

2021 OLD FASHIONED

4TH OF JULY

BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MN

SATURDAY
JULY 3RD

Antique Tractor Show	High School.....	9am - 4pm
Concessions.....	City Park & Victory Field - Variety of food & drink.....	10am - 9pm
Beer Garden.....	City Park - \$0.50 off with a 4th of July Button	12pm - 9pm
Pedal Tractor Pull	City Park	Sign Up @ 4:30pm
Music in the Pavilion - First Lutheran Worship Team	City Park	6pm
Hoola Hoop & Stick Horse Racing	In front of Showmobile.....	6pm
Teen Dance.....	In front of Showmobile.....	8:30pm
Street Dance - Red Dirt Road - 21 & Over, ID Required \$5 Cover	Main Street in front of J&H Liquor	8pm-12am

SUNDAY
JULY 4TH

Car Show.....	Victory Field.....	8am-12p
B.P. Lions Club Breakfast.....	Prairie Manor.....	8am - 11:30am
Concessions.....	City Park & Victory Field - Variety of food & drink	Open All Day
Antique Tractor Show	High School	9am - 4pm
Tractor Pull - Red Sled Pulling (Contact Joe @ 507-438-6639).....	West of Victory Field.....	9am
Fire Department Open House	Fire Hall	9am-11am
Beer Gardens.....	City Park - \$0.50 off with a 4th of July Button	10am - 9pm
Fine Arts Fair.....	City Park.....	9am - 6pm
Pony Rides - Free - Sponsored by Eagle Prairie Insurance.....	Victory Field.....	9:30am - 1:30pm
Kids Races.....	Victory Field Pavilion.....	10am
Kids Activities - Free (<i>Dunk Tank, Inflatable Obstacle Course, Hoops, more</i>)	Victory Field.....	10am
Trolley Rides between the City Park & Victory Field - Free with a 4th of July Button		10am-7pm
Pickle & Pie Judging Contest.....	Showmobile	12:30pm

PARADE 2:30PM - 4:00PM

Live Entertainment, Generation Gap	Beer Garden in City Park	4:30pm - 8:30pm
Frozen T-Shirt Contest	Beer Garden in City Park	6pm

*****FIREWORKS VICTORY FIELD..... 10:00PM*****

(Fireworks Rain Date July 5th)

Blooming Prairie Old Fashioned 4th of July



WHAT: Pickle & Pie Judging Contest

WHEN: July 4th

WHERE: Snowmobile in City Park

TIME: 12:30pm

Bring your homemade pickles and/or pie to the Snowmobile
in the City Park before 12:30pm

138 Hwy. Ave South
P.O. Box 805
Blooming Prairie MN 55917



Phone: 507-583-4472
Fax: 507-583-4520
bpcofc@gmail.com



STEWARDSHIP NEWSLETTER

Spring/Summer 2021

crawfordstewardship.org

CSP Welcomes...



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR: SARAH BARRON

With a bachelor's degree in Psychology and a love of the natural world, Sarah is passionate about engaging others to take interest in the environment (eco-psychology). She grew up on a small, organic goat farm in Southwest Wisconsin and values the unique biodiversity of the Driftless region. She's also a native plant enthusiast, and you

can often find her on roadsides collecting seeds from imperiled plants.

Sarah delights in tending to her organic vegetable and native plant gardens, bird watching, plant and insect photography, and various artistic pursuits.

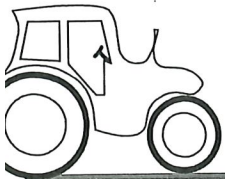


BOARD MEMBER: EMILY SCHMIDT

Growing up in the Driftless Area, Emily is very appreciative of the rolling hills and quaint streams that makes this region special. Emily lives on top of a ridge overlooking the Kickapoo River, and attends North Crawford High School. Emily is 16 years old, and has a drive to protect the natural environment more than ever before.

Emily is honored to work for the Crawford Stewardship Project's (CSP) mission and goals. CSP "promotes sustainable land use, environmental justice, and local control of natural resources," a goal Emily stands behind, giving purpose and meaning, and a deep personal connection to this watershed.

As a young person determined to unburden our future from climate change, Emily has remarkable ambition to work her hardest for this mission. As Greta Thunberg, a Gen-Z environmentalist, once said, "The moment we decide to fulfill something, we can do anything."



JOIN US!

Farms, Factories, and the Future

Zoom on June 5, 1:00-5:00pm

Crawford Stewardship Project, Sustain Rural Wisconsin Network, Socially Responsible Ag Project, UW Extension, and many more allies will be co-sponsoring a virtual public forum on the direction of agriculture.

- ◊ Hear and inquire about Crawford County's experience with a CAFO, proposed expansions, regulations, and lessons learned

- ◊ Engage with a panel of sustainable and regenerative farmers and experts about resilient pathways forward for agriculture

- ◊ Network and strategize with a panel of community organizers from across the Midwest

Who is responsible for CAFOs?

As citizens engage at every level, town and county boards sit on their hands, and everyone holds their breath for DNR action

By Forest Jahnke

Crawford Stewardship Project supports farmers, and believes we can continue to produce food, fiber and medicine from the land, while maintaining clean air, clear waters and building living soils. That said, we question the direction that so-called "modern" or "conventional" agriculture has taken, and hold a high standard for land uses in the complex and rugged landscape we call home. We promote resilient land uses that will be sustainable and able to feed our communities, despite a harsher climate and the fluctuations of international commodities markets.

CAFOs Continued on Page 5

We couldn't do what we do without all of YOU!

Thanks to our donors for supporting Crawford Stewardship Project's mission, and helping us achieve our goals!

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*Crawford Stewardship Project is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization registered in the state of Wisconsin.
Contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. The newsletter is printed on recycled paper.*

Kicking our karst education into high gear!

CSP is doing more than ever in 2021, the "International Year of Caves and Karst"!

By Forest Jahnke

We're launching a new campaign, and it promises to be beautiful, engaging, and educational. Our kARsT (karst + ART) Connections Campaign seeks to reinvigorate and broaden our Karst Education Campaign through multimedia artistic and creative expressions.

This campaign focuses on engaging younger audiences in ways they can learn about and appreciate our special landscape and watersheds, above and below the surface. This will expand our impact beyond our current citizen science and grassroots advocacy, broadening our reach and deepening our culture change work as we reshape the stories we tell ourselves about our relationship with land and water in this unique place.

We launch this campaign revitalization in 2021 in conjunction with the International Year of Caves and Karst, supporting the goals of improving public understanding and appreciation of the importance and complexity of karst landscapes.

This project will also allow us to include and support the artist community which has been so generous with us and other non-profit organizations in the area. We intend to hire local artists, and strongly encourage members of under-represented to apply to create our commissioned artistic products.

Are you an artist or author waiting for an opportunity to harness your creative talents for the greater good? Know any?

We are offering a \$2,500 commission for the creation of a short illustrated book, featuring personified local animals learning about the world underneath our feet, about interconnectedness, and about themselves in the process.

\$500 for story authorship

\$2,000 for ten illustrations

**To apply for one or both of these commissions,
please contact us at contact@crawfordstewardship.org or call (608) 632-1987 for details.**

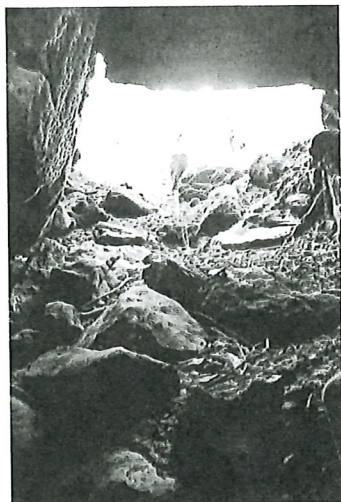
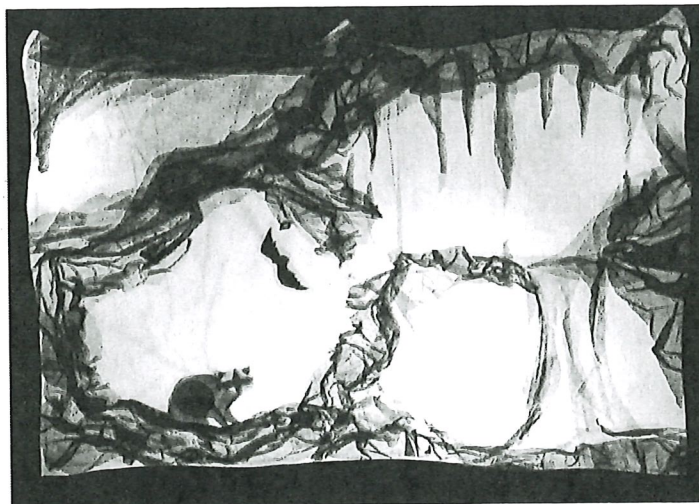


Photo Credit: Carolyn Bendel



Underground World Shadow Puppet Show

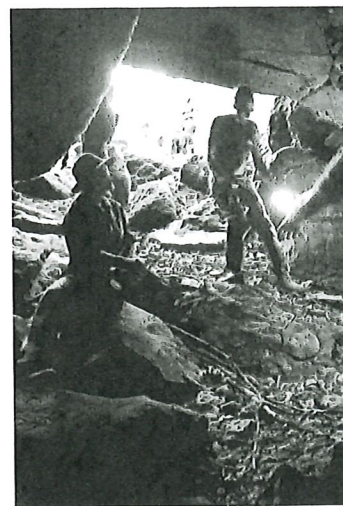


Photo Credit: Carolyn Bendel

As a part of this campaign, we are also re-launching our Underground World shadow puppet show! This lovely little story follows the adventure of a curious little raccoon down a sinkhole and into the mysterious karst world underground. Stay tuned for opportunities to show this to your little ones, or have it shown at local schools!

Finally, we will be hosting our annual Karst Exploration with Professor Emeritus, Kelvin Rodolfo on September 11th (1:00-4:30pm) at Eagle Cave. Learn about sinkholes, sumps, springs and more on this enjoyable walk through Wisconsin's largest onyx cave. Gather details about this event on our website and social media.

We look forward to broadening our audience for this important education, and as always, are happy to collaborate with any interested parties, so don't hesitate to reach out!

Embracing and Enhancing Water Quality Monitoring *Together*

Some actions and experiences to make the water proud of us!

By Omaru Heras

A wonderful community of volunteers and Crawford Stewardship Project is ready to go ahead with the upcoming water quality monitoring season at seven sites of concern in Crawford County. CSP's Water Quality Monitoring Program will keep doing the Water Action Volunteers program baseline parameters: potential pathogens, total phosphorus and source tracking testings, plus the most recently implemented microplastics monitoring. It is worth mentioning that safety protocols (for Covid-19, and a host of other pathogens we have found in the waters) are always a priority in every activity.

And there is more! A youth group at North Crawford High School is getting organized to start monitoring a stream near their school, under teachers' and CSP's supervision. We believe that promoting future leaders through this kind of initiative is a key part of our success.

A local group, Swamp Project People (SPP), and CSP will implement an official monitoring program for Myrtle Lake (the Soldiers Grove slough) this year, as a part of SPP's restoration plan on that site.

CSP's WQM program wants to dedicate part of this article to share some quotes with all of you from some of the witty and wonderful people who have been a part of this program over the years:



Former CSP Coordinator, Meg Wise checking water transparency



Former CSP Coordinator, Meg Wise inspiring new generations

"Caring for our streams provides the opportunity to connect with our local environment. It is gratifying to work with CSP, our fellow WAV volunteers, and to be part of the citizen science movement." Bill and Deb Hiller. CSP's WQM and WI WAV Stream Monitoring Awarded monitors and supporters since 2013.

"I love the monthly meetings with the waterways in the driftless area. The WQM program has helped me *realize* the importance of protecting the earth."

Emily Schmidt, CSP volunteer and board member, sophomore at North Crawford Highschool.

"I found so much joy in *inspiring* people in our community through water quality monitoring. WQM is one of the coolest citizen science projects and volunteer opportunities. This hands-on experience truly helps build a stronger connection with our local ecosystem, which helps us better protect our precious natural resources. Data collected by WQM volunteers is utilized by CSP, many other environmental advocacy groups, and the state. WQM data informs us on the state of our waters, which assists us in decisions being made and practices in place that affect water quality." Meg Wise, CSP's 2017-2018 WQM coordinator.

We are extremely thankful to all our volunteers and to those whose support, time and effort has made a difference.

Have a look at the full WQM Report on our website: crawfordstewardship.org

Please, feel free to contact Omaru at oheras@crawfordstewardship.org

We also support all rural residents, including those with no voice, such as the rivers, the fish, the birds, and the human neighbors of high-impact industrial facilities who feel ignored by their local governments. This is why Crawford Stewardship Project and our Midwest Environmental Advocates attorneys filed a request for a full Environmental Impact Statement from the DNR on the Roth Feeder Pig II proposal. This was done last December on behalf of over 200 Crawford County residents & landowners, and followed this up with a petition signed by 48 organizations in support of this action.

The original Roth Feeder Pig CAFO (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation) near Wauzeka has been monitored actively for a decade, and unfortunately, our predictions of what would happen when too many animals are concentrated on too little land have held true. Soil phosphorus has skyrocketed to excessive levels on many fields, in some cases to levels that would take over a century of no spreading to drop back down to ideal levels. These high levels of phosphorus cause runoff to be particularly harmful to our waterways, and indicate likely high levels of nitrate leaching. Local streams and wells have seen increasing rates of contamination.

Roth Feeder Pig has submitted a permit application that would make them the largest hog CAFO in Wisconsin.

Despite this situation, Roth Feeder Pig has submitted a permit application to the DNR to add a second facility (nearly three times the size of their current 2,900 sow operation) just a few miles away, which collectively would make them the largest hog CAFO in Wisconsin. In total, these two facilities would be spreading roughly 12 million gallons of liquid manure in a small area on steep slopes and fractured bedrock.

The DNR has just issued the draft permits for this expansion, and set a virtual public hearing for June 10, at 10am. We encourage all who care about the air, waters, ecosystems, and human communities of the Kickapoo, Wisconsin, and Mississippi Rivers to register for the public hearing, and speak up for why this area is special and requires more than a cursory review of this factory farm. See details on back page.



LiDAR Imagery shows the extreme slopes and gullies along the ridge where the Roth Feeder Pig II CAFO facility is proposed.

Dozens more CAFOs will be required to grow out all the piglets produced by Roth Feeder Pig alone, and as Iowa fills to the brim with these operations, they will be looking for more local opportunities.

Of course we also engaged at the grassroots level, with the neighborhood, the township, and at the county level, but despite some success, have come up short of any real solutions or improvements to the situation. Marietta Township, after their short-lived moratorium, have not considered ordinances that would mitigate potential problems.

In October, the Crawford County Board received a 125-page report from their CAFO Study Committee (with a broad representation including Nikki Wagner, Roth Feeder Pig's Nutrient Management Plan writer, county department staff, Conservation Committee members, and myself in an advisory role). This impressive report contained a detailed listing of potential actions the county could take to protect the future of agriculture and clean water in Crawford County.

Disregarding calls to extend the moratorium from a majority of the County CAFO Study Committee, overwhelming support from the public and 16 local organizations, the county board allowed the moratorium to expire at the end of 2020. Despite repeated questioning, they have taken no action on any of the committee recommendations, and have even removed public comment from county board meetings!

We are used to dealing with stacked decks so, regardless of the setbacks, CSP is regrouping and broadening our base by forming our own CAFO Committee of concerned citizens to help us work on these issues. What started as the Kickapoo Stewards, challenging one proposal in their backyards, has grown beyond that. We need people from around the county engaged to actively continue education on both stopping CAFOs, and local ordinances that would effectively mitigate some of the problems they create.

**Want to help keep your water safe and air clean?
Consider joining our CSP CAFO Committee.
Send an email of interest to
contact@crawfordstewardship.org or call 608-632-2183**

Crawford Stewardship Project
P.O. Box 284
Gays Mills WI 54631

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Important Action Needed!

The DNR has drafted a proposed permit for Roth Feeder Pig II, with a "tentative recommendation to approve" the operation's expansion to become the largest hog CAFO in the state. This is an imminent threat to water, air, land, property values, and health along the lower Kickapoo and Wisconsin rivers.

There are two ways that concerned citizens can have an impact:

1) Write or call the below WI Department of Natural Resources (DNR) members:

Dave Siebert (David.Siebert@wisconsin.gov or 608-264-6048)

Brian Weigel (Brian.Weigel@wisconsin.gov or 608-225-4964)

Preston Cole (Preston.Cole@wisconsin.gov or 608-267-7556)

2) Attend the June 10 (10AM) public hearing via zoom. You must register online to attend this event.

For details on how to register for the event, information on Roth Feeder Pig, and to view the proposed permit and fact sheet, check out crawfordstewardship.org

Dodge County needs to serve all citizens

BY SONJA TROM EAYRS

I read with interest the recent column by Sheriff Scott Rose, *Stop demonizing our law enforcement* (Times-May 12 edition). His politically charged piece chastises Gov. Tim Walz, questioning "what has our Minnesota Governor done to support law enforcement?"

I ask, what has local law enforcement done to support the people of Dodge County?

Fighting back against the installation of the 11th and 12th swine factory farms in a 3-mile radius, my family has faced repeated harassment and intimidation following the initiation of legal action against Dodge County officials and area swine contract growers.

Manure-stained blue farm booties purposely blemish the township road leading from a nearby swine factory farm to our family farm—another reminder that industry giants are large and in charge. Bullet holes shot in the stop sign a few hours after my brother and I pulled weeds from the field a few feet away, constant garbage dumped in our roadside ditches and driveway, a large piece of metal hidden in the tall grass that damaged our mower, pure Roundup sprayed on the cornfield that caused thousands of dollars of damage, false telephone calls by industry folks to the sheriff's department (not to report some illegal activity but to put the heat on my family

and get us to shut up), harassing late-night phone calls to my elderly father, including such comments as "Have you changed yet?" and other harassing tactics.

The tactics employed against my family are consistent with the tactics employed against other frontline families across the Midwest fighting installation of a factory farm next door.

Serving as a watchdog for powerful industry giants, local law enforcement immediately responds to calls from area swine operators for assistance, including requests to identify a black SUV near our farm and report back to the industry. The culprit—a KSTP news truck.

Unfortunately, local law enforcement under

the politically charged watch of Sheriff Rose has repeatedly ignored the cries of my family for help, dismissing our concerns as a simple "littering complaint."

Earlier this spring, following the removal of piles and piles of garbage, I again contacted Sheriff Rose personally for assistance. Among the items, a mailer from the Minnesota Pork Board and the Minnesota Pork Producers Association addressed to an area swine contract grower. Finally, a solid lead. In response, Sheriff Rose only contacted the area swine contract grower and made absolutely no effort to reach out to me. His response, "I personally did some digging on this—I actu-

See DODGE on A10 ►

Dodge County needs to serve all citizens

◀ DODGE from A2
ally think there may be an issue out there with your garbage hauler." The problem with this expert investigation—we don't have a garbage hauler.

Where do we turn for assistance if local law enforcement will not investigate and respond to our cries for help?

The citizens of Dodge County deserve law enforcement that serves on behalf of all citizens—not just industry giants and their local pawns.

Like a knee on the necks of Black people in urban areas, industry giants, with the aid of pro-industry local officials, have had a firm knee on the necks of Dodge County citizens for years.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Among the garbage found near the Trom family farm in Westfield Township was a notice of an annual meeting for the Minnesota Pork Board. The Troms claim they are being intentionally harassed and intimidated with garbage being dumped on their property among other things.

Sonja Trom Eayrs grew up in rural Dodge County as a farmer's daughter. She

now lives in the Twin Cities, where she is an attorney and advocate for rural Minnesota.

Special thanks to Eayrs for planting seed of hope

To-the-Editor:

First, thank you for highlighting the flag along Hwy. 218. That flag tells us much about the character and wisdom of the flyer, and perhaps his family. Sad.

Second, a special thanks is in order to Sonja Trom Eayrs whose guest column (Times- May 19 edition) focuses on Dodge County but raises a much larger issue about corporate farming across our country. The abuses of soil and animals are well documented and the inability of government to stop or correct such abuses is also well documented.

I know some of the Dodge County farmers who participate and benefit from the corporate model of farming. Some are articulate in its defense. For some of these people I have served as their pastor and gone to

many meetings with some of them. They invest much in both dollars and sweat in land and animals. I hope none of them are supporting those who spew garbage, either of words or junk, on a neighbor's property or reputation. As the Apostle says, "You did not so learn Christ."

It has fascinated me that some of these farmers who appear to be so religious can quote Leviticus (18:22) about those who may be different, but they are either willfully ignorant of or purposefully disobedient to the chapters which focus on the treatment of land and animals.

Mrs. Eayrs, continue the good work, planting the seed of hope even on very hard ground (hearts). One day, Lord willing, it will bear the fruit of justice.

Rev. Richard C. Hegal
Retired Pastor
Blooming Prairie

Should ranchers pay attention to plant-based meat?

By TIM KING
The Land Correspondent

MINNEAPOLIS — "Our mission is to completely replace the use of animals as

a food technology by 2035. We're dead serious about it and we believe it's doable. I was confident that we would succeed when I launched this company, and now I'm completely confident. It's game over for the incumbent industry — they just don't know it yet."

That statement was made by Pat Brown in a recent interview at a gathering called The Web Summit. Brown is the founder and CEO of the synthetic meat product called Impossible Foods.

Impossible Foods product line includes two products. One is the well-known Impossible Burger, which is available as a cooked burger at many McDonalds and Starbucks stores; or as synthetic ground beef at chains such as Target and Trader Joes. The other product is a seasoned synthetic sausage product.

Ben Lilliston, the Director of Rural and Climate Strategies at the Institute for Agricultural and Trade Policy in Minneapolis, believes Brown's specific claim may not need to be taken seriously; but beef farmers and their allies should pay attention to the spirit of the comment.

"It's hard to see animal agriculture disappearing by 2035, but changes in the industry are likely to be driven by consumers, farmers interest in regenerative systems, climate change and new technology," he said.

Some of those new technologies will likely include a variety of red meat look-alikes.

"I think this trend is something farmers should pay attention to, at least partially, because there is a lot of money behind the move toward synthetic and plant-based meat — including from the meat industry itself. You have companies like Tyson and Cargill that have invested in the lab-grown Memphis Meats. JBS and Cargill are invested in plant-based meats and Silicon Valley is also very interested in this technology," Lilliston said.

The money from the corporate goliaths is following consumer trends, Lilliston says. He points to a recent survey, conducted by Cargill, which indicates consumers are more and more concerned about the environment and the intersection between climate and food. Although the report shows consumers trust agriculture to be a solution to climate disruption, the meat industries reputation has been tarnished recently.

"The dominant form of animal production, the large-scale CAFO (concentrated animal feeding operation) is associated with water and air pollution and climate concerns — and not just by consumers, but also by rural residents that are not part of the industry," Lilliston said. "From the meatpackers' perspective, the recent labor issues around Covid-19 in meatpacking plants points to another vulnerability in the industry."

The Land asked a group of climate disruption activists in the Twin Cities whether or not they ate Impossible Meats products. A dozen responded and

all but one had eaten them.

"I eat Impossible Burgers," Michelle Shaw, a climate disruption activist from the Twin Cities, said "It's between those and Beyond Meat patties and I just depends on what's on sale that week at Target. What I've been doing as of late is making vegan Juic; Lucys with them, and they're absolutely delicious."

"I've had the impossible burger multiple times. I've eaten it in restaurants, fast food, and cooked it myself at home," said Lisa Chou, a climate disruption activist from the environmental group MN350. "The taste has sometimes been nearly identical to a beef burger in flavor and texture and other times a little different. They've had two formulations over the years, a 1.0 and 2.0 version. The 2.0 definitely was a improvement in texture."

Some we had spoken with told *The Land* they didn't want to consume the genetically modified soy and yeast in the Impossible Meat products.

The Center for Food Safety has sued the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for allegedly not adequately testing the genetically modified components in Impossible Meats products before approving them for consumption.

"This is the first time that people have consumed this product," Jaydee Hansen, the Policy Director for the Center for Food Safety, wrote in the organization's blog. "The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is supposed to require testing in this situation to make sure that this novel protein does not cause allergic reactions in people. Unfortunately, instead requiring Impossible Foods to file a new food additive petition, FDA allowed the company to use a regulatory process called 'Generally Recognized as Safe' (GRAS) where the company does its own research and chooses its own reviewers to self-certify that its product is safe for human consumption."

Impossible Foods is forging ahead, regardless of legal challenges. On April 6 it announced a nationwide advertising campaign for the Impossible Burger. As part of its announcement, the company made it clear it was going to continue its growth at the expense of the livestock industry.

"Following a year of epic growth, Impossible products are now in about 20,000 grocery stores and 30,000 restaurants, with up to 82 percent of sales coming at the direct expense of animal-derived products," Impossible Foods said in its April 6 press release.

Two days later, on April 8, the Reuters news service reported Impossible Foods was planning a \$10 billion initial public stock offering sometime in 2021.

"This would be substantially more than the \$4 billion the company was worth in a private funding round in 2020. It would highlight growing demand for plant-based meat products, driven by environmental and ethical concerns among consumers," Reuters reported.

NATION & WORLD



YUI MOK • PA via Associated Press

BRITAIN: Animal rights protesters blockaded four McDonald's distribution centers in the U.K. on Saturday in an attempt to get the burger chain to commit to becoming fully plant-based by 2025. The group planned to remain at the sites for at least 24 hours, causing "significant disruption" to the McDonald's supply chain. It hoped to affect about 1,300 restaurants.

U.S. lawmakers ask for Biden's aid on pork tariffs

(Bloomberg) — A bipartisan group of U.S. House lawmakers is asking the Biden administration to seek the elimination of Vietnam's tariffs on American pork and address other restrictions.

U.S. pork producers have failed to gain significant access to pork-loving Vietnam that has seen its domestic pig farms devastated by the African swine fever, according to a letter to U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai.

Report Animal Cruelty

What can you do to help stop animal abuse.

Every state has laws prohibiting animal cruelty, and all of them contain felony provisions in some circumstances. However, a law is only as good as its enforcement, and that's why animals rely on you to protect them by reporting animal abuse.

DEFINING CRUELTY

Most reported animal cruelty comes in the form of neglect, with direct violence occurring less frequently. Oftentimes, it can be difficult to gauge whether or not you've witnessed animal cruelty—the following examples may help you categorize suspected cruelty and report it to authorities.

NEGLECT

Neglect, or a failure to provide an animal's basic needs, can be found in every community. Neglect takes the form of a lack of clean food or water, lack of adequate shelter or veterinary care, tethering and abandonment, as well as other forms of abuse.

DIRECT ABUSE

It can be very upsetting to see someone beating or physically attacking an animal, but it's important not to turn away. It's crucial to involve law enforcement quickly so that you can help to save that animal's life, prevent future abuse and to hold abusers accountable. Violence toward animals is often part of a larger pattern of violence that can include people as well.

REPORTING ABUSE

If you witness suspected cruelty to animals, dial 911.

If your area lacks the proper animal welfare agency, and your local authorities are not equipped to deal with animal cruelty cases, you can also email or call the Humane Society of the United States and ask to speak with one of our experts about the suspected abuse.

Be sure to document the case as well as you can, with dates, times, specific details and,

if possible, footage and photographs from a cell phone. All of these things can help appropriate agencies during any investigation they may do of the suspected cruelty.

SEVERE NEGLECT

Severe neglect may take the form of housing more animals than a person is able to adequately take care of. Contact your local animal control agency if you find out about severe neglect cases. Some situations can be more difficult than others to solve.

LACK OF VETERINARY CARE

Untreated wounds are a red flag that demands immediate attention; emaciation, scabs and hair loss can also be signs of untreated diseases. If you can, alert the owner to the animal's condition and alert local authorities of suspected neglect as soon as possible.

INADEQUATE SHELTER

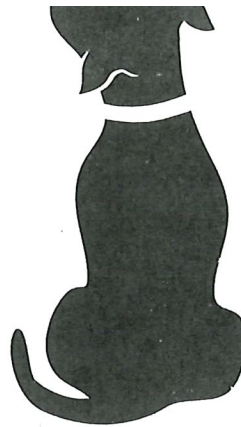
Extreme heat or cold can be deadly. It can seem daunting or unnecessary to report neglect for inadequate sheltering, but conditions can change quickly, causing suffering or even death of the animal. Contact a local animal control agency immediately if you see an animal in inadequate shelter and document the incident with a cell phone camera if possible.

CHAINED DOGS

Dogs who are tethered continuously suffer tremendously, both from social isolation and exposure to predators and the elements.

ABANDONMENT

A startling number of animals die every year when people move out of their residences and simply leave the animals behind.



cat's howling can alert the neighbors, but it's wise to keep an eye on a recently vacated home, especially if the former residents moved suddenly. Companion animals kept in cages or tanks are often overlooked upon a residents' sudden passing, and may suffer neglect as well. If you find or know of abandoned animals, contact your local animal control agency immediately.

PETS LEFT IN CARS

Time is of the essence when reporting pets left in parked cars. Even if the outside temperature seems cool, these animals could be minutes away from death or irreversible organ damage. If you cannot locate the owner immediately, don't be afraid to call local authorities, detailing your location and the make, model and license plate number of the vehicle the animal is inside.

BEATING AND PHYSICAL ABUSE

If you witness direct physical violence to an animal, report the incident immediately to authorities. If you decide to intervene in any way, use your best judgement and do not become physically involved in the situation; remember, even well-intentioned actions could compromise the process of investigation into suspected abuse.

ANIMAL FIGHTING AND ORGANIZED CRUELTY

Organized cruelty, such as dogfighting and cockfighting, is illegal in all 50 states, and is linked to other criminal activities such as human violence, gambling and drug distribution. If you hear about or witness events like these, immediately report them to the local authorities and the Humane Society of the United States. These are just common examples of animal cruelty. Even if a case doesn't fit neatly into these categories, take action if something feels off. In many cases, you may be the only chance an animal has at escaping cruelty or neglect.



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

humanesociety.org

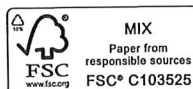


10 Simple Things You Can Do to Help **PROTECT** the Earth!

- 1 Put on a sweater.** Remember, when you turn up the heat in wintertime, your furnace is probably burning fossil fuels. A sweater or a nice warm robe will keep you even warmer and will help conserve resources and reduce climate change.
- 2 Put one foot in front of the other.** One hundred years ago, 99.9% of people got by without cars. They took the train; they lived near their workplaces ... and they walked. Using fuel-efficient cars is important, but we can save even more fuel simply by driving less.
- 3 Go for seconds.** Recycling doesn't mean only separating your cans and bottles. It can mean using things a second (or a third) time. That nice padded envelope you got in the mail, for example? Instead of throwing it away, scratch out the address, tear off the stamps, and use it again.
- 4 Watch your waste.** Items you may be throwing away can contaminate the soil and water for thousands or millions of years. Your community probably has special disposal procedures for things like used oil and batteries. Ink cartridges can probably be recycled where you bought them. And many of the new super-efficient lightbulbs contain mercury, so proper disposal is crucial. Check with the store where you buy them.
- 5 Paper nor plastic.** Bring your bags with you! By taking reusable bags to the grocery store, you can cut down on the 350 bags the average American uses each year and reduce needless deaths of marine life caused by plastic bags that end up in streams, rivers, and oceans.
- 6 BYOB.** Last year Americans went through about 50 billion plastic water bottles. Fill up a reusable water bottle at home and bring it with you. Don't like the taste of your tap water? Buy a filter! (Remember, much of the bottled water sold today is filtered tap water anyway ...)
- 7 Flip 'em off.** In much of America we can't even see the stars anymore, due in part to all the electric lights. Keep the light on in the room you're in, but keep the rest of your house dark. You'll find the dark is soothing.
- 8 Get in touch with your roots. Plant a tree!** Good for the soil, good for the birds, good for reducing climate change — and good for the air you're breathing!
- 9 Get off.** Catalogs are great when they're from companies you like to order from. But if you're getting catalogs from companies you don't buy from, call them and tell them to get you off their list — and that's an order.
- 10 Support WWF. We're working to protect endangered and threatened species and conserve their habitats. Time is running out for many of the animals you love. We must act urgently, and your support is crucial to our efforts.**

World Wildlife Fund

1250 24th Street, NW • Washington, DC 20037
worldwildlife.org



KITCHEN MISC.

Bits and Pieces



*Country
Living*

MORE KITCHEN POTPOURRI

Keep celery crisp by placing a paper towel around the stalk. Then wrap in tin foil. Your celery will last 3 weeks this way.

Keep strawberries fresh for 10 days using this method: In a flat container, lay unwashed strawberries between layers of paper towel, then cover with an airtight lid.

Buy a bundle of green onions and cut the greens down to the white. Place the white end with the roots intact in a flower pot of dirt on your windowsill. They will grow and you can have green onions all year around.

Brenda Martinson, Granville, N.D.

Do you have a hint or tip to share with us?

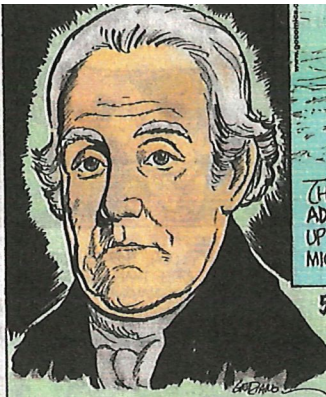
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Write PO Box 1977, Bismarck, ND 58502-1977; e-mail gmantz@farmandranchguide.com

Ripley's Believe It or Not!®

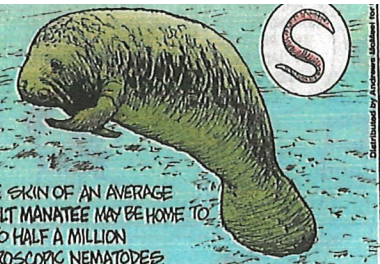


THERE ARE
NO MUSCLES
IN
YOUR FINGERS!



IT TOOK NOAH WEBSTER 27 YEARS TO WRITE
HIS DICTIONARY, DEFINING 70,000 WORDS.

Submitted By Richard Gibson, Lafayette, LA.



THE SKIN OF AN AVERAGE
ADULT MANATEE MAY BE HOME TO
UP TO HALF A MILLION
MICROSCOPIC NEMATODES.

5-30



AN 8-YEAR-OLD
BORDER COLLIE NAMED
LULU WAS NAMED THE
BENEFICIARY OF \$5 MILLION
WHEN HER OWNER,
NASHVILLE BUSINESSMAN
BILL DORRIS, PASSED AWAY
IN DECEMBER 2020.

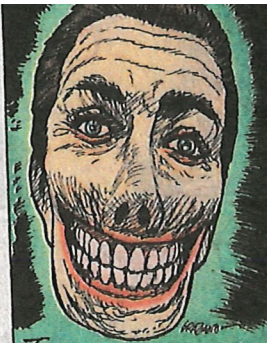
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Illustration by Anonymous Submitter for
www.ripleys.com

Ripley's Believe It or Not!®



THE FIRST QUEEN OF CASTROVILLE, CALIFORNIA'S ANNUAL ARTICHOKE FESTIVAL WAS A YOUNG MARILYN MONROE!



THE HIGHLY POISONOUS HEMLOCK WATER DROPWORT WAS USED IN PRE-ROMAN TIMES TO KILL. ITS TOXINS CAN CAUSE MUSCLES TO CONTRACT, LEAVING AN EERIE GRIN ON THE FACE OF ITS VICTIM.



NEAR-SILENT FLIGHT, BREAKING UP AIR TURBULENCE AND ABSORBING NOISE!

AFRICAN ELEPHANTS ARE EVOLVING TO LOBE THEIR TUSKS, WHICH GIVES THEM A BETTER CHANCE OF SURVIVING POACHERS.



5-23 © 2021 Ripley Entertainment Inc.

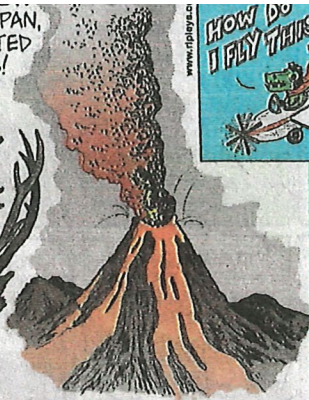
Ripley's Believe It or Not!®

SPOTTED A DEER IN HOKKAIDO, JAPAN,
WITH ANOTHER DEER'S DECAPITATED
HEAD ATTACHED TO ITS ANTLERS!



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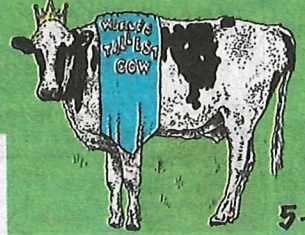
450,000,000 PEOPLE LIVE WITHIN
THE DANGER ZONE OF AN ACTIVE
VOLCANO - ONE IN 10 OF THE
WORLD'S POPULATION!



IN 2010, A CROCODILE
CAUSED A
PLANE TO CRASH!

Distributed by Andrews McMeel for UFI

AT 6 FEET AND 2 INCHES,
BLOSSOM THE COW WAS THE
TALLEST COW TO HAVE EVER LIVED!



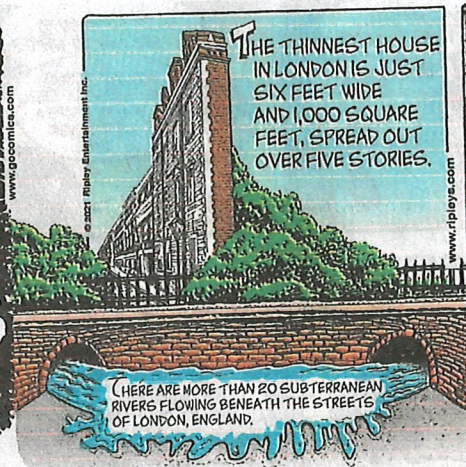
5-16

Ripley's Believe It or Not!®



IN BRITAIN DURING WORLD WAR I, IT WAS ILLEGAL TO BUY SOMEONE ELSE A DRINK IN A PUB.

Distributed by Andrews McMeel for UFS.



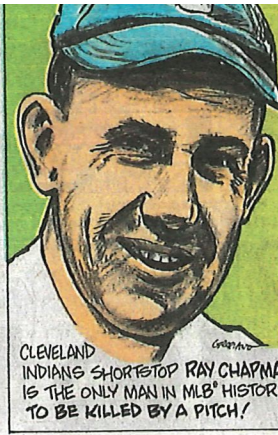
THE THINNEST HOUSE IN LONDON IS JUST SIX FEET WIDE AND 1,000 SQUARE FEET, SPREAD OUT OVER FIVE STORIES.

THERE ARE MORE THAN 20 SUBTERRANEAN RIVERS FLOWING BENEATH THE STREETS OF LONDON, ENGLAND.



TWO SEATS AT THE PALACE THEATRE IN LONDON, ENGLAND, ARE PERMANENTLY LEFT DOWN FOR THE THEATRE GHOSTS TO SIT IN.

Ripley's Believe It or Not!®



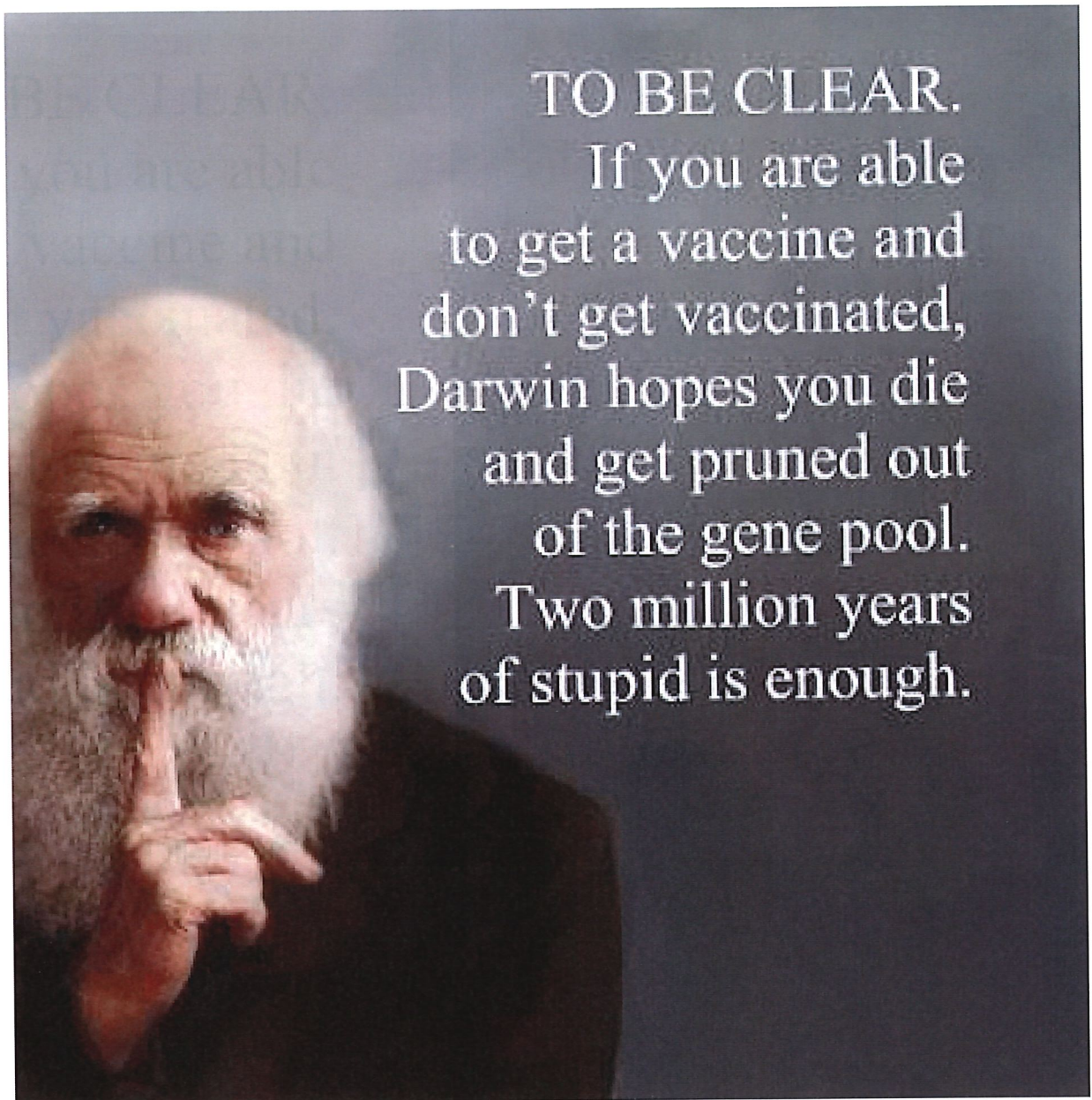
FELINE FRIENDS WORD SEARCH

WORDS

ABYSSINIAN
 AEGEAN
 BALINESE
 BAMBINO
 BIRMAN
 BOBTAIL
 BOMBAY
 BURMESE
 CHARTREUX
 CURL
 DONSKOY
 HAVANA BROWN
 JAVANESE
 KORAT
 LONGHAIR
 MAINE COON
 MAU
 MIST
 OCICAT
 PERSIAN
 REX
 RINGTAIL
 SHORTHAIR
 SPANGLED

Y P J X T A R O K A V B M A T S I M E T
 N W O R B A N A V A H J W M S K R O W U
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 D E X S X T O W O U I M I B N P G E N H
 R C D V R D D T V B R A A O O S C U R L

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.







STETSON