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Deeds...Not Words! Wildfire threatens Wildlife, By Adrienne Papp

[News](#)

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September 4, 2009 [7](#)



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By [Adrienne Papp](#)

Founded in 1976 by [wildlife](#) lover and expert [Martine Colette](#), the [Wildlife WayStation](#) is a national non-profit, holding rehabilitation, medical and problem solving refuge for native, wild and exotic

animals. Located in [California](#), at the [Angeles National Forest](#), north of the [San Fernando Valley](#), the Wildlife WayStation was a safe haven for both native and exotic wildlife dedicated to their rescue, [rehabilitation](#) and [relocation](#). It was a safe haven until devastating fires hit, which now is endangering the lives of its inhabitants in the [canyon](#) home, calling for evacuation for the first time in its history.

About half a dozen [chimps](#) were evacuated from the smoke and the flames to a safer place. Their screams brought tears to the eyes of Martine Collette.

“I am relieved that they are leaving, they will be safe, but I feel scared for them”, says a teary Martine. “There is no panic. They shut down. They kind of [hunker down](#) and they are very, very calm about what is happening. What makes them confused and stressed is being put in cages and being moved to a strange facility. They do not understand what is happening and that is hard on them.”

This is the first time they had to [evacuate](#) the animals, and it will not be an easy task to move them back either. For now, they are being taken to the [Los Angeles Zoo](#) until the fires in the area are contained.

But how do you move a 300-pound lion? The task is not an easy one.

These animals come from all over the world and from many different situations. The WayStation’s long-standing commitment is to accept any animal, no matter what the problem, free of charge and with no reservations. In short, no wild or exotic animal in need is ever turned away. Since its inception, the Wildlife WayStation has provided shelter and care to over 75,000 animals.

An animal lover myself, I often wondered why dogs are so quick to wag their tails, cats are so quick to purr, and lions demonstrate that lion-hearted love despite that they are ferocious [predators](#)? Even those cats and dogs that have been lonely, abused, and betrayed.

Because, as is true of all animals, they were instilled with the distant awareness that no matter what the world shows them, they’re still deeply loved and needed, that their presence alone has made a difference, and that in just the shake of a leg, seemingly without reason or rhyme, everything can FANTASTICALLY change for the better.

As is true of all people, although we sometimes tend to forget.

A combination of staff and volunteers, each of whom is dedicated to the health and happiness of each and every animal, mans the [Wildlife WayStation](#). The small paid staff and large group of volunteers manage the day-to-day operations maintaining the ranch and providing [nurturing](#) and support to the animals. The volunteers also facilitate the educational process and the [dissemination](#) of information through outreach programs, and special events.

The Wildlife WayStation is a national [non-profit, charitable organization](#), supported solely through donations, [bequests](#), [fundraising](#) events, memberships and animal sponsorship programs.

Supporters and donors of the Station include [Nicollette Sheridan](#), [Sharon Stone](#) and [Keanu Reeves](#), among many others.

To learn about the organization visit www.wildlifewaystation.org and for heart-warming video clips click on http://www.wildlifewaystation.org/?page_id=604

About the Writer: [Adrienne Papp](#) is a recognized journalist who has written for many publications

including Savoir, Beverly Hills 90210, Malibu Beach, Santa Monica Sun, The Beverly Hills Times, Brentwood News, Bel-Air View and Celebrity Society, among many others. She is the President and CEO of Los Angeles/New York-based publicity companies, [Atlantic Publicity](#) and [Atlantic Publisher](#). Adrienne writes about world trends, Quantum Physics, entertainment and interviews celebrities and world leaders.

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- Jana
- Sep 8, 2009, 20:40
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Thank you for this article. I love animals and love to hear how in the midst of tragedies there are those who care and look out for their well being.

- -
 - Dalma
 - Sep 30, 2009, 18:54
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Those poor creatures! Thanks for the article. I want to go visit this place. Hopefully the fire will not destroy it. Well written piece. Informational and entertaining.

- -
 - Maria
 - Oct 8, 2009, 19:12
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The Waystation was sued by the USDA for animal neglect. Chimps mutilated their arms out of boredom. Improper vet care. They lost their Fish & Game permits are closed to the public. Entire board of directors resigned at once. Do your research.

- -
 - Katelin
 - Nov 18, 2009, 15:28
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It's great to know that workers and volunteers are doing their best to protect our animals.

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 - Sep 27, 2013, 18:44
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Way cool! Some very valid points! I appreciate you penning this post and also the rest of the website is also very good.

- -
 - [Jarrod Mckissick](#)
 - Sep 28, 2013, 15:03
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IDNX is something that has been missing for sometime now. Very good looking out, Thies Lindenthal

- -
 - [isdone.dll for vista](#)
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This website was... how do I say it? Relevant!! Finally I have found something that helped me. Kudos!

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