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Lurch appears on 'Ellen'

ARMANDO RIOS
Bulletin Staff Writer

The already famous Lurch, a Watusi steer who has made the Guinness Book of World Records for his horns and numerous TV appearances in the Far East, appeared on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" Thursday, along with Janice Wolf, who owns Rocky Ridge Refuge, where Lurch has lived most of his life.

Wolf received good news during a remote which was taped Tuesday at the refuge. A TV crew spent all day Sunday at the refuge taping as well.

Richard Thompson, founder of Web site Zootoo.com, told Wolf during the remote he would pay for a year's worth of food for the 50-plus animals she houses at the refuge. During the segment filmed Sunday, Wolf showed a barn which needed repairs. Thompson said his group would build a new one for Wolf and all her animals.

Wolf described how she, Lurch, and Brian the goose came to be on the show.

"We have a film producer that became interested in Lurch a while back," Wolf said. "He signed Lurch up under contract to help him get a job and help me out. He approached Ellen a few months ago. Ellen loves animals. They worked together to get this done and embraced it. It evolved fairly quickly."

Wolf said DeGeneres wanted her to go to California and be on the show, but Wolf declined, saying she had to take care of the animals. DeGeneres then decided to send crews to tape the interview. Wolf said she did not know about the donation until they told her during the taping of the scene.

"I think I can live with it," Wolf said. "They will pay for food for a whole year and then build a barn for Lurch and his herd."

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