

Success in San Francisco

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SAN FRANCISCO—If San Francisco SPCA ethical studies coordinator Pam Rockwell hadn't supported her January 5 report to president Richard Avanzino with three pages of graphs and statistics, it might have been mistaken by outside readers for a work of utopian fiction.

"Every adoptable dog and cat in San Francisco's shelters found a loving new home in 1994," Rockwell stated. "Older cats and dogs, blind animals, deaf animals, animals missing limbs or otherwise disfigured—as long as they were healthy and of reasonably good temperament, these dogs and cats were all adoptable. Each was and is guaranteed a new home under the Adoption Pact," which the SFSPCA negotiated with the San Francisco Animal Care and Control department just a year ago. "Since this group of animals would be considered unadoptable and be euthanized in most shelters, the fact that in San Francisco all these animals were saved would appear to be an unprecedented achievement."

Not even *Star Trek*, which contended with a tribble surplus in 1966, envisioned such an early end to pet overpopulation.

"It is fitting that we should achieve this in the City of St. Francis, the patron saint of the animals," Avanzino said. But Avanzino waste time taking bows. Animals are still euthanized for cause in San Francisco—4,589 in 1994. That was 18.5% fewer ani-

POB 205, SHUSHAN, NY 12873
[ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED.]

mals than were euthanized in 1993, when San Francisco had by far the lowest euthanasia rate of any major American city. Yet Avanzino thinks the city can do even better. As a notorious perfectionist and over-achiever, who reports for work at five a.m., rarely goes home before dusk, and often works weekends, he didn't even wait for Rockwell's report before committing the SFSPCA to a still more mind-boggling goal: the city-wide abolition of euthanasia of shelter animals in any but the most necessary cases.

(continued on page 16,

*SFSPCA hearing dog program secretary
Marianne Dondero and friend Otto. (K.B.)*

ANIMAL

News For People Who

PEOPLE

Care About Animals

Anti-vealer killed

BRITISH SOBERED AFTER NEAR STREET-WAR

COVENTRY, United Kingdom—Two months of protest against the export of calves from Britain to the European continent has so far claimed six human lives—two British animal handlers and three Algerian crew members aboard a chartered Air Algerie Boeing 737 that crashed December 21 while returning from The Netherlands, plus protester Jill Phipps, 31, crushed beneath a cattle truck on February 1 at the feet of her mother Nancy and her close friend Gill Gates.

"She was obviously in immense agony, but she did not scream," said Gates. "I don't think she could. The silence was worse than if she had been crying."

Phipps was among 30 to 40 demonstrators who tried to block delivery of 97 veal calves to a Russian plane chartered by the Coventry-based firm Phoenix Aviation for an evening flight to Amsterdam. British cattle breeders turned to sending calves by air last year,

after the major sea carriers—Brittany Ferries, P&O, and Stena Sealink—responded to the failure of the European Union to agree on humane transport standards by refusing to haul any livestock other than breeding animals and race horses. After the crash, the flights were interrupted for a month by inquiries, protests, and the disclosure that they had taken place without proper permits. A planned resumption circa January 13 was cancelled when a Boeing 707 cargo jet leased from the Nigerian Air Defense Command couldn't pass a British safety inspection. The flights resumed, however, on January 26, after the Nigerian plane was replaced with the one from Russia.

According to Warwickshire acting chief constable Chris Fox, "The lorry slowed right down and one protester managed to climb on the side of it. The vehicle slowed once more and an officer tried to remove that person. Two further people ran to the front of the lorry and a third attempted to grab hold of the front of the cab. That person slipped and fell under the front wheels."

Witnesses said police immediately stopped the truck, but too late. After Phipps was placed in an ambulance—she died *en route* to the hospital—the calves were flown out as planned.

Phipps, who left a nine-year-old son, had reportedly turned her home in the Hillfields district of Coventry into an animal

(continued on page 10)

INSIDE

The wolf wars

"Willy" to be freed!

DEAL GOES THROUGH AT LAST

Moral relativism and Marine World

KOBE EARTHQUAKE, DUTCH FLOOD RESCUE

Safe, cheap way to remove skunk odor

(A tiny item you might urgently need.)

L.A. asks Mercy Crusade, "What's with the guns?"

— Mary Bloom

CANADA REVIVES SEAL MASSACRE

Sex organs sold to aphrodisiac trade

ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland—Deflecting Atlantic provincial wrath, the Canadian government preceded the February 3 admission that northern cod have been fished to commercial extinction by declaring a bounty on seals and opening a "recreational" seal hunt. The quota of 194,000—186,000 harp seals plus 8,000 hooded seals—is close to the toll during the years before the offshore clubbing of infant harp seals was halted under international protest in 1985.

Sealers won't have to leave shore to club, shoot, and hack baby seals and their mothers this year. For the first time since 1982, there is no ice in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, forcing harp seals and hooded seals ashore to whelp.

"It's going to be bloody," promised Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. "I was there the last time this happened. Every Tom, Dick, and Harry from the villages was down there trying to club seals and not doing it right and ending up skinning them alive. It'll be worse this year because they're angry. Atlantic Canada is now locked into a permanent poverty cycle. They've just been told they'll be poor for the rest of their lives: those cod stocks aren't coming back in their lifetimes."

Already reports have been received of seals being "shot and dynamited in Atlantic Canada by vigilantes," said Anne Doncaster of the International Wildlife Coalition. Or

(continued on page 12,

Editorial

Doing wolves no favors

Experts estimate the world wolf population never exceeded 500,000. Humans have had wolves outnumbered and on the run since Neanderthal times. Those who couldn't be killed were pushed into the most inhospitable corners of the globe—for if there's one thing a human hunter can't stand, it's the idea that something else might kill *his* game, *his* livestock, perhaps even *his* family if he fails to "keep the wolf from the door."

If there's another thing hunters hate about wolves, it's the reminder wolves convey that predatory skills and a strict dominance hierarchy do not equate with fitness for survival in the human-made world. Most fears about wolves are unfounded—North American wolves have never eaten people—but to your average hunter no other animal so symbolizes male inadequacy. The men with guns are now more frightened than ever. In Alaska, governor Tony Knowles on February 4 made permanent his December 3 suspension of predecessor Walter Hickel's campaign to kill wolves in order to make more moose and caribou available to human hunters in the region southwest of Fairbanks. In Yellowstone, the likelihood that wolves will soon thin out an estimated 60,000 elk, 30,000 deer, and 4,000 bison, after a 60-year absence, deals a political blow to the hope of the hunting lobby that they might open the National Parks to hunting—the only federal lands that now exclude hunting, and therefore the last refuge of many beasts with trophy-sized horns.

Knowles agreed with animal protection groups that the wire snares Alaskan officials set to kill wolves were "an unacceptable way to treat any animal."

Of the 134 wolves caught in the 1,735 snares deployed, 27 were found alive after enduring days of pain, hunger, and exposure. The snares also killed 78 other animals, including 35 moose and four caribou, the species the wolf-killing was supposed to benefit.

"The Governor's decision deserves great praise," editorialized *The New York Times*, "but he has one more task—to persuade his Board of Game to end the equally barbarous practice known as 'same day land-and-shoot.' This practice, begun last year, allows anyone with a \$15 trapping license to track wolves by aircraft, run them to exhaustion, land the aircraft, and open fire." Technically, land-and-shooters aren't supposed to chase wolves with planes, and are supposed to walk at least 300 feet from the plane before opening fire, but in the vastness of Alaska, the odds are against enforcement. Last winter the lax rules allowed hunters to kill 1,600 wolves in Alaska, the most in the 20 years since aerial gunning for sport was federally outlawed, from a population of circa 6,000.

Knowles' action ended boycotts of Alaskan tourism called by activist groups in protest of the wolf-killing program, but a lawsuit filed against same-day land-and-shoot by Defenders, the Alaska Wildlife Alliance, and Wolf Haven International continues. The plaintiffs hold that the practice violates the federal Airborne Hunting Act—which the framers, the Alaska Board of Game, seemed to have in mind all along.

In Yellowstone, meanwhile, 14 wolves including one with a rare "blue" coat are to be released from holding pens in Yellowstone more-or-less as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** reaches you—if the case for reintroduction prevails in the 10th Circuit Appellate Court on February 28. Another 15 wolves have already been released in nearby parts of Idaho.

Upstate New York hunting columnist Bob Henke recently noted the irony that in this instance "animal rights activists are not protesting but rather demanding a wildlife management technique consisting of capturing wolves in steel-jawed leghold traps and then

wolves released at the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness in Idaho immediately headed north. Within four days one had entered Montana, apparently going home. The first casualties were identified after seven more Idaho releases. One was shot as she ate a calf. Of the other, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said, "A previously unidentified naturally occurring wolf was accidentally killed during routine predator control activities," i.e. trapping by the Animal Damage Control unit of the USDA.

In other words, wolves were nearby, as had been known for several years, and didn't necessarily need competition. They sure didn't need to be removed from Endangered Species Act protection, a condition of the reintroduction that enables ranchers to kill any wolves who are caught attacking livestock. In effect, wolves are being reintroduced not to restore the species so much as to keep the ADC from wiping it out. But the ADC has been cooperative. Since aerial gunners can't tell wolves from coyotes, the Montana division of the ADC suspended coyote-strafting from January through March—and leased its plane to the California ADC, which commenced coyote-strafting in the Coast Range.

Last October, readers will recall, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** traced the ADC war on coyotes to the need of an ancestor bureaucracy to find a new mission after extirpating wolves from the continental U.S. Before that, coyotes were not considered serious predators; yet because they resemble wolves, they were easily blamed for the woes of the livestock industry during the Dustbowl and Great Depression years. This created guaranteed lifetime employment for a generation of sadists, since coyotes, unlike wolves, adapted well to life under the gun. Fleeing persecution, coyotes have now claimed former wolf habitat and other vacant ecological niches, regardless of human presence, even in the Bronx, where the discovery of a roadkilled female beside an expressway on February 8 touched off a city-wide search for the mate presumed to have accompanied her.

Also in October, we pointed out the irony that many proponents of wolf restoration now claim hunters and farmers should welcome wolves because they may kill or drive out coyotes—a self-defeating argument because people who can't tolerate one aren't likely to tolerate the other, either. Proving the point, on January 10, a week after losing a U.S. district court bid to halt the Yellowstone reintroduction, the American Farm Bureau Federation and Mountain States Legal Foundation filed the appeal to be heard on February 28 and won a restraining order that kept the 14 wolves newly delivered to Yellowstone in their aluminum transport boxes for 55 hours—without food, water, or a way for attendants to remove excretia. Barred from opening the doors, the attendants pushed chipped ice through air holes to help the wolves hold off dehydration. Eventually the order was amended to allow the wolves out into one-acre holding pens. A flurry of bounty proposals from wolf-hating politicians came next, undeterred by the reward of \$500 that Friends of Animals posted for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone who kills a wolf in violation of federal law. The Wyoming House actually approved a \$500 wolf bounty on February 2. At deadline it was unclear how far Alaska senators Bert Sharp, Robir Taylor, and Mark Miller would get with an attempt to place a bounty of \$400 on wolves authorizing their killing "by any method or means without restriction." Sharp had also introduced a bill to require the Alaska Board of Game to do more predator control. The effort of Arizona state representative Jeff Gipscoast (R-Mesa) to place a \$500 bounty or

dumping the beasts in a strange environment, complete with invasive research equipment.” No doubt most activists were unaware that the 29 wolves included in the first phase of the planned 3-to-5-year restoration plan were not purpose-bred, nor relocated from Alaska (which solicited such a transfer), but rather radio-collared by Alberta fur trappers at \$2,000 apiece, up to a maximum of \$5,000 per trapper. The radio-collared wolves were then retrapped and tranquilized for transport when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was ready to take them. It was the best payday in at least a decade for the 15 or so trappers involved, who killed 399 wolves last year. The fur trade called the episode a vindication of leghold traps, since the trappers nabbed 30 wolves without admitting to killing any or breaking any bones—but if any were killed or injured, there was nothing to stop trappers from selling the pelts as usual, with no one the wiser.

Of the 30 wolves trapped, one female was killed when shot through the lungs with a tranquilizer dart by a wildlife biologist. Despite efforts to keep packs united, some were broken up—not that the wolves themselves didn't try to restore order. Three of the first four

wolves, directed at proposed Mexican wolf restoration, was considered largely symbolic.

Give wolves and coyotes a break

Better news came from Wisconsin, where 29,000 residents voted by mail and at the state fair for their choice among 60 possible symbols to grace a special license plate, to be sold to benefit the state fund for endangered species. The inclusion of state fair ballots stacked the count toward farmers—but Alanna Thays' rendition of a timber wolf won, with an overwhelming 12,755 votes. The health of the Wisconsin dairy industry might have had something to do with it: wolves aren't being blamed for anything. Nor must wolves be reintroduced to Wisconsin, whose wild wolf population is now circa 50. Humans and perhaps 2,000 wolves coexist in neighboring Minnesota; Michigan, where a 1974 reintroduction failed but a small native population is up from 17 to 57 since 1990; and northwestern Montana, where 70 native wolves attract little attention despite the hullabaloo to the south.

If the Republicans newly ascendant in Congress were serious about axing government boondoggles, we'd expect good news for coyotes as well, since nearly 80 years of ADC coyote-killing have been as fiscally unjustifiable as they have been unecological and inhumane. The Revisions Bill being prepared by the House Appropriations Committee to roll back federal spending should dismantle the \$27-million-a-year ADC. But we haven't seen a hint that it will. Instead, House Public Lands and Natural Resources Committee chair Don Young (R-Alaska), backed by Helen Chenoweth (R-Idaho) and Barbara Cubir (R-Wyoming), are expected to ask the Appropriations Committee to cut off all funding of wolf reintroduction. Chenoweth is already on record as favoring hunting in Yellowstone.

The Yellowstone restoration is now budgeted at \$6.7 million; \$12 million has already been spent by concerned parties on related litigation. Although the reintroduction is expected to generate revenues, principally in tourism, of \$23 million, perhaps it would be better to let the wolves handle the situation without government help that seems to have made them more enemies than friends—and has stripped them of their only protector against any wise-use wiseguy with a gun.

ANIMAL PEOPLE

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

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Letters

In Africa

Please be advised that the city of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, is not the first in Africa to have enacted a law to address pet overpopulation. Though the amount of fines levied for allowing bitches in heat to roam vary from one municipality to another, such bylaws are in place and have been for many years in South Africa. The National Council of SPCAs has in addition submitted proposals to the Government to address the population of domestic pets. Educational programs on this issue have been carried out by the SPCA movement in South Africa for nearly 20 years.

—Barbara Nash
Administrator/PRO
National Council of SPCAs
Southdale
Republic. of South Africa

Dirty pool

Just wanted to congratulate you on the fine article, detective work, and philosophy of your series "Dirty pool." We need a Carl Rogers or Jimmy Carter to get some peace and understanding between some of these warring factions, and on the same note, between warring humane groups. I would love to try as a group therapist. Once I saw Carl Rogers help an Israeli and a Palestinian realize they had so much in common that the session ended with both of them

Rabies scare

Please accept this long overdue thank you for your help and the material you sent to me and the Martin County public officials concerning the rabies scare we had in November. We had a meeting with our county officials and I presented them with your materials. Over two dozen private citizens showed up in the small conference room they arranged for us. They were overwhelmed that so many people were concerned about the welfare of wildlife. We were strong in our objections to random trapping and killing. They listened, looked at the material, and agreed with us. It is amazing what a little knowledge can do to make a large difference. Martin County, Florida, now knows that random trapping doesn't prevent rabies, and that there is an effective animal welfare force here. A big thanks for that goes to you.

—Susan Beattie
Port St. Lucie, Florida

Hunters, perverts

The article "Ohio data confirms hunting/child abuse link" in your November issue is significant, impressive, and revealing. It occurs to me that there is a strong possibility that many young boys are forced into hunting because of fear of their father's reaction if they refuse.

Perhaps a similar study can be made regarding the two states that have the highest percentage of hunters.

—Jean Lauren
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Having already found a strong statistical association between rates of hunting and child abuse in New York and Ohio, stronger even than the association of hunting and child abuse with rural poverty, we're now looking at the Michigan data. (The New York study appeared in March 1994.) The New York and Ohio studies are still available from us at \$2.00 each.

Friends of Animals

It worked for St. Francis

I guess you've noted how upset Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming are over wolf reintroduction. What more could be done for public relations?

- Widely distribute the film and book *Never Cry Wolf*, by Farley Mowatt.

- Widely distribute factual information about wolves, including what to do if you meet one.

- Hold a lot of meetings and interviews with ranchers. The more they talk, the more their greed and self-centeredness becomes apparent.

- Make the connection that if we eat vegetarian, we won't have large livestock herds.

Some wolf defenders unfortunately may have anti-social motives, and may be deifying wolves. In particular, deep ecologists may deify the senses. Their hope in life seems to be to re-experience those times when they are so

caught up in stimulus/response that they forget they are spiritual, mortal, and emotional as well as physical beings. They seem to use the advantages over animals that God has given us to become super predators rather than super stewards.

The remarks of anti-wolf ranchers that we ought to put wolves in New York City's Central Park make the point that if we thought we might be suddenly and unexpectedly confronted by a wolf, we might agree with them. Yet if Christ lives in us, we ought not to fear wolves. Lack of fear and abundance of trust might affect the wolf, or perhaps the Holy Spirit would counsel us to a safe course of action, or inaction.

—Karen Moore
Duluth, Minnesota

With the urban proliferation of wolf hybrids and the tendency of hybridizers to backbreed, one is more likely to meet a wolf in Central Park right now than anywhere in the wild.

hugging each other.
—Dr. Emmanuel Bernstein
Saranac Lake, New York

Friends of Animals

Dates

James Pearson of People Acting for Animal Liberation made an extremely important point in his letter in your January/February edition: the date of World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week, late in April, is absolutely useless in Canada because the students have left the campuses and the university newspapers have all closed. How can we go about getting the date changed?

—Marg Buckholtz
Voice for Animals
Kingston, Ontario

ASPCA

The American SPCA's annual Dog Walk is nothing but a public relations fraud perpetrated on thousands of well-intentioned dog-lovers who believe their registration fees are used to help animals. In truth their money is used to promote this event. According to the ASPCA's 1993 IRS Form 990, the 1993 Dog Walk had gross expenses of \$132,886 on gross revenues of \$123,789, for a net deficit of \$9,097. The kind-hearted public is paying the ASPCA to make the ASPCA look good. Period. The animals most assuredly do not benefit.

—Livi French
Eye on the ASPCA TV
New York, New York

Letters

Two-timer

This is an update on Daniel P. Boyle, DVM, former head of animal control in DuPage County, Illinois, who was hired last summer in the same capacity in Fairfax County, Virginia, and drew salary from both posts for nearly two months. He has been dismissed, and the animal lovers of this county are happy about it. The double-dipping was just a good excuse to fire him. He upset so many veterinarians and animal rescue groups here that he had to go. Many wildlife rehabilitators were removed from the call list, and breed rescuers were told they could no longer take purebreds out of the shelter, even if no one adopted them. If a dog so much as growled, he was put down. Cats were confronted with strange cats. If they reacted negatively, they were put down. Even the euthanasia curtain was taken down, so that other animals could see their companions being killed.

There was a lot of bad press. Dr. Boyle's life was allegedly threatened, and Fairfax County had to do something. This county does not like controversy. All the animal groups have worked well together, and we are happy things are back to normal.

—Pam Grant
The Ferrets of Pet Pals
Ferret Rescue and Adoption
Annandale, Virginia

Grant's account is substantiated by Fairfax County media and other rescuers. Boyle has declined the chance to comment.

What hope?

I thought you might be interested in a few articles from the Long Island *Newsday* concerning incidents that happened within two days this week. A young female seal who was so badly slashed she required 300 stitches died, the third seal to die from slashing since November. A dogfighting ring was broken up in Coram, and another in Amityville, and a cat was doused with kerosine and shot six times in the head. Luckily the cat's owner found him and the veterinarian was able to save him. The one consolation is that the people involved in these atrocities will all be punished, but how can we expect people to ever live in peace with one another when they do these things to the most innocent of all?

—Jean Boucher
Holbrook, New York

Betrayed

Thank you for publishing the assets and salaries of the humane establishment in your December issue. There was a picture of a small black cat at the bottom of the page concluding the salary listings, advertising a video. The cat was sitting beside the caption, "Born to be Betrayed, alone, abandoned, and out of sight of the people who betrayed him." The cat appears to be looking up at the millions of dollars in assets and salaries. That cat now knows who betrayed him, and why.

—Marilyn June
Volunteers for Inter-Valley Animals
Pueblo, Colorado

Zoo or sanctuary?

If you can classify as a roadside zoo a facility that cares for its permanent residents in the manner that Wild Animal Orphanage and its compassionate and caring staff do, then yes, call us a roadside zoo. We do charge admission for an "Educational Tour." The fees keep our animals healthy, happy, and fed. Our members and the general public can walk in off the street any time they wish and will always find a clean, well-maintained facility. While many of our animals are in small quarters, none are cramped to the point of distress. Had we been granted the luxury of being financially well-off at the beginning of our endeavor to build a tip-top facility, we certainly would have given them more space. But like most, we struggle by the month to reach our goals.

We do, however, have the luxury of not depending on the organization for our personal livelihood. For 10 years my husband and I have not drawn one red cent in salary.

We challenge ANIMAL PEOPLE to find another USDA-licensed facility comparable with WAO. Primarily Primates and Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation are not licensed by the USDA to exhibit animals to the public and do not give educational tours because, according to them, that would make them into roadside zoos.

—Carol Asvestas
Wild Animal Orphanage
San Antonio, Texas

Editor's note: *The USDA-licensee Flag Acres Zoo, just 20 miles from here, provides a similar standard of lifetime care to a similar group of cast-off exotics, charging the same \$5.00 admission, providing a comparable tour. It too is nonprofit, with unpaid directors. We suggest that the distinction between "roadside zoos" like Flag Acres and sanctuaries like WAO is more semantic than real—and as we pointed out in our article about WAO, the Association of Sanctuaries' categorical exclusion of all facilities that exhibit animals and charge admission is unrealistic. Most animal care facilities do need to support themselves; and if sanctuaries don't do public education about exotics, the job will be forfeited to those who are strictly out to make a buck.*

Wise vs. Swett

As you may recall, two years ago Primarily Primates Inc. sued me in Texas [during a dispute over the amount PPI owed Wise for legal counsel]. Last year, after PPI refused to compromise, I filed counterclaims against PPI for defamation, abuse of process, and violation of the Federal Civil Rights Act. Enclosed, please find a copy of the final judgment of the U.S. District Court in Texas. The judge notes that Wally Swett [president of PPI] swore that PPI spent \$50,000 in this lawsuit, as well as that PPI suffered no damages from any of my alleged acts, and that Swett's claims against me were "based on speculation." This speculation was incorrect.

I also want to express my disappointment concerning your recent article about PPI. Despite falsely making it appear that I was a money-grubber, you got some facts wrong, omitted other facts that were unfavorable to Swett, and made it appear that Swett was a victim. Perhaps worst of all, you didn't even bother to get my side of this continuing unfortunate saga or, apparently, the viewpoint of anyone unfavorable to Swett.

—Steven M. Wise, P.C.
Boston, Massachusetts

We have reported on the various allegations against Swett and PPI, by Wise and others, five times in the past 31 months. The most serious charges have involved animal care; a recent personal inspection affirmed that the PPI animal care remains excellent despite the ongoing acrimony.

Service dogs aren't pets

The advertisement for the North Shore Animal League on the last page of the January/February issue of ANIMAL PEOPLE, captioned "Training Special Dogs

To our knowledge, there is no comprehensive training curriculum now available to help these people and to set a standard of quality in service dog training.

To Assist Special People,” failed to distinguish between personal pets and *service dogs*, which have access to public places under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Those of us at the Delta Society® national Service Dog Center, as well as the over 73 service dog training programs across the country, have worked for many years to educate the public that service dogs are *working dogs*, defined under the ADA as “any guide dog, signal dog, or other animal individually trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability.” Though much loved by their owners, they are *not* family pets.

The obedience training that the North Shore Animal League provides to ensure that dogs become suitable companions to senior citizens and people who may have disabilities is laudable, but is *not* the same thing as a rigorous training curriculum which qualifies a service dog to perform reliably in public places despite distractions and stress. It is important to maintain the distinction between dogs who perform the service of companionship, valuable though this is, and dogs who are in fact trained to do specific essential jobs and enjoy special legal status because of their unique qualifications. If companion dogs are misidentified as service dogs, are admitted to situations where dogs are ordinarily forbidden, and then misbehave as even the most obedient companion dogs may under unusual conditions, the special status of service dogs could be eroded.

This is already a risk inherent in the lack of uniformity in service dog training. No certification of trainers/instructors, accreditation of training programs, or uniform evaluation of service dogs is now required. To complicate matters, an increasing number of the more than 1,300 calls and letters the Delta Society handles each year have come from people with disabilities who want to work with a local trainer to train their own service dogs, rather than go to a training program. Their reasons vary: a desire to select and train a dog from a local shelter; discouragement with the up to six-year waiting list at some programs; inability to travel to another state to get a trained dog; a desire to bond with the dog while it is being trained; or a need to correct inadequate training in a dog they currently have, or to train the dog to do new tasks.

The Delta Society recognizes a need for reliable service dog training experts in every community, able to meet the needs of residents and to work with dogs whose initial training may have come elsewhere, at other centers. To meet this need, the Delta Society Service Dog Center received a small planning grant to convene a Service Dog Training Task Force in December 1994. The task force has produced a plan for writing a comprehensive curriculum that will be made available nationally and will especially focus on how to select and train dogs from animal shelters. The curriculum will have modules for how to train the service dog, the trainer, the handler (person with disabilities), the family of the handler, health care professionals (who can “prescribe” a service dog), businesses and the general public, veterinarians, and pet loss counselors. The curriculum will be field-tested in cooperation with several shelters.

Delta Society staff will not write this curriculum. Our role is to find the funding and to empower skilled and experienced volunteers (dog trainers, educators, persons with disabilities) to write each of the modules, as we have done with our national animal-assisted therapy curriculum in our Pet Partners® Program. We will seek funding for each module based on its priority to produce a timely and top-quality curriculum, and to implement it.

We invite NSAL and other shelters across the country to help us. There are over 50 million people with disabilities, but we estimate only about 14,000 service dogs are helping people who are blind, deaf, mobility-impaired, or facing mental and emotional challenges. Millions of dogs now euthanized could find new lives as cherished service dogs. But we owe it to the dogs to be sure they receive extensive and humane training; and we owe it to people with disabilities to be sure that they receive the training and follow-up they need to be an effective and loving partner to their service dog. Then we can feel confident when we advocate for these teams to be welcomed in all public places, knowing they will perform safely and professionally.

—Linda M. Hines
Executive Director
Delta Society Service Dog Center
Renton, Washington

Delta Society ad

IFAW saves elephants too

It is nice to be able to congratulate you for something, rather than complain, as I regularly do, about the energy you expend on trashing animal welfare organizations that you think do not meet your standards. Your review of John Hoyt's book *Animals In Peril* was excellent and to the point.

However, I must say it was bizarre to claim that "elephants were spared *only* through energetic lobbying by Friends of Animals, via the many nations which have received FoA help in fighting poachers." While not undervaluing FoA's activities, many other non-governmental groups—including IFAW—also lobbied actively, and have also given anti-poaching aid to small nations that came to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species triennial meeting opposed to the South African downlisting proposal.

IFAW had hoped, among other things, to help combat what you rightly call the "sustainable use myth" from within the International Union for the Conservation of Nature by applying for membership in that body, knowing that many of the present members are equally opposed to it. However, IFAW's application was recently rejected. This happened essentially because the so-called "wise-use movement" now controls a blocking vote on the IUCN Council as well as having a powerful lobby within its Secretariat. We now plan to put much more energy and resources into alerting all NGOs—both those concerned primarily with animal welfare and those more focused on conservation and environment, inside and outside IUCN—to what is going on in a union which was originally established to promote "conservation of nature and natural (living) resources." The powers that be are now evidently more concerned to promote the killing of wild animals for sport, commerce and so-called "tradition," with

conservation of species a poor second priority and their overall and individual welfare nowhere in the picture.

This activity is not condoned by the IUCN membership as a whole, as the outcome of debates in its General Assembly last year make evident. It is being justified by a not very subtle but very persistent distortion of language. The Members *did* agree that if a society (state or whatever) permitted the (lethal) use of a certain species of wild animal, then such use has to be demonstrably "sustainable" and "equitable." They did *not* agree that those two were the *only* criteria that can legitimately be applied in policy decisions by appropriate authorities concerning "use": there are many others, not least among them being humane treatment. But despite that, the IUCN Secretariat is now proudly announcing that it is actively *promoting* lethal use (and commerce) and advising governments on how to set about it, all on the spurious grounds that Hoyt and you denounce: that the money so obtained might go back to "saving" the remaining animals.

Those of us who are determined to stop all this nonsense will find many allies, not least among the personal memberships of some of the groups whose bureaucratic leaders have been seduced by the "sustainable use" myth. We shall, however, only be effective if we are coherent and cooperative in our endeavor, even if we sometimes differ among ourselves regarding the tactics used to achieve our ends. Do not underestimate the determination or the financial resources (some private, some from certain governments) of the constellation of persons and organizations that constitute the "wise use movement."

—Sydney Holt
Scientific Advisor

International Federation for Animal Welfare
Podere Il Falco, Citta della Pieve, Italy

Editor's note: According to IFAW director of animal welfare Paul J. Seigel, "IFAW began helping elephants in Uganda in 1987 when, following the reign of Idi Amin, only some 200 elephants remained in Queen Elizabeth National Park—an area that as recently as 1979 was

—Muscovy ducks. (Lewis G. Nierman.

Be kind to your web-footed friends

by Lewis G. Nierman

Other than a small number of dedicated wildlife rescuers, few Floridians care about the state's remnant population of Muscovy ducks. Misinformation and outright propaganda from people in positions of responsibility meanwhile foster contempt and hatred for Muscovies, who are termed "unattractive" and thereby condemned to abuse.

Muscovy ducks were brought to Florida from Central and South America more than a century ago, to be raised for meat. Believed to have been first domesticated, as pets, by Peruvian natives, they were imported into England as early as 1550, spreading from there to Holland, Flanders, and France. They appear in the paintings of these nations' 17th century masters. The origin of their name is either in the Muscovite company which brought them from South America, or in the name "musco duck," by which they are known on the Mosquito Coast of Nicaragua, where they first were found.

This history matters because Muscovies are denied the status of native wildlife. Because they are officially alien, they are shot, poisoned, deliberately run over, have their necks wrung, set on fire, beaten with sticks and rocks, attacked by dogs, and removed by nuisance trappers to be sold as live food to alligator farms.

The fiercest antipathy toward Muscovies may come from residents of retirement villages, who, often discriminated against themselves, take it out on the ducks. Coming mostly from crowded cities, they bring with them a prejudice against anything different and resentment of any creature perceived as infringing upon their space. Thus they not only personally persecute wildlife, but also lobby town governments and condominium boards to persecute any fellow citizens who may love and encourage animals—even domestic pets. People who care for Muscovies are confronted daily with threats that the ducks will be destroyed if anyone "encourages" them with any sign of kindness, tolerance, or appreciation.

It is often the policy of publicly funded wildlife rescue and rehabilitation centers to euthanize sick, injured, or orphaned Muscovy ducks. Because this is not generally known, even caring people unwittingly deliver Muscovies to their death. Among the many bird rescue groups in Florida, only a handful such as the Rascals Orphancare Network in Fort Lauderdale

estimated to hold approximately 3,500. Since 1987, IFAW has given more than \$300,000 in aid. We have provided six lorries to mobilize the ranger force and supported park running costs and paid for the training of rangers and education programs. The result has been a three-fold recovery of the population. There are now estimated to be nearly 600 elephants in the park. Ivory poaching is unknown. Meat poaching of hippo and buffalo is rare.

"This past fall, IFAW began to support a similar anti-poaching program in Kidepo Valley National Park, also in Uganda. Prior to our participation, this was the only one of Uganda's 10 national parks that did not receive outside aid. Located in the remote northeast corner of the country, bordered by Kenya and Sudan, Kidepo is home to some 80 mammalian species—but poaching continues. Cheetah are seldom seen. Just four giraffe remain. Rhinos have been wiped out completely. The elephant population is now estimated at just 250. IFAW's contribution of \$35,000 will help to provide transport, vehicle parts, and fuel for the rangers. We will also help to repair roads to improve the team's mobility. We have high hopes that our efforts in Kidepo will be as fruitful as our efforts in Queen Elizabeth."

and Duck Haven in Margate make a distinguished effort to return Muscovies to the wild.

Yet Muscovy ducks are not "everywhere in great numbers, overrunning the place," as many charge. Their numbers are far less than those of most other Florida birds and waterfowl. Because nearly every Muscovy in Florida lives within a mile of a populated area, people see them a lot; but that does not make them a threat to overpopulate. Muscovies are not dirty, and do not carry any diseases that might make them dangerous to humankind. They are not noisy or aggressive; indeed, they are far quieter than the more popular mallards, Pekins and geese. They do not encroach upon the habitat of native wildlife, a favorite pretext for their destruction. Primarily vegetarians, they eat weeds and occasional insect pests at water's edge. Their sins are simply that they like being near us, and they are not as pretty as other waterfowl—for instance, the cattle egret, here just 40 to 50 years but white in color, interesting in shape, usually shy of people and therefore rarely the target of human aggression despite the frequent charge that theirs habit of laying eggs in other birds' nests jeopardizes the survival of the host species.

Muscovies are detested most for the red coloration around their faces, formed from fat deposits. These soft, smooth, warm deposits, similar to a turkey's wattles, give each Muscovy a uniquely characteristic appearance.

The fate of this beautiful and simple duck in this small corner of the world is intricately tied to the fate of every other life on earth. If we cannot find it in our hearts to protect those among us who are gentle, trusting, needy, young, old, physically or mentally challenged or otherwise different, we do not deserve the intelligence and the resources with which humanity is blessed.

[Wildlife rehabilitator Lewis G. Nierman is the author of *Lefty's Place and Lefty's World*, a book and video about Muscovy ducks and other species. Both are available from *Kindness Publications, Suite 135, 1859 N. Pine Island Road, Plantation, FL 33322.*]

Who gets the money?

Our annual budget is less than what the Humane Society of the U.S. spends on a coffee break.

—Ruth Weddon
Pet Lovers Protective League
Canoga Park, California

Je me souviens

Please find enclosed my subscription to your wonderful paper. I have been working at the Montreal SPCA for four years, until last July, when my job as an education officer was cut. Since then, I've missed a lot reading your paper. Keep up the good work!

—Liette Chevalier
CP 607
Napierville, Quebec

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MARINE LIFE

Biologist Macarena Green of Quito, Ecuador, on January 12 issued an Internet SOS for marine life in the Galapagos islands. On October 15, 1994, she said, the Ecuadoran government opened the region to sea cucumber collection for the first time, setting a quota of 550,000 to be picked over the next three months. "However, in two months the take exceeded seven million," Green stated. "Fishermen were not only collecting sea cucumbers, but also sea horses, snails, sea urchins, and black coral. Also, one fisherman admitted he had already sent to Japan sea lion penises as a try-out for a new aphrodisiac. The Japanese buyer paid \$50 for each penis." The sea cucumber season was closed due to the abuse on December 15, but, "The people involved during the lucrative yet devastating enterprise were not about to accept that. During the first days of January they took over installations of the Park Service and Darwin Station. They kept all the people inside as hostages, including the wives of many of the workers and children. They threatened to kill all the tortoises in captivity at the station, and they threatened to start fires on little islands," which would also kill endangered tortoises. Green begged that letters on behalf of keeping the sea cucumber season closed, permanently, be sent to Arq. Sixto Duran Ballen, Presidente Constitucional de la Republica de Ecuador, Palacia de Gobierno, Quito, Ecuador.

A 60-year square-inch-by-square-inch-by-inch study of life in a tidal zone of Monterey Bay, California, published February 3 in *Science*, has discovered that sea snails, crabs, starfish, and sea anemones are all migrating northward in apparent response to rising oceanic temperature. Eight species more often found far to the south in the early 1930s are now common in the study zone; five species common then have decreased. Project co-director Charles Baxter of the Monterey Bay Aquarium said the findings are "evidence that the effects of global warming may already be apparent, at least in the northern hemisphere."

A newly published study by International Wildlife Coalition senior scientist David Wiley and associates has discovered that unexpectedly high numbers of humpback whale strandings involve newly independent calves, who run into trouble in midwinter between Chesapeake Bay and Cape Hatteras—far north of the usual habitat for the species at that time of year. No explanation for the findings is offered.

Starved by the Atlantic Canada fish shortage, seals along the Gaspé coast of Quebec and in the Magdalen Islands have learned to eat lobsters—and are now blamed by unemployed codfishers who have turned to aggressive lobstering for not only the cod crash but also a drop of 20% to 24% since 1990 in the local commercial lobster catch.

South Australian environment minister David Wotten on February 12 called on the state to create a marine park that would protect the breeding area of the highly endangered southern right whale.

Guy Delage, of France, who completed a 13-day trans-Atlantic swim/raft trip on February 9, claims to have observed that dolphins always attack fish from out of the sun and change color—he didn't explain how—according to the type of fish they are pursuing. Delage said dolphins followed him almost the whole way, but he unfortunately led them into the

Willy may be freed

MEXICO CITY—Keiko, the orca star of the 1993 film *Free Willy!*, will be relocated to a new facility under construction at the Oregon Coast Aquarium in Newport by November, Free Willy-Keiko Foundation president David Phillips announced on February 6—and this time, after many false alarms, the deal was confirmed by Oscar Porter, general director of Keiko's present home at the Nuevo Reino Aventura amusement park in Mexico City.

Keiko, believed to be about 16, will be accompanied by some of the Nuevo Reino Aventura staff, Porter said, praising him for having "developed a very special sensitivity, intuiting and perceiving people. Keiko is very affectionate," Porter continued, "especially toward children, 'showering' them constantly with his outstanding jumps. He is so intelligent that he has been able to learn more than 54 different routines."

At the Oregon Coast Aquarium, Keiko will be on display, but only from an underwater vantage point. "We're not building a stadium—he's not going to perform shows here. He'll be here to get well, period," said aquarium president Phylliss Bell. Once Keiko is cured of a chronic skin condition called a papiloma virus, and brought up to his proper weight—he is now about a ton underweight—he will be prepared for possible return to his native waters off Iceland, at total cost of an estimated \$10.3 million. The first \$2 million was donated by Warner Brothers and New Regency Productions, the distributor and producer of *Free Willy!*, as well as of a forthcoming sequel.

"The facility" built for Keiko, "will also be used for rescue and rehabilitation of other dolphins and whales," Phillips added.

The 32-acre Oregon Coast Aquarium was opened in 1992, but is still not complete. It is not accredited by the Association of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums. Pointing out that AMMPA members spent over \$250,000 to keep Keiko healthy while in Mexico City, AMMPA executive director, Marilee Keefe said that while "the Alliance does not oppose proper reintroduction programs," as "members release hundreds of stranded animals back to the wild each year," it does not consider Keiko a good candidate for release because he was captured young, has now spent 11 years in captivity, and "most likely has lost his natural ability to find food" in depleted oceans.

Animals in laboratories

The USDA hopes to soon replace the present system of classifying animal dealers, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service officer Steve Smith told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on January 3. All commercial animal breeders other than farmers now receive Class A permits; those who sell animals they do not breed themselves are issued Class B permits. A common misperception is that "Class B dealer" is synonymous with shadowy characters who sell stolen pets to laboratories, but in fact about three-fourths of the 1,280 current Class

Coast Guard

Responding to reports that the U.S. Coast Guard shoots the pets of refugees picked up in the Caribbean, USCG public affairs chief Captain E.J. Blanchard writes, "We make every effort to provide for the safety of life at sea, including animals. However, the rescue of human life remains our foremost priority. In July and August the USCG rescued over 56,000 Haitians and Cubans from flimsy overloaded boats, rafts, and inner tubes. An unknown number of animals were also rescued. Our most difficult moments came during the early days of the Cuban exodus. On one day alone, over 3,300 people on 600 different rafts were rescued. Some of our 110-foot cutters had over 400 boat people each on their decks. Our commanding officers were making life-and-death decisions on a minute-by-minute basis. Unfortunately, the presence of animals, some of them frightened and unpredictable, presented yet another safety concern in this maelstrom," particularly since few if any had been vaccinated against rabies. "It was necessary for some of our commanding officers to humanely dispose of a small number of animals. This action was limited to the very early hours of this massive operation. After additional cutters were brought into the operation, all animals encountered on the rafts were taken aboard cutters and eventually landed at the U.S. Navy base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba."

AmAV ad

Fish

nets of a Caribbean fishing vessel. He also noted a sharp decline in the shark population along his once purportedly shark-infested route.

Jean-Claude Lesquer, leader of the French spy squad that blew up the Greenpeace ship *Rainbow Warrior* in 1985, was promoted on February 8 to the rank of Brigadier-General. The action, intended to stop a protest against French nuclear testing in French Polynesia, killed photographer Fernando Pereira.

A Swedish navy review of the sensitivity of its hydrophonic equipment has found that swimming sea minks and submarines produce similar sound signals—raising the likelihood that Sweden often depth-charged sea minks during the Cold War, when hydrophonic buoys warned that "Russian submarines" were sneaking into fjords. The depth charges rarely raised submarines—but embarrassed officials said the number of "submarine" detections *has* fallen since the breakup of the Soviet Union.

The working committee of the International Whaling Commission assigned to develop rules for implementing a resumption of commercial whaling concluded a three-day meeting on January 13 without reaching any agreements—as hoped by the World Wildlife Fund, International Fund for Animal Welfare, and Greenpeace last year, when they urged the U.S. to gamble that the necessary observation protocols and other matters yet to be resolved would never be resolved, and to therefore approve the adoption of a formula for setting whaling quotas in exchange for the acceptance by Norway and Japan of the creation of the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary. More meetings will be scheduled.

Drawing attention to the presence of four Japanese whale-catchers and a factory ship, conducting a "scientific" hunt for minke whales inside the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary, two Greenpeace activists briefly boarded the catcher *Toshi Maru* on January 7 as it put into Wellington, Australia, to drop off a crew member who lost a finger in a shipboard accident. The Greenpeaceers were removed by police—news video taken from a helicopter seemed to show them being dragged across the *Toshi Maru's* deck and being pitched overboard—and were later released without charges.

A team led by Dr. Claude Joiris of Brussels University has discovered astonishingly high levels of PCBs and other toxic chemicals in the remains of several dead sperm whales that recently washed up on the Belgian coast. While other marine mammals frequently accumulate chemicals from eating polluted fish, sperm whales feed mostly in the deepest parts of the ocean, rather than heavily polluted offshore areas, and have previously not been known suffer the same build-up.

This winter's annual aerial count of Florida manatees found just 1,443, down markedly from the 1,856 counted last year.

The Indonesian navy on January 3 announced increased patrols to protect the scarce Napoleon wrasse from Hong Kong fishing crews who pursue the species by poisoning and dynamiting coral. Indonesian environment minister Sarwono Kusumaatmadja and agriculture minister Syarifuddin Baharsyah promised a complete ban on catching Napoleon wrasse would soon follow.

Two staffers flown in from from Sea World Australia, 14 volunteer scuba divers, and 13 boats full of Vanuatu residents combined efforts on January 4 to free 15 of 28 starving spinner dolphins who became trapped in a small lagoon—carrying them to the open sea in blankets after herding attempts failed.

B permit holders are in the pet trade; no more than 75, according to Smith, sell dogs and cats to labs, and of those, fewer still sell "random source" animals. Under the anticipated regulatory amendment, there will be nine different permit categories, each of which is specific to the nature of the permit-holder's business.

Ohio State University Institutional Laboratory Animal Care and Use Committee chair Richard Tailman said January 20 that some researchers had left the faculty because of a December 21 Ohio state supreme court ruling that OSU must disclose the names of the estimated 450 animal experimenters on campus, who in 1994 used 39,540 animals in about 1,500 projects. About \$28 million was spent on animal research at OSU, of which \$3.8 million went toward animal care.

Magananin Pharmaceuticals is now testing an anti-impetigo drug derived from peptides produced by the African clawed toad. Megananin hopes to duplicate the success of ACE inhibitors, a class of heart drug synthesized in emulsion of a substance found in the venom of Brazilian pit vipers. The first ACE inhibitor to be marketed, Capoten, entered use in 1981. It earned \$1.8 billion last year for the maker, Bristol-Myers Squibb.

Researchers from the British Medical Research Council and Osaka University in Japan announced on January 19 that they had hybridized human and crocodile hemoglobin molecules, an important step toward creating an oxygen-enriched form of artificial blood, under development by the Colorado-based pharmaceutical firm Somatogen. Crocodilian blood absorbs far more oxygen than the blood of most land animals, enabling them to stay underwater for longer without breathing.

A January 22 expose in the London-based Sunday Express revealed that Shamrock Farm, a laboratory animal supplier in West Sussex, England, has at least once accidentally imported the deadly hepatitis-B virus along with shipments of crab-eating macaques. Reporters Mark Porter and Helene Feger warned that the even more lethal Ebola and Marburg viruses could arrive the same way. Both have crossed from apes to humans in Africa. However, said Charles River Laboratories United Kingdom managing director Alan Smith, Shamrock Farm has handled only purpose-bred macaques from Malaysia and the Philippines since 1993. Shamrock Farm is a subsidiary of Charles River, which is in turn a subsidiary of Bauch and Laumb, a leading maker of optical products.

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Zoos

Hunting

Robert "Buzz" Barry, 64, assistant executive director of the Sportsmen's Alliance of Maine, told reporters on January 21 that he's giving up hunting mammals after 40 years because of second thoughts he's had since a TV debate with an anti-hunter in November; because his anti-abortion convictions have caused him to review his attitudes toward the sanctity of life; and most of all because of the pain and fear he's seen in the eyes of animals he's killed. He asserted, however, that he isn't an "anti," and said he hadn't yet decided if he'll quit shooting birds.

Stan Pabst of Perry Sound, Ontario, gathered 4,000 signatures on a petition asking the provincial legislature to ban spring bear hunting last year, which often orphans cubs; then was told the petition didn't use the proper format and therefore couldn't be presented. After that made the papers, someone on Thanksgiving night massacred the 11 bears, including three yearlings and three cubs, whom he'd fed on his own property to protect them from hunters and poachers. Pabst is now petitioning again, in the proper format, with help from Citizens Against Hunting. He may be contacted at Box 17, Site 4, RR #1, Parry Sound, Ontario P2A 2W2.

The Campbell County Chamber of Commerce in Gillette, Wyoming, on January 6 cancelled an "annual" coyote-killing contest they began with great fanfare a year ago. "It was not an issue of ethics or animal rights," said Chamber president Charlene Murdock, lest anyone think the cancellation was perhaps made from a twinge of conscience.

A three-year survey of the ethics of more than 10,000 waterfowlers by Mississippi State University professors Rick Kaminski and Brian Gray has discovered that 35% admitted to either shooting-hour, bag-limit, or baiting violations over a two-year period; 47% admitted to "accidental" bag limit violations. Those who killed birds either too early or too late in the day were seven years younger on average than those who obeyed the law, and 23% of them admitted committing the violations on purpose. Violators said they enjoyed hunting more than other waterfowlers.

Poachers have cut the migratory bird population of Iran from 10 million to four million since 1965, says zoologist Behzad Behzadirad, of Nicosia.

Australia on January 24 cancelled this year's duck season due to drought, which has severely harmed habitat and caused water-

fowl numbers to crash. "I think this is the start of the end of duck shooting in Australia," said Laurie Levy of the Victorian Coalition Against Duck Shooting. Levy secured a permanent ban on duck hunting in Western Australia in 1990.

Washington D.C. wags recently spoofed the Wildlife Land Trust, a project of the Humane Society of the U.S., by faxing around a photo of Bill Clinton in hunting garb above the WLT logo, below a caption reading, "If you don't want *this* on your land, we can help." WLT accepts land bequests with the pledge to keep them free of hunting and trapping—but not necessarily of presidents.

The West African nation of Burkina Faso is offering hunters the chance to shoot 23 lions at \$1,600 for the first one and \$1,800 apiece for more—less than the going rate at Texas canned hunts.

The Missouri Department of Conservation in 1994 found 406 trophy-sized deer carcasses abandoned with just the heads hacked off, officials said on January 26.

Egyptian president Hosni Mubarek on December 28 banned hunting on the Sinai Peninsula and in the Western Desert, near the Libyan border, until the year 2000, to protect fast vanishing wildlife.

Beaver-bashing

ALBANY, N.Y.—The New York Department of Environmental Conservation plans to ease beaver trapping rules in Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties, perhaps as early as March. The beaver trapping season officially ends April 16, but in the two-county "nuisance zone" landowners will be allowed to trap beaver year-round without a permit; will be allowed to use cable snares, which are cheaper and therefore easier to place in large numbers as well as more easily replaced if they get lost; may set traps on dens, rather than at least five feet away; and will be allowed to bait beavers to specific areas before setting traps.

According to Joseph Brown, president of the beaver protection group Friends of Beaversprite, the NYDEC has made little effort to learn nonlethal tactics of controlling beaver damage.

Letters opposing the relaxed trapping rules may be addressed to DEC Commissioner Landon Marsh, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12233; and Governor George Pataki, Executive Chambers, Albany, NY 12224.

Upcoming

In Defense of Animals

March 8-10: American Horse Protection Assn. hands-on training seminar in equine cruelty investigations, rescue, and horse care, at U. of Florida, Gainesville. Info: Ellen Forsyth, at 202-965-0500.

March 9-12: "Wolves AND Humans 2000: A global perspective for managing conflict," conference sponsored by U. of Minnesota at Duluth. Info: 218-726-8835 or 726-6819.

March 10: Humane Solutions to Problems with

Urban Wildlife, Mt. Laurel, New Jersey. Info: HSUS, 301-258-3032.

March 15: deadline for entries in the UFT Humane Ed. Committee Science Fair Contest for Humane Science Projects, open to New York City students, grades preschool through 12. Info: Humane Science Contest, POB 445, Gracie Station, New York, NYC 10028. Inquire as well about the UFTHE's Healthy Diet Essay Contest, also open to preschool through grade 12, deadline April 3.

March 24-25: "Volunteers and You," workshop hosted by American Humane Assn., in Denver. Info: 303-792-9900.

March 31: "Cat Conference," sponsored by the Greenhill Humane Society, in Eugene, Oregon. Info: 503-689-1503.

April 6-8: "In The Company of Animals," conference on animals in myth and literature, New School for Social Research, New York City. Info: 212-229-5378; fax 212-229-5476.

April 8-9: "Operation Education," training conference for humane educators at the Fellowship Farm in Pottstown, Penn. Some participants will be hired for part-time assignments by Animalearn, a project of the American Anti-Vivisection Society. Registration is \$140, closing March 24. Info: 215-887-0816.

April 22: "Protect Our Future: Stop the Cycle of Child and Animal Abuse," conference presented by Orchards Children's Services and the Michigan Humane Society at MSU, Troy, Michigan. Info: 810-433-8600.

In Defense of Animals

Wildlife & People

A hungry hippopotamus, rampaging through rice fields and upsetting canoes in the Selingue dam district of Mali, was said to have magical powers in January after eluding vigilantes for more than a month.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game officers shot a mama moose because of "ill disposition" on January 14 at the University of Alaska campus in Anchorage, after she tried to kick professor Bruce Kappes as he sprinted to class. A few days earlier the moose fatally stomped Myung Chin Ra, 71, when he tried to pass her to enter a building. Witnesses said both attacks occurred because the moose was protecting her calf. The moose and calf had been repeatedly harassed by snowball-throwing students.

A moose used one hoof to pin down cross-country skier Kari Haugen, 33, of Vardal, Norway, on January 27, and stomped her with the other. Haugen punched, kicked, and tried to spear the moose with her ski poles to no avail—but the moose ran away when she tweaked his nose.

Biologist Hugh Spencer of the Cape Tribulation Tropical Research Station in Queensland, Australia, has invented a batter-coated bomb that explodes in feral pigs' mouths to deliver a lethal dose of potassium cyanide. He calls it a "humane" alternative to hunting, trapping, and poison baits. "Dr. Spencer believes his bomb could be modified to control pigs without killing them," reports the Australian magazine *Animals Today*, "by delivering sterilants. It could also deliver vaccines to help control disease."

Australian inventor Anthea Nicholls is promoting "modular cat parks" made from interlocking cages, to give cats outdoor time with-

New Indiana captive wildlife regulations take effect in March. Of the 1,000-odd wildlife possession permits issued to date, says state Department of Natural Resources chief of administrative services Greg McCollam, 62% are for raccoons and 14% are for skunks. The new regulations are good for the most part, assesses Tanya Tuell of the Animal and Environmental Defense Association, but at the last minute three DNR commissioners reversed their votes to adopt USDA minimum cage sizes, rather than the much larger minimums prescribed in California. The USDA minimums are based on practicality within laboratory conditions, not opti-

mums for lifelong confinement.

Springfield animal control specialist Tom Magro detonates six propane-fired noise cannons 15 to 20 times an hour from 4 a.m. to 8 p.m.

—Kim Bartlett

Cull cruelty on camera

CHICAGO—Steve Hindi and Chicago Animal Rights Coalition colleagues used remote-controlled miniature night-vision cameras in January to get rare video footage—aired by many local TV stations—of DuPage County Forest Preserve staff catching deer in rocket nets and killing them with a captive-bolt gun.

"One animal was seen jumping as the net was fired, only to fall on her back. Another deer was dragged by three others in a net as they tried to escape. Her head was pulled under her body. Still another deer suffered for at least 35 minutes," Hindi said.

Shown the video on January 18, the DuPage commissioners voted 11-10 to suspend the rocket-netting. But on February 7 they allowed it to resume "for research," with the deer thus caught to be radio-collared. Only deer injured by the rocket-netting would be dispatched with the captive bolt gun. Culling continues via sharpshooting.

Skeptical, Hindi likened the "research netting" to Japanese "research whaling"—a cover for continuing an objectionable practice. He pledged CHARC cameras would continue to be watching.

The DuPage preserve began rocket-netting deer a year ago, after sharpshooters failed to reduce the herd as fast as the commissioners wanted. Having killed 895 deer in two years, the commissioners hope to kill from 540 to 680 more.

Inflating the count

The CHARC video was the second scandal to hit Chicago-area deer-culls in under two weeks. The Lake County Forest Preserve District delayed a deer count that was expected to be used to rationalize a cull when, just before the count was to begin, Davida Terry of Voice for Wildlife found salt licks near sniper platforms in the woodlands—which would have artificially increased the number of deer in each vicinity. Terry, as a member of the LCFPD's wildlife advisory committee, unsuccessfully demanded the resignation of district biologist Frank Drummond.

—Sue Clark

ed a standing offer to help the preserve pursue alternatives to rocket-netting, notably sharpshooting and contraception.

On February 9, after meeting with preserve staff, Rolla wrote to the preserve commissioners and Hindi that he had "determined that the use of the rocket nets for [radio collaring] is humane and should be allowed to continue," although the usual means of capturing deer for radio-collaring is tranquilization, either via darts or drug-laced bait. Both Hindi and Terry told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that in their estimation, Rolla's endorsement was the main reason why the DuPage commissioners didn't abandon rocket-netting altogether.

Elsewhere

Other communities are also trying to reduce deer numbers. At Fox Point, Wisconsin, a net-and-shoot cull was averted in favor of trapping and resale to canned hunts, after a December aerial survey found only 13 deer, not the 65 said to be there in the fall.

A sharpshooting deer cull was to start on Valentine's Day in Highland Park, Illinois, after a 60-day delay imposed by the city council to give cull opponents time to research a relocation plan. They were not expected to find a relocation site.

Rangers at Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona killed more than two dozen malnourished deer between mid-December and mid-January who had become dependent on visitors' food handouts. "They're getting rid of their mistakes," said D.J.

out risk to wildlife. The system works, says Nicholls, because “cats do not use large areas very efficiently,” and a maze of wire tunnels and cages that provides opportunity to climb can actually give them more stimulation than an open yard.

Taiwanese citizens used \$2 million worth of government-issued poison to kill 12 million mice in a biennial mouse purge held during the third week of January. Similar purges were held in Quemoy and Shanghai during November. Commonly living in ricepaper and bamboo houses with thatched roofs, Asian villagers fear rodents for more than just the diseases they may carry and the crop damage they do: on February 1, a mouse upset an oil lamp on an ancestral shrine in a home in Binh Thuan province, Vietnam, sparking a fire that within minutes killed a 13-month-old child, razed 193 houses, and left 880 people homeless and destitute.

Billed as “the first living museum dedicated to the conservation of North American bats,” the National Bat Center, a project of the American Bat Conservation Society, recently opened at 5721 Randolph Road in Rockville, Maryland. The center provides emergency advice about bats at 301-984-ABCS.

Sanitation chief Robert Stein, of Lake George, New York, set up 69 birdhouses and 18 bat boxes at the town sewage treatment plant in 1990. Bluebirds, purple martins, and bats now control flies there, saving 55 gallons of pesticide per year.

About 250 north Floridans have signed a petition demanding that wildlife officials remove the nine Texas cougars left in the area from a group of 19 released in 1993 to test the ability of closely related Florida panthers to survive there. Six were removed earlier and four were killed for allegedly menacing humans or livestock. Of seven Texas cougars released in the same area in 1988, five were removed; three were killed.

every day to keep pigeons and starlings away from the Illinois State Capitol. Since the shooting began in November, the building’s bird population has fallen from 500 to 200, says Magro, producing a 30% reduction in guano deposits. Statistics on hearing loss by building staff and neighbors are unavailable.

The Salmon River Electric Co-Op, of Challis, Idaho, blames federally protected pileated woodpeckers for doing \$200,000 in damage to power poles in 1994—\$350 worth per customer. The real problem, says Idaho Fish and Game Dept. biologist Chuck Harris, is that droughts have killed trees, bringing insects who eat dead wood, including the poles, and attract the woodpeckers.

The Goosepond Colony Golf Course, near Atlanta, on January 6 yielded to public opinion and cancelled a scheduled “hunt” for 500 to 1,000 resident Canada geese who poop on the greens. Instead the course will try to roust the geese with a chemical repellent.

Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, on January 6 delayed until mid-February the awarding of a contract to kill nutria. A beaver-like rodent brought from South America by fur farmers about 70 years ago, nutria are accused of undermining canal banks and roadways. The Parish has received two bids to poison the nutria with zinc phosphide-laden sweet potatoes, at cost of up to \$510,000 for the first year; parish sheriff Harry Lee says his SWAT team could do the same job with \$50 worth of ammunition. Pinckney Wood, a leading critic of the proposed killing, argues that there are under 1,000 nutria in the parish, not the 10,000 or more claimed by officials; the poisoning plans are risky to children, and, “Routine canal maintenance, barriers in the few places where they are needed, and modification of the canal plantings” should be sufficient to control nutria, who them-

LCPFD executive director Steve Messerli said Drummond was testing the licks to see if they might lure deer toward gunners.

Two weeks later, as the count was to resume, Terry discovered corn feeders had been placed in the same locations. That was enough to convince the county board to rule on February 8 against killing any deer this winter.

Dispute

The CHARC video reignited a long smoldering conflict between the majority of Chicago-area animal protection groups, which oppose deer-culling, and Don Rolla of the Elsa Wild Animal Appeal, who supports it in principle, to preserve brush habitat for songbirds. Invited to preview the video with Hindi, Rolla said he was unable to make the meeting, but after seeing portions on television newscasts, added in a January 19 letter to DuPage County Forest Preserve District operations committee chairperson Patti Bellock that the video “did pose questions with regard to the humane nature of the procedure.” Rolla reiterat-

schubert of the fund for animals.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission opened a special deer-culling season on February 1. Authorized communities will be allowed to shoot deer through September 1, the opening of the hunting season. Fox Chapel, near Pittsburgh, and Lower Merion, near Philadelphia, were reportedly first to apply for permits, but a Lower Merion citizens’ committee is challenging the killing plan and promoting an experimental deer birth control program instead.

The East Bay Regional Park District meanwhile dropped a two-year-old birth control program to control Columbian black-tailed deer at Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont, California. “Contraception works, but it’s too expensive and labor-intensive to be practical,” said spokesman Ned MacKay. The effort cost \$2,000 per deer annually, in part because the deer were monitored with radio collars to insure that each one got her annual contraceptive booster shot. The district gave up on relocation in 1992, after all 29 deer captured at the Ardenwood Regional Preserve died—mostly from predation—soon after release in the Ohlone Regional Wilderness.

SAVE FOR SKUNK WEATHER

Chemist Paul Krebaum, of Molex Inc. in Lisle, Illinois, has developed a cheap, simple means of neutralizing skunk spray: one quart of 3% hydrogen peroxide, a quarter cup of baking soda, and a teaspoon of liquid soap, to be washed off with tapwater soon after application. WARNING: the ingredients react so violently that the mixture can't be kept in a closed container.

Jim Harris ad (paid for 4/95)

CHARC to 11/95

Feed the CHARC!

You've seen what our state-of-the-art video equipment can do—dramatic close-ups of what happens to pigeons when they're wounded at Hegins, and how deer suffer when they're rocket-netted and dispatched with captive-bolt guns. No longer can killers and abusers hide, pretending what they do doesn't happen, or is "humane": the CHARC cameras see and bring back the evidence.

But the cameras cost money—a lot of money.
Please help us keep the video rolling, TODAY!

ZOONOSIS UPDATE

A technical advisory committee set up by the Indian government announced February 7 that data review had confirmed that a major disease outbreak in the city of Surat last September was indeed pneumonic plague, as first diagnosed, even though it did not spread as fast or kill as many people as past outbreaks have. A slightly earlier outbreak of a disease reported as bubonic plague in Maharashtra state is still under study. Both forms of plague may be spread by rodent infestation.

Yevgeny Belyaev, head of Russia's Epidemics and Sanitary Control State Committee, told media February 8 that stray dogs had become a serious threat to public health in the Chechnyan war zone. He said the chance that the dogs might spread cholera was the greatest concern.

Chagas disease, virtually unknown in the U.S., is the most costly and lethal insect-borne ailment in Latin America, the World Health Organization says—and it ranks third worldwide, behind only malaria and schistosomiasis. The carrier is the inch-long triatomine beetle, which bites sleeping victims, usually near the eyes, and leaves behind protozoa that erode the body's immune system. The beetle is found in wooded parts of the deep South, as well as in the rainforest it prefers, but the North American beetles don't deposit the deadly protozoa. In the U.S., Chagas cases are usually passed through blood transfusions from unwitting victims to other uninfected humans.

The British government on January 24 rejected the recommendation of the Parliament agriculture committee that it should replace the six-month quarantine imposed on all imported dogs and cats with a system of mandatory vaccinations and blood testing. There have been only two cases of rabies detected in Britain since the six-month quarantine was adopted in 1922.

The New York state Department of Health on January 20 warned reptile owners to wash their hands thoroughly after handling their pets. The warning, echoing one issued last spring, followed the January 1 death of a 12-hour-old infant whose mother went into premature labor as result of contracting a fever caused by exposure to *salmonella poona*, a microbe carried by her pet iguana.

Dr. Genevieve Chene and fellow researchers at the Bordeaux University Hospital in France reported on January 20 that blood tests of 51 people with a chronic skin reaction called *urticaria* discovered they were seven times more likely than those without *urticaria* to be infected with *Toxocara canis*, a common dog parasite. The infection can be avoided by deworming pets, keeping stray dogs out of one's yard, and washing one's hands after any contact with dogs.

Fox rabies has now spread as far south in New Hampshire as Loon Mountain, state wildlife officials said on January 1, and is likely to meet the northward spread of raccoon rabies in midstate this spring.

Humane Farming Assn.

AGRICULTURE

Livestock show judge Lynn Holley, 42, of Bowling Green, Ohio, was indicted December 22 along with Dallas Miller, 42, also of Bowling Green, and Gregory Garmyn, 41, of Hicksville, for allegedly trafficking in clenbuterol, a banned steroid. The drug is illegally used as a growth stimulant for veal calves and a performance booster for both human and equine athletes. Residues in meat can cause illness and even death. Holley was caught when Ohio Department of Agriculture investigators discovered at slaughter that vegetable oil had been injected into the rump of his son Mike's steer, named grand champion at last year's Wood County Fair. The oil enhanced the steer's appearance but violated pure food laws and the rules of fair exhibition. Looking farther, the ODA found that eight award-winning animals in the junior livestock division at the Ohio State Fair had been tampered with—three by injections of vegetable oil, two with clenbuterol treatments, and three with both substances.

"We are continuing our investigation and hope to get indictments on other people," said ODA chief investigator Larry Pontius. An ongoing federal probe and field work by Humane Farming Association investigator Gail Eisenitz have recently disclosed that the use of clenbuterol by vealers is far more common than was suspected; see the December 1994 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** for details.

Kentucky is expected to go from 25th in the U.S. in poultry production to ninth during the next two years, as former tobacco farmers turn to chicken production. Immense water pollution problems resulted from blood, grease, and manure disposal when the poultry industry similarly exploded in Arkansas and Missouri.

The European Union on February 8 threatened to sue Germany if the German federal government doesn't act to overrule a boycott of British beef imposed by the state of North Rhine-Westphalia to avoid possible human exposure to bovine spongiform encephalopathy. The EU ruled earlier that British cattle born after 1992 are free of the disease, an apparent mutation of the sheep disease scrapie, which has devastated the British cattle industry since 1986.

The Kirkscey Locker Plant, of Rosebud, Texas, a former cattle slaughterhouse built in 1945, has been sold to Austin-area emu ranchers Rocky DeMarco and Jack Ledbetter, and converted to kill emus. While at least two ostrich-slaughtering plants are already in operation, the former Kirkscey plant, now called the Emu Prime Processing Plant, is the first to specialize in the smaller ratites. With the speculative market for both ostriches and emus crashing, the birds are becoming available for slaughter in significant numbers—but the market for their remains is still largely hypothetical.

Horses

Washington governor Mike Lowry intervened with an emergency order on January 24 while the state legislature rushed through special legislation to allow animal rescuer Carlene Whitesell and sons Israel, 12, and Benjamin, 8, of Paterson, to keep a pony named Blaze. After postmaster Beth Allen found the pony wandering along a railroad track on December 30, she and the Whitesells

captured him, searched unsuccessfully for the owner, then called the state brand inspector—who moved to seize and auction the pony in compliance with a state law governing the roundup of unclaimed cattle. Authorities now believe the pony was abandoned deliberately.

Moving to prevent repetition of the deaths of 122 wild horses due to drought last summer at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico, the Tadpole Cattle Company of Bartlesville, Oklahoma on February 1 removed the first 79 of 450 horses it has contracted to take off the range this year. At least another 550 are scheduled for removal, at cost of \$1.5 million. The horses are to be put up for adoption; those not adopted will be killed. One Tadpole subcontractor, former BLM staffer Bill Sharp of Albuquerque, is among the subjects of a federal grand jury probe of alleged irregularities in the BLM wild horse adoption program. He told the *Dallas Morning News* last fall that the inquiry had forced his resignation from the BLM, but denied any wrongdoing.

A week after Beltex slaughterhouse manager Brent Heberlein told the Bureau of Land Management that the Fort Worth plant had received nine wild horses from someone who apparently adopted them from the BLM, the BLM on December 22 seized the nine in an apparently unprecedented move to enforce the oft-ignored regulation which forbids adoptions-for-resale. Heberlein said the BLM hadn't responded to previous reports of the same nature. "It's ironic that a slaughterhouse operator had to make the BLM do the right thing," said Karen Sussman of the International Society for the Protection of Mustangs and Burros.

Pat Houde, owner of the H Ranch at Elm Creek, Manitoba, has erected a hay bale fence to hide the 2,400 colts from mares on urine collection lines that he's fattening for slaughter. The urine, collected from the mares when pregnant, is used to make the estrogen drug Premarin.

Enforcing a ban on the import of Asian horses, Swedish officials killed on arrival three thoroughbreds presented to Lieutenant General Ake Sagren late last year by Pakistani top general Abdul Waheed. Sagren flew back to Pakistan to apologize to Waheed in person.

Humane Farming Assn.

PROTESTS ROCK STOCKERS (FROM PAGE 1)

sanctuary. A martyr's funeral was scheduled for Valentine's Day in Coventry Cathedral.

"Her life will be some sort of watershed," pledged protest organizer John Curtain. "You can guarantee that after what happened to Jill, no lorries will get through. Everyone will come to Coventry now and there will be a lot of anger." He issued a public warning to Phoenix Aviation owner Chris Barrett-Jolley. In 1991, Curtain pointed out, fox hunter Allan Summersgill ran over hunt saboteur Mike Hill, 18, with a trailer of foxhounds. Hill's death followed that of another saboteur, Tom Worby, in a parallel incident. The Animal Liberation Front soon thereafter claimed responsibility for burning Summersgill's home and kennels.

As if on cue, a masked mob smashed the windows of Barrett-Jolley's home the next day. "The lone policeman guarding the house was kicked to the ground when he tried to intervene," boasted the ALF.

There was more violence in Plymouth, where a senior police officer was hospitalized with serious head injuries after he stopped to help a protester who had fallen with an apparent heart attack and was hit with a brick. About 200 demonstrators hurled bottles and stones but failed to keep a convoy of trucks from unloading calves and sheep onto a ferry. Ten people were arrested.

Demonstrations did interrupt animal exports from Humberside, Sherness, Prestwick, Swansea, and Grimsby.

Gates, Phipps' sister Lesley, her male companion Justin Timpson, and her 70-year-old father, whose name was unavailable, were all arrested February 4. Gates was charged with criminal damage to the nosecone of a cargo plane, to which he had chained himself. The others were charged with aggravated trespass and released on bail, on condition that they not return to the airport. According to ALF spokesperson Simon Russell, who relayed communiques from England to North America via the Internet,

media caught him flying guns, bombs, and mortars from Bulgaria to South Yemen in a Ghanian plane, with improper papers.

"If this is printed," he allegedly warned the *Daily Mirror*, "you'll be dead come Monday." By July, Barrett-Jolley was flying arms from Russia to Angola. And in October, he was convicted of theft and successfully sued by Lord Jersey in a property dispute.

Barrett-Jolley had also been accused of violence several times during the anti-animal export protests. In November 1994 he was reportedly arrested on suspicion of assault for allegedly beating a 67-year-old protester and smashing the windshield of her car with a crowbar. He was caught in possession of the purported weapon, and remains free on bail. He was also accused of knocking a protester down with his Range Rover on January 14, 1995, but no charges were filed.

Escalation

Protest actions escalated on both sides of the English Channel in the days before Phipps' funeral, inflamed in part by the February 8 crash of a sheep truck near Gravesend. The accident left a woman and a six-year-old child critically injured, four cars damaged, and as many as 200 sheep dead from suffocation as the truck landed on its side and other sheep fell on top of them. The truck carried 450 sheep.

Brightlingsea, the focus of the biggest actions after January 17, with 250 demonstrators and 12 arrests the day Phipps was killed, remained at the vortex. Not normally a cattle-shipping port, Brightlingsea began handling shipments after demonstrations halted the traffic at Shoreham harbour and the Swansea airport. Shoreham police costs exceeded \$5 million., while apparently no livestock ever got out from Swansea.

If Brightlingsea officials thought they'd have an easier time of it, they were soon disabused of that notion by a crowd of

Brightlingsea on February 11, as yet another shipment rolled through after the police cordon broke a human chain.

Ireland

Taking a less confrontational approach, Compassion in World Farming reportedly persuaded Irish Ferries to stop transporting cattle on their route from Holyhead, Wales, to Dun Laoghaire, Ireland. Other accounts had it that Irish Ferries was ordered to cease by the Irish government. The Department of Agriculture in Dublin issued a statement pointing out that the shipments via Ireland increased the transport time and stress for livestock, and were therefore contrary to government policy.

Irish Ferries, normally a very minor livestock carrier, was the last ferry company serving Britain that accepted any livestock aboard. Though Irish Ferries continued to haul Irish livestock to France, the discontinuance meant British farmers could no longer reach Europe by exporting to Ireland first. About 1,500 cattle had been moved by that route, Irish officials said.

Air freighters were using the same route. After flights in and out of Belfast, Northern Ireland were delayed and disrupted by demonstrators who set up a roadside encampment on January 26, some exports were believed to have been diverted to a nearby Royal Air Force field.

"The story is as yet without any solid foundation," cautioned Gerry Mulvenna, another of the many protesters who relayed information via the Internet. "They may have decided to stop the exports and just play a teasing game with the campers."

With no calves in sight to intercept, the demonstrators turned to guerrilla theatre in the airport foyer.

Newspaper polls showed the British public solidly behind the demonstrators, with up to 92% opposing live animal exports.

Jill Phipps. (Photo by David Chung.)

point in the action, as the night before an estimated 1,000 police including 20 riot vans and a motorcycle squadron broke a three-day blockade of Shoreham Harbour, arresting 17 demonstrators, whose numbers were reportedly down from 500 during the preceding days to circa 300. After the conviction, the crowds climbed back up.

British farm minister William Waldegrave pledged repeatedly to seek more protection for livestock both at home and abroad, but suffered severe loss of credibility with the January 9 disclosure that he himself is a veal calf grower and exporter—and that his wife Caroline published a cookbook in 1991, a year after Britain outlawed the veal crate, containing 13 recipes for veal with the recommendation that cooks buy their veal from The Netherlands, where the crates remain in use. He reportedly received a number of letters filled with razor blades during the next few days, while police maintained an around-the-clock watch at his home. The Royal SPCA attacked Waldegrave's proposed domestic reforms as "incomplete"—but on February 8 the beleaguered minister finally did get some respect, albeit from Greece. After reviewing RSPCA videotapes forwarded by Waldegrave, which showed fully conscious sheep, goats, and pigs bleeding to death in Greek slaughterhouses, the Greek

"Both said they will break this condition." Nancy and Lesley Phipps had previous records for their participation in a 1986 action against Unilever Labs. Nancy was also charged in 1992 with helping set up an ALF raid on another lab, but was acquitted.

Fly-by-night airline

Activists donned black armbands and continued around-the-clock vigils at the Coventry airport and other points of departure for calves, but despite Curtain's threats and those of the ALF, the Phoenix flights resumed just two days later, leaving media to review a 20-year history of previous unsavory incidents involving Phoenix Aviation—including unsubstantiated allegations of illegally flying endangered species from the Congo to the former Soviet Union. In 1993, Phoenix pilot Crosby Otovo drew 8 years in prison for using a chartered Boeing 707 to import cocaine and heroin from West Africa. In May 1994, Barrett-Jolley himself went through a messy bankruptcy; a month later

1,500 who turned out the first day of the shipments through that port—including a paraplegic who threw his wheelchair in front of a cattle transporter.

Day after day, trucks were met by crowds of people walking slowly in front of them; police arrested a handful, and the trucks got through. There were some variations. A gang of fox hunters showed up January 18 to taunt the demonstrators. Three hundred police turned out the next day to make 21 arrests, the most in one day during the whole campaign. The police response was quieter at least on the British side of the Channel after newspapers published a photo of an officer kicking a demonstrator in the head. However, 200 demonstrators who met a load of sheep arriving February 9 at Nieuwport, Belgium, were dispersed by riot police using watercannon.

After Phipps' death the British police presence increased again, in response to the escalating violence. An estimated 500 protesters and 250 police clashed at

Those who had doubts about the practice apparently turned against it after the January 6 conviction of three senior employees of Albert Hall Farms, a North Yorkshire exporter, for failing to water calves for 37 hours while trucking them through France. They were fined a total of about \$35,000. The conviction came at a possible turning

agriculture ministry pledged an investigation.

In Parliament, a private member's bill to halt the export of British calves for veal—rated little chance of passage because it lacked Government support—was filibustered to death by Conservatives Oliver Heald, who read from an encyclopedia, and Pete Atkinson, who read from a telephone book.

Shannon Lentz, who cofounded Kalamazoo Animal Rescue in October 1991 and has served since then as director, has resigned effective March 7 to concentrate on developing her Grateful Acres Animal Refuge. Rick Crepas and Robin Collum have been named acting co-directors of KAR pending the election of Lentz' successor. "Georgie, the goat from outer space, was being given away at a hillbilly yard sale," Lentz says of this photo of two Grateful Acres residents. "He is the bane of my existence and the light of my life. Rosa, the pig, came from Farm Sanctuary."

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Henry Spira

AGRICULTURE

Henry Spira

Killing seals again! (from page 1)

Prince Edward Island, IWC correspondent Pat Gray said a live seal had been found on the beach with her flippers cut off. Similar incidents were reported last year.

"The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is apparently terrified there will be another uncontrolled slaughter, and are trying to prepare for the worst," Doncaster said.

Video from the 1982 landsman's hunt, as shoreline sealing is called, was key in persuading the European Community to ban the import of sealskins three years later.

Eating genitals

But the sealers don't need the European market now. The Asian aphrodisiac trade swallows all the seal genitals Canada can provide—literally, as they're made into cocktails and potions sold at the notorious child-brothels of so-called "sex-port" centers catering to the beliefs, strong in Asia, that sex with very young partners can restore youth; that sex with children avoids AIDS; and that men of enhanced virility sire sons. The United Nations Children's Fund reported on December 15 that as many as half a million children a year are exploited in sex-ports by growing numbers of pedophiles who fly in from abroad. Thailand and the Philippines have an estimated 100,000 child-prostitutes apiece. At least eight other Southeast Asian nations are also deeply involved.

Beyond the link to commercialized pedophilia, points out Doncaster, "These are the same markets that are responsible for the illegal traffic in critically endangered tigers and rhinos."

Tacitly acknowledging at least part of the linkage, the Taiwan Council of Agriculture on January 29 urged citizens to refrain from consuming products made from endangered wildlife on trips abroad during the Chinese Lunar New Year holidays, which began on January 31. Seal genitals might be acceptable; tiger genitals, not. Taiwan is trying to overcome an image as

Atlantic Canadians buy about 6,000 frozen "flipper pies" per year, but otherwise very little seal meat goes to human consumption.

Political stakes

The money to be had from selling seal carcasses is still small change compared to the former worth of the Atlantic Canada fishery, but the seal hunt has political meaning for the whole of Canada. Traditionally each of the 10 provinces is represented by at least one cabinet minister, picked from among the elected Members of Parliament. Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island among them elect only a handful of Members because of their small populations, but those Members accordingly hold disproportionate influence. The Atlantic influence has been heightened for the past 30 years by the constant threat that Quebec, the fifth sealing province, might secede—which would isolate the Atlantic provinces from the rest of Canada, but meanwhile gives them the balance of power in a perennial three-way struggle among Quebec, industrialized Ontario, and the largely agrarian west. For 28 of the past 30 years a prime minister from Quebec has held power and kept Quebec in confederation through maintaining an alliance with Atlantic Canada. The names have changed, from Pierre Trudeau to Brian Mulroney to Jean Cretien, and the ruling parties have been alternately Liberal and Progressive-Conservative, but for pro-confederation Quebecers, the key to placating the separatists has been getting special concessions for French-speaking Quebecois from Ottawa; the key to that has been keeping Atlantic Canadian support; and the key to keeping Atlantic Canadian support has been telling Atlantic Canadians what they want to hear. One government after another preferred to absorb the force of global opinion against seal-clubbing, rather than risk losing Atlantic Canadian votes and perhaps the nation by

*Paul Watson,
here brushing a
baby harp seal,
had hoped 1995
would be the
year he finally
convinced
Canada that
there's more
money to be
made from
selling the "seal
wool" the pups
shed as they
molt than from
killing seals.
(Sea Shepherd
photo.)*

But most marine mammal protection activists were preoccupied with the simultaneous struggles to renew the Marine Mammal Protection Act, then before Congress; win creation of the Southern Oceans Whale Sanctuary, then before the International Whaling Commission; and forestall a Japanese and Norwegian bid to lift the global moratorium on commercial whaling, also before the IWC.

Fisheries minister Brian Tobin meanwhile made soothing statements. As late as July 7, the Ottawa *Citizen* reported, "Tobin said that Canada will not consider a return to seal culling on its east coast, despite fishermen's claims that the seals threaten Newfoundland's endangered northern cod. Evidence of the impact of the seals in the destruction of cod was not clear, he said. "There is no doubt in my mind that man has been a far greater predator."

Cod crash

The northern cod fishery yielded 3.1 million metric tons of fish in 1970, but had declined by two-thirds when Canada finally began conservation measures in 1988. Even then, the cutbacks were half-hearted until 1992, when the catch fell to just 400,000 metric tons. Former Progressive-Conservative fisheries minister John Crosbie was forced to halt all cod fishing for at least

Even in announcing the expanded seal hunt, including the bounty of 20¢ per pound on seals killed, which Quebec and the Atlantic provinces are expected to match, Tobin and Canadian Fisheries Resource Conservation Council scientists admitted a lack of scientific evidence that seals have hurt the cod fishery. Instead, they deferred to the "perceptions" and "common sense" of the fishing industry.

The expanded seal hunt follows the recommendation of a study group on the status of the cod fishery, appointed by Tobin which consisted of nine representatives of the fishing industry, two oceanographers, a chemist, a professor of commerce, and a professor of psychology. They reported that the crisis was caused by a combination of foreign overfishing with Canadian management practices that "are contrary to the conservation process." They conceded that, "the desired level of scientific evidence is not available" to indict seals—but strongly urged killing seals anyway, simply because, "an imbalance is perceived between the amount of fish eaten by seals and the amount that may be taken by fishermen.

Damage control proceeded immediately. Effective February 9, Cretien appointed former fisheries minister Romeo Leblanc, longtime lead defender of the seal hunt under Trudeau, to serve as Governor-General of

hub of the global traffic in products made from endangered species, to escape limited U.S. trade sanctions imposed in August 1994. The sanctions are expected to cost Taiwan about \$25 million annually in export income.

Before Canada discovered the genital trade, the landman's sealing kill averaged circa 25,000. Last year, however, Terra Nova Fisheries Co. of St. John's contracted to supply 50,000 seal carcasses to Shanghai Fisheries, of China—whereupon Canada boosted the sealing quota to 57,000. This year unofficial reports claim Asian buyers want 180,000 seal carcasses.

The whole carcasses are sold and used, which enables the Canadian government to deny that the seals are being killed just for genitals. But the genitals alone fetch up to \$130 per set on the current retail market, while the pelt, meat, and oil of a seal go for about \$20. Among the primary markets for the seal meat are mink and fox farms.

FARM - March only

stopping it. Only when the EU cut off the market for pelts and made it possible for Canadian leaders to throw off the blame did any dare act against it.

With the separatist Parti Quebecois back in power in Quebec since last year, the game is on again. Soon after Pariseau took office, leaders of the Quebec-dominated Liberal party began calling for a revived and expanded seal hunt.

Denial

Taking notice of the Terra Nova contract and a resolution in favor of sealing by the Liberal party convention last May, the International Fund for Animal Welfare made banner headlines across Canada with a two-page ad in the Toronto *Globe & Mail* and a press conference in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, at which executive director Richard Moore gave explicit details of the role of seal genitals in the aphrodisiac market.

Tomahawk - Sept., Nov.,
Jan/Feb. (expired)

three years, putting from 30,000 to 35,000 people out of work and helping insure the PC defeat in the 1994 general election. By then it was too late. Five straight years of abnormally cold water inhibited spawning. The cod stock is now estimated at only 2,700 metric tons, according to Canadian Department of Fisheries deputy minister for science Scott Parsons, who adds it will need at least 15 years to recover.

Mark Mathew Braunstein - through May 1995

Canada—the official Canadian emissary to the British Commonwealth, from which direction much of the pressure against renewed sealing is expected.

A February 21 "forum on seal management" in St. John's is to present an economic and scientific rationale for the killing, in apparent hopes of forstalling opposition from the general public. The bloodbath is expected to follow immediately thereafter.

Dog logo

The Watchdog

The Watchdog monitors fundraising, spending, and political activity in the name of animal and habitat protection—both pro and con. His empty bowl stands for all the bowls left empty when some take more than they need.

Activists

The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society urgently seeks volunteer crew to mount a voyage in protest of resumed large-scale sealing in Atlantic Canada. Get details from 310-301-7325 or fax 310-574-3161.

Several anonymous Internet postings in late January claimed a Sea Shepherd vessel had collided with the Norwegian destroyer *King Olaf Gustav* near Valdheim Island. "The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society has not been involved in any such accident, nor do we have a ship anywhere near the area described," responded Sea Shepherd Internet representative Nick Voth.

A Last Chance for Animals mailing promoting Valentine's Day as "National Pet Theft Awareness Day" claimed "The last major legislation to end pet theft was the 1966 Laboratory Animal Welfare Act." This will surprise many members of the U.S. Senate, who within their current terms passed the Pet Theft Act as an amendment to the 1990 Farm Bill—and a good many former dealers in stolen animals, who have been heavily fined and in some cases put out of business by the reforms the act introduced.

Animal Rights Mobilization/Chicago director Barbara Chadwick, under fire from former board member Susan Koенcker and former program director

FARM campaign backfires

"In September and October," the Farm Animal Reform Movement recently told members, "FARM conducted a massive letter-to-the-editor writing campaign that published over 100 letters on five topics in 60 of the nation's largest newspapers. We estimate that this brief campaign alone has reached between two and five million readers, some more than once, raising substantially public awareness of the destructive impact of animal agriculture."

That claim raised the awareness of Robert G. Zimbelman, executive vice president of the American Society of Animal Science, who soon informed newspaper editors across the U.S. that someone using the name "Tom Oliver" and a variety of apparently bogus addresses had published letters following the FARM format in 22 newspapers between December 5 and February 5.

Akron *Beacon Journal* associate editor David B. Cooper on February apologized to readers and blistered FARM president Alex Hershafft. "This organization and its members are entitled to their views," Cooper concluded. "However, having learned their tactics, I will view their propaganda with a large grain of salt."

Instead of making his own apologies, Hershafft charged Cooper with pursuing an agenda "to protect readers from views originating outside Northeast Ohio."

Political intelligence and other oxymorons

The Green Scissors Coalition, led by Jill Lancelot of the National Taxpayers Union Foundation and Ralph DeGennaro of Friends of the Earth, has recommended to Congress a series of budget cutbacks that would trim \$33 billion from the federal budget over the next decade-plus with benefits for wildlife habitat. The cuts aren't likely to be made,

"One bright spot for environmentalists," in the new Congress, says *Common Ground*, "is Senator John Chafee, the Rhode Island Republican, who takes over the Environment Committee. Chafee's record in support of the Endangered Species Act is solid," and "will be critical in tempering endangered species legislation coming out of"

MONEY TALK

"By significantly expanding the scale and scope of their groups' activities" during the past decade "the directors of environmental organizations hoped to capitalize on Americans' increasing demands for environmental quality," say Christopher Boerner and Jennifer Chilton Kallery of the Center for the Study of American Business at Washington University in St. Louis, in a new report entitled *Restructuring Environmental Big Business* "Unfortunately, as many U.S. corporations have discovered, expansion away from an organization's core competency often has numerous disadvantages," including intensified competition for donor dollars and loss of concentration on achieving key goals. Examples of groups in trouble include **Greenpeace**, down to 3.5 million members from a peak 4.8 million; the **Sierra Club**, down from 630,000 members to 500,000; the **Wilderness Society** down from 400,000 members to 275,000; the **National Audubon Society**, which posted a deficit of \$1.7 million in 1993; and the **National Wildlife Federation**, which has been reducing staff since 1992. Humane societies and animal rights groups have not been hit as hard, partly because most have remained more closely focused. However, Boerner and Chilton Kallery note that groups "employing highly emotional and often misleading campaigns," including "apocalyptic prophecies," have suffered significant erosion of public trust.

Animal-related charities have median receipts of \$136,000 apiece, according to a recent study of nonprofit life cycles by Andrew W. Mellon Foundation president William Bowen. Twelve percent of animal-related charities have annual receipts of over \$1 million 17% take in \$25,000 to \$50,000. Measuring the growth of causes by organizational starts, Bowen found that the number of animal-related charities grew by 13.5% per year from 1965 through 1975, as humane societies formed ir

Jacquie Lewis, has announced she will resign for family reasons effective April 1. She named as her successor Kay Sievers, who founded the Trans-Species Unlimited office in Chicago, then became national director of TSU in 1990, shortly before it renamed itself Animal Rights Mobilization. The Chicago group is one of two spinoffs from TSU, the other being the ARM in Denver, led by Robin Duxbury.

Calling SPCAs "a hindrance as much as a help" in fighting animal abuse, and unhappy that "often the public thinks we are an animal shelter," resulting in answering machine messages "regarding abused or lost cats and dogs," the Pennsylvania Animal Welfare Society is renaming itself the Federation of Animal Advocates.

Warm Store ad -
not yet paid for March.

however, as they include irrigation subsidies to big landowners in Republican-dominated southern California and would require significant amendment of the Mining Law of 1872, any changes to which have been fought by the wise-use lobby. The law allows mining firms to buy mineral rights to federal land for under \$5.00 an acre, while paying no royalties on the proceeds of what they extract.

"The National Rifle Association is the reason the Republicans control the House," President Bill Clinton told the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* a few days after going duck hunting in an admitted bid to curry favor with gun owners. "The fight for the assault weapons ban cost 20 Democrats their seats in Congress." Responded NRA lobbyist Tanya Metaska, "For once the president and I agree." The assault weapons ban and other key provisions of the 1994 Crime Bill that included it are considered likely to be repealed in March. Other tradeoffs for the assault weapons ban included allowing hunting in the East Mojave as part of the price of the California Desert Protection Act, and the inclusion of a federal hunter harassment act within the Crime Bill—not likely to be repealed.

A referendum measure approved in November by 68% of Nevada voters requires the state to collect sales tax on all goods sold by charities, including the proceeds of thrift shops and yard sales. "There is some effort being made to change it," says Pete Bachstadt of the Carson/Eagle Valley Humane Society.

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Bill Van Noter (through March 1995)

the House Natural Resources Committee, headed by wise-user Don Young of Alaska. *Common Ground* is a publication of The Conservation Fund.

The Michigan-based Humanitarians for Environmental & Animal Laws Political Action Committee has called upon newly formed national PACs set up by the Doris Day Animal League and Humane Society of the U.S. to pledge that they will "NOT fundraise in any state that already has a viable PAC" working for animal protection. "The last thing we need is a replay of how the large national groups and their ample budgets for relentless direct mail take huge sums out of local communities and states even as the local and state animal protection groups struggle to survive," said HEAL-PAC founder Eileen Liska—who added that campaign financing reforms leading to the abolition of PACs would be better for animals anyway.

HEAL-PAC "has now been a decisive factor in four elections in 1992 and 1994," according to Eileen Liska. Most notably, HEAL-PAC endorsement apparently won Republican Sal Rocca a seat in the Michigan House in 1992 after his opponent ridiculed his support for an animal protection bill; and in a turnabout, a HEAL-PAC endorsement helped Democrat George Hart keep his seat in the Michigan Senate last fall, after Republican challenger Nancy Hubbard attacked his support of a bill to prevent carrying unrestrained dogs in the backs of pickup trucks.

newly developed suburbs—but grew by only 5.9% per year from 1976 through 1988, despite the takeoff of the animal rights movement during that period. However, the growth of the animal-related charity sector remained faster than that of education (4.7%), arts and culture (4.1%) health (4%), and human services (3.8%).

According to the Council of Better Business Bureau's Philanthropic Advisory Service, of the top 150 U.S. charities, half wrote off direct mail costs—47% of the costs, on average—as "program expense." The CBBB-PAS also found that the salaries of chief executives at major nonprofits slipped 1% in 1993—but the 150 executives surveyed still averaged \$110,723 apiece, 10% more than the total budget of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Dues-paying members of organizations give three times as much money as other donors, according to a new study by Independent Sector. The study also found that 75% of the people who do volunteer work as children continue to volunteer as adults, giving charities an average of 4.2 hours a week.

Professional fundraisers keep from 33% to 40% of the money they collect for charity, new reports from the attorney general's offices of California and Minnesota conclude. Effective January 1, professional fundraisers in California are limited to 50% of the take but are challenging the new law in court.

Bob Sobel ad - March only

Moral relativism & Marine World

VALLEJO, California—Any day now the fishing crews of Iki, Japan, may string nets between their boats and, banging metal objects together to make a noise that carries underwater, herd scores of Dall's porpoises and pseudorcas into an inlet to be harpooned and hacked apart with machetes. Spring is the season for such massacres, conducted intermittently at least since 1900 and almost annually since 1967 despite international protest. The traditional rationale is reducing competition for yellowtail; also, much of the porpoise and whale meat is either eaten or sold.

A few months later, Eskimo hunters in power boats will shoot walruses up and down the Bering and Arctic coasts, ostensibly for meat but perhaps mostly to get ivory tusks, according to witness Sam LaBudde, a research biologist and native of Alaska who has observed the killing for Friends of Animals. LaBudde's testimony is backed by Alaskan eco-journalist Tim Moffat. Some hunting parties retrieve whole carcasses, those that don't sink; others just hack off tusked heads, carve out genitals, and leave the rest,

contrary to Marine Mammal Protection Act requirements. While bulls are the main targets, some cows will be shot as well. Orphaned young—if not shot for meat—will starve or be eaten by polar bears.

Both in Japan and Alaska, some animals might be saved by cash-bearing oceanarium collectors. And that raises the question, is it right to save a wild animal from an agonizing death, at benefit to those who persecute the species and at cost of keeping the animal captive? Many animal rights activists and environmentalists say no; wildlife should not be captured, certainly not at the price of paying the killers. Zoo and oceanarium people say yes; captivity beats death.

Oblivious to philosophy and pecuniary considerations, four irrepressibly inquisitive young walruses at the Marine World Africa USA theme park in Vallejo, California, masters of untying shoes by sucking the laces, provide woofing, nuzzling, body-rubbing testimony to their love of life, despite their traumatic history. Their affection for their keepers, "jailers" though they may be, is as apparent as their mistaken belief that humans are their mothers—or angels.

The presence of the walruses, and the absence of four pseudorcas purchased in Japan under similar circumstances, indicates that the issue is sufficiently unsettled that the National Marine Fisheries Service can apply a double standard. In May 1993 NMFS forbade the import of the pseudorcas; a year later, the walruses were brought from

The Marine Mammal Protection Act, Endangered Species Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species were adopted in 1972-1973 in part to halt institutional purchases that encouraged the depletion of wildlife.

In that regard, the laws have been successful. Poaching and wildlife trafficking are bigger now than ever stoked by Asian demand for medicinals based on wildlife parts. But zoos and aquariums are effectively out of the market. The last noteworthy end-run around CITES by a major American or Canadian zoo occurred in 1983.

Marine World wildlife curator Terry Samansky and public relations director Jim Bonde are as quick as anyone to rip trafficking. Indeed, several of the most prominent exhibits at the nonprofit but pricey and heavily commercialized park attack the elephant ivory trade and the role of the fur industry in imperiling exotic cats. For the anti-fur message Marine World has been blistered by the front group California Fur Industry Inc., even as animal rights protesters picket sporadically because it keeps captive marine mammals, occasionally breeds tigers, and chains elephants overnight.

Although Marine World is among the older marine mammal parks, it is regarded by peers as one of the best. Of the many captive wildlife authorities **ANIMAL PEOPLE** consulted before visiting it, incognito until after a long inspection, only Pat Derby of the Performing Animal Welfare Society said bad things about it, and many of he

Marine World curator Terry Samansky and Sivuquq. (Photo by Kim Bartlett.)

Alaska with little trouble.

But hardly anyone knew about the walrus acquisition. Word has since gotten out. A similar acquisition scheduled by the Indianapolis Zoo is catching flak from Tanya Tuell of the Animal and Environmental Defense Association, and may have a different outcome. In February 1994, nine months after NMFS blocked the Marine World pseudorca import, Tuell won a fight to keep the Indianapolis Zoo from buying four pseudorcas from a Japanese aquarium, to replace a pseudorca who died in 1992, three years after capture. "Unable to provide proof the whales were not obtained through the Japanese drive fisheries," Tuell explained, "zoo officials could not bring them to the U.S."

The conflicts are as old in essence as the warnings of the late Gerald Durrell 40 years ago that fellow zookeepers' interest in rare species had stoked a speculative market that threatened the animals' existence. (See *obituaries*, page 18.)

—K.B.

criticisms predated recent changes. As Bonde points out Marine World may be the *only* major marine mammal park which has *never* suffered the death of a dolphin or an orca though both species have been kept there for more than 20 years.

"I recommend Marine World's care standards and practices to anybody, without hesitation," says Kathy Travers, captive wildlife expert for the American SPCA "and I'll come down on anyone if I think they deserve it."

The walruses and the curator

Samansky didn't just fax off an order for walruses and await delivery. Instead he applied to NMFS for a "salvage tag," which permitted him to bring back from Alaska four walruses orphaned by aboriginal hunting. To certify their origins, Samansky had to journey to the Arctic himself, gc

If you're ever in Japan, drink tea

by Steve Sipman

On a cold gray December day in 1978 the late Dexter Cate and I walked along the Ginza in downtown Tokyo looking for a cheap cup of coffee and a warm place to sit and think up a way to stop the dolphin kills at Iki Island. The day before, I was at home in Honolulu, stuffing my tropical collection of cold weather clothes into my backpack, glad to escape the responsibilities of being a notorious dolphin-napper. I had been hired by John Perry as a whale saver in a small traveling show, and we planned to do some publicity stunts on the Ginza the next day.

Dex and I talked about sonic deterrents, to move the dolphins away from Iki, but I was skeptical. Dex had been working with the government, Japanese scientists, local and international environmental groups, the fishing unions, and the press, trying to develop a climate of opinion against killing cetaceans and to find some alternative to satisfy the fishers. I leaned more toward direct action. Perhaps it would be better, I thought, if we moved the fishermen. That's when Dexter told me a story illuminating the Japanese way of solving problems. There was a small village and every day the children would walk along a certain path to and from school. A man would hide behind a tree beside the path and expose himself when the children walked by. The villagers met and discussed what to do. Rather than confront the man, they decided to cut the tree down.

The Japanese government dealt with Iki in a similar manner. The fisheries around Japan were and are overex-

ploited by a fishing industry with tremendous political clout. But rather than confront the fishing unions and companies with the idea that they were at fault for declining catches, the Japanese government in 1980 put a bounty on dolphins.

But just because Dexter and others who went to Japan years ago were unable to stop the Iki slaughter has not meant that they labored in vain. By the time Paul Watson and crew showed up in Honolulu harbor in 1982, ready to sail for Iki, valuable entries into Japanese culture and consciousness had been delicately forged by Cate's long, soft approach. He once told me you could pull a ship through the water more easily with a rubber band than with steel cable.

By 1982 a handful of dedicated environmentalists had put much time and money into "raising Japanese consciousness" about killing cetaceans, for food or otherwise. I watched some become cynical. International media attention to the Iki killings and the whaling issue had created strong opinions in Japan where there had been none. Conversations with Japanese often developed into lectures punctuated by the phrases, "we Japanese" and "you westerners."

As luck would have it, I was up for sentencing for the Kewalo dolphin escape (described on page 5 of the *November 1994 edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE*) the same week Watson was in town threatening to interfere with the impending 1982 Iki slaughter. Kaoru Iijima and I had planned our own approach to the overall situation in Japan, and planned to go to Japan soon after my sentencing—if I

wasn't in jail. Meanwhile, we were desperate to stop the *Sea Shepherd* from sailing. We talked with the crew, showed them Hardy Jones' film of the Taiji dolphin massacre, gave them written information expressing the Japanese point of view, and tried to give them a banner printed in Japanese, promoting tofu instead of whale meat. I don't think they appreciated my resolve. I considered resorting to the old prop-jam technique that friends of mine used on whaling ships once or twice. Dexter decided to talk with Paul before I did something that Paul would have approved of had I done it to a different ship.

Instead of jail, the judge gave me 500 hours of community service and ordered me to buy two dolphins to replace the ones I helped escape.

Paul went to Japan without his ship. Thank you, Captain. Kaoru and I did a low-profile tour of the vast and fashionable Japanese surfing community, passing out petitions and the first save-the-whales bumper stickers printed in Japanese in Japan. We made a lot of friends, got a lot of signatures to show support for a ban on whaling, had fun surfing, and pulled off 250 hours of community service credit.

Dexter and I never did find that cheap cup of coffee on the Ginza that day. The next day the police hauled me and John Perry and crew down to the station for floating a 40-foot whale balloon in the Emperor's moat. Since then, Kaoru taught me a lot about dealing with Japanese. If you're ever in Japan, drink tea.

Walrus and pseudorcas

out in small boats with the Eskimos, and witness the killing of walrus mamas so that their babies could be captured. Only Samansky doesn't see the killing that way.

"Our permit stipulated that our presence could not cause the additional orphaning of animals," Samansky and Bonde both emphasize.

And Samansky, a self-admitted admirer of the traditional Eskimos, doesn't agree with LaBudde that the main motive for aboriginal walrus hunting these days is the money to be made from selling walrus ivory and genitals.

"The mothers were going to be killed anyway, for meat," he insists. "We saved a lot of walrus, by occupying the hunters with capturing these orphans alive and bringing them back to the village during several days when they could have been out killing. The village we worked with eats walrus all winter. They kill any walrus they can find. They don't actually kill many of the bulls, because the bulls stay out too far. They kill the mothers and the juveniles, except that this time we took the juveniles. If they don't find the juveniles, the orphans die from hunger and the elements, or a predator kills them."

Adds Bonde, "There is no walrus quota for the aboriginals. They can take as many as they want, but they must use all of the animal. That's why it's very important that you work with the right village," one that follows the rules. "You're not allowed to buy a walrus, and they're not allowed to sell one. We were allowed to pay them the going local wage for the days they spent helping us, but that was all."

At about the same time MWA-USA got their walrus, the New York Aquarium acquired some the same way. The Indianapolis Zoo acquisitions, scheduled for this summer, will increase the captive walrus population to a size that the zoological community hopes will permit sustainable captive breeding.

Is it needed? On paper, anyway, walrus remain viable in the wild, despite hunting and poaching. But if the regulators are wrong, successful captive breeding may help insure species survival.

Samansky and Bonde don't talk about the walrus' drawing power. Yet the pecuniary motive may be the best argument for keeping them, from a conservation viewpoint. Whatever the arguments against captivity, it is a fact that the public is most militant on behalf of species they know.

And then there are the four walrus, who inhabit a fenced enclosure including a holding tank while their permanent exhibit is built. Raising them from infancy with frequent

guns at the annual captive bird massacre in Hegins, Pennsylvania—as some of Marine World's most vehement critics have done repeatedly. Either way, killers are rewarded, to save the mere handful of animals who can be saved.

Marine mammal parks should be allowed to do the same, Samansky and Bonde contend, for the pseudorcas.

Killers and whales

"We're bitter about the pseudorcas," Bonde admits, who are now on exhibit at an oceanarium in Japan—and are reportedly effective representatives of their species. Domestic opposition to Japanese government support of whaling and especially to the Iki massacres has dramatically grown in recent years. One can't prove the rise is *because* of the exhibition of pseudorcas and other small whales, any more than one can prove or disprove that proliferating marine mammal parks helped spark the "Save the whales" movement in the U.S., but it is an indicative coincidence.

From 1990 through June 1993, In Defense of Animals and Earth Island Institute besieged Marine World with letters, demonstrations, newspaper ads, and petitions. The initial focus was a demand for the release of the orcas Yaka and Vigga, kept at the park since 1969 and 1981, respectively. Emphasis shifted to keeping the pseudorcas out in April 1993, after the four pseudorcas in question were captured and Marine World applied for an import permit. The orca campaign hadn't produced results, while the opportunity to link the park to notorious cruelty was irresistible.

"When places like Marine World pay money to fishermen for the whales and dolphins," charged Hardy Jones, who filmed the Iki-like massacre at Taiji in 1978, "it makes the slaughter economically feasible."

Added Mark Berman of Earth Island Institute, in an April 21, 1993 op-ed column for the *Vallejo Times-Herald*, "The Iki and Taiji drive slaughterers actually market these animals to captive facilities in advance through a broker in Tokyo. Orders for the species, sex, size, and age are taken. At the time of the roundup, specific animals are herded into a holding area while the remainder are slaughtered without any opposition from the captive display industry. This entire commercial operation is shrouded in secrecy and is perpetuated by those who profit from the slaughter as a means to acquire whales and dolphins at less expensive prices while appearing to save several from death."

In a passage subsequently more embarrassing to the

freed," Kirtland continued, still giving Shono's version, "in truth not one animal was freed or escaped. Three dolphins did become entangled in the cut net, and as a result, drowned," a claim White doubts, saying none were entangled when he made his dawn visit to the scene, shortly before the cutting would have been discovered.

Further, Kirtland said, the dolphins and pseudorcas in the sea pen were removed from the main group 12 days before any were massacred—and the sea pen was several miles from the massacre site. Thus the sea pen group couldn't have seen what became of the rest. White today acknowledges that this might have been the case. Kirtland didn't explain why the massacre victims were held so long before they were killed, when presumably pressure against killing them should have been building by the day.

Added Kirtland, "The collection of pseudorca by Iki fishermen was completed before Marine World ever learned of it; it was not driven by Marine World."

That, in fact, was why NMFS disallowed the imports. Explained Marine World president Michael Demetrios, "When our collector, Scott Rutherford, arrived in Iki, the drive had already started. He had the choice of saving four animals already collected by the fishermen, or going outside the net to collect in the way our NMFS permit stated. We opted to save four animals who were going to be

—K.B.

bottle feeding has given the MWA-USA staff new insight into walrus behavior. For instance, Samansky says, they learned that when alarmed the young walruses immediately submerge and hide on the shadow side of their floating platform, which substitutes for the piece of ice they would have rested on in the Arctic. Because of their youth at capture, this has to be instinctive rather than learned behavior.

Knowing the fate the walruses were spared gives the MWA-USA staff an evident sense of moral accomplishment. Countless walrus will be killed before they either go extinct or humans cease to afflict them; but these are safe. Adopting an orphan does not prevent war, yet is worth doing, handlers say as they give the 400-pound babies lunch. And as Bonde puts it, they can't for the life of them see what's the difference between paying Alaskan natives to save four walrus and buying pigeons by the crate to spare them from the

protesters than to the targets of protest, Berman added, "Finally, last week, eyewitness accounts of where Marine World's pseudorcas are kept on Iki surfaced. The netted area in the bay happens to have 12 bottlenose dolphins—one was seen floating dead on the surface—and at least nine pseudorcas. Several young calves have been noted as well within these numbers, and all appear to be extremely stressed and are swimming in their own waste."

Ben White, then working for In Defense of Animals and now with Friends of Animals, was in Japan. According to the third paragraph of an IDA press release issued the same day, "Sources inside Japan led White to where the pseudorcas were believed to be held. There White observed at least 20 dolphins and pseudorca, including very young calves, confined to an unsanitary sea pen. 'I have never seen dolphins in a more agitated state,' White said. 'The pseudorca were huddled together. The animals, who had witnessed their families massacred in the shore drive, were being held in extremely inhumane conditions...' White, who had traveled to the island with video and still photography equipment, decided to cut the nets rather than just document the conditions. Reports out of Japan this week indicated that 40 dolphins had been freed."

In other words, White was said to have freed nearly twice as many cetaceans as were believed to be in the sea pen to begin with. But White says he never made that claim himself. As he remembers, "I didn't know how many were in the pen. It's pretty hard to count dolphins in the water. I cut the net and I saw a mama and a baby swim toward the opening, and I got out of there. I went back at dawn, briefly, before I caught the first plane away, and I didn't think I saw as many dolphins as previously."

Ironically, the Marine World pseudorcas were never in that sea pen, as White learned later. Marine World representative John Kirtland was tending those pseudorcas at a different site—and advising Marine World not to reveal that fact. "As long as the animal rights terrorists continue to mistakenly believe that the animals are there, our animals will be safe where they really are," he said.

As to the alleged release, Kirtland continued, relaying statements by drive fishery spokesman Teruo Shono, "On the morning of April 14, one of the nets enclosing a number of dolphins at the 'dolphin park' was discovered cut." This placed the incident a full week earlier—although IDA didn't mention it in either an April 16 press release or at an April 18 press conference. White thinks the discrepancy is because IDA was awaiting official confirmation from Japan that some dolphins had escaped, which eventually did come from Tokyo news media. White also believes the Tokyo papers were the source of the number 40.

"Contrary to IDA's claim that 40 dolphins were

killed. NMFS says this action violated our permit because Rutherford was not present for the initial herding process and thus could not verify that the animals were herded humanely by the Japanese."

Perhaps catching activists exaggeration was not a triumph Marine World boasts about.

Says Bonde, "I wouldn't want to stake my reputation on what the drive-fishers said, either." He estimates that the truth lies somewhere between the conflicting versions. The bottom line for Bonde is that whatever became of the animals in the sea pen, whether any escaped, and however many there were, none came to Vallejo.

Captain Paul

Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson has looked at the Iki Island and pseudorca situations as long and hard as anyone, not only as the world's most noted whale defender, but also as a longtime admirer of Japanese culture, martial arts, and philosophy, and with a record of working more closely with some oceanariums than most other leading activists. Watson himself has tried repeatedly and unsuccessfully to stop the Iki Island killing.

"I do not believe that the drive fishery would cease if aquariums stopped their purchases of pseudorcas," Watson told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "The purchases are a lucrative supplement to drive fishing, but they are not the reason for it. Otherwise the fishers would capture the animals for live sale and not kill the others. It is the position of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, however," he continued, "that it is immoral for oceanariums to reward Japan for their mass slaughter of cetaceans by exploiting the kills to purchase exhibits. This is similar to African poachers killing off mountain gorilla or chimpanzee adults for their body parts and then selling the juvenile animals to zoos," a common practice until stopped by CITES.

"The poachers are criminals and a respectable institution should not be dealing with criminals. I understand that the oceanariums believe the animals they purchase are saved from otherwise certain death," Watson concluded. "There is some validity in this. However, it is ethically questionable that Japanese dolphin killers should be given large sums from funds raised from 'educational exhibits.' I think that many patrons of these facilities would be very upset to learn that money they in part provided is going directly to people engaged in slaughter. There is no justification for oceanariums to do business with Japanese dolphin killers. By doing so, they become accessories to the crime and undermine the credibility of their institutions."

Yet it is hard to look into the eyes of a young walrus and think saving him—by whatever means—was wrong.

—Merritt Clifton

Scott Rutherford, Debbie Marrin-Cooney, and Faith Dunham bottle-feed Sivuqaq, Qiluk, Uquq, and Siku. (Photo by Kim Bartlett)

No-kill (from page one)

“The number of treatable dogs and cats killed city-wide dropped 49%, from 2,606 in 1993 to 1,320 in 1994,” Rockwell explained. Of these, 43 were injured, 596 were sick, and 681 were unweaned infants,” down from 123, 1,501, and 982, respectively, a year earlier. “As of January 1, 1995, we have been taking *all* of Animal Care and Control’s treatable dogs and cats, so we can expect to see further dramatic declines in the number of treatables killed in the coming year—perhaps even to the point of eliminating euthanasias in the treatable category.”

Already the San Francisco euthanasia rate stands at “just 37% of all dogs and cats impounded,” Rockwell continued. The national average is 68%, while big cities often euthanize 80% of the animals they receive; some exceed 90%. Avanzino believes the euthanasia rate can be cut down to 25%. The math works, since of the animals killed, 29% (12% of total intake) could have been saved just by treating all of the treatables.

“By far the largest category of dogs and cats killed in San Francisco shelters in 1994 were non-rehabilitatable,” Rockwell finished. “This category includes animals for whom euthanasia is the only option, because of a painful, incurable illness or a serious aggression problem. Of the 4,589 dogs and cats euthanized at the city animal care and control shelter in 1994, 3,269 or 71% were non-rehabilitatable, or were non-adoptable animals euthanized at the owner’s request.”

All 66 animals euthanized by the SFSPCA itself in 1994 were considered non-rehabilitatable.

The SFSPCA and SFACC use the same categorization criteria and record-keeping system, devised by Avanzino and incorporated into the Adoption Pact implementation plan. It provides the animal care and control community with the first reliable hard numbers on the potential for reducing euthanasias. The best available estimate of shelter euthanasias, nationwide, is **ANIMAL PEOPLE**’s current projection of 5.4 million, based on recent shelter-by-shelter tallies of euthanasias covering virtually every known shelter in the states of California, Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Texas, Vermont, and Washington. Together these 12 states comprise 43% of the U.S. human population. San Francisco statistics suggest that more than four million euthanasias could be prevented, nationwide, if agreements parallel to the Adoption Pact were in effect.

Richard Avanzino with Harley, Rich, Madison, Bryant, and Harrison. (Photo by Jane Lidz, courtesy of SFSPCA.)

Elsewhere around the country, Adoption Pact critics often suggest Avanzino could implement it only because of his extraordinarily privileged situation: money in the SFSPCA bank account, a strong donor base, a cooperative board of directors, and long tenure of leadership, enabling him to follow through on long-range plans. “What they don’t realize,” Avanzino explains, “is that it wasn’t always this way.” Founded in 1868 with Gold Rush money, maintaining a shelter since 1875, and providing municipal animal control service beginning in 1888, the SFSPCA used up its initial endowment dealing with the aftermath of the 1906 fire and earthquake, building the present headquarters in 1932, and most of all in subsidizing animal control from 1905, when it assumed the job for keeps after 17 years of litigation and controversy involving other claimants, until 1989. Hired in 1976, Avanzino inherited debts, a staff demoralized by increasing amounts of animal control killing, and a donor base of just 1,700 people.

And his predecessor remained on the board, in the most prominent office, muddling staff loyalties. Avanzino

The SFSPCA and the SFACC maintain a close relationship, by design. The SFACC shelter is kitty-corner from the SFSPCA on the same side street. The SFSPCA is currently expanding from the 1932-vintage headquarters to take over the rest of its side of the block. Already a former parking garage has been attractively renovated into classrooms, an auditorium, and a “doggie daycare” center. Next a warehouse as big as the headquarters will be transformed into additional space for a variety of new programs, about which Avanzino enjoys being mysterious.

“Maybe we haven’t figured them all out yet,” he grins. But he allows that the physical proximity to the animal control shelter has never been just coincidence, that the plan all along has been for the animal control unit and the SFSPCA to work in tandem. Under former SFACC director Ker White, now companion animals program director for the Humane Society of the U.S., that sometimes didn’t happen. Critical of Avanzino’s popularity, White refers to no-kill shelters, including the SFSPCA, as “turnaways,” contending that they take in only the most adoptable animals and leave

Achieved through planning

But the Adoption Pact was not achieved overnight. In fact, while Avanzino had it in the back of his mind as a goal from his first day on the job 18 years ago, he didn't even start talking about it until the past few years, after moving the SFSPCA into position to pursue it as patiently and persistently as a cat trying to grab a morsel. Only the fourth president the SFSPCA has had in 126 years, Avanzino brought to the organization a background as a pharmacist, attorney, lobbyist, and public health administrator—and a lifelong conviction that killing animals “for their own good” just because they happen to be homeless is not only wrong but destructive to the humane ethic.

“Ironically,” Avanzino laughs, “I wanted to do something involving animals all along, but I didn't want to become a veterinarian because in those days there was no avoiding having to kill animals in a veterinary course of study. I finally got here, but I took rather an indirect route.”

arrived to find no parking space available for him, no desk, and staffers betting that because of his lack of previous animal care and control experience, he wouldn't last ten days.

“If I had only 10 days,” Avanzino grins, “I decided to make the most of them.” On his second day, he abolished use of the decompression chamber for euthanasia. The board backed him up. He instituted other reforms, reporting to the board president about every action. After a couple of months the board president told Avanzino to quit bugging him and go on about his work, a unique vote of confidence in a field notorious for board meddling in administrative affairs. Eventually Avanzino inherited the big office, shared now with two huge orange toms. The donor list grew to 64,000, including 80 annual donors of \$10,000 or more.

Public responds

The secret of successful fundraising, Avanzino says, is similar to the formula for running a successful for-profit business: the customer is always right. “We do what the public expects us to do, and they respond,” Avanzino explains. “The public wants an SPCA to be taking care of animals and adopting out animals. The public does not want an SPCA to be killing animals. The humane community correctly recognized when many major organizations including the SFSPCA took a stand against turning shelter animals over to laboratories that surrendering animals to be used in potentially painful experiments would erode the public trust in their institutions, and would result in people abandoning animals instead of bringing them in. But for some reason they never applied that same understanding to the matter of taking over animal control contracts and euthanizing animals en masse because of overpopulation. And the same thing happened. Perhaps the biggest reason why animals are abandoned today is that people don't want them to be killed. They'd rather turn them loose on the street to fend for themselves, and pretend that they're giving the animals a chance, than be certain that they're going to be euthanized. In 1989, after 101 years, the SFSPCA returned the animal control contract to the city. We've worked very hard since then to regain the trust of the community that we are not going to kill animals. We're getting the people to bring those animals in so that we can neuter them, put them up for adoption, and end this cycle of abandonment, uncontrolled breeding, and killing.”

While the SFSPCA got out of the animal control business, it kept much responsibility anti-cruelty enforcement. Recalls Avanzino, “A verbal understanding was made with the new department of Animal Care and Control that the SFSPCA would handle cruelty investigations involving institutions such as the zoo, the University of California and Army research facilities, and the carriage horse trade. The city officers would investigate the individual care-and-keep cases.”

the dirty work of killing to others. Avanzino doesn't return fire, but he doesn't have to. Rockwell's statistical analysis of what's happened since White departed and the Adoption Pact took effect tells what's really happened.

Adoption record

“Adoptions at SFAC declined slightly,” she admits “We expected their adoptions to rise or at least remain even since SFACC is free to keep the cute-and-cuddlies, and to manage their adoption population in any way they see fit to maximize adoptions. They can and do give us the old-and-uglies, and keep the more appealing animals, like small dogs who are in high demand. Nevertheless they adopted out 75 fewer animals in 1994 than in 1993. While this may be too small a decline on which to base any firm conclusions, it is interesting that much of it took place in the last quarter of the year, when their adoptions fell by 157 animals compared to the same time period in 1993.

“Given that the majority of animals our shelter took in under the Pact had serious impediments to adoption, we might have expected our adoptions to decline. Surprisingly the opposite occurred and adoptions actually increased. Five of the nine months during which the Adoption Pact was in effect posted all-time highs when compared to the same months in previous years. October, with 534 adoptions, was the best month we've ever had as a private adoption agency and it was followed closely by August and July, which came in second and third, respectively. These gains seem to fly in the face of conventional wisdom, which holds that animals of advanced age or with serious impediments to adoption can't be readily placed and will only tie up existing adoption space resulting in fewer lives saved.”

In other words, as Lena Horne used to sing, “It ain't the meat; it's the motion.” The SFSPCA is moving in the direction the public wants: away from slaughter and ani-

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San Francisco

(continued)

mal-as-commodity. The public is responding. The SFACC is perhaps adopting out fewer animals—but those it can't place, the SFSPCA is placing.

"We don't have to show people barrels of dead animals because we don't have barrels of dead animals," Avanzino says. "We show people animals who are going to be going home. People aren't afraid to come in here; they're not going to be made sad."

To avoid making people sad, and to show animals off to their best advantage, Avanzino has replaced conventional cat cages with "kitty condominiums" the size of shower stalls—80 of them, each carpeted, with a climbing structure and a toy. One of the main jobs for the SFSPCA's small army of 2,100 volunteers is just playing with the cats. Another is walking and running with the dogs, whose facilities are more conventional. Avanzino apologizes for an auxiliary holding area that isn't quite as spacious and soundproof as the main kennels. Freshly painted and spotless, most shelters would be showing it off. But fresh paint is nothing special at the SFSPCA: Avanzino has a fulltime maintenance crew continuously repainting every section of the building.

"The public doesn't want to come into a rundown building," he explains. "To attract the public, you have to keep your plant attractive."

Likewise, Avanzino believes that maintaining staff morale requires keeping all the equipment in good repair. The SFSPCA has an in-house machine shop and fulltime carpenter—maintenance supervisor George Hooper, who started at the SFSPCA as a janitor/watchman in 1965. He met and married his wife Sandra there; Sandra, now director of the shelter division, has worked at the SFSPCA since 1961.

People programs

People programs get a high priority too at the SFSPCA, which accommodates half a dozen homeless people under the outdoor eaves at night. "They're well behaved," Avanzino says. They know we look after homeless animals here and they seem to respect that."

Other aspects of "people orientation" include a multi-ethnic staff capable of conversing with clients in 12 different languages; Rockwell's unique "ethical studies" department, which is a negotiation-based preventive approach to anti-cruelty enforcement; behavioral counseling to help keep

Above: Lisa Lacabanne, veterinary assistant, and Jack Ehlinger, DVM. Right: Penny, the original SFSPCA hearing dog, demonstrates response to sign language with hearing dog program coordinator Ralph Dennard. (K.B.)

weeks training with their dog at the SFSPCA before the dog goes home with them. If a hearing dog owner dies or for any other reason gives up the dog, the dog returns to the program to either be trained with a different owner or retired into a foster home. The original SFSPCA hearing dog, Penny, now long retired, is resident overseer of the program.

Another of the SFSPCA's unique services is the Sido Service. Explains a brochure, "Some years ago a San Francisco woman feared no one would be able to properly care for her dog after she passed away. As a result she stipulated in her will that upon her death the dog be humanely put to sleep. That dog's name was Sido. The woman died in 1979 and the friendly 11-year-old sheltie mix was put in the temporary care of the SFSPCA. But the SFSPCA refused to release Sido to those who wanted to carry out the terms of the will, and instead fought for Sido's life. The public rallied to Sido's cause, and the crusade spilled over to the courts and the state legislature. After six tense months, a new law was passed. The little dog's life was spared. Sido spent another five glorious years with a loving family."

Remembers Avanzino, "The legislation saved only Sido, but the court case set a legal precedent on disposition of animals in wills, and has been relied on in many similar cases

wise provides support services to seniors who adopt. But thus far the SFSPCA seems to be unique in providing both a seniors program and lifetime care for pets of the deceased whether or not the pets came from the seniors program.

State-of-the-art clinic

Free neutering and free basic veterinary service are provided by one of the largest nonprofit veterinary hospitals in the world, occupying most of the second floor of the headquarters. Avanzino averted friction with the veterinary community by stocking it with high-tech equipment most veterinary clinics can't afford—and then making it available to any veterinarian in the city.

"The animals get the advanced treatment they need and the private practice veterinarians get credit for the recovery," he explains. "We help them, so they help us."

Over the years, the SFSPCA has contributed to

pets in homes; humane education; a summer program for disadvantaged children; off-site adoption boutiques staffed by volunteers at more than 20 locations around the city; an animal assisted therapy program that serves more than 25,000 patients a year at 100 institutions; a pet grooming college recognized by the California Superintendent of Public Instruction, Veteran's Administration, and Department of Rehabilitation, which both keeps the SFSPCA animals looking good and teaches job skills; and a hearing dog program acknowledged as a world leader in the field since 1978.

The 1993 children's book *A Place For Grace*, by Jean Davies Okimoto, illustrated by Doug Keith, recently made the SFSPCA hearing dog program famous, but it was already well-known among the deaf. It occupies the entire fourth floor of the SFSPCA headquarters. Qualified dogs are selected from shelters all over northern California. Medium-sized mixed-breed dogs of high intelligence are preferred; many shelters would not otherwise consider some of them good adoption candidates. The dogs are taught to identify the source of unusual sounds and run back and forth between their owner and the sound, making body contact to get attention, until the owner responds. They also learn to awaken a sleeping owner, should a smoke alarm or alarm clock go off. They receive obedience training using both verbal commands and hand signals. Nearly 500 SFSPCA hearing dogs have now been placed with deaf people, who each spend two

in several states since then."

The Sido case inspired Avanzino to begin offering placement service for pets of deceased members. "The SFSPCA will work to find the best possible home for an animal," the brochure pledges. "The SFSPCA also provides free lifetime medical services for the pet through the SFSPCA hospital, and periodically checks in with the pet's new owners to ensure the animal is well cared for and happy."

Many of the animals are placed through a parallel Senior Partnership Program. Persons of age 65 or older who adopt an adult animal from the SFSPCA—for which they are not charged—receive free neutering, initial vaccinations, ID tags, basic veterinary care for one year at the SFSPCA clinic, and a starter kit of pet supplies, equipment, and food.

Roland Eastwood, president of the Fort Myers SPCA in Fort Myers, Florida, has for some years told everyone who would listen that providing for the pets of the deceased is the biggest growth opportunity in humane work—not only a much needed service, appreciated by the public, but also an avenue to bequests. Simultaneously, organizations including Sangre Cristo Animal Protection of New Mexico, the North Shore Animal League of Port Washington, New York, and the Ralston Purina company have promoted the idea of adopting out older dogs and cats to senior citizens, who typically need a pretrained animal with relatively low exercise requirements. Each organization like-

many advances in veterinary technique. In 1989 it became one of the first clinics to routinely neuter animals at four months of age.

Open seven days a week, the SFSPCA clinic currently neuters about 6,000 animals per year, charging \$20 for male cats, \$25 for female cats and male dogs, and \$35 for female dogs. Neutering is free for any animal adopted from the SFSPCA. Any animal old enough to be neutered is neutered before leaving the building. Neutering is also free for feral cats in approved neuter/release programs—a major source of friction between the SFSPCA and the National Audubon Society, which blames cats for a purported decline of songbirds in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

In addition, striving to cut off the source of homeless cats, the SFSPCA offers free neutering throughout the three-month spring kitten season each year to any cats owned or found by anyone in San Francisco. "It's more cost-effective for us to neuter their animals for free," Avanzino explains, "that it is to deal with the offspring." Noting that homeless cats seem to be the last reservoir of uncontrolled feline breeding, Avanzino is currently planning to pay a bounty for the delivery of sexually intact feral toms from the streets to the operating room.

"It's going to be controversial," he admits. But controversy has never daunted him.

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Disasters!

I. California

The fast-improving response capabilities of humane groups were tested in early 1995 by flooding in northern California, the January 17 earthquake in Kobe, Japan, and heavier flooding in western Europe—while a quake measuring 6.5 on the Richter scale that hit Pereira, Colombia, on February 9 was likely to illustrate the consequences of a lack of humane services. In between, a big quake shook New Zealand but missed population centers.

Information on animal aspects of the Colombian quake was unavailable at deadline. Northern California was by contrast about as well-prepared for disaster as anywhere could be. The early January flooding centered on Sacramento, home of both United Animal Nations and the California Veterinary Medical Association disaster relief task force, headed by local vets Kerrie Marshall and Larry Buntrock.

“It was convenient disaster,” laughed Terri Crisp of UAN. “We already had our base, and we’d already done our training workshops in Sacramento and Placerville. It was a textbook example of how well things can go when you’re prepared.”

“Northern California didn’t need outside help,” agreed American Humane Association disaster relief coordinator Nick Gilman.

UAN-trained rescuer Stacy Adams of Rio Linda had a difficult time, though. Living on relatively high ground, she took in the pets of neighbors who were on lower ground, and had two dogs, three cats, and two rabbits in her care when she was forcibly evacuated by helicopter. Adams called Crisp upon landing; Crisp convinced the National Guard to take her in a convoy of trucks to evacuate the animals, too.

Farther north, the Humane Society of Sonoma County temporarily housed 29 cats, 20 dogs, two mice, and a rabbit whose homes were flooded, while Sonoma County Animal Control took in 22 cats and 10 dogs. Animal control officers used a boat to distribute half a ton of pet food to people who were trapped with their pets in flooded areas along the Russian River. High water menaced horses and poultry in several locations, but the biggest concern, said Sonoma County Animal Control director Barry Evans, was “getting people reunited with their animals.” His shelter was assisted by the Pet Savers Foundation, a division of the North Shore Animal League, which sent stainless steel cages, portable pet carriers, leashes, and collars.

The San Francisco SPCA dispatched a rescue team into the flood zone and welcomed transfers of animals who were already in shelters when the flooding hit, to help make room for animals needing emergency housing.

Livestock and wildlife took the hardest hits. Near Ferndale, ranchers Jim Becker and Richard Ambrosini lost 51 pregnant heifers.

WSPA international projects director John Walsh rescued this dog from the roof of a quake-damaged highrise in Kobe. (WSPA photo.)

neighborhoods distributing food. It was very difficult for most of the people to accept charity. They felt often that they had to give something back. We didn’t want to take their things, but we didn’t want the people to feel bad, so a lot of times we couldn’t say no.”

The biggest problem Crisp saw, she said, was the very efficiency of the Japanese pound system, set up to protect human health. Despite the crisis, strays were held no longer than 72 to 80 hours before euthanasia. None of the shelters Crisp visited did adoption promotion or did much to promote neutering. Extreme concern about avoiding zoonoses kept Crisp from setting up a temporary holding center for strays, as she has after other disasters. Some veterinarians, she found, didn’t even want to touch stray kittens, from fear of getting germs. WSPA, however, set up a temporary shelter in Nishinomiya, where a 200-animal permanent shelter is in planning.

Animals were found alive in the ruins as late as February 6, 17 days after the last living human victim was unearthed, when Teruko Kimura heard barking deep within the rubble of her home while trying to recover personal possessions. Thirty-four firefighters and police worked for four hours to help Kimura extricate Dick, a six-month-old golden retriever, believed to have been killed along with Kimura’s daughter Hitomi, 20, when the house collapsed. Kimura herself and another daughter, Kazumi, 18, were dug out shortly after the quake. Dick was dehydrated and weak but otherwise in good condition.

The most serious animal losses in Kobe were cockroach-eating hunter wasps, Kobe University entomologists Makoto Matsuura and Yo

Religion & Animals

Dewey Bruce Hale, 40, of Enigma, Georgia, on January 18 became the 74th confirmed rattlesnake bite fatality since Pentacostal churches took up snakehandling as a test of faith, derived from Mark 16, “In my name they shall take up serpents,” and Luke 10: “I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions.” The snakehandling ceremonies are legal only in Georgia and West Virginia.

The animist tradition of sacrificing a beast “to notify the ancestors” upon occupying a new home has created new tensions in South Africa as black families move into formerly all-white communities. Often called, the SPCA of South Africa is unable to intervene because the sacrifices are legal under laws guaranteeing religious freedom. “It’s been going on for years,” Johannesburg SPCA chapter executive director Marcelle Meredith recently told Isabelle Wilkerson of *The New York Times*. “It never worried whites until it was in their sight. Now they worry that their children have to see it.”

Le Soleil, a pro-government daily published in Dakar, Senegal, on February 1 ran a photo of a fish caught by Lebanese Christian Georges Wehbe, 46, whose body purportedly carried markings in Arabic script—recognized by Wehbe’s Moslem wife—reading “Mohammad, Servant and Envoy of God.” The message was said to have been verified by Sheikh Abdel Monein Zein of the Lebanese Islamic Institute.

Acting on a plea from the All India Animal Welfare Association, of

At Lolita Bottoms, across the Eel River from Ferndale, Fred Fearrien reportedly lost more than 500 sheep. Burrowing mammals from field mice to foxes were either forced from their holes or drowned. Seagulls flocked north by the thousands to feast on the easy pickings.

Expecting flooding to follow in southern California, the Los Angeles SPCA's "Caring for Animals Network" advertised a special number, 1-800-730-4CAN, to help disaster victims, promising free veterinary care for injured animals, two weeks of free kenneling for displaced pets, and free pet food to those in need. But demand was minimal, said LASPCA president Madeline Bernstein, estimating that her shelters handled no more than 25 to 50 displaced animals.

II. Kobe quake

The Japan Animal Welfare Society estimated that more than 130,000 dogs and cats were in the Kobe quake zone. Another organization on the scene, Animal Refuge Kansai, managed by British-born Elizabeth Oliver, told the International Fund for Animal Welfare that immediately after the earthquake the streets were full of loose and disoriented dogs. "There were also reports of damage at the Oji Zoo in Kobe," according to an IFAW internal memo.

As luck would have it, World Society for Animal Protection international projects director John Walsh had visited Japan to discuss disaster planning only 12 days earlier. He was joined by Wim de Kok, a native of The Netherlands who now works out of Boston and "has worked extensively in animal welfare in Japan," according to WSPA press officer Laura Salter. IFAW sent Keynan Kum and Annemieke Roell, also of The Netherlands, and provided funding to enable ARK to set up two prefabricated buildings—an animal relief coordination center and temporary housing for displaced animals. More help arrived when United Animal Nations International sent Crisp to the scene.

But help wasn't necessarily welcome, for political and cultural reasons, as France learned when the Japanese Agriculture Ministry tried to quarantine four rescue dogs who were sent to help find buried quake survivors. After four days of red tape, the dogs were released in time to help locate nine dead bodies.

"It was difficult," Crisp told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, "because we didn't have all the resources that we usually have in this country. We didn't have a whole crew of volunteers, or a plan. We were back to where we were a couple of years ago." On the positive side, she noted, "People were very responsible about their animals. People who lost their homes were allowed to take pets with them to the temporary shelters, and a lot of people were willing to adopt and care for strays." Working with veterinarians Hajime Murata of the Mominoki Animal Clinic in Nada City, and Shigetoshi Ishida and his wife Chiharu, a vet tech, of Osaka, Crisp observed "a steady flow of dogs and cats, primarily as result of the earthquake, mostly with behavioral problems or diarrhea" attributed to stress and drinking polluted water. Serious injuries to animals were surprisingly few; Crisp saw only two dogs with broken legs, and no dead dogs or cats.

The Japanese branches of Pedigree and Iams "donated lots of food," Crisp continued. "We loaded up carts and went through the

Hamanishi told media on February 9. Brought to Japan by merchant ships at some point between 1603 and 1868, the wasps lived in older wooden structures that were mostly destroyed by the earthquake and fire. Without hunter wasps, the Kobe cockroach population will have no natural control, possibly resulting in more intensive use of pesticides, which could in turn affect birds and fish.

For Crisp, the major achievement of the trip was setting up a disaster training workshop for Japanese veterinarians and volunteers, to be held late this spring.

III. The Netherlands

The biggest animal evacuations—perhaps of all time—took place in The Netherlands, where beginning circa January 30, farmers moved more than 1.5 million chickens, 50,000 sheep, 400,000 pigs, and half a million cows, along with essential paraphernalia such as milking machines. "You can bet your bottom dollar that no farmer will leave his animals in fields threatened by the dikes breaking," said spokesman Peter Stoel of an agricultural crisis center set up in Arnheim. Despite the unprecedented size of the operation, it reportedly went smoothly. International animal protection groups apparently were not involved.

Of the 58 known human deaths in the European flooding, which also hit France, Germany, Belgium, Austria, and Luxembourg, the first two in The Netherlands were animal-related: two sisters, ages 52 and 62, drowned on January 31 while walking their dog atop a dike in the village of Winssen, beside the Waal river.

What's a VMAT?

The global spate of disasters occurred just as the American Veterinary Medical Association was organizing three Veterinary Medical Assistance Teams to work with the U.S. Public Health Service as "special needs federal employees" in presidentially declared national emergencies. Two VMAT teams were already partially staffed with volunteers, but neither was activated to assist in California, said coordinator Lyle Vogel, DVM, because "The California VMA was well-prepared and performed notably. Luckily that was true, because the VMATs are not ready and will probably not be ready for at least one year. We are identifying training opportunities," Vogel continued, "and then the teams need to be equipped to be self-sufficient during deployment. These efforts will require significant funding."

Meanwhile, Vogel said, "The American Veterinary Medical Health Foundation has created a Disaster Relief Emergency Fund which can be used for emergency preparedness in addition to health care for animals, expenses of the response teams, and grants or loans to veterinarians so they can rapidly recover [from disasters] and provide care for animals. The fund has helped defray the costs of caring for some of the animals displaced by the recent Texas floods," which hit in October.

The *AVMA Emergency Preparedness and Response Guide*, a 340-page looseleaf manual, is \$25 from the AVMA, 1931 N. Meacham Road, Suite 100, Schaumburg, IL 60173-4360.

Bombay, the Karnataka High Court and Bangalore High Court in early January both banned a fox massacre held at the first full moon each year by the villages of Kadabal and Dhanaganhalli (near Bangalore) in honor of Sankranti, a local Hindu harvest diety. Traditionally dozens of foxes' mouths are sewn shut, their left ears are pierced with large golden earrings, and after a chariot ride to the local temple followed by a drinking party, firecrackers are tied to their tails and detonated. Fleeing into the forest, the foxes usually die of their wounds. The massacre is profane according to most interpretations of Hinduism, which in strictest form forbids ever killing animals.

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Animal control & rescue

Abroad

A 1988 law forbidding population control euthanasia at the city pound in Rome, Italy, "leaves many a beast to serve a life sentence without hope of reprieve in the city kennels," reports Celestine Bohlen of *The New York Times*, but has also encouraged neuter/release. Rome has an estimated 200,000 feral cats in about 10,000 colonies; about 500 colonies including 7,000 to 8,000 cats are now under official veterinary supervision.

Villagers displaced by Turkish attacks on Kurd rebels left behind as many as 1,000 sheepdogs and 150 donkeys near the town of Tunceli in early January. Authorities who have shown little hesitation about killing human enemies, real or suspected, were reportedly reluctant to put the animals down and were investigating the possibility of trucking them elsewhere for adoption.

People

Humane Society of Greater Akron executive director Rick Hirt quit on February 3, after a little over a year on the job, to return to teaching fulltime at the University of Akron, where he has taught since 1980. Hirt and HSGA president James Noonan denied that the resignation had anything to do with a \$34 million lawsuit filed against the society on January 25 by convicted horse abuser Tom Donnelly, who claims investigators defamed him and violated his right to privacy on January 31, 1994, by allowing a TV reporter to videotape a raid on his premises. The raid found three dead horses plus four horses who were in bad condition from lack of food, water, and proper hoof care. Donnelly said the situation resulted from his being preoccupied with the care of his wife, who had been hospitalized for most of the preceding four months, and from the shortcomings of a mentally handicapped farmhand.

The 1994 Florida Animal Control Association recently honored Carmen Shaw, a wildlife rehabilitator since 1960; Ken Curtis, donor of \$45,000 to neuter pets in Hendry

Pounding the beat

Taking over New York City animal control duties from the American SPCA on January 1, the newly formed Center for Animal Care and Control answered 700 calls and picked up 206 animals during its first six days. "We had a smooth transition," said information officer Sybelle Fisher-Koppel—but by February 9, when a hearing was held on a neutering ordinance proposed by Friends of Animals, the same critics who long held that the ASPCA couldn't do anything right were already eager to redirect the subject to ousting CACC chief Marty Kurtz, in part due to grudges begun during Kurtz' administration of the NYC Bureau of Veterinary Services. In that capacity Kurtz dispatched animals for rabies testing, enforced bans on pit bull terriers and ferrets, and inspected carriage horses. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** was repeatedly asked to probe rumors that all animals at the Brooklyn shelter were massacred as part of the transfer of jurisdiction from the ASPCA (no); that shelter adoption hours had been cut back to just four hours a week (the Manhattan shelter is open for adoptions 49 hours a week and the four others in the system offer adoptions from 15 to 30 hours a week); that Kurtz had packed the payroll with his relatives (none work for CACC); and that Kurtz had hired a shelter worker whom the ASPCA had fired for sodomizing dogs (yes—he lied on his job application—but he was recognized and dismissed as soon as he reported for duty).

Owed more than \$250,000 by the city of Washington D.C., which has a projected 1995 deficit of \$722 million, the Washington Humane Society came within 24 hours of having to close its main shelter on February 8 due to insolvency. At the last hour the city paid \$97,000 as part of a 45-day emergency extension of the WHS animal control contract. Publicity about the impending closure brought a rush of adoptions, temporarily emptying the cages; the shelter handles about 12,000 animals a year. Had it closed, animal control duties would have reverted to the already understaffed police department, and the

Two million \$\$ for neutering

BEVERLY HILLS—Television personality Bob Barker, who ends his *Price Is Right* show with a message urging viewers to neuter their pets, has formed a foundation to fund low-cost or free neutering clinics nationwide with an initial donation of \$2 million. Barker named the DJ&T Foundation in memory of his wife Dorothy Jo and his mother Matilda (Tilly) Valandra, both of whom shared his affection for animals. Barker pledged to make annual contributions throughout the rest of his lifetime, and to leave the bulk of his estate to the foundation upon his death.

Grant proposals for the creation and operation of low-cost or free neighborhood and/or mobile neutering clinics should be directed to the DJ&T Foundation at 9201 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 204, Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

Despite a 1954 law requiring every county in Kentucky to have an animal shelter, 36 of the state's 120 counties do not. The lack of a shelter came to the attention of Letcher County residents in January, when someone released more than 20 Chihuahuas and Chihuahua mixes from the backyard kennel of Denver and Ona Church, an elderly and ailing couple who were unable to care for the dogs. The Humane Society of Letcher County had reportedly been threatening to sue over lack of a public shelter for about eight months.

Years of city-sponsored high-volume low-cost neutering have produced a puppy shortage in Las Vegas, while Indianapolis has an 85% euthanasia rate for puppies. On February 6 the Las Vegas-based Animal Foundation International and the Johnson County Animal Shelter, of Indianapolis, announced a multi-party deal whereby American Trans Air will fly up to 50 puppies a week to Las Vegas in carriers provided by PetsMart. AFI will take care of neutering the puppies and adopting them out.

The Pennsylvania Auditor General has reportedly found misspent funds and deficient record-keeping within the state Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement, a division of the Department of Agriculture. "We're delighted to see in print what we've suspected all along," said Hilda Schmidt of the York Kennel Club, who requested the audit after the bureau tried to raise licensing and kennel fees.

The Illinois senate agriculture committee voted February 8 to recommend passage of a Vietnamese Potbellied Pig Act, which would bar communities from regulating

PROGRESS IN ISRAEL

Nina Natelson of Concern for Helping Animals in Israel saw "a lot of improvement" in animal care and control arrangements this winter compared with last winter, she told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

An experienced shelter manager, South African emigre Glenda Ford, now heads the Beresheva shelter, Natelson said, and has cut the number of resident dogs from 500 to 100, "which is still too many for the facilities," Natelson continued, "but it's going in the right direction." Earlier the shelter fended off a takeover bid from Benny Schesinger of Let The Animals Live (*see Court Calendar*). CHAI has pledged to help the Beresheva shelter raise the \$20,000 it needs to start a low-cost neutering clinic.

"In Tiberius," Natelson added, "the shelter we're helping looks good, but it serves a large Moroccan immigrant population, which has horrendous attitudes toward cats. You see blind, diseased, and dead cats everywhere. The local veterinarian is known for putting animals out to 'have a chance' instead of euthanizing them. I spoke with him, and he said that the community would be trying to cover up all their trash so as to starve the cats out. I told him we can't just build a facility to serve equines and dogs and leave cats

County; Wayne Matson, cofounder of the Humane Society of Polk County; and state legislator Robert Sindler, sponsor of numerous humane bills since taking office in 1990.

More than four months after the departure of former DuPage County animal control chief Daniel Boyle, DVM, the Illinois county is still unable to agree on a successor. One county board faction favored the appointment of motor pool chief Matthew Aurienne, who promised to relax humane enforcement, but state law requires that animal control departments must be headed by veterinarians. For now, DuPage County animal control remains directed by Ardith Baker, Boyle's former aide. Boyle left DuPage to take a similar post in Fairfax, Virginia, but lasted less than two months there.

Statistics & records

The Knox County Humane Society, of Knoxville, Tennessee, received a record 16,000 animals in 1994—and adopted out a record 4,400, holding euthanasias to 67%.

The Detroit-based Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society increased adoptions in 1994 for the third straight year, and did twice as many adoptions as in 1991.

The Humane Society of Missouri Veterinary Medical Centers neutered 10,080 dogs and cats in 1990, reports systems coordinator Cecily Westerman.

According to the Florida Animal Control Association, 370,073 dogs and cats were euthanized at state shelters in 1993, while 92,345 were adopted. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** now has on file recent shelter-by-shelter euthanasia counts covering virtually every shelter in 11 states, more than 1,000 shelters in all. The projected annual euthanasia total for the U.S., based on these figures, is 5.4 million—less than half of the current American Humane Association estimate and barely more than half of the current Humane Society of the US. estimate, both of which are based on random samples of under 200 shelters. The states, among them, have a demographically representative 43.2% of the total U.S. human population. Besides Florida, they include California, Colorado, Iowa, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Texas, Washington, and Vermont.

only shelter in D.C. would have been a very small WHS temporary holding facility.

Rather than upset residents by either allowing off-leash time in existing parks or barring dogs outright, the city of Ashland, Oregon, recently put up \$1,000 worth of fencing around a large vacant lot and called that a dog park. It's reportedly a huge success.

A stray pit bull terrier on January 4 thwarted the third burglary in two weeks at the Santa Clara County Animal Shelter, in San Martin, California. "The pit bull wasn't vicious," said shelter supervisor Linda Platt. "It just wasn't overly friendly." The pit bull and an Australian shepherd were found loose in the building after the fleeing burglars tripped an alarm. On December 19 and 20, burglars got away with 11 dogs, including six Rottweilers and a boxer.

Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control is believed to be the first animal control agency in Florida to scan for all types of microchip ID used in North America as part of the routine admission procedure for every incoming dog or cat.

NACA conference

NACA 100
(be double sure to run the right ad
instead of the same one twice)

ownership of the pigs more stringently than they regulate dog ownership.

The Hands-On Handbook, a 24-page guide to pet overpopulation, is available for reprint under humane societies' own logo, @ \$447 for the first thousand copies plus shipping. Inquire c/o Jennifer Clanahan, PAWS, POB 1037, Lynnwood, WA 98046.

No-kills

Doing Things For Animals, publisher of the annual No-Kill Directory, will host a day-long retreat to discuss "No-Kills In The '90s" on September 23 at the Holiday Inn Corporate Center in Phoenix, Arizona. Confirmed speakers include Faith Maloney of the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton, and DTFA founder Lynda Foro. Get details from POB 10905, Glendale, AZ 85318-0905.

The no-kill Elmsford Animal Shelter, of Westchester County, New York, which has kept up to 450 animals at a time on just a third of an acre, expects to be settled in a new 5-acre location by March 1, with capacity

out." Low veterinary standards are a problem in Israel, where some immigrants bring DVM degrees obtained with no hands-on experience and re-education programs for vets practically don't exist. Not opposed to neuter/release in principle, Natelson says CHAI has had to oppose it in Israel because of the lack of coordination among rescue groups and trap-and-euthanize groups, and the poor quality of some of the neutering surgery. But advocating euthanasia is particularly difficult in Israel, due to psychological associations with the Nazi extermination of Jews. In Tel Aviv, an SPCA of Israel humane education program that brings Arab and Israeli children together has lost Jewish participants, Natelson said, when they've learned the SPCA euthanizes.

Ketch-All
(paid through 10/95)

Foro ad

Birds

Indians & kittens

CHILDREN & ANIMALS

Pennsylvania Game Commission ornithologist Dan Brauning has a simple explanation for the increasing abundance and diversity of bird species around Philadelphia: "Human tolerance of wildlife is changing. People aren't shooting things like they were 50 years ago. Wild turkeys [for example] would not survive if kids in the suburbs all had pellet guns."

Talking Talons Youth Leadership, formed by Albuquerque raptor rehabilitator and retired school nurse Wendy Aeschliman, teaches teenagers to do public presentations on civic and environmental issues, using the birds in her permanent care to illustrate their various points. According to *Modern Maturity*, "Last year approximately 80 young educators appeared before 105,000 people," tutored by about 50 adult volunteers.

A fund established to lure forth information about a series of eagle poisonings in and around Burnett County, Wisconsin, has reached \$25,000 without any takers, U.S. Attorney Peggy Lautenschlager said on February 1. Two eagles died in 1993, 15 in 1994, and nine already this year. Contributors to the fund include the National Audubon Society, the Humane Society of the U.S., Defenders of Wildlife, Ducks Unlimited, and the Foundation to Protect America's Eagles.

Six California condors returned to the wild on February 8, in the third attempted restoration of the species to southern California during the past three years. In 1992, 13 were released at intervals in Ventura County, but four were killed in power line collisions and a fifth was poisoned by drinking antifreeze. The eight survivors were recaptured and relocated to a more remote area in Santa Barbara County—but made their way to the nearest town to perch on power lines and/or the roof of a hamburger joint. Eventually five of them were recaptured yet again. The latest group to be released has undergone intensive training to teach them to avoid humans and manmade objects, including being held upside down and thrust into dog kennels. If the aversion training doesn't work, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may give up on releasing them in California and try instead in Arizona or New Mexico—part of their historical range, but not within living human memory.

The Group of 100, the leading Mexican environmental organization, on January 9 demanded a government investigation of the deaths of more than 20,000 migratory waterfowl during the preceding month at the Silva Dam in Guanajuato state. The episode could have resulted from either pollution, intentional poisoning, or an outbreak of a particularly virulent disease such as avian botulism.

A whole generation of penguin chicks starved to death during January in three different regions of Antarctica, biologist

Cleveland Plain Dealer reporter Michael Sangiacomo joined three Tlingit tribal judges in a recent visit to **Adrian Guthrie (left) and Simon Roberts (right)**, each 17, who are serving a year apiece in solitude on remote Alaskan islands as punishment for robbing a pizza deliveryman, beating him with a baseball bat, and leaving him for dead.

"In October," Sangiacomo reported, "both boys were given two kittens each to help control mice in their cabins. One of Roberts' kittens died after he put her outside in bitter cold. 'I felt bad about it; I didn't mean it,' he said. Guthrie said one of his kittens had been scooped up by an eagle. Through the judges, Roberts gave Guthrie his remaining kitten. She was blind and had a broken leg. How it got that way is unclear. Guthrie said Roberts told him that he kicked it when it urinated on his bed. But Guthrie himself treated the cats roughly." Tribal judge Rudy James and his wife Diana, a child welfare worker, removed the surviving cats (above) during the second week in December.

"It's interesting that these guys would abuse their only source of companionship," Sangiacomo wrote to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, enclosing these photos. "They also shoot at every otter they see and then lament that 'the otters don't come around any more.'" Sangiacomo didn't seem hopeful about the outcome of the well-publicized experiment

What's with the guns?

LOS ANGELES—A series of exposes of alleged misconduct by California humane officers by Josh Meyer of the *Los Angeles Times* is bringing calls for reform of the system of appointing officers, but Barbara Fabricant of the Humane Task Force, a target of the series, claims Meyer almost completely inverted her position on one of the central issues, the right to bear sidearms. Belatedly responding to **ANIMAL PEOPLE's** request for comment on Meyer's story, published in November, Fabricant explained that she'd been so shocked and embarrassed at her depiction as a gun-toting vigilante that she didn't even

Meyer did quote Fabricant as saying, "Take away the right to carry a gun and you will eliminate 90% of the phonies. And then only people who want to help animals will be humane officers."

Mercy Crusade arsenal

James McCourt, president of Mercy Crusade was less forthcoming after Meyer on January 17 revealed that even as the group donated \$20,000 last year to the Los Angeles County neutering program, it was spending

Steve Nichol of the Australian Antarctic Division reported on January 26. Normally penguin parents in the affected colonies scoop krill from the surrounding waters and regurgitate portions into their chicks' beaks, never staying away longer than a day. This winter, however, a shortage of krill forced the parents to leave the nesting area for up to a week at a time to find other food. Even if they had adequate nutrition, few penguin chicks could survive the elements and raids by predatory skua birds without adult help. Nichol said the krill shortage was probably a natural phenomenon, as humans last took krill from the area about five years ago, and guessed the penguin population would rebound next year.

want to face her friends for some weeks. The full-page article, illustrated with a photo of Fabricant in full uniform, six-gun at her hip, recorded her many clashes with other humane organizations, and made much of her admittedly colorful background, but failed to acknowledge that she wore the gun and uniform only at the request of Meyer and his photographer.

"Guns and uniforms get in the way when you're talking to people about their pets," Fabricant told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "I almost never wear my uniform when I'm out answering calls. I don't approach people as an authority; I approach as someone who's concerned about an animal. Most of the problems we see are due to ignorance, and with a little patience they can be corrected. I don't believe in guns," Fabricant continued. "I don't like guns. I support a bill to take guns away from all humane officers and cruelty officers."

Fabricant believes guns are inappropriate even as a means of administering emergency euthanasia to large animals—police in her area once shot a runaway cow more than 40 times before dropping her.

Further, she said, "if a humane officer may meet violence somewhere, he or she should be able to get a police backup." Fabricant admitted having had trouble in the past with people, "particularly attorneys," whom she said volunteered to serve as her deputies just so they could qualify to carry guns, "and then I never heard from them again." However, she said, "If I find out now that one of my officers is even looking at a gun, I have him decertified, immediately. We don't need that kind of attitude."

"Sherif," a white stork, at the Crocodile Island bird sanctuary near Luxor, Egypt. Somewhat off of his usual migration route, the stork somehow became injured, was captured by two boys who offered him for sale, and was purchased and released by Jeanne McVey of the Sea Wolf Alliance, who was in the vicinity for last September's United Nations conference on population growth.

\$100,000 to acquire an arsenal of 34 soon-to-be-banned assault rifles, automatic pistols, and other weapons, some of which were seized last June by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. The acquisitions were sufficiently unusual that the bureau was contacted by some of the gun dealers—who were apparently concerned that McCourt intended to resell them. Asked by Meyer if that was his intention, McCourt reportedly snapped, "I wasn't aware that capitalism had been outlawed in this country."

McCourt, a Pepperdine University economics professor, has long been known as a gun enthusiast among other Los Angeles-area animal rescuers. According to Meyer, McCourt said Mercy Crusade needed the firepower to protect animal shelters from rioters and to earn Mercy Crusade officers the respect of other law enforcement agencies. Although Mercy Crusade claimed to have guarded Los Angeles-area shelters during the 1992 riots, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** was unable to locate any shelter which had been so guarded, and was told by personnel of one shelter that was in the heart of the riot zone that the rioters had made a point of avoiding doing anything that might harm the animals. State authorities are reportedly now inquiring into whether donated funds were improperly used for the weapons purchases.

Mercy Crusade, founded circa 1957 and now claiming assets of \$2.3 million, is best known for having opened the first open-access, public-operated low-cost neutering clinic in the U.S., in 1971. The clinic became the model for a string of community low-cost neutering facilities throughout the Los Angeles area. For 20 years beginning in 1967, Mercy Crusade was personified by volunteer lobbyist Loma H. Davis, who died of a heart attack in October 1987, at age 47. While Davis was eulogized for her ability to make friends, a more confrontational character emerged with the appointment of Lynne Exe, a former Mercy Crusader, as a member of the Los Angeles Animal Regulation Commission. A series of clashes with other commissioners and activist groups during which McCourt was her most prominent ally boiled over in December 1993, when due to complaints about inadequate adoption screening, the commission cancelled a 36-year-old Christmas adoption program, under which the county shelters lowered their adoption fee to \$10 and Mercy Crusade covered the vaccination and neutering fees. Five months of recriminations later, Exe resigned from the commission, telling mayor Richard Riordan that the other members and the Animal Regulation Department had "lost their moral compass" not only for cancelling the adoption program but also for halting coyote trapping and deciding to cooperate with people using neuter/release to control the growth of feral cat colonies.

Humane enforcement

The Alabama Office of the Attorney General's probe of the affairs of the Love and Care for God's Animalife no-kill shelter in Andalusia, Alabama, was apparently lost in the shuffle when newly elected Republican attorney general Jeff Sessions purged the staff of Democrats, including Greg Locklier of the consumer affairs division, who had been assigned to the case. A "Mr. Billings" purportedly inherited the dossier, but failed to return calls pertaining to it.

The SWAT team in East Cleveland, Ohio, on January 10 killed a Rottweiler and skirted a pit bull terrier plus numerous snakes, baby alligators, tarantulas, and lizards while arresting Savalas Crosby, 19, and Shawntel Gibson, 21, in connection with a December 29 drive-by shooting. Police commander Charles Teel said the animals were apparently being raised for sale to drug dealers as "protection."

Five show dogs found dead on December 28 at a kennel in Concord, California, electrocuted themselves by chewing on a heater cord while standing in a puddle, police said on January 27 after receiving necropsy reports from the University of California at Davis. Kennel owner William Young initially said the dogs were poisoned, and claimed he'd found four decapitated puppies inside a chalk circle in the kennel area just before Halloween. Police said they had no record of that incident.

More than 250 counts of animal abuse and neglect filed against miniature poodle breeders Don and Charlotte Spiegel of Oroville, California, were consolidated into just eight felony counts and two misdemeanors on January 30 as their trial began, 18 months after 300 allegedly starved, filth-matted dogs were removed from their kennels on June 27, 1993. The Spiegels have been repeatedly cited for neglect in various locales since December 1990, when 200 allegedly neglected poodles were seized from their premises, but escaped conviction in the one previous case that got to a jury trial.

Pet breeder Lawrence Frey, 57, of San Jose, California, was arrested on January 27 after officers from the Humane Society of Santa Clara Valley found 107 dead animals on his property, most of them rabbits, and euthanized another 78 animals on the spot due to illness or injury. The Rabbit Connection, a local rescue group, took in another hundred animals, primarily rabbits and guinea pigs.

COURT CALENDAR

Wildlife trafficking

A federal grand jury in Greensboro, North Carolina on December 21 handed down a nine-count felony indictment against four people for illegally trafficking in coyotes and foxes. Named were Roy Harker, 53, and Hilda Harker, 53, of Jonesville, N.C.; James Wright Jr., 50, of Hillsville, Virginia; and Hugh Love, 60, of York, South Carolina. The four allegedly took as many as 500 animals per year from Kentucky, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Texas, and the Dakotas to chase pens in Virginia and the Carolinas without permits, where they were sold for use as quarry by houndsmen. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agents confiscated and put down 100 red foxes found in the alleged traffickers' possession. About 20 of the foxes were subsequently found to have been carrying a tapeworm transmissible and potentially deadly to human beings.

"The matter continues under active investigation and a significant number of other law enforcement actions can be expected in the near future," Justice Department public affairs director Carl Stern told ANIMAL PEOPLE.

Crimes against humans

Patrick Ray Curtis, 34, of Ostrander, Ohio, was charged with **felonious assault** on January 31 for allegedly pointing a 12-gauge shotgun at his wife Jackie, 30, and two children, Tasha, 8, and Brandy, 10, then pulling the trigger. When the gun misfired, he reloaded and pulled the trigger twice more, getting two more misfires. As the intended victims fled, they ran into a bow-and-arrow rigged as a boobytrap, but it didn't work either. But Mrs. Curtis said it was all just a drunken misunderstanding. "He's a hunter and has hunted all his life," she said. "He could have killed me if he wanted to. He's really a nice guy and good father when he's sober."

Bowhunter Brian Nemeth, 16, of Steubenville, Ohio, was charged January 17 with murder for shooting his mother Suzanne, 40, with four arrows from eight to 10 feet away as she lay on a couch 10 days earlier.

The 9th District Court of Appeals on February 8 upheld the 1994 conviction of an Akron, Ohio woman for feloniously sexually penetrating her seven-year-old son with a broom handle as punishment for soiling his pants. The woman then claimed his severe rectal injuries were the result of a sexual assault by the family pit bull terrier.

Gen Sakine, 53, considered Japan's top breeder of Alaskan Malamutes and Rhodesian Ridgebacks, and his ex-wife, pet store owner Hiroko Kazama, 37, were arrested January 6 in Tokyo for allegedly killing four of their dissatisfied customers during 1993. The case parallels that of an Osaka dog trainer who was charged with murdering four unhappy clients last year.

Benny Schlesinger, founder and president of the Israeli anti-shelter euthanasia group Let The

Animals & Rights

"The Constitution simply does not guarantee owners of ferrets regulatory status precisely equal to the status of owners of other animals, even potentially dangerous animals," U.S. District Judge Allen Schwartz ruled on February 8, dismissing a Friends of Ferrets challenge to the New York City ban on ferret-keeping. "Here the undisputed evidence has ample basis in public health concerns regarding the propensity of pet ferrets to bite, particularly infants and small children."

The First District Court of Appeal in Tallahassee, Florida, on January 24 ruled that a Jacksonville divorce judge had no authority to grant visitation rights with a dog to Kathryn R. Rogers, of St. Louis, Missouri, after awarding custody of the dog to her former husband, Ronald G. Bennett. Bennett successfully protested the divorce court verdict on grounds the dog was property, not a person, and therefore could not be involved in matters legally pertaining only to persons.

The U.S. Supreme Court on January 5 agreed to review Sweet Home Chapter of Communities for a Great Oregon v. Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior, a March 1994 Court of Appeals ruling that the Endangered Species Act does not grant the broad authority to protect habitat that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other courts have assumed it does since 1981.

Activism

Contrary to local reports, summarized in the January/February edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE, Fund for Animals staffer Mike Markarian and fellow activist Todd McDonald on November 23 *did not* become the first protesters charged under the new federal hunter harassment law. Instead, possible charges resulting from the protest at the Cape Cod National Seashore remained pending until February, and then were dropped, Markarian said. The National Park Service also refused to press charges against a hunter who Markarian claimed punched him, as there were no uninvolved witnesses.

The Supreme Court on January 9 declined to review the Fund for Animals' appeal of lower courts' rulings upholding the constitutionality of the Montana Act to Prohibit Harassment of

The Duke-the-dalmatian dog-theft-by-fraud-and-torture-killing case concluded on January 11, as a Bucks County, Pennsylvania jury convicted defendants Jason Tapper, 21, and Roy Elliott, 21, of both cruelty and conspiracy while co-defendant Jan Pyatt, 23, was convicted only of cruelty. The three were to undergo psychological evaluation prior to sentencing for the crime, which included tying the Dalmatian to a tree with his mouth taped shut, to be attacked by a pit bull terrier, and extensively mutilating him afterward. The trial was monitored by hundreds of Philadelphia-area citizens.

Officers of the Suffolk County SPCA on Long Island made two big dogfighting busts in three days during the fourth week in January, seizing 13 pit bulls and five Akitas while arresting eight adults and a juvenile. Among those arrested was New York State correctional officer Mark Hunter, 32, found in possession of eight pit bulls plus alleged dogfighting paraphernalia.

Robert Homrighous, 41, of Oakland Park, Florida, was charged January 26 with three felony cruelty counts and six misdemeanor counts of animal abandonment for burying nine Rottweiler puppies alive in his yard because he didn't want them. Their mother broke free from her chain the next day to dig them up, and was witnessed by a neighbor, who called the police. Three died; six, plus the mother, were seized by animal abuse investigator Sherry Schleuter of the Broward Sheriff's Office, and will be put up for adoption.

Vermont state's attorney Patricia Zimmerman said December 23 that she would not prosecute Melinda Power, of East Bethel, for allegedly allowing 22 sheep, two horses, and a ram to starve to death last April and May, because the investigators used a flawed search warrant. Despite a conviction for passing bad checks, Power is the most often appointed guardian *Ad litem* for juveniles in Orange County family court cases, provoking local suspicion of favoritism in the disposition of the cruelty case, and a call by local papers for reform of the guardian *Ad litem* system.

Investigators didn't suggest a motive.

Tammy Payette, former private nurse to the late tobacco heiress Doris Duke, alleged January 20 in a Manhattan Surrogate's Court affidavit that Duke's doctor, Charles Kivowitz, killed her on October 28, 1993, with massive doses of morphine, in purported collusion with butler and principal heir Bernard Lafferty, whom Duke also named as her co-executor. Kivowitz, who attributed the death to pulmonary edema, denied the charge. Duke, who tried unsuccessfully to start an anti-vivisection society in 1991, left large portions of her still unsettled and bitterly contested estate to animal and habitat-related causes.

Police found at least one videotape allegedly depicting bestiality in the pornography collection of James Austin, 26, of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, who is charged with the early January murder of his five-week-old son by a surrogate mother. The boy died January 17 after nine days of hospitalization with severe head injuries.

Biochemistry lecturer and vivisector Paul Agutter, 48, of Napier University in Edinburgh, Scotland, drew 12 years in prison on February 1 for trying to poison his wife Alexandria, 39, with a spiked gin-and-tonic and trying to cover the crime by placing bottles of similarly spiked tonic water on the shelves of a supermarket. A security camera caught him in the act.

Animals Live, was arrested in Israel on December 29 for allegedly sexually abusing a 17-year-old boy. Authorities withheld details of related charges believed to be pending. Schlesinger has led attempted takeovers of a number of humane societies, but succeeded only once, at Raanana in 1993. "Benny's forceful personality seems ideally suited to starting a humane officer program," PETA executive director Ingrid Newkirk wrote in the December 1993 edition of the Israeli magazine *Pro-Animal*, after a visit to the facility. Newkirk was less impressed with his shelter management, noting overcrowding, sick and well dogs mingled together, filth, and lack of adoption screening. Soon afterward the shelter was closed as a public health hazard.

Lewis Lent Jr., of North Adams, Massachusetts, known to neighbors for his love of hunting, drew 20 years on January 14 for kidnapping, assault with a deadly weapon, assault and battery, and theft in connection with the January 7, 1994 attack on Rebecca Savarese, 12, that brought him to police attention after Savarese escaped. He will be tried later for the alleged kidnap/murders of 12-year-olds Jimmy Bernardo, of Pittsfield, in 1990, and Sara Anne Wood, of Frankfort, New York, in 1993. Lent has been investigated but not charged in connection with numerous other child murders and disappearances up and down the Atlantic seaboard, dating back to 1973.

Hunters and Trappers—one of the first hunter harassment acts, adopted in 1987, and believed to have been among the most vulnerable.

Craig Valentine, of Grand Rapids, Ohio, on February 9 became the first person convicted under the three-year-old Ohio hunter harassment law. He drew a year on probation.

Friends of Animals on January 6 alleged in a "Counterclaim and Third Party Motion for Judgement" filed in response to a civil suit brought against FoA by Class B animal dealer Noel Leach of Mecklenburg County, Virginia, that a "plan to financially destroy FoA by protracted and costly litigation was developed and put into action in early 1993 following a meeting held for that purpose," and that, "It is believed representatives of U.S. Surgical and Carolina Biological Supply," two longtime targets of FoA-led investigations and protest, "were present at that meeting and participated in the planning." FoA is seeking \$3 million in actual and compensatory damages. Leach, who sold animals to Carolina Biological Supply, sued FoA on May 24, 1993, for purportedly illegally trespassing in gathering evidence that led to USDA charges against him for 46 alleged Animal Welfare Act violations.

According to recent Internet postings by the Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group (U.K.), two firebombs were found on Christmas morning at the Chiddingfold Fox Hunt kennels in Hampshire, England, while another "was planted in a branch of Woolworth's in Belfast, Northern Ireland, in the second week of January." No one was charged in those incidents, but on January 31, activists Gillian Peachey and Jeanette McCullan were charged with planting a firebomb at a hotel that was to host a meeting of the Hursley Hambleton Fox-hunt.

HAVE (full year, paid)

Penelope Smith, through 3/95.

BOOK REVIEWS

Cats of Practical Books

The Definitive Anthology of Distinguished Feline Verse: *Immortal Poems by the Cats of the Major Poets*, by Henry Beard. Villard Books (201 East 50th St., New York, NY 10022), 1994. 96 pages, illustrated. \$12.95.

That Henry Beard! The author of *French for Cats*, a mini-masterpiece that every cat-lover surely knows well, Beard has just outdone himself, and everyone else, and undone anyone who attempts to read his latest aloud without cracking up. He has rollicked through the classic poems of the English language with the abandon, the non-chalance, the grace and distinction turned to a sort of dignified whoopee of the sedatest of cats romping through a catnip field. Beard would have us believe the poems in *Poetry For Cats* were written by the cats of major men and women of letters. Perhaps. I mean, purrhaps. In that case, however, the poets purloined the styles of their pets. Surely.

These gems range from the Old English (*Beocat*)

to Allen Ginsberg's cat's *Meowl*. There are nearly 40 to take delight in. I particularly liked *The End Of The Raven*, by Edgar Allen Poe's cat, and John Donne's cat's offering, *Vet, Be Not Proud*. Maybe it was my mood of the day, but I was also much taken with Dylan Thomas' cat's *Do Not Go Peaceable To That Damn Vet*. Or how about the lyrical *Cottontails*, a version of *Daffodils*, which may have been the original inspiration. Who can say?

Poetry For Cats belongs everywhere there is an anthology or an English lit text, or a bedside book, or a *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, or... I don't know why any of us are writing, when cats can do the job so admirably. Obviously I am wrong to have barred mine from unreeling my typewriter ribbon.

Dear Tabby: *Feline Advice on Love, Life, and the Pursuit of Mice*, by Leigh W. Rutledge. Dutton (375 Hudson St., New York, NY 10014), 1995. \$10.95.

America's favorite columnist now has a feline counterpart. Written, one assumes, with the assistance of the other 29 cats who live at author Leigh Rutledge's Key West home, *Tabby* advises harried cats, lovelorn cats, the entire range of cats with their problems, an occasional human, and a few dogs who try to sneak their correspondence in as feline, but whom Tabby detects, for they woof when they should meow.

A number of cats complain about the cutesy names their humans try to tack on them. Do not expect Tabby to dispense the soothing, peaceable wisdom of Abigail Van Buren. This is a *cat*, and she knows well the

methods practiced by assertive cats, so some of her recommended actions are not pretty. For example, a less-than-immaculate litter box could be brought to an owner's attention by substituting his clean underwear drawer.

As in the newspaper, some answers draw forth a spate of commenting letters from readers, then other topics fill the column, after which some late polemicist responds. The book is a small hardback, as spiffy in its white and red binding as a Persian kitten. It looks like a good item to treat someone to as a mode of banishing winter doldrums. Yourself, perhaps?

—Phyllis Clifton

Watch-cat for the Seawolf Alliance. (Kim Bartlett)

Cats not guilty

A year-long study of feline predator commissioned by the Petcare Information Advisory Service, an Australian pet industry front, found that from April 1993 to April 1994, the owners of 1,550 cats were able to verify the killings of only 4.76 animals per cat. Only 2% of the cats killed Australian native mammals; 7% killed native birds; 17% killed native reptiles and amphibians; and 41% killed only introduced species, mostly mice, rats

OBITUARIES

Naturalist Gerald Durrell, 70, a longtime resident of St. Helier, France, died January 30 in London of complications after a

liver transplant. Younger brother of the late novelist Lawrence Durrell, Gerald was actually the more prolific author, producing 37 titles including many best-sellers, from *The Overloaded Ark* (1952) to *The Aye-Aye And I* (1993). *My Family And Other Animals* (1956), a memoir of his boyhood on the Greek island of Corfu, influenced a generation of young readers including the editor of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, who got a copy as a birthday gift at age 8 and read it to tatters. Born in Jamshedpur, India, Durrell's first word was reputedly "zoo." He joined the Whipsnade Zoo in Bedfordshire, England—one of the first to feature natural habitat exhibits—as an apprentice keeper at age 20, in 1945. A year later Durrell used a small inheritance to finance collecting trips to Africa and South America. "But it was all too much like the white slave trade, packing 25 parrots inside a small cage. I had no stomach for it," he later recalled. Durrell eventually led a global crusade to reform collecting practices and change zoos from entertainment-oriented menageries to lifeboats for endangered species. He began his own zoo on the Isle of Jersey in 1959, to show the world how; formed the wildlife video company Survival East Anglia; and in 1964 converted his zoo into the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, a research and education center with 15,000 dues-paying members, hosting 200,000 visitors per year. "There are a lot of bad zoos," Durrell observed. "But when Florence Nightingale was confronted by bad hospitals, she didn't say, 'We must close them down.' She said, 'Why not make them better?'" His work will be continued by his second wife, zoologist Lee McGeorge Durrell.

Friends of the Earth campaigns director Andrew Lees, 46, of London, England, died January 5 from a heart attack while investigating the British-owned Rio Tinto Zinc mining project near Fort Dauphin, Madagascar. Friends of the Earth has asked the Madagascar government for a two-year moratorium on further mining development. "The best possible thing that could come from this very sad tragedy is that Andrew's material could be used in some way to pro-

Namu, a female orca born at Sea World San Antonio on November 20, 1994, died December 28. Both Namu and her mother, Haida, 16, had been under 24-hour-a-day supervision since the birth, as ANIMAL PEOPLE verified in person on December 5. Both then seemed healthy. "The calf was interacting with her mother and nursing regularly," said general curator Glenn Young. "However, over the weekend we observed a decided decline in nursing and respiratory difficulties. We began medical treatment immediately, and unfortunately the calf did not respond." Sea World never before lost an orca calf who was born alive, without serious defects. Nine orcas born at Sea World remain alive and well. Neo-natal mortality among wild-born orcas is believed to be about 50%. The cause of death, Young said, might take six weeks to determine.

mote awareness about the threat and to protect this very beautiful area," said Lees' companion, genetic researcher Chris Orengo, who flew to Madagascar after he was reported missing to assist in the search for his remains.

Max Schnapp, 90, founder of the Pet Owners Protective Association, died after a long illness on January 10 in Brooklyn, New York. Born in Austria-Hungary, Schnapp joined the Socialist Party just after World War I. Dodging repression, he fled to New York in 1923, where he worked as a knitting machine mechanic. "In the 1930s he led strikes and organized factory workers for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union," *The New York Times* recalled. "He also belonged to the International Workers Order and taught unemployed tenants how to organize against evictions and homelessness." Disillusioned by corruption, he left the labor struggle in the early 1950s, to crusade for animal protection. "He joined the Sierra Club to save endangered species," *The Times* continued. "He fought for humane kosher slaughter. Eventually he became involved in just about every aspect of the humane movement." Organizing POPA in 1970, Schnapp "lobbied for a law that barred the eviction of elderly tenants with pets from rent-controlled apartments, and for an end to the sale of

shelter animals for research. He also helped to persuade department stores to drop plans for selling dogskin coats, imported from South Africa. For many years he was a highly visible, vociferous presence at hearings and meetings" about anything pertaining to animal regulation in New York City. Schnapp is survived by his second wife, Paulette Asche Schnapp, whom he married in 1948; his daughter Charlotte Klein; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Horse rescuer Art Thompson, 76, died of heart disease on January 12 in Palatine, Illinois. A former jockey, who held various jobs over the years at Arlington International Racecourse, Thompson rented a stable in 1959 and began adopting worn-out race horses. According to *Chicago Tribune* stringer Stefanie Cascio, "Thompson's volunteer effort at times meant dipping into his retirement check to provide the rent, feed, and hay when donations fell short. He started out by taking in just two horses and at one time had as many as 22, ranging in age from seven to 37." Longtime volunteers Tom Barrett, Felicia Benson, and Babe Benson spent up to six hours a day helping look after the horses, 10 of whom remained at the stable at Thompson's death. Arlington International Racecourse owner Richard Duchossois has pledged to keep the horses at his own Hill 'n Dale Farm, in Barrington.

and rabbits. Of the cats in the sample, 40% were kept in at night; 94% were neutered. The study refutes the 1988 findings of Dr. David Paton of Adelaide University, who reported after a study of 700 cats that they killed an average of 32 small animals per year apiece. Paton responded to the new data by asserting that perhaps Australian cats are running out of native wildlife to kill.

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—Jerry & Susan Bolick

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The War Against The Greens, by David Helvarg. Sierra Club Books (100 Bush Street, San Francisco, CA 94104), 1994. 502 pages, hardback, \$25.00.

David Helvarg brought to *The War Against The Greens* a background as a war correspondent in Northern Ireland and Central America. It serves him well as he explains how unwitting followers of Che Guevarra organize in logged-out U.S. forests, revering not Karl Marx but Ronald Reagan. Their hatred of "greenies" and "yuppies" is a paradigm of class struggle, pitting themselves as workers against bourgeois "preservationists," yet they remain as blind to their own manipulation by rich foreign interests as the Marxists of decades past were to manipulation by Moscow.

The War Against The Greens lives up to the cover promise that it will expose, "The 'wise use' movement, the new right, and anti-environmental violence," documenting a staggering number of attacks—far more, for instance, than the mere 313 incidents, more than half of them petty vandalism, that the FBI attributes to animal rights activists over the past 15 years. Many of the anti-green attacks also go well beyond any deed of "animal rights terrorists" in degree of violence toward human beings. Yet except for the apparent murder of Karen Silkwood as she tried to expose radiation hazards at the Kerr-McGree uranium processing plant in Oklahoma, anti-green attacks have rarely drawn media attention. For example, though I interviewed Vermont and New Hampshire Earth First!ers Jeff Elliot, Jamie Sayen, and Michael Vernon several times between mid-1989 and mid-1991, following up on stories that made the regional news wires, I was previously unaware that all three were burnt out of their homes by arson during the same interval.

Strangely, Helvarg ignores violence against animal rights activists—and takes no note of the Fran Trutt case, perhaps the best-documented example of an alleged corporate act of false provocation in many years. In November 1988, Trutt was arrested

Surgical publicized the deed as an act of "animal rights terrorism," but Trutt turned out to have only peripheral involvement with animal rights; was given the money to buy the bomb and driven to the site by Marc Mead, an undercover agent for a private security firm employed by U.S. Surgical; and was actively encouraged in the plot since the preceding April by Marylou Sapone, another agent of the same firm. Earlier, Sapone had tried unsuccessfully to interest a variety of other animal lovers, anarchists, Earth First!ers, and just plain nuts in bombing U.S. Surgical.

Helvarg's omission of this and other animal-related cases is ultimately as disturbing as his recitation of attacks on people addressing land use conflicts and toxic waste disposal. It seems to signify that the wise-users have convinced mainstream environmentalists to disassociate themselves from animal people even when animal people take the heat for environmentalist goals and tactics, as in many conflicts involving endangered species.

"To date the Wise Use / Property Rights backlash has been a bracing if dangerous reminder to environmentalists that power concedes nothing without a demand," Helvarg concludes. "Only in the cynical argot of Washington where 'perception is reality' could a corporate-sponsored environmental backlash successfully sell itself as a populist movement. Despite an intimidating combination of local thugs and national phone/fax guerillas, the anti-enviros lack the broad middle, either ideologically or in terms of real numbers."

Yet since *The War Against The Greens* appeared, the anti-enviros at least think they've captured Congress. Helvarg may be right that the public will ultimately reject Wise Use, but now it's open season on the Endangered Species Act. One hopes the enviros won't consider it as expendable

Psychopath

White Eye, by Blanche D'Alpuget. Simon & Schuster (1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020), 1994. 254 pages, hardcover. \$22.00 U.S. \$28.50 Canadian.

Seldom have I found a murder mystery as satisfying as Blanche D'Alpuget's *White Eye*—not only first-rate suspense, but educational to boot. A grant from the Literary Arts Board of the Australia Council allowed the author to spend two years researching international wildlife trafficking, genetic engineering, wild bird rehabilitation, and biomedical research on primates—among other subjects. Judging from D'Alpuget's portrayal of the illicit wildlife trade and primate research, about which I'm relatively well versed, she seems to have mastered the topics. Her description of raptor rehabilitation and release, about which I knew little, is fascinating. Passages dealing with genetic engineering, which heretofore has left me totally confused, actually brought me a glimmer of understanding.

White Eye moves back and forth from Thailand to the Australian bush, centering on a biomedical research lab investigating means of exterminating rabbits and foxes, feral species which have caused considerable grief to Australian conservationists as well as ranchers. The rabbits were, of course, introduced by hunters; the foxes were later released to control the rabbits. Both have prospered, despite ceaseless persecution.

The heroine of *White Eye* is described as an animal rights activist, a term belied by her meaty diet and her habit of shooting rabbits and foxes. She is, however, ardent on behalf of nonferal and undomesticated wildlife, especially birds of prey; she might more accurately be termed a radical conservationist. Whatever she is,

Diana Pembridge is picked to serve on the animal ethics committee for the lab after scandal erupts with her discovery of the murdered body of a scientist in Diana's "flying ground," where she reintroduces rehabilitated birds to the use of their wings behind the lab complex. The scientist, Dr. Carolyn Williams, had told Diana her suspicion that one Dr. John Parker was secretly and illegally using chimpanzees in his underground laboratory. On the dead body, Diana finds chimp hairs.

But there are conflicts of interest and twists of plot. Diana and the murdered Carolyn are not friends. Carolyn is probably Diana's half-sister, issue of an adulterous liaison which itself ended in murder. A flamboyant nymphomaniac, Carolyn was herself guilty of seducing Diana's boyfriend, a Spanish wildlife photographer—for which Diana would have liked to kill her.

Yet Dr. Parker is a perfect villain among many others with both motives and means. He would be the caricature of a mad scientist were it not for the author's skillful characterization. Down to the dandruff in the doctor's dirty hair and his kinky sex drive, D'Alpuget paints a complex portrait of an egomaniac devolving into a psychopath.

All the characters are interesting and full of striking inconsistencies, just like real people. The narrative is intricately detailed and richly colored. D'Alpuget executes her plot masterfully. But best of all the reader is left with the message that cruelty to animals leads to cruelty to humans.

—Kim Bartlett

ed while placing a pipe bomb in the U.S. Surgical Corporation parking lot. A long-time target of protest over use of dogs in demonstrations of surgical staples, U.S.

as they apparently consider the animal protection movement.

—Merritt Clifton

(photo of dog)

—Diana Nolan

The Pet Professional's Comparative Reference Guide To Premium Dry Dog Food, by Howard D. Coffman. PigDog Press (427-3 Amherst St., Suite 331, Nashua, NH 03063-1258), 1994. Looseleaf. \$54 includes shipping.

If you want a shopping cart handbook to tell you what to feed your pet, *The Pet Professional's Comparative Reference Guide To Premium Dry Dog Food* may not serve your purpose: Howard D. Coffman avoids value judgements. If you have a professional interest in dog nutrition, however, you may find it indispensable. For instance, it tells which leading dog food derives most of its fat content from sunflower oil rather than

the ingredients that provide its name and flavor. It tells which brands include the controversial preservative ethoxyquin. It provides the Association of American Feed Control Officials' definitions of every common dog food ingredient. It makes assessing offal content possible—and it refutes the rumor that certain brands of kibble popular with most dogs are really just pelletized cat poop.

"I could be described as a computer professional," Coffman says of himself. "You will be surprised to learn that I have never owned a dog. This gives me an unusual qualification and advantage: I am unbiased. I started this project while researching a business opportunity. All data was obtained from publicly available sources. Each manufacturer was sent their respective information and asked to review the material for accuracy and to provide any missing data. If data is missing it is because the respective manufacturer chose not to provide it."

Readers may draw their own conclusions about brands for which data was withheld.

—M.C.

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