



# WEST MICHIGAN for ANIMAL ACTIONS

Fall 1996

Issue 5

139 LANGDON NE, GRAND RAPIDS MI 49503-3539 (616) 459-1982

## ANIMALS SUFFER IN ARENA ENTERTAINMENT!

The "Greatest Show on Earth" is coming to Grand Rapids new arena on October 18th, 19th and 20th and no doubt we will see the same problems for circus animals that we observed at this years Shrine Circus. Animals in circuses travel in confined and barren cages or trailers from show to show that last much of the year. We saw how small the cages were for the bears and large cats. Training methods have been documented as cruel, with no regards for the animal's feelings or physical limitations. Elephants are forced to live in semi-trailers or shackled by front and back legs while awaiting performances. During this time at the local Shrine Circus, WMFA videotaped neurotic behavior by two elephants, a constant bobbing and swaying back and forth and straining against their chains, most likely from the stress or boredom that is slowing driving circus animals crazy.

*Pickets are planned before each show:*

**FRIDAY: 7:30 P.M.**  
**SATURDAY: 11:00 A.M.,**  
**3:00 & 7:30 P.M.**  
**SUNDAY:**  
**1:00 & 5:00 P.M.**  
*Call 459-1982 to help!*

There has been dozens of documented cases of elephants going wild at zoos and circuses, many times with people getting injured or killed. The same conditions that will drive a person insane from confinement and torture will also drive an animal to loose control. Life for a circus animal is no adventure.



**Call West Michigan for Animals at 459-1982 for facts about the important November 5th election**

**Proposals: D- Protecting Bears/ G-OK To Hunt Mourning Doves**  
**INFORMATIONAL MEETING**  
**NOV 3rd, 6 P.M.**  
**Institute for Global Ed.,(IGE)**  
**1400-B LAKE DRIVE SE,**  
**at Pizza Hut on Rich. Terr.**  
**at 6 P. M.**

If you object to animals suffering in entertainment, then you should call and complain to the sponsors of the Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey Circus: Please call WLHT, 451-4800, Sears, 285-7700, D & W, 940-3580 or 1-800-642-3728, WZZM-TV, 785-1313. Call 459-1982 for more information.

### RODEO PLANNED FOR NOVEMBER 22nd - 24th.

Animals aren't wild in rodeos, they are made wild with shock prods and flank straps which causes the animals to buck, run and kick. Animals are hurt in rodeos, and when they no longer perform, they are sent to slaughter. Help protest this traveling farce. Pickets are planned before each show and your help is needed to complain to the Arena, Kent Co. Animal Control (336-3209), & sponsors.

When Michigan votes on November 5th in the presidential election, the most important question will be whether "we the people" will decide to end the unethical practices of baiting bears and hunting them with dogs, or will we give up or right to decide how to manage wildlife that the courts have ruled belong to the state (if thats possible) and let special interests (hunters) decide what will happen to the wild animals left in our state. Question D asks if you want to outlaw baiting of bears with food dumped where the bears can be shot and using dogs to chase bears until they are stopped so the hunters can then arrive and shoot the treed bear.

Proposal G would let the appointed DNR make all decisions on all wildlife in the state, including the right to allow the hunting of mourning doves. The hunting of mourning doves has been stopped twice by the voters..

**Information:**  
**459-1982**

**NOVEMBER MEETING: SUNDAY, the 3RD, 7 PM, "TELEPHONE ACTIVISM"**  
**ANNUAL MEETING: SUNDAY, NOV. 17TH, 6 PM, ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS**  
**DECEMBER MEETING: SUNDAY, the 1ST, 6 PM, "PLANNING FOR 1997"**  
**ALL MEETINGS AT IGE, 1400-B LAKE DR SE, AT ROBINSON RD & RICHARD TERR.**