

# Sanctuary at Angel Canyon

## *Animal rescue mission settles in the desert*

**ANGEL CANYON, Utah**—As *The Outlaw Josie Wales*, Kansas/Missouri border country farmer Clint Eastwood came home to find his wife and family massacred by Jayhawkers, picked up a gun, and swore bloody vengeance. The Civil War was over, but not the fighting. Killing whoever crossed him, Eastwood fought his way west, reluctantly gathering misfit sidekicks as he went—a horse, a dog, an Indian, an abused woman, a child. Struggling to stay focused on murder, he found himself sidetracked by the effort of keeping them all sheltered and fed.

The bounty hunter sent to kill Eastwood or drag him back for a public hanging caught up with him at Angel Canyon, scoping out the situation before Eastwood knew he was there. Rather than risk involving his newfound second family in a shootout, Eastwood rode to Kanab, five miles south, to meet the bounty hunter in the town saloon.

But the bounty hunter, a man of patient wisdom, had decided not to take Eastwood. He was preparing to ride back home.

“I’ve never met Josie Wales,” he said, looking the fugitive in the eye. “But if I did meet him, I’d tell him the war is over.”

With the completion of *The Outlaw Josie Wales* in 1976, the “Little Hollywood” era was just about over for Angel Canyon and Kanab. At least 92 feature-length films and countless episodes of serial cliffhangers were made in the Kanab area, mostly westerns, but the sandstone terrain also passed for the Middle East in *The*

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[ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED.]

*Best friends at Best Friends sanctuary.  
(Photo by Kim Bartlett.)*

*Arabian Nights, Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves, and The Greatest Story Ever Told.* Kanab became Hollywood’s biggest backlot in 1924, when nearby Johnson Canyon served as backdrop for *Deadwood Coach*, starring Tom Mix. Brothers Gron, Whit, and Chaunce Parry of Kanab earned a windfall fortune during the filming by taking the cast and crew to tour the many nearby National Parks and National Monuments: Zion, Bryce Canyon, Cedar Breaks, Pipe Spring, yet to be flooded Glen Canyon, and most distant, the Grand Canyon.

“An idea was born,” recalls Dixie Brunner of *Southern*  
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# ANIMAL

*News For People Who*

# PEOPLE

*Care About Animals*

# *A wild horse story*

**ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.**—The Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act is perilously close to becoming an unfunded mandate, due to Congressional budget cuts.

If that happens, the Bureau of Land Management will be forced to return to the range more than 8,000 horses and burros now in adoption programs and sanctuaries—without the money to protect them from snipers and horsemeat contractors.

Since 1970, the BLM has been responsible for keeping the wild horse and burro population on federal land at a level acceptable to grazing lease holders, without killing horses or burros, and without allowing anyone else to. In that time the wild horse population has officially quadrupled, to circa 50,000. Citing private surveys, wild horse advocates say it's less than half that number.

Either way, western ranchers say it's too many. About 3.2 million cattle compete for water and forage within the equines' habitat. Ranchers used to just round up wild horses and burros for slaughter. Marilyn Monroe and Clark Gable drew attention to that practice in their last film, *The Misfits* (1961), which gave impetus to Nevada secretary Velma Johnson's then little noted efforts to protect wild equines. When the "Wild Horse Annie Act" finally outlawed the slaughter roundups in 1970, it was nicknamed in Johnson's honor.

Now the slaughter roundups may resume. Conservationists who hold that horses kill rare plants won't object; though horses evolved in North America, along with camels and rhinoceroses, they migrated out in the late Pleistocene epoch and are now considered a non-native species. To most of the environmental lobby, the BLM wild horse and burro program is an easily sacrificed pawn in the end game to save whatever can be saved of the Endangered Species Act, equally imperiled by Congress.

Already, in the past few budgets, the wild horse and burro program has lost key staff; lost the use of the Arizona and New Mexico prisoners who "gentled" horses as part of the rehabilitation of both; and lost a sanctuary for unadoptable horses in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, one of three set up through private contractors in 1988. The other two are in South Dakota.

The pinch is apparent in New Mexico state BLM director Bill Calkins' August 17 memo to staffers concerning disposition of the Bartlesville horses:

"[National wild horse and burro adoption specialist] Lilly Thomas reported to me," Calkins wrote, "that the offering in Missouri of the 68 geldings resulted in 33 adoptions. Not a resounding success, given

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## **INSIDE**

### ***Time to reinvent humane education***

### **ASPCA ducks foie gras case**

### **MAKING YOUR CASE WITH VIDEO**

### **Paul Watson gets 30 days**

### ***Plus lots of juicy scandals***

## ***Turkey day***

*Wild turkeys visit ANIMAL PEOPLE, a "safe house" for turkeys year-round.  
(K.B.)*

## **Dolphin-safe tuna law erased by treaty**

**PANAMA CITY, Panama**—The U.S. embargo against imports of tuna netted "on dolphin" collapsed October 4 as the Bill Clinton administration signed the Declaration of Panama, a treaty which redefines "dolphin-safe" from zero preventable dolphin deaths to killing under 5,000 per year.

Accepted under pressure from the anti-regulation Republican Congress and the enforcement panels of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs and the North American Free Trade Agreement, the treaty is expected to be quickly ratified by the Senate.

At a stroke of a pen, trade politics thus undid the U.S. Dolphin Protection

Consumer Information Act of 1990—the reputed crowning success of the 20th annual Earth Day celebration.

The Declaration of Panama was negotiated by Greenpeace, the National Wildlife Federation, the Center for Marine Conservation, the Environmental Defense Fund, and the World Wildlife Fund, at a September 27 conference with Latin American government representatives in Huatulco, Mexico.

Signing nations, besides the U.S., include Mexico, Panama, Belize, France, Spain, Peru, and Vanuatu. Among them,

(continued on page 12)

## Editorial

# *Opportunities for humane education*

News clips from readers provide our best index of public concern about current events. Our regular clippers notice anything about animals, no matter how small and buried, but when clips flood our desk from folks who don't even read **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, yet find out about us in their desperation to address an outrage, we know a groundswell of concern can be channeled into positive action.

Four events in particular have lately brought tidal waves of clips, faxes, e-mail, and telephone calls. One was the torture-killing of Duke the Dalmatian in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, by three Beavis-and-Butthead imitators. The second was the death of a pig at a county fair in Tyler, Texas, when an adolescent pushed a hose down the animal's throat and turned on the water, hoping to achieve last-minute weight gain sufficient to win a prize. The third case was the September 14 torture-killing of a quarterhorse named Mr. Wilson Boy in a pasture near Silsbee, Texas. Ten boys and a girl, ages 8 to 14, chased the horse into barbed wire, beat him to death, and bragged about it.

The fourth case hit the news on October 12, nine days after science teacher Mickey Duncan of Braggs, Oklahoma, accepted a male barn cat from the daughter of a school board member, and reportedly attempted "a crude razor blade operation" to expose the cat's kidneys. The cat apparently came out of makeshift anesthesia during the second of two classes that saw the exercise, and was sewed back up and rescued by students while Duncan was out of the room. (*Addresses for letters of protest appear on page 5.*)

Not a day goes by that we don't hear of many comparable atrocities, some on a mind-bogglingly grand scale, involving human victims as well as animals.

But most don't bring comparable response:

"On the afternoon of July 11," Stephen Kinzer reported in the October 4 edition of *The New York Times*, "Bosnian Serb commander General Ratko Mladic summoned the Dutch peacekeeping unit commander and several of his officers to a hotel room where a live pig was tied up. As they watched, a Bosnian Serb soldier slit the pig's throat. Mladic told them that was how he would treat people like those protected by the Dutch peacekeepers," and that's exactly how his troops did treat them, too, over the next three months, while the peacekeepers and the rest of the world did nothing.

Not one U.S. newspaper published the pig-killing story when it happened, so far as we can tell—and not one person sent in Kinzer's article.

The distance between here and there, and the seeming hopelessness of trying to stop war and ethnic hatred in eastern Europe may account for the lack of clips of Kinzer's article in our mailbox, as well as for the numbness of most Americans toward the ongoing Bosnian slaughter. The cases in Pennsylvania, Texas, and Oklahoma, by contrast, seemed close at hand and manageable. Average citizens could do something, if only write letters of protest, and did. Feeling empowered in turn created further empowerment.

Anne Irwin of the Bucks County SPCA, for instance, recalls that before the Duke case, the courts in her region had apparently never jailed an animal abuser, no matter what the offense. Now several more Bucks County animal abusers have drawn jail time; Pennsylvania has a new felony penalty for extreme and egregious cruelty; and the role of volunteer court-watchers in securing the Duke case conviction and sentencing has inspired

group homes. In the Oklahoma cat-cutting case, Braggs school superintendent Jerry Allen has reprimanded Duncan, but has not recommended firing him; police chief Duane Morgan has cleared Duncan of criminal wrongdoing.

Though the outcomes differ, the quick resolutions end each matter for most of the public—and that could mean opportunity lost, until another abuse case grabs similar note.

## **Humane education is moral education**

Let us make plain that by "humane education" we mean a critical aspect of moral education, now a popular cause of both parents and politicians, right and left. There is a growing feeling that whatever worth "moral relativism" and "situation ethics" have lies between a definite right and wrong, the bounds of which must be taught.

For some, this means a return to "traditional values." This shouldn't scare humane educators. Many states made humane education a mandatory if unfunded and often ignored aspect of curriculum a century or more ago—and in context, too: "humane education" was then understood to mean education in all aspects of doing to others as you would be done by. Humane lessons prepared by pioneers of the field ranged from why one shouldn't beat a horse or kick a dog or cat to the importance of maintaining temperance, helping the poor, and providing sanctuary to the orphaned, the infirm, the insane, and the aged. Realizing that one Sunday-school sermon a week was about all most children might listen to, early humane educators eschewed lectures in favor of embedding their precepts in handwriting exercises, essay contests, and public speaking competitions.

They were eminently successful. Early humane organizations had a prominent part in achieving just about every major social reform of the first 150 years of U.S. nationhood, from the abolition of slavery to the institution of free public education itself.

Two circumstances broke the momentum of humane education, both of which were seeming triumphs. The first was the gradual agreement of government to accept responsibility for enforcing public sobriety and providing indigent care. Temperance ceased to be a concern of humane societies after the advent of Prohibition in 1919, while by mid-century the last humane society orphanages closed, apparently no longer needed.

Humane societies simultaneously contracted in growing numbers to provide animal control service. As they shut shelters for humans, they opened shelters for dogs and cats. Humane education eroded from a rounded application of the Golden Rule, albeit within the context that animals were used by humans, to narrow lessons in doggie and kitty care. By the time the idea of ecology caught the public imagination and became integrated into school curriculums, providing a new foundation for the concepts once taught by humane educators, humane education had become an annual one-hour talk to children in the lower grades—those presumably too young to be bored—and of course studies of this type of teaching find that it has nil effect on adolescent attitudes and behavior.

Meanwhile, cases like the Oklahoma cat-cutting come up often enough to indicate they are not greatly unusual. Just last spring a Montana high school teacher was caught stealing cats and inviting students to his home to join him in rendering them down to skeletons. He too skated through the uproar with just a reprimand.

the formation of court-watching groups to monitor animal-related cases in many other states. Many successful prosecutions and meaningful sentences have resulted, in cases that formerly would have been dropped or plea-bargained to insignificance.

Similarly, Fred Allison and Bernie Rollin, profiled in our July/August edition, used public outrage over the Tyler pig case, along with cases involving the use of illegal drugs to enhance livestock appearance, to promulgate a uniform code of ethics for livestock competitions. Livestock show promoters realized when even Ann Landers gave them hell that Allison and Rollin offered them their best chance to "wake up and smell the coffee."

Now it's time to build on the Mr. Wilson Boy and cat cases, as well as the Duke and pig cases, to advance effective humane education. Events are moving quickly. One of the 14-year-olds who led the attack on Mr. Wilson Boy has already been sentenced to serve up to seven years in custody of the Texas Youth Commission. The other will spend up to seven years at a private boot camp. Hardin County Attorney David Sheffield told media on October 5 that another six attackers may soon be sent to reform school, boot camp, or

# ANIMAL PEOPLE

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**ANIMAL PEOPLE** does not publish fiction or poetry.

We also get "help" messages like this one, from Florida:

"My younger sister is taking 'ecology' class in high school. They are supposed to be learning about endangered species and food chains, but in the six weeks she has been in this class, all she has been taught is how to get a hunting license. She complained to her teacher, and he told her they will be learning about hunting and guns until next semester. She went to her guidance counselor and asked to be transferred to a zoology class. He told her no, that she had to learn to handle classes she doesn't like. What can she do?"

Humane education as currently practiced, when it is practiced, has neither presence nor relevance to such situations. The foundation to prevent such situations from developing has never been laid.

## Backwardness

Rural backwardness may be blamed, but humane groups have some soul-searching to do, as well. We've never been to a humane gathering where speakers didn't extoll the importance of humane education, yet under "public education" on the IRS Form 990 filings of the leading animal advocacy groups, one finds listed only the costs of direct mail fundraising. The groups that do the most "public education" do little or no humane education. Even their multi-million-piece mailings go only to people who have previously donated to humane organizations whose donor lists are for rent.

Almost as useless are such entities as the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education, a subsidiary of the Humane Society of the U.S., whose *Kind News* is available to classrooms by paid subscription only. We know exactly how much it costs to publish and distribute such a newspaper, and we know that HSUS could send the appropriate edition of *Kind News* free to every schoolroom in America for less than it recently paid one corrupt vice president. The NAHE endowment was willed to HSUS for just such an effort, to offset the barrage of free materials sent to classrooms by the hunting and animal agriculture industries. As we reported in October, the Illinois Department of Environmental Conservation is actually *paying* teachers to use pro-hunting and trapping propaganda—which must be countered.

It isn't necessary, however, to preach, any more than it was in the days of humane education via handwriting exercises. A low-key approach emphasizing information applicable to other aspects of curriculum, such as science, geography, and human relations, may be most appropriate. For instance, the educational, entertaining, inexpensive, and readily available *Really Wild Animals* series from National Geographic Kids Video presents sound factual data, from a widely respected source, about the wildlife of every habitat. Increasing understanding about animals in itself enhances the development of empathy—and the National Geographic people point out the likenesses of animal and human behavior. Kindness Publications Inc. offers a book/video set, *Lefty's World* and *Lefty's Place*, which provides comparable nature education, centering on an injured Muscovy duck, in a context that encourages thought about both how people treat animals and how people treat other humans who have a handicap or an obvious ethnic distinction. Save the sermons and show one of these videos. Establish a presence. Answer questions—and make sure students know they can call, any time, with further questions, whether in connection with homework or with the moral dilemmas they will increasingly often perceive once introduced to idea of animals as sentient, feeling and thinking individuals.

Empower students, and students themselves will do the debating and challenging—as some did, in saving the cat in Braggs, Oklahoma, from further cuts by Razorblade Duncan. That the cat was ever cut marked a failure of humane and moral education, but that some students intervened showed how effective even a small amount of humane education can be, even in an extremely rural and otherwise backward community.

# Letters

## No-kill speech

Thank you for the transcript of your speech to "No-Kills In the Nineties," held recently in Phoenix. I have made copies of it for the members of our Animal Control Advisory Committee. Your message helps people understand the different missions of each animal group. With that understanding, the groups can find the common ground to work together.

I believe every animal shelter has an obligation to seek the means to become a no-kill. We just received a National Animal Control Association award for our aggressive adoption outreach, but just because we have received a national award doesn't mean we can stop and pat ourselves on the back. We still have a long way to go, and we will not stop until we get there.

—Dave Flagler  
Multnomah County Animal Control  
Portland, Oregon

## More praise

You were absolutely brilliant at the conference in Arizona. What you had to say is so important and you said it so well. I found this event to be incredibly worthwhile and uplifting. It was great to be surrounded for once by people of like mind. Keep up the great work. It is vital to the movement.

—Richard Avanzino  
President  
San Francisco SPCA

*Thank you both. Send \$1.00 (postage and copying cost) for a copy of the speech, or e-mail a request to ANMLPEOPLE@aol.com.*

## Fundraising

If I receive a mailing that contains both educational material and an appeal, what percentage of the total cost of the mailing is "fundraising"? What is the formula? Who determines what is educational and what is simply an appeal? What if funds are raised by an "educational" mailing? I've seen a lot of what I consider to be fraud associated with direct mail campaigns, and I think Sea Wolf will continue to find other means of support.

—Jeanne McVey  
Sea Wolf Alliance  
San Rafael, California

*There is no set legal formula to distinguish an "educational" mailing from fundraising in reporting to either membership or the IRS. That's why many organizations report bogus figures. We use the National Charities Information Bureau criteria: any mailing that asks for money and is not a legitimate periodical, consisting mainly of editorial matter, counts as fundraising.*

FoA

## Empty bowl

Thanks for keeping us informed. Your Watchdog's empty bowl is certainly appropriate.

—Mickey Protomastro  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

## Xenotransplants

I was bothered by Alan Berger's essay on xenotransplants [animal-to-human transplants] in your September edition. I am of course totally against xenotransplants, but I am also against human organ transplants for this reason: when a person dies (goes back to the spirit world), if one of his/her organs stays behind alive in another person, then the one who died cannot go about his/her business in the spirit world. The person is stuck, having to hang around until that organ dies. This is very bad for the one who has gone on.

—C. Raymer  
Denver, Colorado

## Oliver

Thanks so much for the update on Oliver, the probable bonobo chimp in your October article, "Seven chimps safe, maybe more." Am I correct in assuming that Oliver was also used as a lab chimp? If so, that is very sad. I wish there were something I could do to help these poor creatures.

—Dee Holly  
Marion County Animal Center  
Ocala, Florida

*Oliver, extensively abused in sideshows, has not yet been used in biomedical research, but as a non-breeder could be potentially used in corrosive (terminal) research, if he isn't purchased from the financially struggling Buckshire Corporation soon for placement in an appropriate zoo or sanctuary. Buckshire executive Sharon Hirsch says she wants to see him go to the most benign possible situation, but the economic factors governing his fate could slip beyond her control.*

## Holiday mail

We try to print and mail each month in time for the issue to reach you by the first of the next month—but the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holidays pose serious risk that ANIMAL PEOPLE might get caught in postal jams if we published our December and January/February editions on the same dates as most months. Rather than print and mail on time only to reach you late through no fault of our own, we'll gather news a week longer before printing and mailing these issues, enabling us to bring you more current coverage. And you may not have to wait longer to get it.

This will also enable us to include more organizations than ever in our annual December report *Who Gets The Money?*, presenting the budgets, assets, and executive salaries paid by the leading animal-related charities, based on what they tell the IRS. You won't want to do your holiday giving without it.

## *Chimpanzees*

Montreal Gazette colum -  
nist Doug Camilli much enjoyed  
Carol Connare's account in our  
September edition of how Jane  
Goodall greeted 100 Los Angeles  
police officers as a female chim -  
panzee would greet 100 high-ranking  
male chimps—and convinced them  
to back her "Roots and Shoots" pro -  
gram. "So there it is: submissive  
pant-grunts as a management tool for  
executive women," Camilli finished.

Responded Connare,  
"Goodall's submissive pant-grunts  
caught the attention of the police  
officers because the human male is  
only slightly more evolved than the  
male chimpanzee."

## ANIMAL PEOPLE

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## *South Africa*

I was most interested in your September editorial "Prepare for post-pet overpopulation," and I quoted from it at the SPCA Annual Conference in East London, South Africa. Our National Council of SPCAs is the umbrella for 110 SPCA shelters all over South Africa, and like most shelters, we have the incessant traumatic job of putting down thousands of healthy animals. In 1993 we had our SPCA Act passed by Parliament, which requires all shelters to sterilize all animals before homing. However, euthanasia rates remain high, and publicity about them is affecting us adversely. There are some no-kill shelters here, and those we have seen are disgusting, but their no-kill posture does attract funds, and further growth could impact our own homing rates.

Our understanding is that only a few cities, counties, and states in the U.S. have introduced stringent restrictions on companion animal breeding, and the implication is that low-cost sterilization is the secret to the reduction in the euthanasia of healthy animals which is being achieved all over the U.S.

San Francisco seems to be the leading light, but you state that New York City, San Diego, St. Louis, Washington state, and Connecticut state could all get to zero euthanasias of healthy animals by the turn of the century given similar sterilization programs. Does this projection envision stringent legislation for breeding control as well?

We have been trying to get such legislation implemented in South Africa, so far without any success. This was our preferred strategy because the veterinary profession as a whole, despite some exceptional practitioners, has not been supportive of low-cost sterilization.

It would seem that the step some of our shelters have taken to get into animal control is backward, in your estimation. A local argument is that there are many dog license defaulters, and that they are more willing to pay the SPCA than a municipality.

—Eric Nash  
Vice Chairman  
National Council of SPCAs  
Southdale, South Africa

*The evidence is by now irrefutable that making low-cost or even free neutering universally accessible is the only sure way to prevent the births of surplus animals. This requires both providing the neutering service and either taking it into poor areas via mobile clinic, or providing transportation so that people without cars can get their animals to and from a fixed-site clinic. The evidence is strong that anti-breeding laws have nil effect on most animal owners' behavior, while high*

*licensing differentials for intact animals often create disincentives to neutering by creating disincentives to license, as people fear bringing an intact but unlicensed animal to a neutering clinic lest they be fined. The San Francisco experience illustrates that the fastest way to make a community realize the importance of offering low-cost or free neutering is to make tax-payers bear the full cost of animal control, while the fastest way for a humane society to raise the funds to provide low-cost or free neutering is to get out of the business of killing animals en masse for the community. Going to no-kill also tends to stimulate visits to the shelter from prospective adopters, and encourages people to turn in unwanted animals, rather than turning them loose to "give them a chance"—and, too often, to breed while suffering a miserable life followed by premature death. Finally, as the SF/SPCA and many others demonstrate, the best way to deal with badly run no-kills is to outcompete them with well-run no-kills.*

## *Sealing their doom*

Further to your articles on Canada's Atlantic seal hunt, I and several representatives from animal rights and welfare organizations attended the October 3 forum on Atlantic seal management in St. John's, Newfoundland. The forum was hosted by Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and was largely attended by those with a vested interest in the sealing industry.

At this time, DFO put everything on the table for discussion, including increased quotas of 290,000 seals and up; reintroduction of large vessels; invitations to other countries to join the killing; and finally, extension of the season to include killing pregnant females.

It looks as if we are back to square one. The decision to return to sealing as something other than a cottage industry is still political, the science is still nebulous and contradictory, and the Canadian taxpayer will be heavily subsidizing the slaughter. However, except for the sale of male sex organs to the Orient for aphrodisiacs, there is no measureable market: none for furs, hides, blubber, or meat.

The fate of the seals is now up to the same people—DFO—who managed the east coast fishery into oblivion. Why should we have faith in them, and do we really want to revisit the killing fields of Canada's primitive past? And for what? Sex potions?

Unless we speak out loud, clear and fast, the seal hunt will once again become Canada's shame!

—Anne Streeter  
International Wildlife Coalition  
Montreal, Quebec

# Letters

## *Hot tips on fires*

On Thursday, October 6, we had a fast-moving brush fire out here in canyon country. It was only 15 miles from my shelter, so I went down to the fire line to see what I could do and where it was moving. Luckily for us, it was moving away from the shelter.

When it neared a housing development, I called my wife, Stacy, who joined me on the line with our van and cages. As the fire licked houses, and county firefighters pounded the flames with choppers, tankers and hoses, I removed dogs whose owners were at work from nearby yards. I also marked several houses for break-in, as I could see cat dishes inside and nobody at home.

None of the houses caught fire, thanks to superb work by the 500 firefighters on the scene (unlike the Forest Service, who just watches it burn). I did have one close call as I ran with an old German Shepherd female ahead of a wall of flame. We both got a little smoke inhalation and a lot of heat.

After the fire was under control, we returned the dogs to their homes. Some had charred yards, but the danger was over.

Anyone can do this. If you are with a shelter and have a business card, it helps. So did my vehicle's yellow flashing light. And those with yellow fire jackets were allowed through the line as if they had official business. So get a yellow fire jacket—and a yellow vehicle light. I can point people to fire equipment dealers.

After the fire, the next day, I found a little burned bunny by the side of the road and took him to the vet. I called him "Smokey the Bunny." He didn't live, but it occurred to me that with 1,400 acres gone, other bunnies, etcetera, would need to eat. The two miles they would have to hop to find food would be too much for many. I loaded our truck with alfalfa and dumped it all over the place yester-

## Helen Jones

I read with profound sadness your story about Helen Jones. Helen Jones was one of the first people to understand that animal rights was a truly radical philosophy that differed in fundamental ways from animal welfare; one of the first people to understand that animal exploitation could not be regulated and that it needed to be incrementally abolished; and one of the first people to understand the connection between the oppression of nonhumans and the oppression of people of color and women. Helen Jones was and remains a visionary human being.

—Gary L. Francione  
Professor of Law, Rutgers Law School  
Newark, New Jersey

## *Helped escaping slaves*

I was shocked, surprised, and very saddened to read that certain people think it is time Helen Jones should retire. Helen and her sisters Margaret and Ruth have devoted their lives to relieving animal suffering. Margaret is now dead, Ruth is ill in a nursing home, and Helen is left to carry on alone. It seems their desire to relieve suffering is inherited, as I am told their family ran the underground railroad in Pennsylvania to help escaping slaves.

—Anne Boulton  
Marmora, Ontario

## *Jones & the Pope*

It is to be hoped that a full investigation will be made of the International Society for Animal Rights, which has steadily led the way for animal rights. When the National Catholic Humane Society was still in working condition as such, I wrote to Helen Jones asking for help. Our group, Animal Crusaders of Arizona, had introduced the Animal Birth Control program to Arizona. Hispanics and others said that it was against their religious beliefs to neuter dogs and cats. We pointed out that they did not ride stallions, usually, but rode geldings; ate steers rather than bulls; and caponized fowl, but it was no use. Jones contacted the Irish National Catholic Society, and a delegation visited the Pope in Rome, who declared it was okay to neuter cats and dogs.

Now we come to old age, which is far worse than death, be the truth known.

—B.B. Eilers  
Arizona Representative  
The Animals' Crusaders, Inc.  
Mesa, Arizona

## OBJECTIONS & CORRECTIONS

### *White rabbits*

In your October article "Bad dogs or bad dog laws?" you wrote that in 1986 I released white rabbits removed from Oregon State University laboratories by the Animal Liberation Front beside a busy road. That reflects very negatively on me as an animal rights activist. More importantly, it damns the ALF. I was unexpectedly assigned three rabbits in addition to 100 rats, 30 mice, and 11 hamsters. My aunt Edith and I drove over 100 miles to the Oregon coast to deliver the rabbits to animal rescuer Nanette Benson. Her veterinarian found a University of Oregon tattoo in an ear. He called the police and they found my name in Nanette's files. My aunt and Nanette are now in a higher plane of existence, and I like to believe they are surrounded by grateful animals. Note: UoO is not OSU.

—Roger Troen  
Portland, Oregon

*Troen is identified as having received all of the rabbits taken from OSU and having released them "in the hills," where four were found beside a busy road, in a handwritten account of the OSU raid we received from a self-described participant whose writing matches that of Bill Ferguson in a handwritten statement about another ALF-related case. Ferguson has at various times been named as both a suspect and a suspected informant in connection with the OSU raid. He denies having been an informant.*

### *Not a DVM*

Thanks for the kind words in **ANIMAL PEOPLE** about our Equine Awareness in Media Award. But I am not, never have been, and after seeing some of the really bad

### *Misattribution*

In your September issue you mentioned me as one of two sources for reporting that World Society for the Protection of Animals chief executive Andrew Dickson was in the U.S. to talk to Ric O'Barry about river dolphin relocation in China. I have never communicated with **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on this issue. At WSPA, where I no longer work, I had no dealing with it and was even unaware of what was going on.

—Wim de Kok  
Jamaica Plan, Massachusetts

*We misattributed to de Kok a memo received on June 6 from WSPA international projects director John Walsh. Both Walsh and de Kok had been asked for information.*

### *Blew it again*

Thank you for your correction in the September edition about the Roberts family not being associated with Dolphins Plus, but you still didn't get the story straight. The Roberts family does not run the Dolphin Research Center. While I used to work there, and still have a relative employed by DRC, we have never run DRC.

—Karen Roberts  
Colonial Beach, Virginia

AmAV ad

day. I will add more daily until wildlife has a foothold again.

This is something everyone can do. If you don't have a truck, take sunflower seeds for squirrels or bags of rabbit pellets and dump them. I am now buying squirrel food by the 50-pound bag; the fire victim squirrels are thin and don't eat hay. They need to store food for the winter as well as feed themselves now. Many survived underground, so there are many mouths to feed. People should do this wherever there have been fires. It would matter to a lot of little squirrels. Replacing lost food sources is a wonderful way of directly helping animals in need—especially in huge forest fire areas, where large numbers of animals die of starvation afterward.

I hope this suggestion helps wildlife fire victims someday.

—Leo Grillo  
D.E.L.T.A. Rescue  
Glendale, California

*As a former firefighter, the Editor recommends that anyone helping at a fire have proper safety equipment and training (routinely given to members of volunteer fire departments), since the would-be helper who misjudges a hazard can put many lives at risk as others attempt a rescue. Further, it is a crime to impersonate a firefighter or a peace officer. Creating a professional impression through conduct and attitude is always a good idea, but don't lie about who you are. Be aware, too, that taking animals without authorization, even from a burning building, is technically theft, and may involve breaking-and-entering.*

*Most animal owners will be thankful, but expect the occasional jerk. (Firefighters too run into this problem.) Finally, when feeding animals in a fire zone, leave the food well away from roads, to avoid setting up roadkills; encourage continued foraging behavior by leaving the food in different places each time; and avoid being seen, as the last thing you want to do is make a wild animal so trusting of humans as to walk up to a hunter, expecting a handout.*

## Ann Millan

Congratulations on your address to "No-kills in the Nineties." It is wonderful, inspirational, and eloquent.

Once, when Margaret Jones still ran the old humane society on Gibson Street in Scranton, I went there to volunteer, but the conditions for the animals were so appalling that I could not return. Many years ago I also visited Animal Haven, in Hollis, Queens. An epidemic had attacked the cats and they were dying all over the place. That too brought a week of insomnia and nightmares.

After those two experiences, I stayed away from no-kills. Embarrassed that I had never seen Ann Millan's place, I finally confided that I was afraid to, and told her why. I could tell she was hurt, and resolved to go at the first opportunity. When I did, I was very pleased with what I saw. Since then, I've been there several times. It has always been clean and orderly. The cats are truly chubby.

Ann has someone else do her adoptions because she realized long ago that it was too difficult for her to let the animals go. She is naturally protective of them, but I'm not sure a true collector would delegate adoptions—or even do adoptions.

Maybe her shelter was a mess before I ever saw it, but I can tell you it is not a mess now. I give Ann tremendous credit for fighting on.

—Lynn Manheim  
Dalton, Pennsylvania

*Our expose of deficient animal care at the ISAR offices, alleged often by people associated with ISAR in recent years, mentioned two November 1992 raids on sites in nearby Scranton, Pennsylvania, where ISAR president Helen Jones' longtime friend Ann Millan and her associate Denise Matyewicz were found to be keeping 24 dogs and 41 cats in seriously substandard conditions.*

Jack Norris ad (412-247-3527)

cases of horse injury we come across, would never want to be a DVM. I am a cinematographer.

—Enzo Giobbe  
HorseAid  
Rancho Palos Verdes, California

*We were mixed up by Giobbe's well-informed discussion of "doctoring" horses.*

## Cheap wedding?

Re the Watchdog subhead "Cheap Wedding?" in your October issue coverage of the David Wills/HSUS situation, what I actually said was, "Lori White has so many friends in D.C. that she couldn't afford to have a wedding there." I didn't say it was a "cheap" wedding; I said it was a very humble wedding. And we hired beach rental horses, not carriage horses, but I know you meant rental horses.

—Sherry DeBoer  
Alamo, California

American AV ad  
(10-issue reservation,  
paid through 12/95)

## March

I have just received a promotion for the 1996 "March for the Animals." Interestingly, the march is billed as "the largest gathering of animal advocates in the history of the humane movement." The march will bring "our message to mainstream audiences around the world" through the "resources of ethical corporations" and "compassionate celebrities and legislators."

There is not a mention of animal rights. Please compare this promotion with the one for the 1990 march, which involved a very explicit endorsement of animal rights.

As Bob Dylan once pointed out, "the times, they are a-changing."

—Gary Francione  
Professor of Law  
Rutgers Law School  
Newark, New Jersey

## Fur Free Friday

## Pig collectors

Almost 40 pigs were confiscated by Los Angeles County animal control officers and the L.A. SPCA in mid-September. We tried without success to find a safe house for the pigs, who remain at the animal control shelter. We are now advising animal control about feeding the pigs and adopting them out. Ironically, the woman who had the pigs thought she was doing "pig rescue." Her house was described as manure-filled—but she insists on continuing to "rescue" pigs, even now.

Days later, we received a call from a "pig rescuer" in Chico, Texas. Her first remark was, "Can you take 40 pigs?" She has been asked to leave the house she is living in. The pigs could stay, but she isn't willing to leave them. She has now called us many times. She

*We're publishing PIGS' full address because the sanctuary needs donations of blankets to keep the pigs warm this winter.*

**UPDATE:** As ANIMAL PEOPLE went to press, Brewer called to say the situation in Colorado had "exploded": the Clemenswine Memorial Pot-Bellied Pig Sanctuary, of Sedalia, Colorado, with a mail - ing address in Castle Rock, had collapsed, leaving 105 pigs on a lot without running water or electricity. The Boulder Humane Society took 30 pigs; advised of the crisis by Rocky Mountain Animal Defense, Brewer and partner Dale Riffle were trying to place the other 75, including 15 boars, many of them report - edly starving. There was inconclusive evidence

also has the media involved. Well-intentioned coverage could backfire, as she is already in trouble and will not—I asked her point-blank—turn a pig away.

Add to these another potential disaster in Colorado. I truly think pig collectors are upon us. Please tell ANIMAL PEOPLE readers to thoroughly check out any pig rescues and/or sanctuaries. I include us. When we take a pig, we tell everyone that if for any reason they don't like what they see, to turn around and take their pig with them. We won't be insulted.

—Jim Brewer

PIGS: A Sanctuary  
10 Sanctuary Lane  
Charles Town, WV 25414

*of possible cannibalism of younger pigs.*

*Clemenswine was founded in July 1993 by Sylvia Francisco and Rhonda Slogar, who already had 16 pigs between them. Within six months, Slogar told ANIMAL PEOPLE in November 1994, they had over 100. Slogar, then age 27, quit her job to look after the pigs fulltime in March 1994. Francisco left Clemenswine in July 1994, by which time they had 131 pigs, 19 goats, nine dogs, six cats, five sheep, and two ferrets. Beginning to do adoptions, Slogar got down to 113 pigs, one dog, and two ferrets—but owed \$4,000 to her veterinarian.*

*Slogar's whereabouts, according to Brewer, are presently unknown.*

## BLOOD SPORTS

**Facing the release of undercover video obtained at a summer live turkey shoot** by the Chicago Animal Rights Coalition, the Lone Pine Sportsman's Club of Middleport, Pennsylvania cancelled an encore shoot set for October 15. "Lone Pine agreed to permanently stop live animal shoots almost immediately when they found out we had the video," CHARC president Steve Hindi said, "even before we released the footage to media. They specifically said they didn't want their town to become the next Heginns. We know other live turkey shoots are still held in the area, and we will now be hunting them."

**Michigan House Conservation, Environment, and Great Lakes committee chair James Mick Middaugh** announced September 22 that due to public opposition, hearings on a bill to permit dove hunting will not be held this legislative session. Middaugh's verdict outraged the gun lobby, which heavily backed his 1994 re-election campaign.

**Since 1988, pack hunters** angry at being barred from timber company property have burned 50,000 acres of trees in southeast Texas. Now they're also starting fires because Texas has banned deer hunting with dogs. "If we can't have dogs, you can't raise no pine trees. That's the way it is," hunter John Menard recently told Julia Prodis of Associated Press.

**Save The Doves** seeks signatures to place an initiative to halt Ohio's newly created dove season on the 1996 state ballot. To sign or carry a petition, call 216-371-4749.

**Slated for release as hunting targets,** 1,200 Chinese ringnecked pheasants instead escaped October 1 when vandals hit the Maywood Environmental Park in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

**Fox Lake, Illinois, on October 2 banned all hunting** within village limits due to citizen complaints about backyard bowhunters. Firing a gun within the village was already banned.

**The safety committee in Ypsilanti Township, Michigan,** voted 3-1 on October 16 to recommend a ban on hunting around Ford Lake. The ban was favored by 35 of the 36 lake area residents who spoke at a public hearing.

**U.S. Senate minority leader Tom Daschle** (D-South Dakota) is to host a pheasant hunt on November 3-4 as a fundraiser for the Democratic Senatorial Majority Trust.

**A textbook description of premature ejaculation** appears in the October/November edition of *Bowhunter*—but letter writer Rob Williamson is actually discussing "target panic," the bowhunters' equivalent of "buck fever."

## Laboratories

### Oklahoma superintendent of education

**Sandy Garrett** and Muskogee County district attorney David Lutton are reportedly probing the October 3 attempted razorblade vivisection of a poorly anesthetized cat by Braggs high school teacher Mickey Duncan, described in this month's ANIMAL PEOPLE editorial. "I am outraged," said Garrett in a prepared statement. "While we view this as an isolated incident, we are forg-

HUMANE FARMING ASSOCIATION one-time

ing a partnership with the Oklahoma Veterinary Medical Association to draft advisory guidelines for scientific projects. We will provide this information to all local school board members and high school principals. I have contacted local school officials to express my grave concern," Garrett added. "As Oklahoma is a local control state, authority for any action which might be taken against the teacher lies with the Braggs Board of Education." Said Bill Dollinger of Friends of Animals, "I informed her that we are not interested in codifying animal experiments in high schools, and that her department should look into allegations that students are being intimidated into covering up for Duncan by other teachers. She promised she would. I also learned that the state board can get involved, if the D.A. wins a conviction for cruelty to animals. The board can revoke Duncan's certification for a misdemeanor, and must revoke certification for a felony." Contact Lutton c/o Muskogee County Courthouse, Muskogee, OK 74401; fax 918-682-3374. Contact the Braggs Board of Education and Braggs High School principal Dudley Hume c/o Braggs High School, POB 59, Braggs, OK 74423; fax 918-487-5266.

**Inspired by the 300-day survival of pig bone marrow transplanted into a Cynomolgus monkey at Massachusetts General Hospital, announced September 26, the medical information newsletter *Taipan* predicted that, "by the year 2000, budding transgenic agro-businesses will have developed the first viable biotech barnyard. At the core of each operation will be a comparatively small number of high-priced animals whose genetic makeup will have to be custom-engineered to suit clearly defined medical requirements...There will be herds of dairy cattle producing human proteins in their milk. Prize hogs bred for the specific purpose of supplying vital organs...Monkeys with genetically engineered bone marrow...These animals will need to be hidden in large numbers of genetically unaltered cattle to confuse animal rights activists and other neo-Luddites."**

**Construction of loose housing for primates** belonging to Health Canada was to start in October at the Frederick Banting Building in Tunney's Pasture, an Ottawa government office complex. The Canadian Federation of Humane Societies called for closing the old Health Canada primate breeding compound in Ottawa earlier this year.

**Retired National Institute of Mental Health researcher Dr. John B. Calhoun** died September 7 while vacationing in Hanover, New Hampshire. Calhoun's oft-cited experiments with raising rats in over-crowded conditions discovered the emergence of non-breeders, including obsessive self-groomers, as crowding stress intensified.

## CLEARING THE TEMPLE: GRANDIN RIPS MEAT BUYERS & SELLERS BUT IS ACCUSED OF SELLOUT

### FORT COLLINS, Colorado—

Colorado State University assistant professor of animal sciences Temple Grandin, the most outspoken inside critic of the meat industry since Upton Sinclair wrote *The Jungle* in 1906, is hopping mad at Canadians for the Ethical Treatment of Food Animals. Twice in two years, CETFA has attacked Grandin's ethics and competence, in response to one of her series of reports on Canadian slaughterhouses, with evident disregard for what Grandin actually said.

Starting in 1981, the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies has hired Grandin three times to assess conditions at Canadian slaughterhouses, in cooperation with Agriculture Canada. Visiting 11 of Canada's biggest federally inspected slaughterhouses in 1994, which together kill 44% of Canadian cattle and hogs, Grandin noted much improvement since she visited 23 federally inspected slaughterhouses with similar market share 13 years earlier. She observed that the Canadian plants are, on the whole, more humane than U.S. counterparts—but listed many changes they should make, and regretted that she hadn't been able to visit any provincially inspected slaughterhouses, which escape federal scrutiny because they don't sell meat to other provinces.

"Humane Societies linked to SLAUGHTER WHITEWASH," howled CETFA, whose objections were that Grandin hadn't visited either provincially inspected plants, or kosher/halal slaughterhouses, which kill without pre-stunning, in keeping with Jewish and Islamic religious laws originally adopted to insure quick death.

This year Grandin gained access to four kosher/halal plants and two provincially inspected plants, among a total of 21 visited. "Which leaves 15 federally registered slaughterhouses visited (out of 160 total), with prior notification, and in the company of vested-interest personnel. Hardly the stuff of a credible survey," the CETFA newsletter editorialized, disregarding that health and safety laws, union contracts, and insurance policies all keep visitors out of any kind of industrial plant without notice and an escort.

"She expresses no concern about hundreds of regional slaughterhouses all across Canada, that are inspected for structure and cleanliness only, with the humane aspect totally ignored," CETFA further charged. "Recommendations for change are sparse, and deal with cosmetic concerns, such as slippery ramps and shade and shadows that no doubt contribute to the animals' fears. No MAJOR concern of those fears is

addressed or dealt with. The slant of her report is always to declare Canadian slaughterhouse conditions acceptable—and everyone goes home for a good night's sleep."

### What Grandin said

In fact, Grandin rated stunning conditions unacceptable at four of 14 conventional cattle, pig, horse and sheep slaughtering plants, and at two of four poultry plants. She also found killing procedures to be inhumane at two out of four kosher/halal plants, though none shackled and hoisted live, conscious animals, as do many U.S. kosher/halal plants. Overall, Grandin rated 23% of the slaughterhouses she visited "Not acceptable."

She kept an eye open for attempts to fool her: "One plant had a brand-new waterer that looked as if it had been installed to impress us," she wrote. However, "Only two plants had floor or waterer improvements which appeared as if they were done because the survey was announced...It is easy to see new welds or moisture on walls which indicates that a large build-up of manure was recently removed."

Grandin noted that downed cattle now rarely come to Canadian federally inspected plants, due mainly to more stringent self-policing, but said, "I do not think

that all the downers have just disappeared. It is very likely that they are just being diverted to provincial plants," mainly in British Columbia and Quebec—meaning that downers may be hauled farther than healthy cattle.

"There is a need to review practices in provincial plants that are not federally inspected," Grandin continued. "In British Columbia there are concerns about provincial plants that have no inspection at all. All plants in Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec are either provincially or federally inspected, but provincial regulations are not equal to the federal humane slaughter regulations. In Alberta it is still legal to stun sheep by blunt trauma. During interviews I learned about an Alberta provincial plant where sheep were bashed repeatedly with a wooden board. I am also concerned about ritual slaughter moving into provincial plants."

Grandin's description of how one provincially inspected plant drains blood from fully conscious sheep before slaughter, for use in making cell cultures, would upset any **ANIMAL PEOPLE** reader.

Indeed, it upset Grandin, who called **ANIMAL PEOPLE** to describe it as one of the worst things she's seen in her long career of persuading the grisliest of industries to spend money to reduce animal suffering.

## Is ASPCA ducking *foie gras*?

**NEW YORK**—Anti-*foie gras* crusader Joel Freedman, 48, is obsessed, handwriting long letters to anyone who might read them. He's been at it three years now. He believes the American SPCA should prosecute Hudson Valley Farm, of Mongaup Valley, New York, for force-feeding ducks to make *foie gras*, under a phrase of Section 353 of the New York agriculture and marketing act, which expands more precise definitions of outlawed cruelty to include "any act of cruelty to any animal, or any act tending to produce such cruelty."

Handwritten letters, in the age of word processing, are often the hallmark of a crank. Yet Freedman is a crank of accomplishment. A social worker by profession, he was

he subsequently refused to prosecute. The endeavor was badly executed. The pictures should have gone to the state attorney general as well, and had PETA chosen to coordinate their actions with us, we would have had ASPCA officers with badges and reports standing there, not just impassioned animal lovers. An attorney general is well within his powers to turn away protesters from down state or out of state to protect 'industry' in an area [but] he cannot afford to ignore a law enforcement agency."

But there was a reason why the PETA operation couldn't have been coordinated with the ASPCA. As Caras explains, "Because we are a law enforcement agency, we cannot enter someone's property without a search warrant,"

fired in 1985 by the Veterans' Administration hospital in Canadaigua, New York, for insisting that the hard, large-diameter tubes then used to feed brain-damaged patients were inhumane. He won reinstatement via court order a year later, and won vindication when hospitals everywhere, including the one where he still works, began switching to softer, smaller, but more expensive feeding tubes.

Freedman's crusade on behalf of brain-damaged but still suffering humans and his crusade on behalf of ducks are in many respects extensions of one another.

*Foie gras* is French for "fat liver." As New York avian veterinarian and licensed wildlife rehabilitator Tatty Hodge explains, "Ducks and geese raised for *foie gras* are force-fed with a hard metal or plastic pipe inserted the length of the esophagus. Food is pumped through this pipe until the birds are so full that some regurgitate. Some producers put a band around the esophagus to prevent this." Force-feeding the birds six to seven pounds of grain per day causes their livers to grow eight to twelve times their normal size in the four weeks before slaughter. Citing "tremendous irritation and trauma to the esophagus," as well as liver disease induced to produce *foie gras* of the preferred texture, Hodge believes that, "Any practice which has as its goal the production of a diseased and suffering animal is inhumane and is in violation of the New York anti-cruelty law."

Hudson Valley, formerly known as Commonwealth Enterprises, is one of just three *foie gras* producers in the United States. The others are AGY Corporation and Specialty Game Birds, also in Sullivan County, New York, and also owned by Izzy Yanay.

## Broken promise

Commonwealth a.k.a. Hudson Farms and the other *foie gras* producers became established in the U.S. on the promise that unlike their European rivals, they would not force-feed. But People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals documented force-feeding at Commonwealth in a 1991 undercover probe. The investigators reported that only male ducks and geese are force-fed; females are sorted out at hatching, and like male chickens, killed. PETA claimed the killing method was a combination of crushing and scalding. PETA also indicated that about one force-fed bird in ten dies prematurely of bursting internal organs or infected lesions caused by the insertion of the feeding pipe.

"The ASPCA is opposed to the production of *foie gras*," ASPCA president Roger Caras affirms in a formal letter to those who write to demand a prosecution. "However, current New York state law does not empower us to act."

Caras blames PETA for that situation. "In April 1992," he states, "for reasons of their own, PETA took undercover photographs to the district attorney in the area;

as PETA did, having staffers take temporary jobs at Commonwealth to gain access. "We can only obtain a search warrant if there is probable cause," Caras continued. "In other words, evidence is needed before we could present a case in court and argue that cruelty is occurring. Then we could protest that although the substance is legal, the means of obtaining it are not."

The warrantless PETA photography would have been illegal if the ASPCA had done it or authorized it.

"After failing with the local district attorney," Caras concludes, "PETA became very quiet and held the evidence for two and a half years—after which time it was no longer of any interest to a judge. Since the material was taken from what they saw at the Commonwealth enterprise, and because that business and property had been sold to new owners, there is not a shred of evidence that we could use as probable cause to obtain a warrant and investigate the property. This is frustrating to us, but if we took one step on Commonwealth property, we would have lawyers after us and an angry district attorney who would argue, 'I saw this two and a half years ago. I threw it out then and I am going to throw it out now.' With the waters muddied as they are now, our hands are temporarily tied."

And Caras claims the ASPCA is seeking legislation to ban *foie gras* production by force-feeding.

That especially irks Freedman. No such legislation was introduced in the 1995 New York legislative session. Such a bill was introduced in 1994, but ASPCA assistant general counsel Lisa Weisberg didn't mention it in her legislative alerts to membership, she told him, because of her "understanding that the bill will not be moving."

PETA senior researcher David Cantor disputes Caras' summary of the 1992 case on almost every point. "The assistant D.A. assigned to the case considered the evidence overwhelming, the case strong, and accordingly arranged for the New York State Police to raid Commonwealth and to file cruelty charges," Cantor wrote to Caras last July 31. "After arraignment, under pressure from agribusiness, the D.A. appointed a *foie gras* producer and other agribusiness representatives to evaluate the case," among them Kristen Park, a Cornell Cooperative Extension Service poultry expert who had already denounced the Commonwealth raid as "terrorism."

Continued Cantor, "The panel did not interview our undercover investigators, the veterinarians who accompanied police and signed affidavits," including Hodge, "or the New York wildlife pathologist," Mark Lerman, DVM, "who examined the ducks from Commonwealth and wrote that *foie gras* production is totally inhumane. Using the panel's self-serving, biased recommendation, the D.A. dropped the charges." However, "Because no judgement

***These ducks are not at a foie gras farm. (Robert Harrison)***

has been handed down, such a case can be tried again. At the D.A.'s request, the judge ordered the case file sealed, so the public has been denied many of the deplorable facts. We provided the attorney general with evidence against Commonwealth and asked the A.G. to prosecute. While acknowledging that legally it can reinstitute the cruelty charges, the A.G.'s office declined to do so, saying its policy is to leave such cases to local district attorneys."

## Farce?

The matter escalated on January 26, 1995, when ASPCA veterinarian Michael Krinsley visited Hudson Valley. His appointment was made far in advance. "I found the farm to be clean and well run," he reported to ASPCA chief of law enforcement Robert O'Neil. "All of the birds seen were apparently in good condition. The single bird that we brought back to the ASPCA hospital appeared to be in good condition on physical exam," albeit dead. "On autopsy, it lacked any signs of disease or physical injury associated with inhumane treatment."

But Freedman sent a copy of Krinsley's pathology report to Lerman, who wrote on June 19 that Krinsley's data actually "depicts an animal in extremis. His esophagus is so thickened, inflamed and infected from the forced feeding that he could never eat on his own. Infection has apparently spread to other parts of his body, resulting in an overwhelming toxic reaction that either killed him or resulted in his euthanasia. If these lesions were caused by a child repeatedly thrusting a stick down the throat of this duck, no one would deny that this child was guilty of torture."

Hedged Krinsley, "I want to emphatically state that by no means does [my] finding suggest my endorsement of the practice of rearing birds for *foie gras*."

In one of the more famous Monty Python's Flying Circus skits, sleazy pet shop clerk Michael Palin insists a parrot is not dead, but only depressed: "He's a Norwegian blue. He's pining for the fjords."

"Pining for the fjords?!" screams John Cleese, rapping the corpse in rigor mortis on the counter for emphasis. "This parrot is dead, deceased, shuffled off this mortal coil and gone to meet his maker. He is no more. He has ceased to exist. He is a dead parrot."

"Now you've stunned him," accuses Palin.

The difference between the skit and the ASPCA vs. PETA would seem to be that live, suffering birds are involved in the latter.

Joel Freedman isn't about to let anyone forget that.

Humane Farming Assn. (paid through 3/96)

## **Horses**

Humane Farming Assn.

See it all in  
*The Pig Picture*  
—a powerful and easily  
watchable 18-minute video,  
suitable for showing  
in any public forum—  
\$15.00, from:

The Humane Farming Association  
1550 California St., Suite C,  
San Francisco, CA 94109.

# Best Friends in Angel Canyon

(from page 1)

*Utah News*, the Kanab weekly newspaper. "If one movie company liked this incredibly scenic area, there might be others. Chaunce took aerial and backcountry pictures, assembled them into a portfolio, and headed to California to peddle Kane County to Hollywood. The boys bought the motel that now bears their name on the bend in the Kanab River," which flows through Angel Canyon and Kanab itself. "Whit Parry housed the film crews. Gron provided the film sets, props, and people."

Of all the filming locales around Kanab, Angel Canyon was perhaps most popular, hosting the making of the *Lone Ranger*, *Rin Tin Tin*, and *Six Million Dollar Man* television shows, and features including *How The West Was Won*, *Death Valley*, *Daniel Boone*, and *McKenna's Gold*. But the popularity of the canyon took a toll. Hunters killed wildlife, looters dug up Anasazi graves, vandals carved their names into cliffs, and some even shot up petroglyphs.

The Anasaz, whose name means "the ones who came before," were the first known human residents of Angel Canyon. They grew corn, squash, and beans there for almost 1,000 years before mysteriously vanishing about 100 years before the arrival of the first Spanish explorers. They were peaceful people, leaving no evidence of ever having hunted in Angel Canyon and no trace of blood sacrifice. Their presence remains manifest in sandstone caves whose entrances have been squared off to resemble benign jack o'lantern eyes overlooking some of the Best Friends pastures; a kiva, or sweatlodge site; and stone circles that were once the foundations of wigwams made to store corn, much resembling today's far larger steel corn cribs. The Anasazi also left behind the petroglyphs, showing people, animals, and symbols indicative of the sun, moon, and water, as well as tracings of their hands, but no depictions of weapons or fighting.

Even the unknown Horace who carved a cross into the rock near the mouth of the storage cave on September 15, 1916 seems to have understood that this was not a place for violence. The cross is of modest size, low on the cave wall, and Horace apparently took care to avoid damaging the marks of the Anasazi.

Hopi descendants of the Anasazi still live nearby, as do Paiute and Navajo. Shortly after Best Friends arrived in Angel Canyon, Best Friends sanctuary senior staffers Michael Mountain and Faith Maloney recall, an old Paiute medicine man came to reconsecrate it. He spent a day alone in one of the biggest caves, a traditional gathering place for

tors, too. The visitors have made Best Friends "the second biggest economic engine in Kanab," according to Mountain. But Angel Canyon is seven hours by car from Phoenix, and almost as far from Las Vegas and Salt Lake City. In absence of familiarity, rumors start.

The first rumor, Mountain laughs, began only days after Best Friends bought their first piece of the property in 1984, and promptly dismantled the old movie sets to restore the natural scenery. They didn't destroy the historic sets; rebuilt, they now stand as a tourist attraction at a new site east of Kanab. But stories began about Best Friends being some sort of Afro-American militant commune, with designs on taking over the Kanab school system.

"Among all of us, we had about five children enrolled in the schools," Mountain says. "I don't think any of us were Afro-American."

But somehow the editor of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** arrived at Best Friends with the idea that Mountain came from the Virgin Islands.

"I wish I did come from somewhere as beautifully exotic as that," Mountain mused. "I was born and raised in downtown London."

There's also the rumor that Mountain and Maloney are a couple. "That's never been true," they agree. "We've each been married, but not to each other."

## Mountain legends

Mountain is perhaps the most storied of the Best Friends. According to legend, he's a guru who took the name "Mountain" to symbolize the New Age power he gathered from the desert and used to woo his disciples, the Best Friends staff. "The key people, in terms of direction and policy of the sanctuary," Mountain admits, "are Faith, myself, Francis Battista, and John Fripp, our treasurer. Faith sets the basic direction in terms of the care of the animals, working with the other people who run the animal areas. I frame the Best Friends message, as expressed in the magazine, newsletters, and our other literature and presentations. Francis directs most of our outreach programs, which is why he's away from here quite a bit. John, as treasurer and general administrative person, keeps the wheels on track and the poop being scooped."

Best Friends staffers actually relate to Mountain more as departmental ministers to a prime minister. Mountain is the communicator who keeps everyone posted, whose typical description of colleagues is that, "She (or he) does things

**Michael Mountain. (K.B.)**

faith in humanity. Instead of racing for the rafters upon our arrival, the majority descended to meet us.

***They keep most of their animals in cages, out of sight around back.***

Sort of. The original outdoor wire pens with individual doghouses and cathouses, predating the buildings, are still in use, pending the construction of more buildings when funds permit. But the wire pens are quite visible from the cat and dog buildings. Each dog or cat in such a structure is kept in a compatible social group. The layout allows for interactive play, sleeping either alone or curled up together, and opportunity to run and jump. Shade and water are available at all times. Though the structures are nothing fancy, they are kept clean. You won't smell much poop, even on a hot day. It isn't the ideal facility, Maloney explains. Yet you won't have to visit many shelters to see worse—and to realize the high morale of the Best Friends animals. Shelter depression seems almost unknown.

## ***What of the underground arsenal?***

Previous owners of one part of the property enlarged a natural sandstone cave into a tractor shed and built a door on it. The temperature inside stays at a cool 55 degrees, all year round. Maloney finds it's the ideal place to store donations of dog and cat food. "I really work the telephones," she explains, "hustling donations of anything we can get, because we can always use it for someone. With 2,500 animal mouths to feed, money doesn't go very far." The oddest part of the arsenal rumor, Maloney continues, is that rural Utah is full of apocalyptic sects and survivalists who do have

tribal elders, now used for tourist picnics and occasional wedding ceremonies. He told Mountain and Maloney when he left that the spirits of the canyon would be with them.

Mountain and Maloney are two of the cofounders and visionaries behind Best Friends, perhaps the most mythologized of all animal sanctuaries. Everyone's heard of Best Friends, through the widely distributed *Best Friends* magazine, emphasizing good news about animals, founded in February 1993; the Best Friends tables frequently set up outside supermarkets as far away as California; and the Best Friends online service (76550.2325@Compuserve.com, and soon to debut in expanded format via the Microsoft Network). Cyrus and Anne Mejia welcome and guide thousands of visi-

her (his) own way, in her (his) own style."

That's not exactly the way of anyone who imposes anything, and indeed Mountain is more often imposed upon, as the cheerful butt of many mild jokes. The idea that Mountain spends a lot of time meditating, for instance, may reflect his ability to think out and solve practical problems, while contemplating the spider spinning webs on the sink in his used trailer home, preventing him from drawing water.

Mejia, who spends a lot of time on the road playing guitar, singing songs of his own composition, and telling stories to help raise funds for Best Friends, especially loves telling Mountain stories—like the story of the spider, whom he says Mountain hasn't disturbed in six or seven summers. Mejia introduces the closest semblance to mysticism at Best Friends in his own imagining that small birds rustling leaves are not only the ghost deer, who in legend lead hunters away from their quarry in Angel Canyon, but also do it on purpose.

As to the name Mountain, explains Mountain, "My parents were Alex and Dolly Mountain, and my grandparents were Mountains. At some point, back when their forebears came to England from Eastern Europe, they translated their Estonian Mountain, *Hochberg* or *Huberg* or something like that, as in 'iceberg,' an ice mountain, my grandma used to tell me, to an English Mountain. But all the Mountains I grew up with were born Mountains."

#### ***What about the secret mansion?***

It isn't any secret, and it isn't a mansion. It's the newer of the two Best Friends office sites, with huge solar windows in the lunch room—not anyone's drawing room—overlooking the major Anasazi settlements. It includes two kitchens, a lavatory, modest living quarters for some of the staff, and of course office space, arranged around a semi-courtyard, so that it looks much bigger from below than it actually is.

#### ***What about drugs?***

They drink coffee, all right, and even tea.

#### ***What about the cathouse and the teenaged slaves?***

There were two teenagers among the crew of 40-odd people on site during the two days **ANIMAL PEOPLE** visited. One, sure enough, was a volunteer cat-handler. The other got up at dawn to spend the next several hours with the pigeons. Neither one seemed to have or need direct supervision. The cathouse, by the way, is called Benson's House, after Benson, a big grey tom, one of the more renowned of Best Friends' menagerie. Each of the three spacious wings of Benson's House holds numerous special-case cats: adoptables up front, injury cases in a more secluded area. Many of the latter were tortured by abusive people before rescuers brought them to Best Friends. Some have only three legs, some are missing ears, and some have lost eyes. Most, however, are affectionate. Their treatment at Best Friends has restored their

arsenals. Many of Best Friends' quizzical neighbors have arsenals. But most of the Best Friends crew, including Maloney, have never so much as held a gun.

#### ***How about their high-tech surveillance system?***

Best Friends doesn't like to discourage this rumor. They've chased a fair number of poachers away in the middle of the night. *Best Friends* magazine editor Steve Hirano admits to running the war room. "I work at night a lot," Hirano grins, "and from up here on the cliff, you can see jacklighting from pretty far away."

Hirano, in myth, is Best Friends' ninja. He confesses to some electronic virtuosity.

However, testifies Mountain, "Steven can hear one hand clapping. There are always odd stories circulating," Mountain continues. "They're pretty harmless, and there's a simple pattern to them. Depending on what's current in the news, there's likely to be an associated rumor about Best Friends. During the Reagan years, when Nicaragua was front and center, there was a story going around that we were actually a cover for training attack dogs for the CIA to send down to Central America. After the movie *In The Line of Fire* came out last year, there was another, that the star, Clint Eastwood, spends his weekends hiding out here. The director and the producer of the movie and most of the actors are members," Mountain confirms, "with the exception of Eastwood," who was, however, in Angel Canyon for the making of *The Outlaw Josie Wales*.

"For several months, a few years ago, when there were some scandals around Utah about Mormon cults conducting Satanic rituals, someone started a rumor about Best Friends keeping animals here for Satanic sacrifice," Mountain adds. "What the rumors have in common is that some people just cannot believe that there are other people who believe that animals they don't want are worth taking care of. So Best Friends can't really be an animal sanctuary—we have to be about something else. To the best of my knowledge, there's nothing malicious about any of it."

## ***Foundation Faith***

The pattern of animal protection organizations is that passionately concerned people join in common cause, start a group, build it up, then splinter into factions, which often become the nucleus of new groups.

But the best friends who founded Best Friends became best friends long ago, came together gradually, and are still making room for others, in an organization that values initiative and autonomy.

"I first met Faith when I dropped out of Oxford University in 1967," Mountain recalls. "She was an artist, living in London." Mountain had already hawked anti-vivisection literature on the streets in Germany, but neither

(continued on page 9)

# *By their works you shall know them*

Mountain nor Maloney anticipated anything like their future.

"While traveling in the U.S. in 1968, I met Francis Battista in New York," Mountain adds. Battista directs the Best Friends' outreach programs, including tabling at supermarkets and arranging animal adoptions through PetsSmart stores. "I also first met Cyrus Mejia in New Orleans at about that time." Mejia was a shipyard welder, looking for something to do more in keeping with his creative spirit—though he still welds, for instance to help build the cat facilities. "I met our computer person Steve Hirano then, too, in Los Angeles. In the early 1970s, a group of us including Faith, our treasurer John Fipp, and Francis, formed the Foundation Faith, which was a relatively loose association of people involved in work with children, the elderly, drug rehab, and other local programs in various cities. Francis, for example, ran a program in Miami, Florida, which included pound rescue and adoption. Fipp ran a community center in New York. Other members of the Foundation Faith, whose membership never exceeded 150 people, became involved in the Clown Ministry, which visited terminally ill children in hospitals. Cyrus and Anne ran such a program in Denver, and Nathania Gartman," now the Best Friends education director, "was running a Clown Ministry in Las Vegas until about 1991."

"By the late 1970s, it was clear to many of us that our various life experiences led to the same conclusion: we cared about the needs of animals more than anything else, and we had observed that people who are kind to animals tend to be kind and decent people generally."

## *In the beginning*

However, Mountain explains, "Only a few of the people who were active in the work of the Foundation Faith—most of the founders, and a few others—were truly interested in developing the work with the animals as a primary activity. So it became evident that the organization could not continue in its existing form. The Foundation Faith was incorporated as a religious organization. Although it had no denomination—Faith's Catholic, I'm Jewish, John's Anglican, and Steven studied Zen Buddhism—we have always recognized the value of following the Golden Rule, which is taught in all religions. But once Best Friends became an organization in its own right, raising its own funds and developing its own membership, it was also important that it be treated by the IRS as a regular nonprofit. Religious organizations don't, for example, file Form 990s, and have other privileges—which are often totally undeserved,"

Prior to that, she was involved in other animal work around the country, and had done animal rescue in Pennsylvania."

The nucleus of the animal care staff formed at the Prescott facility. Diana Castle, the Best Friends cat coordinator, assumed that job "in about 1980," Mountain believes. "She would adopt the most unadoptable cats from the Prescott Humane Society and take them back to the ranch."

Rabbit coordinator Chandra Forsythe, originally from Toronto, "worked at the ranch in Arizona and came to Angel Canyon in about 1986, helping to build Best Friends in several different capacities."

The relocation to Kanab, like everything else about Best Friends, evolved gradually. Outgrowing the Prescott site, Best Friends needed to move. The leadership scouted potential new locations throughout the west. They visited and rejected Angel Canyon several times, but kept coming back to it, until finally they had to settle somewhere and everywhere else had been somehow eliminated. At the time, Mountain and Maloney agree, they thought Angel Canyon might be too big. But Best Friends' capacity for expansion was soon reached again. Taking local animal control contracts, since relinquished, multiplied the number of animals in custody, since Best Friends does not euthanize healthy animals, yet the opportunities for adoption in such a remote place are few. Reluctantly, they realized they would have to reorient the sanctuary to emphasize care-for-life, for animals genuinely requiring lifetime care, to stay within their capacity for providing quality service.

Water imposed further limits. Angel Canyon is part of the watershed serving Kanab. No more buildings can be built pending the result of ongoing negotiations over how much water the sanctuary is permitted to use. Best Friends continues to add people and programs, but most of the staff now live in town, and the newer programs emphasize education and outreach.

Ironically, water was one thing the Prescott site had in abundance. Best Friends hasn't been able to sell it, despite years of trying, because of flood damage.

## *Gabriel's on the horn*

In addition to Mountain, Maloney, Hirano, Fripp, and Battista, members of the Best Friends board of directors include corporation secretary Celeste Fripp, John's wife; coordinator of special events Gregory Castle, husband of Diana Castle; architect and maintenance coordinator Paul Eckhoff, whose wife Magdalen runs the Best Friends vege-

*Cyrus Mejia, tour guide and storyteller. (K.B.)*

## *Minimum wage*

Decision-makers at many animal-related charities insist they can't attract top people without paying six-figure salaries, but Best Friends has no trouble finding the people they need at minimum wage. In fact, qualified people find them. For instance, as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, Mountain prepared for the arrival of Don and Fina Bruce. "Don was editor of the day desk at Long Island *Newsday*," Mountain said. "Fina was public relations director for various nonprofits on Long Island. Their association with Best Friends dates back three years now, when they first picked up some Best Friends literature at one of our tables in Las Vegas, where they were vacationing. The next year they spent their summer vacation here at the sanctuary, and the next year, and the next year." Eventually the *Newsday* parent firm decided to merge the New York City *Newsday* with the Long

Mountain adds.

"I still give the Golden Rule a regular plug in editorials," he notes, "because 'Do as you would be done by' really is the foundation of what we do. And it's how we all remain good friends. It really does work."

Otherwise, religion is if anything less in evidence at Best Friends than at many other shelters and sanctuaries. The only visible shrines and symbols are those left by the Anasazi, and even those tend to be somewhat hidden, around the back sides of rocks, or behind tall brush.

Best Friends now owns several hundred acres, leasing more, but it started on a more modest scale. "Faith began building the sanctuary at a small ranch we had outside of Prescott, Arizona," Mountain recounts, "in about 1979.

tarian cafe in Kanab; and Gabriel de Peyer.

"Gabriel and his wife take care of about 60 of the animals," Mountain says, "and he does the telephone part of our new member solicitation and membership renewal. If you ever sign up at a Best Friends table, and you include your phone number, expect a call from Gabriel."

Key additions to the animal care staff include horse coordinator Amber Gleeson and Feathered Friends coordinator Sharon St. Joan. "Amber comes from a horse family in Georgia," Mountain says. "She worked in a public relations company in Dallas, and then took part in the clown work in children's hospitals. We then invited her to come and be the horse person at Best Friends, and she's been here since 1991." St. Joan is a former librarian and occasional volunteer for the San Antonio-area sanctuary Primarily Primates. "At some point she discovered she had a healing touch," Mountain explains, "and spent a couple of years traveling in the eastern states, working in churches and on TV programs, praying for sick people and visiting the sick in hospitals. She is also an artist and sculptor, which helped provide for her to continue her healing work, for which she did not charge." Now a licensed wildlife rehabilitator, handling every avian species from large hawks to small doves, St. Joan "came to Best Friends in 1992, after living in Phoenix, where she began her work with birds."

Among the senior office staff are receptionist Jonna Wiemayer; mail room person Mariko Hirano (Steve's wife); Estelle Gartenlaub, who answers information requests; animal care referral person Kate Willer; Joy Moffat, who according to Mountain "counsels people with the telephone in one hand while entering the daily donations with the other"; and computer person Peter Dillman.

Claire Ives sells advertising for the bubbly *Best Friends* magazine. "People would give us money but say, 'Don't send any literature, because I can't stand to read about cruelty,'" Mountain explains. "So we decided to publish a magazine they would read."

Island edition. Don Fina accepted a severance package, and the Finas are now joining Best Friends to help put together and run the Microsoft Network project.

Two of Maloney's adult children now work at Best Friends, her oldest daughter Carragh as a truck driver and dog care person and her son David as a veterinary assistant. Her middle daughter Eve is a Seabee in the U.S. Navy, recently stationed in Antarctica and soon scheduled to return there as a civilian staffer with a research team. "My children can go in their own direction," Maloney says, "and they have, but two of them have decided they like the way of life here, at least for now. But the desert life isn't for everybody. Though Antarctica is a bit of an extreme difference."

The best testimony to the success of Best Friends may come from the seven hundred or more resident dogs. Already, at sunrise, their din echoes off the canyon walls, audible three miles away. As they settle down, a lone coyote howls from farther up the canyon, setting them off again. But the dogs are not barking at a coyote for want of anything else to do. A visit to the dog site finds a canine city; the hubbub is the dog equivalent of the wave of sound one hears upon approaching any crowded urban area from the countryside.

There are three classes of dog at Best Friends: those considered most adoptable, kept in big runs, radiating out from huge round doghouses; the special cases, kept in smaller runs, like a matched trio of Malamutes inherited from a man whose will was that they should not be separated; and the dogs who run the place, led by the mayor, a huge Malamute, with a much smaller peripatetic wife. The latter dogs roam free. They could run off, but they don't. Each dog has his or her own invisibly delineated lounging territory, some including elaborate self-constructed dugouts. Each dog escorts the mayor and wife for a prescribed distance on a ceremonial inspection. Each "changes the guard" with another dog at a territorial boundary.

The longer one looks, the more orderly the chaos seems.

—Merritt Clifton

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(through January 1996)

# Wild horse story (from page one)

the media blitz and effort made to get people interested in these older animals...The strategy for the closure of the sanctuary does not seem to be working. Lilly is concerned that we are going to have people hurt seriously if we continue to try to adopt the old and mean geldings. She proposes that we return all the geldings to BLM land in Horse Management Areas that are under capacity. After the initial cost, this would free up mucho dolares that currently go to the contractors at the sanctuary, to be used in managing our basic horse and burro program."

Returning the horses to the range would outrage ranchers and their friends in Congress, but selling them other than through the adoption procedure would both break the law and outrage the public.

## No help in sight

Ignoring the budget crunch, the American Wild Horse and Burro Alliance promised sensational revelations in announcing a September 19 press conference. "Evidence will be provided," media were told, about "Funneling horses through an internal pipeline for disposal at slaughtering plants, creating large monetary profits for select individuals," and "manipulation of field data for the purpose of drastically reducing wild horse and burro populations."

Further, the invitations charged, "several law enforcement agents of the BLM were removed from a grand jury investigation in Del Rio, Texas," convened to probe "what appeared to be a striking disclosure of longstanding corruption within the BLM. Some officers have been forced into retirement. Others had to transfer to faraway locations, disrupting family life, and one commutes more than 500 miles to work. One officer in the Del Rio investigation had been targeted by his own agency superior to use lethal force upon him if necessary," the invitation continued with syntax more breathless

some law enforcement agents and some U.S. attorneys that feel like those horses can't go to slaughter at all, ever, the way the law is written,' said Mr. Sederwall."

The basis for that belief is an October 1988 federal court ruling which forbade the BLM from adopting out horses to brokers for rodeos and slaughterhouses. Wild horses may be claimed from the BLM for \$125, or as little as \$25 if deemed officially unadoptable, Sederwall told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, but slaughterhouses pay as much as \$1,000 per horse.

Eight of the nine horses seized in Fort Worth had been adopted out less than six weeks earlier to two residents of Albertville, Alabama, who share the same surname and address. By law, adoptors must keep BLM horses for at least one year.

Sederwall is now on a self-requested medical leave of absence. "They were driving me crazy with all the transfers I had to go through," he told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Brenna, who didn't return repeated telephone messages, is in Oklahoma. Fryer has moved to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Steele, the agent commuting 500 miles on weekends to see his family, has been reassigned to Reno, Nevada, where the government is trying to find out who bombed the BLM office in Reno last year, the Forest Service office in Carson City in March, and a car outside a Forest Service official's home on August 4. Calls failed to reach either Steele or Tunnell, who took time off work to go elk hunting shortly after the Albuquerque press conference.

None of the BLM agents are reported to have said much at the press conference. As Sederwall explained to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, "I can't talk to you about the grand jury material. I can tell you that I was a grand jury investigator. I started getting really close to something, and I was taken off the case. Same with the other agents. We have boxes of evidence, but

reassignment of the case to the Office of the Chief of Law Enforcement of the BLM. Efforts to further investigate have been swept under the carpet.

"This investigation," Sussman charged, "has also caused concerned and outspoken BLM investigators to be victimized by removals, forced retirements, and involuntary relocations."

Listed at the bottom of Sussman's statement as apparent co-signers were Ed Sayres, director of the Animal Protection Division of the American Humane Association; Barbara Flores, Colorado representative for the American Mustang & Burro Association; Nancy Whitaker of the Animal Protection Institute; D.J. Schubert of the Fund for Animals; Donna Ewing, president of the Hooved Animal Humane Society; Dennis White, southwestern regional office director for the Humane Society of the U.S.; James Noe, director of the Gulf States regional office for HSUS; Deborah

—K.B.

investigative reporter—cofounder of the Native American Press Service, and the first Native American newscaster in a top-20 market, for the CBS affiliate in Seattle. She was especially noted for her reports from the field during the 1973 Native American uprising at Wounded Knee, South Dakota—and for her exposés of corruption within the Bureau of Indian Affairs, BLM, and other branches of the Department of the Interior. The Jimmy Carter administration recruited her into the BIA as a high-profile gesture toward reform.

Eighteen frustrating years later, in February 1995, budget cuts at the BIA bounced Chittin over to the BLM.

"No one is more interested than the BLM in getting to the bottom of allegations of corruption," Chittin told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "But we didn't have any idea what this was about. The BLM has bent over backwards to help these agents and the grand jury investigation," which is being conducted under Del Rio assistant U.S. attorney Alia

than precise. "Many of these agents will be coming to this conference to give facts about ongoing corruption in the Wild Horse and Burro program."

Indeed, BLM agents did come, identified to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** as Steve Sederwall, John Brenna, John Fryer, Pete Steele, and Dale Tunnell.

On December 22, 1994, acting on a tip from the Beltex company, Sederwall rescued nine horses from the Beltex slaughterhouse at Fort Worth, Texas. Wrote Lee Hancock of the *Dallas Morning News*, "The seizure was made as the bureau's adopt-a-horse program faces scrutiny by a federal grand jury in Del Rio, Texas. At issue is a longstanding bureau policy of refusing responsibility for the welfare of adopted horses after issuing ownership titles—even if the animals are sent to slaughter. Steve Sederwall, a BLM investigator, said the seizure was prompted by concern that the agency may be violating federal law by waiving responsibility for adoptees. 'We've got

nobody has ever asked us for it. We've been ordered by our supervisor not to talk to the FBI or the press or anyone. We're pretty much gagged. We've been gagged ever since this grand jury was called. It's been this way for a year and a half. The grand jury won't call us to testify, and meanwhile we can't talk to anyone else.'

Elaboration came instead in a prepared statement by Karen Sussman, president of the International Society for the Protection of Mustangs & Burros.

"In August of 1992," Sussman said, "agents of the BLM uncovered evidence of an alleged massive cover-up of violations of federal law and significant mismanagement of the Wild Horse and Burro program. In February of 1995, high-level officials of the BLM, U.S. Department of the Interior's Solicitor's Office, and U.S. Department of Justice met in San Antonio, Texas, to discuss the investigation. The result of this meeting was the removal of the original investigators from the case and the

Ellsworth, a member of the Redwings Horse Sanctuary board of directors; and Elisabeth Jennings, executive director for Sangre de Cristo Animal Protection, Inc.

According to Sussman, most had not actually investigated the charges. They were invited, she said, for their potential to help get action, and agreed to be co-signers after a two-day briefing that preceded the press conference.

## Involuntary relocation

Just before Sussman read her statement, BLM spokesperson Tanna Chattin was "shoved screaming from the room," as Martha Mendoza of Associated Press put it, while Lynn Engdahl of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, with Chattin, left voluntarily.

"We asked them politely to leave," Sussman said. "They were trying to tape-record the press conference. We asked them to wait outside. They refused." Jennings and Ewing took a copy of the press packet from Chattin. She grabbed another packet. They tried to take that. "All that happened then was that Chattin bent down and screamed," Sussman claimed. "We thought they were there to disrupt us, and that's what they did."

"You're damned right I screamed," said Chattin. "I was trying to get the attention of our cops. I recognized some of them. It looked like these women were going to take my tape recorder, and I hoped some of our cops would help me. I've never been in a situation like this," she added.

Indeed it is customary to allow representatives of opposing views to attend press conferences, and even to announce at such gatherings the times and locations of their own press conferences, as Chattin said she had hoped to do. It is also customary to share printed materials with the spokespersons who may be asked to respond to them. Chattin didn't get copies until **ANIMAL PEOPLE** faxed them to her, a full week later, so that she could answer questions.

Both Jennings and Ewing were booked for assault.

Chattin was not just any public relations officer. Under her maiden name, Tanna Beebe, she was a nationally respected

Ludlum. Ludlum didn't return repeated telephone calls from **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Nor did she respond to Chattin, or apparently, the *Los Angeles Times*.

"We supplied Ludlum with investigators for a good long while," Chattin continued. "While they were helping her, their regular duties took a back seat, and work piled up. We couldn't leave them on special assignment forever. We've had to make a lot of accommodations. The only law enforcement person left here in New Mexico is the special agent in charge. We had ten employees here, and now we have four. And we have desks on top of desks because we're trying to rent out half our space."

According to Chattin, the agents at the Albuquerque press conference had been transferred repeatedly not to get rid of them, but to keep them, by moving them to fill whatever openings occurred elsewhere, instead of having to lay them off.

## Cases

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** investigated the allegations of corruption and a cover-up in the BLM horse adoption program as best we could with none of the purported key witnesses talking and none of the many wild horse experts we know having any idea just what they had hinted at.

We did learn that even as we spoke to Animal Rights Mobilization president Robin Duxbury, between her shifts as a grocery checker at a job she took to make her former salary available to help finance investigations, ARM volunteers Toni and Don Moore were in Sandwash, Colorado, to document and bring attention to the participation of one Dave Couture in the roundup of 237 wild horses for the BLM at \$77 apiece. Where the bigger, richer activist groups were was anyone's guess. According to Sussman, who was aware of the Sandwash roundup, Couture and three of his wranglers were convicted in 1993 in Las Vegas of illegally selling BLM horses to rodeos.

Most specific incidents we were told about turned out to have occurred in connection with a series of scandals that broke between 1984, when the BLM introduced a "fee waiver" system for placing unadoptable

# An oily alleged horse scam

(continued from page 10)

horses, and 1989, when that system was abolished after a 9th Circuit Court of Appeals decision excluded horsemeat brokers and rodeo suppliers from using it. In the interim, dealers took advantage of fee-waivers to send as many as 17,000 wild horses to slaughter.

One other recent case was mentioned. Sederwall said he was witness to a summer 1994 incident at Fort Stockton, Texas, where a herd of horses was advertised for Saturday adoption, but instead, "The BLM tried to move those horses out on Friday night," purportedly because someone else wanted to buy them for slaughter.

Without being asked about that incident, and without being told of anything like it, Chattin described similar situations, where horses are moved, she said, to protect them from theft by killer-buyers and others, who turn up at auction sites trying to get horses without meeting the requisite conditions. Those conditions are stipulated in BLM brochures. They include specifications for trailers, stalls, stables, and corrals.

Sederwall also said the killer-buyers "just changed their modus operandi," when fee-waivers were halted. "The caper now," he said, "is that instead of the fee-waiver deal, whole herds will be classified as unadoptable, and then it's the same thing."

Acknowledged Chattin, "We may have some corrupt individuals within the BLM. We're still a big agency." She cited "some impropriety with a temporary wrangler" not long ago, who was fired, but was not prosecuted, "because at most he got \$1,500 for the horses he sold, and our threshold for criminal prosecution is a loss of \$25,000. Maybe it should be lower," she admitted, "but because we don't have the people to investigate and prosecute every case, we have to set priorities. But most of our people are not corrupt," she hastened to add. "We don't want those corrupt people because they give all of us a bad name. They give me a bad name. They make people

bracket as the whistleblower—born circa 1930—and is similarly described by acquaintances. That Reed Smith has quite a history of alleged persecution by government as a self-proclaimed "seeker-after-truth." His known record begins with diary excerpts purportedly written in 1963, published in 1979 by *The Phoenix*, the journal of conscientious objection that in 1938 became the first U.S. publisher of the late Henry Miller. In the excerpts, a mention of protracted court proceedings in connection with a messy divorce evolves into hints that both the divorce and a bankruptcy resulted because Smith started a bookstore with money borrowed from his elderly parents, and tried to sell Miller's then-banned opus *Tropic of Cancer*. Smith intimates that he lost the bookstore due to the cost of taking the case to the Supreme Court. *Tropic of Cancer* was subject of a landmark 1961 Supreme Court verdict for press freedom, but Smith offered no verifiable specifics, and published accounts of the case don't mention him.

Thereafter, according to the diary, Smith lived on a small government disability pension, sharing a room with two shoplifters. How he got the pension, he didn't say.

By 1977, the date of the last *Phoenix* diary entry, he had apparently come into money, from an unstipulated source; married his ailing mother's nurse, an illegal alien with whom he had no actual marital relationship, to bring her into the U.S.; and ceased to file tax returns circa 1975, which he represented as an act of opposition to war. In passing, Smith blamed the Jewish victims of the Nazi Holocaust for allegedly bringing on their own fate by obeying government.

Paradoxically, if Reed Smith the whistleblower and Reed Smith the self-appointed Diogenes are indeed the same, he traded his disability pension for a BLM job on September 29, 1974, expressly in pursuit—he said—of a 20-year pension. ANIMAL PEOPLE editor Merritt Clifton, then

## Mr. Smith goes to Washington

Reed Smith the diarist left little paper trail after the Auschwitz lawsuit. His last known addresses were in southern California. Reed Smith the whistleblower says he never worked in California, but did serve the BLM in New Mexico, Alaska, Wyoming, and Washington D.C., where he spent eight years. BLM sources indicate that the whistleblowing Smith came to Washington D.C. from the west during the Ronald Reagan administration, and enjoyed a rising career until the arrival of the Bill Clinton administration meant the exit of well-placed Republican appointees. Reputedly owning a home in Montana, Smith was transferred, apparently unhappily, to New Mexico, where the BLM made him deputy state director for resource planning, use, and protection. He began blowing the whistle on alleged corruption almost immediately. He may have been genuinely disturbed by corruption. He may also have been aware that federal whistleblower protection law provides significant compensation to anyone who can prove that a transfer, demotion, firing, leave, or forced retirement is retaliatory.

"I have been in almost every office in the Bureau on various program reviews," Smith told the American Wild Horse & Burro Alliance, "including management control reviews, looking for waste, fraud, and abuse. Hence I may be able to provide information as to where to look and how to look. My documents, taped recordings of conversations with Bureau officials, meeting notes, log books, etc., related to the Wild Horse Program have been subpoenaed and have been provided to the U.S. attorney in Del Rio, Texas, for the Grand Jury. However, I have copies and can make them available to the committee. The abuses and violations go far beyond the Wild Horse and Burro program

—K.B.  
unsuccessfully for a criminal investigation.

Soon afterward, Kurtz continued, "Tunnell, an aggressive cop with a solid investigative background, was demoted to a non-law enforcement job and reassigned to the BLM office in Las Cruces. In December of 1992, Reed Smith asked Tunnell to put together a civil case against Meridan, to determine if any of the reporting violations had been 'knowing and willful.' Smith also tried repeatedly to get Larry Woodward more interested in the case."

But Woodward retired in 1993. Then, according to Kurtz, "Armed with Tunnell's civil case against Meridan, which recommended that the company be fined up to \$5 million on top of the royalties owed, Reed Smith and some of his colleagues went to the Interior Department's solicitor in Santa Fe. They presented the Meridan case and asked whether the BLM could seek civil penalties." Smith and another witness told Kurtz that solicitor Arthur Arguedas told them the applicable law was too weak to be enforced. Arguedas, on the other hand, told Kurtz that their discussion didn't even specifically address the Meridan case.

Smith then took the case to BLM deputy minister for energy and mineral resources Dan Sokolski, in Washington

think I'm a spy and a disrupter. I can't ask any of these people in the grand jury investigation to tell me anything they shouldn't, and would get in trouble for," she added, "but I would like to know the truth about all this just as much as you do."

No one provided written documentation of any wrongdoing that wasn't already on the public record. The December 1994 Fort Worth raid has apparently led to another grand jury investigation, in Mississippi, but it apparently involves the same relatively low-level traffic, by—as best we can determine—a handful of renegades.

## **Reed Smith**

The only written documentation Sussman offered of the alleged cover-up was a letter from retired BLM staffer Reed Smith. Most BLM wild horse program sources to whom we spoke didn't recognize his name. He apparently wasn't involved with wild horses for long, if ever.

But the name Reed Smith was familiar to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

There are several Reed Smiths with whom the ex-BLM Reed Smith might be confused, among them Lieutenant Reed Smith, pollution response coordinator for the California Department of Fish and Game; attorney J. Reed Smith of San Diego, California; J. Read Smith, vice president of the Washington Association of Conservation Districts; and attorney W. Reed Smith, of Metairie, Louisiana.

But only one Reed Smith with a wide paper trail seems to be in the same age

editor of the alternative journal *Samisdat*, recalls rejecting one of Smith's anti-government essays in 1976; his cover letter mentioned the BLM job. Smith subsequently corresponded briefly with *Samisdat* assistant editor P.J. Kemp, now an **ANIMAL PEOPLE** book reviewer, who wanted to know how Smith reconciled his job with his opinions.

Circa 1980, this Reed Smith commenced *Smith's Journal*, an autobiography in tabloid newspaper format, taking up where the *Phoenix* excerpts ended. He still banged the drums for tax resistance, now in cacaphonous concert with the anti-property tax movement led by the late Howard Jarvis and his sidekick Bill Wewer—the same Wewer who went on to incorporate the Doris Day Animal League in 1987 and the anti-animal rights group Putting People First in 1990. Smith now insisted that the Nazis never tried to kill Jews, that there weren't even gas chambers at Auschwitz, that the death toll was "only" 1.6 million, not six million plus, that they died from typhus, and that the whole Holocaust story was an elaborate hoax concocted to rationalize Allied bombing and the creation of Israel. Eventually this Reed Smith posted a reward for anyone who could testify to the existence of gas chambers at Auschwitz from personal knowledge, accused Holocaust survivors of lying, refused to pay up, and was successfully sued.

*Phoenix* editor/publisher James Cooney, who died in 1984, told Clifton, a longtime chess partner, that publishing Smith was his biggest mistake.

and, in fact, permeate the entire agency."

Yet the one supporting document Smith seems to have supplied to Sussman is a two-and-a-half-page memo to himself dated March 21, 1994, in which he extensively describes only his own alleged persecution by the BLM, with reference to purported simultaneous persecution of Dale Tunnell, former New Mexico deputy state director for BLM law enforcement. There is no mention in the memo of horses, nor of any other specific BLM program.

## **Oil & gas**

However, Smith's claims resonate with allegations published by Josh Kurtz of the weekly *Santa Fe Reporter*, in the edition of October 19-25, 1994. Based on Smith's information, Kurtz charged that Meridan Oil Inc., "the nation's largest independent oil and gas company, has been pumping tens of millions of dollars' worth of oil and gas from the New Mexico earth without paying the required taxes and royalties. Authorities from Santa Fe to Washington have thus far refused to pursue either criminal or civil charges."

Smith, Kurtz' only named source, turned up 40 paragraphs into the article. In May 1992, Kurtz wrote, then-New Mexico BLM director Larry Woodard convened a meeting to decide what to do about evidence that Meridan had underpaid royalties by \$23 million. Smith and Tunnell were among the 15 people present. Smith said he pushed

D.C., who kicked it back to Woodward's successor, Bill Calkins. Calkins, wrote Kurtz, did nothing for several months, then pressured Smith into retirement.

Indeed, Smith retired on September 29, 1994, the day he got his 20 years in. As a contact address, he left the BLM only a Montana post office box.

Kurtz did try to get the other side of Smith's story, but he wasn't successful. Among those who refused Kurtz' interview requests were Sokolski; Woodward; Manuel Lujan, Secretary of the Interior, 1989-1993; and various Meridan officials. Some claimed they couldn't talk because the Meridan investigation was still underway.

Perhaps there was something seriously questionable in the BLM dealings with Meridan. But Smith's history, if indeed he is the same Reed Smith who "pursued truth" in the preceding several decades, doesn't bolster confidence in the accusations.

And whatever happened involving oil and gas leasing, it doesn't seem to have had a thing to do with horses.

Clara Landau (Nov. & Dec.)

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# Dolphins sold out

(from page one)

they claim to have killed "only" 3,400 dolphins last year. Reduced demand for tuna has had much to do with this. Of the 88 tuna boats once based at Ensenada, Mexico, 70 did not pursue tuna this year, while about 4,000 Mexican tuna workers have been laid off since 1990.

The official dolphin toll is also suspect, since only about 3% of all foreign-flagged vessels carry independent observers. Only last year, Alison Smith of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society charged after an on-site probe that Peru alone kills 20,000 dolphins a year—on purpose, because dolphin meat has become profitable since Genoese immigrants made it fashionable about 20 years ago. A United Nations study issued in January 1994 confirmed that Peruvian tuna boats killed 17,000 dolphins in 1993, up from 10,000 in 1992. Add to that the bycatch from Peru's \$1.1 billion-a-year fish meal industry, which annually nets 11 million tonnes of anchovies and sardines from dolphin feeding areas.

Peru has a dolphin protection law, on paper, but enforcement has been ignored for years while the government concentrated on reigning in inflation and putting down the Shining Path guerilla insurrection. In absence of governmental action, the activist group Crusade for Life has posted billboards urging an end to dolphin-eating.

Peru is not the only place where open slaughter continues. In July 1994, according to Earth Island Institute, a former U.S. tuna boat named the *Nicole K.*, reflagged as the *Jane Elizabeth* out of Vanuatu, netted and drowned 546 dolphins in just three hours. The captain was a U.S. citizen.

"Since March 1, 1994" an Earth Island press release reminded, "under provisions of the International Dolphin Conservation Act of 1992, it has been illegal for U.S. citizens to work on foreign tuna vessels that kill dolphins. Six days before the law took effect, lawyers representing four U.S. tuna boat captains commanding foreign vessels filed suit," seeking to stop enforcement. "Earth Island intervened on the side of the government," which won the case but then failed to move against "more than 30 U.S. captains who continue to kill dolphins while sailing on foreign tuna vessels," whose names Earth Island provided to NMFS, along with the names of their vessels.

## Why?

Greenpeace, the National Wildlife Federation, the

## How?

Dolphins are killed in tuna fishing because in the eastern Pacific, where the coveted yellowfin tuna live, tuna and dolphins often swim together. Spotting air-breathing dolphins at the surface, tuna fleets surround the pod with deep seine nets, then haul tuna and dolphins in together. Some dolphins leap out. Others catch their bills in the netting and drown, or are crushed in the winches used to reel up the net.

Apart from the individual suffering that results, netting tuna on dolphin heavily impacts several dolphin species. Earth Island Institute biologist Todd Steiner reported in 1987 that 82.5% of the spotted dolphins killed in tuna nets and 82.8% of the spinner dolphins killed were either pregnant or nursing mothers and calves. Pregnant and infant dolphins are less able to leap clear; mothers refuse to leave their babies.

The Center for Marine Conservation estimated that tuna-netting killed 423,000 dolphins worldwide in 1972, when the Marine Mammal Protection Act sought, among other goals, to lower the toll toward zero. The tuna industry claimed the total was only 134,000. At that point, U.S. boats caught 88% of the global tuna catch. Much of the U.S. fleet moved abroad. By 1988, 70% of the fleet was foreign-flagged. Longline tuna fishing, the former norm, was replaced by netting to such an extent that by 1985, Steiner said, 94% of the global catch came on dolphin.

Meanwhile, trying to keep fishing jobs in the U.S., Congress in 1981 amended the MMPA to set an allowable quota for dolphin kills during tuna netting of 20,500.

*Whitesided dolphin: killed most often in tuna nets. (Photo by Kim Bartlett.)*

## Sam LaBudde

Naming the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society as a participant, as well as Greenpeace *et al.*, LaBudde and Earth Island Institute president David Phillips charged in a release issued soon after the Treaty of Panama was reached that, "The proposal may sound like a worthy compromise, but it is not. It is a sellout," because it "permits an expanded slaughter of dolphins by U.S. tuna fishers just as U.S. killing of dolphins has been eliminated entirely. It allows U.S. tuna vessels to return to dolphin-killing in the eastern tropical Pacific, and even allows the killing of dolphin species listed as depleted. It would strip strict dolphin protection requirements and leave all enforcement to the InterAmerican Tropical Tuna Commission, which has an abysmal record of dealing properly with violations. The deal allows mis-labeling of tuna products—a form of consumer fraud—and would put in place an absolutely unenforceable system for determining which tuna is dolphin-safe. The deal puts the sponsoring organizations on record endorsing the deadly practice of setting nets on dolphins as a method of catching tuna."

Representatives Joseph Biden (D-Del.), Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), George Miller (D-Calif.), and Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) echoed LaBudde and Phillips in a joint statement asking Clinton to reject the Declaration of Panama. They warned that the treaty would put Star-Kist, the last U.S.-owned tuna company, at a competitive disadvantage if it continues to maintain its current "dolphin-safe" policy.

Center for Marine Conservation, the Environmental Defense Fund, and the World Wildlife Fund said little about the Declaration of Panama in the days after the signing, but reportedly rationalized their part in it with the claim that Congress might repeal dolphin protection entirely if a compromise satisfactory to the tuna industry wasn't reached. The House Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans had scheduled an October 26 hearing on a bill to repeal dolphin protection, HR 2179, titled the "International Dolphin Conservation Act Amendments of 1995." It was cancelled when the Declaration of Panama was signed.

Thirty-six environmental and animal protection groups on September 26 asked President Clinton to veto HR 2179, if it reaches his desk. Introduced by Representative Randy Duke Cunningham, a Republican from Escondido, California, with reputed close ties to both the tuna industry and the "wise use" movement, HR 2179 would according to Earth Island Institute, "allow foreign countries to flood the U.S. market with tuna caught on dolphin," and would "set an international dolphin death quota at 55,000 a year," enabling a return to netting on dolphin as standard procedure.

The Greenpeace and WWF positions appear similar to their posture during brokerage of the creation of the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary at the 1994 meeting of the International Whaling Commission, when in effect they traded acceptance of the principle that commercial whaling should resume for the protection—on paper—of the habitat occupied by about 80% of the world's baleen whales an estimated 90% of the time. Greenpeace internal memos reminded the organization's negotiators that "Greenpeace does not oppose whaling, in principle," and that "Greenpeace is neither for nor against the killing of marine mammals."

Greenpeace and WWF, along with NWF, EDF, and CMC, officially share the philosophy that nature should be put to economic use, in the form of "sustainable development." This differs from "wise use" in that "wise users" believe natural resources should be used in any way useful to humans, while "sustainable developers" hold that they should only be used at replacement rates.

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Officially, the dolphin death toll continued to drop. Despite the increase in netting on dolphin, the National Marine Fisheries Service calculated, in 1986 just 124,597 dolphins were killed worldwide. The diminished U.S. fleet killed 20,695 dolphins through the first 10 months of 1986. Undersold by foreign competition, the U.S. tuna industry balked at further measures to spare dolphins. Another 78,000 to 82,000 dolphins were killed in 1987, 14,000 by the U.S. fleet and 12,000 by the Taiwanese fleet. Latin American vessels killed most of the rest.

Irked, former U.S. government biologist Sam LaBudde, working undercover for Earth Island Institute, bought a video camera and hired out from October 1987 to January 1988 as cook on a Panamanian tuna seiner. LaBudde's footage of dying dolphins sparked a tuna boycott that continued even after Congress amended the MMPA in 1988 to require stricter monitoring of dolphin deaths. Foreign tuna boats killed 84,000 dolphins in 1989; the U.S. fleet boasted of killing only 12,643. The boycott continued, until just before Earth Day 1990 the major U.S. tuna canners agreed to stop buying tuna netted on dolphin. Court verdicts tightening enforcement of 1988 amendments to the MMPA and the Dolphin Protection Consumer Information Act soon followed, together imposing a ban on the import of tuna netted on dolphin—or any tuna from nations known to fish by that method.

Mexico appealed to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade enforcement panel. In October 1991, the GATT panel ruled that the U.S. had no authority to extend its environmental laws to govern the practices of another nation. But U.S. Federal District Judge Thelton Henderson, of San Francisco, ignored GATT on January 9, 1992, when he ordered the U.S. government to enforce the tuna import ban regardless.

Reaction from conservationists+89= abroad was also harsh. "Unless there is some sort of rigorous international and independent observation, the Panama Declaration will be just one more scam. I hope Americans won't buy it," said Jose Truda Palazzo Jr., president of the Brazilian chapter of the International Wildlife Coalition. "Brazilian tuna companies are currently striving to have their product certified as dolphin-safe. Any relaxation of the embargo now would cripple our domestic efforts to have high conservation standards adopted in Brazilian fisheries regarding marine mammals."

The validity of the U.S. embargo despite the GATT position was affirmed on October 10, when the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that NMFS acted properly on February 7, 1994, when it halted American participation in tuna netting in the eastern tropical Pacific because the allowable dolphin mortality quota was likely to be exceeded.

TUFTS AD

Dog logo

# The

*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.*

## HSUS ISN'T TALKING

**WASHINGTON D.C.**—At deadline the Humane Society of the U.S. had neither confirmed nor denied a report reaching **ANIMAL PEOPLE** from an HSUS source that the board of directors, responding to a petition signed by 41 staffers, agreed over the Columbus Day weekend, October 7-9, to prosecute David Wills, 48, for allegedly embezzling at least \$16,000 from an expense account purportedly used to pay informants in cruelty cases—and to negotiate the termination of both HSUS president Paul Irwin and Humane Society International president John Hoyt.

According to the unconfirmed report, Hoyt, the top HSUS/HSI officer since 1970, is to retire soon with a “golden parachute” severance. Irwin, hired in 1975, is to depart after the appointment of a successor. Three members of the HSUS staff would seem to be candidates: Dennis White, former head of the American Humane Association’s Animal Protection Division, who recently left AHA after 19 years; John Kullberg, head of the American SPCA for 14 years, 1977-1991; and David Ganz, head of the North Shore Animal League for six-plus years, 1986-1993.

The HSUS board is also supposed to have begun looking into various financial arrangements involving Irwin, Hoyt, and HSUS/HSI, which provided them benefits beyond their official compensation (salary plus pension contributions) of \$195,288 for Irwin and \$210,611 for Hoyt, as of fiscal year 1993.

At press date, however, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** sources at all levels of HSUS/HSI said they still hadn’t been officially informed of any board or executive decisions—and none acknowledged either signing

of the New Hampshire Humane Society, 1972-1978; the Michigan Humane Society, 1979-1989; and the defunct National Society for Animal Protection, 1989-1991. Certain sources denied events described to confidants on repeated occasions over the past seven or eight years—and reliably witnessed in some cases—because of concerns for personal security.

Two days before one of the two dates **ANIMAL PEOPLE** was given for the board meeting, an anonymous caller ordered copies of our October edition for all board members. The October “Watchdog” column detailed Wills’ history of questionable associations; his proximity to missing money at other humane societies; and his role as Hoyt’s longtime protege and rumored eventual successor. The caller asked that the copies be rushed by courier to board member Anita Coupe’s hotel in Seattle—but was apparently not Coupe herself. An invoice for the courier charge was promptly paid with a U.S. postal money order made out on behalf of “B. True.”

### *The Booby Hatch*

The case was meanwhile described in lesser detail by *U.S. News & World Report*, *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*, *CHAIN Newsletter* (a California-based magazine for humane officers), an Associated Press article syndicated on October 1, most major Alaskan media, and other publications ranging from daily newspapers to dogsledding periodicals. Many accounts reached Washington D.C. in time to have been seen by members of the audience at an October 2 address Hoyt delivered to a World Bank gathering.

## WATCHDOGS OF THE WORLD, UNITE!

*The Best Friends mayor expresses solidarity with the ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog.* (K.B.)

## New name, same game for Fields

Ann Fields, at risk of losing her Love And Care for God’s Animalife Inc. no-kill shelter in Andalusia, Alabama, as result of a suit for alleged fraud, deceit, and deceptive trade practices brought on June 26 by the Alabama Office of the Attorney General, is now fundraising under yet another name—Irene Hathaway, of Care for Our Lord’s Animals, Inc., a purported no-kill facility with 1,500 animals, using the address 73091-A4 Country Club Drive, Suite 86, Palm Desert, CA 92260.

“I have a contact who lives on Country Club Drive in Palm Desert,” reports Leo Grillo of D.E.L.T.A. Rescue, “and there is no shelter there. It’s all homes.”

Alabama assistant attorney general Dennis Wright estimates that Fields has used Love and Care for God’s Animalife to bilk donors of from \$75,000 to \$100,000 a month with bogus appeals issued under both her

or knowing about a petition, leaving the possibility that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** had received a planted rumor, perhaps designed to identify leaks.

Yet another report, reaching **ANIMAL PEOPLE** hours before press time, held that Hoyt and Irwin were not terminated, but were instead voted big raises, as happened in the wake of 1988 and 1991 Jack Anderson exposes about their compensation. The source didn't have information pertaining to Wills.

A top source at HSUS explicitly told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that Wills was fired on August 11, but Wills officially remains "on administrative leave."

All **ANIMAL PEOPLE** knows for sure is that in the two weeks before the Columbus Day weekend board meeting in Seattle, labor relations attorney Joel Bennett of Washington D.C. and colleague Laurie Phillips interviewed a number of people on behalf of the HSUS board, including some **ANIMAL PEOPLE** sources, about alleged sexual harassment and embezzling by Wills. Questions were asked not only about Wills' tenure with HSUS, but also about similar allegations that arose during his time as executive director

Hoyt's address was titled, reminiscent of his former career as a Baptist and Presbyterian minister, "Ethics and Spiritual Values and the Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Development."

Throughout late September and early October, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** received calls from new sources offering stories of Wills allegedly using donated funds to entertain himself (and Hoyt in some versions) at a Michigan bar called The Booby Hatch; to buy Franklin Mint gold and silver ornaments; and to engage in other pursuits unrelated to helping animals.

Longtime Wills foe Barbara Schwartz, a New Hampshire horse and collie fancier/breeder, added spice with an account of attending Central High School in Detroit in the mid-1950s with Audrey Rose, the former MHS board president who hired Wills and later resigned after finding out he had faked his resume; her husband Irving Rose; Sonny Bloch, an HSUS board member from January 1991 until early 1995, who is now in federal prison awaiting trial for allegedly helping to defraud 280 investors out of \$21

(continued on page 14)

Garo Alexanian (paid through Jan/Feb)

own name and aliases Marjorie Jacobs and Rebecca Garcia. Typically her appeals claim an emergency has befallen the shelter, but such "emergencies" as a freezing rainstorm during the week of February 10-16 this year never happened—the average daily temperature was 75 degrees Fahrenheit—and having received a \$250,000 bequest in September 1993, the shelter has been quite solvent. Gifts and money borrowed from donors have been spent not on animals, the Alabama suit states, but on vehicles, personal travel, personal real estate, and personal luxuries."

Fields often quotes an endorsement from Jack Blackwood, DVM, of DeFuniak Springs, Florida. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** subscriber Joanne Baldwin, DVM, of Goochland, Virginia, asked Blackwood for comment. "The letter by me, copied in the Love and Care newsletter," Blackwood responded, "referred to my last visit to the shelter in February 1994. Since then, these allegations have surfaced. I am upset that my letter is used to solicit funds, since it has been 18 months since my visit."

Former donors wishing to register their complaints may address Wright c/o Alabama State House, 11 South Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36130.

SF/SPCA

## Ethics, Spiritual Values and the Promotion of Sustainable Development (from page 13)

million, and is reportedly also under investigation for statutory rape; and Ivan Boesky, another financeer with a checkered past. Bloch and Boesky, Schwartz said, got their start in finance by running poker games. She suggested that Wills might have met Bloch in Detroit and introduced him to Irwin and Hoyt, who have reputedly done much decision-making over the years at a weekly poker game with other HSUS executives.

"But Wills did do some good things for animals," several callers insisted, citing his abolition of decompression chamber euthanasia at both NHS and MHS.

### **944 Porsche**

Current MHS executive director Gary Tiscornia didn't hedge his few but quite specific words. "Whether or not Wills liked Corvettes," as reported in October, Tiscornia said, "he left here driving a 944 Porsche," a much more costly vehicle.

Tiscornia joined MHS in August 1983, under Wills, but quit in protest of Wills' management in February 1989. A straight shooter who remembers with admiration that his father stood up to an attempted organized crime shakedown, Tiscornia was brought back on June 19, 1989, at the same board meeting that accepted Wills' resignation after funds were discovered to be missing from the MHS accounts. Former bookkeeper Denise Hopkins was convicted of embezzling \$65,000; up to \$1.6 million was never accounted for. Insurance covered \$50,000 of the loss, Tiscornia said, and Hopkins is supposed to make some restitution, but though now out of prison and gainfully employed, he added, she has not made any payments.

Tiscornia also confirmed that shortly after Wills' departure, the Teamsters Union made an unsuccessful attempt to organize at MHS. Two of Wills' alleged associates were involved in the Teamsters: John Burge, nephew of Teamster boss Jimmy Hoffa and former business agent for

Teamsters Local 124, who was convicted in 1991 of taking kickbacks from trucking companies at Detroit's Metro Airport in exchange for insuring labor peace; and Rolland McMaster, Hoffa's longtime aide, who was convicted of a similar charge nearly 30 years earlier. Burge was also president of Atlantic Western Personnel Leasing Corporation, in which McMaster and another reputed Wills associate, Dean Turner, were executives. Wills intimated to then-NSAP volunteer Sandra LeBost, when Atlantic Western went bankrupt in March 1990, that he had lost an investment in the company of \$40,000. LeBost on June 30 of this year won a mediation judgement of \$42,000 in settlement of unrepaid loans to Wills, but has not yet received the money.

Turner's mother, TV personality Marilyn Turner, was questioned about the Atlantic Western case by a Michigan grand jury. She and her husband John Kelly served on the board of MHS, resigning when Wills did and joining him on the board of NSAP. Kelly also served on the board of HSUS when Wills folded NSAP to join HSUS.

Another of Wills' longtime associates, DeDay LaRene, was attorney for reputed Detroit crime boss Vito Giacalone and his son Billy-Jack Giacalone during a 1975 grand jury probe of Jimmy Hoffa's still unsolved disappearance. LaRene and Giacalone pleaded guilty to concealing income from the IRS in December 1993. They were first charged with conspiracy and tax evasion, but key witness Albert Allen vanished on the eve of the trial and U.S. Justice Department lawyer Theodore Forman was convicted of leaking grand jury documents including witness lists to LaRene. Now disbarred, LaRene and his wife Joan Witt—a Wills employee at NHHS, MHS, and NSAP—both currently work for HSUS.

LaRene's main job in recent months seems to have been negotiating a deal to take over the Washington D.C. animal control contract, relinquished by the

Washington Humane Society at least in part because the city was slow to pay for contracted services. HSUS pulled out, however, on September 18.

"There was no one specific thing that did not allow this marriage to occur," HSUS spokesperson Wayne Pacelle told *The Washington Post*, but the *Post* said HSUS informed the city that it would not go ahead to build a proposed "\$10 million state-of-the-art shelter," because HSUS could not "own absolutely" the building site, leased by the city from the federal government.

Other sources indicated that HSUS seized on a handy excuse to get out of having promised more than it could deliver. HSUS policy since it was founded in 1954 has been to avoid doing hands-on animal care.

As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, the city-owned shelter run by WHS since 1980 was being prepared for shutdown, and Washington D.C. appeared likely to be without animal control at the stroke of midnight on Halloween. Volunteers were reportedly patching together a service similar to the one Legislation In Support of Animals provided when New Orleans left animal control unfunded from January through June 1990.

### **Intimidation?**

Whether or not anyone who was purportedly harassed and/or compromised by Wills actually had reason to fear that testimony to Bennett and Phillips might be leaked, someone did anonymously sandbag Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society chief investigator Michael Killian during the week before the HSUS board meeting.

Faxed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and some of our sources was a flyer headlined "Kill 'Er' Ian." The flyer described how on November 24, 1982, then-Lincoln Park police officer Killian joined in pursuit of Benjamin Davis, 36, a father of three, who had run a red light. Killian shot Davis twice in the back and buttocks, then handcuffed him as he died. Police policy called for firing

Killian when in 1985 he was convicted of manslaughter, but instead he was discharged with a disability pension of \$17,584 a year.

"Michael Killian's cost for this human life," the handbill stated, "was \$825 in court costs, five years on probation, and psychiatric therapy. He was released from probation on January 15, 1992."

The Davis family was in 1986 awarded \$1.6 million—and another \$1.6 million in 1989 when Mission National Insurance Company of California, which held the Lincoln Park policy, paid \$500,000 on time but was four days late paying the balance. Mission National then went bankrupt. Lincoln Park taxpayers were assessed \$80 apiece over a two-year period to cover the penalty.

Wills hired Killian as a cruelty investigator in July 1988. "I can verify that he was employed by MHS through April 1991," said Tiscornia. "In accordance with a former employee's right to privacy, I am not able to share any further information."

MACS board president Linda Tuttle told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that Killian joined MACS in April 1991. "We didn't know about the shooting," she said. "We got an anonymous call about it three or four months later. He told us he'd taken early retirement from the Lincoln Park police department to spend more time with his horses." Tuttle said Killian's job performance has been "pretty good," despite some friction with the board and senior staff, and that the flyer would be discussed at a November 8 board meeting.

Tuttle suggested that the handbill might have been connected with the October 1994 seizure of 169 allegedly neglected dogs and 25 cats from breeders Richard and Nancy Yuhasz of Deerfield Township. "This is absolutely the worst case of cruelty I've ever seen," Killian told media soon after the raid.

But another possibility was that Killian might have been misidentified as an **ANIMAL PEOPLE** source for information about Wills and Wills' Detroit associates,

# Woofs & growls

PETA staff were told in May that the group would relocate to Seattle early next year—but vice president and chief decision-maker Ingrid Newkirk apparently reconsidered in August. While a PETA spokesperson advised Bruce Ramsey of the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* in early September that the move was still on, senior staff have reportedly been scouting office space in Virginia Beach, a suburb on the Virginia side of Washington D.C. The present PETA headquarters is in Rockville, Maryland.

Operating from a Chicago post office box, the apparently newly formed National Herpetological Alliance claims "Herpetology and herpetoculture are under assault, oftentimes from a misinformed public and many times from radical animal rights organizations." No officers are listed by name, and no telephone number or street address is given. The style and rhetoric are reminiscent of Joan Dahlberg-Meisenholder. Initially identifying herself as an animal rights activist, operating from Portland, Oregon, Dahlberg-Meisenholder fought successfully to abolish decompression chamber euthanasia and urged support for convicted Animal Liberation Front associate Roger Troen (*see Letters*) during the 1980s. She added attacks on animal rights to her usual denunciations of humane societies in mid-1993 with two editions of a tabloid newspaper called *Roseland's Sizzle*, published from the Chicago area, with pet trade advertising obtained, several advertisers told ANIMAL PEOPLE, under false pretenses. In mid-1994 she apparently surfaced again, as "J. Sizzle," a snake-fancying anti-animal rights activist participating in America Online discussions, but vanished soon after other participants posted her history.

Responding to a store owner's inquiry about a donation can left by an unknown group called the Animal Welfare League, with an unlisted telephone number and a mail drop address, investigator Jeanette Rilling of the Bucks County SPCA in Lehaska, Pennsylvania, discovered the AWL was registered with the state Commission on Charitable Organizations on August 22, 1995—and that the registrants were Sheri Gould and Alan Deitschman, apparently husband and wife, owners of Puppyland, a Philadelphia pet store. "In 1991-1992 they opened a satellite store in Quakertown," Rilling recalled. Receiving frequent complaints about "sick dogs and unsanitary conditions," the Bucks County SPCA and state departments of agriculture and health cited Gould and Deitschman, who were convicted of cruelty to animals in 1993. "Gould appealed and was found guilty at the county court level," Rilling added. "The American Kennel Club was notified of Gould's conviction and her registration abilities were pulled. The AKC has recently been reminded of Deitschman's conviction and is acting upon it."

Probably by blind coincidence, the AWL set out donor cans just as the Pennsylvania Animal Welfare Society, a non-sheltering advocacy group with a similar name, retitled itself the Federation of Animal Advocates, while retaining the old name as a corporate umbrella. The title change coincided with a leadership dispute that landed in court last July when two different factions claimed to head PAWS/FAA.

The North American Animal Liberation Front Support Group has reportedly changed coordinators, moving from Victoria, British Columbia, to Willowdale, Ontario, a suburb of Toronto.

# Ethical investing conflict

Brad Pappas of the Denver-based Rocky Mountain Humane Investing Corporation disputes the San Francisco-based Working Assets Capital Management claim that "We do not invest in companies that use animals to test personal care products or otherwise treat animals in an inhumane manner." Pappas argues that nine firms approved by Working Assets should fail a humane screen because they use large numbers of animals in testing: Alza Corp., Biomet, Church & Dwight, Cincinnati Milacron, Idexx Labs, Melville Corp., Merck, Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing, and Pitney Bowes. Pappas also objects to Working Assets' okay of American Express, which sells fur by mail-order.

Counters Working Assets social research department manager Ben Corson, "We consider the type of product for which testing is performed." If a company doesn't test personal care products, "Working Assets considers the treatment of the animals used in testing. We look for violations of the Animal Welfare Act or other well-documented cases of inhumane treatment." As to American Express, he said, fur sales "represent a minuscule amount of its overall revenues."

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targeted for discrediting, and made an example of. If the flyer was faxed in response to the Yuhasz case, there was no reason it should have come to ANIMAL PEOPLE. Nor was there a clear reason why it went to some of the other recipients.

"If Mike goes down as result of this and it hurts MACS," said Tuttle, "the only ones who are going to suffer are the animals." MACS, which has no paid administration, serves the Detroit inner city. An architect is currently donating services toward renovation of the shelter, including expansion of the cat care facilities. Tuttle said her husband, an attorney and general contractor, would donate much of the labor.

"We could move to a more economically promising area," Tuttle said, "but here in Detroit is where we're needed."

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Debra J. Hartman is selling out of her current stock of Holiday, note, and pet sympathy cards and mailing labels. This change will enable her to help with volunteer lobbying efforts for important animal legislation in PA. Thank you to all the fellow animal advocates who have shared artwork and messages for the animals over the past nine years. May we all continue to help all living beings in whatever way we can.

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# Glimmer of hope for ESA

**WASHINGTON D.C.**—The Endangered Species Act is still in trouble in both the Republican-dominated Congress and the White House, where President Bill Clinton has repeatedly shown willingness to compromise species protection for conservative support—but some backing for a strong ESA is emerging among eastern Republicans.

Countering a Senate bill introduced by Slade Gorton (R-Washington) last spring and a similar House bill introduced in late summer by Don Young (R-Alaska) and Richard Pombo (R-California), which would effectively rescind the ESA, Maryland Republican Representatives Wayne Gilcrest and Connie Morella at the end of September brought forth a bill to reauthorize the key provisions of the current ESA, adopted in 1973.

Co-sponsors of the Gilcrest/Morella bill include Sherwood Boehlert (R-N.Y.), Michael Castle (R-Delaware), Christopher Shays (R-Connecticut), and Jim Greenwood and Curt Weldon, both Republicans from Pennsylvania.

“An important facet of this bill is what it doesn’t do,” said Gilcrest. “It doesn’t abandon species recovery as the primary focus of the ESA. It doesn’t create an expensive, bureaucratic compensation entitlement. It doesn’t walk away from the protection of critical habitat, and it doesn’t relax the prohibition on international trafficking in endangered species,” all of which would result from passage of the Gorton and Young/Pombo bills.

As anticipated, the House Resource Committee, headed by Young, on October 13 rejected the Gilcrest/Morella bill, 17-28, but approved the Young/Pombo bill, 27-17, after allowing an amendment offered by Representative John Shadegg (R-Arizona) to weaken endangered species protection still further by requiring that all federal lands be managed for their “primary mission,” such as logging, grazing, recreation, or mining, rather than for multiple use as they are managed now, which gives conservation equal priority. Both votes split largely along party lines.

As they stand, Clinton would veto the Gorton and Young/Pombo bills, says Assistant Interior Secretary George Frampton Jr.

Confirmed George Miller (D-California), the ranking Democrat on the House Resources Committee, “The Young/Pombo bill’s provisions on compensation, gutting the habitat protection requirements, and redefining species assures a presidential veto—assuming this travesty could ever

National Forest by about a third while barring the establishment of new habitat conservation areas within the Tongass, at the urging of Senator Ted Stevens (R-Alaska), who chairs the Interior Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee; and voted to kill \$2 million in funding for National Park Service administration of the newly created East Mojave preserve, and instead allocate \$600,000 for continued administration by the Bureau of Land Management. The resolution on the East Mojave was authored by California Representative Jerry Lewis (R-Redlands), who owns land within the preserve and wants to keep it open to mining, ranching, hunting, off-road vehicle use, and economic development.

Faced with the likelihood of a White House veto, House Budget Committee chair John Kasish is reportedly ready to introduce a substitute budget bill which would eliminate the provision for oil and gas drilling in ANWR. “There is a growing feeling in the Republican Party,” Kasish told the Journal of Commerce, “that just like we have to save our financial future for our kids, we have to save the environment for our kids, too.” Thirty moderate Republicans have asked Gingrich to endorse such a bill on behalf of ANWR.

## Non-game funding

Reluctant to allocate general revenues toward species protection, but hearing increasing clamor on behalf of endangered species, Congress may look toward alternatives, in particular one long advocated by the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. IAFWA, chiefly representing state fish and game departments, wants Congress to impose a tax on camping equipment, cameras and film, field guides, binoculars, bird feeders and birdhouses, and recreational vehicles, as a funding source for nongame conservation programs, including endangered species protection. Modeled on the Pittman-Robertson levy of 11% on hunting and fishing equipment, which has financed game programs since 1937, the proposed tax is energetically backed by hunting fronts including the National Wildlife Federation, National Audubon Society, Ducks Unlimited, Society for Conservation Biology, World Wildlife Fund, and Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs. Hunters argue that the use of any Pittman-Robertson or hunting license revenues for nongame programs is an unfair diversion—even though very little money actually is so

*Grizzly bear. (K.B.)*

threatened species by erasing the C-2 list of nearly 4,000 proposed candidate species.

BLF also served notice of intent to sue USFWS for failure to add the blacktailed prairie dog to the C-2 list. “A C-2 designation would not provide any legal protection for the prairie dog,” a BLF release stated, “but would encourage conservation measures and allow for maximum flexibility in land management. It is clearly a reasonable course of action for this grassland keystone species, but it was rejected by USFWS due to political pressure. Improved protection of the prairie dog ecosystem would help to conserve a fascinating diversity of native wildlife on the Great Plains, including the blackfooted ferret, swift fox, ferruginous hawk, burrowing owl, and many other species now in decline. The eventual listing of a number of these species under the ESA could be avoided if state and federal agencies were to adequately protect and restore the prairie dog ecosystem.”

On October 4, the Fund, BLF, and Swan View Coalition won a round when U.S. District Judge Paul Friedman ruled that USFWS acted in an “arbitrary and capricious” manner in issuing a recovery plan for grizzly bears in 1993 that “fails to establish objective, measurable criteria which when met would result in a determination, in accor-

make it to the White House."

As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, Senator Dirk Kempthorne (R-Idaho) was expected to introduce yet another bill to undo the ESA, modeled on the Gorton bill.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, meanwhile, reportedly favors an ESA reauthorization bill offered by Jim Saxton (R-New Jersey). In Georgia on October 12 to receive an award from Zoo Atlanta, of which he is a longtime major patron, Gingrich indicated that whatever ESA bill eventually clears the House will have to go through his newly formed Republican Environmental Task Force first—which gives him rather than Young the most authority over what shape it takes.

Amid the signs of pro-ESA sentiment, proto-wise use wiseguy Chuck "Rent-A-Riot" Cushman added a new organization, Repeal ESA Now, to the string he began in 1979 with the National Inholders Association. According to Roger Featherstone of ESA Action, Repeal ESA Now "is a typical wise-use stealth tactic to redefine the radical fringe. The wise-use crowd will use this new 'group' to make supporters of the Young/Pombo bill appear to be moderate."

Like most of Cushman's quasi-grassroots groups, Repeal ESA Now appears to consist of a mailing list, fax and telephone trees, and a post office box—this one in Coventry, Rhode Island. The president is Brian Bishop of the right-wing Alliance for America.

## Wildlife budget battle

As important as the structure of the ESA itself may be the structure of funding and spending for wildlife programs. The Senate Judiciary Committee on October 18 held a hearing on a bill parallel to one already passed by the House which would require the government to pay property owners for any loss of land value of one third or more resulting from federal rules, including endangered species and wetlands protection. Introduced by Senate majority leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas), the bill would cost federal agencies \$30 million to \$40 million a year to administer, and would pay out a lesser amount in claims, according to a Congressional Budget Office estimate. However, the White House Office of Management and Budget—whose own budget the Republican House hopes to eliminate—argues that the actual tab would be close to \$4 billion a year.

Earlier, on September 21, a Senate/House conference committee on the Interior Department budget voted to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in northeastern Alaska to oil and gas exploration, a longtime goal of Young and Murkowski; voted to continue a moratorium on listing new endangered and threatened species, cutting off related funding; voted to merge the National Biological Service formed by Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt into the U.S. Geological Service; voted to increase logging in the Tongass

diverted. A 1992 IAFWA study found that about 250 game species and high-profile endangered species are beneficiaries of more than 95% of the money spent by public agencies on U.S. wildlife, leaving 1,800 other mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians to share just 5%.

Spreading the funding basis of wildlife programs to non-consumptive users could break the hunting/fishing stranglehold on wildlife management. A wildlife agency not dependent upon hunting and fishing for revenue would have much more freedom to close seasons and enforce conservation and property protection laws unpopular with hunters.

## Seeking enforcement

The Biodiversity Legal Foundation, the Fund for Animals, and grassroots groups meanwhile continue to seek court mandates for ESA enforcement despite the will of Congress and the concessions of the Clinton administration. On October 17, BLF filed notice of intent to sue the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for issuing the July 19 directive that implemented the moratorium on listing endangered and

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dance with the provisions of the ESA, that the grizzly bear be removed from the threatened species list."

Said Fund attorney Eric Glitzenstein, "This is the first time a species recovery plan has been successfully challenged in court. Our victory sets a precedent that USFWS is required by law to base recovery plans on scientific data and objective evidence of real recovery—not on the desires of those who wish to hasten delisting for their own purposes," namely the game agencies of Montana and Wyoming. Montana permitted grizzly bear hunting until forced to stop by a Fund lawsuit in 1991, while the Wyoming administration also has indicated interest in starting a grizzly season when and if the bears are delisted.

Two days later, on October 6, the Fund and Australians for Animals served notice of intent to sue if USFWS fails to act on a May 1994 petition to list the koala as endangered. "By law," explained spokesperson Mike Markarian, "USFWS must publish a finding on the petition one year after receiving it."

# Animal control & rescue

## *Neutering*

**Animal Aid of Tulsa** made 362 follow-up calls to animal adopters from January 1 to July 23 to check neutering compliance. Ten percent couldn't be located, but 80% had neutered their adopted pets, nearly twice the rate of compliance that other shelters found in studies done in the 1970s and 1980s.

**John Schultz, animal warden for Medina County, Ohio,** passed out 111 certificates good for a \$20 discount on neutering adopted dogs between July 1 and September 11, but only 10% were used by September 21.

**The Fund for Animals mobile neutering clinic** was to visit the Zuni and Navajo Indian Nations in New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah from October 14-29, expecting to fix 300 to 400 dogs and cats with sponsorship from the American Humane Association, the Houston Rockets basketball team, Solvay Animal Health, and Holiday Inn. In addition to the mobile unit and a fixed-site neutering clinic in Houston, the Fund plans to open a low-cost "super clinic" in New York City next year, said spokesperson Sean Hawkins.

## *Regulation*

**After long debate, the Chicago City Council on October 2 adopted an ordinance** which allows the Department of Animal Control to designate a dog "dangerous" after investigation of an alleged bite, attack, or threat, and to order that the dog be euthanized, exiled, kept behind a six-foot fence, or be muzzled—but the final version deleted a requirement that dangerous dogs be insured for \$100,000 liability, and included no enforcement budget. Chicago Animal Control has just four inspectors to investigate 10,000 bite reports per year.

**Vail, Colorado, replaced the common-law concept** of "running at large" with a more precise definition of "failure to control" in a new comprehensive animal control ordinance, and made neutering enforcement easier with a clause stating, "It shall be unlawful to possess any unsterilized dog or cat when such

## *LISA cracks down*

Legislation In Support of Animals on October 18 awarded its annual Black Star Award, for the worst shelter in the south, to the Jackson Shelter in Jackson, Mississippi, the subject of complaints for at least 25 years. Violations of basic care standards have been documented since 1992 not only by LISA but also by the Hines County Grand Jury, the Humane Society of the U.S., and In Defense of Animals. LISA has inspected 76 shelters in Louisiana and Mississippi since 1990, winning a string of lawsuits forcing communities to improve shelter conditions. On September 28, LISA asked district attorney Paul Carmouche of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, to formally probe allegations by animal control officers that Caddo Parish commissioners, especially in the city of Vivian, "routinely direct them to circumvent the law and/or departmental policy," to do favors for pals.

## *Ideas*

**Corliss Moore, 37, a former Arizona Animal Welfare League volunteer** now serving a sentence for forgery at the Arizona Center for Women in Phoenix, has adapted police suspect description charting methods to track the cats in a prison neuter/release project she began in 1992. Each I.D. sheet offers blank outlines of a cat's face, left and right side views, and sitting posture. She then shades in each cat's distinctive markings. Her system could easily be used by any shelter or rescue group. Moore is eligible for parole in August 1996.

## *Organizations*

**City of Cape May animal control officer John Queenan is president** and Latham Foundation child and animal abuse prevention project chair Phil Arkow is vice president of the newly formed Animal Welfare Federation of New Jersey. "Membership is open to individuals and organizations which support the principles that all life possesses inherent value and that human beings have a

# Animal health

## *Infectious diseases*

**Protecting their collections,** Sea World San Diego and Marine World Africa USA in Vallejo, California, have suspended accepting stranded marine mammals, after morbillivirus was found in a common dolphin who beached herself on August 31 near Marina Del Ray and was taken to Sea World for rehab. Lack of a rehab site obliged authorities to euthanize a stranded pygmy sperm whale in early October. Morbillivirus, related to canine distemper, killed tens of thousands of seals and at least 800 bottlenose dolphins in the North Atlantic during 1987-1988, about 1,000 striped dolphins in the Mediterranean in 1989-1990, and circa 900 dolphins off the Texas coast in 1994, but has never before been found in the Pacific. The infected dolphin, still at Sea World, shows no symptoms of the disease, and may be an immune carrier.

**A third British dairy farmer recently died of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease,** Dr. Philip Smith and colleagues with the National CJD Surveillance Unit announced September 28. CJD is believed by some authorities to be a human form of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, a.k.a. BSE, which a decade into an epidemic plaguing England continues to afflict 400 cattle a week. Prions causing the disease may possibly be transmitted via milk or beef. The British government believes BSE mutated from the sheep disease scrapie, infecting cattle via bone meal feed additives. Such feeds are now banned, but BSE apparently has a long latency period—and may have other modes of transmission.

**Dr. Sheriff Zaki and colleagues** at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta have reportedly developed a simple skin test to detect the onset of Ebola virus infection, which could help prevent outbreaks like the one that recently hit Zaire.

## *Rabies update*

**Two aircraft from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources** on October 14 began scattering 120,000 oral rabies vaccine balls over a 15-mile corridor alongside the St. Lawrence River in Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties, New York, hoping to keep the mid-Atlantic raccoon rabies pandemic from spreading into Canada. The pandemic has already reached Niagara County and parts of Jefferson County. Another 80,000 vaccine balls will be distributed by hand in Tonawanda, Niagara Falls, and Lockport raccoon habitat.

**The California Department of Health** urged cat owners to vaccinate their animals on October 13 after a rabid cat scratched or bit four children, two adults, and six dogs at a home in Woodside. In all, 13 people including six animal control workers and a veterinarian received post-exposure shots. The cat, described as a free-roaming "adopted stray," had been bitten by a skunk.

## *Letter on bat rabies*

An item under "Rabies notes" in the September **ANIMAL PEOPLE** said, "Two residents of San Rafael, California, were bitten by rabid bats in June, including a five-year-old boy playing near a backyard pool and a woman who was swimming. The bats in each case were apparently attracted by insects hovering over the water."

I find it hard to believe that a rabid bat was hovering over a swimming pool looking for an insect meal. Rabid bats in the infective stage are pretty much incapable of hovering over anything. They might well bite when handled, which is the usual method of rabies transmission from bats to humans. Bats are not asymptomatic lifelong rabies carriers, as was once believed. They normally bite only in self-defense and pose little threat to people who don't handle them.

—Patricia Brown Barbosa  
Director, Wildlife America Inc.  
Scotch Plains, New Jersey

dog or cat is required to be sterilized under the terms of any applicable sales or adoption contract, regardless of where the contract originated." This allows for enforcement via summary citation instead by a civil suit.

**The Cork SPCA** has asked the Ireland Department of Agriculture to introduce regulation of dog breeders, not covered in the 1987 Control of Dogs Act. Dog breeding for export has become an Irish cottage industry. A west Cork puppy-miller was recently convicted of cruelty to 67 dogs, but Cork SPCA spokesperson Alan Tuohy says enforceable standards would be preferable to prosecutions.

**Responding to the June 18 mauling of a two-year-old girl by a hybrid "jungle cat,"** the city council of Aurora, Illinois, on October 19 banned non-domestic animals and domestic/non-domestic hybrids.

responsibility to ensure the welfare of all animals," said Arkow. Write to POB 478, Madison, NJ 07940, or call 201-377-7094.

**Alex Wolf, 45, has formed the Fondation Jolicoeur Pour La Defense Des Animaux** in Montreal, Quebec, to do humane inspection and education. A longtime critic of the perennially embattled and all-but-bankrupt Montreal-based Canadian SPCA, Wolf organized a slate that seized control of the CSPCA in May 1994 but was ousted as executive director in November 1994, and was convicted in March 1995 of having uttered death threats against former CSPCA president Raymond Lemoyne in a February 1994 telephone call to then-CSPCA vice president Louise Slattery. He was fined \$2,000 and given two years on probation.

No rabid pet had been found in San Mateo County since 1947, but nearby Marin County had a rabid cat in 1991. On September 28, a dog killed a rabid skunk about 30 miles to the south in Gilroy; a week before that, a man whom officials didn't name died from rabies of unknown origin in nearby Hollister.

**Medina County SPCA humane officer Vic Koppelberger**, of Medina, Ohio, on October 2 asked the county commissioners to sponsor preventive use of the oral rabies vaccine in local raccoon habitat. The mid-Atlantic raccoon rabies pandemic has reached Ohio, but the last rabies case in Medina County was a rabid cow in 1983.

*The California bat bites were witnessed. The five-year-old approached a bat; the adult didn't. Unfortunately, there were no witnesses to the contact that killed bat rabies victims Kelly Ahrendt, 11, of Bloomingburg, New York, on July 11, 1994; Tiffany Mathews, 4, of Centralia, Washington, on March 15, 1995; and Maria Fareri, 13, of Greenwich, Connecticut, on October 3, 1995. None were known to have been bitten. Only Mathews was known to have ever been near a bat.*

TRUE NATURE NETWORK  
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## Hurricane season

Hurricanes pounding the Caribbean in September and early October had humane rescue teams hopping.

Gerardo Huertas of the World Society for the Protection of Animals' Costa Rica office reported that the worst damage from Hurricane Marilyn was on St. Maarten, where 12 Animal Welfare Foundation volunteers expected to spend four to six weeks catching and caring for abandoned dogs. Learning that dogs not reunited with owners would be shot, Huertas gave the AWF 500 doses of pentobarbital euthanasia solution, along with antibiotics and other veterinary supplies, and arranged for dog food deliveries. Huertas also set up a relief effort for the Antigua and Barbuda Humane Society, which had no shelter even before Marilyn. He said he saw 72 homeless dogs foraging for food around dawn in the Antigua hotel district, along with "many mongooses feeding on corpses of dead animals." About 12,000 chickens were killed or released by the destruction of poultry barns. Cattle, sheep, and donkeys were temporarily left to wander, but the ABHS took in 26 llamas.

The American Humane Association evacuated 15 dogs and cats from the roofless St. Thomas Humane Society on September 28, while Hills Pet Foods shipped nine tons of food to St. Thomas.

United Animal Nations cleaned up after Hurricane Opal, which ripped through the Barrier Islands along the Florida Gulf Coast. Led by Terri Crisp, the UAN team picked up more than 100 pets in three days, working out of the Panhandle Animal Welfare Society shelter in Fort Walton Beach.

Donations toward the relief work are welcomed by WSPA at POB 190, Boston, MA 02130; AHA at 63 Inverness Drive East, Englewood, CO 80112-5117; and UAN at POB 188890, Sacramento, CA 95818.

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# U.S. subsidizing Makah whaling

**SEATTLE**—The U.S. government is spending \$7 million to underwrite the Washington-based Makah Tribe in killing whales next summer, charges Captain Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society.

Watson cites grants, subsidies, and interest-free loans to help build a marina big enough to serve whaling vessels, provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Forest Service, Department of Commerce, USDA, Office of Native American Programs, and Washington State Department of Parks and Recreation.

"The Corps of Engineers signed the Project Cooperative Agreement with the Makah on May 2, 1995," Watson told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "On May 5, the Makah informed the U.S. government that they would resume whaling, for commercial reasons under the guise of aboriginal whaling, without regulation under International Whaling Commission rules. It is clear that the Makah intend for the U.S. government to fund the facilities for landing and processing whales. The federal agencies are proceeding with no information on the impending whaling operation other than the tribal announcement of their intent and treaty right to kill grey whales."

According to Watson, "The Makah whaling operation could be the first step in opening the North Pacific coast to whaling by native peoples in both the U.S. and Canada." Already several British Columbia tribes have issued their own claims of a retained right to whale. The five whales a year to be targeted by the Macaw might not deplete grey whales as a species, just removed from the U.S. endangered species list as "recovered" in late 1994, but if 10 tribes killed five whales each, the impact could be felt. There are currently about 21,000 grey whales. National Marine Fisheries Service marine mammalogist Pat Gearin estimates the population can withstand a maximum slaughter of 230 whales per year—but that assumes ecological change such as the depletion of plankton off the California coast and the escalation of salt mining in the whales' breeding area in the Gulf of California doesn't also reduce whale numbers.

The Makah, who joined the United States in 1855, are apparently the only U.S.-based tribe to have included whaling rights among the hunting and fishing rights they kept in ceding political sovereignty.

"The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society has contacted the funding agencies involved in the Makah plan

with a request to revoke all funding for the marina until the tribe completes an environmental impact study that includes plans by the Makah for whaling," Watson said. He added that the Sea Shepherds will "use all legal means to stop illegal whaling activities from resuming in the U.S. As a final resort," Watson promised, "we will directly intervene at sea."

About 1,800 of the 2,300 registered Makah live on the 27,000-acre tribal reservation. Logging brings in \$7 million of their cumulative income of \$10 million a year. Seasonal unemployment runs as high as 50%, normal in timber economies, but average Makah household income is circa \$20,000 a year, within rural U.S. norms.

When the Makah last hunted whales is unclear. Anthropological accounts say the last Makah whale hunt was before 1910. Isabelle Ides, 96, the oldest living Makah, claims to have seen the landing of the last whale caught in 1909. Other elders state the tribe hunted whales in 1926. The Makah last killed a whale, however, on July 17, 1995, when tribal fisheries minister Daniel Greene brought in a juvenile gray whale a federal fisheries biologist had discovered already drowned in Greene's salmon nets—placed in a part of Neah Bay reportedly known to have been frequented by the young whale and his mother.

Greene says the nets were arranged to allow whales to swim between them on their feeding dives into the kelp forests along the bay bottom. This claim assumes whales can tell salmon nets from kelp; in fact, they hit and damage nets often enough that Greene himself claims to have lost four nets to whales over the years, at \$2,000 apiece. NMFS and Canadian researchers are reportedly developing sonic alarms to prevent such collisions.

"For decades," wrote Kim Murphy of the *Los Angeles Times*, "custom and practice has been to untangle and discard these incidentally caught whales, protected under federal and international laws. Instead, Greene called the tribal elders and got them to praying. The fresh whale carcass was hauled onto shore at the Makah reservation, butchered, and distributed to the 1,800 tribe members who call this windy tip of land at the northwest corner of the U.S. home. People ate whale that day, 10 tons of it on the plate and in the freezer."

Said Greene, "There are some elders who said this was our answer for whaling, that it's time to go whaling again, that this one gave itself up to let us see how much everybody wanted to do it."

*Harbor seal. (K.B.)*

## Fish vs. seals

**ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland**— "Decimated fish populations like the northern cod will recover if fishing is cut down," Fisheries and Oceans Canada biologist Ransom Myers reported in the September edition of *Science*. "What happened to [Atlantic Canadian] fish stocks had nothing to do with the environment, nothing to do with seals. It is simply overfishing."

Myers was lead author of a review of the population dynamics of 128 stocks of 34 commercially fished species over a 16-year period, commissioned by Fisheries Canada and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to see if overfishing might slow fish breeding because survivors have a harder time finding mates, a phenomenon called the desponsation effect. Among the species reviewed were salmon, cod, hake, haddock, herring, and anchovies. The review discovered apparent desponsation afflicting only Icelandic herring. Historically, desponsation is believed to have contributed to the extinction of the Lake Erie blue pike, and many bird and mammal species.

Ignoring Myers' findings, Fisheries and Oceans held the second in a series of forums organized to promote sealing on October 2 in St John's, Newfoundland. "The forum demonstrated that there are serious differences of opinion among sealers," reports Anne Doncaster of the International Wildlife Coalition, "the most significant being between the faction that wants to reintroduce a landsman's hunt, and the faction that wants to reintroduce an offshore hunt with large ships. Although the Canadian Sealers Association said the sealing industry was poised to take off," Doncaster added, "the forum made clear that a significantly increased commercial hunt faces serious problems. The sealing industry cited lack of money and the animal rights movement as

# Salmon at risk?

**WASHINGTON D.C.**--The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service jointly proposed on September 28 that Atlantic salmon should be listed as threatened in Maine, but not in the rest of its historic range, as requested by Protect the North Woods, because south of Maine the salmon are already lost as a distinct species through overfishing, habitat loss, and hybridization with introduced strains.

Maine governor Angus King charged that the proposed listing would cause undue economic hardship.

Earlier, NMFS proposed listing the Coho salmon as endangered from Monterey Bay, California, to the Columbia River in Washington, sparking furor in the west.

Both proposals may be academic: Congress has placed a moratorium on listing new endangered and threatened species, pending revision of the Endangered Species Act. But taking no chances, NMFS, the Bonneville Power Administration, and the Northwest Power Planning Council are reportedly negotiating a spending cap of circa \$435 million annually to restore salmon runs on the Columbia and Snake Rivers, most affected by the proposed Coho listing—and are apparently also negotiating a 10-year suspension of application of the Endangered Species and Clean Water Acts in connection with salmon restoration. This would be to preclude lawsuits from parties dissatisfied with the deal—such as the Sierra Club on the conservation side and the Columbia River Alliance on the wise-use side.

The Coho listing proposal was unveiled the same day that the California Department of Fish and Game announced a probable catch of more than a million Chinook salmon this year, up from 445,000 last year. The commercial catch was estimated at about 80% of the expected total. Despite the boom, the California commercial salmon season was temporarily closed in June to protect the threatened Klamath run. Wise-users argued that the apparent abundance of Chinook indicates salmon are overall still numerous, but Pacific Coast Fishermen's Association executive director Zeke Grader pointed out that this year's Chinook salmon runs were spawned in 1992 and 1993, when the Endangered Species Act was extended to protect winter-run Chinook and the Central Valley Improvement Act of 1992 took effect, amending water pumping priorities to benefit salmon rivers. Both laws are now jeopardized by Congress.

While Californians disputed over the plenitude of Chinook, Native Americans, Canada, the states of Oregon, Washington, and Alaska feuded through the summer over a regional Chinook shortage. Canada cut its Chinook catch limit in half, but Alaska cut its limit by just 4%.

# Fish stories

**The House on October 18 approved a tougher reauthorized edition of the Magnuson Fishery Management and Conservation Act, 388-37.** The new version dropped a clause exempting Gulf of Mexico shrimpers from having to immediately reduce bycatch and sea turtle deaths. The Gulf bycatch averages four pounds of wasted finfish for every pound of shrimp retrieved.

**After three years of negotiation sponsored by the United Nations,** 99 countries agreed in August to a treaty regulating commercial fishing in all waters, including sovereign waters. The treaty will take effect when and if it is ratified by at least 30 nations.

**State warnings against eating fish from polluted waters** now cover one mile out of every 25 miles of U.S. rivers, and one acre out of every seven acres of U.S. lake surface, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. There were 20% more such warnings issued in 1994, the EPA said, than in 1993.

**At least one Danish power station still burns fish oil** to generate electricity, according to *London Daily Telegraph* environment editor Charles Clover, five years after the practice was supposed to have stopped. The plant consumes 1.5 million tons of small fish per year, and won't be converted to burn bunker oil until mid-1996.

**Formed in 1957 when sharks ate five swimmers in 100 days,** the Natal Shark Board is now selling an electronic shark-chaser called the Protective Oceanic Device, which can be attached to diving tanks or surfboards. The POD was developed as an alternative to the shark netting the NSB annually strings around the beaches of the KwaZulu-Natal coast. About 1,100 sharks drown in the nets each year, becoming so entangled that they can no longer swim to keep water passing over their gills.

Saying the bass are back, from Maine to North Carolina, **NMFS on September 25 proposed** lifting a 1991 ban on striped bass fishing in east coast waters.

**Ruffe, a European perch species** found in the St. Louis River in 1987, have now spread from Lake Superior into Lake Huron, says the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. "Lake Huron will be more suitable to the ruffe," said Michigan DNR biologist John Schrouder. "The ruffe could disrupt the stability of the aquatic ecosystem and severely compete with game fish."

**Seeking to establish fishing claims** in the Spratly Islands, a largely flooded reef archipelago in the South China Sea, Vietnam mined red coral from the reef during the summer through the use of a Russian cargo ship and a mini-submarine formerly used in scientific exploration. The Spratlys are also claimed wholly or in part by Brunei, China, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Taiwan.

major impediments."

The DFO is to announce 1996 sealing policy, including quotas, in early November. The announcement will shortly follow the release of Fisheries Resource Management Conservation Council recommendations concerning cod fishing. The Fishermen, Food and Allied Workers Union, with 25,000 Atlantic Canadian members, has recommended reopening the Gulf of St. Lawrence to cod fishing, claiming stocks have recovered after a three-year closure.

According to Myers, cod stocks are now at about 1% of their former size, and can grow at the rate of 20% per year if fishing remains suspended. Fishing in recent years has depleted the surviving stocks at the rate of 60% per year.

Some Maine coastal fishers and sea pen salmon farmers are now also clamoring to kill seals, claiming they do \$1.4 million in damage per year to the \$40-million-a-year Maine aquaculture industry. The Maine harbor seal population has reportedly doubled over the last 10 years, while occasional harp, hooded, and ringed seals are also now coming into Maine waters from their usual range far to the north. University of Maine professor of wildlife conservation James Gilbert suggests that the seals are attracted because depletion of cod, haddock, and flounder has allowed other fish eaten by seals but not commercially pursued to proliferate. At that, Gilbert says, the Maine seal population is still below historic levels. Barely 6,000 seals were left off Maine when a bounty on them was repealed in 1962.

Seal numbers are also sharply up around Long Island. "Sharks are their principal predators," explains World Wildlife Fund vice president Michael Sutton. "A lot of us suspect it may be the removal of seal predators," through the recent boom in shark-fishing, "that is responsible for the increasing seal population." Shark-fishing has escalated in synch with escalating prices paid for shark fins and cartilage. The fins are in demand in Asia for use in making a soup with purported medicinal properties, while the cartilage is in vogue in the U.S. as a commonly touted quack cancer cure.

Bill Nooter

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# Marine life

## Sea turtles

### The Senate Appropriations Committee

Committee, at urging of Senator J. Bennett Johnson (D-La.) on September 14 approved \$500,000 to monitor changes in the sea turtle population—and \$750,000 to research ways to protect sea turtles without forcing shrimpers to use turtle exclusion devices (TEDS), which they blame for declining catches. Thus pressured, NMFS announced September 18 that it would consider a shrimp industry proposal to set aside sea turtle management areas in the Gulf of Mexico, where turtles would be protected, in exchange for elimination of the TED requirement. Catching flak from both directions, NMFS also faces a lawsuit over alleged failure to enforce TED use, filed July 8 by Earth Island Institute, Help Endangered Animals—Ridley Turtles, and HSUS.

## Cetaceans

### The International Coalition of Fisheries Associations

claiming to represent fishers whose catch represents 40% of the world total, on September 22 endorsed a Japanese proposal to reopen commercial minke whale hunting next spring. Japan officially halted commercial whaling in 1988, but has continued to kill about 300 minke whales a year for “scientific” use—selling the meat.

### The Hawaii County Council

on October 4 asked that the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary not be expanded to include the waters off Big Island, now heavily used by recreational boaters whose activities would be restricted.

**The minority South Australian Labor Party on September 23 pledged to introduce a bill to create a 552-square-kilometer whale sanctuary** as part of the Great Australian Bight Marine Park. The plan was originally offered by the South Australian Research and Development Institute, a government body, but was rejected by Premier Dean Brown in favor of a temporary 175-square-kilometer sanctuary, the status of which will expire at the end of this year.

**The world's most northerly pod of bottlenosed dolphins**, living in Moray Firth, Scotland, are afflicted with an unknown skin disease, Dr. Ben Wilson of Aberdeen University reported September 25. Symptoms afflicting the 130 dolphins include black spots, white rings, swelling, unusual humps, and deformed fins. “They are swimming in a cocktail of chemicals of human origin,” Wilson said. “Any one could be the cause.”

**The Legal Daily, of Beijing, China, said on October 10 that the Yangtze River whitefin dolphin population has fallen to 130, from 187 in 1986, and may be extinct within 25 years.** The dolphins are threatened by both pollution and poaching. The Yangtze receives 37% of Chinese wastewater: 12.8 billion tonnes per year—and due to lack of public

*Manatee. (Photo by Donna Robb.)*

## Sirenians

### Heading home, an 11-foot, 1,200-

pound male manatee believed to be 30 to 50 years old returned briefly to Chesapeake Bay, Maryland, on September 20, where he creat-

## —K.B. WHALE-WATCHING AND SWIM-WITH

**The Australian Nature Conservation Agency** on September 18 recommended restricting whale-watching in breeding areas, accrediting tour operators, and forming a code of ethics for whale-based tourism. The Australian whale-watching industry grew 13% from 1991 to 1994, as more than 500,000 people spent up to \$70 million a year to see whales. Protecting whales from whale-watchers became a public issue on June 2, 1994, when Andrew Curven of New South Wales was photographed standing on the back of a right whale. On September 1, Curven was fined \$500 (Australian currency). He faced a maximum penalty of two years in jail and a fine of \$100,000 for allegedly violating the 1974 National Parks and Wildlife Act—aimed at industrial polluters, not individuals.

**Studying swim-with-dolphins cruises off New Zealand**, Auckland University researchers Scott Baker and Rochelle Constan report that 32% of bottlenose dolphins and 52% of common dolphins change their behavior when the boats approach. Of the bottlenose dolphins, whose average pod numbered 14 members, 23% approached to bowride the boats’ wakes; 4% dived to avoid the boats. Of the common dolphins, whose average pod numbered anywhere from 30 to 100 members, 43% approached to bowride; diving to avoid the boats was not observed. The boats saw 179 pods of dolphins in 156 trips over a year’s

time, including 123 pods of bottlenoses and 56 pods of commons, with an 86% success rate in finding dolphins, and a 37% success rate in attempting swims with dolphins, including 41% success with bottlenoses and 23% success with commons.

**Whale-watching procedures in Canada** are under review after the September 5 exposure deaths of Sharon Kava, Bradley Humphrey, Mike Moe, and Dan Moe, all of Laramie, Wyoming, after a bowhead whale upset their boat 36 miles north of Clyde River on the east coast of Baffin Island. Well within the Arctic Circle, the four were protected only by lifejackets. Their guide, wearing a survival suit, swam ashore and got help. Survival suits are essential to withstand long immersion in any Canadian whale habitat, but **ANIMAL PEOPLE** learned a few weeks earlier in the Gulf of St. Lawrence that only some small-boat whale watching fleets make use mandatory. Others provide just buoyant raincoats, such as are worn by fishing crews.

**Sydney Holt, science advisor to the International Fund for Animal Welfare**, expects a whale-watching boom in the western Mediterranean, where the presence of a resident group of about 4,000 fin whales—the second-largest species—was confirmed last May.

**Brazil has published proposed regulations** to govern whale-watching, closely resembling those in effect in the U.S.

ed a stir last year, before swimming on south. Once native, manatees were hunted out of Chesapeake Bay more than 200 years ago. This year, the same manatee swam to Judith Point, Rhode Island, thrilling tourists en route at Ocean City, Maryland; Atlantic City, New Jersey; and the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, and Coney Island near New York City. The manatee has twice been fitted with radio transmitters, but has shaken them off. Even this may not have been his longest trip. According to Steven Leatherwood of the Ocean Park Conservation Foundation in Hong Kong, Icelandic media in 1987 carried accounts of a manatee seen at Westman Island, off Greenland. "There are many accounts from fishermen and explorers before 1800 of a Sirenian species inhabiting the waters off Maine and Nova Scotia," commented marine mammal communication researcher Jim Nollman. "Farley Mowat documents an account of a skull found in these waters, thought to be from a manatee. This animal is, of course, as extinct as the Steller sea cow," native to Alaska but hunted out during the same era. However, if the northern population were southern migrants, the animal may not actually be extinct, and could in theory reoccupy the range. The catch is that the southern manatee population is itself perilously close to extinction, with under 2,000 left in Florida.

**Commercial gill-nets are pushing dugongs toward extinction** along the northern Australian coast, charge the Australian Marine Conservation Society, the Northern Territory Environment Center, and Greenpeace. The largest group of dugongs left in the world, in Shoalwater Bay on the central Queensland coast, numbered circa 750 in 1987, but is now down to 400. According to a joint statement from the groups, "Dugongs have recently been found tied to mangrove trees or with their bellies slit open to release the buoyant guts: obvious efforts by fishers to conceal the carcasses." Confirming that "several" dugongs were recently "victims of certain types of commercial netting," the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority joined with the Queensland Commercial Fishermen's Organization in expressing "serious concern," and said the agencies had "stepped up surveillance in the area."

cooperation, authorities are apparently still unable to find an unidentified poacher who killed a whitefin dolphin and sold her meat on July 18 at the public market in Wenchang county, Hainan province. Reportedly, no one at the scene tried to stop the killing.

**The former Soviet Navy marine mammal training base** at Sevastopol on the Crimean Sea has opened a dolphin therapy program for emotionally disturbed children, and is attempting to develop other civilian uses for the animals still in custody: reportedly, one trained female dolphin, five trained male dolphins, three sea lions, and 15 dolphins who were recently captured even though a baby dolphin born at the facility last year starved to death because funds to feed the dolphins already on hand ran out. The base once had 70 dolphins, many of whom have been sold abroad. Others are believed to have been released to fend for themselves.

**Fossils believed to have come from extinct species of bottlenose dolphin and sea lion**, excavated south of Los Angeles two years ago by the Mesa Consolidated Water District, were irretrievably lost in mid-September when a school cleanup crew trashed the boxes they were kept in. The loss wasn't discovered for a month. By then whatever remained of the trash-compacted fossils lay under 20 to 25 feet of refuse at a landfill.

*Stellar sea lion. (K.B.)*

## *Pinipeds*

**Togiak hunters set out October 1 to kill 10 bull walruses on Round Island**, within the Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary off the coast of Alaska. The last protected walrus haulout, closed to hunting since 1960, Round Island was opened to Togiak "subsistence" hunters—using rifles and speedboats, with an eye toward Asian ivory and aphrodisiac markets—through verdicts of the Alaska Board of Game and the Alaska Appeals Court last spring.

**The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plan team for Stellar sea lions** recommended in late September that the western Alaskan subpopulation should be listed as endangered, due to low pup survival. Malnourished due to overfishing in much of their range, Stellar sea lions are now listed as threatened.

**A year-long, \$40,000 criminal probe** of the deaths of 30 to 40 female California sea lions at Castle Rock, near San Miguel Island, California, has identified the culprit—a hybrid Stellar/California sea lion bull who crushes the females in attempted copulation. Bull Stellar sea lions weigh up to 2,000 pounds, more than twice the weight of bull California sea lions and 10 times the average weight of a female California sea lion. NMFS will probably shoot the hybrid bull.

**A federal sea lion advisory task force** on September 8 recommended that the NMFS should allow the State of Washington to kill California sea lions at Ballard Locks, to protect endangered steelhead runs. Wardens were authorized to kill sea lions at the locks last year, but did not, although several were held captive under tentative death sentences throughout the spawning season.

**Genetic analysis by Bill Amos of the University of Cambridge, England**, plus field study of 85 male gray seals and 88 females on North Rona island, Scotland, has found that contrary to long-held belief, most female seals are essentially monogamous. The oft-noted competitions among males appear to be for first mating opportunities. After that, says Amos, the females tend to "mate preferentially with previous partners," whether or not their mates remain dominant in the colony.

## *Shellfish*

"**Of the nearly 300 species of freshwater mussel native to the U.S.**," about a third of the mussel species in the world, "half are in serious trouble," *New York Times* science writer John Cushman Jr. warned on October 3. "About 20 are considered extinct, about 60 are listed as threatened or endangered, and about 70 have been proposed for listing." *Fisheries*, the journal of the American Fisheries Society, in 1993 listed only about 70 U.S. mussel species as stable. Zebra mussels, accidentally imported from Europe, are outcompeting native stocks in much of the best remaining habitat. Mussels gained a public profile in July when, seeking to protect mussel beds along the Big Sunflower River in Mississippi, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service tried to halt an Army Corps of Engineers dredging project meant to help farmers. The Big Sunflower mussel beds have been protected since 1972. USFWS thwarted a Mississippi Department of Wildlife and Fisheries attempt to reopen commercial musseling on the Big Sunflower in 1994.

**The last three known white abalone**—all males—reside at Proteus Sea Farms in Oxnard, California, awaiting an experiment in captive breeding that can only proceed when and if someone finds a female. One of the abalone was captured in 1992, the rest earlier this year as result of an intensive search by volunteer divers.

**Having excavated surf clams to near extinction** on Long Island Sound by 1991, commercial clammers are now doing likewise along the island's Atlantic shore, where the clam population fell from circa 8.9 million in 1993 to just 5.1 million in 1994. A proposed management plan for the clam beds is two months overdue.

**Oysters, known to carry potentially deadly bacteria** that only cooking kills, also may carry viruses that cause stomach flu, say researchers Kathy Kirkland of Duke University and Sharon McDonnell of the Centers for Disease Control. Cooking at normal heat doesn't kill the viruses. McDonnell found 140 cases of stomach flu among guests who ate oysters at 38 parties held on New Year's Day 1995 in Georgia and Florida.

## Still no sweetness and light at Sugarloaf

**SUGARLOAF KEY, Fla.**—Controversy over the Sugarloaf Dolphin Sanctuary flared again on October 4 when marine mammal veterinarian Joseph Geraci, brought from Canada by the National Marine Fisheries Service to do yet another of many inspections of the site in recent months, flunked Sugarloaf health care in a four-page report to Dale Schwindaman, USDA Deputy Administrator for Regulatory Enforcement and Animal Care. Geraci called for either "a major overhaul of SDS philosophy, program and resources," or "relocating the dolphins to one or more facilities with strong established health care programs."

At issue: Geraci believes the Sugarloaf dolphins should be kept sling-trained to enable close inspection and blood-drawing to make sure they do not transfer disease to the wild population. Sugarloaf director of rehabilitation Ric O'Barry—who was away at the time of the inspection—believes all response to human command must be extinguished, to insure that the dolphins pursue a wild way of life upon release instead of hanging around harbors begging.

"You take blood once a year," O'Barry says. "We've done that. We're in compliance with all the NMFS regulations. We've been found in compliance every time we've been inspected, 38 times in the past year, probably costing taxpayers over \$100,000."

Sugarloaf now has five dolphins. Three ex-Navy dolphins are ready for release, O'Barry says. Two others, the former Ocean Reef club dolphin Molly, and Sugar, kept at Sugarloaf since it was a tourist resort, might be suitable for day release, says O'Barry, with the option of returning at night.

Geraci has been controversial himself since 1980, over allegedly cruel experiments done to see if dolphins can survive becoming fouled by oil slicks; the deaths, apparently in his custody, of at least five dolphins captured from the Mississippi Gulf, one of whom was still listed as "alive" in his Marine Mammal Inventory report until 1992, five years after she died; and a report he published in 1988, asserting that 750 dolphins died off the Atlantic Coast in 1987-1988 due to the toxic effects of a red tide. Necropsies reportedly found no red tide-related toxins in some of the remains, but did find PCB concentrations in the dolphins' livers of up to 6,000 parts per million, about 100 times the level commonly found in healthy dolphins.

## Down in Monterey

**MONTEREY, California**—Alarmed by the decline of sea life within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, stretching from the Golden Gate area off San Francisco to the vicinity of Hearst's Castle at San Simeon, diver Ed Cooper of Pacific Grove and underwater photographer Kevin McDonnell of Seaside have proposed strengthening the existing federal protections by creating an under-sea park straddling the Hopkins Marine Refuge at Point Cabrillo, just west of the Monterey Bay Aquarium. The park would ban all fishing and marine life collection within an area extending 200 to 300 yards offshore, to a depth of 60 feet.

The plan has the tentative approval of local governments and planning bodies. "We've been surprised how little opposition there is," McDonnell told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. The final okay must come from the California Fish and Game Commission.

The park would be named for marine biologist Edward F. Ricketts, remembered by former employee John Steinbeck as "Doc" in the 1940 novel *Cannery Row*. Ironically, as operator of a laboratory supply house, Ricketts was perhaps the most prolific sea life collector in the region ever.

"He did a lot of collecting," McDonnell acknowledged, "but so did John J. Audubon. It was a different world, and if Ricketts was around today, he probably wouldn't be collecting."

Cooper and McDonnell broached the park idea in July, just days before Representative Sam Farr (D-Calif.) led a successful floor fight to convince the House to restore \$2 million of a \$3 million cut in the National Marine Sanctuaries budget.

Amid the debate over both the Cooper/McDonnell proposal and the budget cut, 17 sea otters were found dead or dying in Monterey Bay and nearby Morro Bay, including 11 females—10 adults and a pup—who apparently succumbed to dehydration and starvation, as did several hundred common mures and other seabirds who turned up dead along the coast from Monterey Bay to Bodega Bay. What brought the conditions on remains unknown.

"We tested for natural causes and manmade causes," said veterinarian Tom Williams of the Marine Mammal Center in Tiburon. "Everything came up negative. It was not infectious, not poisonous, not toxic. The diagnosis is open."

## They finally made it

*Tammie, 43, and Annie, 37, settled in at the Performing Animal Welfare Society sanctuary in Galt, California, during the first week of October—a year after their original scheduled arrival date. The two Asian elephants, captured from the wild as babies, were retired from the Milwaukee County Zoo after becoming a cause celebre in 1991 when Humane Society of the U.S. investigator Michael Winikoff alleged the zoo had abused them. HSUS campaigned to have the elephants relocated to PAWS, and raised funds toward the estimated \$150,000 cost of expanding the PAWS facilities to house them, but withdrew from the project after kicking in just \$35,000. The zoo put up \$25,000; Derby raised the rest. At PAWS, Tammie and Annie share a one-acre pen with a wading pool and heated barn, adjacent to the quarters of two young African elephants. (Photo courtesy of PAWS.)*

## RELIGION & ANIMALS

Brigitte Bardot "was the picture of elegance," for a September 27 audience with Pope Jean Paul II, a day before her 61st birthday, Reuter correspondent Jude Webber reported, "clad in a tight brown trouser suit, low-cut pink top, wearing flowers in her upswept long hair." Said Bardot after visiting the Pope, "We talked of animals, of course. He told us he thought of them, and they need our help." Bardot quit her film career in 1973 to devote herself to animal protection.

Monsoon floods inundated the temple at Pathum Thani, Thailand, in early October, revealing to newspaper photographers an elephant named Diamond whom abbot Pra Kru Udom Pawana-pirat has kept chained to a tree for nearly 20 years to attract worshippers. The temple sells the visitors food to give Diamond—but he rarely gets enough. Diamond "is skinny, bony, and not healthy, especially mentally," said Friends of the Asian Elephants Foundation representative Leutchai Kladsri, who tried unsuccessfully to buy him. Objected Pawana-pirat, "I never torture him."

Radio "sex doctor" Ruth Westheimer read from a prayer book in Brooklyn on October 3 while a friend swung a live chicken over his head in a Hassidic Yom Kippur rite called "shlug kaporos." After the swinging, the chickens are killed according to kosher law and given to the poor.

Faith healers caught a male and female crocodile on September 30 in Yaounde, capital of Cameroon; dressed the male in a fake beard and pants; painted the female's claws with red nail polish; and burned both alive as "bewitched."

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## Trafficking

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on September 25 intercepted 60 bear gallbladders that were hidden among a ton of reindeer antlers arriving from Russia at the Anchorage International Airport.

Hong Kong customs officers on October 4 seized 1,500 dried dog penises, airmailed from Thailand labeled "Chinese medicine." To be sold as a tonic to boost male sexual performance, the penises were valued at 87¢ each.

**British Columbia on October 17 laid 29 charges** of smuggling bear gallbladders against 11 individuals and businesses as result of a July raid on several stores in Vancouver's Chinatown.

**Arrested on September 6 at the Los Angeles International Airport**, accused Chinese wildlife parts traffickers Zhongri Gao, 36, Yongzhe Jin, 34, Xianglu Jin, 35, and Songyue Li, 35, are to go to trial November 28 in Los Angeles. They pleaded innocent on October 2 to charges of illegally importing bear bile, blear gall bladders, rhino horn, and tiger bone products into the U.S. Xianglu Jin was allegedly caught with 57 vials of dried bear bile, labeled as ginseng.

**Human Rights Watch** charged on October 5 that environmental researchers Nadira Kidoyatova, 27, and Asya Turaniyazova, 35, were arrested on July 11 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on suspicion of trying to export "cattle skins," and were forced to have abortions because Uzbek law doesn't permit the detention of pregnant women while awaiting trial. Kidoyatova was said to be three months pregnant while Turaniyazova was purportedly six months pregnant. Khidoyatova is niece of former Uzbek ambassador to the U.S. Bobur Malikov, a leading opponent in exile of current head of state Islam Karimov.

## ELEPHANTS

The Smithsonian Institution and Malaysian National Parks and Wildlife Protection Department on October 5 began an attempt to track rogue elephants by satellite. The idea is to head the rogues—believed to be just a few individuals among a wild herd of about 2,000—away from potentially lethal conflicts with farmers and villagers. The Smithsonian has used the same technology to track mountain goats in India and Tibet, and turtles in the Philippines. The transmitter/collar each elephant must be made to wear costs \$6,000, project coordinator Michael Stuwe said, and the annual cost of tracking could be as high as \$10,000 per elephant.

**The British group Care for the Wild** on October 20 urged the governments of South Africa and Zimbabwe to stop culling elephants, presenting data from a panel of experts assembled at the University of Pretoria to indicate that a larger elephant herd would encourage both eco-tourism and the restoration of natural cycles to wildlife habitat. "Culling is an unscientific practice," charged ecologist Chris Styles, "and it ought to be abolished as a management tool." South African president Nelson Mandela earlier this year cut the national culling quota to 300, from 600 under his predecessor.

## Hunting predators

California governor Pete Wilson on October 17 signed a bill to put the state ban on puma hunting back before the voters. The state legislature halted puma hunting in 1972, when the puma population was estimated at 2,400. An initiative approved by voters in 1990 made the halt "permanent," except when pumas threaten people or livestock. Hunting groups claim the puma population is now up to 6,000, and have amplified reports of puma sightings over the past few years, especially since two women were killed in separate attacks during 1994.

**Responding to complaints from sheep farmers and beekeepers**, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources will hold hearings in November on a proposal to permit bear hunting in Garrett, Baltimore, Talbot, and Arundel counties. About 200 bears live in Maryland.

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## European trapped fur import ban closer—maybe

**DENVER**—The likelihood Europe will finally implement a 1991 ban on the import of U.S. and Canadian trapped fur—if only as a gesture—increased October 2 when International Standards Organization technical committee on trap standards chair Neal Jotham, of Canada, acknowledged that, “There is no possibility of reaching a consensus” on what constitutes a “humane” trap.

The ISO concession enables the enforcement of European Council Regulation 32254/91, adopted five years ago as an ultimatum to the fur industry to either end cruel trapping or cease the import of trapped fur. Under the regulation, use of leghold traps will simultaneously be banned throughout the EC nations, effective on January 1, 1996.

As much as 70% of all fur trapped in the U.S. is exported to Europe. Thus the import ban, if it sticks, could cripple the already declining trapping industry.

However, warns Friends of Animals’ president Priscilla Feral, “The fight isn’t over.” The trade departments of the U.S., Canada, and the European Union have created a Working Group on Trilateral Standards, in a second attempt to define “humane” trapping. Unlike the ISO committee, Feral says, “The Working Group is a closed-door affair, loaded with people who are sympathetic to the fur industry.”

To keep it that way, Feral says, U.S. Trade Representative Michael Kantor has excluded from the U.S. delegation anyone associated with animal protection. “All members are either apologists for the fur industry or trade bureaucrats,” asserts Feral. “FoA has repeatedly tried to meet with people from Kantor’s office, but they have cancelled every appointment, and now don’t

even return our calls. U.S. and Canadian trade officials have threatened that Europe must accept furs caught in leghold traps and other cruel devices, or they will complain to the World Trade Organization that the European ban unfairly interferes with trade.”

Before the WTO tribunal, the fur industry believes, it will prevail by terming the fur import ban “a process standard,” governing how a product is made, in violation of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs.

“But this is a moral issue,” Feral insists. “And it’s every bit as evil to sell goods obtained by immoral cruelty as it is to accept the import of goods made by slave labor, a rightful concern of U.S. trade policy. By what measure can the U.S. try to force Europe to accept the import of fur caught in barbaric traps with the European Union forbids their own citizens from using?”

To avoid a WSO confrontation, European ISO participants several compromises. However, the U.S. delegation, led by Tom Krause of the National Trappers Association, demanded that the global market continue to accept the pelts of animals caught in any traps now legal, including steel-jaw leghold traps—used in the U.S. and Canada, but banned in most other nations, because they are considered to be unacceptable cruel and nonselective.

The U.S. delegation also rejected proposals to permit use of leghold traps during a phase-out period of “another five to ten years,” said FoA representative Bill Clark.

Some European participants unsuccessfully offered a so-called sunset clause, Clark said, as an amendment to the EC regulation, which would have outlawed such traps only after the expiry of a grace period.

### Imports also down

Traditionally the U.S. is both the world’s top exporter of trapped pelts, and the top importer of finished fur garments. But according to Department of Commerce statistics released in September, U.S. fur imports during the first six months of 1995 fell 44.5% by unit volume, from 173,931 to 96,528, and fell 39.2% by dollar volume, from \$55.2 million to \$33.5 million.

These were the sharpest six-month dips in the 20 years the data has been officially tracked and published—confirming ANIMAL PEOPLE projections, a year ago, that the retail fur market was glutted.

Ballyhooing a comeback that was more of a leveling off after five years of steep decline, the fur trade press in December 1994 stoked outbursts of auction fever that brought the sale of 34 million mink pelts at the major auctions worldwide during the next six months. Fifteen million of the pelts were stored leftovers that failed to sell in previous years, at prices of up to half again higher than the winter before.

The strong sales brought an increase in mink breeding. The world pelt supply increased in 1994-1995 from 19 million to 22.6 million. But actual pelt sales crashed to just 12.8 million.

The total volume of U.S. mink garment imports fell 52.6%, from 37,326 in the first half of 1994 to just 17,683 in the first half of 1995. The dollar value of mink imports fell 67%, from \$22.9 million in the first half of 1994 to just \$7.5 million.

Non-mink fur imports fell 11%, from \$17.9 million to \$15.8 million.

## Sea Wolf seeks to spare foxes

**SAN RAFAEL, Calif.**—The Sea Wolf Alliance is seeking final U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approval for an experiment in the nonlethal humane extirpation of non-native blue foxes from Elma and Inikla islands in the eastern Aleutians, to be supervised by Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge senior biologist Ed Bailey.

“If the immuno-contraceptive which is the subject of our study proves to be permanent in blue foxes,” reports Sea Wolf Alliance president Jeanne McVey, “it will be used by the USFWS in place of lethal methods of fox removal, such as leghold traps and cyanide. On some of the larger, more rugged islands, our immuno-contraceptive will, we hope, be used in place of poisoned drop-baits.”

The idea is to manage the foxes to extinction by preventing reproduction. The effort is to be led by wildlife veterinarian L. Lieblad, advised by Dr. Jay Kirkpatrick.

USFWS has been trying to kill the foxes since the mid-1960s, explains McVey, “to restore nesting grounds for seabirds and waterfowl who evolved without terrestrial predators. The introduction of foxes to these islands early this century for the purpose of commercial pelt production was an ecological catastrophe, and led to the near-extinction of the Aleutian Canada goose and other species.”

Donations toward the project may be sent to the Sea Wolf Alliance at POB 150818, San Rafael, CA 94915.

## Coloradans seek trap ban initiative

**DENVER**—Colorado People Allied With Wildlife will on February 1, 1996 begin seeking the 54,000 signatures needed to put an anti-trapping, snaring, and wildlife poisoning initiative on the 1996 state

farmers, as ‘animal damage control.’ On July 13 CDOW passed the new regulations after creating loopholes that nullified the few positive restrictions.”

“The Humane Society of the U.S. is provid-

### Fur notes

Depressed global fur markets have reportedly kept a large percentage of Russian pelt production on the domestic market, bringing a domestic fur boom. Russian fur exports dropped last year from \$62 million in 1992 and \$64 million in 1993, to just \$30 million worth in 1994.

**IBAMA**, the Brazilian wildlife protection agency, intercepted an average of 26,000 poached pelts per year on Amazon tributaries, 1975-

ballot. A Colorado State University survey commissioned by the Colorado Division of Wildlife found earlier this year that 61% of the electorate would favor such a ban, with 28% opposed and 11% undecided. Addresss CPAW c/o Robert Angell, 702 S. Corona St., Denver, CO 80209; 303-722-3966.

"The decision to try a ballot initiative was made after all other avenues were exhausted," said Angell in an October 9 appeal. "In 1990 an anti-trapping bill was shredded in the state senate natural resources committee. Last year a bill to appoint wildlife commissioners in a different manner and to reorganize and reorient the activities of CDOW met a similar fate in the state senate agriculture committee. At the same time, animal activists, at the invitation of CDOW, were meeting with trappers in 'stakeholder meetings' to draft new furbearer regulations," after a CDOW-sponsored study by Dr. James Fitzgerald, of the University of Northern Colorado, found that 11 of the 12 current trapping seasons could not be justified by available biological data. "After seven months of this," continued Angell, "CDOW drafted modified regulations that on the surface curtailed killing by traps, snares, and poison. In fact, the regulations left the decision to use these methods up to ranchers and

ing our main support in terms of political advice," Angell's appeal added. "Unfortunately, HSUS," with assets of \$23 million, "cannot provide major financial support because of commitments made to other initiative campaigns long before we existed."

Accordingly, CPAW solicited dues of \$5,000 each from steering committee members, rejecting an in-kind offer of office space and equipment use from Animal Rights Mobilization when ARM! didn't have the cash. ARM! is one of two national animal protection groups based in Colorado. The other is the American Humane Association, also not as yet part of CPAW. ARM! volunteer Kristin Gruebmeyer was reportedly the only trapping foe to attend each of the stakeholders' meetings.

On the CPAW steering committee besides Angell and Wayne Pacelle of HSUS are rancher Don Christian, southern Colorado coordinator for the 1992 initiative that banned spring bear hunts; Billie Jean Smith, M.D.; and Russ Thenhaus, another veteran of the anti-spring bear hunting campaign.

A similar HSUS-backed anti-trapping initiative effort in Massachusetts is reportedly in trouble due to lack of volunteer petition-carriers. To participate, call 617-424-8846, 617-284-9181, or 617-773-7558.

1979, but just 184 in 1992 and none this year, says enforcement chief Jose Leland Barroso, whose staff boards and inspects 1,300 boats a month.

**FoA sent a rubber backbone** to John Kennedy Jr., publisher of the fashion magazine *George*, after he vetoed publication of the same antifur ad, "How fur looks before the gassing, clubbing, and electrocution," that appeared in the October **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "We have to wonder why compassion for animals is too controversial for a magazine which features cigarette ads, Cindy Crawford in male drag, and an article on Madonna as president," wrote FoA president Priscilla Feral. "While this backbone is only made of rubber, we thought it would be better than none at all."

**U.S. fur farm production continues to drop to new lows**, according to new USDA statistics. The 457 U.S. mink farms still operating produced 2.5 million pelts in 1994, and bred 708,300 females to produce pelts for 1995. Only 47 farms reported raising foxes.

**George and Bunty Clements, who in 1953 founded The Fur-Bearers**, a.k.a. the Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals, have retired after 25 years of running the organization fulltime. Their successors are Michelle Clausius, on the job for a year at the Vancouver office, and Camilla Fox, who recently took over the California office.

**The House Rabbit Society** asks that letters objecting to the sale of rabbit pelts be addressed to the Conner Prairie Museum, 13400 Allisonville Road, Fishers, IN 46038-4499. Museum director of public affairs Brenda Myers incongruously responded to an HRS letter of protest by stating that, "The pelts we sell originate in Spain." Asked Jacquie Lewis of HRS, "We wonder whether that matters to the rabbits."

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## COURT CALENDAR

### Collector suits plague humane groups

**LOS ANGELES**--The July 3, 1993 seizure of nearly 100 animals from alleged Los Angeles animal collectors Wayne and Barbara Chronister continues to have ramifications, as the Chronisters on July 30 of this year sued the Humane Task Force, the Pet Assistance Foundation, Last Chance for Animals, and 13 individual rescuers for purportedly defaming them and illegally depriving them of property.

At least one defendant, realtor Carole Ellis, promptly countersued for defamation and libel.

The rescue groups obtained warrants and raided when the Los Angeles SPCA and L.A. County Animal Control balked, expecting complications. Greenbrae attorney Larry Weiss, representing Ellis, cites the case as a textbook example of legal problems that arise in trying to prosecute collectors.

"Increasingly, collectors who have been deprived of their animals are suing the county that confiscated them or the individuals or organizations who took part in the operation," Weiss wrote in the Summer 1995 edition of *CHAIN Newsletter*. "On occasion they have even been able to persuade a credulous judge that they were indeed the victims and not the perpetrators of a crime. At the very least they continue to waste the time and scant resources of humane organizations."

Weiss' rules for avoiding such suits: "First, get a conviction for something. A misdemeanor is fine, but at least get something so you can put the defendant on probation. Trust me, probation is your only ace-in-the-hole with a collector. If you don't get a conviction, you are likely to be sued. Second, include a stipulation, as part of any plea bargain, that the defendant was the owner of all the animals seized. If you don't, then sure as Fatal Plus is blue, the brother, sister, or daughter is going to say 'These were my animals,' and produce a manufac-

tured bill of sale to prove it. Third, contact the district attorney and the probation officer prior to sentencing and make sure intelligent conditions of probation are recommended," including surrender of all claim to confiscated animals; agreement that the defendant shall pay impound costs; a pledge that the defendant shall not threaten, abuse, annoy, harass, or molest anyone involved in the prosecution; and a pledge that the defendant shall have no other contact with anyone involved in the case.

As if to further underscore Weiss' points, Thomas Horvath, 46, of Matteson, Illinois, on October 17 sued the city for condemning his house on July 7 and seizing 31 cats from the allegedly feces-filled premises. Horvath claims 15 of the cats belonged to his sister in Arkansas.

### Other cases

**John and Laurine Dimino of New York City have sued the American SPCA for \$1,450,000** for allegedly euthanizing their 21-month-old Siberian husky in November 1994 without offering them a reclaim opportunity. The suit charges that, "The ASPCA's Staten Island facility and Brooklyn shelter, where the ASPCA transported the dog from Staten Island, were both closed to the public for the entire time that the dog was there."

**Private no-kill shelter operator Pat Klimo of Ringwood, Illinois**, on October 18 won more time to relocate the 80 animals she has at her home. Klimo was cited on May 13, 1994, for running an "animal care shelter" illegally in an area which does permit the maintenance of private kennels. Klimo was to have moved all the animals by October 2, but McHenry County judge Gerald Zopp said he'll need until November 28 to determine if the order is legally valid.

## Watson gets 30 days

**ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND**--A jury on October 9 found Captain Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society innocent of endangering the lives of the crews of the Cuban trawler *Rio Las Casas* and his own vessel, the *Cleveland Amory*, during a high seas encounter on July 28, 1993, but convicted him of simple mischief for enabling members of OrcaForce to throw noxious buteric acid from the *Cleveland Amory* to the desk of the *Rio Las Casas*. Watson was thus cleared of counts that could have brought him a double life sentence, but drew a felony conviction, a fine of \$35, 30 days in prison in addition to the six days he served after his arrest, and most significant, a "prior"--his first in 22 years of frontline activism--in the event he should again be arrested.

The rap, though less serious than such common offenses as drunk driving, breaking-and-entering, or simple assault, could potentially inhibit Watson's international movements. "We're going to appeal it," Watson said, "but I'll be kept in jail meanwhile, and it will take at least two weeks to get an appeal before a judge."

A more immediate problem for the Canadian government was finding a place to keep Watson where his presence wouldn't bring further media attention to the weaknesses of Canadian fisheries policy. OrcaForce commander Lisa DiStefano told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that Watson was moved four times in his first week as a prisoner, shuttling among maximum security facilities where at each stop he was an instant hero to most inmates.

### May backfire

"This conviction is going to backfire," Watson predicted. "Canadian fisheries minister Brian Tobin has been charged with piracy by Spain in a Canadian court for doing exactly what we did, but two years later, intercepting a foreign fishing vessel in international waters. If I'm a pirate, he's a pirate. If I did mischief, he did mischief."

Watson was cheered to learn in trial

in his goal of protecting depleted cod stocks. The episode cost Canada \$4.2 million dollars, Watson said: \$3.2 million for the small armada of boats and helicopters that shadowed the *Cleveland Amory* throughout its voyage, and \$1 million for the trial, including the cost of flying the *Rio Las Casas* crew to Newfoundland as witnesses and putting them up at a hotel, where observers said they ate as if they'd never before had plentiful food.

### Trading fish for seals

One down side of the conviction was that Watson was unable to do much to draw attention to an October 19-20 conference among the fisheries ministers of Canada, Norway, Iceland, Russia, the Faroe Islands, and European Union deputy-general for fisheries Jose Almeida Serra, of Spain. Tobin announced afterward that Canada might soon lift its 1988 ban on the entrance of EU fishing vessels into Canadian ports, while the EU would re-examine its ban on the import of Canadian seal pelts. In effect, Tobin seemed to say, he tentatively traded protection of the fishery on which the Atlantic Canadian economy is based for a chance to revive sealing, a six-week industry even at peak.

"All issues related to the seals should be analyzed and decisions taken on scientific evidence and advice," Almeida Serra said. "However," he added, "any decisions should be incorporated with public opinion."

While Watson was in effect charged as an accessory to throwing buteric acid at the *Rio Las Casas*, no one was charged with the throwing itself. Buteric acid is a harmless chemical which stinks like vomit. Although DiStefano and other members of Sea Shepherds and OrcaForce were available to Canadian authorities both in 1993 and during the trial, no move was made to arrest any of them.

OrcaForce is to the Sea Shepherds as the Marines are to the Navy, Watson told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** shortly after the incident. Although DiStefano is also Watson's consort,

# Humane enforcement

**Alan Roberts, 29, of Westminster, California, was on October 16 acquitted of a cruelty charge for beating an eight-month-old Akita/chow mix to death with a baseball bat last July, an hour after the free-roaming dog mauled his 19-month-old son Andrew in a Huntington Beach parking lot as the boy waited for his mother, Stacy Morton, 32, to unlock the family car. The jury deliberated for three hours. Andrew, who had done modeling work, required 60 stiches, plastic surgery, and psychological counseling. The dog's owner, April Wyld, 28, leashed the dog to a nearby fence afterward, and again left him unattended. Wyld, charged with negligence, has rallied Orange County People for Animals in her support. ANIMAL PEOPLE has received no response to inquiries as to why animal control didn't impound the dog for rabies observation in the hour between the attack on Andrew and Alan Roberts' return to the scene after rushing Andrew to a hospital.**

**Convicted cat torturer Joseph Kreckel, 23, of Milwaukee,** on September 28 told Waukesha Circuit Judge Lee Dreyfus that he didn't intentionally mistreat animals. Perceiving "a psychological issue or problem," Dreyfus sentenced Kreckel to four months of work-release jail time, 100 hours of community service, two years on probation, to seek counseling, and to donate \$350 to the Waukesha County Humane Society—and barred him from owning animals.

**Charged September 8 with beating his girlfriend's Chihuahua to death** on August 27, Barton Richard Brock, 37, of San Jose, California, told Santa Clara Valley Humane Society investigator Michael Frazer that he only hit the dog on the head the way he used to hit his son to wake him up after the boy cried himself into exhaustion. Brock no longer lives with his son. Veterinary records showed the dog had been twice hospitalized with head injuries after being left in Brock's care. With priors for burglary, assault, and drug charges, Brock was held on bail of \$45,000—but because the burglary and assault cases pertained to the same incident, he faces a maximum sentence of 32 months in jail, not life under California's "three strikes" law.

**Cat breeder and veterinary technician Laura Duffy, 37, of La Honda, California,** on September 6 accepted a sentence in settlement of an August 7 plea bargain obliging her to give up custody of 26 cats, two horses, and five goats; to serve 30 days in jail plus three years on probation; to pay restitution to the Peninsula Humane Society; and to receive counseling and treatment. Contending she was framed, Duffy drew early support from other San Mateo County cat breeders who spoke of making her April 29 arrest a court test of the San Mateo County breeding regulations, but most later backed away.

**Crack dealers and prostitutes told David Dawson of Montgomery, Alabama,** to surrender to Montgomery Humane Society executive director Mary Mansour in mid-September, because her two-officer stakeout of his neighborhood was bad for business. Dawson was wanted for bludgeoning his own two Labrador retrievers. When he did surrender, he drew the maximum six months in jail and a fine of \$500 from Montgomery City Court Judge Curtis Springer. Mansour's conviction rate, perhaps the best in the U.S., stands at 98% in 87 cases tried.

**Alan Dahle, 34, of Haugen, Wisconsin,** was charged on September 27 with disorderly conduct after his daughter, 13, told friends and social workers that he shot a springer spaniel the family had owned since 1989 and poisoned their goldfish on September 14 because his 12-year-old son played hooky from school and didn't listen to him. The children's mother, Lori Dahl, took a four-month-old Labrador to the Humane Society of Barron County in Rice Lake so that the Lab wouldn't also be killed. The Lab was adopted out to another family. Lori Dahl, the 12-year-old, and three younger siblings buried the spaniel by flashlight that evening.

**Accused of asking his riders, "Should I hit it?"** and then squashing a dog in March 1994, school bus driver Daniel Paulus, 46, of Fredonia, Wisconsin, pleaded guilty on October 17 to mistreatment of animals, and agreed to pay \$700 to the Ozaukee County Child Abuse Prevention Fund.

testimony that the *Rio Las Casas* fished no more after the 1993 encounter, taking a \$63,000 loss—and that the whole Cuban fishing fleet withdrew from the Grand Banks. Watson thus belatedly found he had succeeded

Watson said he had no prior knowledge of what the OrcaForce tactics would be. His job, he said, was simply to get OrcaForce to the scene of the action.

## Alleged sportsmen

**The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled 6-0 on September 27 that hunting is not a constitutionally protected right.** Two duck hunters cited for exceeding bag limits had contended that the Pennsylvania Game Commission unconstitutionally links prosecutorial and judicial functions in the appeals process for accused game law violators.

**Judge Wilhelm Hart of Hardin County Municipal Court** in Ohio ruled recently that since religion does not compel the Amish to hunt deer, the Ohio requirement that hunters must wear blaze orange does not violate the Amish taboo against wearing bright colors. Brothers Samuel and Joas Bontrager of Kenton, Ohio, held that their faith exempted them from wearing orange.

**Joseph Callais, of Chalmette, Louisiana,** on September 19 became—apparently—the first person accused of violating the new state law against selling fish caught under a recreational permit. The law, which also bans gill-netting, was adopted to protect declining redfish stocks.

## Direct action

**Mia Salli and Minna Solonen, each 19, of Finland,** are to go to trial in October—tentatively—for releasing 600 foxes last May from two of the 400 fur farms in the village of Uusikaarlepy, human population 7,000. They admit the releases, but claim a defense based on moral necessity. The leading witness against them was a third accomplice.

**British animal rights militant Geoff Sheppard,** who spent 1988-1992 in prison for arson attacks against furriers that did an estimated \$15 million worth of damage, was returned to prison for seven years on October 2. Sheppard was arrested on May 26 for "possession of a shotgun and items to manufacture incendiary devices."

**Ruling on September 29 in response to a suit brought by humane officer Keith Mohler,** of Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, Common Pleas Judge Todd Hoover, after viewing video of the 1994 Erdman Sportsmen's Association pigeon shoot, ordered the association to allow only experienced adults to kill wounded birds at this year's shoot, held October 1; barred kicking, swinging, stomping, and slamming wounded birds; required shoot staff to search surrounding areas for wounded birds; and required state police to monitor compliance.

**Sixteen Norwegian sealers on October 1 filed a \$381,700 libel suit** against TV-2 in Oslo, Sweden, for the February 1989 broadcast of an anti-sealing film made by Swedish freelance journalist Bo Landin and former Norwegian sealing inspector Odd Lindberg. Norway suspended the hunting of newborn seals, called whitecoats, due to international outcry over clubbing scenes that the sealers say were filmed in Newfoundland.

**Organized Fisherman of Florida** in August sued 16 TV stations in five cities for airing allegedly misleading ads in support of the Florida ban on commercial gill net use, adopted by referendum in November 1994. The ban took effect July 1.

**Alistair Jackson, southeast region spokesperson for the British Field Sports Society,** was charged with assault on October 7 for allegedly punching a hunt saboteur at a Cattistock Foxhunt cubbing meet.

**East Northants Against Blood-sports leader Clive Richardson** on October 8 won a judicial ruling that the Woodland Pytchley Foxhunt must disclose their tax returns and other details of their financial affairs in order to sue him for damages. Four days later, arson damaged a trailer belonging to Richardson, parked outside his home—reportedly the fourth violent attack on his person and property since December 1993.

# REVIEWS

## Purring In The Light: *Near-death Experiences of Cats*

by Stephanie Samek, illustrated by Larry Ross  
 Plume Books (375 Hudson St., New York, NY 10014), 1995.  
 128 pages, paperback, \$7.95.

I made room for this gem by sweeping a number of quasi-religious New Age best sellers, classics, and so forth off my shelves, because I think I have found a system here that could comfort and sustain me along with my innocent and surely mystical cat. The view of transition and realms-to-come contained in the chapter called *Burmese Book of the Dead*, together with the *Credo For Cats*, sounds quite appealing.

Of course Samek intends a lovely spoof of things human readers will recognize, deftly done, with hilarious punning. I'd like to quote the whole thing here and now. It is that charming. Samek barely tapped her talent when she did ad campaigns for Whiskas and Sheba cat foods. Larry Ross, her illustrator, is in company worthy of his fame.

We hear about such enticing cats as Madame Blavatsky, who is returned to her body; Cat Cupids explain karma. Catskirt proverbs enlighten us. A Japanese Bobtail Proverb is quoted: "You never have to mew sayonara."

## OBITUARIES

**Edward Lowe**, 75, inventor of Kitty Litter, died October 4 in Sarasota, Florida, from complications of surgery to relieve pressure from a cerebral hemorrhage. In January 1947, Lowe, a 27-year-old Navy veteran, was working at his father's sawdust business in Cassopolis, Michigan. Their customers were mostly factories and garages that used sawdust to sop up oil and grease spills. As oil-soaked sawdust could become a fire hazard, they had also begun to sell kiln-dried granulated clay as a more costly alter-

Skipping around among chapter titles, how about *Rendezvous with a Cat Goddess*, or *Astral Fun and Games*, or *No Purring in Purgatory*, or *Transfurmations*? All these are there and much, much more. Remember, these are near-death experiences, and after the Nine Lives Review, cats return to lead improved lives. Thanks to Samek, we now have info straight from the cats.

—Phyllis Clifton

*"To be absolutely wise and good—that is perfection; and the Theosophist is so keen-sighted as to have observed that everything desirous of improvement eventually attains perfection. Less competent observers are disposed to except cats, which seem neither wiser nor better than they were last year.*

*The greatest and fattest of recent Theosophists was the late Madame Blavatsky, who had no cat."*

—Ambrose Bierce, *The Devil's Dictionary*

**Helen Nearing**, 91, author and vegetarian activist, died September 17 in a single-car crash near her home in Harborside, Maine. Born in Ridgewood, New Jersey, she married New York City professor of economics Scott Nearing, 21 years her elder, just as he was blacklisted for his Marxist views. "We wanted to control our own source of livelihood," they wrote together in *The Maple Sugar Book* (1950), their first commercial success among more than 50 titles they produced. "The community left us

## Tracking the vanishing frogs

by Kathryn Phillips

Penguin Books USA Inc. (375 Hudson St., New York, NY 10014), 1994. 244 pages, paperback. \$11.95.

Stanford University, of Palo Alto, California, in late September gave up hope of completing on schedule a new graduate student housing complex near Lake Lagunita, a usually dry mudflat where football rallies were held almost every fall from 1897 to 1992. The student spirit committee moved the rallies when someone found California tiger salamanders, supposedly extirpated from the region, trekking to the remnants of the lake across a busy highway. Stanford has now rescheduled construction to avoid building the parking lot during the three-month salamander migration season.

Stanford's concern for amphibians is rather unique—so much so that nearly half the world's known amphibian species, including frogs, toads, newts, and salamanders, went extinct or entered serious decline during the 1980s before anyone recognized a global pattern to the losses. Unique regional circumstances often contributed. A cleared tract of rainforest, cattle trampling a stream bank, a vogue for eating frogs' legs, or the introduction of trout to a mountain lake all have wiped out amphibian species overnight.

In the 1980s, however, many amphibians were lost without any such obvious direct threats. The golden frogs of Costa Rica vanished from the middle of protected habitat in 1987 without a previous sign that they were in trouble. Trying to find out why, researcher Martha Crump learned other amphibian biologists around the world were also mystified by inexplicable extinctions. In 1990, at last, they joined together to sound the alarm. Individually, most amphibian species are ecologically unimportant. Their loss hurts the food chain for some predators, but other species generally

take over their habitat. Collectively, however, the abrupt loss of so many members of one of the oldest orders of life is a warning of major ecological change.

*Tracking The Vanishing Frogs*, focusing on California frogologists Mark Jennings and Mark Hayes, is a nonfiction murder mystery. Kathryn Phillips builds suspense, drops clues, and gradually reveals the killer much as it was revealed, bit by bit, by science. Amphibians, it seems, have low resistance to a particular form of ultraviolet radiation. Thinning of the ozone layer due to pollution has resulted in more of this radiation striking the earth, especially at higher elevations. Sitting in the sunlight to warm themselves enough to move away from danger, amphibians ironically absorb deadly doses.

As *Tracking The Vanishing Frogs* went to press, marine biologists discovered that increased ultraviolet radiation is apparently also responsible for drastic drops in the amount of krill and plankton in the seas off Antarctica and California. This in turn hurts fish, sea birds, and marine mammals, especially baleen whales. Nature often quickly fills ecological voids, and oceans are exceptionally stable ecosystems, so perhaps strains of krill and plankton with more resistance to ultraviolet radiation will soon emerge—but soon, in evolutionary time, may be too long for whales already on the brink of extinction.

—Merritt Clifton

native. One day cat-loving neighbor Kaye Draper asked to buy some sawdust because her sand box had frozen. Lowe suggested that she try the clay granules instead. When she returned a few days later to get more, Lowe filled 10 sacks with five pounds of clay granules apiece, wrote "Kitty Litter" on the sides, and tried to get a local store to sell the sacks for 65¢ apiece. Since sand went for a penny a pound, the store declined. Lowe insisted that the sacks be given away as free samples. Customers came back asking for "Kitty Litter" by name, so Lowe filled his car with hand-filled bags and hit the pet store and cat show circuits. Cat ownership soon skyrocketed, more than tripling from 1960 to the present (while dog ownership didn't even double). Credited with making the growing interest in cats possible, the litter business boomed to the point that when Lowe sold Kitty Litter to Ralston Purina in 1990, he walked away with \$200 million plus shares of stock. Kitty Litter, subsidiaries, and rival makers of clay-based litters together have sales of as much as \$700 million a year.

**Glenn Grodin**, 34, animal rights activist, died abruptly of apparent natural causes on October 12 at his home in Beechview, Pennsylvania. At deadline, the death was still unexplained: a strict vegetarian, Grodin neither smoke nor drank, and exercised regularly. A student of civil disobedience whose first activist cause was opposition to war, Grodin met Kathy Merletti, of Squirrel Hill, Pennsylvania, at the 1990 March for the Animals in Washington, D.C., and cofounded the group Animal Passion with her in 1993 because, as his longtime friend and roommate Bill Frizlen said, "Animals are the only group that doesn't have a voice." Said associates Matt Ball, Anne Green, and Jack Norris in a joint statement to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, "Glenn touched the hearts of all area activists with his positive outlook and sense of humor in the face of suffering and injustice." Added his uncle, actor and talk show host Charles Grodin, "He was dedicated to his causes and put his life out there for what he believed." Memorials may be sent to Animal Passion, POB 2242, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

no choice in the matter, by denying the chief wage earner of our family the opportunity to practice his profession." For 20 years they farmed in Vermont, then moved to their famed Forest Farm in Maine in 1952—now to be kept as a retreat center by the Boston-based Trust for Public Land. By then the Nearings were leaders of the back-to-the-land movement, running counter to urbanization, that peaked in the late 1970s and early 1980s when the exodus into rural areas briefly exceeded the influx into cities for the only time in this century. The Nearings worked each day from dawn to noon at "bread labor," producing their own food and other necessities, and then from noon to dark on intellectual effort. Though the Nearings kept a car and a pickup truck, they otherwise allowed only animal-or-human-powered equipment on their farm. Only after Scott's death did Helen even install a telephone. They formed the Social Science Institute in 1953 to publish their political and economic tracts; issued their most famous book, *Living The Good Life*, in 1954; and had other hits extolling vegetarianism and simple living with *Continuing The Good Life* (1970), and *Building and Using Our Sun-Heated Greenhouse* (1971), which popularized solar construction. After Scott's death at age 100 in 1983, Helen produced two more pro-vegetarian hits by herself, *Wise Words on the Good Life* and *Simple Food For The Good Life*, both of which appeared that same year.

Your love  
for animals  
can go on forever.  
The last thing we want is  
to lose our friends, but you  
can help continue our  
vital educational mission  
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### NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC REALLY WILD ANIMALS

Contact ANIMAL PEOPLE for details.

## Coming events

**November 3:** *The Welfare of Cats*, conference hosted by the American Veterinary Medical Assn., Chicago. Info: 800-248-2862.

**November 5:** *Seventh Annual Lone Star Vegetarian Chile Cook-Off*, \$5.00, sponsored by the Vegetarian Society of Houston. Info: 713-880-1055 or 521-2774.

**November 17-19:** *Cat Fanciers' Association 1995 International Cat Show*, McCormick Place, Chicago. Info: 908-528-9797.

**November 24:** *Fur Free Friday Rally*. New York: 10 a.m., Columbus Circle, 60th St. and Central Park West.

**November 24:** *Fur Free Friday March*. Chicago: 12 noon, State & Adams.

**December 31:** *Deadline for Sol Feinstone Environmental Awards nominations*. Info: 315-470-6683.

**February 18-20:** *Sowing Seeds National Humane Education Conference*, Monterey, California, sponsored by the Animalearn division of the American Anti-Vivisection Society. Registration deadline: January 5. Info: 215-887-0816.

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Fellow lover of animals,

. . . and suddenly my prayer was answered. There in the distance

I spotted Bruno . . . a hungry old shepherd . . . stumbling along the trail . . . hurrying to get a morsel of food . . . before it was all gone.

Watching him amble toward me, gray around the muzzle, I wondered who abandoned him in the forest . . . and why.

Every time I fed him . . . I felt his loneliness . . . his longing to be loved

. . . just once in his life.

Bruno always watched me hug the other dogs when I rescued them . . . and he just looked up at me, sadly. My heart always ached for him . . .

I desperately wanted to rescue him.

This morning, he was late . . . and I soon found out why.

Bruno had injured his leg.

In order to get him medical attention I had to immediately lure him into our cage trap . . .

. . . it was risky because if I failed, he might never come near me again . . . he wouldn't trust me.

He watched as I loaded the trap with his favorite can of food. Then I walked away while he went up to it and began eating.

Five times he entered the cage and backed away.

But finally . . . on the sixth try . . . he went all the way in and tripped the door. I was overjoyed!

. . . they even ate

paper sandwich wrappers.

I was so shaken by this, I drove to the city and bought four large fifty pound bags of dog food.

Back in the forest, I spread them over the ground.

Then I whistled for the dogs--they ran toward my car . . . all 35 of them! What a sight! I can still see their faces . . . all my old friends.

They dove into the food piles up to their elbows and started munching

loudly . . . while they ate, they smiled at me . . . thanking me for helping them.

Moved to tears . . . I never left their side.

We were together in the cold winter rains--when they were sick with pneumonia . . .

. . . and I put medicine in their food to help get them through it.

I remember feeling so helpless that I couldn't do more for them . . . my best friends were homeless . . .

. . . living on the cold ground . . . trying to sleep through the pounding storms . . . in puddles of water--rain beating constantly on their heads.

Running up to it, I hugged the trap with the nervous Bruno in it. He calmed right down . . . I poked my fingers through the cage on the ride to our shelter, stroking his face . . . he pushed his head into me for more.

Bruno was probably a "junk yard" guard-dog. He never knew the love and tenderness of a real family . . . and when he was too old and stiff to work anymore he was taken "for a ride" . . .

. . . abandoned . . . in the wilderness . . . left to starve to death slowly . . . to die alone.

I've been feeding hungry, frightened dogs--abandoned in the forest--for years.

People who want to help me save them . . . donate \$30, \$50, \$90 or more to feed them in the forest, rescue them . . . and care for them.

Whenever I show up these abandoned dogs . . . expecting a feast . . . gather around the van. One at a time they eventually begin to trust me . . .

. . . when they do, I pick them up and take them to our no-kill sanctuary. But Bruno always stayed just out of reach.

I rescued many dogs at this spot . . . a campsite in the forest . . . but never Bruno . . . until this lucky morning.

Now at our 89-acre "No-Kill" sanctuary, for the first time in his life Bruno is loved and cared for. He doesn't have to "earn his keep" . . . and every day he trusts a little more.

And the other day he wagged his tail at me!

Bruno is living proof of the difference our love can make . . . and the difference you can make to an abandoned dog with no hope of survival.

For \$30 you can feed an abandoned dog like Bruno . . . for \$50 you can neuter him and treat his wounds . . . for \$90 you can give him warmth and love at our sanctuary.

Bruno always had plenty to eat in the forest . . . thanks to people who care . . . but it wasn't like that when I first started rescuing abandoned cats and dogs.

. . . back in 1979. I still remember that morning as if it were yesterday . . .

. . . sadly, I found 35 dogs in the forest that day . . . so hungry they knocked over garbage cans full of picnic trash . . . trying to find a morsel of food . . .

It took a full year to get them all out of the forest, but I did . . . before the next winter's rains. I found loving homes for some, but many I kept myself . . .

. . . I was too much in love with them to say "goodbye."

I didn't start out to build the only dog and cat wilderness rescue organization in the country. It just happened . . .

. . . because of these 35 beautiful dogs . . .

. . . and as each one passed away over the years, my sadness became a renewed commitment to dedicate my life to saving their friends . . . whatever it takes.

I'm here for these animals . . . 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

With your gift of \$30, \$50, \$90 or more today, I can continue to feed them, rescue them . . .

. . . and shower them with love . . . at our spacious 89-acre sanctuary . . . home to over 750 abandoned cats and dogs.

They can stay as long as they like . . . because we run a "No-Kill" shelter. When it gets crowded, we build more.

And it gets crowded!

## YES, LEO! I want to help save an animal like Bruno, abandoned in the

\$30 to rescue a pet, like Bruno, in the wilderness.

\$50 to spay or neuter and medicate this animal.

\$90 to care for him at our No-Kill Shelter.

\$250 to care for a mother and her litter.

Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me your free book of animal rescue stories, *Is This The Place*.

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Please make your check payable to: D.E.L.T.A. Rescue. Your gift is tax-deductible.

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Wild Burro Rescue is an IRS tax-exempt organization which totally relies on community support. All donations go directly to the rescue, rehabilitation, and care of the wild burros.





Because of the poor economy, people are dumping their pets at an alarming rate.

We must all do something about it.

What can you do?

Simply fill out the coupon below and support this mission with a gift of \$30 to rescue a starving animal--like Bruno--in the wilderness . . . . or \$50 toward his neutering and medical care . . . or \$90 to care for him at our huge sanctuary . . . or even more.

Your gift will make the difference . . . for at least one animal like Bruno. For his sake . . . send right now.

For the animals,

Leo Grillo, Founder



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