Carden International Circus returned to the road; we did too!

Some circuses, including Carden Intl., returned to performing as the pandemic slowed. And when they did, CWI was there!

We were disappointed to see both Betty and Bo being dragged around the country along with elephants Cindy and Janice. Carden was forcing them to give rides and perform mental tricks under threat of a beating with a bullhook.

Based on evidence collected at several performances in Texas and Kentucky revealing numerous violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act, CWI filed two emergency complaints with the USDA. We documented potentially serious health issues in Betty, Cindy, and Janice including signs of possible organ failure in Betty.

We are pleased to share that our petition for Betty has reached more than 250,000 signatures. Carden returns to the road in August, and we will continue to monitor all of the animals they force to perform. We will also continue to implore the USDA to take action to send Betty to sanctuary.

We were especially disturbed to find Bo, the only male elephant traveling the U.S. in circuses, chained by the leg and in a small pen. He was exhibiting stereotypic behavior, like rocking and swaying, which is indicative of emotional and psychological distress in elephants and other animals.

Bo has continued to decline over the years and is frequently brought out on the road only to be omitted from the circus due to his reported behavioral issues. We have implored the USDA to take action for Bo and will continue to fight for his freedom.

SUCCESSES!

Wins for animals require collaboration, persistence, and patience. We’re proud to have been a part of many great successes in the first half of 2021!

In Nevada, CWI supported NV SB344, a bill which limits public contact with certain wild animals. Happily, the bill passed, and elephant rides will no longer be allowed in the state of Nevada.

CWI has worked diligently in Colorado for many years to put an end to circus cruelty. We’ve proudly supported activists on the ground with protests, billboards, and investigations. It’s time to celebrate because Colorado has banned the use of wild animals in circuses!

Last year, CWI mounted a large community-based campaign against magician Jay Owenhouse, who was set to create a "tiger tent" on the Las Vegas Strip. We are glad to say that the deadline on his permit ran out, and he won’t be setting up shop!

SAVE MINNIE

In February, CWI launched a new campaign on behalf of Minnie, a lone elephant owned by Commerford & Sons, in Goshen, Connecticut. Minnie has lived alone since her companions Beulah and Karen both died of medical issues while in Commerford’s “care”.

In 2018, CWI documented Minnie at an event with pronounced swelling in her jaw. We reported our findings to the USDA, and they failed to follow up for four months. We continue our fight for Minnie!

Minnie inhabits a dismal barn unsuited for the health and well-being of elephants. She will possibly continue to be used by Commerford to give rides or pose for photo opps as did both Beulah and Karen.

Learn more & sign her petition at: circusprotest.com/savemininnie

RALLY FOR CECIL

From July 1-3, CWI held an event in memory of Cecil the lion who was killed 6 years ago by American trophy hunter Walter Palmer.

We reached tens of thousands of people with educational messages about the horrors of trophy hunting. In Birmingham, England, they held a march with several notable speakers and had a great turnout!

More to come...

On October 9, CWI hosts our annual Freedom Matters event. Get involved: noanimaljails.org

Save the date for CWI’s next vegan festival! Get ready to come to Las Vegas on Nov. 13.

The protests continue! This summer and fall we’ll be organizing against circuses, rodeos, and trophy hunting events.

January 19-23, 2022 marks the return of Safari Club International’s annual trophy hunting convention. Activists around the world will speak out at our Worldwide Rally Against Trophy Hunting!