

You're Invited

Saturday May 11, 2019 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Hilton 425 W. Prospect Rd. Fort Collins, CO

RSVP Today!

Featuring four special quest speakers:

Invited Film, Television Actress & Animal Activist, <u>Kristin Bauer</u>, of HBO's series
True Blood and ABC's series Once Upon a Time
Overseer of the Defenders of Wildlife wolf conservation programs in the
Pacific Northwest, <u>Suzanne Asha Stone</u>
Wolf biologists and founders of Yellowstone's premier wildlife guiding service,

Nathan Varley & Linda Thurston

Reservations are encouraged to be made online at www.wolfsanctuary.net/tickets, but may also be purchased by phone (970-416-9531) or mail using the form below. An e-mail address for each quest is required to secure reservations and receive the mobile bidding link.

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name:				
address:				
city, st, zip:				
phone:				
email:				
(Required to secure reservation	(Required to secure reservations and receive the mobile bidding link)			
credit card:	(American Express, Discover, Visa or MasterCard)			
	security code:			
Please make checks payable to W.O.L.F.				
x \$75 per Guest \$	Number of Guests:			
\$750 Table for 10 \$	Number of Meals: #1 #2			
Silver Table Phone Only	Please provide the names for all of			
Gold Table Phone Only	your guests with your reservation or			
Total \$	e-mail them to gala@wolfsanctuary.net			

Choose Your Entrée

Both entrées include fresh-baked dinner rolls, broccoli coleslaw salad and dessert.

#1: Vegetarian Option*

Roasted Vegetable Wellington with Creamed Spinach

#2: Vegan Option

Sesame crusted Tempeh with Rice Noodles served with Spicy Asian Créme

*If an entrée is not chosen, guests will receive the Vegetable Wellington entrée.

Send your reservation to W.O.L.F. PO Box 1544 - Laporte, CO 80535

Reservations also available online. Go to www.wolfsanctuary.net/tickets

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Enjoy our latest installment of "Facts and Tracks"! This quarter we are excited to introduce you to Isabeau and Jacob.

Cover Photo: Akela



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Mission: To improve the quality of life for wolves and wolf dogs through:

Rescue - Save captive-born wolves and wolf dogs who need sanctuary in order to survive;

Sanctuary - Provide a lifelong home at W.O.L.F. in a natural habitat that takes into account each individual's physical, medical & emotional needs;

Education - Provide the public with education about the plight of wolves and wolf dogs (both captive-born and wild) to help foster a greater understanding of them and their value.

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Letter from the Director



Dear W.O.L.F. Supporters:

The first order of business is to thank our many loyal friends who made Colorado Gives Day a huge success. This year we set an ambitious goal of \$100,000, and we exceeded that goal by over \$70,000! It is W.O.L.F.'s largest fundraiser of the year, and this year was nothing short of spectacular. I want you to know how grateful I am for the gifts that allow us to provide sanctuary and care to every one of our animals. We could not do this without the love and generosity of our supporters.

I also have sad news to report. We lost our beloved Kaileah in late November. She was a social and generous spirit, and we have grieved for this beautiful wolf who will always live in our hearts. When you read the moving tribute about Kaileah's life by Michelle Proulx, our Director of Animal Care, you will come to know her the way so many of our staff and volunteers did. Michelle formed a special bond with Kaileah from her very first days at the Sanctuary in 2014, and she writes beautifully about the love and loss of this endearing wolf. You can also watch the tribute video to Kaileah on our website at: https://wolfsanctuary.co/kaileah/.

Kaileah's companion Ahote also needed time to grieve for her, and we gave him that time before rescuing another animal to live with him. As is always the case, we looked for a companion who would suit his needs and personality. There is no guarantee that two animals will form a bond, so we try to match energy, socialization and compatibility of personalities. After a month of searching, we discovered that Lockwood Animal Rescue Center (LARC) in California had a female wolf named Texas Red who needed a companion. Texas Red was not successful in forming a bond with any available males at LARC, and she was lonely. She was in the age range that we felt was appropriate for Ahote, and her shy nature seemed to be a good fit for him as well. In early January, our transport team made the journey to California to bring Texas Red home. Texas Red had a very difficult and perilous life at a notorious fur farm in Minnesota prior to her rescue by LARC. You can read about the harrowing experiences she had and understand more about her shy demeanor and reluctance to give her trust and friendship to humans. We gave Texas Red a new name – Ember – to start her new life at W.O.L.F. We believe Ember and Ahote will form a bond that brings great comfort to each of them as they begin a new chapter in their lives at W.O.L.F.

We have many exciting things in our future. We hope you will be able to attend our annual Spring Gala and Auction at the Fort Collins Hilton on May 11, 2019. The theme this year is "HOWLLY WOOD." You can read the details of the "glitz and glam" we have planned for this event and learn how to make your reservations in the article by our Director of Development Jessica Kole.

As we move forward in 2019, I wish you joy and peace in all that you do, and know that I hold a special place in my heart for each of our friends who love and support our magnificent wolves and wolf dogs in the same way that we do.

As always, humbly and gratefully yours,

A Perilous Journey to Safety

By Susan Weidel & Michelle Proulx



Ember (formerly known as Texas Red) comes to W.O.L.F. after life at a notorious fur farm in Minnesota known as Fur-Ever Wild. She went through a long and perilous journey to safety thanks to the work of Lockwood Animal Rescue Center (LARC) founders

Matthew Simmons and Lorin Lindner who never gave up on the wolves who were doomed to be pelted for profit at the killing facility in Eureka Township, Minnesota. W.O.L.F. has given Texas Red the new name Ember as she begins her new life in Colorado.

Fur-Ever Wild



Fur-Ever Wild, owned and operated by Terri Petter, posed as a "petting zoo" where the public could come and pet wolf pups and other baby ani-

mals. For a fee, anywhere from \$8 to \$20 per person, the general public could serve as "volunteers" for pet-n-play sessions with wolf pups. However, as soon as the pups reached maturity, they were

pelted by Petter and her crew, and the wolf furs were sold. Gruesomely, some of the pelts were for sale at the facility gift shop! A former Fur-Ever Wild volunteer Tim Warner speculated that Petter ran the "petting zoo" not only as a money-maker, but also to socialize the wolf pups



so they would be easier to handle during the live pelting process.

"...What she's doing is adjusting these wolf pups to be handled by people so



they're not skittish of people. And we know what happens. It's easier for her to kill them [for their pelts] in a year or two and they won't be scared of her. People need to know she kills the animals." http://www.citypages.com/news/petting-zoo-slaughterhouse-still-in-business-as-officials-fail-to-shut-it-down/422429663



In 2017, LARC and the Animal Legal Defense Fund joined forces to file a federal lawsuit against Fur-Ever Wild and Petter for violations of the Endangered Species Act. The Eureka Township Board in Minnesota also challenged Petter on zoning violations for

her use of the "petting zoo" animals in her pelting operation. In 2017, by federal court order, LARC was permitted on the property, with law enforcement officers and attorneys involved in the case, to conduct an inventory of the animals at Fur-Ever Wild. The results showed the following animals:

- 67 very high content wolves.
 As many as 14 of the females may have been pregnant. Fifteen of the wolves were DNA tested using a specialized test. The results indicated that the animals were very high in wolf content. Fifty-five of the wolves were 3 years old or younger.
- 2. 18 mountain lions/cougars
- 3. 20 bobcats
- 4. 35 foxes
- 5. A few coyotes, porcupines and raccoons

In late 2017, with a looming court order that allowed for seizure of the animals, Petter under cover of darkness, spirited away every exotic animal on the property. When the Sheriff finally permitted LARC to enter the property, many hours after the origi-



nal court-appointed time, all the wolves, big cats, foxes, coyotes and smaller animals were gone.

Joe Exotic

After much legal wrangling and some very intensive investigative work, in April 2018 LARC was able to locate 26 of the wolves who had been secretly transported to a private petting zoo facility in Oklahoma operated by a shady individual named Joe Maldonado, also known as "Joe Exotic." Maldonado is an individual who has been involved in numerous complaints of animal abuse and neglect in the past. In October 2018 he was indicted by an Oklahoma federal grand jury on "murder for hire" charges when he allegedly tried to put a "hit" on an exotic animal activist in Florida. Maldonado was also indicted by a grand jury on 19 counts of wildlife and Endangered Species Act violations including shooting and killing five tigers in 2017 to



make room for other big cats at his facility and selling and offering to sell tiger cubs. He was further accused of falsifying records involving the sale of tigers, lions, and a baby lemur. He remains in federal custody awaiting trial.

Prior to his indictments, Maldonado agreed to surrender to LARC the 26 wolves that came from Fur-Ever Wild. LARC worked quickly to have the traumatized wolves checked by a veterinarian for health concerns and prepare them for transport. On Mother's Day in 2018, LARC began the transport to bring the wolves to safety at their sanctuary in California. Ember/Texas Red was one of those

Ember/Texas Red

There are not many details about Ember's life at Fur-Ever Wild other than it must have been stressful

animals.



and horrific. She likely spent her puppyhood as part of the "Pet-n-Play" exhibit before being transferred over into the "farm" population. Whether her fate was to be bred, pelted or both is unknown.

After her cross-country journey from Oklahoma, Ember arrived at LARC in California in May 2018. LARC gave her medical attention, spayed her, and provided her with the time she needed to recover from her ordeal. The beautiful black phase wolf was eventually placed with an older male at LARC. Ember longed for the companionship of another animal but unfortunately it was not to be. The older male rejected Ember, and she was once again living alone in her enclosure. LARC did not have another appropriate male who could be moved to live with Ember. When W.O.L.F. sud-





denly lost an older female wolf named Kaileah, her companion Ahote was left alone. W.O.L.F. gave him the time he needed to grieve for his lost com-

panion, and when he was ready, W.O.L.F. began the search for a companion. During the search, W.O.L.F. contacted LARC to see if they knew of an appropriate female who needed a male companion. Ember immediately came to mind.

W.O.L.F. felt that Ember could work well with Ahote and arrangements were made to fly out to LARC and pick her up. On January 3, 2019 the transport team left for California. They made

it to LARC on January 4th. It was wonderful to meet with the staff at LARC, see their facility and meet Ember. By mid-afternoon it was time to load



Ember into the van and start the 17 plus hour drive back to Fort Collins, CO. Though the Staff at LARC were sad to see her go, they were excited for Ember to get a chance at companionship with Ahote at W.O.L.F.

The drive back to Colorado was uneventful and the transport team could not have asked for a more well behaved animal for the long journey. Ember slept calmly most of the way, except when the transport team offered her treats and goodies along the way. As is standard procedure for bringing in a new resident to the Sanctuary, the transport



team made a slight detour on the way to the Sanctuary, stopping by our vet so Ember could get a checkup. Once again Ember

was a superstar allowing the vet to examine her and draw blood for lab work without any fuss. With the vet's stamp of approval, Ember was once again loaded into the van for the final stretch to the Sanctuary.

Ember arrived at W.O.L.F. mid-afternoon and was placed into the lower area of Ahote's run. Still a little groggy from the long drive and vet visit, it



was decided to give Ember the night to herself to recover. In the morning Ember was up and anxiously pacing along the front fence line. Hoping that having a companion would help to calm her down, it was decided to open up the gate between her and Ahote to let them meet. Ahote was immediately interested in Ember and obviously wanted to say "Hi". Ember however was not quite as comfortable with the situation and would fearfully tuck her tail and snap at Ahote if he came too close. Being the respectful gentleman he is, Ahote would always back off and give her the space she needed to settle down.



It took Ember three days to adjust to her new life at W.O.L.F. She stopped pacing the front fence line and began to explore her habitat. Though

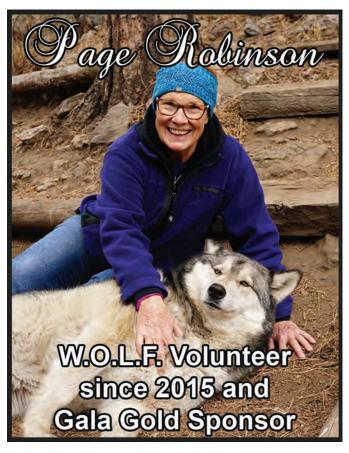
she still preferred to keep her distance from Ahote, she no longer reacted fearfully when he would get close. She also learned very quickly where

the food came from and every time one of her caretakers would walk by her habitat, she would run to the fence line and wait for a treat (continued on page 10).









The HOWLLY WOOD Gala

By Jessica Kole

Want to make a difference in the lives of animals? Enjoy learning from subject matter experts? Join us for an evening of fun and philanthropy benefiting all of the wolves and wolf dogs that we have come to know and love at W.O.L.F. Sanctuary!

On May 11, 2019 at the Hilton, Fort Collins, W.O.L.F. will be hosting our Annual Fundraiser Gala from 5PM – 9PM, HOWLLY WOOD themed! This upcoming gala will feature four guest speakers – a celebrity actress with a passion for animal rights, and biologists with extensive backgrounds in wolf conservation, paired with a silent and live auction, in addition to delicious gourmet vegan and vegetarian meal selections (details on the inside front cover).

Hollywood American film and television actress, Kristin Bauer, has been invited to attend and speak at the Gala. Kristin has been in the film business since her early 20's, and is most known for her role as Pam, the vampire co-owner of Bon Temps' Fangtasia bar, in HBO's True Blood and Maleficent from ABC's Once Upon a Time. Kristin splits her time between filming, painting and trying to bring light to things that should not be happening. Nature and animals are her greatest passion as they "Have always given selflessly to me, so much more than I ever could have dreamed or given back. Mother Nature is the greatest, most magical artist I have ever seen."







Hear from <u>Suzanne Asha Stone</u>, Defenders of Wildlife wolf specialist, who participated in the reintroduction of wolves into Yellowstone and Idaho. Suzanne is overseeing pilot programs to promote effective and non-lethal co-existence been the agricultural community and wild wolves in the Pacific Northwest. She works directly with ranchers and farmers to devise and implement strategies to minimize wolf and livestock depredation conflicts. She is the lead author of Defenders' recent publications *Livestock and Wolves: A Guide to Nonlethal Tools and Methods to Reduce Conflict* and a co-author of *Places for Wolves*. She has presented her research at conferences, symposia and briefings including Oxford University, the Smithsonian and the U.S. Senate. (continued on page 14).

Today, Ember and Ahote's relationship is making slow but steady progress friendship. toward While there has been no playing observed between the two, they are most often seen hanging out within a few feet of each other wherever they are in the habitat. Ember has



also had no interest in directly interacting with her caretakers, however, she is comfortable with their presence in and around her habitat. She will always wait close by in hopes of a treat...or ten. We are so honored to have been able to help Ember and thrilled to see her blossom in her new home. We are confident that given a little bit more time Ember and Ahote will become the best of friends.

Photo Credits in order of appearance:

- 1. Ember at W.O.L.F.
- 2. Pet-N-Play at Fur-Ever Wild Courtesy of LARC
- 3. Fur-Ever Wild owner holding pup at http://www.citypag-es.com/news/fur-ever-wilds-terri-petter-goes-to-trial-with-her-petting-zoo-butchershop-on-the-line-8354137
- 4. Sign at Fur-Ever Wild Gift Shop Courtesy of LARC
- 5. Sign at Fur-Ever Wild entrance Courtesy of LARC
- 6. Wolf being removed from Fur-Ever Wild illegally Courtesy of LARC
- 7. Joe Exotic https://newsok.com/article/5610609/former-oklahoma-zookeeper-joe-exotic-to-stay-locked-up-in-murder-for-hire-case
- 8. Ember at Fur-Ever Wild Courtesy of LARC
- 9. LARC founders Matthew Simmons and Lorin Linder Courtesy of LARC
- 10. W.O.L.F. Transport Team touring LARC
- 11. W.O.L.F. Transport Team and Ember
- 12. Ember being released into her new habitat
- 13. Ember resting on top of her doghouse
- 14. Ember scent rolling
- 15. Ember and Ahote

Colorado Gives Day Results Send Us Howling into the New Year!



Reflecting on 2018, we are grateful for your dedication and passion towards W.O.L.F.'s Mission of Rescue, Sanctuary, and Education. On December 4th, W.O.L.F. participated in Colorado Gives Day, sponsored by Community First Foundation and FirstBank. The program offers a portion of the \$1 million incentive fund to Colorado nonprofits, increasing the value of every dollar donated.

W.O.L.F.'s goal was an ambitious one—to raise \$100,000 for standard operational expenses, vet care, and property improvements at our new location near Red Feather Lakes. Modifications to existing buildings, roadways, creation of wolf habitats, and engineering and other professional fees are expected to run over \$750,000!

After 24 hours of fundraising, we had exceeded our goal, raising \$177,797 with the aid of Colorado Gives Day's matching program and the generous support of our donors, inclusive of two special \$50,000 donations. In fact, we have doubled our donations from 2017, proving to be our most successful Colorado Gives Day to date!

We have an arduous journey ahead of us to make the rescues' dream home a reality in 2020, but with the faith of our friends, we are certainly headed in the right direction and thank everyone for their commitment to the future of the wolves. We are incredibly appreciative of the generosity from W.O.L.F.'s advocates and couldn't continue to rescue captive-born wolves and wolf dogs without your

In Loving Memory of Kaileah

By Michelle Proulx











Kaileah came to W.O.L.F.'s attention in May 2014 when we received a call about a 6 year old high-content wolf dog that needed immediate placement. Kai's backstory was complicated and confusing. She had been purchased as a young adult from a man who needed to "reduce his inventory". Not long after, her new owner placed Kai in a boarding facility, where she stayed for several months eventually becoming pregnant and giving birth to a litter of pups. After the pups were born, the facility refused to care for her any further because of her "aggression" issues. The owner was preparing to leave the country for a few years and was unable to find another facility to house Kai and her pups on such short notice, so she decided to surrender her to a sanctuary, while the pups went to several different states. The whole situation was as clear as mud, but we couldn't say no.

When she arrived at W.O.L.F. Kaileah was extremely skinny and covered in cuts and scrapes. Far from the aggressive, unmanageable animal the boarders had indicated, Kai was extremely social, albeit clingy, with her caretakers. Because she was still lactating, she had to live alone until she could be spayed. Eventually she was introduced to large male named Drake.

Kai and Drake hit it off instantly and formed a strong attachment. Despite Drake's larger size, Kai was the more dominant of the two, calling the shots whenever they wrestled or chased each other around the habitat. Their antics were very entertaining and they would often attempt to get their caretakers to join in. Kai and Drake were truly a star couple.

A year after Kaileah's rescue Drake passed away unexpectedly, leaving Kai alone and grieving. It took two months of searching, but W.O.L.F. finally came across a high-content









male in Washington state needing rescue who seemed like a good match. Ahote's pairing with Kai got off to a slow start, but eventually they became best friends. Ahote doted on Kai, always staying close by her side.

Kai loved to be petted and would often come running up to her caretakers and sit on their feet or lean heavily against their legs so they couldn't move. If they tried to get around her, she always seemed to be able to get in the way again and demand more scratches. In fact, Kai was sometimes so obsessive and enthusiastic with her caretakers that Ahote would often try to chase them away or redirect her attention back to him. Jealousy, maybe?

On November 23rd, 2018 while conducting morning rounds, caretakers discovered that, like Drake, Kai had passed away unexpectedly during the night. Everyone was shocked and distraught at how an animal who was so energetic and playful not 12 hours earlier could no longer be with us. Kai was submitted for a necropsy to determine the cause of her death, which was determined to be mesenteric torsion, an unpredictable condition that develops suddenly and is nearly always fatal even with immediate medical attention.

Though her death was shocking, we take comfort in knowing that Kaileah's passing was quick and that she was able to live life to the fullest until the very end. That *joie de vivre* was just one of the many qualities that made Kai such an amazing individual. Goofy and social with many of her caretakers, Kai was one of those delightful souls who make it very difficult not to play favorites among the many past and present residents of W.O.L.F. Her beauty was stunning both physically and spiritually. Her sudden departure has left a gaping hole in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.













Wolf Facts & Tracks

By Michelle Proulx



ISABEAU - Female

Birthday: April 1, 2006 Given Sanctuary: August 25, 2006 Companion: Nashoba Guardian Angel: Samantha Lott

Likes: Getting muddy then jumping on people.

Dislikes: Dog food of any kind. **Favorite Food:** Doughnuts.

Fun Fact: Isabeau loves giving her caretakers

scent rubs after rolling in something smelly.

Personality: Isabeau is a confident, opinionated female who knows exactly what she wants. She is social but also selective about the caretakers she is interested in and will make it very clear into which category you fall. When she is feeling particularly goofy she will walk between her caretakers legs and stop halfway so that her butt is conveniently placed for a good scratch. Though more mischievous in her younger years, Isabeau still loves to surprise her caretakers with her antics.

JACOB - Male

Birthday: May 16, 2011 Given Sanctuary: March 19, 2015 Companion: Sasha Guardian Angel: Marie Olagnero

Likes: Belly rubs but only while standing.

Dislikes: Sudden movements. **Favorite Food:** Anything edible.

Fun Fact: When getting scratched, Jacob will stand with his tongue out and eyes closed.

Personality: Jacob is best described as an easily startled goof ball. He loves attention and will often dance around his caretakers playfully, trying to find an opening for giving kisses and getting pets. However, any sound or movement he is not prepared for will likely send him racing to safety at the top of his habitat. Jacob is also obsessive about food and can easily consume two plus pounds of meat in less than a minute. He truly embodies the old adage "wolfing down your food."





Meet biologists <u>Nathan Varley and Linda Thurston</u> who operate Yellow-stone's premiere wolf tracking business, Yellowstone Wolf Tracker, as they share stories of their involvement within the reintroduction of wolves and what they've witnessed across the years of wolf research in the park. Their guiding services specialize in providing a rich natural history experience with your best chances of seeing wolves and other hard-to-find wildlife in Yellowstone.

We will have exciting auction items this year, inclusive of an excursion with Yellowstone Wolf Tracker to view wolves in the wild, a beautiful handmade shawl using naturally shed fur from our rescues, original artwork and more!

Learn more about the event and reserve your tickets now before they sell out! Visit www.wolfsanctuary.net for more information.

Want to secure prime seating? If you or your business is interested in sponsoring the gala, W.O.L.F. provides promotional opportunities for your brand expanding across 6,800 e-mail subscribers and 270,000 Facebook followers. Reach out to Jessica Kole at JKole@wolfsanctuary.net for more information on how you can promote your business while donating towards a great cause.

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Dr. Ron Bright, DVM



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