Big Cat Rescue received a call recently regarding five pet servals that were in need of a new home. A couple living in the outskirts of Albany had five servals ranging in age from 12 to 14. The four males and one female cats were living together in a basement that had been converted into a living room. The group had been living in this room their entire lives and aside from the occasional escape had never had the opportunity to be outside. Both of the owners had become ill, one of whom was diagnosed with cancer. To make matters worse their sister had abandoned her 3 children with them and the couple were being foreclosed from their home. Unfortunately these five servals became the victims of the complications their owners were facing. The couple contracted with Big Cat Rescue to never again own an exotic cat.

Big Cat Rescuers packed up the big cat van with 5 large crates, food to entice the felines into the crates, and a variety of other tools and supplies one needs for a rescue mission and hit the road to make the 22 hour trip to pick up the servals. On the rescue mission were President Jamie Veronica, Operations Manager Gale Ingham, and Operations Assistant Jennifer Flatt. The trio drove straight through to New York, spent the night in a hotel, and then made their way to the home where the servals were located the next morning. Continued on page 2.
The servals were not enthusiastic about their territory being invaded by three strangers so the owners lent a hand in getting the cats to load into the carriers. Zoul, the oldest male, was intrigued by the carrier and went right in on his own. Santino, a one eared male, followed in Zoul’s footsteps and also went right into a carrier. Zouletta, the female, and Zimba, another male, were coaxed into two carriers by their owners. The last of the five, a male named Doodles, was not so easily tricked. After unsuccessful attempts with food to lure him into the carrier, Big Cat Rescuers netted him and then got him loaded. All in all, the entire process went quite smoothly considering that there were five people and five servals in a tiny room about 300 square feet in size.

After a tearful goodbye between the owners and the five crated servals, Big Cat Rescuers loaded up the van once again and began their journey back to Tampa. Miraculously, they were able to avoid all of the terrible weather that had swept through the east coast, including the devastating tornadoes that tore through the eastern United States. Zoul, Santino, Zouletta, Zimba, and Doodles have settled right into their new home at Big Cat Rescue. Their 3,000 square foot enclosure encompasses several trees and numerous palmetto bushes. They have large grassy areas, several den sites, a rock cave, several platforms to perch on, wading pools, toys and more. The group has adapted well to living outdoors and really seem to be enjoy themselves.

The servals are also benefiting from a healthier diet. Their previous diet consisted of a canned cat food used by some zoos and the occasional chicken leg. All five cats are very obese most likely as a result of this diet in combination with not getting enough exercise in their tiny indoor quarters. Their weights range from 31 - 42 lbs. When they should actually be 20-30 lbs. They have all seemed to really like their new diet, which consists of a variety of nutritionally balanced foods. With the wide open space now available to them they should begin shedding their extra pounds in no time.

These five servals are truly lucky in that they were able to be placed in a sanctuary together and not split up to different facilities. It is only because of our generous supporters that this rescue was possible. So from Zoul, Santino, Zouletta, Zimba, and Doodles...Thank you!
The Jersey Boys Tour
Big Cat Rescue
On Tuesday, April 12th, 2011, the touring company of the Broadway play Jersey Boys that was in town performing at the Straz Center for the Performing Arts visited Big Cat Rescue, the world’s largest accredited sanctuary dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of exotic cats.

Jersey Boys is a Grammy/Tony award-winning musical about Rock and Roll Hall of Famers The Four Seasons: Frankie Valli, Bob Gaudio, Tommy DeVito and Nick Massi. The cast and production company of Jersey Boys have a long-standing reputation for supporting non-profit organizations around the world.

So in a perfect confluence of themes, the touring company visited Big Cat Rescue in support of the 100+ magnificent animals that call the sanctuary home.

“We were very excited in having had the opportunity to partner together with the cast and crew of Jersey Boys” said Jeff Kremer, Director of Donor Appreciation with the nonprofit sanctuary. “It was truly inspiring to spend time with this group of talented and like-minded individuals that share in the sanctuary’s vision of seeking to make a positive difference in both the animal as well as human world that we share.”

Hell’s Kitchen Chef Serves Steak Tartare to the Tigers!

On Thursday, April 14th Chef Robert Hesse from the FOX TV hit Hell’s Kitchen visited Big Cat Rescue. Chef Hesse is one of the most popular contestants from the Hell’s Kitchen series, and has used his notoriety to help the less fortunate.

“I got into a lot of trouble as a kid, having little guidance I found myself on the wrong side of life, somewhere I didn’t want to be.” Hesse states and adds “I want to give back to organizations that help steer children in the right path.”

Chef Hesse continues to support the Eckerd Youth Alternatives, the largest children’s charity in the Tampa Bay area. So in a perfect convergence of like-minded goodwill, Chef Hesse and his family visited Big Cat Rescue in support of the 100+ magnificent animals that call the sanctuary home.

“It was a privilege to meet Chef Hesse and introduce him and his family to the cats. It was inspiring to hear of Chef Hesse’s continuing commitment towards helping those in need, both in the human as well as animal world that we share.” said Jeff Kremer, Director of Donor Appreciation.

Big Cats Seeing STARS

The STARS from Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center in Kissimmee celebrated Administrative Professionals Day with the cats! A group of 30 employees attended a Private Keeper Tour in which they made toys and treats for the cats (known as enrichment) and watched as a keeper handed out what they had made. They also observed a training session between the cats and a keeper (known as operant conditioning). The generous contribution made by the Gaylord Palms for this specialty tour plays a significant role is allowing us to provide the highest level of care for these magnificent animals that call Big Cat Rescue home. A special thanks to Cathy Sheehan-Lee from the Gaylord Palms for spearheading the whole thing! It was a pleasure to host the STARS and introduce them all to our wonderful cats!

COOL CATS FOR SUMMER

Big Cat Rescue Summer Camp is almost here with our first session beginning on June 20th. Kids ages 8-15 and young adults 16-18 can join in for one wild time at Big Cat Rescue this summer!

This unique opportunity comes around just once a year for children to enjoy behind the scenes activities, having fun and learning at the same time. Young adults considering careers in biology, conservation or animal care have a chance to experience a working sanctuary and test the water for their future pathways at our Young Adult Expedition.

Our counselors and Education Department have been hard at work brainstorming and planning to make this the best Big Cat Camp season ever! So many of our prior campers are returning for another season and it will be wonderful for the staff and our cats to see everyone again.

Several weeks are almost full already so don’t miss out! Registration is not available on our website yet so contact Beth Kamhi or Willow Hecht at: education@bigcatrescue.org or 813-323-3265
This rare opportunity afforded Big Cat Rescuers the chance to examine a sand cat thoroughly for the first time. Canyon weighed in at 6.6 pounds. His coat was surprisingly dense, designed to keep him warm in the cold night time temperatures of the desert. His large ears set low on his head serve a three-fold purpose. Their placement helps the sand cat to keep a low profile on a barren terrain and protects ears from wind blown sand. Their large size help keep him cool in the heat. Blood circulates close to the ears' surface and dispels body heat. The most interesting part was to see first hand the dense coarse fur that completely covers the bottom of the sand cat’s feet. This fur protects the feet from the extreme hot and cold temperatures of the desert. It also spreads the cat’s weight, so the it can walk more easily over shifting sand.

Be sure and mark your calendar for Friday, June 3rd and support Big Cat Rescue in our quest for a new Toyota Tacoma Pickup. If the sanctuary receives the most votes and is awarded the vehicle, it would in-part be used to tow the sanctuary’s rescue trailer. The Toyota Tacoma would serve as the primary means of transporting staff to the rescue sites, along with the necessary equipment associated with each rescue.

Vote for Big Cat Rescue on June 3rd at www.facebook.com/toyota

LAWSUIT UPDATE

As reported in our last issue, we are suing one of the most notorious exhibitors of big cats. He breeds tiger cubs and then carts them around to malls in a semi trailer to make money charging people to pet them. You can read about him and see video of the exhibit at www.TigerCubAbuse.com.

Late last year he started using the name Big Cat Rescue Entertainment, stole the bottom half of our logo, used an image like the snow leopard eyes that we have used as our website header, used a phone number with our 813 area code and the words Florida Office on print material to create confusion with Big Cat Rescue. We have sued for violation of our intellectual property rights. The legal process takes time, so at this point all we can report is that we have received the responses from the defendants and are in the process of requesting documents and discovery.

Separate from the lawsuit, as part of our advocacy on behalf of the cubs, we have been contacting malls that have allowed this abusive display and are educating them about why this should not be permitted. To date, ten malls who previously allowed the display have committed not to do so in the future.

Thank you for helping stop the abuse of these innocent cubs.

SAND CAT GETS A TRIM

Eagle eyed keepers noticed that one of Canyon’s claws had curled back into his toe pad. Despite climbing trees and scratching on logs, the claw sheath had not shed and was now causing the tiny sand cat discomfort.

He was brought into the onsite cat hospital and sedated so the claw could be trimmed.

Lucky for him the claw had just barely pierced his pad and there was no infection detected. The claw was trimmed and then his foot cleaned with antiseptic.
MEAT COST UP
$134,000 THIS YEAR!

Since 2005 we have been buying the absolute best food for the cats. This product from Natural Balance is made of all beef (no horse meat), no fillers, and has a specially designed vitamin and nutrient formula thoroughly mixed in. When we started in 2005 the cost was $1/lb plus shipping (about 15 cents additional). There is no product on the market that comes close.

We also feed beef and chicken parts because the cats like the consistency of chewing them. The beef parts that cost 75 cents/lb in 2005 rose over the years to $2.20/lb now. But, despite the rise in meat prices, Natural Balance held their price at $1/lb for us even though they were losing money. They recently advised us they could no longer do this and had to raise their prices to a level that would allow them to show a profit. The result was a stunning 300% increase to $3.10/lb.

We buy 64,000 pounds each year. This will result in an unbudgeted increase in our costs this year of a whopping $134,400! So, the $12/day it used to cost to feed a tiger is now $33.

Please help us cover this huge cost increase by donating to feed a tiger for as many days as your budget allows. To donate, visit www.razoo.com/Feedtigers. Each day of food donated helps. Thank you for putting food on our cats’ plates!

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<th>SAD FAREWELL TO FIVE GREAT CATS</th>
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<td>By Jamie Veronica</td>
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Big Cat Rescue was founded 18 years ago and 79 of our 100+ sanctuary residents are now over the age of 15 (90+ in cat years). It is with great sadness that we must say goodbye to these wonderful felines. The decision to euthanize a cat does not come easy, however, as in the case of these cats, it was the most humane action that could be taken.

**FREDDY**

Freddy the cougar arrived at Big Cat Rescue with Sassyfras, another cougar. In the mid 90’s Freddy’s previous owners began a small operation in Illinois with a couple of cougars and a lion with the intention of breeding exotic cats. The more they saw of the exotic animal trade the more they disliked it and decided not to breed the cats after all. They kept the cats they had on their farm in small chain link enclosures with rubber mat floors. In a tragic turn of events in 2004 the husband was mauled and killed by their pet lion that had escaped. The lion was shot and killed by police. Six years later the wife took her own life leaving Freddy and Sassy, their last remaining cats, homeless. The pair were rescued in November of 2010. Freddy truly cherished each and every day at Big Cat Rescue. He lounged blissfully in his soft grass, played like a kitten in the pool, perched atop his rock den, and ate like a champ. All this came to an abrupt end when he suddenly began acting unusually lethargic and was increasingly uninterested in food. His health spiraled downward and he did not respond to antibiotics. Freddy refused to eat all together and was so weak, along with his advanced age, that he would not have survived any kind of sedation for diagnostics or exploratory surgery. A necropsy found that he had a cancerous tumor within his intestines.

**PEACHES**

Peaches the serval arrived at Big Cat Rescue in June of 1997. Serval, indigenous to Africa, are capable of leaping ten feet into the air to catch a bird in flight. Peaches spent her young life confined to a small, concrete-and-steel dog run where she produced litters of kittens to meet the growing demand for exotic pets. When her owner had no use for her any more, she was fortunate to end up at Big Cat Rescue. Her first day in her new 1,200 square foot Cat-a-tat was enough to bring tears to the most jaded eyes as she embraced with wonder and such enthusiasm the ability to leap through the brush chasing after insects. Peaches was very petite and was one of the cutest servals at the sanctuary. Over the past several months Peaches had suffered from numerous seizures. The last of which occurred on April 8, 2011. She did not recover from that seizure and remained in a comatose state.

**KATMANDU**

Katmandu the Siberian lynx was rescued from a fur farm in September of 1993. He was neutered in 1998 and then lived out his days with a female lynx named Kanawha. Katmandu had an abscessed tooth, which could be fixed, but had a torn ligament in his knee (old injury that had since become arthritic) that could only be repaired with extensive surgery and weeks of recovering in a cage in the cat hospital, assuming his 19 year old bones could heal at all. He also had severe arthritis in both elbows. He had his blood drawn and lab results showed that he was also in renal failure. All of his conditions and age combined resulted in the decision to let him go while he was still sleeping.

**CLOE**

Cloe came to Big Cat Rescue in June of 1997. She had been zoo surplus in the Species Survival Plan program, meaning that there were already too many from her bloodline in the gene pool. More than one year ago the first documented Lithotripsy procedure on a snow leopard was performed on Cloe. She had a kidney infection and stones. The procedure was a success and after months of antibiotics Cloe was doing very well. Sadly, a year later she became ill once more. She was sedated for diagnostics which revealed she had a urinary tract infection and her kidney disease had worsened. After a week of treatment Cloe showed no signs of improving.

**BOBBY BLUE ROSE**

Bobby Blue Rose came to Big Cat Rescue with the original group of 56 kittens who were rescued from a fur farm in May of 1993. She loved enrichment time and would quickly destroy a cardboard tube stuffed with treats. Most of our bobcats were rescues from fur farms. The deal our Co-Founder made with the three fur farms we discovered in the U.S. was that he would pay top dollar for every cat and kitten they had as long as the fur farmer would agree to never buy and breed cats again for slaughter. It came at a time when there was public outcry against the fur industry. Many of these animals were purchased at auctions, where the uncaring owners were dumping the cats with no concern about their welfare. Paying what amounted to ransom to save these cats from being slaughtered was a difficult decision. We stopped doing so many years ago and now require that their owner surrender their license in order to keep people from just trading in their cats each year for a newer, cuter model. At 19 years old, after discovering that Bobby was suffering from an incurable disease, we helped her pass peacefully. She was special to so many and we will never forget her nor her spirit.
THE BIG CAT TRADING POST - GIFT GUIDE

Gifts that keep on giving. By purchasing the gifts on these pages not only will you be giving a truly unique gift, but the proceeds help us care for all of the big cats living at Big Cat Rescue. Order these gift items using the order form on page 10. S & H within the United States as well as tax has already been included in the price. You can also upgrade your shipping to Priority for just $3 for your entire order. For luxury cat themed gift items visit BigCatLuxeGifts.com

Shere Khan Shot Glass $7.82
Animal Print Logo Thermos $13.70
Extra Large Eco-Grocery Bag with Big Cat Rescue Recycle Logo on Front 13" Wide by 10" Deep by 15" Tall Black with White Logo $13.70

Golf Club Cover $25.47
BCR Golf Ball $6.28

Big Cat Rescue Magnets Choose Snow Leopard, Lioness, Bobcat, Tiger, Black Leopard, Serval, Logo, or Ocelot $3.14 each

Wild Neck Pillow
Choose Leopard or Tiger $13.70

Big Cat Rescue Bumper Sticker $5.21
BCR Oval Sticker $4.21
Photo Collage License Plate Frame $7.35
Big Cat Rescue Ribbon Magnet $8.35

Logo Frisbee, Black, Green, Blue, Yellow, or Red $5.21 each

Logo Plush Purse with Stuffed Toy - Black Purse with Tiger or Pink Purse with Black Leopard $14.84 each

Carabiner Key Ring Choose Gold, Black, Blue or Purple $5.21 each

Leopard Print Clicky Pen. Get a new message scrolled across pen with each click. $4.00

Photo Luggage Tags Choose Bobcat, Tiger, Sand Cat, Cougars, Snow Leopard, Lion, Cougar, or White Tiger $4.50 each

Toy Veterinarian Kit
Kit includes: Stethoscope, syringe, Band-Aids, tongs, medicine bottle, blood pressure pump, and other toy medical items! $10.56

Magnetic Clingers Cougar, Lion, Lynx, or Tiger $8.42

Themed Monopoly Board Game $28.54

Big Cat Rescue Enamel Big Cat Bookmarks Choose Tiger, Lion, or Black Leopard $4.21

12" Lion Sitting $26.54
12" Tiger $24.40

Logo Print
Clicky Pen. Get a new message scrolled across pen with each click. $4.00

Photo Collage License Plate Frame $7.35
Big Cat Rescue Ribbon Magnet $8.35

Big Cat Rescue Vanity Plates Choose Saber - Black Leopard, Hal - Cougar, Cloe - Snow Leopard, Joseph - Lion, Shere Khan - Tiger, Freckles - Liger, Windstar - Bobcat, Gene - Sand Cat, Simba - Leopard, or China Doll - Tigress (not shown) $10.56 each

BCR Stainless Steel Water Bottle $16.91

Logo Plush Purse with Stuffed Toy - Black Purse with Tiger or Pink Purse with Black Leopard $14.84 each

Big Cat Photo Enamel Big Cat Bookmarks Choose Tiger, Lion, or Black Leopard $4.21

Tiger Flip Book - As You Flip the Pages Get a 3 Dimensional Look Inside a Bengal Tiger $21.80

7" Aurora Babies Choose Nemara the Leopard, Leo the Lioness, Terrance the Tiger, or Lil Lehi the Bobcat $9.49 each

12" Tiger Shoe Laces $9.49

Magnetic Clingers Cougar, Lion, Lynx, or Tiger $8.42

8" Aurora Babies Choose Nemara the Leopard, Leo the Lioness, Terrance the Tiger, or Lil Lehi the Bobcat $9.49 each

Logo Sunglasses Case Choose Red, Yellow, Lime, or Orange $9.49

Big Cat Rescue Tiger Shoe Laces $9.49

BCR Logo Sunglasses Case Choose Red, Yellow, Lime, or Orange $9.49

Big Cat Photo Wrap Mug $13.70

White BCR Photo Wrap Mug $13.70

Extra Large Eco-Grocery Bag with Big Cat Rescue Recycle Logo on Front 13" Wide by 10" Deep by 15" Tall Black with White Logo $13.70

Big Cat Rescue Enamel Big Cat Bookmarks Choose Tiger, Lion, or Black Leopard $4.21

12" Lion Sitting $26.54
12" Tiger $24.40

Logo Print
Clicky Pen. Get a new message scrolled across pen with each click. $4.00

Photo Luggage Tags Choose Bobcat, Tiger, Sand Cat, Cougars, Snow Leopard, Lion, Cougar, or White Tiger $4.50 each

Logo Plush Purse with Stuffed Toy - Black Purse with Tiger or Pink Purse with Black Leopard $14.84 each

Carabiner Key Ring Choose Gold, Black, Blue or Purple $5.21 each

Leopard Print Clicky Pen. Get a new message scrolled across pen with each click. $4.00
On May 8, Wayne Pacelle and his fiancée, TV journalist Lisa Fletcher, stopped by Big Cat Rescue as they were on the book signing circuit for his new book called *The Bond*, which has made the New York Times Best Seller List. At the age of 23 Wayne Pacelle was appointed as the Executive Director of The Fund for Animals and joined the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) in 1994. Mike Markarian, previously of The Fund for Animals and now the president of the Humane Society Legislative Fund, had visited a while back and upon his recommendation several of the executives of HSUS’s five sanctuaries have visited. Mike had urged Wayne to visit at his next opportunity.

Throughout the tour Wayne kept exclaiming what wonderful work we were doing here and took the time to personally greet staff and volunteers along the path thanking them for their dedication. I have visited HSUS’s D.C. and Gaitersburg offices and have visited their sanctuaries in CA and TX and have been pleased to see the level of commitment in their staff and the way they are all working together to “Celebrate Animals and Confront Cruelty.”

Wayne Pacelle has played a role in the passage of more than 15 federal statutes to protect animals, including laws to ban the sale of videos depicting animal cruelty (1999), protect great apes in their native habitats (2000), halt interstate transport of fighting animals (2002), halt commerce in big cats for the pet trade (2003), and require government agencies to include pets in disaster planning (2006). Through his leadership HSUS has been involved in 26 successful statewide ballot measure initiatives to protect animals, including measures to prohibit cockfighting, prohibit mourning dove hunting, restrict steel traps and certain poisons, and ban inhumane factory farming methods. He has also been instrumental in the passage of numerous state laws dealing with animal protection.

Pacelle is a cofounder of the Humane Society Legislative Fund (HSLF), a 501(c)(4) social welfare organization that lobbies for animal welfare legislation and works to elect humane-minded candidates to public office. He also cofounded Humane USA, a strictly nonpartisan political action committee (PAC) that supports candidates of any political party based on their support for animal protection. I serve on the board of Humane USA with Mike and Wayne and am always looking for those who get the big picture and understand that the only way to end the abuse of big cats is through legislation. Decent people don’t enable animal abuse, so even though our focus is on humane legislation, everyone benefits if our government is run by decent people...but I digress.

It was wonderful to be able to introduce our beautiful sanctuary and even more beautiful people to these two men that I hold in such high esteem. Wayne’s visit followed another such opportunity that we had to share our refuge, training materials and our awesome support crew on May 2nd and 3rd.

After Patty Finch, the Director of the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, had done a site visit for our accreditation, she came away with a different point of view and wanted to share her experience with other sanctuaries.

I shared how we use google Apps, how we manage how to get the most out of a tabling event, Patty Finch taught grant writing, teaching your board how to be helpful and how to avoid “founder’s syndrome” and I shared how we use google Apps, how we manage over 100 top notch volunteers, and why it is important to have a plan and stick to it.

I really enjoyed meeting the key people from so many of the world’s best sanctuaries and believe that this workshop was just the beginning of all the great work we can do together to help all kinds of animals. A collaborative group has already been set up online where we can share ideas.

All of these people, from those leading multimillion dollar animal rescue organizations to those advocating for animal friendly lawmakers to those who are leading world class sanctuaries and those who are building strong coalitions of animal sanctuaries, are celebrities in their own right. There is even more celebrity news in the works so be sure to stay in touch with us so that you will be the first to know. Be sure to join us at BigCatRescue.org
$11,950 Sole Marittimi
$10,000 Arlene Hoffer
$3,500 Aaron Link
$2,000 Community Foundation of Greater Sun City Center “William & Dorothy Bruse Fund”
$2,000 Christine Newson
$2,000 Robert & Joann Tod
$1,108 Aveda Store
$1,000 Emerson Charitable Trust
$1,000 Lynn Russell Advised Fund at Aspen Community Foundation
$1,000 Andrew & Julia Menard
$1,000 E. Alvin Rodewalt
$1,000 James S ligne
$1,000 Mary Wolfe
$900 Mansion House Hotel
$750 Vincent & Cathy Pavese
$752 Whiskey Joe’s Bar & Grill
$650 Sheila Campbell
$600 Howbility
$600 Amanda & Concetta Pontarella
$565 Caleb Carr
$525 Joanna Eastman/Gautreau
$500 Farah Akbar
$500 Theresa Cooper
$500 Marianne Cufone
$500 Brian Dierselhorst
$500 Janice Hecket
$500 Charlette & Kathy Jacoby
$500 Claire Moores
$500 Kimberly Pope
$500 Darren Prager
$500 Georgia Robinson
$500 Edward & Royce Roeder
$500 Neil Smith
$500 Becky Tomlyn-Litten
$455 Rocky & Shelly Barbanica
$405 Sweet Avenue Bake Shop
$400 Joyce Emrick
$400 Diane Freeman
$400 Nancy Montague
$400 Larry Moore
$354 Vicki & James Pruitt
$350 Kirk & Alileen Davis
$300 Annarosa Berman
$300 Christina Bond
$300 Stacie Carpenter
$300 Diana Wise Compton

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$105 Berry Beth Gilbert
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$100 The Radiant Peace Foundation International Inc.
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$100 Kelly Abrams
$100 Arnold Alexander
$100 Christine Andrade
$100 Theodor Andreetta
$100 Penny Arnett
$100 Robert Bacon
$100 Kimberly Amell
$100 Jordan & Jo Anne Borek
$100 Matthew Borland
$100 Allen Brewood
$100 Danny Britt
$100 Elliot & Helene Brody
$100 Gayle Brown
$100 Judy Brown
$100 Jacob Callery
$100 Madeleine Carter
$100 Jennifer Castaldo
$100 Nona Caukins
$100 Cammie Chatterton
$100 Dena Clark
$100 Edward & Carol Collins
$100 Melissa Connell
$100 J. Russell Crosswy
$100 Carl Crowley
$100 Jessica Dean
$100 Susan Dippel Forster
$100 Elizabeth Dodd
$100 James Dossing
$100 Paul & Jo Laine Draugalis
$100 Stephanie Dunne
$100 William Evans
$100 Virginia Schnekenburger
$100 Sherry & Brett Fariss
$100 Carolyn Filippone
$100 Robin Finch
$100 Karen French
$100 Cathy Gaggus
$100 Catherine & Stephen Gardner
$100 Teri Golecki
$100 Mark Gloor
$100 Douglas Graham
$100 Zeki Gunay
$100 Darla Haines
$100 Catherine Hamel
$100 Richard & Frances
$100 Hamilton
$100 Hollace & Gordon Hannan
$100 Betty Hay
$100 Meaghan Hendricks
$100 Mary Hooker
$100 F. Scott Humphrey
$100 Lisa Iowite
$100 John Johnson
$100 Beth Kamhi
$100 Robert & Beatrice Kastenbaum
$100 Gerald Kelly
$100 Karma Kelsey
$100 Michelle Kennedy
$100 Al Marcella & Roy Ketcham
$100 Des & Pam Killen
$100 William Konopaskie
$100 Debra Krotch
$100 Tanya Kutik
$100 Nancy & John Leclerc
$100 Carole Lennes
$100 Ronald Lindsay
$100 Ashley Loehn
$100 Kimberly & Larry Loughlin
$100 Robert Lundquist
$100 Meredith MacCrennan
$100 Dolores & Jack Maister
$100 Toby Malina
$100 Connie Mallette
$100 Michele Manos
$100 Carole Marinel
$100 Richard & Linda Mineer
$100 Susan Monaghan
$100 Linda Moody
$100 Laura Moreno
$100 Sheila & Brent Morgan
$100 Lisa Nangus
$100 Cheryl Niven
$100 Lynn O’Donnell
$100 Michelle Orenick
$100 Norm And Joan Oyen
$100 Linda Paulen
$100 Susanne Perla
$100 Pam & David Perrier
$100 Gayle Peter
$100 Alberta Pizzolato
$100 Jillian Prescod
$100 Anna Price
$100 Suzana Psenick
$100 Jennifer Rafferty
$100 Michel Hee Key
$100 Mark Reed
$100 Nancy Rejewski
$100 David Robinson
$100 Deborah Robinson
$100 Theima Rodriguez
$100 Michael Ross
$100 Michael Rubin
$100 Cecilla Rund
$100 Marilyn L. Salazar
$100 Mary Saltzman
$100 Diane Sawyer
$100 Pat Schachter
$100 Judith Scher
$100 Jean Schraudner
$100 Dean & Karen Schrader
$100 Mariska Schuster
$100 William Seals
$100 Robert & Chin Sekac
$100 Carolyn Self
$100 Alexia Sherman
$100 Joel Silver
$100 Amanda Simmons
$100 Elaine Slocum
$100 Braden Smith
$100 Wendy Smith
$100 Jody Sorensen
$100 Douglas Stevens
$100 Lynne Stimits
$100 Anne Thalassinos
$100 Arthur Tharp
$100 Linard Thoeny
$100 Francy & Cynthia Touchton
$100 Carol Treskos
$100 Michael Tunnel
$100 Patricia Vanderwolf
$100 Sughosh Venkatesh
$100 Beverly Walling
$100 Judi Walters
$100 Heather Weber
$100 Mary Wells
$100 Nickie Whittaker
$100 Ron & Susan Williams
$100 Harry & Ellen Yospin
$100 Jeanette Zacharow
$100 Askold Zagar
$100 Merritt Zahnier
## PAVE THE WAY

Honor someone special with an engraved brick on the path leading from the gift shop into the sanctuary. 2 sizes: 4×8 for $100 and 8×8 for $200. What a great way to support the cats and create a memory for yourself or someone else. Order at right or online:

http://tiny.cc/k8ey0

## THE BIG CAT TIMES ORDER FORM SUMMER 2011

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORDER DATE:</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>Size</th>
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Yes! I would like to make a donation $ 

**SPONSOR A PAVE THE WAY BRICK**  
4×8 $100.00  
8×8 $200.00

**SPONSOR PERIMETER WALL**  
1 Foot $100.00

### BILLING ADDRESS

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### RECIPIENT ADDRESS (Different than Billing)

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**NOTE:** Fill out blue shaded box at bottom of form

- Please match my donation with the Modgil Match Offer
- Yes, I would like to make a donation $ 

- I want to join the automatic giving program, charge my card each month $ 

- Yes, I would like a receipt for tax purposes

### METHOD OF PAYMENT

- Check
- Money Order
- Visa
- MasterCard
- American Express
- Discover

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* This is a gift, please make card TO:

* Brief message to say:

### AUTOMATIC GIVING PROGRAM - JOIN THE SUSTAINING DONOR SOCIETY

Big Cat Rescue makes it easy and convenient to donate monthly with no worry. You can do this either by credit card or by direct debit to a checking account for as little as $5/month. For credit card donations, just fill in the highlighted line on the order form above and provide your credit card information. For checking account direct debit email finance@bigcatrescue.org, or leave a message for Howard at 813-426-4130. This is a G-R-R-eat way to spread out your donations and provide steady support that is so meaningful for the cats.

Big Cat Rescue is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. FEID 59-3330495. Our Florida registration number is CH-11409. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING 1-800-HELP-FLA TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. Big Cat Rescue does not utilize the services of professional solicitors so 100% of all contributions go directly to Big Cat Rescue Corp.

### BIG CAT RESCUE TOUR TIMES

#### KIDS TOUR

Tour Times: Saturday & Sunday 9 AM  
Children of all ages and their parents can learn about the big cats on this guided tour of the sanctuary. This tour is given on a child’s educational level. Reservations not required. Tour is 1 hr. Children must be accompanied by an adult. **Admission:** $19 per child under 10 years $29 per child 10 years & older and per adult.

#### DAY TOUR

Tour Times: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 3 PM  
Sat & Sun 10 AM & 1 PM  
Guided tour of the sanctuary. Learn about the big cats and the threats they face both in the wild as well as in captivity. Hear their personal stories of how they were rescued. Tour is 1.5 hrs. No children under 10 years of age. Reservations are not required. **Admission:** $29 per person.

#### FEEDING TOUR

Tour Times: Wed, Fri, Sat 4:30 PM  
(Reservations Required)  
Follow a keeper as they feed the big cats. Observe the big cats eating and learn about their nutritional needs in captivity. Tour is 1 hr. No children under 10 years of age. For reservations 813-426-5948. **Admission:** $55 per person.

#### BIG CAT KEEPER TOUR

Tour Times: Fri & Sat 2 PM  
(Reservations Required)  
This tour takes you behind the scenes. Enjoy making enrichment (treats and food puzzles) for the big cats and watch as the keepers hand out the enrichment you made. You will also observe operant training sessions with the big cats. Tour is 2 hrs. No children under 10 years of age. For reservations 813-426-5948. **Admission:** $110 per person.

#### WILD EYES AT NIGHT TOUR

Tour Times: Last Friday of the month  
(Reservations Required)  
Night Tours are the best way to see the animals come alive! As you journey through the sanctuary you will be stalked and pounced at from the shadows! No worries though, all the animals will be safely in their enclosures. This is an adventure that’s sure to please! Tour is 1.5 hrs. No children under 10 years of age. For reservations 813-426-5948. **Admission:** $55 per person.

Also offered - **WEDDINGS, PARTIES, VOLUNTEER & INTERNS PROGRAMS AND GIFT CERTIFICATES** are available for all of our programs and make the perfect gift for that person who has everything!

Prices and availability for all tours are subject to change.
WALL PROJECT 2/3 COMPLETE!

By the time this issue is delivered we should have (fingers crossed) completed two thirds of our perimeter wall. As this article is being written Malcolm LeBlanc (white shirt and glasses in photo below) and his crew from Rhino Wall Systems are completing the 2200 feet of wall along the north border of the sanctuary. It was from this area that teenagers shot paintballs through the chain link at our leopards a few years ago.

The section we are working on next is the southwest section of about 1200 feet around the new ten acres. This will complete our western border joining two sections we built in 2008 and 2010. We had to apply for a variance to allow the 8 foot wall around the new 10 acres. The variance hearing was held in late April and we hope to have received approval and have completed this section, or at least be under construction, when you read this.

The Rhino Wall technology is particularly suited to our terrain. The wall is replacing chain link fence that has cat enclosures on one side and, in many areas, trees or dense foliage on the other. We cannot get a crane to these areas. The Rhino panels are made of dense foam clad in aluminum on both sides. The result is a very strong, but very light weight, panel that one man can lift. The aluminum H posts are set in concrete three feet in the ground. The panels are then slid between the posts and screwed in creating a wall rated to resist hurricane winds up to 130 mph.

Malcolm came up with a very clever way to decorate the portion of wall along our Easy Street entrance that visitors see as they drive in. He hand crafted a roller that makes a leaf print. We painted the wall dark green, then he rolled it with the leaf print roller to create a wall that looks like it has vines growing up it. For more about Rhino Wall visit http://www.rhinowallsystems.com/.

The fourth photo here is a section of wall we erected in our tour waiting area. This is where the names of all the donors to the wall will be permanently on display. The sign for those who donated through the end of 2010 and another for to date should be up by the time you read this, with room to add future donors who will be hand written in as they donate, then printed at the end of 2011.

The total perimeter is 7,200 feet. After the sections discussed above, we have about 2300 feet to go. If you would like to help, you can donate as many feet as fits your budget at $100/foot using the order form in this issue or online at http://bigcatrescue.org/wall Thanks for helping us protect the cats with this critical project!

TOUR PRICES RAISED TO OFFSET SOARING MEAT PRICES

Big Cat Rescue's tour prices have not changed in four years. During that time, the Consumer Price Index has risen about 9%. However, some of our costs have risen far faster, particularly the cost of meat for the cats.

While it is natural to raise prices over time to cover inflation, we have hesitated to do so during these difficult economic times. However, after four years without an increase, and faced with the dramatic increase in food cost, the time has come.

The new prices are: Day Tour $29, Kids Tour $19, Feeding Tour $55, Night Tour $55 & Keeper Tour $110

The price increase became effective May 1, 2011. On the tours that require reservations, if the reservation was made before May 1, 2011 we will honor the old price.

SKIP THE BOBCAT UPDATE

In our last issue we brought you the story of Skip, a male Florida bobcat that was hit by a car on December 28th. Skip’s pelvis was dislocated from the spine on one side and badly crushed on the other. Dr. Hay of Veterinary Surgical Services Inc. pieced Skip’s pelvis back together using permanent plates and screws. After nearly three months of recovery in small quarters inside our cat hospital he was taken back to Dr. Hay for follow up x-rays. Unfortunately the screws in Skip’s pelvis had partially pulled out causing his pelvis to heal a little crooked and narrowing his pelvic canal. The pelvic canal was too narrow for him to be able to pass the fur and bones of whole prey foods. The radiographs confirmed Rescuer’s suspicions. During his time in recovery Skip was slowly transitioned from a ground diet to a whole prey diet. Each time this was done Skip became so blocked up he had to be taken to the vet to remove the blockages of fur and bone. This was not the news we were hoping for. Since Skip is unable to pass whole prey foods due to the narrowing of his pelvis he is not a candidate for release. Skip will have a permanent home at the sanctuary and must be on a soft ground food diet for the rest of his life. Skip has been in his new enclosure for several months now and has adapted beautifully. He has lots of brush and dens to hide in but he seems to like lounging underneath his platforms the most.

SKIP COFFEE MUG $15.84  SKIP NECKLACE $45.00

SKIP T-SHIRTS S, L, & XL $24.40  XXL & XXXL $26.54
**KEEPER LOG**

**Bobcat Hernia Leads to Emergency Surgery**

If you have been following us for a while, you may remember **Alachua Bob**, a bobcat who had been hit by a car in 2003. His pelvis was so badly shattered that it never did heal right and he was not able to hunt, so he has lived a quiet life, far from our tour path, where he gets room service twice a day. At the time he arrived we could only guess his age, but based upon his teeth and overall condition, we thought he must be very old. We estimate his age to be over 20 now.

His keepers reported that he wasn’t eating, yet looked bloated. Having just lost Bobby Blue Rose, a 19 year old bobcat to FIP, we were concerned that Alachua Bob may have the same condition. What was discovered is that he had a hernia (a cut in his abdominal wall) the breadth of four fingers and his intestines were spilling outside this layer of muscle, yet inside the layer of skin.

Three hours of emergency surgery performed by Dr. Langbehn of Ehrlich Animal Hospital repaired the hernia, after which Alachua Bob spent several weeks recovering in our onsite cat hospital. We are happy to report that Alachua recovered completely, was returned to his out door enclosure, and is back to his normal bobcat self.

**Bobcats Get More Space**

The trio of bobcats affectionately referred to as the Crazy Bobs by their keepers because of their wild and aloof nature are now enjoying yet another expansion to their Cat-a-tat. Last summer a 1200 square foot enclosure was added to their current 1200 square foot space. Recently their neighbor Nirvana was moved to a different enclosure. Since her previous home was in a location that did not lend itself to expansion it was connected to the Crazy Bobs enclosure. Cats being cats, all three bobcats are seen lounging predominately in this new addition. They are also quite fond of the platforms in this new space.

**Purr-fect Platforms**

The Enrichment Committee continues to feverishly construct platforms for the cats, several of which have been deployed by Big Cat Rescuers to some well deserving big cats. Some of the most recent lucky felines include Joseph and Sasha the lions, Nirvana the ocelot, Cameron and Zabu a lion and tiger pair, Apollo and Zeus the lynx along with many others. All of the cats love their platforms and relish in the opportunity to get a better vantage point of their surroundings. Cameron playfully chased Zabu in circles around their new platforms before Zabu quickly learned she could retreat from the cowardly lion on the highest of the platforms. Cameron was not quite brave enough and laid down at its base awaiting Zabu to descend. Joseph, our other male lion, casually sauntered over to check out his platform. First he sniffed it, then he chewed it, marked it, and roared a big thank you to the Big Cat Rescuers that observed his first encounter.

**Two Times The Territory**

**Bengali, a fun loving and boisterous tiger, was retired from the circus to live out his days lake side in the Florida sunshine. For years he has enjoyed his own spacious Cat-a-tat. Now he has two enclosures all to himself. The enclosure right next door to him had been empty for quite some time so keepers built a tunnel connecting the two. Bengali did not hesitate at all to brave the tunnel to explore the new space beyond. He spends most of his time in the new enclosure now and really seems to enjoy being able to traverse the quadruplex. Not only does Bengali have twice the space, he also has twice the dens, pools, and best of all toys!**

**On The Move**

To keep things interesting for the cats as well as to keep similar cat species near one another, several cats are on the move. Cleo the serval was moved twice! She spent several weeks in a new enclosure while hers was upgraded with forts and platforms. Then she moved back into her renovated home. Nikita the lioness was moved to a larger enclosure away from the cougar cubs whom she loved to torment. Cybil the serval was moved into Nikita’s old enclosure making her the serval with the largest enclosure at the sanctuary. Nikita’s previous enclosure was an open air space and since Cybil is disabled she can not climb out. She is thoroughly enjoying the wide open space of the her new quarter acre home. Canyon was moved to a larger enclosure near the gift shop and now has several trees and lots of lush grass to sneak through. Shaniqua and Rambo the Jungle Cats were both moved to new enclosures. Rambo is now on the tour path and is really loving all of the attention he gets. Saber and Sundari the leopards have the same amount of space, but moved over one enclosure each to make room for the newly rescued servals. Sassyfras the cougar was moved from the quarantine area to an enclosure near the rest of the cougars. Nirvana the ocelot was moved into a bigger space and now has the sanctuary’s three other ocelots as neighbors. Cheetaro the leopard was moved to a Cat-a-tat with a great tree that he loves to climb.

**Chat about the Big Cats at www.ChatBigCats.com**

Unlimited storage space for your photos, videos and music. Post your own blogs, or join in our forums and contests.

**www.BigCatTV.com**

Keep up to date with everything at Big Cat Rescue by watching our weekly pod-cats. Visit our YouTube channel for wild entertainment!