

CFA August 2024 Newsletter

CT For Animals is a new organization educating for animals in CT and beyond.

CFA is committed to promoting the welfare and protection of animals and the environment through education, awareness, community outreach and engagement.

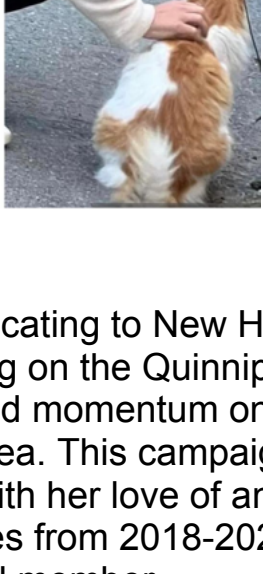
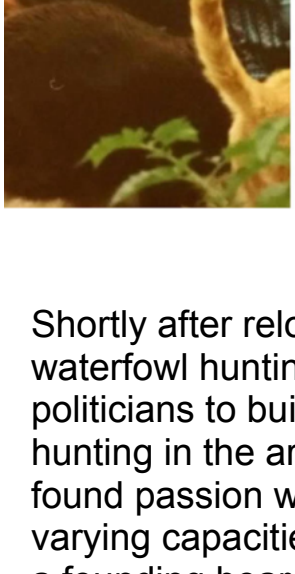
CFA's Mission is:

- **Empowering** individuals to become informed advocates for animal welfare
- **Engaging** the public through outreach campaigns
- **Educating** through virtual and in-person workshops and developing educational materials
- **Collaborating** with other animal welfare organizations and law enforcement agencies

[Meet the CFA Board & Leadership Team](#)

"Together for Animals!"

August Board Member Spotlight! Andrea Dobras, Secretary



Growing up with 5 cats, surrounded by wildlife, and a mother who taught the value of putting bugs in a cup, rather than killing, Andrea felt a connection to animals very early on.

In 2006 she finally had the opportunity to put her love of animals to work. That's when she joined Our Companions Animal Rescue as a helpline volunteer for cats during the early stages of the organization's development. Specializing in hoarding cases and advocating for FIV+ cats, she also helped place hundreds of cats in need. During her time at OC, Andrea also served as Secretary on their Board of Directors for close to a decade.

Shortly after relocating to New Haven in 2017, Andrea established a grassroots effort to end the waterfowl hunting on the Quinnipiac River in New Haven. She worked tirelessly with the residents and politicians to build momentum on this long-term problem, resulting in the official ban of waterfowl hunting in the area. This campaign sparked her interest in politics, allowing her to combine this new-found passion with her love of animals. Andrea served on the Connecticut Votes for Animals Board in varying capacities from 2018-2024, before joining Connecticut for Animals Education Fund (CFA) as a founding board member.

Andrea has close to two decades of experience in non-profit leadership of an education-based organization. Currently on sabbatical, she assists CFA with the creation of educational materials, website development, and board leadership, where she serves as the organization's Secretary. In addition, Andrea volunteers at Halfway Home Animal Rescue, providing animal care to cats and various farm animals several days a week. She has a strong passion for wildlife and farmed animals and dreams of a world where we can respect and peacefully coexist with all our planet's beings.

Aside from animals, Andrea enjoys playing tennis and traveling. She currently lives in East Haven with her partner, Daniel Kay, and their two adopted cats, Chester Bruiser Pants and Bucatini.

August Partner Spotlight! Desmond's Army Animal Law Advocates



In this edition, we shine our CFA Partner Spotlight on Desmond's Army! We interviewed the three officers of the organization, Zilla Cannamela, Linda Pleva, and Candace Bouchard shared their goals and vision so our members could learn more about the good work they are doing. Here is what they had to share with us...

Visit Desmond's Army's website [HERE](#)

Q: What/Who is Desmond's Army?

Desmond's Army Animal Law Advocates is a group of volunteer citizens who work together to better the lives of animals. We are committed to impacting animal welfare legislation. We do this by being a voice for the voiceless in the courts and at the Capitol. We seek to raise public awareness regarding the statistical connection between animal abuse and domestic and social violence. Desmond's Army Animal Law Advocates (DA) believe that one's treatment of animals is closely associated with the treatment of fellow humans. DA seeks a better world by celebrating animals and confronting animal cruelty.

Q: What motivated DA to become an advocate for animals? Where did it all begin?

Desmond's Army was born from a storm of outrage. The brutal murder of a beloved dog named Desmond in 2012 ignited a fire within the community. When the perpetrator received a lenient sentence through an accelerated rehabilitation program, public indignation reached a boiling point. Refusing to let Desmond's suffering be in vain, a determined group of animal advocates banded together, forming the foundation of what would become Desmond's Army. Their mission was clear: to seek justice for abused animals, prevent future cruelty, and break the cycle of violence.

Q: What are the next steps for DA?

Desmond's Army is committed to being a powerful advocate for animals. We will achieve this by:

- Educating the public about the connection between animal cruelty and domestic/social violence.
- Providing resources for reporting animal cruelty incidents.
- Empowering citizens to engage legislators regarding animal welfare issues.
- Promoting public perception of animals as sentient beings deserving protection.
- Advocating for stronger penalties for animal cruelty convictions.

Desmond's Army is excited to launch a fall podcast highlighting high-profile cases, judicial proceedings, and the urgent need for judicial reform.

Click [HERE](#) to read the full interview and learn more about Desmond's Army.



Consider Giving to CFA:

CFA is committed to promoting the welfare and protection of animals and domestic/social violence. We are deeply grateful for your financial support, which allows us to carry out this vital mission. We rely entirely on individual supporters like you, your contribution is crucial in enabling us to provide robust educational programming focused on animals in Connecticut.

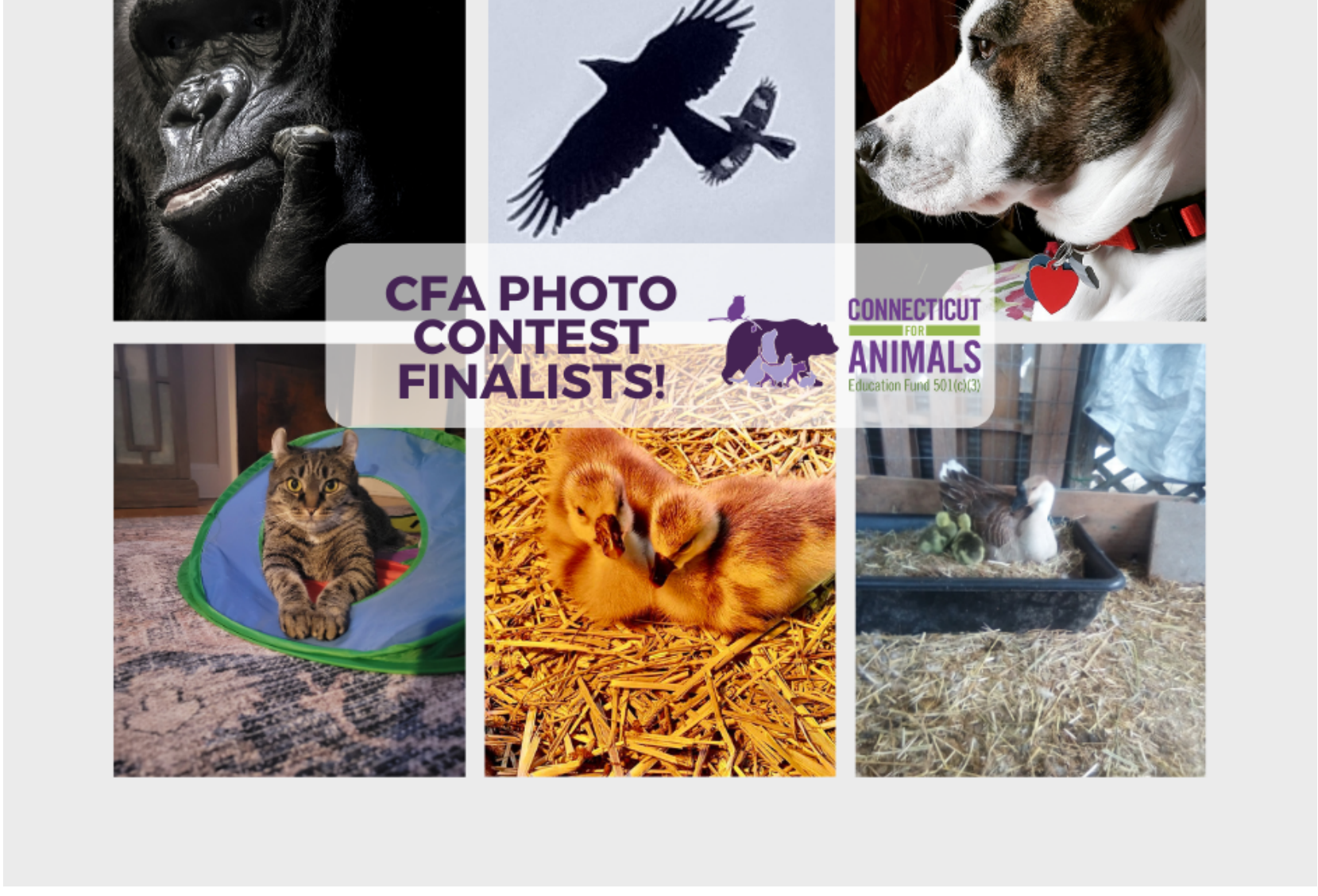
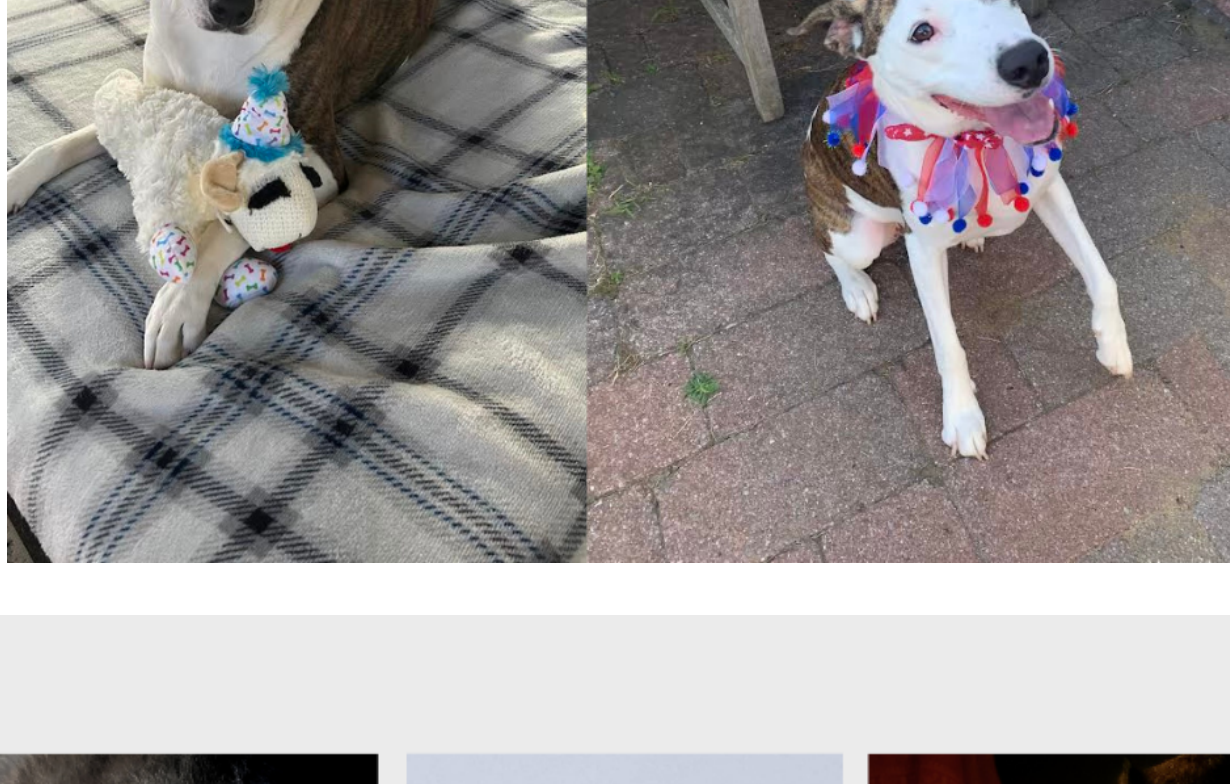
Thank you for being a part of CFA's mission and coming Together for Animals!

[Click to Donate!](#)

Meet CFA's Amazing Animal Photo Contest Winner: Nola Brooks!

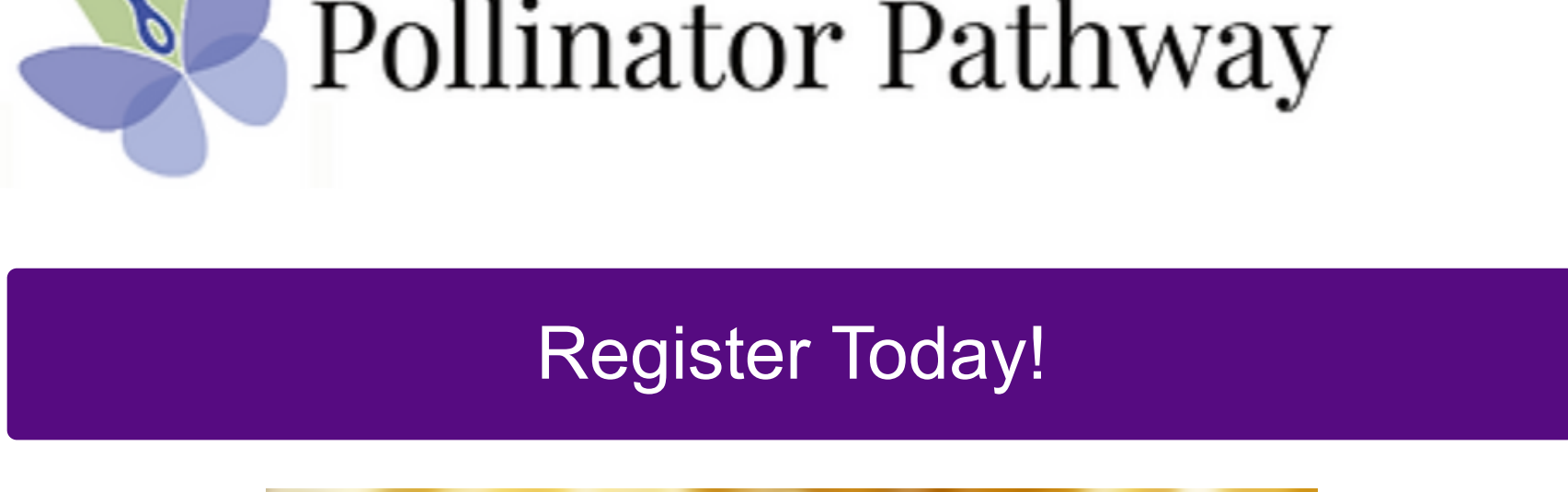


Nola is a 4 year old rescue from Farnsville, Louisiana. Nola made her way to the CT adoption event and has been thriving ever since. Nola loves to take her morning walks and "monitor the neighborhood" by sitting at her favorite window. She also loves to play with her dinosaur and lamb toys! On hot days, she enjoys sunbathing in the driveway with her Ya Ya (grandma). She is a happy loving pup!



CFA Educational Programming in Action

Aug 28th at 6PM – Neonics Pesticide Poisoning and Saving our Pollinators! Join CFA and our Expert Presenter partners from Pollinator Pathway! [Pollinator Pathway \(pollinator-pathway.org\)](#)



Register Today!

THE EFFECTS OF NEONICOTINOIDS/PESTICIDES ON OUR POLLINATORS, INSECTS, ANIMALS AND ECOSYSTEMS - HOW YOU CAN HELP!

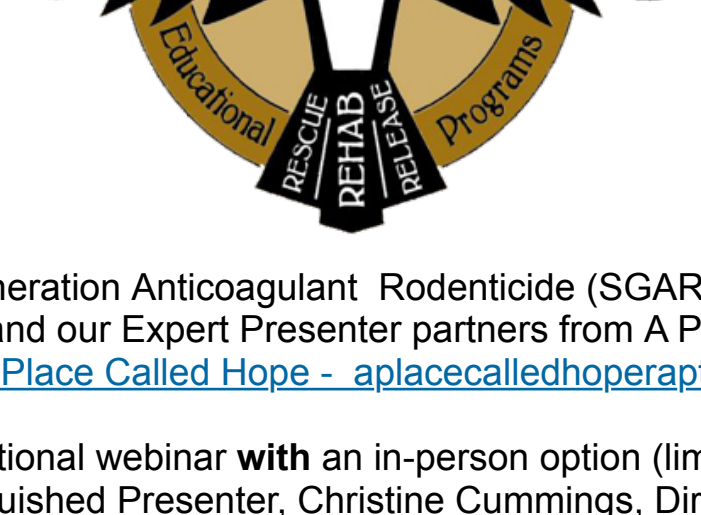


NEONICS ARE LINKED TO:

- Sharp declines in bee and other insect populations
- Loss of 3 billion birds
- Threats to over 200 threatened and endangered species
- Congenital defects in white-tailed deer and more

FREE EDUCATIONAL WEBINAR


REGISTER TODAY!
8-28-2024
6:00 - 7:15

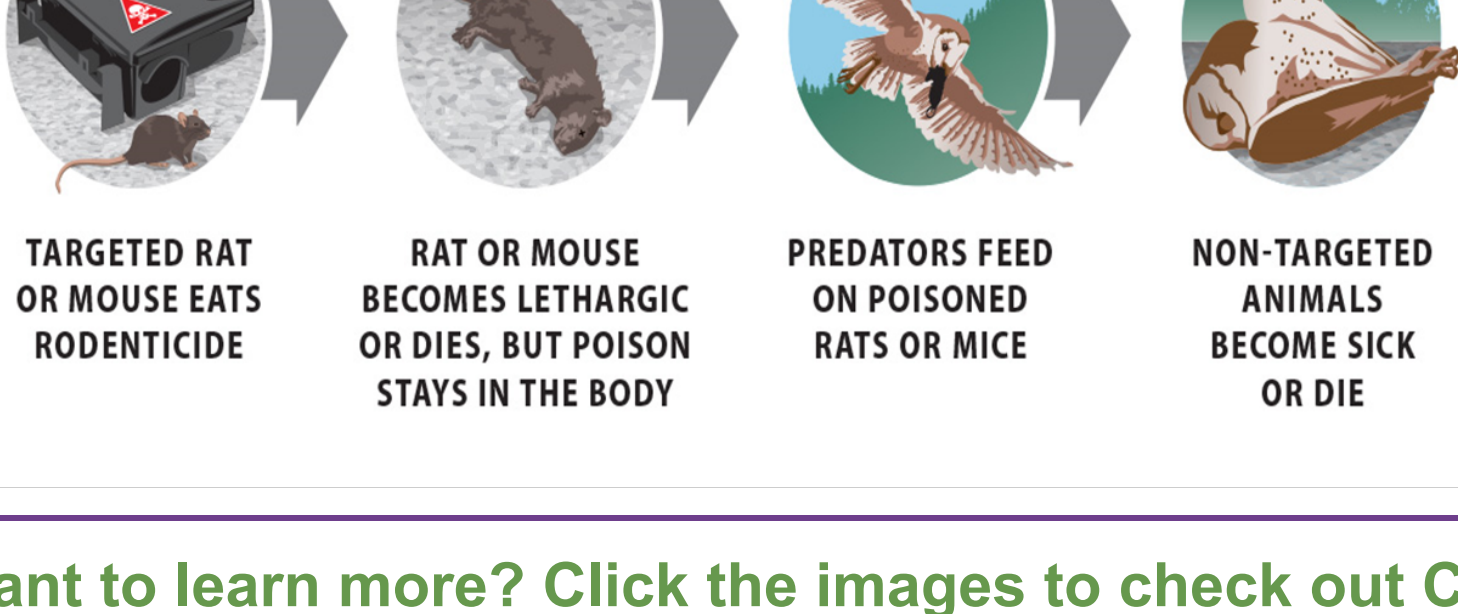



Nov 7th at 6PM - Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticide (SGARs) Killing our Wildlife and what you can do to help! Join CFA and our Expert Presenter partners from A Place Called Hope! [Birds of Prey Rehabilitation Center - A Place Called Hope - aplacecalledhoperaptors.com](#)

CFA is offering a hybrid educational webinar with an in-person option (limited in person seats, first come availability). Our distinguished Presenter, Christine Cummings, Director of A Place Called Hope will give a presentation on the dangers of SGARs. Additionally, a live ambassador raptor will be part of her presentation. Registration will open soon, please watch our events page [here](#) for details.

The Truth About Anticoagulant Rodenticides

A Place Called Hope www.aplacecalledhoperaptors.com

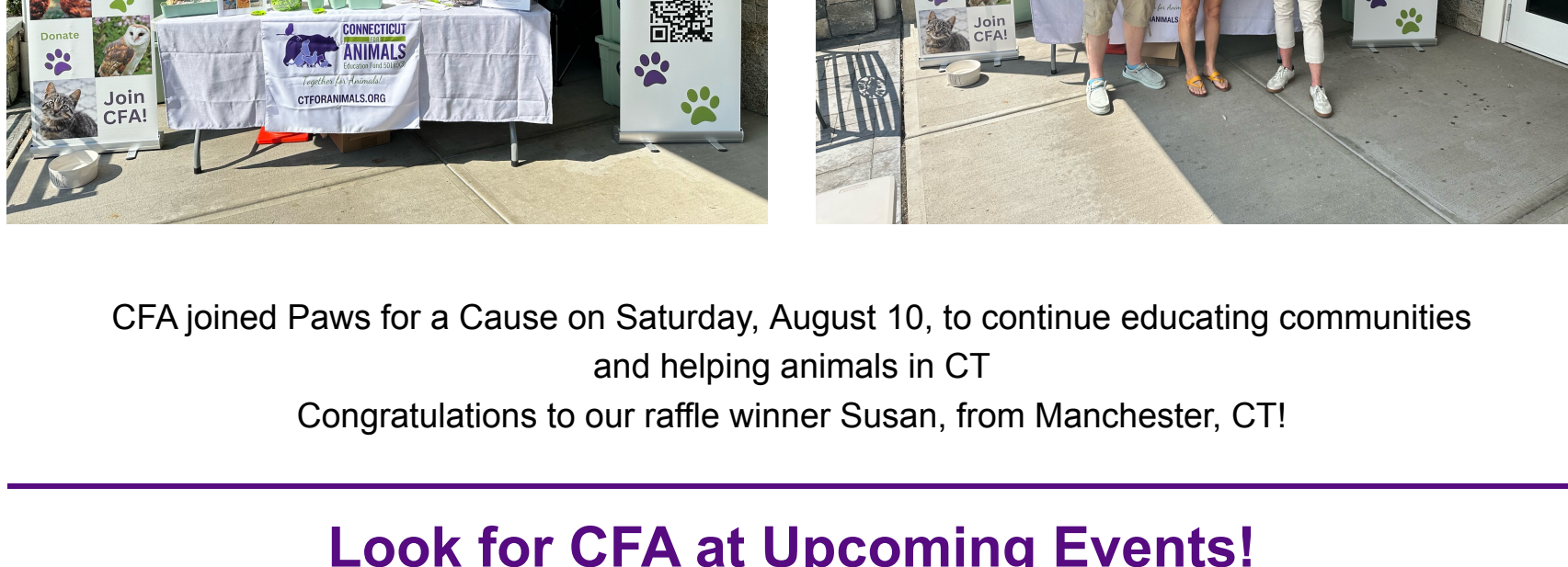


Want to learn more? Click the images to check out CFA's Fact Sheets!



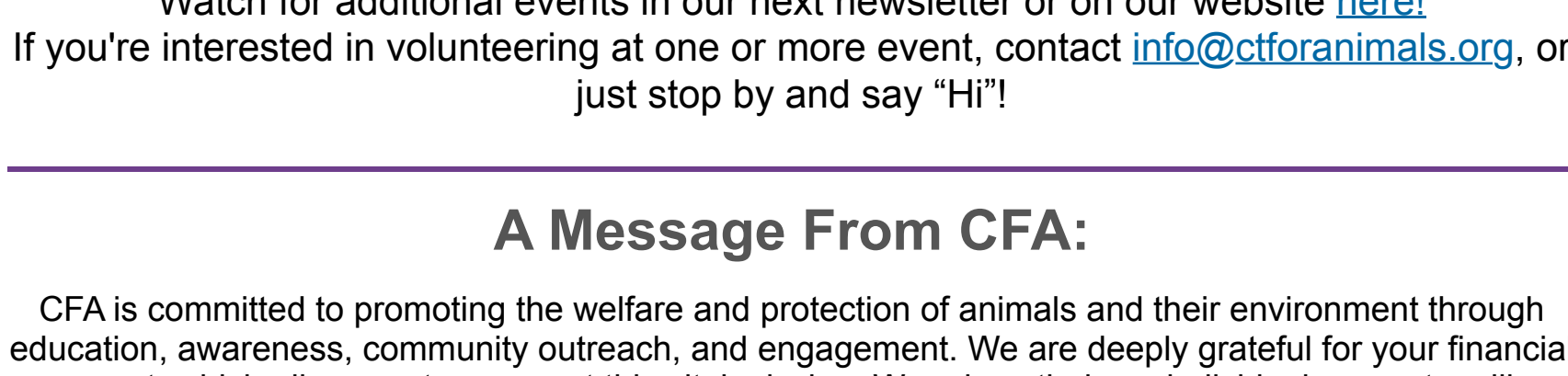
Click [HERE](#) to read more facts on animals issues

ICYMI: CFA at Paws for a Cause!



CFA joined Paws for a Cause on Saturday, August 10, to continue educating communities and helping animals in CT
Congratulations to our raffle winner Susan, from Manchester, CT!

Look for CFA at Upcoming Events!



Watch for additional events in our next newsletter or on our website [here](#)
If you're interested in volunteering at one or more event, contact info@ctforanimals.org, or just stop by and say "Hi!"

A Message From CFA:

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Thank you for being a part of CFA's mission and coming

"Together for Animals!"

Your donations make our educational programs possible.
CFA is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3), organization so your donation is tax deductible.

[DONATE](#)

Follow CFA



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