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Wildlife Care Network's fundraising benefit returns in person October 15 NFL Broadcaster Curt Menefee to emcee the event and live auction

(Tuesday, September 14, 2021) Santa Barbara, CA – Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network (SBWCN) is hosting their annual fundraising benefit, *Wild Night Out*, on Friday, October 15, 2021 from 5–9 PM at the Carousel House at Chase Palm Park. Tickets and sponsorships are available online, and all proceeds will benefit SBWCN's new Wildlife Hospital.

Event Details

Wild Night Out invites members of the public to an evening of dinner, drinks, music, live auction, and raffle. Food will include stations from SB Paella, Oysters XO, Los Agaves, Zaytoon, and more. Drinks will be served by Petite Fleet and Goleta Red Distillery. Entertainment will feature music and performances from Hula Anyone, as well as other activities for guests to enjoy. The live auction will feature a variety of exciting packages, including SBWCN animal releases, vacation rentals, wine tours, and more. A raffle will be held featuring a dozen other prizes and gifts. Beach and island-themed attire is encouraged. This event is for ages 21 and over.

Tickets are \$250 per person. Sponsorships are available at various levels for those wishing to take their support to the next level.

Curt Menefee

Curt Menefee will serve as emcee and auctioneer for the event. Menefee is a veteran studio and game broadcaster who quarterbacks FOX NFL Sunday, America's most-watched pregame show which recently was inducted into the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) Broadcasting Hall of Fame, each week as a studio host. Menefee, who joined as the full-time host in 2007, teams with co-host Terry Bradshaw and studio analysts Howie Long, Jimmy Johnson, Tony Gonzalez, and Michael Strahan during the NFL season.

"I already work with wild animals every Sunday, so this will be fun!" joked Menefee.

Not only is Curt the host of the award-winning and most-watched pregame/halftime show in sports, but "The OT" wrap-up show on FOX, which he also hosts, was the #4 rated property in all of primetime last year. Currently, Menefee is the host of A&E's newest series America's Top Dog, which premiered in January 2020 as A&E's highest viewed premiere in 4 years. The second and third seasons of "Top Dog" premiered June 29th and August 24th respectively. Recently, Menefee added to his hosting duties on A&E with their newest series, "An Animal Saved My Life" which debuted July 6th.

COVID Safety

All event attendees must provide proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of the event. Current county guidelines regarding masks will also be followed.

Wildlife Hospital

Proceeds from *Wild Night Out* will benefit SBWCN's <u>Wildlife Hospital</u>, currently under construction. This 5,400-square-foot building will be the first of its kind in the Santa Barbara and Ventura areas and will make critical improvements to current facilities and resources. Special features within the new hospital include a designated surgery room, an intensive care unit, advanced facilities to care for oiled wildlife, nurseries for baby mammals and songbirds, and much more.

"The Wildlife Hospital is a project that has been years in the making," said Ariana Katovich, SBWCN's Executive Director. "It will greatly improve our abilities to save and serve local wildlife for generations to come. We're so grateful to have the support of our community to make this dream finally become a reality."

Construction of the Wildlife Hospital began in January of 2021 and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Donations in support of this project can be made online at https://www.sbwcn.org/wildlifehospital.

About Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network

Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network (SBWCN) is a nonprofit organization that was founded in 1988. For over 30 years, SBWCN has served to rescue, rehabilitate, and return to the wild sick, injured, orphaned, and oil-impaired wildlife in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties and to educate the public about living in harmony with wildlife. SBWCN takes care of over 4,000 patients per year, including small mammals, seabirds, songbirds, raptors, and herptiles. The SBWCN Helpline is available everyday from 9 AM–5 PM for animal emergencies and wildlife advice: (805) 681-1080.

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