



**CT VOTES
FOR
ANIMALS**

ctvotesforanimals.org

SPEAK UP FOR ANIMALS!

CVA envisions a future where all animals live in peace under the protection of strong laws.

April 2024 Newsletter

Bills Needing Your Support and Opposition are Up For Votes at the State Capitol



With just a few weeks remaining in the 2024 legislative session there's still a lot of work to do. CVA's top priority bill to ban the use of **second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides** (HB 5217), died in the Appropriations Committee, but all hope is not lost. New language has been filed as an amendment to a bill on herbicides (HB 5219) which contains the necessary language addressing rodenticides and needs your active support. Please contact your State Rep. and ask them to **VOTE YES on HB 5219!**

Another CVA priority is blocking passage of a bill permitting the **harvesting of rabbits** for the local food supply (SB 196). This measure, proposed by the State Dept. of Agriculture and passed by the House, would facilitate the slaughter of rabbits for food consumption in the state. The bill is awaiting action in the Senate, so please contact your State Senator to ask them to **VOTE NO on SB 196!**

[Contact lawmakers](#)

We've seen good progress and a few setbacks on several other important bills [described here](#). So far, your voices have made a huge difference. Please keep up the great work!

[Read more](#)

Attend CFA's First Educational Webinar: Preventing Animal Abuse

"How to Identify and Prevent Animal Abuse" is the topic of the first webinar to be presented on **May 23 at 6 p.m.** by CT for Animals Education Fund (CFA), a newly created non-profit 501c3 parallel organization. CFA is working alongside CVA to improve the lives of animals in the state. CFA is committed to promoting the welfare and protection of animals and their environment through education, awareness, community outreach, and engagement.

No topic other than animal cruelty could be more fitting for CFA's first educational program. And no one other than CFA Board Member and animal cruelty expert, Dr. Virginia Maxwell could be better suited to deliver this presentation. A professor and Assistant Chair of Forensic Science at the University of New Haven, Virginia is credited with developing the first graduate [program in animal cruelty](#) investigation at the University. She is also the co-author of one of the first books on [animal cruelty investigation](#). Register for this essential program today.



[Register here](#)



CVA Board President Colette Griffin and U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal.

CVA Voices Support for New Legislation to Strengthen the National Animal Welfare Act

CVA Board President Colette Griffin and Board Member Karen Laski were on hand as U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal introduced a bill called **Goldie's Act** which amends and strengthens the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) and provides solutions and clear authority for U.S. Department of Agriculture inspectors to ensure the safety and wellbeing of animals.

Goldie's Act was named in honor of a golden retriever who endured months of neglect and abuse and ultimately suffered a preventable death at a USDA-licensed puppy mill in Iowa. The proposal mandates that the USDA conduct more meaningful inspections, document all violations and hold more frequent inspections for bad actors. The bipartisan legislation also requires the USDA to increase coordination with law enforcement, enact stronger penalties for violations, and provide vital aid for suffering animals.

[Read more](#)

Longtime Animal Supporter Joins CFA Board

As director of the Animal Welfare Society in New Milford, a no kill animal rescue and adoption shelter and most recently, of Fast Friends, a sight-hound rescue organization in NH, **Cynthia Newby** brings extensive experience in nonprofit leadership and animal welfare to the CFA Board. She has a long history with CVA as a strong advocate and financial supporter.

A textbook author and editor for McGraw-Hill and president of Medical Insurance Text, a college textbook development company, Cynthia is excited about the educational mission of CFA and looks forward to help build and grow the fledgling organization. She is also a master gardener and has served as treasurer and chairwoman of the Roxbury CT Public Library Board in her hometown and as a trustee of Hollister House Garden. Cynthia is a graduate and trustee emerita of Hood College, Frederick, Maryland.



Upcoming Events

Springtime means the start of festival season in CT and our parallel organizations, CVA and CFA, will be staffing booths throughout spring, summer and fall, reaching out to potential new members. The following events are confirmed for May and June. Watch for additional events in our next newsletter. If you're interested in volunteering at one or more, contact info@ctvotesforanimals.org, or just stop by and say "Hi."



Westport Dog Festival

May 19, 2024
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Winslow Park
25 CT-136
Westport, CT



Catherine's Butterfly Party

June 8, 2024
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
3 Primrose St.
Newtown, CT



Vegan Avocado Chocolate Mousse

Is it possible to prepare a rich, dark, creamy dessert in just ten minutes - with just five ingredients? This recipe makes it happen - and it's vegan! Blending a ripe avocado with rich cocoa powder creates a decadent dessert that's not only irresistibly velvety, but the avocado adds heart-healthy good fats and antioxidants. It's a quick, easy, and sweet treat for any occasion.

Remember to share **your** favorite **vegan** recipe at info@ctvotesforanimals.org

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