In the New “New World,” Turkeys are Friends, Not Food.

Recognizing that people invent traditions to meet new and changing needs can be liberating, because it allows us to feel freer to revise our traditions to meet our evolving perceptions, for example to be vegan instead of violent.
“Dr. Karen Davis, founder of United Poultry Concerns, has spent three decades fighting for the most abused animals on the planet: chickens. The moving essays collected in *For the Birds: From Exploitation to Liberation*, not only track that fight, but make clear why these extraordinary animals matter, detailing the horrific worlds they live in before being killed. If you care about animals, you must care about chickens. This book proves that beyond any doubt.”

– Jasmin Singer, Senior Online Feature Editor, VegNews

“A remarkable book by an extraordinary woman, *For the Birds* is part memoir and part collection of essays all having to do with gallinaceous birds (chickens, turkeys, etc.) and how they are treated in modern human society. Some of the essays (chapters) are long and some are short but most deal with how chickens and turkeys are exploited and abused by the poultry industry. Several chapters instead deal with the natural behaviors of the wild progenitors of modern-day chickens and turkeys and how quickly chickens and turkeys revert to these natural behaviors, insofar as they can, when released from the cruel shackles of factory farms. I say insofar as they can because many of these birds have been genetically altered to incorporate various grotesqueries that add to their profitability from the standpoint of poultry farmers but condemn the birds to a life of disability and torment.

“Of particularly interest for readers already depressingly familiar with the ghastly treatment meted out to “food animals” are chapters dealing with the environmental and journalistic communities’ chilly reception of animal rights, and Dr. Davis’s own background before founding United Poultry Concerns, an organization unique in the world. “Deep ecology” obsessed strictly with the Big Picture and mainstream journalists more attuned to pandering to the wants and prejudices of their readers have scant time for the “little” cruelties being routinely visited upon the pre-mortem stars of their papers’ culinary section.

“For the Birds is not an easy book to read for it is fundamentally a tragic tale of human misconduct only made palatable by Dr. Davis’s erudition, honesty, sensitivity and command of the facts. It should be required reading for anybody who utilizes poultry products (eggs, meat, feathers) and thereby becomes complicit in an enterprise of such scale and cruelty as to truly beggar the imagination. Nobody with a conscience who reads this book and seriously considers the issues it raises can ever be the same.”

– George N. Bates, Amazon Customer Review

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**Poultry Press**

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Plant Power

In response to revelations of the horrific abuse of 800 million chickens in the United Kingdom in 2008, UPC President Karen Davis published a commentary that year in The Independent, the newspaper that broke the story. At the same time as those revelations appeared, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals published a video of Tyson workers in a U.S. slaughter plant urinating on the chickens and doing other sadistic things to them — which goes on all the time. The original commentary has been slightly edited for space.

By Karen Davis, PhD, President of United Poultry Concerns

Governments, corporations and others are looking for smarter, more efficient technologies to neutralize the negative impacts of intensive farmed animal production. Billions of people on the planet, devouring huge quantities of animal products, cannot consist with “humane, sustainable” animal agriculture. If a vegan solution to our environmental and animal welfare problems seems overly idealistic, elimination of industrial animal production practices to supply billions of omnivores is even more so.

It isn’t just “factory farming.” The problem is animal farming (which is all basically industrial, because hundreds and thousands of animals in a single commercial location = industrial). Even “improved” living standards for birds and other farmed animals are far lower than the standards most people would consider minimally acceptable for animals of comparable sentience and intelligence, such as a dog, a parrot or a cat. Farmed-animal “welfare” will never come close to meeting the complex needs of the animals involved.

In addition, animal products pose a significant food-safety risk. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the major foodborne pathogens (disease-causing microorganisms including Salmonella, Campylobacter, E. coli, and Listeria) that make people sick and susceptible to arthritis and other degenerative diseases are to be found in “meat, poultry, seafood, dairy products, and eggs.”

Given the international trade in animals’ bodies and in processed foods containing animal products — which are increasingly assembled not only from different animals but from different countries — it is virtually impossible to regulate the agribusiness economy in the interest of food safety. Each hamburger contains pieces of flesh from a hundred different “spent” dairy cows, as Gail Eisnitz observes in her book Slaughterhouse.

An icky little grease ball item like a chicken nugget is basically an assemblage of diseased flesh — skin, scabs, sores, bruises, pus. Chicken nuggets and patties supplied to the USDA’s National School Lunch Program have been said by inspectors to be made out of chickens who “usually have either airsacculitis, a pneumonia-like infection, or inflammatory process, which is similar to an infected cut.” In both cases, “pockets of pus” form in various parts of the body that can be “like a jelly.” An inspector can find “sores on 52 percent of the birds, and the company’s product still will pass inspection.”

By contrast, a vegan diet is not only an opportunity to create a less violent and toxic world, but an intelligent food safety choice. Nor will a vegan diet sacrifice jobs or ruin the economy. As long as people exist, the same amount of food will be produced and sold. Plant-powered foods have all the nutrients we need. — Karen Davis

“The promotion of Freedom Foods products, free range systems and the use of slower growing chickens can only ever have a marginal impact on bird welfare. The lives of these ‘high welfare’ birds are also miserable and deprived. The fundamental problem is the commodification of chickens (and of other farmed animals). There will always be a niche market for less roughly-treated birds, but for so long as animals are mass produced, fattened, transported and killed for food products, then those engaged in such activities will obey the rules of the market place and seek to reduce unit costs and maximise output. These cardinal rules of the marketplace translate inexorably into animal suffering. Animal Aid believes that it is cruel and immoral to treat animals as commodities, which is why we promote the non-animal diet.” From “Give it up, guys,” by Andrew Tyler, Director of Animal Aid in the U.K., The Guardian, March 1, 2008
Tell Liberty Mutual Insurance to Pull Their Emu Ads

Liberty Mutual Insurance has been running a series of commercials featuring an emu outfitted with sunglasses, wigs and other demeaning attire. The emu is shown in front of a store window sparring with his or her reflected image and in a car reacting to a loud bang. The emu is being made fun of, but there is nothing funny about this bird’s distress and defenselessness in the ads, which must surely involve violence to the emus, who would never voluntarily submit to the situations being portrayed.

In response to our protest, Liberty Mutual’s customer service said the emus in the ads are computer generated images (CGI); however, the company states elsewhere that:

“LiMu Emu is a mix of a real bird and CGI. Live emus were used during the initial shoot on set. The final images of the emu in the commercials are a blend of footage captured from the live emus and our digitally created emu.”

Most viewers do not know that the emus featured in the ads could be a mixture of digital and real. Regardless, the birds are being ridiculed. Knowing how badly birds and other animals are typically treated in media preparations behind the scenes, we have no confidence in Liberty Mutual’s behavior or rhetoric.

Emus belong to the oldest living family of birds on earth, including ostriches and other fleet-footed flightless fowl. They are gentle, friendly, desert-dwelling nomads with a strong family life in which both parents participate in nest-building and raising their young. Liberty Mutual has no business belittling and abusing them to sell car insurance.

What Can I Do?

Tell Liberty Mutual Insurance to remove their offensive emu commercials and confine their advertising scenarios to human actors. Violating the dignity of birds and other animals to sell products and services is unacceptable. If you have insurance with Liberty Mutual, tell them you’re considering canceling or not renewing. If you don’t have insurance with the company, tell them you will never be their customer as long as they use animals in their commercials. Request a reply to your complaint.

Contact:
David H. Long, Chairman and CEO
Liberty Mutual Insurance
175 Berkeley Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116
Phone: 617-357-9500

Customer Service:
Phone: 1-800-290-8206; 1-800-290-7933
Tweet: @AskLiberty for customer service related concerns or inquiries.

“CONTACT US” Via Liberty Mutual Insurance
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Victims in the Shadows: Emus

By There’s An Elephant in the Room blog
theresanelephantintheroomblog.wordpress.com/
2019/08/16/victims-in-the-shadows-emus/

(This article has been slightly edited for re-publication by United Poultry Concerns.)

Today the spotlight will shine on emus. Did you know that the farming of emus is once again increasing in popularity due to consumer demand for emu oil? I decided to look into this new horror that I was previously unaware of, and here’s a brief summary.

A soft-feathered, brown, flightless bird who can reach up to 1.9 metres or 5 to 6 feet tall, the emu is native to, and farmed in, Australia and is also farmed in North America, Peru, China, India and elsewhere.

Emus are primarily farmed for their dead flesh, their skin, feathers, and in particular, an oil made from the fat of slaughtered individuals. Native to a frequently challenging environment, emus have fat stores on their backs for survival. If food is scarce, they can tap into this store and go for weeks without eating if they have enough in reserve.

Following a lull in demand in the early 2000s, demand is currently increasing for emu oil, which is sold as an anti-inflammatory medication, although claims about the efficacy of this lubricant appear to be highly suspect and unproven.

Emu feathers are used for fishing lures, hair extensions, flower arrangements, hats, and numerous decorative arts and crafts. As is also inflicted upon ducks, geese, and some other species, feathers are sometimes plucked from the living birds, who are forced to endure this excruciating plucking again when the feathers grow back. This procedure causes agony to the bird who is often blindfolded while being plucked, to prevent the birds’ attempts to defend themselves. Because each feather is held firmly in a follicle filled with nerves receptive to pain, the victims are covered in blood by the end of the plucking process.

With a natural lifespan of 25 to 30 or more years, emus are slaughtered before reaching the age of two. Like the majority of our needless victims, emus are gentle individuals who resist every step of the way to the slaughterhouse as they are captured, terrorized, shoved onto trucks, deprived of food and water and taken to their deaths.

On arrival, they are herded off the trucks to the kill floor. They are then shot with a captive bolt or electrically “stunned” – electrically paralyzed while fully conscious to facilitate the killing and defeathering mechanisms – then hung upside down for throat cutting, then intentionally kept alive so their hearts will pump out the blood.

“Leather” made from the flayed skin of slaughtered emus has a distinctive patterned surface, due to a raised area around the feather follicles in the skin; emu skin is used in such items as wallets, handbags, shoes, and clothes.

So there we have it. Yet another example of the needless brutality of a species that claims to “love animals.” Living in line with the values we ALL claim to hold means living vegan. Being vegan means that we do our best to stop having victims of any species at all.

Photo courtesy of Jan Whalen

Jan Whalen and Bluie the Emu in Everett, Washington
High School Football Players Get a Pass For Luring, Beating & Strangling a Duck to Death

“The duck-killing incident, which was posted on the internet, involved the animal being lured by a group of boys out of the waters of Lake Winnipesaukee’s Moultonborough Bay. It was beaten with a broomstick and later strangled to death.” – The Conway Daily Sun, Sept. 5, 2019

UPC President Karen Davis’s letter, published in New Hampshire’s Conway Daily Sun, addresses this episode in which 6 Kennett High School football players at a football training camp sadistically beat and strangled a duck to death in late August and posted their action on the Internet. Other than a few temporary suspensions from playing football, these students were not held accountable. The State Fish and Game Department refused to charge them for their animal cruelty crime. The school and others in authority paid lip service.

Karen Davis: No moral leadership to look up to in duck case

Published September 16, 2019 in The Conway Daily Sun

To the editor:
I share the disgust that many people have expressed about the decision of officials to give a pass to the football players who lured, tortured and strangled a defenseless, unoffending duck for sadistic pleasure.

Most likely, those involved consider themselves “manly,” though they are the opposite. Thuggery and protection of thuggery is ugly. These football players violated the New Hampshire animal cruelty law and appear to have gotten away with their crime because football and blood “sports” are more important to those responsible for upholding the law than an innocent life beaten and strangled to death. There is no one to respect in this matter, no one to look up to for moral leadership.

Do any of these men feel even a speck of pity for the duck and the terror and pain she felt as she was being killed for fun? Do any of these football players feel a speck of remorse for the gratuitous cruelty they perpetrated against an innocent, helpless creature? Or are they all high-fiving each other for being shielded by their elders so that they can now “get on with their lives”? The situation is reprehensible.

Karen Davis, President
United Poultry Concerns
Machipongo, Va.
Cutie, My Precious Turkey, Was a True Joy to Me

By Kathryn King

My farm has many chickens and turkeys no one wanted for one reason or another. Many times I’ve received calls about precious lives, or come home to find chickens on my porch with no note. Such was the case with Cutie. She had the misfortune to be the only turkey poult to hatch in an incubator, so I was called on to be her “mother.” Turkey poults cannot stand to be alone when they are little and will peep without ceasing, if left alone.

I took her to bed with me at night, holding her close to my breast. During the day, she stayed close to me, as young turkeys do with their mother hen. I ended up calling my little one “Cutie,” since that name would fit whether she was male or female, and I wasn’t sure at first.

Cutie grew up strong and beautiful. She was my best friend. If a stranger came around, she would act like a guard dog and not let anyone near her “mom.”

Soon it came time to lay eggs, and Cutie was for sure a female. She would sneak off in my house to lay her eggs. She was a house turkey, and a true joy to me. We’d go places together in my truck and she’d sit in the passenger seat and be so well behaved, watching as the world flew by.

One day I noticed she was no longer laying eggs and appeared not to be feeling well. I took her to my local vet and he said she was full of infection due to egg yolk peritonitis. This is when an egg does not come out but stays in the bird, causing an infection.

The vet told me Cutie needed surgery to remove the egg, or she would die. Unfortunately, he did not have the special anesthesia that birds need, which is different from cat and dog anesthesia. He said he would put Cutie to sleep but gave her only a ten percent chance of waking up, since he was going to be guessing the dose. I told him to take the chance.

While the procedure was being done, I waited in the next room. All of a sudden I heard the vet say, “She’s gone. We lost her.” As soon as I heard that, I ran into the room screaming, “NO!” As soon as I screamed, Cutie came back to life. The vet said, “I don’t believe what I saw.” Cutie wanted to be alive with me, her “mom,” once again.

Cutie and I had four more years together. She made it through her surgery with flying colors. She made it with a very talented surgeon.

She would follow me all through the house as she did as a little poult. We played games together. She understood me when I told her what game I wanted to play. Sometimes she’d get so ornery when I was busy with other jobs that she’d unroll the toilet paper in the bathroom.

At night, she slept on the sofa with her friend Turkey Poo. Turkey Poo entered Cutie’s life one year before Cutie’s passing. Cutie loved walnuts, almonds, unsalted potato chips, and a dear friend of mine and hers named Al.

When Al came over, he would sit in my rocking chair, and call to her, “Come on Cutie,” and she’d fly up on his lap and snuggle with him for hours as he caressed her with love. Cutie loved that. She also enjoyed the green grass and the sunshine. She had a favorite dirt hole she would always play in.

One day I noticed she was having problems with her bowels. I gave her medicine, but none of it worked. Finally I told Al that I needed to take her to the vet who had done her last surgery. I took her to the vet and
they ran tests. The doctor said Cutie was full of fluid and she needed to have her female organs removed. So I scheduled the surgery for the following Wednesday.

When Wednesday came, I waited in the parking lot for any word. Before I handed her over, I gave Cutie a kiss and said, “Mommy will see you in a little while.”

After two hours, they came out and said there was a complication. When they opened her up, they found a huge tumor on her ovary. They gave me three choices. One, they could sew her back up and I could bring her back home. Two, they could remove the tumor. Three, they could euthanize her on the operating table. I asked them to try and take out the tumor.

Ten minutes into the surgery, the vet came out and told me she was gone. I cried so hard, they put me in a private room. I asked them to let me see her. I hugged her and cried, begging her to come back like she did before, but it didn't happen. I CAN'T express the pain I endured losing her.

When I returned home, Turkey Poo looked for her for days. Eight days later, a vibrant Turkey Poo died. She died looking for Cutie.

You might say, “How can anyone become so close to a turkey or a chicken?” These birds all have a personality and they need, as well as give, unconditional love. If you would only give them a chance, you too could see and feel the treasure of their lives, as it enriches yours. They only need you to give them that chance. – Kathryn King, Scio, Ohio, March 2019

Kathryn King is a member of United Poultry Concerns and the author of Peeper: A Story of Unending Love about another beloved turkey of hers named Peeper.
“Thus, we see how essential the wild turkey was to the explorer, how prominent a part of the larder it proved for the early pioneers and Indians, what sport it furnished our natives, settlers and foreign sportsmen, and how early it was singled out as our token of festival joy.” – Albert Hazen Wright, “Early Records of the Wild Turkey,” 1914.

While it is fair to say that turkeys were not treated particularly well by Native Americans, a worse fate awaited them under the European invaders and their descendants, who conducted a full-scale assault upon the birds. A Civil War-era photograph published by the National Wild Turkey Federation tells much of the story of what happened to the wild turkey in America. It depicts rows of dead turkeys strung upside down like clothes on a clothesline at an army campsite. This was the fate of the birds over and over under the assaults of the military camps.

Men slaughtered cartloads full of turkeys, shooting them at roost when they were sleeping and defenseless. Fifty to five hundred birds per hunting party in a single night were boasted, with an uncounted number of cripples left to die in the aftermath. Someone joked that whenever the people of Colorado City wanted wild turkeys, “they hitched a team to a wagon, drove to some stream where there was timber, ran the wagon under the turkey roost, and fired,” leaving all of the birds who were wounded but not dead beside the wagon.

What the naturalist John Muir wrote of the passenger pigeon in the 19th century was no less true of the turkey: “Every shotgun was aimed at them.” When a man saw a turkey or a flock of turkeys, he got his gun. Even if he found the turkeys engaging, he still killed them all if he could, or took a few potshots at the flock. Foreign visitors brought their guns, too. They had their muskets ready “to shoot the wild geese and turkeys” and were “always on the watch for an opportunity of practicing on shipboard, believing that they should have such excellent sport in America shooting wild turkies.”

Whole American communities gunned down turkeys and prairie chickens for eating the grain. In Ohio, people used clubs to drive turkeys from the wheat fields. Circular hunts were organized to exterminate “these famous birds of the forest” because they ate the corn. A person who grew up in Illinois wrote in 1937, “One of my earliest and most vivid recollections was of the day when everybody combined to slaughter the last immense flock of Wild Turkeys. They enticed so many tame Turkeys away and were so destructive to the crops, that their extermination was decreed by the grange, churches, and the general public.”

From “The True Original Native of America” in More Than a Meal: The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual, and Reality by Karen Davis, PhD. Order from UPC by regular mail or through our website at www.upc-online.org/merchandise/book.html. $14.95 includes shipping.
More Than a Meal: The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual, and Reality

Author Karen Davis takes us back to European folklore about turkeys, the myths, fairytales, and downright lies told about turkeys and their habits and habitats. She 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. And much more!

Karen Davis, PhD
More Than a Meal
The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual, and Reality
New York: Lantern Books
$14.95 paperback (includes shipping)

“An eloquent and well-informed plea for us to change exploitation into respect. Not only is More Than a Meal an excellent account of the history of hunting, farming, and killing of the turkey, but it is a penetrating examination of the culture of Thanksgiving, in which the turkey plays a central and demeaning role.”

--Lesley Rogers, Professor of Neuroscience and Animal Behaviour, University of New England

“Karen Davis shines a new light on the unfortunate, much maligned bird that is the center of America’s Thanksgiving ritual, and thereby illuminates the lies and hypocrisy that surround our eating habits and our attitudes to animals. More Than a Meal challenges all Americans to think about the values that they want their annual family ritual to embody.”

--Peter Singer, DeCamp Professor of Bioethics, Princeton University

“A thought-provoking book because we are taken on a journey to look at the unsightly corners of our attitudes and practices of past and present. . . . Can we read this rousing book without wishing to improve the lot of these magnificent birds?”

--Gisela Kaplan, Full Professor, School of Biological Sciences, University of New England

“Serious but engaging. My advice to anyone who thinks that turkeys are stupid, unappealing birds would be to read this book.”

--Ian J.H. Duncan, Professor of Poultry Ethology, Chair in Animal Welfare, University of Guelph, Ontario
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.

In loving memory of our cherished rescued roosters Henny and Elvis, who died in August and September this year, after living for 7 happy years with us and our tortoise companions. They are both buried at the rescue in the areas they used to live in, so they will always be “home.” – Susan Tellem

Ode to My Beautiful Friend Henny

You came to us as a youngster.  
Thrown on PCH like trash.  
Joined by your buddy Elvis.  
You both looked like hell.

For seven years you crowed,  
at every morning sunrise.  
Giving glory to God,  
But not the neighbors.

Roosters are not nuggets,  
nor wings or breasts.  
You are sentient beings  
With desire to live like the rest of us.

You’d wait by the gate,  
Every day like a sentinel.  
Hoping for a treat  
Like peanuts, worms or Chex-Mix.

You shared your home  
With many turtles,  
Eating their worms,  
And they sharing your bread.

When I spoke to you,  
You did your Rooster dance.  
Hopping around, wings flashing,  
Straining up to me with love.

We learned about dirt baths,  
Rooster fights,  
Animal control’s silly fines,  
And bumblefoot.

You loved us,  
But you didn’t trust us.  
We couldn’t pick you up.  
But that didn’t matter.

You and Elvis,  
Fighting to the death.  
A mess of blood and feathers.  
Separate yards was the answer.

Then the Woolsey fire,  
At 3000 degrees,  
and 17 miles wide.  
St. Francis helped you survive.

Then you hurt your leg.  
Swollen and bleeding.  
I tried to treat it,  
but finally to the vet.

Two weeks of treatment  
for bumblefoot.  
Back to the rescue  
Not quite the same.

You stopped crowing,  
But you still wanted treats.  
Unsteady on your bandaged feet,  
Quietly declining.

I found you in your house.  
A pile of beautiful feathers.  
Eyes closed forever.  
I love you, damn chicken.

Susan Tellem  8/10/2019
In memory of Florence and Savannah, my sweet little hens, who passed away. They will be missed and remembered always in my heart. – Victoria Figurelli

In loving memory of Petunia. – Geselle Huglin

In loving memory of FELIX, Summer 1997-July 11, 2011, my handsome, loyal red tabby; NOEL, Oct. 12, 1997 - Oct. 21, 2014, my sweet, handsome Siamese; and JASMINE, July 16, 1998 - April 19, 2018, my beautiful, sweet white Oriental shorthair. They were my magical trio of cats who blessed my life with love, joy, laughter, and loyalty. I think of them daily and miss them dearly. Felix waiting by the door for me when I returned home; Noel my lap cat who kept me company; and Jasmine who slept with me and awakened me with her beautiful blue eyes staring at me. Heaven was happy to welcome such a special trio of cats! – Love always, Mom, Ana A. Garcia

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

A LEGACY OF COMPASSION FOR THE BIRDS

Please remember United Poultry Concerns through a provision in your will. Please consider an enduring gift of behalf of the birds.

A legal bequest may be worded as follows:

I give, devise and bequeath to United Poultry Concerns, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation incorporated in the state of Maryland and located in the state of Virginia, the sum of $_______ and/or (specifically designated property and/or stock contribution).

We welcome inquiries.
United Poultry Concerns, Inc.
P.O. Box 150 • Machipongo, Virginia 23405-0150
(757) 678-7875

Karen & Mr. Frizzle ©2008 Davida G. Breier

Free Ways to Help United Poultry Concerns Raise Much-Needed Funds

Please make free fundraising a part of your online routine

Every time you shop at any of 1600+ online stores in the iGive network, a portion of the money you spend benefits United Poultry Concerns. It’s a free service, and you’ll never pay more when you reach a store through iGive. In fact, smart shoppers will enjoy iGive’s repository of coupons, free shipping deals, and sales. To get started, just create your free iGive account. And when you search the web, do it through iSearchiGive.com where each search means a penny (or more!) for our cause!

Start iGiving at: www.iGive.com/UPC & www.iSearchiGive.com/UPC.
You can also install the iGive Toolbar 3.0 now at www.iSearchiGive.com/UPC
and help UPC get every possible donation when you shop or search online!
Chicken “Chucking” Contest: Karen Davis’s Letter Published

Since there are many types of objects people can play games with that are not corpses, there must be some kind of ill thrill for some folks knowing they are throwing dead animals around. It’s bad enough what these poor chickens go through so people can needlessly eat them. But to think of what they went through, only to end up being used in this way, is sickening.

What this contest shows is fundamental disrespect for the life (and death) of other creatures. Captive tigers — does anyone have a problem with that? Does anyone feel any pity for these animals? I write this letter hoping and believing there are people who care. I want them to know that their sympathy for animals, including chickens, is fully justified and shared by many other people in this world.

Karen Davis
President, United Poultry Concerns
Machipongo, Va.
We are running our “Don’t Gobble Me!” ad in the University of Maryland-College Park’s student newspaper The Diamondback on November 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th. We are displaying our poster “Be Kind to Turkeys - Go Vegan!” on The Diamondback newsstand at the Clarice Performing Arts Center in November and The Bagel Place in December.

Turkeys have a zest for living. In nature, turkeys walk fast, fly well, even swim! Treated with respect, turkeys are very friendly birds. Native to the woods and fields, turkeys raised for food never know the warmth of a mother bird’s wings or the comfort she brings. Did you know that in nature, young turkeys spend up to 5 months close to their mothers?

“T”have never done such hard, dirty, disgusting work in my life: 10 hours of pushing birds, grabbing birds, wrestling birds, jerking them upside down, pushing open their vents, dodging their panic-blown excrement and breathing the dust stirred up by terrified birds.” – Jim Mason, former “milker” at a ConAgra turkey breeding plant in Missouri

This Thanksgiving, discover new traditions. Visit www.upc-online.org/recipes for great holiday recipes! Learn more about turkeys at www.upc-online.org/turkeys.
In the Midst of This Year’s Kapores Chicken Carnage in Brooklyn, Activists Rescued Many Chickens Before, During, and After the Ritual

Jill Carnegie, UPC’s Campaign Strategist for the Alliance to End Chickens as Kapores, spoke live October 7th at the Kapores Vigil in the Crown Heights neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York, where Alliance activists offered water and watermelon to as many as possible of the 60,000 chickens crated for days on the streets in preparation for the Kapores “atonement” massacre in which certain ultra-Orthodox Jewish populations “transfer” their sins and punishment to the chickens each year in the days leading up to Yom Kippur. This ritual is not mandated by Jewish law. We will report more fully on this year’s activities in the next issue of Poultry Press. Your donations to support our campaign to end chicken Kapores are much needed and greatly appreciated.

Activists brought hundreds of chickens from the Kapores ritual to “safe houses” around Brooklyn, like this one in Bushwick. Brooklyn Daily Eagle photo by Alex Williamson, Oct. 9, 2019.

Activists offer water and watermelon to chickens crated for days.

Nora Marino holding Little Bean, one of the 16 rescued chickens found running loose on Eastern Parkway.

United Poultry Concerns • (757) 678-7875
P.O. Box 150 • Machipongo, VA 23405-0150
Vegan Pumpkin Pie (Super Easy!)

Recipe by LovingItVegan.com

**Ingredients**
- 15oz Can Puréed Pumpkin (not pumpkin pie filling)
- ¾ cup Coconut Milk (full fat)
- ¾ cup Brown Sugar
- ¼ cup Cornstarch
- ¼ cup Maple Syrup
- 1 teaspoon Vanilla Extract
- 3 teaspoons Pumpkin Pie Spice
- ½ teaspoon Salt
- Vegan Pie Crust, homemade or store-bought (must be uncooked)

**Directions**
1. Preheat the oven to 350°F.
2. Add all the filling ingredients to a blender and blend until perfectly smooth.
3. Pour out over your uncooked pie crust and smooth with a spoon.
4. Bake in the oven for 60 minutes. When you remove it from the oven, it will still be quite wobbly in the center. This is completely fine. It will firm up when cooling.
5. Allow to cool on the counter and then place into the refrigerator to set completely, around 4 hours at least or overnight if possible until completely chilled and set.
6. Decorate the pie and serve with whipped coconut cream.

For more great recipes, go to [www.upc-online.org/recipes](http://www.upc-online.org/recipes)!

Photo by Liqin Cao
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

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

UPC Ordering Information:
All Prices Include Postage
To order indicated items send check or money order to:
United Poultry Concerns
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Or order online at upc-online.org

-Life Can Be Beautiful - Go Vegan! Brochure
24 full-color
5.5” x 8.5” pages.
$1.00 each.
20 for $5.00.
50 for $10.00.
100 for $15.00.
200 for $25.00.

LIFE CAN BE BEAUTIFUL - GO VEGAN! BROCHURE
BOOKS

Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: An Inside Look at the Modern Poultry Industry
By Karen Davis

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Minnys 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

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

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

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

POSTERS

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

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

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

WHAT WINGS ARE FOR

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

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

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

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

UPC posters in any mix:
One for $4. Two for $5. Three for $7.
On October 8th, we adopted 29 hens from a laboratory in Virginia, whose supervisor wanted them to live happily after the blood tests they were used for in the summer were over. Although these hens lived in cages before coming to our sanctuary, they were kept clean, and they are not debeaked. Here are a few of our sweet new Snow Whites the evening after they arrived. Our sanctuary is a predator-proof outdoor aviary, so these hens in the trees are safe.