying to swallow it after having been starved for so long.

Forced molting is a blatantly cruel practice that should be illegal. It is so stressful to the birds that it impairs their immune systems, predisposing the hens and their eggs to *Salmonella* infection. Summarizing the enormous background of information on the subject, the U.S. Department of Agriculture told the authors in a letter dated August 21, 1998, that it "recognizes that public health concerns are raised by highly stressful forced molting practices."

The AVMA is similarly aware of the link between forced molting and foodborne illness. In a report published last year in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association (JAVMA)*, entitled "*Salmonella* Enteritidis infections in the United States" (December 15, 1998), the authors noted not only that *Salmonella* is a "major health problem," but that "Eggs are the predominant source of *Salmonella* Enteritidis infections in humans." Most significantly from the standpoint of prevention, the report noted that *Salmonellosis* is a foodborne disease that has been "traced back to the farm of origin" and that infected hens have been identified as the source of many outbreaks. The report concluded that while consumers can reduce their risk of

*Salmonella* infection by avoiding eating undercooked or raw eggs, "control of *Salmonella* will require preventing infections in egg-laying and broiler chickens."

This should be a call upon the poultry and egg industry to eliminate forced molting as a necessary step to disease prevention. Instead, the AVMA has chosen to turn a blind eye to forced molting. Ignoring the requests of veterinarians and animal protectionists around the country to adopt a humane position on the treatment of hens used for egg production, the AVMA at a recent meeting merely added a provision to its existing policy that "Additional research is needed to improve the welfare aspects of the molting process." Really what this means is that untold numbers of hens will continue to be experimentally starved in laboratories as well as being starved commercially at the farm level.

Forced molting experiments have already been conducted for decades and reams of articles have been published showing the harm of starving the birds. To summarize, the practice of forced molting produced the following lesions (injuries) and effects: a 15-35% loss of body weight due to loss of mass from fat, muscle, skeleton, liver, and feathers; beaded ribs and pathological fractures noted at slaughter; a decrease in immunocompetence due primarily to a depressed T-cell (thymus immunity) response, and hemorrhagic gastrointestinal tracts with an increase in the shedding of and susceptibility to *Salmonella* Enteritidis, which adds the concern of public safety to that of animal welfare. What more does the American Veterinary Medical Association require?

While the AVMA cannot regulate the poultry and egg industry, (any more than it can regulate the cockfighting business), it can and should adopt a policy of opposition to forced molting, as it has effectively done on cockfighting. By virtue of the authority of the AVMA, the policy would have a major impact. No one knows better than a veterinarian how terribly an animal can suffer. The public expects veterinarians to heal animals, not profit from their misery. Instead of condoning the starvation of hens for profit, the AVMA should stand up for the hens as it has done for the victims of cockfighting. Our request is for consistent protection for all animals, including farmed animals.

*Readers wishing to receive more information, including a copy of the sign-on petition to stop forced molting should write to United Poultry Concerns, PO Box 150, Machipongo, VA 23405; and the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights, PO Box 208, Davis, CA 95617. This commentary was distributed by the Knight-Ridder/Tribune Information Service and appeared in The Chicago Tribune March 31, 1999. Please feel free to reprint and distribute. ©UPC & AVAR. Thank you.*

# Remembering Roscoe

## Takoma Park, Maryland Holds Funeral Service for Missed Friend

The March issue of the *Takoma Voice* ran beautiful memorial tributes to a rooster named Roscoe, who bonded with this Maryland suburb of Washington, DC for a decade. When Roscoe was killed by a car on February 15th, Takoma Park held a funeral service for him. In "Funeral for a Fowl," Mike Tidwell wrote in part, "... Roscoe's crow was part of the bloodstream here. And so people loved him very much. More than 30 folks came to his outdoor funeral on a cold, blustery February Sunday, more people than I've seen at some funerals for human beings. ... With each crow, he reconnected us, however briefly, to a world more sane and simple. ... He also got

many of us to work on time each morning, something several funeral attendees stepped to the microphone and thanked him for earnestly. At the funeral, we finally saluted Roscoe, all of us together, ages five months to 70 years, letting go with three big cock-a-doodle-dos, turning our faces heavenward and pouring out our hearts."

The *Takoma Voice* has proposed a memorial statue of Roscoe or a Roscoe weathervane to remember him by. UPC has suggested an annual vegan festival be held in his honor as well. You may send contributions and suggestions to the *Takoma Voice*, PO Box 11262, Takoma Park, MD 20913 (301-891-6744; voice@takoma.com).

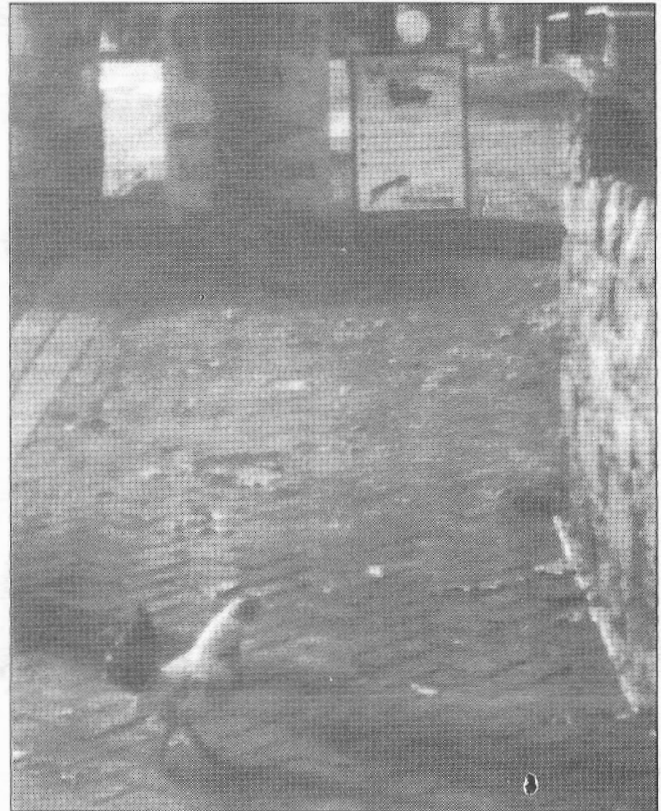


Photo by Eric Bond - Takoma Voice

## NEWS BRIEFS

### UPC's Realtor, David Kabler, Appeals Perdue Verdict

Despite public outrage against letting Perdue Farms set up chicken houses in Northampton County, Virginia (where UPC now resides and from which poultry factory operations have so far been excluded), the county's Board of Supervisors voted to let Perdue in. (See *PoultryPress Fall/Winter 1998*, 5). So David Kabler sued the county - and lost. But the fight is not over. In March, David filed a notice of appeal with the Virginia Supreme Court challenging the County Circuit Court Judge's decision to uphold a "special-use" permit for Perdue.

Meanwhile, construction of this concentration camp for "pedigree" chickens 5 miles down the road from United Poultry Concerns seems to be on hold.

For more information about the lawsuit and how you can help, contact David Kabler at 757-331-2102; e-mail: kabler@erols.com

### Perdue & Other Maryland Poultry Companies Peeved at Having to Pay

Adapted from *Feedstuffs*,  
April 5, 1999, 5 -

"Maryland's Department of Environment plans to make that state the first to legally bind chicken processors [Perdue, Tyson, etc.] to the litter management of farmers who raise chickens for them." These processors "strongly object to legal responsibility" for the dead chickens, manure, and other pollution they generate. The National Chicken Council called Maryland's plan to force the billion-dollar chicken companies to bear some of the cost of their own pollution under provisions of the federal Clean Water Act "totally inappropriate."



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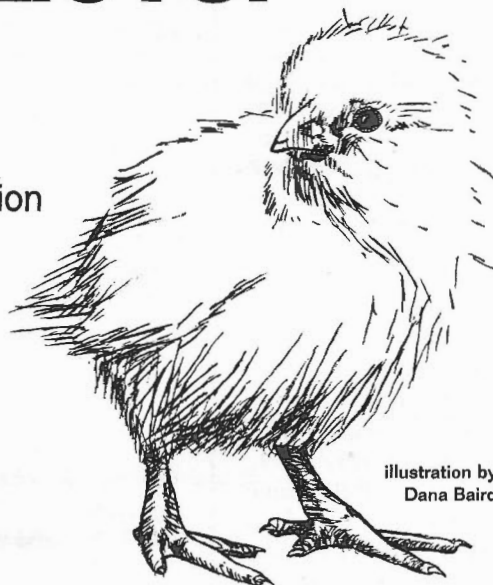


illustration by  
Dana Baird

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## Thank You, Susan Roghair and Florida Voices for Animals

UPC wishes to thank Susan Roghair, president of Animal Rights Online, for organizing a surprise fundraiser for United Poultry Concerns via her internet Newline. Susan raised more than \$2,500 for UPC and recruited many new members. She presented her surprise package of generous donations and gracious well-wishes to UPC president, Karen Davis, this year's guest speaker at the Florida Voices for Animals annual dinner in Tampa on February 21st. It is a great pleasure to thank Susan and Florida Voices for Animals for their kindness and support and to thank everyone who contributed so generously to Susan's fundraising campaign for UPC.

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### ***Instead of Chicken, Instead of Turkey: A Poultryless "Poultry" Potpourri***

*By Karen Davis*

This delightful vegan cookbook by United Poultry Concerns, Inc. 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. \$11.95

### ***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 1996 Fund for Animals "Kind Writers Make Kind Readers Award." \$10.00

### ***Nature's Chicken, The Story of Today's Chicken Farms***

*By Nigel Burroughs*

With wry humor, this unique children's story book traces the development of today's chicken and egg factory farming in a perfect blend of entertainment and instruction.

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### ***Animal Place: Where Magical Things Happen***

*By Kim Sturla*

Enchant young children with this charming tale about a stubborn girl who is secretly touched by a cow while visiting a sanctuary for farm animals. \$11.00

### ***'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving***

*Story & Pictures By Dav Pilkey*

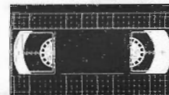
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## POSTERS

### ***A Heart Beats in Us the Same as in You***

New full-color UPC poster vividly captures the truth about today's factory chickens for the public. Vegetarian message.

18" x 22".

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or 2 for \$5

Sensitively produced and narrated by Dave Crawford. \$18.00

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*By Chickens' Lib*

This vivid half hour video exposes the cruelty of the battery cage system and intensive broiler chicken, turkey and duck production. \$20.00

## BUMPER STICKERS

***Don't Just Switch from Beef to Chicken:***

***Get the Slaughterhouse Out of Your Kitchen***

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## BUTTONS

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***Be Kind to Turkeys: Don't Gobble Me!***

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## A HEART BEATS IN US THE SAME AS IN YOU



Photo copyright: People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

Today's chickens are forced to grow too big too fast. They're forced to live in filth. They go to slaughter with yellow pus, harmful bacteria, heart and lung disease, tumors, crippled legs, sick immune systems, and more. Millions of dollars are spent hiding these facts from you. Why put dead birds in your food anyway? Go vegetarian.



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- "Starving Poultry for Profit"
- "Poultry Slaughter: The Need for Legislation"
- "Why Be Concerned About Mr. Perdue?"
- "The Rougher They Look, the Better They Lay" (free-range egg production)
- "Intensive Poultry Production: Fouling the Environment"
- "Philosophic Vegetarianism: Acting Affirmatively For Peace"
- "Providing a Good Home for Chickens"
- "School Hatching Projects: A Poor Lesson for Children"
- "Chicken Talk: The Language of Chickens"

"Celebrate Easter Without Eggs"  
"Chicken for Dinner: It's Enough to Make You Sick"

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- "Ostriches and Emus: Nowhere to Hide" brochure – 20 for \$4.00
- "Turkeys" brochure – 20 for \$4.00
- "Quails" brochure – 20 for \$4.00
- "Say Hi to Health and Bye to Shells from Hell" – 20 for \$4.00
- "Chicken for Dinner" – 20 for \$2.00
- "Food for Thought," Turkeys – 20 for \$2.00
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