

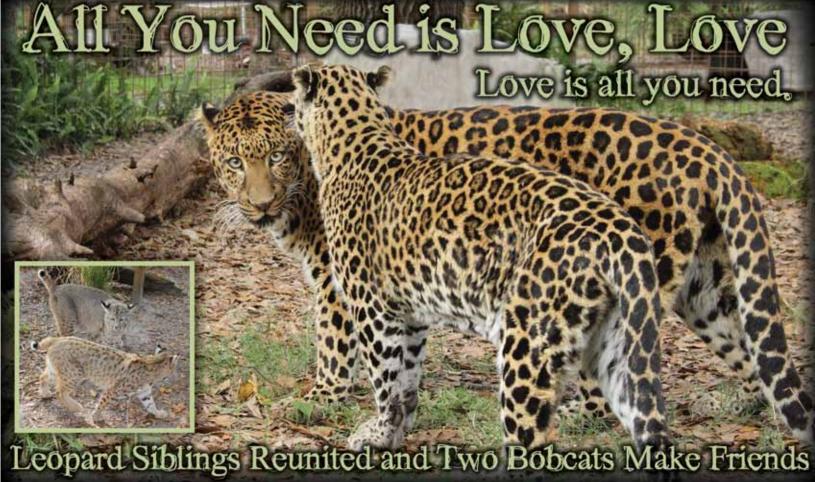
Cat Chat is a LIVE, interactive show with cat experts that airs every Wednesday at noon (EST). You can call in to interact live with Big Cat Rescue CEO Carole Baskin. It is a fun and informal hour of chatting about cats of all kinds. It's roaring fun!

CatChatShow.com



Photos by Jamie Veronica unless noted

THE BIG CAT TIMES



NEW LOVES AND OLD FRIENDS

Wild cats are solitary by nature and usually don't want to share their space. It is very rare to have two cats that live together here at Big Cat Rescue and in every case it has been because they were kittens who had been raised together.

Max and Mary Ann the bobcats are two of our youngest residents. Max, a 4-year-old male bobcat, was kept illegally as a pet in Rhode Island. He was confiscated by the state and came to Big Cat Rescue in 2011. MaryAnn, a 5-year-old female bobcat, was seized by the sheriff's department in Kansas because of the cruel neglect she suffered along with eight other exotic cats. She and five others came to Big Cat Rescue last year (the remaining 3 cats were placed at other sanctuaries).



Both bobcats are very energetic. Life alone in captivity with a companion can be very much more interesting and so we set out to introduce Max and MaryAnn. Having someone to play tag with could provide hours of entertainment and hopefully that will lead to a life long love affair that results in having someone warm to snuggle with, or to help stalk lizards as they age. Real sanctuaries do not breed animals. So before any introduction was made Max was neutered and MaryAnn spayed.

The two bobcats were moved to separate enclosures joined with a tunnel. They were able to get face to face to see each other close up and sniff one another, but small mesh wire in between them protected them from biting or scratching each other. After a couple weeks it appeared as though the two were ready to meet. They would pounce at one another and rub on the wire wall that separated them.



Left: Dr. Boorstein neuters Max while interns JoAnna and Lauren observe Above: Max follows MaryAnn while volunteers watch

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very excited. He followed MaryAnn everywhere, stalking and pouncing at her. MaryAnn was more interested in checking out every square inch of Max's enclosure and whenever Max startled her she would turn around and give him a good swat followed by a menacing growl. Max took this as flirtation and was not deterred.

Max and MaryAnn have since settled in nicely together and we hope that they will live a long happy life together keeping each other entertained and loved.



Meanwhile just a few minutes walk down the path a reunion was taking place. Sibling leopards Simba and Nyla were reintroduced after having lived years apart. When they were cubs they lived together

and loved every minute of it. However, as they came into maturity they decided that they preferred their own space and so they were separated. Although they remained next door neighbors.

The day of the big introduction Max was Now at the age of 20, Simba and Nyla have been spending most of their time laying near one another next to a tunnel that connects their two enclosures; pining at one another across the way.

> It seemed as though they really wanted to enjoy each other's company once again and the two were reunited.

> Nyla was the first to make contact. She walked right up to Simba and began licking his face. Simba was more interested in exploring his expanded territory. Nyla followed him around the entire enclosure giving him slobbery leopard kisses at every stop. The long overdue reunion was heart-warming to witness.



SANCTUARIES WORKING TOGETHER

In October 2013 the International Fund for Animal Welfare and the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries held a workshop for big cat sanctuaries from all across the country. The event was hosted in Raleigh, NC and included a field trip to Carolina Tiger Rescue.

Big Cat Rescue Founder and CEO Carole Baskin and CFO Howard Baskin attended the workshop to learn from the other presenters as well as to share Big Cat Rescue's strategies for success.

Some of the immediate results from the workshop were the sharing of resources and building of relationships to help save more animals in need.



For example, this lion was one of four big cats who were unwanted by their owner in MO. Through the combined efforts of several sanctuaries and entities, two lions and two tigers have safe forever homes. A big shout out to Safe Haven Rescue Zoo, Cedarhill, Turpentine Creek, Tigers in America and Loving Friends Transport, among others who helped facilitate this rescue.

When sanctuaries work together the animals always win!

SENATOR STANDS UP FOR MOUNTAIN LIONS

Nebraska Senator Ernie Chambers fired a warning shot recently to let the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission know he will oppose every proposal it brings to the Legislature as long as it allows mountain lions to be hunted. Chambers told Roger Kuhn, parks division administrator, he had expressed his "displeasure, repugnance and disgust" to Game and Parks Director James Douglas over the establishment of a mountain lion hunting season. There are only thought to be 60 mountain lions in the state. Chambers told him to take the message to the commission that he would strenuously oppose any proposal as long as the hunting season continues." By fang and claw, somebody's going to pay in terms of the Legislature's time," he said. "And I don't mind being alone. In fact, that energizes me."



Don't you wish all our lawmakers were so kind to animals? Make sure your Senators and Representative have co-sponsored the Big Cats and Public Safety Act. More info at **StopBigCatAbuse.com**

TWO IMPORTANT MOVIE SCREENINGS



Lion Ark follows the world's most ambitious and daring animal rescue, with a narrative compiled from film, interviews, conversations and reactions as events unfolded. How attitudes to animals were changed in Bolivia, illegal circuses pursued and closed, and 25 lions airlifted to freedom. lionarkthemovie.com

The Paw Project documentary is an inspiring David and Goliath story of a

grassroots movement to protect felines, both large and small, from the cruelty of declawing and how the movement has prevailed, despite the efforts of wellfunded professional veterinary associations. pawprojectmovie.com



BIG CLAWS LITTLE CAT



Canyon the sand cat has trouble keeping his claws short and trimmed. He doesn't scratch on his logs and trees as much as he used to and because of this his claws become overgrown.



Big Cat Rescue v o l u n t e e r veterinarian Dr. Wynn sedated Canyon to do a physical exam,

draw blood for routine testing and to trim his claws.



Canyon's overall body condition was great and his blood work looked good with just mild kidney elevations that are to be expected of a cat his age. Canyon is 13 years old, which is the average lifespan of captive sand cats. You wouldn't know it to look at him though, he is the picture of health and vitality.

Canyon was returned to his enclosure shortly after he awoke. His keepers have installed a special scratching post that will hopefully be irresistible to the 6.8 pound cat so that he can maintain his claws on his own.



CAMERON THE LION NEUTERED

Cameron the lion and Zabu the white tiger came to Big Cat Rescue in 2004 after being rescued from a roadside zoo. They had lived their entire

lives together and so when they first arrived Cameron was vasectomized to prevent any breeding.

The reason Cameron had a vasectomy was to save his mane. The mane of a lion is thought to be impacted by the production of testosterone, therefore when a male lion is neutered he can lose part or all of his mane.



After Cameron's vasectomy he and Zabu lived together happily for many years. However over time Cameron became more and more aggressive each time Zabu would go into heat. And so Zabu was spayed. This put a stop to the aggression for another few years.

In recent months Cameron once again started to become increasingly possessive of Zabu and aggressive towards his keepers and surrounding cats.

We tried some natural supplements to help calm him down, but they were not working. Other options for Cameron would have been to heavily medicate him to even his temperament or separate him permanently from Zabu. We did not want to separate the pair if we do not have to. We wanted to make every effort to allow them to continue to live together as they always have.



The decision was made to neuter Cameron to help curb both behaviors. Cameron will lose his mane, but we feel it is a small price to pay to avoid being on mood altering medications or being separated from his mate for the rest of his life. Some may feel that him losing his mane is very sad, however, this side effect is just a cosmetic one. Had this situation been between a male tiger and a female tiger there would have been no hesitation at all neutering the male.



During his procedure, Cameron was also examined. He had excellent muscular body condition, his teeth were in good condition, he had no arthritis and his blood work looked good.

While Cameron was sedated he was moved to the Vacation Rotation Enclosure. After recovering for a few days he was reunited with Zabu and the pair spent two weeks frolicking in the 2.5 acre paradise. They have since moved into their permanent lake-side home that is connected via tunnel so they can enjoy future retreats in the Vacation Rotation.

It has been a few months since Cameron was neutered. His aggression has subsided and he seems much more relaxed. We hope that this will be a permanent improvement so he and Zabu can live out their lives together.

AGING COUGAR POPULATION

Of the 10 cougars that call Big Cat Rescue home, 3 are 9 years old and the other 7 are 16 - 23 years old. Just as with humans, animals suffer the effects of arthritis as they age. Cougars Aspen and Mac have been previously diagnosed with arthritis and in the past few months alone, two more of our cougars have been examined and x-rayed to determine the severity of their arthritic joints.



Sassyfras, a 16-year-old male cougar, was rescued in 2010. His Illinois owner had taken her own life leaving Sassyfras with no one to care for him.

It was noted in the observation charts that Sassyfras had been limping and so he was taken to Ehrlich Animal Hospital to see volunteer veterinarian Dr. Wynn for an exam and x-rays. His x-rays show significant arthritis in his front left elbow and his blood work indicates that he is in the final stages of renal failure.



A few months later Cody began limping. Cody is an 18-year-old male cougar. He was rescued in 2000 when he became an unwanted pet of a divorced couple. He too

was examined and his x-rays showed severe arthritis in his elbow as well as spondylosis in his spine. Spondylosis is characterized by the production



of bone spurs along the bottom, sides, and upper aspects of the vertebrae of the spine. This degenerative condition can make it difficult to make normal twisting and turning movements and can also cause pain.

There is no cure for renal failure nor a treatment that is feasible for a wild cats of their age. Both Sassyfras and Cody have been prescribed a regimen of medications to ease their pain and improve their mobility. They will be kept as comfortable as possible and are monitored daily to ensure their quality of life.

Photos: Canyon, ingrown claw, Dr. Wynn examines Canyon, Cameron, Cameron & Zabu, Dr. Boorstein neuters Cameron, Cameron in transport cage, Sassyfras in chain link cage in IL, Sassyfras in den at BCR, Cody, x-ray of Cody's elbow showing arthritis



MARCH FOR LIONS Saturday, March 15, 2014 at 12:00 PM Big Cat Rescue in Tampa, Florida

Big Cat Rescue has joined the global event March for Lions to raise awareness for the plight of the lion in both captivity and in the wild. The event is being hosted around the globe involving 15 countries, 30 cities and 191 organizers.

Join us on March 15th at 12 PM for a 2k walk through Big Cat Rescue's 65-acre sanctuary that is home to more than 100 big cats in Tampa, FL.

Meet our resident lions Joseph, Cameron, and Nikita as well as tigers, leopards, bobcats, cougars and others as you stroll the winding paths. Learn about lions and what you can do to protect them in captivity and in the wild.

For just \$5 per person you can register to March for Lions. This is a family event, so all ages are welcome. The \$5 registration fee gets you access to the walk through the sanctuary as well as to the after party.

If you would like to raise even more funds you can become a Member of the Pride and set up a fundraising page to reach a donation goal ranging from \$25 - \$500. Each level of membership comes with access to the walk and the after party, grrr-reat prizes and an official event t-shirt. Donations will go towards the care of the lions at Big Cat Rescue as well as to conservations efforts focused on saving the lion in the wild.

The walk is 1.3 miles and takes a leisurely 40 minutes to complete. The pathways are gravel, dirt, and mulch so sturdy shoes are a must. (Golf carts will not be available for this event)

The walk ends in our parking area where there will be an after party with lots of fun family activities and gourmet food trucks to satisfy your beastly appetite.

Be sure to "paws" at the end of the march at our Call of the Wild video booth where our friendly staff will help you film a guide video shout out to your legislators asking them to protect

quick video shout out to your legislators asking them to protect lions from being abused and abandoned in captivity and to "march the Big Cat & Public Safety Protection Act through Congress."



For more information about this bill and the event go to: MarchForLions.com

Even if you can't make it

to the event, you can still set up a fundraising page

to help collect donations

to save lions. You can also

purchase a March for Lions

Tee for \$15 Sizes: S - XXL



BIG CAT SPONSORSHIP

All kits include the following appreciation gifts: 4-page color fact sheet about the species, Big Cat Rescue logo window decal, Registration Card to select the cat of your choice. 8x10 color photo of the cat you choose to sponsor with the cat name and your name as sponsor printed on it. The sponsor levels below include these additional benefits and donor recognition:

\$25 BIG CAT BUDDY - KIDS SPONSORSHIP

Coloring pages featuring wild cats and 1 Kids Tour Pass.

\$25 BIG CAT SUPPORTER

10% off purchases at the Trading Post gift shop.

\$50 BIG CAT FRIEND

10% off purchases at the Trading Post gift shop and 1 Day Tour Pass.

\$100 BIG CAT PROTECTOR

10% off purchases at the Trading Post gift shop, 2 Day Tour Passes, 30 big cat mailing labels, Donor name and gift amount listed in the Big Cat Times and on website.



\$250 BIG CAT CONSERVATOR

10% off purchases at the Trading Post gift shop, 4 Day Tour Passes, 60 big cat mailing labels, Donor name and gift amount listed in the Big Cat Times and on website.

\$500 BIG CAT WARRIOR

Conservator Benefits above plus: 4"x4" Ceramic plaque with big cat photo and donor name displayed at the sanctuary, 6"x12" Engraved plaque on the tour path with donor name displayed for one year.

\$1,000 BIG CAT HERO

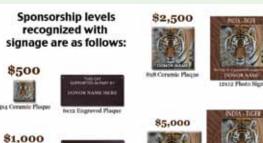
Conservator Benefits above plus: 6"x6" Ceramic plaque with big cat photo and donor name displayed at the sanctuary, 9"x12" Engraved plaque on the tour path with donor name displayed for one year, and Private Tour for up to 10 people.

\$2,500 BIG CAT CHAMPION

Conservator Benefits above plus: 8"x8" Ceramic plaque with big cat photo and donor name displayed at the sanctuary, 12"x12" color plaque on tour path with cat photo and donor name displayed for one year, and Private Founder Tour for up to 10 people.

\$5,000 KING OF BEASTS

Conservator Benefits above plus: 12"x12" Ceramic plaque with big cat photo and donor name displayed at the sanctuary, 18"x24" Sign with big





cat photo and donor name displayed on the tour path for one year, Private Founder Tour for up to 10 people.



GIFT SHOP PURCHASES DIRECTLY BENEFIT THE BIG CATS





Big Cats Photo 15 oz Mug \$15.84



Little Cats Photo 15 oz Mug \$15.84



\$17.05



BCR Tumbler 16.oz Photo Collage Mouse Pad \$15.84



Leopard Print and Cream Ruffle Scarf Chiffon 6' x 16" \$17.05



BCR Baseball Tee Gray & Black S, M, L, XL \$24.40 XXL \$26.54



Collapsable Tiger Purse Hook Keep your purse off the floor and hang from table edge. \$29.75



BCR Travel Mug 18.oz \$15.84

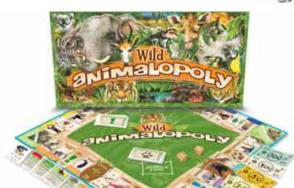
7" Snow Leopard \$10.56 Snow Leopard \$15.91



Engraved Wood BCR Pocket Knife \$11.70 Lighter **\$7.35**



Choose Leopard or Tiger \$13.70



Animal-opoly Themed Monopoly Game \$28.54



Crazy Cat Lady Toy 5.25"

Toy Veterinarian Kit includes: Stethoscope, syringe, medicine bottle, blood pressure pump, etc. \$10.56





Embroidered Cap with Gold BCR Logo **\$22.40**



Big Cat Rescue Cadet Cap Embroidered Big Cat Rescue text Choose Blue or Pink **\$20.18**



BCR Cameron Lion Tee S, M, L, XL **\$24.40** XXL **\$26.54**



Crazy Cat Lady Board Game \$26.54





BCR Ribbon Magnet Gold or Silver \$8.35



BCR Supporter Bracelet Black with White Logo & Lettering \$3.68





BCR Photo Bumper Stickers



Choose Leopard or Lion \$4.21 Oval BCR Sticker \$4.21



Rhinestone Fitted Tee in Black Choose Tiger, Snow Leopard or Leopard S, M, L, XL **\$24.40** XXL **\$26.54**



Big Cat Rescue Tiger Kids Tee Available in Blue or Pink XS, S, M & L \$15.91



Haunting Eyes Tee Black with BCR Logo on Sleeve, Snow Leopard, Sand Cat, Siberian Tiger or Bengal Tiger S, M, L, XL \$24.40 2X \$26.54



Rhinestone Ribbed Tank Black with Snow Leopard S, M, L, XL \$22.26



BCR Photo Collage License Plate Frame features 18 resident big and little cats of Big Cat Rescue. Standard size and four holes make easy installation. \$15.84



10" Baby Lion \$15.84 Bobcat Flopsie 12"

\$13.70



Panthera Tigris Women's V-neck Loose Feminine Cut Tee, Charcoal S, M, L, XL **\$24.40**

ORDER ON PAGE 10 OR PURCHASE ONLINE AT BIGCATRESCUE.BIZ

TOUR PRICE INCREASE DEC 1, 2013

Certain ongoing costs of caring for the cats inevitably increase over time. In addition, we want to continue replacing some of the older enclosures with the new larger (and much more expensive) open top enclosures like the ones we have already constructed for Nikita, Bengali, Cameron and Zabu, as well as the Vacation Rotation Enclosure.

In addition to your generous donations, the tour fees provide a significant portion of the support for the cats. We keep the fees the same for a number of years rather than change them annually. The last adjustment was almost three years ago, so it is that time again.



The price for children on the kid's tour will remain \$19. But our other prices per person changed as follows on December 1, 2013: Adult Tour \$36, Feeding Tour \$65, Night Tour \$65, Keeper Tour \$125, Private tour 1st person \$125, each additional \$65. Reservations and gift certificates purchased at previous prices will, of course, be honored.

We are consistently told by visitors and by reviews online that our unique educational guided tours are a great value. We particularly appreciate the way current supporters help by urging others to visit and learn about the plight of these magnificent animals and help support them through the tour fees and donations. Thanks very much for spreading the word!!

- Howard Baskin, CFO Big Cat Rescue

BIG CAT IBOOKS



LaWanna Mitchell is an amazing woman. She started out as a volunteer and became a remote contractor for us years ago. She is a workaholic

and is constantly learning to do new things. She has recently taught herself how to build books in iBooks for iTunes and for Amazon.

LaWanna has a number of books published there now, including titles such as China Doll Loves Pumpkins, The Elusive Sand Cat, Meet JoJo, The Black Footed Cat, Shaquille's Shattered Dreams, What Do You See?, The Tigrina or Oncila, and the first of a two part series called Big Cat Care – How

to Start a Sanctuary.

This book is for those running a sanctuary who want to learn from our experience, or for those who have already made the mistake of supporting the pet trade so that the animal in your care does not needlessly suffer.

Look for all of the titles above and more by Big Cat Rescue when you check out Big Cat Care – How to Start a Sanctuary by Carole Baskin, in iTunes

"With more than 20 years experience, with every sort of exotic cat, I can assure you that there is nothing you can do to raise up an exotic cat to be a house pet. It just isn't possible, nor is it fair to the cat....No matter how young you neuter or spay exotic cats, both male and female, ALWAYS spray when they become adults. Its their natural instincts to mark their territory." - Carole Baskin

SAD FAREWELL TO FOUR GREAT CATS

Taking care of more than 100 exotic cats is a roller coaster ride of emotions as we try to provide the best possible life for them and yet deal with the gut wrenching decisions of life and death. Of our 107 animals, 89 of them are over the age of 12, which is about as long as they live in zoos or in the wild. An amazing 75 are over the age of 15 (90+ in human years). Even more incredible, 25 are 20 years or older. It is with heavy hearts that we must say good bye to these four feline friends who have touched our hearts forever.

BELLA



1996 - 2013

BELLA was rescued from Savage Kingdom, a breeding facility in FL, after it was shut down by the USDA. She came to Big Cat Rescue along with 3 other tigers, the last surviving of whom is TJ. Bella was a very special tiger. She found joy and happiness in every moment of her day. Lounging in the sun, pouncing after bugs, chuffing at anyone who passed. Sadly at the age of 18 Bella passed away. She had end stage mammary cancer. She will forever be remembered as a funloving tiger.

FLAVIO



1989 - 2014

FLAVIO was retired from the circus in 2002. He spent his life in small cages, forced to perform. For 13 years he was hauled around the country day after day, night after night. Until one day he had enough and decided to start picking fights with the other tigers in the act. Lucky for him, Flavio got to retire in paradise. Perhaps due to years of being made to perform unnatural behaviors, Flavio developed crippling arthritis. His pain was managed for years, but in his last few months with us it was apparent that this gentle giant was no longer living comfortably. He could barely get around and was no longer interested in food and so the difficult decision was made to euthanize him. Flavio was 25 and thought to be the oldest tiger in the world at the time of his death.

SASHA



1994 - 2014

SASHA was rescued from a facility in OH that was shut down by the authorities. Her previous owner had a collection of big cats that she defanged and declawed so she could charge the public to enter their enclosures and pet them. Poor Sasha was exploited in this manner for 13 years along with her mate Joseph until she was rescued in 2007. Sasha always had a small lump under one of her eyes. It didn't seem to bother her and never changed. Recently it got a little bigger and looked red and irritated. She was sedated so the lump could be removed and a biopsy sent to the lab for testing. Tragically while under sedation Sasha stopped breathing and despite heroic efforts of the veterinarians she was lost. The subsequent necropsy showed that Sasha was in the final stages of lung cancer. She had never shown any signs of illness.

PRECIOUS



1992 - 2014

PRECIOUS was rescued from an exotic animal auction when she was a few months old. She spent her entire life at Big Cat Rescue. She was quite the climber in her younger years and loved perching high in the branches of her trees. A few months ago Precious was sedated for an exam and tooth extraction. While under anesthesia she had a stroke and when she awoke she was unable to walk. Her keepers managed to use a harness and leash to perform physical therapy a couple of times a day until she regained the use of her limbs, however, she was never quite the same. She appeared to be blind and even though she was eventually able to walk again, she was very unsteady and slow moving. Sadly without warning Precious had a massive seizure from which she did not recover.

BIG CATS AND CARS4CAUSES...THE PURRRFECT PARTNERSHIP!

Do you have a car, truck, boat, trailer, motor home or RV that you no longer need? (Scan QR Code with your smart phone for details)



Are you buying a new vehicle and need to find a "good home" for your old one?

Please consider donating your vehicle in support of the magnificent creatures



that call Big Cat Rescue home via the sanctuary's partnership with "Cars4Causes":

"Cars4Causes" provides a simple yet effective way of supporting Big Cat Rescue as they handle every detail of the vehicle donation process from start to finish, including the paperwork!

To find out how to donate your car, motorcycle, boat, trailer, or RV call the "Cars4Causes" toll-free number to speak with a donation representative:

888-444-2392

For additional information, please visit the Big Cat Rescue "Cars4Causes" web page at:http://tinyurl.com/kor3cou

KIDS 4 KATS

Christian Mouring, a local 3rd grader, visited Big Cat Rescue in December to present us with his donation of \$400 towards our wish list item of plants for the cats!

The donation was put to good use to purchase lots of beautiful plants for inside and around Cameron and Zabu's new enclosure.



Director of Education Willow Hecht took Christian and his family out to see the enclosure in process, and they were very excited to meet the big cat couple. Thanks so much, Christian!









Get a close look into our day to day operations, the conservation efforts we support, and the 100+ feline residents of Big Cat Rescue.

COOL CAT SUMMER CAMP

Children 8 to 15 years old are invited to explore the great outdoors with 100+ big cats of every size, color and purr-sonality.

While participating in educational activities campers enjoy meeting lions, tigers, leopards and many other felines. Join us for outdoor exploration



on our 65 acre campus while learning about animal habitats, diets, adaptations and conservation. Interactive learning opportunities include diet preparation, scavenger hunts and keeper demonstrations of feedings and behavioral training with the cats.

Class size is limited to ensure a quality experience for each camper, so don't miss out! Each class is staffed by two or more adults.

Session Schedule: Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM



8-11 years old - June 16-20, June 23-27, July 14-18, July 21-25, July 28-Aug. 1, Aug. 4-8

12-15 years old - June 16-20, June 23-27, July 14-18, July 28-Aug. 1

Limited availability, be sure to reserve your *spot* early! http://bigcatrescue.org/kids-camp/

SUMMER CAMP JOB OPENING

We are hiring 1 Florida certified teacher to teach our 12-15 year old campers this summer! This is a paid position, 4 weeks total, Monday-Friday each week. To apply please email:

education@bigcatrescue.org

BIG CAT RESCUE SUPPORTERS

Donations received October 1st - December 31st

\$100,000 Communit Foundation of Tampa Bay \$33,650 Tigers in America \$30,000 Cyrus & Joanne Spurlino \$20,000 The Kors Le Pere Foundation \$11,475 Steven Pereira \$10,500 Pollio Family Foundation \$10,000 Lawrence & Pamela Trissel \$7,500 Saint Pete MRI

\$6 000 Little Family Foundation \$5,406 Mireille McGail \$5,000 Robert & Doretta Marwin \$5,000 Sarah & Bruce McWilliams \$5,000 Diane K. Randall \$5,000 Dyer Family Foundation

\$5,000 Whitney Charitable Foundation \$3,889 Seminole Lake Country Club \$3,644 Vanessa andez-Thomas \$2,500 Bob Hansan &

Kate Barges \$2,500 Sondia & Edward Moylan \$2,500 The Amelia Foundation \$2,300 Gunst Family Foundation \$2,000 Ellen Bunch \$2,000 Robert E. Fish

\$2,000 Ross Michel \$2,000 Andrew Morse \$2,000 Noreen Oreilly \$2,000 Patricia Webber \$2,000 Panther International, LLC \$1,950 Sole Riley Marittin \$1,750 The Richard L. Levin

Family Foundation \$1.500 John Callison \$1,500 Robert & Susan Cochran \$1,500 Lilian Y. Giraldo \$1,500 Aaron Link \$1.500 Barbara S. Riley \$1,500 Melanie Shea \$1,500 Frank Uebel

\$1,500 Marvin D & Melissa U Gill Family Foundation Inc. \$1,260 Carl & Betty Schino \$1,250 Cynthia M. Ostrowski \$1,250 Whiskey Joe's Bar & Grill \$1,000 Cindy & Tim Andras \$1,000 Dan Baruzzini

\$1,000 Elise Becher \$1,000 Dave Benson \$1,000 Jordan Berlin \$1,000 Karan & William Bevnon

\$1,000 Linda Brotherton \$1,000 Marie E. Collart \$1,000 Sallie Jo Cunningham & Paul Deutsch

\$1,000 Cynthia Evans \$1,000 Christina Farah \$1,000 Ann Glucroft \$1,000 Virna Gonzalez \$1,000 Judith & Paul Hall \$1,000 Jennifer Hamyay \$1,000 Bert & Val Harrop \$1,000 Kevin Ho

\$1,000 Jon Hull \$1 000 Patricia Lanza \$1,000 Jennifer Morrison \$1,000 Cathy L. Palladino \$1,000 Danny Patterson \$1 000 Ann F. Pattin \$1,000 Susanne Perla \$1 000 Diana Rao

\$1,000 Mary Scott \$1 000 Annamarie Smover \$1,000 Pat Trammell \$1,000 Maxine Weinstein \$1,000 Scott & Della Wyler \$1,000 Aveda Corporation \$1,000 Cheney Brothers \$1,000 Cooper Family

Foundation Inc. \$1,000 Covington Family Fund \$1,000 Deupree Family Foundation \$1,000 Jaguar of Tampa

\$1,000 L V Thomps Family Foundation Inc \$1,000 Lynn Russell Advised Fund at Aspen Community Foundation

\$1,000 Press Box Sports Emporium \$1,000 Ruth Covo Family Foundation \$900 Suzanne & Alan Lucas \$818 ECHOage

\$800 Karen Large &

Eric Eisenberg \$800 Nancy Lawtor \$772 In honor of Michael Allen Scott \$750 John Kane \$750 Lisa Koon \$750 Patricia Stephens \$700 Janis Unbehaun \$650 Linda & William Gewiss

\$650 Patricia & Lon Wojtowicz \$600 Steven Carter \$600 Karen Jay \$600 Zach Zgabay \$598 Genesis Whitmore \$550 April Montgomery \$550 Kenny & Alicia Reutlinger \$505 Suzanne Spantidos

\$525 Pamela Olson Koonts \$500 Eric Arwood \$500 Jacqueline & Demetrius Bagley \$500 Janis & Dave Barrows

\$500 Phillip & Christina Berler \$500 Geoff Blades \$500 Cynsa Bonorris \$500 Caroline Brehm \$500 Derek Bruening \$500 Jason E. Buxell \$500 David Charles \$500 Ernest & Sally Cika

\$500 Vincent Cohan \$500 Howard Cronson \$500 S B. Downey-Turpin \$500 Janice Elliott \$500 Robert Euler \$500 Enid Galliers

\$500 Sharon Gilbert \$500 Lewis & Mary Green \$500 Marguerite Hark \$500 Donna & Paul Harold \$500 Victoria Hassett \$500 Janice Heckert \$500 Ann M. Henke \$500 Carol Henry

\$500 Lance Hill \$500 Janet Hutcheson \$500 C. William Kauffman \$500 Mark & Tanya Kemp \$500 Daria Kiselica \$500 Stefanie Kraus \$500 Lynn & Stuart Lang \$500 Scott & Dianne Lewis

\$500 Katherine Loukonen \$500 Dwight Lowell \$500 R. Gordon Machemer \$500 Elfriede Maclean \$500 Mary MacLean \$500 Anthony Malafronte \$500 William & Joann Marchi

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\$100 Jean Zegadlo

\$100 Meredith Zeitlin

\$100 Miriam Zicht

\$100 Kathryn Zimmer

\$100 Christine Zingaro

Thank you for your support!

If your donation came toward the end of the quarter, it may not have been entered into our database in time for this newsletter and will appear in the next. Donation data entry is manual and subject to occasional errors, so if your donation should appear and does not, please email Chelsea.Feeny@BigCatRescue. org so we can investigate and correct our records if there is an omission



MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY CATLAWS.COM **NEED YOUR** ACT NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE BigCatRescue.org info@BigCatRescue.org 813-920-4130

LIONS & TIGERS & DRAGONS UPDATE, OH MY!

Last fall, we asked Big Cat Rescue supporters to "Vote With Your Lips" to help raise money and awareness for animal welfare, human rights and environmental charities by purchasing Dragon Fruit Lip Butter from the Body Shop USA.

Together, supporters around the country generated over 255,000 votes for 3 U.S. charities including: Big Cat Rescue, WeStopHate, and Sprout





We're delighted to announce that Big Cat Rescue placed 2nd in the Body Shop USA's Dragon Fruit Lip Butter contest! To date, the Body Shop Foundation has donated a ROARING \$15,000 to the sanctuary in support of the magnificent creatures that call Big Cat Rescue home!



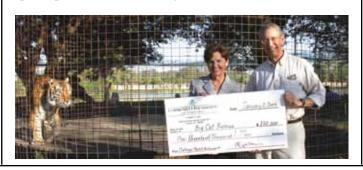
\$100,000 ENDOWMENT MATCH EARNED!

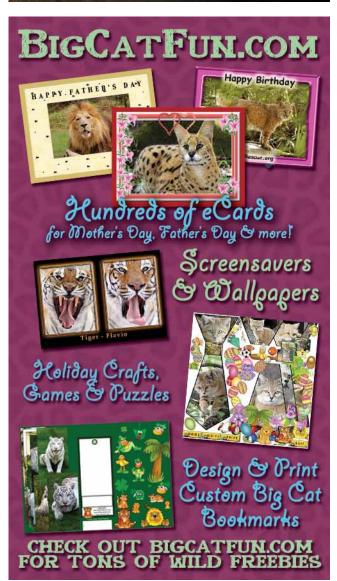
As reported in previous issues, the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, where we have our Endowment Fund, has a wonderful program called "Challenge Grant" under which a nonprofit with an endowment there chooses a goal up to \$400,000. If the nonprofit raises 75% of the goal, the Community Foundation donates the remaining 25% from a fund created by donors to the Community Foundation. This amounts to a 33% match for our donors.

This is the third Challenge Grant in which we have participated. Our previous goals had been for \$100,000 and \$200,000. This time, last March, we went all the way and chose the maximum goal of \$400,000. Although we had three years to reach the goal, thanks to the enthusiastic and generous participation of over 200 of our donors, we reached the \$300,000 75% target in just over nine months and earned the \$100,000 matching funds before the 2013

Many thanks to all of you who helped us earn this very significant grant from the Community Foundation!

Below: Community Foundation President and CEO Marlene Spalton presents the check to Big Cat Rescue CFO Howard Baskin





FEATURED GIFT ITEM

ORDER DATE:

THE BIG CAT TIMES ORDER FORM Spring 2014

TOUR TIMES & PROGRAMS



Tickets available online at: http://www.zerve.com/bigcatrescue or by calling: (800) 979-3370

Closed Thursdays, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day

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. Reservation recommended. For reservations (800) 979-3370

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. Admission: 10% discount to all Military, Law Enforcement and Fire Fighters as well as USF faculty and students. Appropriate ID required. Discount on Day Tour only, not available through Zerve Reservations. Reservation recommended. For reservations (800) 979-3370

FEEDING TOUR

Tour Times: Wed, Fri, Sat 5:30 PM (Reservations Required)

Follow a keeper as they feed the big cats. Observe the big cats eating and learn about the their nutritional needs in captivity. Tour is 1 hr. No children under 10 years of age.

For reservations (800) 979-3370

BIG CAT KEEPER TOUR

Tour Times: Sat & Sun 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 (800) 979-3370

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 (800) 979-3370

Also offered - WEDDINGS, PARTIES, **EDUCATIONAL OUTREACHES AND** FIELD TRIPS, VOLUNTEER & INTERN **PROGRAMS AND GIFT CERTIFICATES**

Prices and availability for all tours are subject to change. Visit us online for the most current tour information.

CONTRACT S	Description	Qty. Size	Price Each	Total
Tigers Photo Wrap 15 oz Mug \$15.84				
BILLING ADDRESS				
Name				
				
Address				
City St Zip				
City St Zip				
Day Time Phone				
Say Time I Herie				
Evening Phone	DONATION TOWARDS THE LITTLE CAT VACATION ROTATION ENCLOSURE			
	SPONSOR A PAVE THE WAY BRICK *	4x8	\$100.00	
Email	SPONSOR A PAVE THE WAY BRICK *	8x8	\$200.00	
	SPONSOR PERIMETER WALL*	1 Foot	\$100.00	
RECIPIENT ADDRESS (if different than Billing)	* NOTE: Fill out blue shaded box at bottom of form			
Name				
	I want to join the automatic giving program, charge my card each month \$			
Address	Yes, I would priority shipping for an additional charge of \$3.00 \$			
	Yes, I would like a receipt for tax purpose	es	Grand Total \$	
City St Zip	METHOD OF PAYMENT			
	Check Money Order	American Expre	ss Dis	cover
Day Time Phone	Visa MasterCard CCV	#	_	
	Credit Card Number			
Evening Phone				
	Exp. Date MMYY	gnature		
Email				
his is a gift, please make card TO: FROM:				
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 813-920-4130. This is a G-R-R-eat way to spread out your donations and provide steady support that is so meaningful for

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Special Comment, Request, or Question:
* Personalizations (How you want your name to appear):

VOLUNTEERS AWARDED FOR OUTSTANDING DEDICATION

Congratulations to the following Big Cat Rescuers who have been recognized for their outstanding commitment to the mission of Big Cat Rescue. In honor of this commitment they were each presented with an award called the S.A.V.E. and allotted \$500 to spend on their favorite feline friends.

S.A.V.E stands for Scratch's Award for Volunteer Excellence. Named for an outstanding cougar, Scratch, whose lifespan reached 30 years, the SAVE Award is presented to one outstanding volunteer or intern each month.

November

Justin Boorstein

December

Afton Tasler



pitch in and help out wherever needed and does so with a winning smile. Sara Potosnak is a new volunteer who has dedicated nearly 300 hours of service in the her first 4 months. This is an outstanding amount of volunteer time and is greatly appreciated! Thank you all for your dedication to the sanctuary and the cats. You are truly amazing volunteers!

Big Cat Rescue is always looking for volunteers. There are two volunteer departments to fit every type of

We are happy to celebrate volunteer

veterinarian Dr. Justin Boorstein

for always taking time to explain

procedures to the volunteers as well

as answer questions and for keeping

Tasler was awarded for her endless

enthusiasm. She is always willing to

the foster kittens healthy.

departments to fit every type of volunteer; Keepers clean enclosures, feed the animals, and landscape. Partners work in the gift shop and guide tours of the sanctuary. Check us out online to get all the de-tails!

LITTLE CATS NEED A VACATION TOO!

We are so happy to share with you that as of November the 2.5 acre Vacation Rotation Enclosure has been completely funded! So far nearly all of the lions and tigers have had an amazing two week vacation in the new space, playing in



the water fountain, climbing the massive jungle gyms, and running at top speed through acres of lush grass land.

Sadly the cougars, leopards, lynx, and other small cats feel a little left out. And so we have already begun the planning stages for a Little Cat Vacation Rotation Enclosure.

Please consider making a contribution towards this project to make the little cats purrr!

http://tinyurl.com/m9r9908







www.BigCatRescue.org/volunteer

Sarah Potosnak

T. ROWE PRICE SHARES WHY THEY CHOSE BCR

"Big Cat Rescue is such a unique organization. They are so dedicated to protecting these animals who are exploited in so many ways. The cats at the sanctuary were rescued from a variety of situations. Retired circus animals, fur trade refugees and even cats that were kept as pets until they got too unruly to handle. Big cat rescue gives them a place to live out the rest of their lives in peace.

We really wanted to help out any way we could to do something for these animals, and what better way than to volunteer and give some of our time to help the organization out?"



COUNTY COMMISSIONER SANDY MURMAN VISITS BCR

Recently we were honored to have a visit from Hillsborough County Commissioner Sandy Murman and her two staff members, Della Cury and Jeffrey Huggins, pictured here with Simba the leopard lounging on his platform

behind them. The Commissioner wore the purr-fect outfit - faux leopard print.

After the visit, the Commissioner kindly wrote recognizing the role that Big Cat Rescue plays in our community: "From providing a habitat for unwanted or abused



big cats to educating both children and adults in the community about these fascinating creatures, Big Cat Rescue continues to be an asset for Hillsborough County."

We believe it is important for elected officials at all levels to become familiar with the issues facing the big cats in captivity and very much appreciate Commissioner Murman and her staff making time to visit us.



UPDATE ON KHALEESI AND FENCER 2 BOBCATS REHABILITATED AT BIG CAT RESCUE

In the previous couple issues of the Big Cat Times we shared with you the stories of Khaleesi and Fencer two bobcats that found their way into our rehabilitation program.



Last Summer Khaleesi, a two-month-old female bobcat, had been orphaned in Gainesville. She passed through a few wildlife rehabilitation centers from Gainesville all the way to Sanibel Island before she was made her way to Big Cat Rescue. These other centers did not have the facilities to house wild bobcats. Khaleesi was in good health, so all she required was a little bit of time in our rehab program so she could learn what foods to eat, how to hunt, and where to find shelter from the elements.

A few months after her arrival Khaleesi was nearly full grown and ready to be set free. She was 6.5 months old and weighed 12 pounds. When the door of the transport crate was opened Khaleesi was reluctant at first. After a few minutes she finally jumped out of the crate. She stayed low to the ground sneaking through



the tall grasses, but once she realized that she was truly free she bounded off into the palmetto brush. The property on which she was released is 4,000 acres of privately owned prairie and forest land which also includes access to a river and a natural gas line that runs for hundreds of miles. This natural gas line property can never be developed. So Khaleesi can travel as far as she wants with no worries!

A roaring applause of gratitude must go out to everyone who made Khaleesi's release possible; the rehabilitators who contacted Big Cat Rescue to find Khaleesi a suitable facility to be rehabilitated, Big Cat Rescuers who prepared the rehab enclosure and cared for her, and the property owners who graciously permitted her release on their land. Thank you!



Last Fall Fencer, an adult male bobcat, was found snared in a fence in a residential neighborhood. Bordering the neighborhood was a large tract of forest land that he was most likely traveling to. The homeowners awoke one morning and discovered the poor bobcat was hanging by his toe. They called Animal Control who in turn called Big Cat Rescue.

Fencer was sedated and examined. The toe by which he had been trapped was broken. He spent six weeks recovering in our onsite Cat Hospital and out door rehabilitation enclosure after which he was ready to go home.

Fencer was taken to a release site of 7,000 acres of privately owned forest very close to where he was originally found. He made a bee line for the forest edge once the door to the transport cage was opened and never looked back! A big thanks to everyone who made his recovery possible building the new rehab enclosure

addition, feeding and caring for Fencer, and the land owners who made his release possible. You are all so amazing!



NEW BOBCAT RESCUED CYPRESS GETS A SECOND CHANCE

Big Cat Rescuers rang in the new year with the rescue of another wild bobcat in need of help. Cypress, an adult female bobcat, had been hit by a car in the early morning hours of January 4th. Good Samaritan and wildlife lover Bob Strouse contacted Big Cat Rescue after having witnessed the incident.

Big Cat Rescue CEO and Founder Carole Baskin hit the road, driving an hour to the location. Thankfully Bob had enlisted the help of his wife Laurie and their friend Shawn Patterson to watch over the bobcat until help could arrive. Once Carole came on to the scene the four of them managed to corral and eventually net the bobcat.

Upon capturing Cypress it became evident that she had sustained a massive injury as she was unable to use her back legs. She was taken to Ehrlich Animal Hospital where volunteer veterinarians Dr.





Wynn and Dr. Boorstein examined her. Cypress weighed 16.2 pounds, average for a female bobcat. She had suffered a major impact to her rear end and x-rays showed that her pelvis was broken in 4 places and 2 of them were places that





will be very difficult, if not impossible to plate and pin. Orthopedic specialists Dr. Hay and Dr. Salas were consulted to make a treatment plan.

Cypress was taken to Blue Pearl where Dr. Salas performed a procedure called

FHO – Femoral Head Ostectomy. The socket of the pelvis where the head of the femur sits was badly broken. The head of the femur could have easily crushed this delicate socket and if this were to occur there would not be a treatment that would result in Cypress being a candidate for release. So the head of the

femur was removed and the scar tissue that will develop around it will fill in this space over time.

Many animals do quite well after this procedure and Dr. Salas firmly believed that Cypress will be a candidate for release given proper care and adequate time to heal. Stay tuned to see what happens...

