

Why They Can Hunt On *Your* *Land--and what you can do about it!*

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Posting sign

Posted your land yet?

If you're among the 56 million Americans who live in a nonmetropolitan area, chances are that you have, long since. If you didn't, but value your safety and security, you'd better hop to it, because if you don't, your chances of getting the law to respond to reports of armed intruders may be mighty slim from the end of summer until after Christmas. Fall, according to state and federal wildlife agencies, is hunting season, or rather a succession of hunting seasons: small game, dove, waterfowl, turkey, grouse and pheasant, archery, muzzleloader, deer, bear, and a variety of others depending upon what's left alive in your neck of the woods. Anyone with a rifle or shotgun, especially if carrying a big knife as well and dressed in camouflage, is presumed to be hunting legally until there are dead human bodies--*unless the land is posted.*

If your land is specifically posted against all hunting, trapping, *and* trespassing, and if you can iden-

tify the invaders, you can privately prosecute for trespassing, a tort that usually carries a fine of under \$100. The cops still won't respond unless you are physically harmed or threatened when you approach the invaders inform them of their offense, and tell them to leave, but at least they can't prosecute you for "hunter harassment," which they otherwise could in at least 41 of the 50 states with similar legislation pending in several of the rest. If your land is posted and the invaders actually kill an animal, you might even be able to get police or a warden to respond to a call and lay charges of illegal hunting--if they don't cart off the evidence and abscond before the authorities get there, typically at a leisurely pace because peace officers who try to enforce hunting laws are nine times more likely to be killed in the line of duty than those who work the toughest beats in the most drug-and-violence-ridden inner cities. They don't want to confront gun-toting strangers any more than you do.

(continued on page 6)

ANIMAL

News For People Who

PEOPLE

Care About Animals

Hurricane Andrew: Noah was there!

Disaster spotlights preparation

MIAMI, FLORIDA -- Thousands of animals drowned, were swept to their deaths by winds reaching 200 miles an hour, or were crushed by falling trees and collapsing buildings. Fragile habitat was harmed from southern Florida to coastal Louisiana. But while Hurricane Andrew hit too suddenly for anyone to build an ark, thousands more animals were saved from the August 24 disaster through the prompt efforts of volunteer rescuers. As the human relief response came under critical scrutiny from victims and the media, observers had only praise for the contributions of animal control and humane workers.

For one thing, the animal rescuers were better prepared than many who participated in human relief. Humanely capturing terrified animals was nothing new, nor were long shifts on a limited budget. The animal rescuers also found that even limited advance planning went a long way in the pinch.

"Most communities don't fit animals into their disaster plans," explained Karen Medicus, director of the Treasure Coast Humane Society and president elect of the Florida Animal Control Association. "But we did actually have some framework among ourselves that gave us some basis for cooperation." Just outside the hurricane area, Treasure Coast Humane was put in charge of coordinating activities, according to Medicus, "because we had the clearest phones. While Medicus herself rushed to help staff at the Humane Society of Greater Miami and Metro Dade Animal Services, her assistant Beth Whipkey fielded calls and relayed messages.

"We're just absolutely bonkers down here," Whipkey admitted to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** two weeks after Andrew hit, but she was managing to respond to most inquiries within a matter of hours--even though locating missing animals often required checking with numerous foster care providers in a variety of locations.

The biggest single problem among many for animal rescuers was, as always, pet identification. Distinguishing lost and frightened pet cats from Miami's huge feral population was difficult, too, as stress caused once-docile house pets to act like ferals when approached by strangers. Twenty-seven pets were reunited with their guardians in the first week post-disaster, but many more could have been, Medicus said, if they had been wearing tags.

(continued on page 5)

(insert photo of smoke bomb in pickup truck)

(insert photo of Ku Klux Klansman)

Above left: a smoke bomb tossed into a pickup truck failed to distract police from demonstrators waiting to rush the shooting area. Above right: Ku Klux Klan recruiters were challenged by an unidentified protester (in black beret).

KKK defends pigeon shoot

2,000 protest Labor Day bird massacre

but 5,000 support it. Time for new tactics?

HEGINS, PENNSYLVANIA -- A pigeon hit point-blank by a shotgun blast looks like a spade-angled angel for just a split second, until the pellets tear her white breast and wings to pieces and she flaps to the ground, awaiting the trapper boys who will wring her head off.

Wounded angels to some, doves of peace to others, and flying rats according to the human participants, 5,000 to 7,000 pigeons are shotgunned each Labor Day at the Fred Colemar Memorial Pigeon Shoot in Hegins, Pennsylvania. Held annually since 1934, the shoot was reputedly dying of disinterest a half century later; but no more. Two thousand protesters turned out this year, nearly double last year's then-record number. Lured by the chance to heckle, be on TV, and maybe see someone get killed dashing in front of the guns to save pigeons, the crowd of shoot supporters doubled as well, to an estimated 5,000. Among them were several motorcycle gangs and two robed and hooded Ku Klux Klan members from Ephrata, Penn., who explained that they saw the event as a good chance to recruit.

The counts were well short of the 5,000 to 10,000 demonstrators and 20,000 shoot supporters predicted, respectively, by the protest and shoot organizers, but were still impressive in a community whose year-round population is only 1,200.

(continued on page 4)

INSIDE:

**Rethinking our bargain
with cats**

Shelter bashing

**Primarily Primates
sanctuary
fights takeover bid**

**Plus letters, news
roundups, and much,
much more!**

Editorials

Welcome to ANIMAL PEOPLE!

With your substantial help and patience, we're here, just six weeks after official incorporation, ten weeks after announcing our intent to publish.

At that, we're a week later than we'd hoped to be. Vital equipment failed and had to be replaced on warranty; learning to use new software took longer than expected; the delay meant we had a lot more news to write up; and we can't yet afford the second Mac system we'll need to avoid pre-deadline bottlenecks.

We're paying no salaries so far. Although we could easily distribute 100,000 copies if we could afford to have that many printed and sent to distribution points, our initial press run is a fraction of that size; we'll get there when we can. Because our start-up capital consisted of only good credit and a contribution from our first subscriber, Mary Melville, we've had to contact other potential subscribers in small increments, a circumstance offset by your overwhelmingly positive response. In fact,

you've given us a rate of return on subscription appeals that direct mail marketing experts swear is impossible.

Our next few issues may also be slightly late, as we progress through our shutdown period. By March, after we take a brief break, we hope to be firmly on schedule. Please bear with us. Write us lots of interesting letters. Let us know how we're doing. Keep the clippings and tips coming about whatever's happening in your community that we ought to cover. Advertise if you've a product or service of interest to our readers. Tell your friends about us. If you belong to an organization whose members might be interested, work at an animal shelter or veterinary office, or have a retail store, ask us for a bundle of free sample copies.

And if you haven't subscribed already, by all means do! Your subscriptions and generous donations make **ANIMAL PEOPLE** possible.

For leadership, look in the mirror

ANIMAL PEOPLE subscribers have been quick to endorse our belief that the most meaningful form of helping animals is tangibly helping animals. We've promised to focus upon individual and community initiatives, together with hands-on care—the things each of us can do by ourselves or in small groups to collectively make an immense difference. After over two decades of animal and habitat protection work at all levels and in most regions of North America, we have come to the inescapable conclusion that most of the progress on most issues has come about not because of national campaigns, but rather through one-on-one persuasion, often in the virtual absence of national campaigns. The number of homeless dogs and cats euthanized in pounds and shelters is down from over 20 million per year a decade ago to under eight million now as result of the unending efforts and experiments of local humane societies. Only a handful of national groups even touched this issue in any serious manner before 1990, and only one, Friends of Animals, put a penny into providing low-cost spay/neuter. The number of hunters in the U.S. fell from over 20 million to circa 15 million during the past decade, while only one of the ten biggest groups made hunting a primary focus. The number of vegetarians in the U.S. has tripled or quadrupled, but the Humane Society of the U.S. actually backed away from an apparently successful anti-meat-and-eggs campaign in the mid-1980s, the American SPCA backed away from endorsing vegetarianism just last year, and the other biggest groups, while officially pro-vegetarian, have largely left the matter to the smaller groups who specialize in agricultural and health issues.

This is not to argue that the large national groups are irrelevant. At their best, many have played effective support roles. The American Humane Association's train-

actively tried to squelch our coverage). In view of our experience at *The Animals Agenda*, briefly recounted elsewhere in this edition, a casual reader who has not talked to the sources and seen the documents we have could conclude we are waging a vendetta. But we didn't seek out these stories: they came to us. Moreover, the greater issue is not what we personally think of an individual who, in his own words, wants to transform his group into "the National Rifle Association of the animal rights movement," nor is the issue our opinion (or anyone's) of another individual who admits she considers any tactic justified in what she imagines is an Armageddon with herself as avenging angel. We recognize that in any cause there is room and need for many styles of leadership and many shades of philosophy, as well as for people who share certain values but not others, and may not like each other. (The anti-slavery struggle, to name just one required the services of the misanthropic Henry David Thoreau, the apocalyptic John Brown, the righteous Harriet Beecher Stowe, and the wisecracking, tolerant Abraham Lincoln.)

The central issue we see has to do with priorities and the authenticity of leadership. An effective leader, in our view, is someone whose conduct draws emulation and support—freely given. Lastingly effective leaders in an ethical cause don't habitually engage in unethical conduct, whatever the pretext; nor do they have to, because manipulative ability isn't what changes social values.

This is not to argue that leaders must be superhuman. Martin Luther King Jr. for instance, may have plagiarized portions of his Ph.D. thesis as a young man whose moral beliefs had not yet been tested and reshaped by his subsequent experience in the civil rights movement. He was an older, wiser man a decade later when, in his own

ing seminars for local humane society staff are an outstanding example of what national groups can and should be doing. Younger but bigger and more flamboyant groups have provided noteworthy support to locally based anti-fur and anti-dissection campaigns.

Of late, however, supporting roles don't seem to satisfy many of the best-known players. Some, pretending to political clout they have not yet demonstrated, use unending direct mail campaigns to siphon donations away from local humane societies—often encouraging the misconception that some of the money goes back to hands-on animal work. There are indications that others whose strength grew from support efforts are now actively undercutting the people they once encouraged.

Thus in our premier edition we pay much more attention than we would like to the machinations, actual or alleged, of national group leaders (some of whom

words, he gave us his “I Had A Dream” speech. If, under considerable personal stress King engaged in extramarital affairs, he did so outside the sphere of his leadership; his cause was racial harmony and social justice, not domestic harmony and fidelity.

It should be plain to most of us that the most effective leaders we have known have *not* been superhuman. On the contrary, those to whom we have most responded have more often been friends, family, and chosen teachers. When we have been part of social transformation, we have seen these people change along with ourselves, well before the words of great leaders meant anything to us, and even longer before anyone in government responded with anything more meaningful than a form letter.

ANIMAL PEOPLE holds that the formation of an “NRA of the animal rights movement,” if indeed it can be done, would be antithetical and even irrelevant to the cause of overcoming cruelty. In the first place, the struggle is not about rights so much as it is about responsibility, and in particular about accepting responsibility for our effects upon other creatures. At least ten times as many of us are actively engaged in promoting kindness toward animals than feel any identification with the rhetoric of animal rights. In the second place, powerful political institutions are essentially conservative, since they must draw upon existing opinion, and thus can work only to negative purpose, opposing change. To seek change would be to erode their own strength. In the third place, the model of dominance and control exemplified by NRA-type politics is precisely opposed to the model of empathy and cooperation that underlies our conviction that a gentler way of relating to animals and nature is both possible and essential.

ANIMAL PEOPLE further holds that there are very few deliberate enemies of animals in the world (a belief it is admittedly sometimes hard to maintain). Despite the atrocities we all witness, ours is not ultimately a fight against evil; it is a struggle against ignorance. Most cruelty, in our observation, is less deliberate than it is the result of cultural blindness. In some parts of Africa a man who has his wife clitoridectomized may think of himself as kind because he rarely uses a stick when he beats her—and he values that opinion of himself, because he values kindness as he understands it. Here, a man who routinely tortures fish on a hook may think of himself as kind because he does not hunt mammals. A woman who keeps far more cats than she can feed or clean up after may think of herself as kind because she doesn't have any of them euthanized. Regardless of our situation, we cannot respond to suffering until we recognize it, and we generally recognize it only a little bit at a time, each recognition leading gradually to further recognitions, which we tend to pass along to whomever we inspire by our own examples.

The most effective leader you know should be the one you see in the mirror. Do what you can do, as well as you can do it. Give your own efforts first priority; they are, after all, most important, whether you're doing hands-on care; writing letters to newspapers; or simply providing your own family with vegetarian meals and the lessons of kindness. There is a time in every cause when helpful and supportive national and international organizations can assist and empower local activists, but even the best such organizations do not create the climate for change, nor does their existence substitute for inspirational individual and community-based effort. In the end, it isn't organizations that make a difference, nor is it law, since laws that are not generally respected for heartfelt reasons are also not generally obeyed. What does make a difference is that each one of us will do something differently because someone whose opinion we value—someone who might even be in the mirror—showed us a better way.

ANIMAL PEOPLE

News for People Who Care About Animals

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Guest Column:

Violence and hatred won't stop the pigeon shoot

by Marjorie Spiegel

The string is pulled. The lid of the box opens, and a bird flutters a few feet up into the air and is immediately shot once, twice. If it is a clean shot, the bird lies motionless. The crowd cheers. "That one's dust," says a spectator. If the shooter is less accurate, we see one wing, perhaps, twitching in the air, or a bird struggling on the field. Boys in yellow shirts run to the birds, throw a body in the bag, twist a neck, then into the same bag. Sometimes a commotion: someone has made it onto the field. She is pursued, yet reaches the string lines or the boxes. The lids open, and eight or so pigeons fly off to freedom, the most beautiful sight on a day filled with much to be sorry for.

That is the essence of the Labor Day pigeon shoot in Hegins, Pennsylvania: some people wish to use these pigeons for target practice, and others wish to see this ended and to let the pigeons go free.

Yet those of us in Hegins this year witnessed much more, and many found it as disturbing as the shoot itself. To enter the park where the shooting took place, hunters and hunt supporters had to pass through a double-sided aisle three deep with protesters. Many of the protesters shouted anti-hunt and other slogans as the people entered. I myself was confronted by a woman who repeatedly screamed "Murderer!" at me, a few inches

from my face, as I waited in line to see the shoot first hand. On this day, I heard people say things to people they presumed were hunters or shoot supporters that I had never before heard one human being say to another.

People were ridiculed for their style of dress, their presumed education levels, and their physical appearance. It didn't stop there. Men were accused of beating their wives, mothers and fathers of abusing their children, and comments were made about incest and inbreeding. People were told they should be ashamed of themselves. One protester was overheard telling a child who was holding his parent's hand that he should have been an abortion. By the time many entered the park, they were in tears. And the animosity raged, so that the only discourse that took place over the fences that literally and symbolically divided us were further venomous shouts of hatred.

A simple explanation for sport hunting is that people experience some sort of psychological pleasure from exercising dominance and releasing aggression and frustration through violence to other beings. Yet this is precisely what some of the protesters did on Labor Day to the supporters of the shoot. Instead of conveying our beliefs to other people, instead of endeavoring to perhaps instill compassion or respect for other living beings,

we vented our anger and frustration about the situation toward the people whose actions we hoped to change.

This Labor Day many pigeons were freed by protesters and escaped their planned death. Others who were against the shoot crossed the fence lines, spent the day talking with people about the issues, and found them to be interested and receptive to discussion. Yet the overwhelming accomplishment that day was waging an emotional and psychological war against people who still have very little idea of the issues involved.

If we are ever to be successful in creating change, we must realize that the people on the other side of the fence are just like ourselves. Positive and lasting change will not occur through becoming enemies with the very people whose opinions we hope to sway. Hatred and intolerance are part of the problem in our society and it is hard to imagine that they could also be part of the solution. And as for using them to effect change, it's never worked before. It won't work now.

Marjorie Spiegel is the founding director of the Institute for the Development of Earth Awareness, and the author of The Dreaded Comparison: Human and Animal Slavery. IDEA is located at P.O. Box 124, Prince St. Stn., New York, NY 10012.

Letters

I am feeling sad and sick about what is done to helpless animals. After receiving photos of torture for almost two years from PETA, Greenpeace, In Defense of Animals, et al, I feel I just can't stand it. Is this normal? I have saved 10 kitties and my neighbors always have my cats in their yard. I spend lots of time saying "I'm sorry." I wish I could have more, but I look like some nutty cat lady. Anyway, back to my question: how do I stop feeling bad?

—Alexandra Robertson, Rocklin, California.

I want to personally thank you for your wonderful, loving, and hard work in saving many homeless cats. The wretched felines are overlooked too many times. I myself have been doing feline rescue work for a few years; besides the expense and work, it breaks my heart...Reading about animal rights efforts is very good; hands-on work is excellent. I do it all, but I give myself to the suffering cats I see on a daily basis. To overlook their plight is both ludicrous and hypocritical.

—Ana A. Garcia, Astoria, N.Y.

We've already requested copies of the 1991 tax filings of the biggest animal protection, habitat protection, and anti-animal protection groups; if the Internal Revenue Service and New York State Charities Bureau can get them to us fast enough, we'll publish the most important budget, assets, and salary information in our December issue.

Last year, staff and volunteers from the South Carolina Wildlife Department taught the violence and cruelty of hunting to over

Hunting apologists often argue that youth who hunt generally don't join street gangs. This argument ingenuously ignores that hunting is a rural phenomenon; street gangs exist almost exclusively in big cities. In both environments, young men with guns account for a disproportionate number of both homicide perpetrators and homicide victims.

Can ANIMAL PEOPLE take or state conservation commissions who endorse such things as shooting captive birds to train hunting dogs?

The only way we know is to take comfort in having done your best. And often even that doesn't help.

The exposure of lies and hypocrisy is one of the things I expect in a publication of any valid social change movement. Should we expose an adversary's glaring hypocrisy yet never engage in any self-criticism? When huge national organizations send out a constant barrage of junk mail exclaiming how desperately they need money, yet have executives who earn five to 20 times more in a year than I do because of my personal commitment to simple living, that exploitation of good will induces both discouragement and bitterness.

--Pete Gardiner, Laramie, Wy.

My husband is being forced to retire from the U.S. Army in a few months (the peace dividend!), and our financial situation, in a country struggling through a depression, will be difficult. I can afford only the necessities now, but your publication is a necessity.

—Pattie Reber, Marietta, Georgia.

Keep those group financial reports a top priority—nothing could help the animals more!

—Mary Peterson, Dingwall, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Much thanks for your support. We most respect and admire the work of those who personally relieve suffering—and you can bet we will keep up the group financial reports.

10,000 children in 156 public and private schools across the state. The 10-hour course, "Hunter Education," is also taught in a classroom setting to Boy Scouts, church groups, and various camp outings sponsored by the department. Nationwide, over 650,000 students take such courses each year; there are over 20 million graduates. At a time when government and law officials are struggling to find ways to decrease violence in our homes, schools, and neighborhoods, what justification do these branches of government have to continue teaching violence, cruelty, and recreational killing to children in public schools?

—Katherine Trimnal, Columbia, South Carolina.

--Cecily Westerman, St. Louis Missouri.

You bet. One of the common rationalizations we hear for holding pigeon shoots is that they're really no different from "live bird training"--without the dogs.

Welcome to New York! Do you accept visitors or volunteers? I would love to stop in next time I'm nearby.

--Joe Connally, East Syracuse N.Y.

We're not really set up to handle a whole lot of traffic, but if you'll be around and would like to lend a hand with something, give us a shout. Thanks for thinking of us.

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Pigeon Shoot

(continued from page 1)

Eight years after the first protesters staged a lonely vigil outside the killing fields, the Hegins shoot has become what protest organizer Steve Hindi terms "the line in the sand" between cultures with little apparent common ground. The issue isn't pigeon-shooting any more: it's manhood. Dominance. A matter of who's going to back down first and what army is going to make him. Or her. Or them. Some shoot supporters argue that it's a clash of urban versus rural, that the protesters are out of touch with the reality of their version of nature, to kill or be killed. Others say it's a matter of tradition, or of maintaining their rights.

But the chants, signs, postures, and costumes make plain that Hegins is, most of all, a battle of the sexes. Outside the killing field, a crowd composed of seven or eight women to every man waves signs and banners suggesting that the men inside are, at best, substituting weapons for limp masculine equipment, while Steve Hindi, Meyer Taksel, and other camouflaged anti-pigeon shoot "black berets" swagger about in parody of the shoot supporters, few of whom appreciate their burlesque. (Arriving before 6:00 a.m., the black berets routed early-coming shooters by holding a raucous vegan breakfast at the picnic tables set up just behind the firing lines.) Inside, the sex ratio is almost the opposite. The eventual trophy winners shoot from the shoulder with methodical indifference toward the crowd as well as the birds, but younger shooters swivel their hips like Elvis Presley, weapons held just above penis level, looking back to make sure the women both inside and out are watching their efforts to be the loudest, crudest, most outrageous--to get the most female attention, of whatever sort.

Outside, the predominant scent is of newly mown grass, with here and there a wisp of herbal rinse or perfume. Except for sporadic chants, applause for those who rush the field to rescue pigeons and are arrested, and some shouting from the relatively few

Banned in Illinois!

Pigeon shoots similar to the one at Hegins would appear to be "prohibited by section 4.01 of the Humane Care for Animals Act, Illinois senior assistant attorney general Michael Luke advised Will County prosecutor Edward Burmila on September 16. The opinion enables Burmila to begin proceedings against the shoot held each Palm Sunday at the Carpy's Cove gun club near Joliet. Burmila sought Luke's advice after viewing videotape of this year's Palm Sunday shoot provided by Steve Hindi, who was jailed for his role in leading a protest organized by the Fox Valley Animal Defenders. Hindi said he would present Luke's opinion to the prosecutors in other Illinois counties where shoots take place.

But the object of the protest may not have been saving pigeons. Ohio wildlife rehabilitator Donna Robb, for one, developed doubts after observing that the pigeons were held in a steel shed before being taken out a crate at a time to be shot. The shed, she claimed, was only lightly guarded; although police weren't far away, protesters might have been able to get inside to release pigeons.

"I told Heidi Prescott," Robb sobbed afterward; Prescott is assistant to Fund for Animals national director Wayne Pacelle, the ranking Fund representative at Hegins. "I told Dr. Neal Barnard." Barnard is a longtime close associate of PETA executive director Ingrid Newkirk. "They said we couldn't send anybody up there because the cops would just go up there after us and prevent anyone from doing anything. But the cops were preventing us from doing anything anyway! We could at least have tried. All it would have taken was a dozen people."

Prescott at first denied remembering the conversation, then said the shed was heavily guarded and that she waved Robb away to avoid being noticed by police just before she ran out on the field. Later, after consulting with Barnard, Prescott told ANIMAL PEOPLE that "several different attempts were made to get in."

Either way, releasing pigeons from a shed rather than the killing field would have been much less dramatic than sprints in front of both blazing guns and TV cameras. Realpolitik anti-bird shoot strategy dictated allowing pigeons and perhaps some protesters to become cannon fodder, on the theory that if the public gets a good look at what goes on, such shoots won't be tolerated much longer. If the shooting actually stops at Hegins, the realpolitik theory continues, such events might go on little noticed at hundreds of private shooting clubs all over the country; Hegins is apparently the last major shoot to which shoot opponents and uninvited media have access.

Realpolitik, however, does not console or convince the compassionate.

"We were used!" Robb raged. "We were brought there just to make a nice crowd, and to be jeered and harrassed by those bozos," the shooters and their supporters. "We

protesters gathered near the killing field entrance, the protest area is quiet. Most of the protesters watch the killing in numb horror; if they talk among themselves, they tend to turn away first.

Inside, the mingled stench of blood, gunsmoke, charcoal, cooking flesh, beer, and unbathed bodies rises like the musk off a tomcat's scent mound. A heavy metal band strives in vain to jack the volume up enough to be heard above the staccato explosions; the result is sense-numbing cacaphony.

Inside, the talk is mostly of weapons and killing exploits: hunting, war. Outside, volunteer veterinarians and wildlife rehabilitators try to save those pigeons who escape the gunners but collapse in the parking lot. More fortunate escapees circle into an overcast sky.

Inside, young men wearing polyester camouflage pants and t-shirts reading "Save a pigeon--shoot a protester!" chant "Nah-nah-nah-nah, hey hey, goodbye!" each time a pigeon flaps to the dirt. A 15-year-old sporting his first wisp of a beard explains to reporters that, "I live to kill and I kill to live," but he admits he's never eaten a pigeon. A younger lad cringes against his mother behind the bleachers as she cheers on her husband, a double-barreled division finalist. The 15-year-old argues that developing a stomach for killing is what really separates the men from the boys.

Outside, Caryl McIntire and Donna Milbourne of York, Maine, make a point of picking up every scrap of litter from the protest area. Inside, by mid-afternoon it's impossible to walk more than a few steps without further flattening a discarded paper cup or beer can.

Arrests

The annual Hegin protests began circa 1984, with a handful of people carrying signs. Annual mass protests started in 1986. After a few years, however, then-protest organizers George Cave and Dana Stuchell of Trans-Species Unlimited realized that the increasingly vocal confrontations were attracting more paying spectators to the shoot, not less. They tried to shift the focus of protest to the Pennsylvania state capitol, an hour down

Above, clockwise: pigeon shooter; protester; pigeon shoot supporter; child flinching from gunfire; spectators. All photos by ANIMAL PEOPLE staff.

the road in Harrisburg--but the legislature isn't in session on Labor Day, there was no inherent excitement in an unchallenged picket line, and interest accordingly waned among both activists and media until 1990. That's when Hindi, a newcomer to the cause, revived the protest bigtime by challenging shoot organizer Bob Tobash to a no-holds-barred bareknuckles brawl for a winner-take-all purse of \$10,000--which Hindi posted. The prize fight was to replace the pigeon shoot as a fundraiser for the Hegin park and recreation association. While Tobash declined to fight, the offer drew newspaper and TV attention across the U.S. A near-riot on Labor Day '90 drew still more attention, as shoot supporters roughed up a relative handful of demonstrators, most of whom were members of Mobilization for Animals Pennsylvania--products of the same culture as the shooters, but with a markedly different perspective.

Having virtually ignored Hegin to that point, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals suddenly made the protest a top priority. Not to be outdone, the Fund for Animals began holding its annual convention in Harrisburg on the weekend before the shoot, making the protest the climactic event of what became, in effect, a three-day rally. Workshops taught the tactics of civil disobedience. Volunteer lawyers were organized to represent arrestees. And activists responded.

In 1991, over 90 protesters dashed into the killing fields, were arrested, and in many cases did jail time rather than pay a fine to defray the mounting cost of policing the shoot.

But after the 1990 protest, when several Pennsylvania state troopers were accused of brutality, the police became markedly better organized. This year, a police parking lot, double fencing, and mounted police as well as a phalanx of officers on foot kept the demonstrators at least fifty feet from the closest access to the killing fields--unless they paid their way into the spectator area, at

\$5.00 apiece, where they risked injury from shoot supporters if they even feigned a move toward any pigeons. Repeatedly, PETA executive director Ingrid Newkirk tried to lead a mass charge of the field; repeatedly diversionary tactics failed, including a smoke bomb lobbed into the back of a pickup truck. By the time the PETA contingent surged over the first of the two fences, virtually the whole security force knew they were coming, and where they would come from. No more than three or four of approximately 20 people in the charge actually cleared the second fence to reach the pigeons, who by then were surrounded by trapper boys.

Pigeon rescue nixed?

Individual attempts to free pigeons on the field were no more successful, discouraging repetition. Of a reported 114 arrests made during the shoot this year, barely 80 were of protesters. Most of the pigeons who escaped through protesters' actions were released by means other than dramatic civil disobedience: two unidentified children sneaked into a staging area and freed nearly 40, according to the nearest witnesses. About a dozen protesters registered as shooters, then deliberately missed, letting the birds fly off. Sue Johnson of Kittery, Maine, was intercepted on the firing line when shoot officials noticed her unfamiliarity with her weapon. They released the 20 pigeons she was to shoot anyway, after she argued that by paying the \$78 shooters' registration fee, she had bought and paid for their lives. Elizabeth Colville of Long Island saved another 20 pigeons by purchasing them for \$2.00 each--twice what the shoot organizers pay--from a local breeder, a shoot supplier, as he brought them into the parking lot. Following her success, Eileen Cohen of PETA bought the last 160 pigeons on hand for \$4.00 each; the price was rising fast.

have to stop this shoot, but if all we're going to do by protesting is attract more people to spend more money at the beer stand, we'd better find another way."

As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** learned by circulating through the crowd, Robb spoke for hundreds more people than she realized. And even Hindi agreed. "We have to switch our gears," he mused afterward. "Some of the PETA and Fund people are crying and moaning about the way things turned out, and they're talking about either changing tactics or not coming next year. But we don't even see something as blatant as this pigeon shoot, we can't hope to win the bigger issues."

Prescott denied that the Fund might withdraw, but did acknowledge the possibility of changing tactics. PETA held a follow-up protest in Harrisburg on September 27, 10 days after the last protesters were released from jail. In all, about 50 of the arrested demonstrators elected to serve jail time rather than pay fines for trespassing, disorderly conduct, and petty theft (releasing pigeons). Most were sentenced to time served and released on September 9. The cost of keeping the protesters in jail was expected to bring the total price of the pigeon shoot to Pennsylvania taxpayers to nearly \$200,000, including \$125,000 allocated for security on the day of the shoot itself. The shoot was expected to raise about \$35,000 for the Hegin parks and recreation fund.

Charges were also laid against over two dozen shoot supporters, including Raymond Grosser, 40, who allegedly punched a state trooper, then claimed to be a shoot protester. Grosser was charged with aggravated assault. Most of the rest were charged with disorderly conduct, mainly for verbally abusing and threatening protesters. In addition, two shoot supporters were belatedly charged with assaulting shoot protesters at a preliminary demonstration in Hegin last June. Hindi said even more charges against shoot supporters should have been made, but "Anyone in a black beret was totally ignored whenever we complained of harassment." Hindi said he would once again call for an internal investigation of how state police handled matters.

--Merritt Clifton

Hurricane Andrew: more than 40 days and 40 nights of heroic rescue efforts

(continued from page one)

Among the rescuers' first priorities was restoring veterinary services to the storm-battered area. While animal control officers from other parts of Florida donated their time to round up homeless animals, working in teams of four on three-day shifts, veterinarians set up mobile units to examine and treat the animals as they arrived. The American Animal Hospital Association and American Humane Association donated the necessary medical supplies. At least one veterinary mobile unit was mounted on a boat.

By mid-September, the vets were back in their regular clinics, and foster care took priority. The U.S. Army helped set up a tent city where human guardians could search for missing animals, and those without homes could leave animals temporarily while they pulled their lives back together. The lack of facilities for pets of displaced people was cited often by critics of the Red Cross response; Red Cross tent cities barred all pets. Eventually the U.S. Army provided shelter to some pet owners. Others were obliged to surrender their animals to the humane organizations--who were soon swamped. As of September 7, two weeks after the storm, Dade County Animal Services was receiving 75 to 100 animals a day, mostly dogs, and was holding 350 at a time, nearly double the normal capacity. As many as 40 animals a day were being reclaimed, according to director Zoraida Diaz-Albertini, but more foster care was urgently needed, as temporary homes were available for only 15 to 20 animals per day.

Even so, unidentified animals who appeared to be pets got an extension of the usual five-day holding period prior to euthanasia, as humane societies outside the disaster area took in as many as they could, leaving descriptions at the tent city.

"We've got quite a few groups working together," Medicus shouted over the telephone to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** amid the din of ongoing activity. "Every major pet food manufacturer in the country sent food for the ani-

mals. Helping out, we have the AHA, the Humane Society of the U.S., and the International Fund for Animal Welfare," which lent the use of a helicopter.

Curt Ransom and Dennis White of AHA "got to go up in the helicopter," Ransom said from the head office in Englewood, Colorado, a few hours after returning from a two-week assistance mission. "It kind of wipes you out to see all the devastation. Anything you do is not going to take care of everything you see in a crisis like that--you just have to take care of the animals in front of you. There was one property in the flooded area with 48 pigs and 17 dogs that we had to get to. There were two big boars, all on about a half-acre site. Some ducks and chickens were okay, so we left them there with some feed. There were horses standing in water that used to be pastures everywhere. We pretty much had to leave thousands of horses where they were until the water went down," for lack of adequate rescue vehicles.

Horse rescue efforts were assisted by the Homestead and Tropical Park race tracks, who between them took in at least 108 strays.

Louisiana hit, too

While the damage centered on southern Florida, the effects of Hurricane Andrew were felt all along the Gulf coast. A six-year-old giraffe died of stress at the Audubon Zoo in New Orleans. As far away as Independence, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** subscriber Joan Garvey noted that falling trees destroyed 250 feet of chain-link fence on her property, which had to be replaced immediately, "or my dogs would have been scattered all over the state." The New Orleans-based activist group Legislation In Support of Animals coordinated a food drive for shelters in the stricken area with the cooperation of the Louisiana SPCA.

"We gathered quite a lot of food in a short time," reported LISA executive director Jeff Dorson. "Unfortunately a lot of people

Pelicans above, dolphin below.

Many of Florida's animal theme parks were badly damaged. These photos were taken in happier times.

killed, hundreds more broke out of damaged cages, along with reptiles, amphibians, and birds, many of them exotics who had been held by some of the 215 animal dealers in the greater Miami area. More than a thousand primates were believed loose as of September 3. Approximately 100 monkeys broke out of the

with more automobile traffic, the leading cause of panther deaths in recent years. Wildlife ecologists were optimistic that Andrew might have flushed a buildup of sediment out of Florida's fragile offshore coral reefs, which have been close to smothering in some places, but the impact on the drought-

Captive bird shoots nothing new for KKK

While the Ku Klux Klan is a new player in the annual Hegin drama, captive bird shoots, fox hunts, and raccoon hunting with dogs have all long been part of Klan tradition--between lynching black people, Jews, Catholics, and civil rights workers. As recently as November 3, 1989, the Klan held a turkey shoot to mark the 10th anniversary of the Klan-led massacre of five members of the Communist Workers Party during a march at a housing project in Greensboro, South Carolina.

ARRESTED AT HEGINS:

Judith Allen; Melissa Andrews; Noelle Julie Autges; Christine Bartlett; Lorri Bauston; Lucia Beeler; Susan Brebner; Carol Breinig; Linda Buyukmihci-Bey; Ralph Caputo; Patti Cockey; Kathy Cornett; Marla Creech; Bernard Frank Cullen; Bonnie Davis; Jeanne DeGraaf; Jenifer Dodson; Peter Douglass; Nancy Draper; Mike Durschmidse; Christina Fortunato; Eloise Gattuso; Teresa Gibbs; Marjorie Gill; Michelle Grant; Mindy Gregg; Heather Hammond; Sandra Hickox; Christine Jackson; Sheryl L. Jacobs; Lake Jagger; Tanya Jisa; Jean Jones-Toutant; Joyce Karst; Pamela Krausz; Cat Kubic; Lisa Lange; Sandra Larson; Oda Lomax; Madelon MacKenzie; Marjorie Mardis; Joan McCafferty; Tara McDermott; Maria McKillan; Angi Metler; David Michaelis; Ingrid Newkirk; Alex Pacheco; Michael Pfalzer; Heidi Prescott; Kyle Quandel; Janette Reeve; Tracy Reiman; Royse Reynolds; Linda Richardson; Lisa Robinson Bailey; Denise Rosen; Kenneth Ross; Bradford Rothrock; Jessica Sandler; Michelle Sass; Carola Seiler; Seth Sharack; Matilda Shields; Robert Sholis; Carlan Smoler; Doll Stanley; Rebecca Taksel; Trish Tereskiewicz; Scott Van Valkenburg; Marilyn Walcott; Robin Walker; William Walsh; Freeman Wicklund; Jane Winsted; Peter Wood; Laura Yanne; Jennifer Zadig.

who fled the storm left their animals behind. Joel Warner of the SPCA told me they found lots of dead dogs, who were left tied up, I guess to guard property."

Dead animals became a health problem in some areas, and a source of rumors about human bodies buried in the rubble in the poorer parts of greater Miami. While humans and pets were harder hit in Florida, however, the greater toll on wildlife appeared to be in the low-lying Louisiana bayous. Only days before the Louisiana alligator trapping season was set to open, featuring relaxed skinning rules that wardens feared would encourage poaching, Andrew rendered the ongoing bitter debate within the state Department of Wildlife and Fisheries irrelevant. Silting and habitat destruction may have killed half the Louisiana alligator population, Wildlife and Fisheries secretary Joe Herring told media. Tens of thousands of fish died when they were pushed into the "dead zones" caused each fall by decaying vegetation from bayou runoff. The dead fish contaminated miles of shoreline, while oyster beds were buried. The rotting corpses produced algal blooms that in turn depleted oxygen from the water, killing still more fish. A week before Andrew hit, 25 volunteers from the Louisiana Air National Guard 159th Fighter Group built six nests for bald eagles, who have been gradually reintroduced to the Mississippi Delta, a few at a time, since 1986. Their efforts were probably blown away, though no one was able to get out to check. The eagles, at least, were presumed safe, since they migrate north each summer and don't return until fall.

Monkeys

Animals were killed at a number of Florida zoos and aquariums, including a 16-year-old dolphin who died of stress at Ocean World in Fort Lauderdale. "Hundreds of monkeys died," according to Shirley McGreal, president of the International Primate Protection League. "Both the Monkey Jungle," an outdoor site at Aladdin City with about 400 monkeys in residence, "and the Miami MetroZoo were severely impacted."

The simian death toll was unavailable, but it was clear that however many were

Perrine Laboratory at the University of Miami, which set up a "monkey hotline" to try to get them back. Authorities denied that any of the monkeys were infected with AIDS, but warned the public against trying to corner or capture them, to avoid bites. A recorded message on the hotline asked people to leave food for any monkeys they saw, if they had food to spare.

A month after the storm, all the University of Miami monkeys, most of the Monkey Jungle troop, and the Miami MetroZoo troop were accounted for. Those who got away from dealers were another story. In all likelihood the already considerable south Florida feral monkey population would get an infusion of new blood.

"Many of the monkeys who got loose were laboratory primates housed in outdoor corn cribs," McGreal charged. "The Animal Welfare Act requires that facilities for captive animals have sufficient structural strength to contain the captives. The fact that so many monkeys and other wild animals escaped shows that most of the facilities were in questionable compliance." Further, she said, the loss of so many monkeys "will have a ripple effect around the world, and will provide profits for the animal dealers who supply the facilities with replacement monkeys removed from the wild."

Certainly one animal dealer got a break from Andrew. Matthew Block, charged with arranging illegal international traffic in highly endangered orangutans, was scheduled to go to trial in Miami the morning of August 24. West German animal transporter Kurt Schaefer had arrived in Miami to testify against his former associate, along with other foreign witnesses. The hurricane caused a delay in proceedings until at least the end of November. Schaefer pledged he would return then.

Florida wildlife

Twenty-three highly endangered Florida panthers and a number of black bears who had been outfitted with radio collars fled north ahead of the storm, according to state and federal wildlife researchers--possibly into less suitable habitat and certainly into areas

depleted Everglades would probably be a different story. Herons, wood storks, and roseate spoonbills virtually vanished during the hurricane. The high winds meanwhile devastated native vegetation while depositing seeds and spores from countless exotic plants, any of which could take root and prevent the native plants from reclaiming the habitat.

Elsewhere

For all the damage it did, Andrew was only one of a number of devastating storms that hit the world in September. Circ: September 1, the biggest snowstorm to hit New Zealand in 40 years killed an estimated 1.5 million sheep, including approximately one million newborn lambs. Flooding caused largely by deforestation in the Himalayan foothills killed at least 2,500 people in northern India and Pakistan between the 8th and 18th of September. Communications in the area were so badly disrupted that news of the human suffering was hard to come by, let alone word of what had happened to animals. Simultaneously, Hurricane Iniki displaced nearly 8,000 residents of the Hawaiian island of Kauai. As in Florida, pets and captive wildlife were scattered and wildlife habitat badly disrupted. September 23, a severe storm killed 22 people, mostly children, near Avignon, France.

The series of disasters lent urgency to Ransom's hope that the AHA will be able to pull together a conference on disaster plans in March or April of 1993. As valuable as the lessons learned in Florida were to those who participated in that rescue effort, they should be still more valuable to humane societies who have not yet been through a disaster and could suddenly find themselves coping not only with unprecedented disruption of work routines but also disruption of personal support and security. Few animal protection networks are as farsighted as the members of the Animal Disaster Team, an association of volunteers in the Cleveland area, who began holding regular meetings in July to figure out "What if?"

"We hope," mused Medicus, "that something good like that can come of this."

--Merritt Clifton

Why they can hunt on your land--and get away with it!

(continued from page one)

Of course posting your land isn't easy. In Vermont, for instance, you have to put up new posting signs each year, stating your name and the date of posting, and you have to personally register the posting with your local town clerk. That makes the job tough for absentee landowners, the intent of the requirement, which was adopted when hunters became worried that vacationers, ski resorts, and timber companies might among them post almost half the privately owned part of the state off limits. It also makes posting difficult for people who work longer hours than town clerks, which in most smaller communities is practically everyone. In neighboring New York, the signs need not be dated and reposted every year, but they must bear the property owner's name *and* address, an invitation to retaliatory acts such as vandalizing mailboxes and dumping offal in yards. Such retaliation does happen--not just in New York and Vermont. Kathy Cornett of the Middletown Animal Rights Community in Middletown, Connecticut, found a buckskin and head in her yard on December 11, 1991, after she made her anti-hunting position known. Mary Christiansen and family, of Newbury, New Hampshire, have posted their land since 1969. On November 15, 1991, they found a doe's head in their mailbox. A few years earlier, Barbara and Junior Harvey of Dunham, Quebec, refused to allow a party of bowhunters to enter their cow pasture. They found deer legs, a skull, and entrails draped over their doorstep the next morning. Testified I.C. James of Enid, Mississippi, in January 1990, when asked about problems with hunters by *The New York Times*, "I've been threatened on the telephone, my posting signs shot up and torn down, they've burned hay on my place, and their dogs have killed my ducks down on my lake."

Kevin Johnson of Atlantic, Iowa, told state legislators a similar story in December 1989, pleading for more stringent penalties against hunters who trespass--the only offense most can be charged with prior to killing an animal, since most will claim they were only out for a walk with a gun for company, not hunting, if charged with a hunting offense. "It's so bad that when the deer season opens, farmers don't leave their houses,"

No Hunting or Trapping sign

--Photo by Robert Harrison

In the Middle Ages, when wildlife belonged to the king and authorized members of the nobility, the presumption was that no landholder would object to the presence of hunters. Of course most landholders were members of the nobility, whose main occupation after making war on one another was hunting. The peasants owned no land. Instead, they worked sections of "the common," or untitled land, which were theirs by tradition but not by deed--and as recorded in the 14th century British poem *Piers Plowman*, they in any event tended to welcome armed help in contending with the animals who raided their herds, flocks, and crops.

The presumptions of the Middle Ages still held currency in the U.S. and Canada only two generations ago, when the majority of rural landholders were still farmers and the majority of farmers still hated and feared most wildlife. Bounties were common, not only on predators, but also on such suspected crop-eaters and field-underminers as gophers, prairie dogs, skunks, raccoons, and rabbits. Millions of teenagers earned pocket money by maintaining a murderous open season on "small game."

rized strangers to venture there in pursuit of wildlife putting the owners at physical risk and requiring them to assume an undue economic and physical burden if they choose to post the property against such intrusions.

As Hope Sawyer Buyukmihci wrote in 1990 "Most people cannot afford the cost of putting up signs over and over, just to have them shot down. Most people don't have the time or courage to patrol their grounds constantly at the risk of their lives, to catch and apprehend trespassing hunters." Buyukmihci, guardian of the Unexpected Wildlife Refuge in central New Jersey, went on to describe the efforts of several upstate New York landowners to protect themselves from hunters. After repeated unpleasant encounters, they not only posted their land; they formed an association, secured authority to hire a deputized private gamekeeper, and discovered that the price of this necessary security cost them no small sum.

"It was evident," Buyukmihci wrote, "that the burden of proof of violations and the posting of private property was not fair to the landowners. It was suggested to the conservation department that burden of proof of a hunter's right to enter private land should be placed on the hunter in the form of a notarized permit of entry." Thus, she continued, "There should be a new law. This law would stipulate that any land open to hunting must be POSTED FOR HUNTING. All other land would be off limits, and any hunter seen thereon subject to immediate arrest. Let those who hunt, or condone hunting, put up the signs, maintain them, and police their grounds for violations of trespass and safety rules."

Organized political movement in that direction began at almost the same time in Maine, where property owners upset over the outcome of the Karen Wood case (Rogerson was twice acquitted of manslaughter) formed the Non-Hunters Rights Alliance. Simultaneously but independently, three members of the Maine legislature introduced a bill to reverse the posting onus: to place it with the minority of rural property owners who favor hunting, rather than with the majority who don't. The influence of the hunting lobby in Maine is such that the bill never got out of committee. A petition drive to place

Johnson said. "There are threats of barn burnings or cattle destruction."

Even when the offenders are caught, Iowa game warden George Hemmen agreed, "Most of the time the farmer won't press charges. They're either afraid of recriminations or realize the small fine the violators will receive isn't worth the effort. Trespassing is the biggest problem."

The reason trespassing is the biggest problem is that in the absence of posting signs, the 15 million Americans who hunt have virtually unrestricted access to the property of the 56 million rural residents--and posting signs routinely blow down, fall down, or are torn down by hunters who know this. Further, even when land is posted, hunters in most jurisdictions retain the right to retrieve animals they shoot while standing elsewhere. Thus on November 15, 1988, Maine hunter Donald Rogerson disregarded or didn't notice posting signs in a heavily developed area just outside of Bangor. When he mistook homeowner Karen Wood's white mittens for a deer's rump, he fired into her yard and killed her, as her year-old twins wailed inside the house.

While Karen Wood's death drew national publicity, it was scarcely an isolated incident. Duane Dailey and Richard Tupper shot toward a house near Aberdeen, Washington, on November 1, 1991, killing Robert Duncan, as he drank coffee in his daughter's kitchen. The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** files include an inch-thick stack of similar accounts, from almost every state and region.

The origin of the trespassing problem associated with hunting, as Fund for Animals founder Cleveland Amory succinctly explained in the opening chapter of his 1974 bestseller *Man Kind?*, is that, "In the old days, all animals belonged to the king. Since the United States decided not to have a king, all animals belonged, as it were, to no one." David Favre in his recently published casebook *Wildlife Law* painstakingly traces the long series of acts and precedents by which wildlife and therefore hunting have come under the dominion of state governments, except for endangered species, which since the adoption of the Endangered Species Act in 1973 have been under federal jurisdiction. It is noteworthy that the vast body of jurisprudence Favre records does not include a single case of a property owner challenging either the right of a hunter to be on his/her land, or the right of the state to authorize a hunter to be there, by the action of selling him a hunting license.

Presumptions are the foundation of English Common Law, and are as such the basis of our modern-day legal system. But presumptions hold legal validity only when they are verifiable and supportable by a chain of precedents, if not by code. The presumptions underlying the supposed right of hunters to hunt anywhere that their presence is not expressly forbidden have been legally weak since the last commons in the continental U.S. and Canada were deeded, toward the end of the 19th century. There is a clear chain of precedent to establish that states have jurisdiction over wildlife, but the precedents which enable states to license hunters to use private property as if it were still the common are much less clear.

In fact, a growing body of conservative legal opinion argues that the state has no authority to deprive a property owner of the use of property, and no authority to subject the property owner to an "undue burden" in exercising property rights, without payment of just compensation. When the state interferes with property use without making compensation, the theory continues, it is engaging in a "taking," because even though the deed to the property remains with the ostensible owner, the rights of ownership have been usurped. This argument was accepted by the Supreme Court in both December 1991 and June 1992. In the 1991 case, *Whitney Benefits Inc. v. United States*, the Department of the Interior, for having been prevented from opening a strip mine in Wyoming. In the 1992 case, *Lucas v. South Carolina*, South Carolina landowner David Lucas overturned state environmental regulations that prevented him from building a house.

Over 200 similar cases are pending in various federal courts. Most of them challenge environmental laws, politically and financially boosted by the so-called "wise use" lobby, a collection of special-interest groups involved in mining, energy, timber, land development, cattle and sheep ranching, the sale and use of off-road vehicles, hunting, and trapping. Generally considered to be in the "wise use" camp are the National Rifle Association, National Trappers Association, Boone and Crockett Club, and Safari Club International, all of whom wish to weaken laws that restrict their members' choice of victims.

But the theory of takings is double-edged. If the state may not "take" property by mandating, for instance, that a portion including wildlife habitat must be protected, neither may it "take" property by allowing unautho-

a similar measure on the state ballot as a referendum question failed, according to NHRA co-founder Dar Namowitz, "because of a lack of adequate preparation." Still with almost no budget for direct mailings and publicity, the NHRA attracted a mailing list of over 2,000 property owners who favor a reversed onus--many of them from other states. More than a few, Namowitz says, are hunters themselves, who wish to hunt on their own land without interference from poachers.

More recently, explains fellow co-founder Lorraine Tedesky, the NHRA has focused on more traditional means of controlling hunters, such as forbidding shooting inside city limits and extending the safety zone around dwellings, within which hunters may not fire weapons. These measures can be implemented locally while reversing the posting onus would require either legislative action or a precedent-setting judicial opinion--expensive work for an organization of that size, with no paid staff and no fundraising apparatus.

But a politically potent third faction, other than anti-hunters and beleaguered property owners, might favor reversing the posting onus if the idea is appropriately advanced: law enforcement agencies, particularly those charged with enforcing wildlife laws. In August 1991, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** brought up the posting onus at a discussion meeting in Windsor Locks, Connecticut among representatives of animal protection groups and ranking members of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Speaking from first-hand experience during 12 years as volunteer assistant to a Quebec deputy game warden, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** representative noted that the most common public complaint about hunters involves trespassing; that confronting armed trespassers is among the most dangerous tasks wardens perform; and that the job could be made much easier if in townships or counties where a majority of landowners oppose allowing hunters on their property the posting onus were reversed. Senior wildlife officials from New York, Virginia, Oklahoma, Florida, and Missouri agreed almost immediately that the idea might be appropriate, especially in suburban areas. Questions were raised as to whether the decision to reverse the onus should be based on ownership of the majority of the land rather than on the number of property owners. For instance, one asked, what if two-thirds of the land in a township belongs to two timber companies who want to allow hunting, but the majority of land owners have houses on half-acre lots? Another quickly responded that

the burden of posting for hunting by the two property owners would be substantially less than the present burden of posting against hunting by all the rest. Without exception, the wildlife officials present agreed that reversing the posting onus merits serious study, no matter what position one takes on hunting *per se*. None opposed the idea.

Because reversing the posting onus through legislative action is likely to require the support of wildlife agencies, it may be good that animal protection groups have so far kept a low profile on the subject. The late Luke Dommer, founder of the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting, cited reversing the posting onus as the fifth of 10 committee goals in his proclamation of "National Wildlife Ecology Day" on September 28, 1991. But Dommer was already dying of cancer, and CASH as yet has not translated his intent into a campaign.

The Fund for Animals has maintained the highest profile of any group actively opposed to hunting over the past 20 years, but has ignored the posting onus. In early March 1991, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** took the opportunity to ask Fund founder Cleveland Amory and national director Wayne Pacelle why, toward the end of a visit to the Fund's Black Beauty Ranch sanctuary in northeastern Texas. Informed of the possible value of the "wise use" precedents, then moving rapidly through lower courts, Amory was enthusiastic about the possibility of successful legal action. Noting the success of the California Wildlife Protection Act in 1990, a referendum that permanently halted recreational hunting of mountain lions, Amory also suggested that the reversed onus could be taken directly to the voters in many states, since it would almost certainly be supported by the majority of property owners regardless of their feelings about hunting. Pacelle, however, argued that the Fund should continue to focus upon opposing hunter harassment laws and trying to halt specific unpopular hunts, such as the annual massacre of buffalo who wander into Montana from Yellowstone National Park. Pacelle's view has prevailed.

The history of hunter harassment might have suggested an opposite direction. Animal rights historians like to trace the tactic back to the British hunt saboteurs, whose efforts to disrupt fox hunts date back decades, but

only began drawing international media attention in the early 1980s. Actuality is that tactical hunter harassment in the U.S. apparently began with landowners in upstate New York state a few years earlier, including several hunters. Unaware of the fox hunting saboteurs, they began following unauthorized deer hunters, often with their own guns in hand, making as much noise as possible. Several violent confrontations resulted; one gun-toting landowner, apparently a hunter himself, is now doing time for murder. The tactic succeeded, however, for some landowners, especially those who went unarmed. Soon it was emulated in nearby New England. Pacelle rose to national prominence--and to his position with the Fund--as result of a hunter harassment action in 1987, on land owned by Yale University. Charged with violating Connecticut's newly passed hunter harassment law, one of the first in the U.S., Pacelle successfully challenged the law as a violation of his right to free speech. Since joining the Fund staff in 1988, Pacelle has directed dozens of hunter harassment activities during similar hunts on public or quasi-public land, seeking both public debate about hunting and more chances to fight hunter harassment laws. The National Rifle Association and other hunting proponents have meanwhile seized upon hunter harassment as a recruiting and organizing issue; 38 of the 41 anti-hunter harassment statutes now on state books have been adopted during the past four years, while NRA membership is up by 300,000 since ads decrying hunter harassment began appearing in nationally circulated magazines.

The Fund may have ceded the opportunity and momentum to push for reversing the posting onus to the Humane Society of the U.S. In December 1991, Namowitz and Tedesky met in Washington D.C. with HSUS general counsel Roger Kindler. Namowitz recalls that, "It sounded as if he saw no solid grounding for the tradition of landowners having to post their land to forbid hunting, but there was no case history. They now have a study underway in their legal department to analyze the issue and figure out a strategy for a test case."

Confirms HSUS New England representative Arnold Baer, "We've been interested in this for almost two years. The posting onus as it stands now is almost like common law, in that it is pretty well ingrained. It'll be a tough one to fight--it's going to take some work." Still, the search for a test case in a favorable jurisdiction

is apparently underway. If filed, the case will have to be contested, appealed, and contested again in order to set a new legal precedent. Then the posting laws of all other states will have to be likewise contested, pending legislative amendment to conform to the precedent.

As Baer points out, "The quicker way is to look for legislation. We're looking at this in a number of different states." But HSUS is cautious about endorsing efforts to mount a referendum on the posting onus because, "Referendums are damned tricky. You shouldn't go ahead with one on a controversial issue unless you're sure you're going to win. Otherwise the legislature wherever you are will just say, 'the people have spoken, and you'll never get any further progress.'"

Whatever HSUS eventually does, or the Fund or CASH, or NHRA, Baer, Namowitz, and Tedesky all agree that reversing the posting onus is, "an idea whose time has come." Hunters are no longer almost automatically welcome on rural property, or even most farms. More land is now posted than not across broad sections of New England, the mid-Atlantic region, the west coast, and even the South. It's an issue awaiting a kindling event--one hopes a successful lawsuit, rather than the death of another Karen Wood--to ignite the concerns of homeowners and farmers across the continent.

--Merritt Clifton

Posted In Memory of Karen Wood

Sign recalling the Karen Wood killing, sold for \$2.00 each by the Mid-Coast Animal Alliance, Box 428, Rockport, ME 04856.

Hunting news

Arizonans will vote November 3 on a referendum measure to ban trapping. portrayed by the National Rifle Assn. and National Trappers Assn. as an attempt to ban all hunting and fishing as well. The initiative is sponsored, however, by Arizonans for Safety and Humanity on Public Lands, whose initial board of directors included a hunter and a gun dealer. The group declined funding from the Humane Society of the U.S. to avoid confusing the issues.

Of 30 Florida black bears who were outfitted with radio collars in June 1991, three were poached within a year study. There was only one other death.

Asian bear gall customers are paying up to \$5,500 for videos depicting how the bears are killed and butchered. "The more aggressive the bear acts, the more the gall is supposedly worth," says Canadian Parks Service chief warden Duane Martin. Reports of bear-poaching in western Canada have nearly tripled in the past two years, but only 19 such incidents have been investigated.

Effective October 1, Canada banned possession of about 60 military-type weapons, limited the magazines of semi-automatic shotguns to five cartridges, imposed a 28-day waiting period for people who seek a gun permit, and introduced a mandatory firearms safety course for first-time gun purchasers.

Fewer than 30,000 of the 300,000 Ohio deer hunters bought doe permits this year; just 47,073 bought them last year. Of course, killing does would lastingly cut the deer population, whereas killing bucks has the opposite effect over a number of years because the ratio of females to males in the population increases, increasing the annual ratio of offspring to adult deer. (The ratio is 1/1 in a good year with equal sex distribution, but is as high as 56/29--nearly 2/1--in some areas where doe hunting has long been discouraged.)

Vermont will hold a doe season this year for the first time since 1987--for

hunters using muzzleloaders only, which practically guarantees many more will be wounded than are killed and retrieved.

Quebec plans to trap over 150 coyotes a year in the Lower St. Lawrence and Gaspé regions of the province during the next five years in hopes of doubling the deer population--which is down 50% since 1987, when intensive hunting was said to be necessary due to deer overpopulation.

Prisoners at the Texas state penitentiary in Huntsville have been making and selling illegal electric fish-stunners, using state-supplied materials. State representative Alan Hightower (D-Huntsville) has demanded an investigation.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is weighing charges against 50 people including numerous officials of Bell County, Texas, for allegedly illegally baiting doves on Sept. 9 at a ranch owned by former district judge Don Busby.

President George Bush recently told a gathering in Provo, Utah, that he would "resist any effort to stop hunting and fishing on the public lands," such as amendments to the National Wildlife Refuge Management and Policy Act (S. 1862) that would delete a reference to hunting as a primary function of the National Wildlife Refuge System. "If S. 1862 gets passed as is," Wildlife Refuge Reform Coalition coordinator Kristen Berger warns, "our hopes for meaningful Refuge reform will be lost for another five to 10 years."

The League of Ohio Sportsmen is petitioning for an open dove season--with the support of the state Division of Wildlife. "Kids aren't going to be disappointed and neither are others who try dove hunting," says wildlife management director Pat Ruble, "because you can just about guarantee that they will see birds...This is a great sport for the handicapped as well," being about as hard as shooting park bench pigeons. Previous attempts to start a dove season were stopped by court action in 1976 and by a single vote on the floor of the state House in 1980.

Missouri Conservationist, published by one of the few state wildlife departments supported by tax funds rather than hunting permits sales, included an arti-

cle on "live-bird training with pen-reared birds," i.e. Hegins-type bird-blasting in your own back yard, in its Sept. issue. Protest to 2901 West Truman Blvd. Jefferson City, MO 65101.

Amazon jungle natives, far from being great stewards of biodiversity, kill 14 million animals a year, many of them endangered, with often severe effects on the ecosystem, Univ. of Fla. researchers claim.

New York now permits quadriplegics to hunt from wheelchairs with powerful crossbows that can be fired without the use of hands. The legislature didn't address what happens when such hunters wound animals who limp away over rough terrain.

Someone recently shot at one of the two endangered California condors who were released last January in Los Padres National Forest, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife reports--but the three shots missed.

"The Rabbit Stick Rendezvous," held Sept. 14-19 near Rexburg Idaho, "is an effort to preserve and master stone age aboriginal skills," according to the Boulder Outdoor Survival School, which promotes the event from P.O. Box 905 Rexburg, ID 83440. It's really just a New Age name for what were called "bunny bops" 20 years ago, when Cleveland Amory described them in his book *Man Kind?*

Bowhunter George M. White of Birmingham, Michigan, has patented a face mask to kill hunters' bad breath so that they don't spook deer. White received U.S. patent #5,117,821.

The Wright Mill Tree Farm of Canterbury, Conn., offers captive bird-shooting "accompanied by professional guides and trained bird dogs" on a 300-acre site--about the size of a city block.

Eight thousand racing pigeons worth \$864,000 vanished between August 29 and September 2 during a race from Hay to Sydney, Australia. Only 80 pigeons made it home. "I'm afraid a lot of them may have been killed by these thugs in the gun clubs," said Sam Beggs, director of the Australian Pigeon Fanciers Association.

Lead sinkers lost by fishing enthusiasts jeopardize the survival of the now scarce common loon, says Tufts University wildlife veterinarian Mark Pokras.

Rethinking Our Bargain With Cats

by Jessica Bart-Mikionis

Growing up, I always wanted to be a cat. My very first pet was a dog, though, named Heather. I don't remember her, nor the accident that killed her. I was in my stroller, I have been told, with my mother, when Heather bolted into the street perhaps in pursuit of a cat and got hit by an oncoming car. A while later, when I was three or four, came Mehitabel, named after Don Marquis' tale *archie and mehitabel*. I remember Mehitabel vividly. We used to explore the world together, sleep together, and play hide-and-seek and tag, until one time she ran under my legs, I stumbled and fell on her, and broke her leg. I don't think I was ever the same after that. Mehitabel sported an elaborate splint for several months, and my mother and I would support her when she used her litter pan in the beginning of her recuperation.

I suspect my parents believed I would outgrow what became a veritable obsession with cats. At school I'd write the word "cat" all over the blackboard before my second grade teacher arrived, and I'd challenge my classmates to correctly spell Mehitabel's name. At home, Mehitabel, unspayed, had litters. My family didn't know better back then. Personally, I was ecstatic. After I watched Mehitabel's labor, I made colorful posters announcing the arrival of her kittens, and I'd very carefully tend to her, and watch her, and put my face close to her warmth and the nursing kittens. I'd put my nose against the wet fur where she'd just licked herself and her kittens, and I'd smell. I decided that this was the most wonderful smell in the whole world, just as I decided that my favorite colors were black and red because I had never seen anything as beautiful as the shiny jet blackness of Mehitabel against my parents' red paisley bedspread.

Growing up, I always wanted to be a cat. You can guess what my costume was every Halloween, and

(Mikionis petting cat in cage.)

Mikionis at work.

how they had been caught and thrown in there, or how long some of them had waited in the crate until they were all rounded up. And I've received the mother cat and kittens, time after time, just as all humane workers have, and asked the person surrendering them, "Can you tell me the mother's name?" But the queens don't have names. They're strays; they showed up about a year or two ago, or more. "I fed her once and she wouldn't leave, but she's not mine," we're told. The kitty we came to call the painted cat never was named, either, though everyone in the neighborhood knew him. He had been wandering about for two years, begging from different homes, until either by freak accident or cruel intent, his long orange coat became covered from

tagged, tattooed, or identified with microchip implants. Consequently, 82% of the cats who arrive at shelters are euthanized, compared with 63% of the dogs.

After my visit to the MSPCA, I headed back to Vermont on I-90, thinking about the treatment of cats as second-class pets, about why they're denied the level of responsible care they need and deserve, about why they're so often ignored, misunderstood, maligned, and abused. Tired, I paused at one of those huge highway rest stops with a gas station and fast food. It was dinner time, dark and cold, with cars and trucks pulling in and out, tractor-trailer units idling, and heavy foot traffic between the parking spaces and the buildings. As I got out of my car, I saw a dim orange flash off to one side and then another. I crouched down to see two adolescent kittens scurrying under and around the cars, one of them with a nubby, bare tail. When I called to him, the kitter looked at me with a flash of fearful, feral eye contact then ran to a garbage can overflowing with burger wrappers and paper cups. I saw another kitten, then a calico and then a fourth kitten, a tortoiseshell. They took turns jumping to the rim of the garbage can, balancing there foraging, disappearing, reappearing in the headlights of cars, then darting down and jumping up and dashing away to dodge the traffic. People in the parking lot seemed unaware of this feline family living on discarded french fries and hamburgers. They might as well have been flies, or not been there.

I didn't have any humane traps with me. Unable to do anything else to help, I went into the restaurant and asked the young woman behind the counter if she knew anything about the cat and kittens. "Oh yes," she replied. "It's a mom and her babies. They showed up about four months ago. It's sad, but there's nothing we can do." The manager appeared. I explained that I would contact the closest animal shelter and have some-

how eagerly I waited to dress up. I always wanted a cat's ears and whiskers and tail, to have their fur and softness, to pretend I could wear, at least for a day, the perfection I knew they had.

But then I came to humane work and saw the things we all know. I went out to rescue a cat who had taken up residence in a factory for several years, who came and went, was intermittently patted and fed, but then got sick and finally so sick that after several months no one wanted to touch her—for fear of contracting distemper, they said. She had never been given a name, not by any of the dozens of factory employees who saw her almost every day, who opened a door for her when she appeared, or meowed to go outside. By the time we were called, she was too far gone to save. I did just what most of you would have done: I stroked her head and smelled her rotting, wasting flesh, and heard her so quiet, plaintive cries as I drove her to her death. I've driven a lot of cats to their deaths, especially ferals. Once, when we *weren't called* to collect some unwanted cats, we eventually received over 20 of them all at once, stuffed into a single dog crate that stunk from days' worth of excrement and vomit. We didn't want to think

head to tail with green oil-based paint.

Our shelters are full of stories like these. We usually see feral cats only when their supposed self-sufficiency, their perceived ability to fend for themselves, has at last failed them. And so we see the worst. We see broken, beaten, damaged cats. We see cats without limbs or eyes, or because of frostbite, with only half their ears, or so diseased they can barely breathe or are just skeletal wisps of what they're meant to be; we see them when they're close to death. At our shelter, the Bennington County Humane Society, we've an isolation ward for ill and injured animals. We're always utilizing the part of the ward for cats, but we rarely need it for dogs or puppies. Of course we also see healthy, robust, beautiful kittens and cats, too—those who come to us because they shed, or keep having litters, or jump on the counter, or are too vocal, or claw the furniture, or climb the drapes, or pooped or peed one time outside the litter box. Because there are not enough tolerant, loving, responsible homes, we kill these animals in great number too.

I've seen the things you all see, and have done the things you all do. I have decided I no longer want to be a cat.

I recently visited the Massachusetts SPCA shelter in Boston. What I saw there is typical of what I've seen happening in my own shelter, and indeed in most shelters I've been to. There was exactly one dog available for adoption that day. At the same time, a bank of maybe 25 cages was fully occupied with cats and kittens of every imaginable type and color, cats and kittens in cage after cage after cage. There wasn't an available place left in the bank for another. Last year the MSPCA received close to 10,000 dogs and pups—and 23,000 cats and kittens. The Animal Rescue League, also in Boston, received 2,500 dogs, plus 11,000 cats. At my humane society, at least since 1987, the number of dogs coming to us has steadily declined, while each year we've had to euthanize cats and kittens in greater numbers. Last year we received a new low of 591 canines, compared with 1,137 felines. American Humane Association shelter survey statistics confirm that more cats than dogs are relinquished by their keepers, fewer are placed, and far fewer are redeemed by their guardians: cats and guardians are reunited only two percent of the time, compared with a 16% return rate for dogs. This is largely because cats are rarely collared,

one come and trap the cat family and take them away.

A family of dogs living on garbage at a busy rest stop off a major highway in the middle of Massachusetts would likely have been noticed. They would have stirred some interest, some concern. People would have worried about children being bitten, or the possible transmission of rabies, or of automobile accidents. Authorities would have been called. At the very least, a police officer would have reluctantly shot them, because virtually everyone agrees that for whatever reason, it's unacceptable for a family of dogs to live that way. But somehow, in some way, it is acceptable for cats.

The sad fact is that there are a lot of things people believe are okay for cats, but not for dogs. Dogs are expected to be given rabies shots, identification, licensing, leashing, and restraint. Virtually every community has some public institution designed to prevent homeless dogs from wandering, if only a part-time dogcatcher. Few communities make any provision for cats.

Why is the distance that separates cats from dogs in our hearts and minds so huge? Rudyard Kipling had one explanation:

Hear and attend and listen, for this befell and became and was, when the Tame animals were wild. The Dog was wild, and the Horse was wild, and the Cow was wild, and the Sheep was wild, and the Pig was wild—as wild as wild could be—and they walked in the Wet Wild Woods by their wild lones. But the wildest of all the wild animals was the Cat. He walked by himself, and all places were alike to him.

Eventually the dog, the horse, and the cow each surrendered wildness in return for food, care, and safety, but the cat did not. Instead,

He waited to see if any other Wild thing would go up to the Cave, but no one moved in the Wet Wild Woods, so that Cat walked there by himself; and he saw the Woman milking the Cow, and he saw the light of the fire in the Cave, and he smelt the smell of the warm white milk.

Cat said, "O my Enemy and Wife of my Enemy, where did Wild Cow go?"

The Woman laughed and said, "Wild Thing out of the Wild Woods, go back to the Woods again, for I have braided up my hair, and we have no more need of either friends or servants in our cave."

Cat said, "I am not a friend, and I am not a servant. I am the Cat who walks by himself, and I wish to come into your cave."

Woman said, "Then why did you not come with First Friend (dog) on the first night?"

Cat grew very angry and said, "Has Wild Dog told tales of me?"

The Woman laughed and said, "You are the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to you. You are neither a friend nor a servant. You have said it yourself. Go away and walk by yourself in all places alike."

But the Cat and the Woman struck a deal. If the Cat could get the Woman to speak three words of praise for him, he would be allowed to drink the warm white milk three times a day for always and always and always. The cat caught a mouse who had entered the cave, soothed the woman's fretful baby, and amused him by chasing a thread,

till the Baby laughed as loudly as he had been crying, and scrambled after the Cat and frolicked all over the Cave till he grew tired and settled down to sleep with the Cat in his arms. And the Cat began to purr, loud and low, low and loud, till the Baby fell fast asleep.

Then the Woman laughed and set Cat a bowl of the warm white milk and said, "O Cat, you are as clever as a man, but remember that your bargain was not made with the Man or the Dog, and I do not know what they will do when they come home.

Wishing to always walk by himself, with all places alike to him, the Cat refused to surrender his independence to either the Man or the Dog, angering them so that from that day to this,

three proper men out of five will always throw things at a Cat whenever they meet him, and all proper dogs will chase him up a tree. But the Cat keeps his side of the bargain too. He will kill mice and he will be kind to Babies when he is in the house, just as long as they do not pull his tail too hard. But when he has done that, and between times, and when the moon gets up and night comes, he is the Cat who walks by himself, and all places are alike to him. Then he goes out to the Wet Wild Woods or up the Wet Wild Trees or on the Wet Wild Roofs, waving his wild tail and walking by his wild lone.

Though Kipling seems to have observed that

Isaiah, Dennis, J.D. & Katy.

Isaiah, above left; Dennis the Menace and J.D., above right; and Katy, lower right, all former strays or ferals. (Photos by Kim Bartlett)

in our culture, indeed in all human culture, is not solely a matter of chronology. One of the commonly understood requirements for the domestication of a species is that it must possess a social nature. The dog is a perfect example of this; the cat is not, and may actually be the least social of all "tame" species, perhaps still in the process of being tamed. While cats may be gregarious, often dwelling in colonies as ferals, the social structure of cat colonies seems more designed to enhance the survival of kittens than to enhance the survival of individual cats. Related queens may share kitten-rearing and protection, and some cats may hunt for others, but except

condominium apartments, even where dogs are restricted. It is easier to care for than a dog. Like microwave cooking and frozen gourmet dinners, it embodies the word 'convenience.' Its needs are flexible and adaptable to demanding schedules of busy men, women, and children who still require a touch of nature's grandeur in a high-tech society. We are the 'New Egyptians,' and we have rediscovered the cat."

Cats are now the most numerous house pets in the U.S., totaling 61 million, outnumbering dogs by at least six million. Adding in feral cats, there may be as many as 96 million cats living among us—and a mini-

more women than men appreciate cats, and that men are more often cruel toward them, his fable reflects the widely held misperception that cats pursue lives of enigmatic and aloof solitude—that they must go their own way to be happy, are autonomous, self-ruling, and self-sufficient, equally at home in barns, alleys, or rest stops alongside busy highways. We know now from an ever-increasing body of behavioral research that cats are highly social and sociable animals, heavily dependent upon humans for habitat and sustenance even when we prefer to ignore their existence. Yet as Kipling recognized, the history of the cat is extraordinarily different from that of any other species. None have had the kind of love/hate relationship with people that cats have known. The intensity and variability of human attitudes toward cats is illustrated by the contrast between the reverence which they were treated in ancient Egypt, and the hostility they met during the High Middle Ages (the epoch of the great plagues), when they were tortured and killed as suspected agents of evil incarnate. Similar inconsistency is evident in any community today, where adoring and indulgent ailurophiles come into frequent conflict with inveterate cat-haters.

Even within the humane community, we can't even begin to agree upon what we should do about cats. Debate smoulders over how long stray cats should be held before being euthanized, whether the criteria for defining a stray should be the same as for dogs, whether a cat who has ever been a pet can be considered feral, how to define and recognize true ferals, whether cats should be adopted out to people who will allow them to go outside, whether and how cats should be licensed, and perhaps most divisive at present, whether or not we should endorse and support neuter/release programs. What about restraint laws for cats, similar to requirements that dogs must be restrained or confined? What about declawing? What if someone will have a cat euthanized if the cat can't be declawed? Should adoption fees for cats be less than for dogs, and if so, why? Do we require any less of cat adopters than we do of dog adopters? Does your shelter, or your community's shelter, reflect new ways of thinking about cats?

The range of emotions we hold toward dogs is so comparatively narrow that we don't even have a word for a strong dislike or fear of the species. And our association with dogs has been more than twice as long, more than 10,000 years, compared with about 4,000 for cats. Yet the distance that separates the cat from the dog

when queens teach their litters to hunt, cats never hunt or forage together in groups, combining abilities as dogs, coyotes, and wolves do to bring down prey otherwise inaccessible to them.

Perhaps in consequence, our social contract with cats seems to be negotiated one cat at a time. Indeed, several studies indicate that nearly a fourth of all cats who are claimed by people have chosen their homes by simply arriving and hanging around; dogs, by contrast, are almost always deliberately adopted. Dogs, as a species, came into our lives as welcome hunting allies, quickly became defenders of family and property as well, and have continually taken on additional chores, from herding livestock to guiding the physically handicapped to sniffing out contraband. Through selective breeding, we have created specialized dogs for specialized tasks (over 135 recognized breeds), displaying a range of physical and mental attributes unmatched by any other mammal. Dogs are integrated into almost every facet of human activity.

Our contract with cats is narrower and simpler. Only after we began to store grain did cats arrive. We welcomed cats for their ability to catch mice and rats, but found little else of a practical nature for them to do. Because we could not train cats to perform other specialized tasks, we have not substantially modified the species. The differences among the 41 recognized breeds of cats are slight compared to those among dogs; by and large, a cat is a cat is a cat. Most cats, regardless of variations, are good mousers and ratters.

It is probably because cats have traditionally had only this one outstanding task and attribute that we have evolved the Myth of the Supercat: that any cat is capable of caring and fending for and feeding herself, in any surrounding. Thus cats by the million are turned loose in woods, along roadsides, at shopping centers, and on farms. The Myth of the Supercat is that cats can triumph unaided over cars and dogs and disease. As a species, they can and do; as individuals, however, they struggle, suffer, breed quickly and plentifully, and are killed, 75% of them within their first year of life.

But now, "The cat is no longer thought of as a farm animal," according to the recently published *Cornell Book Of Cats*. "It has become a highly pampered companion, satisfying the personal needs of modern living. Its perceived independence, contrasted with its playful nature, is once again greatly admired. A cat is beautiful to look at. It is almost always allowed in

num of 35 million reasons why we need a new way of thinking about cats. For one thing, cats are *not* like microwave cooking and frozen gourmet dinners, and we're doing them a disservice if we equate them with effortlessness. The only difference I can see in the needs of my dog and my three cats is that the dog is bigger, is louder, has this thing about rawhide chews, likes to go for rides, and needs to go for walks. My cats would go for walks with me if I had some quiet trails about my house, but I don't. My cats shed, they leave dust and dirt about, I have to brush and groom them and clear their ears, they require just as much veterinary care (which is a far greater ordeal than taking the dog, and about as expensive), I have to scrape hairballs off the rug from time to time, their litter pan needs daily cleaning, I had to train them not to wreck the furniture, they walk all over me when I'm sleeping and wake me, sometimes they break things, they meow, and they too make themselves known, demanding my time, attention, and love.

At the shelter, I worry that we've a tendency to adopt out cats and kittens as trouble-free, self-maintaining creatures—as the pet to get when a dog won't do. We don't generally talk about the way a cat actually is in our lives. Cats have a far wider range of needs and behaviors, and more desire and ability to interact and communicate with humans than we usually give them credit for. Cats may not have all the same needs as dogs, but they unequivocally have their own needs, equally important to them, and we must take care that people understand that cats suffer when these are not met. Cats need people. They need people as much as dogs. The prevailing attitude that they don't is an illusion we must not perpetuate.

I've visited shelters—and these I hope to believe are exceptions—to see cats and kittens available for adoption in bone-bare cages in tiny back rooms, with no bedding, not even newspaper to lie on, no toys, no food, no litter pan. We must demonstrate all the things that go along with keeping cats happy and healthy. We should have fresh litter boxes, food and water, grooming brushes and combs, scratching posts, paper bags, toilet paper tubes, soft things and sweaters, good resting places, balls, catnip, perches, cardboard boxes—light! fresh air! ventilation systems!—all the things that capture the feline attention and imagination and help them do well and which also help keep down feline contagious diseases. We need to demonstrate the same kind of care and concern for the cats and kittens in our shelters as we

expect of the homes we adopt them out to.

This may mean overhauling our facilities. We may need to reevaluate and redesign our shelters to accommodate the increasing numbers of homeless cats who arrive at our doors, and to get visitors to look at and acknowledge them, as well. At our shelter the first adoption room that visitors see is the cat and kitten room. No one has to make a special request to be led through several doors and hallways, past the kennels and pup areas, or around to the back of the building, where too often cats and kittens have been put as an afterthought at facilities constructed with dogs primarily in mind.

We need to hold stray cats as if someone may be looking for them. In many states there is no holding requirement for stray cats, as there usually is for dogs. Combine this with the tendency of cat owners to wait several days before beginning a search, because cats do sometimes wander off for days at a time, and inevitably shelters are killing many cats who do have keepers. Stray cats need the same chance as stray dogs: a reasonable holding period, not least because if there isn't one, cat keepers may not even come looking.

At the other extreme, many shelters may keep cats too long. I once visited a shelter where some cats had been kept for months in puny fiberglass cages in a moist, dark room. They had nowhere to wander, stretch, or even look out a window. A particular cat was pointed out to me as being perfectly happy, just a lov-

Rodriguez ad

able, lovely cat who was doing so well that he was, in fact, occasionally used as a visiting pet in local nursing homes. The cat cowered in the rear of the cage, showing no interest in his surroundings, trying to make himself as small and unnoticeable as possible. The shelter worker opened the cage door and the cat flinched. He scooped the cat up, immediately turned the cat over, and started to vigorously rub the cat's belly. For a cat to allow his stomach to be scratched is for the cat to show enormous trust and affection. This cat lay stiff, eyes dilated and unmoving, then struggled to be free. Leaping back to his cage, he crept to the corner and crouched all hunched up and looked at us in a distant, defeated, miserable way. The shelter worker failed to see that having kept this cat caged for so long had induced severe depression.

Sometimes shelter procedures carry a hidden message. Trying to move cats out, hoping to give them a decent chance at life, many shelters charge a lower adoption fee for cats than for dogs—conveying the impression that cats are a discount item. Spay/neuter deposits should be mandatory, if the animals are not spayed or neutered on site as part of the adoption procedure, and it is reasonable to vary the spay/neuter deposit according to what local veterinarians actually charge, usually less for a cat than for a dog; but keep this separate from the adoption fee, which should be the same for any animal.

In addition to the necessity of spaying and neutering, and of getting rabies shots for cats as well as dogs, we must urge cat-keepers to identify their pets—with a collar, a tattoo, a microchip, any viable way, so that we can return more than two or three cats of each hundred we receive. In a very real sense, identifying

one's cats makes them, too, part of the family.

Like thousands of other shelter workers and cat rescuers, I go home each night, look in the mirror, and wonder if I'm accomplishing all that I might to make a difference for cats—to truly and tangibly improve their plight. It's hard to answer affirmatively when we see and do what we must each day.

And so I've decided I want to be a cat again. I want nothing more than to have a cat's ears, and whiskers, and tail, to have their fur and softness, to pretend I can wear the perfection I know they have.

(insert photo of Jessica in cat costume)

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[Jessica Bart-Mikionis is executive director of the Bennington County Humane Society, in Shaftsbury, Vermont. This article is adapted from a presentation given on May 21, 1992, to the New England Federation of Humane Societies' 55th annual conference.]

ACES ad

Dog logo

The Watchdog

The Watchdog monitors fundraising, spending, and political activity in the name of animal and habitat protection—both pro and con.

Look for our third annual report on animal and habitat protection group fundraising, spending, and salaries in our December issue, along with similar data on the leading opposition groups.

Shelter bashing wasn't planned

A late summer wave of shelter-bashing by animal rights groups took humane workers by surprise, including some of the most outspoken critics of shelter administrations. Protests outside numerous shelters on Homeless Animals Day, August 22, coincided with campaigns against the management of the Primarily Primates shelter in San Antonio, Texas, and the Defenders of Animal Rights shelter in Phoenix, Maryland. (See separate items.)

Ironically, the International Society for Animal Rights declared Homeless Animals Day to support shelter work by helping to raise awareness about pet overpopulation, a life-long concern of founder Helen Jones. However, ISAR asked activists to demonstrate concern via candlelight vigils outside of animal shelters, in memory of the estimated eight million homeless animals the shelters euthanize each year. Mass media and the public generally understood the vigils as protests against the shelters themselves—as in some cases, they were. Media coverage tended to focus on euthanasia rather than on preventing dog and cat births.

No organization has criticized the American SPCA shelter in New York City more vigorously over the years than New Yorkers for Companion Animals, but in this case, cofounder Elizabeth Forel told **ANIMAL**

No time for monkey business at Primarily Primates

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. — Primarily Primates has survived an attempted putsch, at least for now, but the future of the showplace sanctuary could yet be jeopardized by animal rights movement politics.

Founded over a decade ago by former zookeeper Wally Swett to house primates rescued from laboratories, roadside zoos, and abusive exotic petkeepers, Primarily Primates has expanded to accommodate nearly 400 animals. As Swett admits, there have been growing pains. Animals have often arrived at a faster rate than funds to feed and shelter them. Sometimes Swett and his volunteer staff have been obliged to handle species they've never seen before. Frequently they receive non-primates for temporary housing until other situations can be found—which can be difficult. A Bengal tiger and a black leopard are now practically permanent guests, much to the discomfort of some of the monkeys, whose kin the big cats eat in the wild. Vandalism and theft by thrill-seekers and hostile neighbors have been occasional problems. And help is perennially scarce; Swett still lives on site, pays himself only \$500 a month, has no full-time paid staff, and contends with frequent turnover among volunteers, many of whom arrive with lofty ideals but little experience at long days of scooping monkey poop, the most time-consuming daily chore.

Primarily Primates chimp cage

If these chimps thought evil of Primarily Primates, they didn't say so.

tor Ingrid Newkirk, through a series of faxes and telephone calls to other people prominent in the animal rights movement—although both Pacelle and Newkirk reportedly denied having any involvement either in producing the dossier or in attempting to push Swett aside.

Holrah called for expanding the Primarily Primates board of directors to diminish Swett's influence, and for ousting Swett from management of the sanctuary. He further suggested in his cover letter that, "If Wally remains in a position of control where he continues to reside on the premises, the situation could become very volatile," intimating that the dossier might somehow be made available to mass media and opponents of animal protection.

Nine former Primarily Primates volunteers and part-time staffers contributed to the dossier. At least some of them had been dis-

PEOPLE, some fellow critics were out of line. Although she said she supported the intent of the vigil, “the fact is, few of the participants have anything to do with the companion animal crisis in New York, and some do not even work on this issue.”

In Cleveland, Liz Bujack of the Network for Ohio Animal Action was careful to explain that the vigil was not intended as an attack on shelters or shelter workers, who “do the dirty work for a society that treats dogs and cats as disposable items.”

But longtime animal rescuer Donna Robb was not impressed by “activists lighting candles while hordes of stray cats and dogs slink through the city streets around them.” Homeless Animals Day “smacks of sentimentality and sensationalism,” she continued. “I would like the idea better if it included a drive to collect food and blankets for the shelters, lobbying for mandatory neuter laws, and fundraising for low-cost spay/neuter. And why not invite the media out for an evening of setting humane traps and pulling kittens out of dumpsters, ending with a trip to the shelter for eyewitnessed euthanasia?”

What's going on at The Animals' Agenda?

MONROE, Conn. — Five months after the *Animals' Agenda* board of directors sacked most of the staff and forced editor Kim Bartlett's eventual resignation, the publication is in “dire financial peril,” according to a late-September appeal issued by board president Wayne Pacelle..

Under pressure from numerous national organizations who were irate over exposes of group financial practices, among them PETA, the National Anti-Vivisection Society, the Doris Day Animal League, In Defense of Animals, and the American SPCA, the board abruptly fired news editor Merritt Clifton, now editor of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, last May 1. Simultaneously, the board terminated use of otherwise vacant space at the magazine offices by Bartlett's feral cat rescue project. As the primary author of grant proposals and appeal letters, Clifton had also been the magazine's main fundraiser. While Clifton agreed to complete his writing assignments for the July/August issue, he refused a board offer to

Primarily Primates has also been under constant critical surveillance by opponents of many of the animal rights groups who have rescued primates, then delivered them to Swett to receive lifelong care. Such opponents would like nothing better than to discover animals living in substandard conditions. So far, though, the sanctuary has a clean record.

“We're inspected by the USDA, U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife, the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, and Texas Parks and Wildlife,” Swett explains. “Any one of them can pop in here at any time. If bad conditions ever existed, all someone would have to do is call one of those agencies.”

None of that stopped John Holrah of the San Antonio-based group Voice for Animals from sending a thick dossier of testimony about alleged misconduct by Swett to numerous Primarily Primates funders and supporters toward the end of July. An investigation by several dossier recipients indicated that the central allegations were almost immediately amplified by Fund for Animals national director Wayne Pacelle and PETA executive direc-

continue fundraising on a freelance basis.

Also at the May 1 meeting, the board ratified the dismissal of three non-editorial employees for unsatisfactory work performance. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** subsequently learned that board member and interim *Animals' Agenda* editor Jim Motavalli had circulated an anonymous letter purportedly representing “the staff” to selected other board members prior to the May 1 meeting. Apparently originating from one or more of the dismissed non-editorial employees, without the knowledge of any other staffers, the letter leveled allegations against Clifton and Bartlett that were strikingly similar to those leveled against Wally Swett of Primarily Primates (see above), and included 32 specific misstatements of alleged fact in only four typed pages.

“It was actionable,” said Clifton, “but we preferred to spend our energies in starting **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and getting on about covering the news.”

missed for serious cause, but the reasons for their dismissal were neither discussed nor included. Within days, Beltan Mouras of United Animal Nations flew to San Antonio at request of the Summerlee Foundation and convened an informal hearing on the allegations, but found them unsubstantiated. Several participants in the procedure agreed that, “We spent ten minutes talking about animals, and three hours listening to personal attacks on Swett.”

The hearing didn't end matters, as the dossier continued to circulate. Twice, on August 4 and August 31, attorney Steven Wise of the Animal Legal Defense Fund warned Holrah that, “The damage already done by the sending of so much misinformation to Primarily Primates' friends and funding sources has been great...if injurious falsehoods continue to be communicated, the communicators will be sued.”

Wise added that the Primarily Primates board of directors considers Swett, “indispensable,” and has “no intention of expelling him,” but did note that the board “continues actively to discuss increasing its membership from four to between five and eight directors.” A significant board expansion could still lead to a coup d'etat, depending upon the loyalties of the new members. The nominating committee tentatively consists of Mouras and present board members Kay Trevino and Melissa Karron. Nominees proposed by Holrah include Mouras; primatologist Roger Fouts; Donald Barnes of the National Anti-Vivisection Society, a close friend of Pacelle; Nedim Buyukmihci of the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights, who is close to PETA; and Betsy Swart, who is both Washington D.C. representative for Friends of Animals and one of the three members of the PETA board of directors, along with cofounders Newkirk and Alex Pacheco.

Wise discounted any suggestion that the move against Primarily Primates might have been motivated or orchestrated by people or groups with ulterior motives. Swett, however, acknowledged doubts.

“The whole thing was very PETA,” he told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “We had volunteers whose pattern of activity followed the PETA strategy for infiltrating a laboratory. They got in here and took photos before they

This young lady wasn't complaining, either--just showing off for a photo.

cleaned the cages instead of afterward, and then said the photos show what it looks like all the time. Two of the people who did that weren't here for very long. First one came, and we thought she might have been a mole from the way she was acting. Then she left and another came in, separated by a few months. Both of them were from New York, both wrote first to ask about job opportunities, followed up with telephone calls, and were very persistent. Each moved to San Antonio, telling people they were going to work here. They took restaurant jobs and became volunteers. Then, after all that, one was only here for a week and the other was only here for two weeks.” In that time, though, one of the volunteers apparently accessed the Primarily Primates computer system without authorization. Swett said he tried repeatedly to call Newkirk and PETA director of investigations Jeanne Roush about his suspicions, but neither would respond.

Why would anyone want to take over Primarily Primates?

“There's no money in running the sanctuary as a sanctuary,” Swett said, “but you could have a gold mine here if you had a national public relations apparatus. You could get a quick influx of cash by advertising that you'd had to rescue all these primates from abusive conditions, and then you could euthanize most of them, saying they were too far gone to save. That would allow you to use most of the money for other purposes.”

Primarily Primates meanwhile received a significant vote of confidence from the World Society for the Protection of Animals, who sent a 22-year-old female chimpanzee there for rehabilitation after she had spent approximately 20 years in solitary confinement, first with a Mexican circus, then at a roadside zoo, and finally at the Costa Rican National Zoo. Continental Airlines and the animal transport firm Animal Port donated transportation services to move the chimp from Costa Rica to San Antonio.

Watchdog, continued...

Shakeup coming at NAVS?

CHICAGO, Ill. — Independent auditor William Foy assumed administration of the National Anti-Vivisection Society on August 1 for an indefinite period, replacing president Mary Margaret Cunniff, who took a paid maternity leave.

The NAVS board of directors hired Foy to perform an internal audit shortly after an expose by ANIMAL PEOPLE editor Merritt Clifton revealed that over a fourth of the NAVS stock portfolio was invested with firms who perform or commission vivisection and/or have become notorious for environmental abuses—including U.S. Surgical, whose sales demonstrations on live dogs Cunniff denounced in print in May 1991, only days before purchasing \$46,745 worth of U.S. Surgical shares. The stock had nearly doubled in value when sold. Earlier exposes traced the extensive use of NAVS funds to benefit members of Cunniff's family, including her husband, attorney Kenneth Cunniff; her sister, Catherine Curran; her father, George Trapp, who preceded her in the presidency; her brother-in-law, Patrick Rocks; and her uncles, Robert Mahoney and Al Lamier. Cunniff and her husband alone received an estimated \$172,000 in salaries and benefits during 1991. During their administration, according to well-placed staffers, NAVS membership has fallen from 53,000 to 11,000; following the exposes, the organization was believed to be losing from \$25,000 to \$50,000 a month.

The exposes had further effect. On August 19, former NAVS attorney Reed Millsaps

told subscribers to the CompuServe PETS network that he had resigned, "mainly due to the information (brought to light by Clifton) that was concealed from me, the staff, and probably the NAVS board." Millsaps remained active in animal work, volunteering his legal services to represent protesters who were arrested at the September 7 Hugins Labor Day pigeon shoot.

Foy declined to discuss his findings and recommendations with ANIMAL PEOPLE, but his reports to the NAVS board apparently included recommending that Kenneth Cunniff be dismissed.

Changes at American AV

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — Continuing to implement austerity measures, the American Anti-Vivisection Society recently terminated executive director Bernard Unti—and eliminated his position. American AV is now under the sole administration of new president Peggy Eldon, who succeeded former president James

Fighting isn't over for the Old War Horse

LONDON, U.K. — The late Dorothy Brooke founded the Brooke Hospital for Animals as the Old War Horse Memorial Hospital. Brooke specified that her primary purpose was to protect retired military horses and donkeys. Military organization wasn't necessarily part of her plan—but after assuming the top post at the Old War Horse approximately one year ago, following his retirement from the Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Col. Brian Thompson quickly moved to establish military order—including institution of a rigid chain-of-command, increased paperwork to track activities, a lid on information released to the press, and an apparent ban on cooperation with perceived rivals.

Backed by Hospital Committee head David Jones, former director of the nearly bankrupt London Zoo, Thompson first raised eyebrows by demoting committee member Richard Seabright, Brooke's grandson. Thompson then raised international ire by firing Chris Larter, the longtime Old War Horse liaison to Jordan, as part of a sweeping series of moves to consolidate control over the Princess Alia Clinic at Petra, Jordan. An Old War Horse subsidiary, the Princess Alia Clinic provides free care to equines used in the Jordanian tourist trade, or did; there are now

long after the absorption of their horse-based nomadic culture into modern ways of life.

Explains Sharon Cregier of the Canadian Wild Horse Society, who flew to Jordan last April to investigate Larter's then-rumored impending dismissal, "Larter was able to maintain a much more personal relationship with the horse boys and men than is possible under a purely professional organization. She had studied every man, boy, or family's case separately, rather than lumping them together in a bottom-line approach. Her summary dismissal has offended the Bedu, who have nothing but contempt for a European officer-class type of direction."

While Cregier praised the medical staff at the Princess Alia Clinic, she noted that. "They do not feel comfortable in all situations involving animal rescue and owner education. In this latter, Larter excels." For instance. "On entering Wadi Moussa while Larter and I were en route to Petra, Larter stopped to investigate a donkey foal standing suspiciously quiet with an inward look in his dulling eye. We found the foal with his forelegs so tightly bound that they were swollen, cut and bloody. Interesting enough, two of the Princess Alia Clinic staff had passed the scene daily and not noticed. We freed the foal, applied first aid to

Defenders of Animal Rights shelter picketed

PHOENIX, Md. — Weekly protests outside the Defenders of Animal Rights shelter just north of Baltimore commenced on August 14, coordinated by the Animal Welfare League of Greater Baltimore. The protesters, including former shelter employees and volunteers, alleged unrecorded euthanasias, financial abuses, and miscellaneous other irregularities paralleling some of those alleged against Primarily Primates one month earlier, also by former volunteers and staffers. Several protesters contacted ANIMAL PEOPLE, including AWLGB president Elizabeth Kirk, but none documented anything at DAR that substantially deviates from common shelter practice., nor did they provide evidence that anyone at DAR is collecting unusually high remuneration.

ANIMAL PEOPLE has twice audited the Defenders of Animal Rights tax

filings, discovering that in 1991 the organization reported \$110,032 apparently spent on direct mail fundraising as an expenditure for humane education. Reallocating this amount produced a breakdown of 59% of revenues spent on programs, against 41% spent on overhead—just outside the National Charities Information Bureau recommendation that at least 60% be spent on programs. Total compensation to president Mary Joe Kovic and vice president James Kovic came to roughly \$37,000 apiece, \$6,000 above the average salary of U.S. animal shelter directors, but \$15,000 below the average for U.S. nonprofit chief executives.

Farm Animal Reform Movement ad

Clark last March.

Clark had served as part-time chief executive with Unti as the highest ranking full-time staffer since the death of longtime president William Cave in February 1990.

“In regard to our programs,” Eldon told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “some adjustments will be made.” Unti is to be replaced by a program director, apparently with less administrative authority and at a lower salary. Further changes, Eldon said, will be made after a program director is hired.

Eldon joined American AV in 1982, “as a temporary hired to type envelopes,” she recalled. She was appointed treasurer and elected to the board of managers in March 1991.

reports of horse owners being charged.

By all accounts, Larter is a maverick, whose spontaneous actions on behalf of abused horses and donkeys have sometimes nearly provoked riots, and who has never been afraid to step outside normal channels to get things done. She particularly ired Thompson during the Persian Gulf War, when she appealed directly to other international animal protection groups for funds with which to feed equines in Petra; disruption of transport had made hay scarce, and had driven the price beyond the means of many owners of working horses. Since the Jordanians were primarily aligned with Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, in opposition to the British position, Larter’s action may have doubly irritated Thompson’s military sensibilities.

But such courage and independence have won Larter immense popularity among the Bedu (Bedouin Arabs), who remain prominent in the Middle Eastern horse trade

the wound, located the family he belonged to instructed the family on feeding, care, and tethering, and were treated as honored guests by the grateful parents and children.” Follow-up visits established that the family was following the instructions.

As well as firing Larter, Thompson broke off a joint supply acquisition arrangement that Larter had established with the Society for the Protection of Animals in North Africa—which had saved money for both organizations. “When I asked Col. Thompson for clarification of the reasons for Larter’s dismissal,” Cregier told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** “he could give none.” However, “He suggested that any future contributions and support from her friends and supporters should be given to SPANA,” where Larter continues her work.

Letters of inquiry may be directed to Thompson c/o the Brooke Hospital, British Columbia House, 1 Regent Street, London

Religion & Animals

Pope John Paul II was scheduled to issue “A solemn appeal for animal welfare” on September 30, from the Vatican. The appeal will not have the force of ecclesiastic law, and is expected to be quite conservative.

A San Francisco Board of Supervisors subcommittee on August 18 approved an ordinance to ban animal sacrifice, modeled after similar ordinances now in effect in various Florida and southern California cities. Supervisor Carole Migden introduced the ordinance after the city Department of Animal Care and Control reported having found evidence of at least 1,000 animal sacrifices during the past year. The ordinance now goes before the full Board of Supervisors for enactment. Migden meanwhile withdrew a proposed to ban the sale or ownership of wolf hybrids, since so many are already in San Francisco that enforcement might prove impossible.

The city government of Sao Paulo, Brazil, is awarding contracts for the construction of four macumbodromos, or chapels, for the practice of voodoo. A similar facility was opened in nearby Diadema in April 1988.

Reports differ as to whether the rituals performed there include animal sacrifice. Animal sacrifice is common among voodoo practitioners in Brazil, however: several federal officials and an unnamed minister of state recently sacrificed a bull, four sheep, and eight chickens to Xango, the god of justice, according to the newspaper *Journo du Brazil*.

ANIMAL PEOPLE reader Audrey McFarland of London, Ontario, Canada, reports that she was fired from her post as a parish housekeeper in June 1991 for refusing to get rid of her pets. McFarland had served as parish housekeeper to the same priest for 11 years, and had taken in stray dogs and cats for 10 years, with the priest’s approval, before some parishioners complained about the presence of animals in the rectory. She spoke out about the situation only after winning severance pay through court action. Letters of inquiry may be sent to Bishop Michael Sherlock, Diocese of London, 1070 Waterloc St., London, Ont. N6A 3Y2; and Archbishop Marcel Gervais, Canadian Conference of Bishops, 90 Parent Ave., Ottawa, Ont. K1N 7B1.

Woofs and growls:

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit on August 18 upheld a lower court decision that Soldier of Fortune magazine must pay \$4.3 million in damages to the sons of Richard Braun, an Atlanta businessman who was murdered in 1985 by a contract killer whose "gun for hire" ad the magazine published. The killer, Michael Savage, 44, of Knoxville, Tenn., and eight of his clients have been convicted of criminal conspiracy in connection with the Braun case and at least two others. Soldier of Fortune has recently amplified a series of National Rifle Association attacks on the animal rights movement and anti-hunting activists.

The NRA spent August and September lobbying to overturn New Jersey governor Jim Florio's veto of a bill passed by the state House and Senate that would repeal a two-year-old ban on possession of semiautomatic assault weapons. The NRA spent \$243,065 to help secure election of legislators hostile to the ban in 1991. At deadline, the motions to override still hadn't been brought to a vote, and the NRA was believed to be one House vote short of having the requisite two-thirds majority in each chamber. If the override attempt fails, it will be a significant setback for the NRA, who hoped to use it to send a message to politicians across the U.S. on the eve of the November federal election.

* **The Canadian equivalent of the NRA, the National Firearms Association**, has published a pamphlet urging women to carry guns or hunting knives, and to demonstrate before

witnesses that they use the weapons as tools, since carrying such items without a special permit is illegal in Canada. Pamphlet author and NFA cofounder David Tomlinson took up gopher-shooting at age 11, and ran a University of Alberta research laboratory for 22 years before retiring in 1989 to devote full time to the NFA presidency.

In Defense of Animals announced August 20 that it would set up a defense fund for Tina Geronimi, 36, a forklift driver who in May became one of four Procter & Gamble employees to co-sponsor a shareholders' resolution asking the firm to abandon animal testing. Geronimi, who had been with Procter & Gamble eight years, was fired June 11 for allegedly over-reporting her working hours on the Friday before Memorial Day. The resolution she cosponsored will be voted upon at the annual shareholders' meeting on October 13 in Cincinnati.

Trying to overcome an image of hostility toward animals, while continuing to be the major funding source for at least three pro-ivivisection groups, U.S. Surgical Corp. is sponsoring an exhibit on sharks at the Norwalk Maritime Center. The exhibit seeks to dispel the "misconception that they're vicious and prey upon man or animals for sport," says exhibit director Lawrence Fisher. U.S. Surgical also sought media kudos for returning an apparently stolen German shepherd named Luther to Robert Nappe of North Haven, Conn., on June 22. The firm, which kills several hundred dogs a year in sales demonstrations of surgical staples, has spon-

sored a dog-tattooing campaign by the National Dog Registry, but Luther was tattooed by Tattoo-A-Pet of New York City. Meanwhile, U.S. Surgical backed escalated anti-animal defense media campaigns by the Americans for Medical Progress Educational Foundation, Connecticut United for Research Excellence, and Educators for Responsible Science.

David Berkman has been named executive director of the Animal Protection Institute, succeeding Duf Fischer, who retired. Berkman holds a Ph.D. in criminology. His administration is expected to emphasize companion animal issues.

The Stark County Humane Society, of Canton, Ohio, is trying to identify several imposters who drive a tan van bearing the group's insignia. Claiming to be cruelty investigators, the imposters have intimidated and verbally abused several pet owners, and may in actuality be pet thieves or burglars.

The Sierra Club has endorsed Democratic presidential candidate Bill Clinton, only the second such endorsement the 100-year-old organization has ever made. The endorsement came hours before Republican incumbent George Bush escalated campaign attacks on the Endangered Species Act.

American Rivers supports an annual Labor Day "Road Kill Opossum Chili Cook-Off" hosted by the Central Georgia River Runners, in exchange for nearly 60% of the proceeds. Object to AR c/o 801 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20003.

Watson & Hughey charities are in trouble again

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The states of Connecticut and Pennsylvania are suing the Cancer Fund of America and three other charities for alleged fraudulent accounting in describing the use of donations.

The Cancer Fund of America, based in Knoxville, Tennessee, solicits contributions by claiming that it does not fund research using animals. In actuality, it funds little or no cancer research of any kind, and is one of eight charities promoted by the Watson and Hughey direct mail fundraising firm, of Alexandria, Virginia, which were fined a total of \$2.4 million in 1991 for using misleading sweepstakes appeals.

Also fined in connection with those cases was the National Society for Pet Protection, also known as Adopt-A-Pet, which may now be out of business, since the IRS has not received tax filings from the group since 1990. The most recent available filings indicate that approximately 97% of all funds raised for the group from 1987 through 1989 were paid to Watson and Hughey for further fundraising.

The new charges in Connecticut and Pennsylvania meant that three of the 12 states who prosecuted the 1991 cases have now charged Watson and Hughey with subsequent offenses; New York is pursuing additional charges relating to use of sweepstakes appeals.

Horse notes...

Horse racing, banned for nearly 60 years, may be revived in China. Racing dates have recently been held in Canton, Shanghai, Shenzhen, and Beijing, drawing crowds of up to 3,000. Parimutual betting is not yet legal, but is likely to be legalized in the near future. Since gambling is historically as popular in China as baseball in the U.S., this may become the impetus to make racing take off.

Agriculture

October 2 was the 10th anniversary of World Farm Animals Day, declared in 1983 by the Farm Animal Reform Movement to coincide with Gandhi's birthday and World Vegetarian Day. Major commemorations were scheduled in New York, the Washington D.C. metropolitan area, Iowa, Florida, California, and Hawaii.

attract commercial investment.

University of Saskatoon Ph.D. candidate Karen Schwartzkopf is researching use of pigment-removing dyes in place of cattle branding. The object is to find an inexpensive dye that will both painlessly and indelibly identify an animal for longer than six months.

U.S. bacon consumption hit record highs in five of the first seven months of 1992,

an investigative arm of Congress, on August 10 recommended that federal approval of bovine growth hormone should be further delayed. The GAO agreed with BGH makers that the synthesized hormone itself is no threat to human health, but noted that cows who give more milk with aid of the hormone also have more mastitis, and thus need more treatment with antibiotics. "Concern exists now about

The Jefferson Downs race track near New Orleans is tentatively scheduled to close permanently on November 22 because of revenue losses caused by a new state law that redirected off-track betting income from track management to jockeys, horse owners, and trainers.

Horse Rescue Network News, emphasizing how-to, is \$35/12 issues from Horses Northwest, P.O. Box 836, Sultan, WA 98294. The high price is because the publication helps support a regional horse rescue program.

Events & Deadlines

* **Modern Animal News TV and the Backburner Clearinghouse will host an Artists' Auction for the Animals on October 10 in Chicago to benefit Animal Rights Mobilization Chicago. Get details from 312-278-9011.**

* **Students for Animal Rights offers a conference on The Earth, The Animals, and You, Nov. 7-8 in Milwaukee. For details, call 414-273-2213.**

* **Maureen Koplów publishes the most complete schedule of animal protection events on the east coast, emphasizing the Delaware Valley area, in Advance, a monthly newsletter. Request a free sample c/o 476 Warwick Road, Deptford, NJ 08096.**

* **The American Anti-Vivisection Society is hosting a seminar on factory farming, Oct. 31-Nov. 1, at Fellowship Farm in Pottstown, Pa. Registration is \$100. For further info, call Zoe Weil at 215-887-0816.**

The contribution of cattle to global warming has significantly increased over the past three years, along with the world cattle population, International Union of Air Pollution Prevention Associations director general John Langston warned the 800-member group in early September.

Despite the likelihood that federal legislation will soon curtail wild-caught exotic bird imports, the USDA plans to license 13 more quarantine stations for birds being brought into the country. To be operated by private contractors, the stations are necessary, according to the USDA, because increasing numbers of ostrich and emu ranchers want to import breeding stock. Since most of the money in raising ostriches and emus comes from the speculative sale of breeding stock, a sudden influx of imported birds could collapse the whole business.

"Barns and stables, which are grouped together for fire reporting, averaged 6,700 structure fires a year reported to U.S. fire departments during 1986 to 1990," according to George D. Miller, recently appointed president of the National Fire Protection Association. "Property damage was estimated to average \$75 million per year, which probably includes a fair share of valuable animals lost." **ANIMAL PEOPLE** estimates the toll at about one million animals per year, mostly chickens. Miller was formerly head of the Morris Animal Foundation.

The Downed Animal Protection Act, to reduce animal suffering en route to slaughter, has now been introduced in both the Senate, as S 2296, and the House, as HR 5680. The Humane Methods of Poultry Slaughter Act, however, HR 4124, still lacks a Senate version. Address support for all three bills to your elected representatives. If passage is not secured this Congressional session, new versions will have to be introduced next year.

The British Ministry for Agriculture, Forests, and Fisheries has approved a design for a mobile slaughterhouse put forth by the Humane Slaughter Assn., which contends that use of such a slaughterhouse could significantly reduce the stress to animals who are presently transported long distances to be slaughtered. However, the planned killing capacity of just 10 cattle, 20 pigs, or 50 sheep per day might be too low to

despite an overall decline in consumption of red meat. A newly published study of 10,753 hams packed at 14 plants owned by eight different firms in as many states meanwhile revealed that 25% were "undesireable" for human consumption. The study, done in 1991, was funded by the National Pork Producers Council.

National Hog Farms Inc. plans to raise 300,000 to 400,000 pigs per year at a facility now under construction in Dalhart, Texas, human population 6,300. To be finished in 1994, the \$50 million facility will double the pig population of Texas—and will generate as much excrement as a city of three to four million people.

Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating has put \$430,000 of his own money into a \$28 million pig slaughterhouse planned by Danpork, the Danish pig production consortium, and Brown and Hatton, a leading Australian pork producer. The slaughterhouse will kill up to 600,000 pigs per year.

The General Accounting Office,

Spiegel ad

whether antibiotic levels in milk are already too high from present antibiotic usage," the GAO stated.

Of 14 elk embryos experimentally implanted in red deer recently by Canadian Genetics Inc., only four survived to term—a setback for both the firm and the Canadian Venison Council, who have been seeking a way to rapidly rebuild the elk herds on Alberta game ranches. Up to half the captive elk in Alberta have been killed over the past two years in efforts to contain an outbreak of bovine tuberculosis.

A year after Ohio State University researcher Steven Loerch suggested that cattle would gain weight faster if they were made to swallow plastic pot-scrubbers, the idea seems to have caught on. Once swallowed the scrubbers host bacteria in the cows' stomachs and serve the same function as roughage—which enables farmers to feed them less hay but more grain and "beef fattener," a euphemism for reprocessed chicken manure.

Olga the dog

ANIMAL CONTROL & RESCUE

* **The Sprint telephone service and the American Humane Association** have set up a nationwide hotline to help reunite lost pets with their keepers. Reporting a stray is free: call 1-800-755-8111. To report a lost pet, call 1-900-535-1515. The cost for lost pet calls is \$1.95 per minute, a portion of which is donated to AHA. The average lost pet report takes four minutes to complete, according to Sprint.

* **Paige Powell and Tama Janowitz** of New York City produce a TV show in cooperation with the animal rescue groups Being Kind and the Animal Project to promote pet adoptions. Called It's A Dog's Life, the show airs on channels 16 and 17.

* **Muttmatchers Messenger**, a tabloid of pet adoption notices, completed five years of publication with the Sept./Oct. 1992 issue. A production of the Humane Animal Rescue Team, the California and Washington editions of Muttmatchers Messenger each reach 150,000 readers, for a combined total of 300,000, helping to place about 6,000 animals a year—"most of them disabled, abused, and senior dogs and cats," according to the editors. Get details from P.O. Box 920, Fillmore, CA 93016; 805-524-4542.

* **The Geauga Humane Society** in Russell, Ohio, on September 16 commenced a free eight-week course in animal rescue and abuse detection. The course, the first of its kind in the U.S., is intended to enable volunteers to

effectively support the GHS animal rescue and anti-cruelty staff.

* **The USDA significantly stepped up Animal Welfare Act enforcement in 1991**, according to newly released statistics. The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service assessed \$213,350 in fines for AWA violations, a 187% increase over 1990; suspended or revoked 176% more licenses; and issued 163% more cease-and-desist orders. The total number of inspection visits to regulated facilities was up 16%, to 15,148. The AWA enforcement staff includes 38 animal care inspectors plus 49 veterinarians.

* **A six-month moratorium on the use of leghold traps** within Los Angeles city limits expires at the end of October. Letters of support for renewing the moratorium and/or making it permanent may be addressed to City Hall, 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90012. The deadline for letters to be received before the vote is October 9.

* **Linda Chernak, assistant animal control officer for Stratford, Conn.**, has sued the city for cutting her hours, allegedly in retaliation for her refusal to back two police officers who shot a pair of dogs they considered vicious. Chernak said she was able to feed the dogs cookies.

* **The 57-year-old Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society** shelter in inner Detroit "will probably be out of business in three years," according

to secretary Marilyn Iskra, due to lack of support from the impoverished community and inability to attract donors from wealthier surrounding communities, who mostly support the much larger Michigan Humane Society. Aware of numerous inner city shelters in a similar plight, Carol Moulton of the American Humane Association suggests the solution might be in reviving or founding programs to assist abused and neglected children—one of the original purposes of humane societies, and still part of the AHA mandate. Helping both children and animals sounds like increasing the workload for already overstressed staff, Moulton acknowledged in discussion with ANIMAL PEOPLE, but assisting children could strengthen links to both adults in the community and other providers of social services.

* **Anglo-dominated humane groups** may get little support from Hispanic neighborhoods, but that doesn't indicate lack of concern for animals. Aaron and Sharon Gonzalez of San Antonio, Texas, cut off their own water and sewer systems and worked until two a.m. September 14 to rescue five of seven two-week-old puppies who had fallen down a pipe. City officials told them to chop up the remaining two with a plumber's snake and flush them away—until neighbor Joe Perez called his city councilman. Then 15 city workers came to the rescue with a backhoe.

* **The Astro-World Series of Dog Shows** on Sept. 13 in Houston honored 10 dogs who had been rescued by member societies of the All Breed Rescue Association. ABRA cofounder Susan Cloer told media that she hoped the attention to rescued dogs would remind the public of the consequences of irresponsible breeding.

* **The Glueck Neuter/Spay project and no-kill shelter in Chicago** has disbanded due to the founders' advancing age. Elmer and Grace Glueck had placed 96 of the 122 cats they had sheltered as of the ANIMAL PEOPLE deadline, and were hopeful of finding situations for the remaining 26, either in homes or at other no-kill facilities.

* **Amy Smith of League City, Texas, has received \$5,000 compensation** for the loss of her Australian shepherd, whom the city pound

sold to the University of Texas Medical Branch in nearby Galveston 24 hours before the mandatory three-day holding period for strays expired. A tag or tattoo could have saved the dog's life.

* **After the King County, Washington County Council** finally approved a controversial anti-pet overpopulation ordinance, primary sponsor Ron Sims praised the Progressive Animal Welfare Society and the King County Humane Society for exemplary effort in breaking the apathy surrounding a long-neglected issue. The debate over the ordinance, adopted last June 16, produced 57,000 letters, calls and petition signatures, pro and con, as well as 16 hours of live testimony at two public hearings.

* **After a two-year moratorium Walgreens is again selling glue traps** because of "very strong and expanding demand for this item as well as the continued sale by all of our direct competition," according to government and corporate relations director Edward King Protest to 200 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, IL 60015. Riser Foods, meanwhile, has discontinued use of glue traps. Send thanks to 5300 Richmond Road, Bedford Heights, OH 44146.

* **New legislation obtained by the Alliance for Animal Legislation of Missouri** expands the Missouri Dept. of Agriculture's authority to inspect puppy mills, kennels, pounds shelters, pet stores, and facilities run by animal brokers. The new law, the Animal Care Facilities Act, also requires that animals released from pounds and shelters must be spayed or neutered, and enables municipalities to mandate spay/neuter.

* **An estimated 15 dogs were stolen in Phoenix, Arizona**, during the first two weeks of August, mostly chows, while 70 dogs mostly larger breeds, were stolen in western Suffolk County, New York. The Phoenix thefts are believed to be the work of a dog-fighting ring; fighting dogs are trained by encouraging them to kill cats and smaller dogs. The New York thefts coincided with the late summer school supply ordering rush, and may be related to dissection exercises—not necessarily in the New York City area.

Thank you to the following people and organizations, who have materially assisted in founding ANIMAL PEOPLE:

Erika Hartman picketing
greyhound track

Nanci Alexander; Sudhir Amembal; the American Humane Association; Cleveland Amory and Marion Probst; *ARIES Newsletter*; Sally Baker; Christine Beard; Jane Elizabeth Begley; the Bennington County Humane Society; Ellen Perry Berkeley; Manny Bernstein; Ruth Berridge; Peter and Marcia Blue; Mildred Braverman; Cheryl Briggs; Arnold Brown, DVM; Eva Paulino Bueno; *Bunny Huggers' Gazette*; Mary Clause; Holly Cheever, DVM; Karl Czapla; George Dupras; Leslie Fain; Farm Animal Reform Movement; David and Martha Favre; Sheila and Jack Faxon; Priscilla Feral; Sherry Ferguson; Bill and Linda Fischbach; Art Ford; Ann Cottree Free; Elissa Blake Free; Marion Friedman; Friends of Animals; Kathy Green; Karen Grenander; Odette Grosz; Margaret Heath; Karen Lawson; Peter Hermance; Alex Hershaft; J.D. Jackson; Elizabeth Kantanen; Lorna Kemp; Marcia King; Karen Lawson; Bernice Leffler; Steven Levine, MD, and Judith Rose, MD; Carter Luke; Ralph Lutts; Laura Markby; Cole McFarland; Mary Melville; Marilyn Miller; Nancy Mohrman; Victoria Moran; Carol Moulton; Jacqueline Munroe; Barbara Orlans; Mary Peterson; Scott Plous; Peggy Monning Porteau; Michael Reid, DVM; Donna Robb; Judith Roberts; Melanie Roberts; Vera Samuels; Fay Savar; Jill Sedam; Gayle Smart; Frank and Philomena Smith; Gina Spadafori; Henry Spira; Christine Stevens; Polly Strand; Lisa Ann Taylor; Ingrid Valera; Cecily Westerman; Everett Whealdon; Lisa Willett; and James Woodruff.

Piliero

Holiday cards ad

The Green Mountain Raceway in Pownal, Vermont, and other greyhound tracks in the region will undoubtedly be glad to see the last of **Erika Hartman**, who is moving to Texas in early October. For the past three years a resident of Bennington, Vt., Hartman maintained a vigil outside the nearby Raceway throughout each racing season, sometimes accompanied by other activists, but most often alone. Her work eventually made greyhound racing an ongoing topic of local debate.

“I think there is more value in going out by yourself sometimes than in trying to hold these mass demonstrations,” Hartman says. “When you hold a demonstration, it is always numbers, numbers, numbers. If you go by yourself, you may not have the media, but people always will stop to talk to you.” Hartman claims she got a friendly reception from almost everyone—and her long campaign may be why the Green Mountain Raceway now permits limited inspections by the local humane society.

Hartman promises to keep up her campaign in her new location: Greyhound racing is even bigger in Texas than in Vermont,

Diet & Health

* **The USDA school lunch subsidy program** is functioning as a dump for cholesterol-laden meat and dairy products, the consumer group Public Voice for Food and Health Policy charged September 16. Approximately 20% of each of the 4.1 billion school lunches served in 1991 consisted of free food supplied by the USDA—but cheese and butter made up a third of the \$10.2 billion total, almost all of the potatoes had fat added, and only 3.4% of the fruit and vegetables were fresh. The Public Voice report was endorsed by American School Food Service Association spokesman Kevin Dando, who agreed, “There’s entirely too much butter available, and schools would like to have more fresh fruits and vegetables.” From 1979 through 1991, the USDA spent \$7.2 billion to supply schools with meat and dairy products, but spent just \$2 billion on fruits, vegetables, and grains.

* **The agricultural conglomerate Conagra Inc.** plans to test market a line of vegetarian frozen dinners during 1993 in Colorado and northern California. The new line, called Life Choice Special Nutrition, is based on the low-fat, low-cholesterol diet advocated by Dr. Dean Ornish, director of the Preventive Medicine Research Institute at the Univ. of California, San Francisco campus.

* **Canadian researchers are beginning a five-to-ten-year study** of 3,000 to 4,000 children to test indications that an immune response to certain proteins in cow’s milk may trigger juvenile diabetes in infants with a genetic predisposition toward the illness. A preliminary study of 400 sufferers by the University of Toronto Hospital for Sick Children reported the apparent linkage in *The New England Journal of Medicine* issue of July 30.

* **A study of 13 fatal or near-fatal allergic reactions in children** conducted by Dr. Hugh Sampson and colleagues at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine has concluded that many or all were preventable. Such reactions are often caused by food additives that include proteins from milk, eggs, nuts, and

soybeans.

* **The Soros Foundation and the Hungarian National Institute of Health** in August taught 500 Hungarian schoolteachers the essentials of nutrition, including ways to make traditional ethnic meals with significantly less animal content.

* **The Vegetarian Resource Group** has published a *Vegetarian Vacation Guide*, including the addresses of 49 camps that offer veggie meals. Send \$3.00 to VRG, P.O. Box 1463, Baltimore, MD 21203.

* **U.S. wrestler Chris Campbell** turned vegetarian in 1980 and a year later won the world championship. Twelve years later, old enough at age 37 to be the father of many fellow competitors, Campbell won a bronze medal in the recent Barcelona Olympics.

* **Hot dogs and luncheon meats failed** to make a list of the best processed foods for children recently published by the Center for Science in the Public Interest. The CSPI nutritional staff recommended 58 foods from a total of 19 categories, only three of which included meat as either a primary ingredient or major condiment.

* **The Food and Drug Administration seized** \$1.5 million worth of fish due to alleged deceptive labeling during the first 10 months of fiscal year 1992, up from just \$454,000 during all of fiscal 1991. Common violations include selling decomposed fish for human consumption; substituting one species for another; and including excessive amounts of ice, water, or bread crumbs in prepared fish packages.

* **Pressured to include one vegetarian option per meal** last school year, the University of Pennsylvania dining service found the options so popular that four vegetarian options per meal are available this school year.

Keeter cat and friend.

Animal Health

* **Over a year and a half after the mid-Atlantic raccoon rabies pandemic hit** southeastern Connecticut and was expected to spread throughout New England, confirmed outbreaks have yet to hit Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire. All four states have had only the usual handful of rabies cases, mostly involving bats and foxes. Bat rabies has been endemic in parts of New England for decades, while outbreaks of fox rabies have been sporadic along the Canadian border at least since the 1950s. While some rabid raccoons have been found in northern New England during the past year, they are not known to have carried the mid-Atlantic strain of the disease, and there is no evidence that the forms they appeared to have are widely distributed in the raccoon population. Preparing nonetheless, New Hampshire and Massachusetts now require that all cats must be vaccinated against rabies, while Vermont is expected to pass similar legislation soon. Meanwhile, Vermont Republican senatorial candidate John Gropper seized upon the rabies panic as pretext for wearing a 9-millimeter pistol during campaign appearances, at which he railed against gun control. After quipsters suggested that frothing at the mouth might not be restricted to rabid animals, Gropper even-

Hospital in Coral Springs, Fla., donated her skills in mid-August to give vision to a three-year-old baboon who had been blinded by cataracts. Fellow veterinarian Terri Parrott of the nearby Pembroke Park Animal Clinic took in the baboon, who still needs a good home after she was abandoned by a man who had dressed her in human clothes and kept her as a pet.

* **The College of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University** in Pullman Wash., is seeking funding for a \$2.2 million Center for the Study of Animal Well-being. According to Dr. Borje Gustafsson, dean of the WSU veterinary college, the center will investigate the relationship of animal health to “production and performance under varying environmental conditions.” Exactly how such research would be conducted has not been specified, but WSU is among the U.S. leaders in providing alternatives to the use of healthy animals in practice surgery.

* **Cornell University researcher Katherine Houpt** has discovered that cats who eat tuna are less active and take longer to eat than beef eaters. Houpt also “found higher concentrations of mercury in the brains of tuna-eating cats,” she reported, “suggesting that mercury in the feline brains leads to slug-

tually exchanged the pistol for an umbrella.

* **Investigators are still trying to figure out** why unidentified diseases possibly spread by streptococci bacteria afflicted greyhounds and racehorses throughout New England last summer. Seven nearby states barred the import of greyhounds and horses from the affected region after 13 dogs died and 1,100 others fell seriously ill at the Plainfield Greyhound Park in Connecticut. Many of the dogs had been allegedly forced to race despite signs of illness. Only two horses died, one at Rockingham Park in New Hampshire and the other at Suffolk Downs, Mass., but at least 200 others stabled at the same facilities got the disease. Oddly, however, the disease did not spread to the track at nearby Foxboro, N.H. A similar viral infection that apparently didn't include the killer component meanwhile hit an estimated 150 dogs at Lincoln Park in Rhode Island. Nineteen similar cases at the Pensacola Greyhound Track in Florida were the result of trainers neglecting vaccinations, according to the Fla. Dept. of Business Regulations.

* **Veterinary ophthalmologist Margi Gilmour** of the Coral Springs Animal

gishness.”

* **“More than 300 hereditary canine diseases are known,** and about 10 new ones are discovered each year,” according to *Puppy Report* author Larry Shook. He blames inbreeding for making such diseases epidemic in at least 50 breeds, which account for 86% of all puppies registered by the American Kennel Club.

* **Critikon Inc., of Tampa, Florida,** has introduced the first pressure-cuff machine for checking the blood pressure of cats, dogs and horses. The machine, Dinamap, costs \$2,975, so your local veterinarian may not get one for a while yet. But then, Resusci-Rover an electronic mannequin for teaching canine CPR, costs \$875. The Palm Beach County chapter of the American Red Cross reported that Resusci-Rover courses were among its most popular activities, until Hurricane Andrew rearranged the schedule.

* **Hill's, a division of Colgate-Palmolive** is now marketing a syringe-administered food called Prescription Diet for pets who are temporarily kept from eating by injury or illness—an estimated 1.5 million animals per year.

Pa. State Senator James Greenwood (R-Bucks), Johanna Seeton of PLAN, and Pa. State Rep. Thomas J. Murphy Jr. (D-Alleghany), after passage of the new state law allowing children to opt out of dissection.

CHILDREN & ANIMALS

* **Representatives of about 50 animal protection and child protection organizations** met September 14 and 15 in Washington D.C. under the auspices of the American Humane Association to discuss common problems and opportunities to seek solutions together. We were there; watch for a full report in the November issue of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

* **“Until recently,” charges the current edition of the newsletter *Notes From The Green World*,** “the image of the abandoned Latin American child was of a ragged child sleeping in a doorway. Today the image is of a body, lacerated and dumped in a city slum,” especially in Brazil, where death squads hired by local merchants torture and exterminate

suspected thieves with perhaps more impunity than if they shot stray dogs. Editor Walter Miale cites extensive documentation of his charges, including by Amnesty International. The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editors received first hand testimony about the killings as far back as 1987, when an acquaintance, a medical student who assisted street children, was herself obliged to flee a death squad. The leading hope for justice for Brazilian children—and animals, eventually—may lie in the recent formation of all-female police units in some parts of the country to deal with such offenses as wife-beating, wife-murder, and rape. *Notes From The Green World* is published from P.O. Box 29, Philipsburg, Quebec J0J 1N0, Canada.

* **Pennsylvania schoolchildren** now have the right to opt out of participating in dissection exercises without being penalized. The new legislation was pushed by the Pennsylvania Legislative Animal Network and ANIPAC, a.k.a. the Political Action Committee for Animals in Pennsylvania.

* **The Dissection Hotline, 1-800-922-FROG,** has published new editions of handbooks on opting out of dissection labs for college, high school, and elementary school students. Copies are available in bulk at \$18 per 100 c/o the Animal Legal Defense Fund, 1363 Lincoln Ave., Suite 7, San Rafael, CA 94901.

* **Mark Twain scholar Shelley Fisher Fishkin** claims to have discovered the prototype for Huckleberry Finn in a 10-year-old black servant Twain interviewed in 1874, just before starting to write the book Huckleberry Finn. In the interview, the young man disapprovingly described his employers' atrocities against cats, colorfully noted his mother's contempt for cat abuse, and went on to dis-

cuss his own qualms about killing chickens.

* **Firearms, mostly hunting weapons, are the third leading cause of accidental death among U.S. children,** according to the Centers for Disease Control; teenaged boys in the rural South are at the highest risk.

* **Modern Animal News Television,** a cable program to debut October 10 on channel 66 in Chicago, will feature regular interviews with children engaged in animal protection. MAN-TV seeks student reporters at various locations around the U.S.; call Lair Scott, 312-278-9011 for details.

Cat Project Update

Our feral cat rescue project in northern Fairfield County, Connecticut, concluded on July 12 after handling 320 cats in seven months. All the cats were vaccinated against rabies; all who were old enough were spayed or neutered. Two hundred thirty seven cats were returned to their original caretakers. Thirty-nine cats, who were either kittens when picked up or were apparent abandoned pets, were adopted out. Another six cats in this category were adopted by volunteers who helped run the program.

Nineteen cats, including 10 kittens, died or were euthanized due to life-threatening disability and/or illness. This category included eight of the 11 cats who developed serious respiratory infections with related eye damage; one of the five cats who arrived with a missing or severely injured eye; all four cats who had serious urinary tract blockage; and all three distemper cases. Although the cat rescue project took place amid a raccoon

tors. It was not an experiment lightly undertaken. We were well aware of the risks involved and the suffering that might result. Kim in particular had also become much more affectionate toward the ferals than most of them ever were toward her. At the same time, we reasoned, if one accepts that animals have any right to choose their own ways of living, and if a cat chooses to remain wild despite having received up to six months of indoor socializing, one must accept that decision. One also must, at times, accept the risk of trying something that might not work in the ongoing search for whatever does work.

Ten weeks later, all 10 of our original pets are thriving, as are the kitten, the relocated former pet, and two of the three ferals we brought into the household. The feral colony retained close integrity for about a month, but over the past six weeks, seven of the 19 relocated ferals have disappeared. Paradoxically, given the choice of coming or

DOGS & CATS

* **Wildlife officer Ric Natrass of the Queensland (Australia) National Parks and Wildlife Service has concluded** that, "Based on data collected by wildlife staff at the Moggill Centre (in Brisbane), there is no evidence to date that the domestic cat is a major threat to the long term survival of the city's native fauna. From a purely conservation point of view, neither the numbers nor the species taken by cats are cause for alarm when compared with the losses to urbanization, industrialization, motor traffic, and the creation of the horse paddock." Natrass' report is based on the experience of a single metropolitan area, as critics are quick to note and flies in the face of conventional belief; but it is worth pointing out that the only other major study of domestic cat predation to date, by John Lawton and Peter Churcher, was also based on the experience of a single location, a village in the suburbs of London, England, and also concluded that while cats kill significant numbers of animals, the overwhelming majority are common mice, voles, and birds (principally sparrows).

* **The Canadian government on September 12 invoked** a 75-day comment period under provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement to delay implementing regulations that would bar animal brokers (Class B dealers) from importing dogs. "Importation would be restricted to Class A dealers only, the actual breeders of the puppies," according to Animal Alliance of Canada director Liz White. "And even permitting Class A dealers to ship the puppies would be subject to restrictions on the animals' age, vaccinations, traveling time, and veterinary care. The Humane Society of the U.S. says at least 50,000 animals enter Canada annually, but some industry estimates place the number closer to 100,000, since not all points of entry are monitored. Closing off Canada as a destination could therefore put a big dent in the total number of animals being bred in the U.S. The delay could be used to give the Canadian pet supply industry time to readjust to the new rules, or find alternate sources of animals. Of course the puppy mill and pet supply industry will use the time to try to derail the regulations." Which is exactly what Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council Canada executive director Louis McCann has urged PIJAC members to do. (McCann, ironically, was formerly investigations director for the Canadian Society for the Protection of Animals.) Letters of support for the Canadian regulations may be sent to Bill McKnight, Minister of Agriculture, c/c Agriculture Canada, Sir John Carling Bldg., 930 Carling Ave., Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0C5, Canada.

* **Teresa Martinez, 8, and several other children** from her neighborhood in Loveland, Colorado, found themselves in desperate trouble September 13 after disturbing a rattlesnake den. Her dog Lady, 9, a husky-retriever mix, rushed to the rescue, and though bitten three times, fought off the snakes until the children escaped. Receiving prompt veterinary treatment, Lady was expected to fully recover.

rabies epidemic, no rabid cats were encountered, nor any cases of either feline leukemia (FeLV) or feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV). Ten cats, all believed to have been abandoned pets, arrived suffering from severe malnutrition. Nine of them survived and were adopted. In total, only 43 of the 320 cats exhibited significant health problems.

These findings contrast sharply with records kept by veterinarian Donna Bishop, who has managed a similar project in inner Boston for over eight years. In particular, Bishop has seen the incidence of FeLV rise from zero to 14% since 1985, while the incidence of FIV ranged from 27% to 31% in 1990-1991. It is possible that these diseases rise to a peak, wipe out the most vulnerable part of the cat population in an epidemic, then subside until the vulnerable population has again reached a high enough level to permit ready transmission of the responsible viruses.

The project ended with 21 cats left in custody, including one kitten, one former pet, and 19 ferals who were removed from hostile habitat and had nowhere else to go. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** took these 21, along with our 10 personal cats, to our present location, a 10-acre wildlife sanctuary along the rugged, sparsely populated New York/Vermont border. Here, 16 of the 21 were allowed free access to the outdoors and to indoor shelter with bedding and an always full food dish. Five of the 21 were brought into the house; two were allowed to go out as they wished.

Also allowed outdoors were and are six of our original pets, five of whom were strays or ferals when we took them in, some time before the beginning of the cat project.

As well as being a humane course of last resort short of euthanasia, the relocation was an experiment in several respects. We hoped to find out whether the colony would remain integral; how our feral and domestic populations interact; and how the sudden arrival of 31 cats would impact the local wildlife, including both prey species and rival preda-

going, three of the remainder have become almost tame, often spending nights in the house. Despite the anticipated feline depredations, rabbits are the only prey species who have markedly declined in the immediate vicinity of the house—but as is normal in wild habitat, they are also markedly scarcer elsewhere, due to the cumulative effects of predation by coyotes, foxes, hawks, eagles, and owls. In addition, we have only twice observed our cats preying upon rabbits.

We had expected native predators to become scarcer around the house due to both our own presence and competition for food from the cats. This has apparently not been the case. We continue to find coyote and fox scats within 50 feet of the house. We suspect most or all of the missing cats have been victims of predation, though the only evidence of this to date was the discovery of one apparent feline hip bone, which could also have been a rabbit bone. We have not found any evidence in the scats we have found and examined that the coyotes or foxes are actually eating cats; on the contrary, the scats near the house consist mainly of berry pits—no surprise, as wild blackberries and wild grapes are abundant.

Although the missing ferals were also exposed to predation in their Connecticut habitat (as well as to heavy traffic and human abuse), they were all several years younger than the former ferals among our personal cats, who in each instance had lived for some time in very close proximity to fox and coyote dens. We therefore surmise that the missing cats made mistakes our personal cats have avoided, if in fact predation is to blame.

It is still possible that some of the missing have simply wandered off during good weather, and will return with the onset of winter. We'll continue to hope, to keep records, and to provide follow-up reports for the benefit of other cat rescuers who would like to know what becomes of colonies after neutering, vaccination, and release.

* **Pursued by police on September 23** for allegedly pointing a loaded shotgun at a 12-year-old boy, Brian Breton, 37, of Cohoes, N.Y., dropped the gun and dashed into the nearby home of Deb Waz—whose 8-year-old Labrador/collie mix Sadie, promptly cornered Breton and held him there until he was handcuffed.

* **The Cat Fanciers' Association offers a pro-spay/neuter bumper sticker** for fifty cents plus a business-sized SASE. Address P.O. Box 1005, Manasquan, NJ 08736-1005.

* **Two organizations are pushing for Congress to recognize the 30,000 dogs** who have served in the U.S. military with a special monument. The National War Dogs Memorial Project, of Jacksonville, Florida, headed by former K-9 Corps handler Joseph J. White, seeks funds to build a monument in Washington D.C. while the Hartsdale Canine Cemetery of Hartsdale, New York, seeks to have the existing War Dog Memorial on its grounds placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The existing memorial was built with funds donated by schoolchildren after World War I, when heroic dogs got extensive good press—although the K-9 Corps wasn't officially begun until 1932. The memorial includes a bronze statue of a German shepherd wearing a Red Cross blanket.

* **The Los Angeles Police Commission has recommended** that K-9 unit officers be required to shout verbal warnings before setting dogs upon suspected criminals. Such warnings are already required in most other cities that employ police dogs. The American Civil Liberties Union recently sued Los Angeles, alleging that police dogs have been used in a discriminatory manner.

* **An orange tomcat named Mierko who lost his tail to shrapnel** but never stopped braving the shelling to chase pigeons has become "a heroic mascot" to residents of the main municipal shelter in war-torn Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, according to *New York Times* correspondent Michael T. Kaufman.

* **An unidentified 80-year-old man in Moscow, Russia,** tried unsuccessfully to insure his cat; the man claimed the pigeons the cat catches are a vital part of his diet. He has reportedly appealed the state-run insurance company's decision to Russian president Boris Yeltsin, who reputedly keeps both cats and dogs.

* **Pets and People, a nonprofit residence home** in Baltimore, enables three senior citizens who require full-time care to keep up to three companion animals each; guarantees continued care for the animals if the people are hospitalized or transferred to a nursing home; and already has a waiting list of 20 would-be residents. The residents pay \$950 a month. The home was established by the Animal Welfare League of Greater Baltimore through a bequest by the late Tom Heghinian who "just gave up," according to AWLGB president Elizabeth Kirk, when he had to be separated from his two dogs.

* **Willis and Debra Payne** of Springfield, Ohio, on August 14 sued to overturn a Common Pleas Court ruling that their dog should be disinterred from a local cemetery because the space is for humans only. The suit alleges that numerous animals have been buried there without objection during the past 40 years. The Common Pleas Court ordered the dog disinterred after several other plot owners argued that the burial amounted to desecration.

The most problematic cat in our project is Leland, a huge neutered orange tom who was neither a stray nor a feral; we took him in after his guardian died and her husband threatened to dump him. Affectionate with people, unperturbed by dogs, he turns homicidal around other cats, male or female, and desperately needs a home where he can be the only cat. Please call us if you can adopt him.

Fur

* **Fur Free Friday will be November 27** this year—the day after Thanksgiving, the traditional start of the peak fur sales season. Friends of Animals and Animal Rights Mobilization are coordinating events in numerous locations. Get details from FoA at 212-247-8120, and from ARM at 303-388-7120.

* **The Committee of Jews for Compassion** is taking out a series of full-page ads in Jewish newspapers to publicize Tel Aviv chief Sephardic rabbi Haim David Halevi's recent ruling that Jewish law forbids manufacturing or wearing fur because it forbids causing pain to animals. Write CJC c/o CHAI, P.O. Box 3341, Alexandria, VA 22302.

* **The Humane Society of the U.S.** is still offering preprinted "Shame of Fur" billboard ads at no cost to any group who rents billboard space. Call 202-452-1100 for details. HSUS also continues to collect reports of pets and people who have been accidentally injured in traps.

* **An anti-fur TV spot** produced for Noah's Friends by Rob Schapiro and Ty Harper of the Earle Palmer Brown advertising agency in Richmond, Virginia, has earned honors in five major ad industry competitions, including a division first at the New York film festival—but most commercial stations are refusing to air it, possibly because furriers spent from \$20 million to \$26 million per year on TV advertising during the 1980s. However, now that fur sales have slumped to half of the 1988 level, the fur ad budget is fast shrinking. (Noah's Friends may be reached c/o P.O. Box 36197, Richmond, VA 23235; 804-320-7090.)

* The Macy's flagship store in Herald Square, Manhattan, no longer includes a fur boutique—but the Macy's chain continues to sell fur via its Bullock's subsidiaries.

* **Only three fur garments appeared** in the 118-page fall fashion supplement to *The New York Times* this year. Two of the three were dyed to look like something else.

* **A decision is pending** in the California Department of Fish and Game's attempt to overturn a ban on leghold trapping in Nevada County, approved by county voters in 1988. Arguments were heard in the case on August 31; defending the ban was Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund attorney Larry Silver, who told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that he expected a verdict by December 1. The loser, either way, is expected to appeal, and the verdict in the appeal will set a precedent in California either for or against wildlife-related regulation at the community level.

* **After Ohio wildlife rehabilitator** and journalist Donna Robb identified numerous violations of state wildlife laws by obtaining nuisance trappers' annual reports via the Ohio Open Records Act, the state Division of Wildlife changed the rules so that the reports need no longer be filed. Instead, inspectors will monitor the reports when necessary in the trappers' own homes. "The Open Records Act states that a public office can't avoid public disclosure of records by transferring custody of those records to another person or office," Robb responded. "Does anyone know a lawyer who's willing to pursue this?" (Call **ANIMAL PEOPLE** if you are such a lawyer.) Last year, Robb discovered that, "The Division of Wildlife considers the release or sale of furbearers to fenced raccoon hunting clubs 'release to the wild.'"

* **St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana**, allocated \$8,000 in early August toward attracting an alligator-and-nutria pelt tannery into the community, to stimulate alligator hunting and nutria trapping. Parish president Lynn Dean said he would veto the appropriation as "ridiculous," noting that a similar tannery elsewhere in the state recently went broke. Then Hurricane Andrew devastated the local alligator and nutria populations, at least for a couple of years.

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CRIME & PUNISHMENT

Crimes Against Humans

* **The FBI and local police are seeking a serial killer who is believed responsible** for shooting a bowhunter, a deer hunter, two fishermen, and a jogger since 1989 in rural eastern Ohio. An anonymous letter to a local newspaper from the purported killer indicates he himself is a hunter; he demonstrates a hunter's knowledge of firearms. The man boasted that these are not his only murders.

* **Imperial Food Products** owner Emmett Roe pleaded guilty Sept. 14 to 25 counts of manslaughter in connection with a Sept. 3, 1991 blaze at the company's chicken processing plant in Hamlet, North Carolina. Similar charges against Roe's son and another plant official were dropped as part of a plea bargain. Roe was sentenced to 20 years in prison for locking exits and neglecting fire precautions. Roe was earlier fined \$808,150 for fire code violations, and still faces 19 civil suits from bereaved survivors.

* **Cleveland police are probing** the Sept. 2 death of Angela Kaplan, 28, a mother of two young daughters, who bled to death over a period of several hours after suffering over 180 bites from a pit bull terrier belonging to her unidentified common-law husband. The man told police that Kaplan refused medical treatment, and that he received a cut on his forehead when he accidentally broke a glass of water he had offered her.

* **Paroled killer Charles Brown, 36**, drew the death penalty from a Philadelphia jury on September 15, for murdering Richard Bethel, 45, because Bethel threatened to shoot Brown's leashed but growling Rottweiler.

* **Cameron Kocher, 13**, of Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, pleaded no contest on Sept. 2 to shooting seven-year-old Jessica Ann Carr with his father's deer rifle on March 6, 1989. Kocher, who "simply shot the wrong kind of animal" according to one court-appointed psychiatrist, will be on probation until age

21. During that time he is not allowed to possess, use, or reside in a house that contains firearms.

* **Judge Stuart Ain of the New York State Supreme Court** on August 31 ordered the Long Island Pet Cemetery to pay Joyce Wallip, 45, and Michael Bachman, 36, \$1.2 million for improperly disposing of their dog. Cemetery owners Samuel Strauss, 70, and Alan Strauss, 35, are appealing an earlier conviction for mail fraud. They were charged in June 1991, after investigators found the remains of an estimated 250,000 pets in mass graves and ash heaps on the cemetery grounds, while marked graves were empty. Numerous other suits from bereaved pet keepers are pending.

* **Dwight Burkhalter, 22**, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was acquitted of shooting at a police officer on July 18 after he demonstrated to the judge that the shot was actually directed at a cat—whose corpse he offered as evidence.

Activism

* **The Progressive Animal Welfare Society** won an August ruling by the Superior Court of King County, Washington, that the University of Washington must release an unfunded grant proposal involving primate research because it remains a public document even though it was rejected in June 1991 by the National Institutes of Health. The proposal, by psychology professor Gene Sackett, called for rearing newborn rhesus macaques in complete isolation, to induce self-mutilating behavior.

* **In Defense of Animals has sued** the University of California for censoring public records pertaining to animal experimentation, purportedly to protect researchers from harassment by activists. The case is to be heard on November 4.

* **Fifteen volunteer foster keepers** of 38 dogs seized from an allegedly abusive kennel

Crimes Against Animals

* **Mississippi State University football coach Jackie Sherrill** escaped cruelty charges in early September for having a bull castrated in front of the team, after witnesses refused to cooperate with an investigation by the Mississippi Animal Rescue League. Sherrill and MSU president Donald Zacharias did apologize for the incident.

* **Caesar Morelli, 79**, of Barrington, Massachusetts, died August 23 of burns suffered 19 days earlier, when he tried to incinerate two live raccoons and a skunk. One of the raccoons survived.

* **Allen Wlodarczyk, owner of the Sentry Security guard dog rental firm** in Griffith, Indiana, has been charged with 66 counts of failure to vaccinate, nine counts of neglect and abandonment, and three counts relating to unethical business practices. If convicted, Wlodarczyk faces up to seven years in prison and fines in excess of \$9,000.

* **Alleged serial animal killer Michael Charles Bessigno, 22**, has been held without bond since August 13 in Lake County, Indiana. Bessigno was apprehended after allegedly approaching children and "warning" them an animal killer was around.

* **The St. Clair County Humane Society** and Shelby County Humane Society com-

near Redding, California, in November 1989, are scheduled for trial on contempt charges October 16 for refusing to return the dogs to the kennel owner. Although veterinarian H. Sterling Fenn testified that the 107 dogs found at the kennel suffered from malnutrition and chronic parasitic infection, the kennel owner was twice acquitted of cruelty charges in a case the foster keepers claim was badly mishandled by the prosecuting attorney. Over 50 dogs have already been returned to the kennel owner, who still hasn't corrected sanitation problems, according to the foster keepers, who have organized as Citizens for Animal Protection, c/o Michele Sevryn, 20519 Conestoga Trail, Redding, CA 96003.

bined forces September 3 to seize 140 animals from alleged puppy miller Chester Sweatt of Pell City, Alabama, including fighting cocks, rabbits, ducks, and pheasants as well as numerous dogs. The humane societies were aided by volunteers from the Birmingham Kennel Club, the Georgia Alliance of Purebred Canine Rescue, and Humane Society of Douglas County, Georgia. If convicted on misdemeanor cruelty charges, Sweatt faces a maximum fine of just \$500; Alabama has one of the weakest animal protection laws in the U.S.

* **Thirty-eight sickly small dogs**, their fur matted with feces, were seized in an August 18 raid on alleged unlicensed animal dealer Thomas Bruchaiski, 37, of Monroe, Conn. Also seized were three birds. The animals had shared a single food bowl. Although the Bruchaiski site was within a block of Monroe animal control officer Ed Risko's office, the dogs were so closely confined that it took Risko months of surveillance to obtain enough evidence to get a search warrant.

* **Investigator Sue Skaskiw** of Vermont Volunteer Services for Animals seized seven sick rabbits and 300 bagged goldfish from the Vermont State Fair in Rutland on September 13. The animals were to have been used as prizes in a carnival game run by Wayne Furr, of North Carolina. Despite the raid, and despite a two-year-old ban on animal sales at the fair, about 20 rabbits and a number of hermit crabs were awarded as carnival game prizes the following day.

* **Landowner Bruce Berend** and tree-trimmer William Kincaid, of Solana Beach, California, have agreed to work 100 hours apiece for Project Wildlife, the rehab group that rescued some of the victims when they cut down trees June 13 in a heron nesting area. Police found 20 heron chicks stuffed into garbage bags, 17 of whom died. Berend and Kincaid will also be fined.

* **Patrick Eberhart, of Tampa, Fla., was convicted August 16 of stealing two puppies** and dropping them off at the Sarasota County dog pound to stifle their barking. Eberhart was sentenced to work 60 hours for local humane societies.

Zoos & Aquariums

Two of the four beluga whales caught in August for the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago died September 22, apparently as result of overdoses of roundworm medication. The capture of the whales was fought every step of the way by marine mammal protection groups, including Lifeforce and the International Wildlife Coalition.

The National Zoo in Washington D.C. is testing a deer contraceptive this fall on 30 does. "We're trying to develop a technology for the humane population control of deer where hunting is not wise, legal, or safe," said Montana wildlife fertility researcher Jay Kirkpatrick, who developed the contraceptive.

Tactics & Actions

* PETA recently staged the first demonstration against meat-eating to be held in Moscow, Russia, since Leo Tolstoy's time. Inasmuch as the picket signs were apparently all in English, for the benefit of American and British TV crews, Russian patrons were mostly puzzled. The vegetarian movement Tolstoy championed is today little known in Russia; Lenin and Stalin viciously repressed it, viewing the back-to-the-land philosophy that went with it as counter-revolutionary. Further, while most Russians are used to going without meat for prolonged periods due to shortages, fresh fruit and vegetables are also often scarce and expensive—and tofu was unheard of, until a small Hare Krishna restaurant introduced it two years ago. The American Fund for Alternatives to Animal Research has moved to remedy the situation, wiring \$4,343 to the Center for Ethical Treatment of Animals in Moscow on August 17. According to CETA president Tatyana Pavlova, the funds will go toward a computer, laser printer, and essential software, which in turn will be used primarily to publish information on vegetarianism.

* The Albert Schweitzer Council takes advantage of low classified ad rates in small town newspapers to publish a variety of bulletins about humane animal treatment. A typical text: "Your dog would appreciate a Merry Christmas. A warm, dry wooden doghouse if kept outside. (Inside better in severe weather.) Good walks with you. Tasty special treats. Plenty of fresh water. Companionship. Be a friend to 'man's best friend.' Greetings from the Albert Schweitzer Council."

A donation of \$1.85 million from the Emir of Kuwait has again temporarily resuscitated the nearly bankrupt London Zoo--the third time an unexpected benefactor has come to the rescue--but attendance was 25% below the break-even point this past summer, and the future of the zoo and the animals in it remains uncertain. Private investors meanwhile are reportedly already at work on a \$67 million high-tech "zoo" with no animals, to be situated in Leicester, north of London, by 1995. Visitors would watch animals in their native habitat via live satellite transmission from cameras hidden in refuges around the world, according to project designer John Sunderland. The facility will be called the Worldlife Center.

Most of the animals in the Sarajevo Zoo, once the pride of Bosnia, died from shelling or starvation during the summer. Starvation and civil unrest also nearly wiped out the President Mobutu Park Zoo in Nsele, Zaire, which became a hangout for soldiers. Animals at Peru's Lima Zoo were luckier, as the Dutch Embassy donated a generator to keep incubators, pumps, and other vital equipment working despite power outages caused by Shining Path guerilla attacks.

Friends of Blue Hills, a newly formed environmental group, are trying to prevent a petting zoo from opening at the Blue Hills Reservoir, near Boston. Bulldozing for the site, they say, could endanger wetlands forming one of the last refuges of a rare salamander.

The Bronx Zoo began a drive to exterminate raccoons and feral cats on the grounds after two rabid raccoons were discovered there on July 24.

Naforimex I, one of three almost identically named export consortiums set up by the Vietnamese government, is apparently actively marketing wildlife, including endangered species, the International Primate Protection League reports. IPPL investigators photographed dozens of monkeys awaiting shipment at Nha Trang, two months after Vietnam adopted a law forbidding the export of rare and endangered animals. The animals are apparently marketed via Reach Shipping Co. of Taiwan. Protest to the Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan, 37 Nanhai Rd., Taipei, Taiwan 10728.

Vivisection

* George Bush signed the Animal Enterprise Protection Act of 1992 into law on August 26, making vandalism of farms and laboratories a federal offense. The law broadens the jurisdiction of the FBI in such cases, but probably will not help federal grand juries probing laboratory break-ins in Oregon, Washington, Michigan, and Massachusetts to reach indictments, since the alleged offenses took place long before the law was passed.

* The Bush administration on August 23 proposed redirecting federally funded biomedical research into economically productive areas, a move that might decrease the number of animals used in so-called basic research, but increase the number used in product safety testing.

* Democratic vice presidential candidate Albert Gore Jr. has come out in opposition to the LD-50 and Draize product safety tests, which expose animals to chemicals to establish a crude index of toxicity. "While I believe some animal testing is essential to biomedical advances," Gore said in a letter to Don Elroy of the Tennessee Network for Animals, "I will continue to support measures which reduce the unnecessary use of animal testing, and will do all I can to increase awareness of better techniques."

* Anti-animal protection groups are flooding *The Weekly Reader* with letters protesting a recent pro-and-con item on the use of animals in biomedical research and testing. Some antivivisection groups also didn't like the item; ANIMAL PEOPLE found it bland and quite down-the-middle. Request a copy and draw your own conclusions c/o 245 Long Hill Road, Middletown, CT 06457.

* An unidentified 35-year-old man who received the first-ever transplant of a baboon's liver into a human on June 28 died Sept. 6 at the University of Pittsburgh hospital. An autopsy revealed the man died of a stroke rather than rejection of the baboon tissue. Transplant supervisor Dr. Thomas Starzl said the experiment would be repeated soon, using a healthier human subject. At least 33 humans have received organ transplants from animals since 1905, but none have lived longer than nine months afterward.

* *The New York Times* reported on August 10 that the Centers for Disease Control still doesn't know whether two researchers who were exposed to the simian form of AIDS in 1989 and 1990 will actually get the disease. So far, simian AIDS isn't known to occur in humans.

* The New Orleans City Council agreed Sept. 3 to spend \$300,000 to encourage local biomedical researchers—about \$100,000 more than it usually allocates to one of the most underfunded animal control budgets of any American community.

Voting Green: your complete environmental guide to making political choices in the '90's.

By Jeremy Rifkin and Carol Grunewald Rifkin, *Doubleday* (666 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10103), 1992, 390 pages, paperback \$15.00 U.S., \$19.00 Canadian.

It may be true, as *Voting Green* suggests, that this decade will determine our environmental future. Certainly grassroots support for green programs has never been stronger. But Jeremy and Carol Rifkin also remind us that the greatest potential for redesigning our societal infrastructure is held by our elected representatives in Congress, and that we will decide--with our votes--which direction they'll take.

Voting Green alerts us to a turning tide in politics, where decisions are based less on party affiliations and ideologies than on shared perceptions of place in the biosphere. On one hand there are the utilitarian politicians, "who view their fellow human beings, other species, and the environment...as resources to exploit for short-term material gain." On the other, there are those few representatives who "pursue a political agenda based on sustainable and humane stewardship of the earth and its inhabitants." The Rifkins review the efforts of the latter, issue by issue, through recently proposed legislation.

BOOK REVIEWS

They also grade individual representatives, state by state, according to their voting records on environmental issues.

Some of their findings contradict cherished political beliefs. While nearly all the highest ranked "green" Congresspersons are Democrats, they're not necessarily the most liberal. Several are African-American and/or women, and many are supporters of organized labor. It should be noted, nevertheless, that most earn their high grades by voting green on one or two special issues while failing miserably in related categories.

It's important, too, to look closely at the proposed legislation used to determine the grades in each category. In agriculture, for instance, grades were determined primarily by support for amendments to the 1990 Omnibus Farm Bill on sustainable agriculture. The category of animal rights, however, includes bills on leghold traps, product testing alternatives, vegetarian school lunches, dolphin protection, greyhound racing, and biogenetic engineering. Ironically, some Republican House members scored very high in the animal rights category

Eat Smart: A Guide To Good Health For Kids. By Dale Figtree, *New Win Publishing* (P.O. Box 5159, Clinton, NJ 08809), 1992, 100 pages, paperback \$10.95.

James, the hero of *Eat Smart*, is a typical young teen: healthy, active, and totally unaware of his body's nutritional needs. When he finds himself gaining too much weight, he tries the obvious solutions. He hides his body in loose clothing. He tries to diet, and fails.

Frustrated and angry, he loses confidence in himself. "The strange thing was, the bigger I got, the hungrier I got,"

he says, until finally one humiliating incident in front of his peers triggers a serious depression. Fortunately his parents introduce him to a health counselor much like the author of this book. With her help, James learns to choose appropriate food, and he gradually regains his sense of self-worth.

While *Eat Smart* focuses primarily on weight control, it contains basic information--presented sensitively and with humor--for young people of all shapes and sizes. Lively and evocative line drawings illustrate James' journey of self-discovery. Particularly clever are sketches demonstrating the transformation of nutrients to energy as a young person might imagine the process. James learns, for instance, that "we would all look like jellyfish" without minerals in our diets, and he envi-

but flunked every other section.

It would be tempting to use *Voting Green* merely to target individual representatives on specific issues. Instead the Rifkins work very hard to encourage coalitions that address earth-related problems. They demonstrate a special broadness of vision by including animal rights as a key component of environmental awareness. "Acknowledging the inherent value and rights of animals, indeed, respecting all of nature, is the essence of Green-mindedness," they write. Their vision includes protection for spotted owls and job training for unemployed loggers, preservation of tropical forests and appropriate U.S. foreign aid for sustainable development.

Voting Green concludes with a report card on the George Bush administration, comparing the president's promises with his actions. Not surprisingly, Bush receives failing grades in global warming, energy, transportation, public lands, wetlands, and animal rights. While state governors' records are not included here, and thus Democratic presidential nominee Bill Clinton is not graded, it is intriguing that his running mate Al Gore is the highest-ranking Senator on the *Voting Green* scale.

Given the importance of *Voting Green* in this election year, it's unfortunate and perplexing that the volume isn't indexed, for the convenience of those who may wish to make frequent use of it.

sions himself as a large boneless blob.

Following James' narrative, a question-and-answer session addresses related health concerns and advocates a vegar diet. Consumption of meat and dairy products is discouraged for health reasons, and because, "most animals today are raised in miserable conditions. Eating meat supports that cruel treatment." Elsewhere she expresses concern for the conditions on modern poultry farms. For neophyte vegan cooks, she includes a selection of recipes designed to appeal to adolescent appetites.

--Cathy Young Czaplak

OBITUARIES

carry on and strengthen the organization. Memorial services were held Sept. 26 at a variety of locations around the U.S., to commemorate National Wildlife Ecology Day, a date Dommer proclaimed several years ago to counter National Hunting and Fishing Day.

work led to a landmark expose of dog bunchers in *Life* magazine, published February 4, 1966. The expose helped secure passage of the Laboratory Animals Protection Act, forerunner of the Animal Welfare Act, later that year. Moses served as Minnesota representa-

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Luke Dommer, 62, died of cancer August 18 in West Haven, Connecticut. A motorcycle-riding ex-Marine, Dommer challenged macho stereotypes as a graphic artist by trade, wildlife rehabilitator by avocation, outspoken opponent of hunting by calling. In 1975 Dommer founded the 5,000-member Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting with \$12 worth of pamphlets. CASH achievements included winning the right to protest against hunting at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge via lawsuit in 1979, and persuading the Interstate Palisades Park Commission to halt deer hunting in Harriman State Park, N.Y., in 1984.

As cancer wracked his body in recent years, Dommer alienated former friends and supporters with abusive tirades, but profusely apologized, often within moments, and spent his last days trying to make amends to as many as he could reach by telephone. "He was a great teacher and founder of our movement," said Farm Animal Reform Movement president Alex Hershaft, who visited Dommer on his death bed. Esther Mechler of Focus on Animals, a frequent visitor, noted that, "Luke was called 'Public Enemy Number One' by the National Rifle Association." Ohio anti-hunting activist Donna Robb fondly remembered him as the man who "taught me to be strong and soft, scientific and compassionate--my idol." *The New York Times* published Dommer's obituary twice, a rare signal of stature.

But perhaps the most telling description of Dommer came from Illinois hunting columnist John Landis, who warned fellow hunters about him in 1990. "The first inclination is to write this man off as a crackpot," Landis wrote. "That would be an unfortunate mistake...He comes across as intelligent, conversant in wildlife management practices, a logical and clear thinker, and on the first impression of even an avid hunter, he is likeable...a very formidable adversary."

Succeeding Dommer as CASH president, Anne Muller immediately pledged to

Fay Bostwick Abbott, 81, died May 26 in Burlington, Vermont, of complications from a stroke. A medical secretary most of her life, Abbott became a noted nature photographer and wildlife rehabilitator upon her retirement in 1969; founded Vermont Friends of Animals in 1972, serving as director of the organization until 1978; and formed People for Animal Rights in 1982. Her admittedly impractical lifelong dream, she often stated, was that the entire state of Vermont might some day be posted off limits to hunting and trapping.

Guy P. Giordano, 64, a noted South Philadelphia tire dealer, cat rescuer, and fundraiser for handicapped children, died of cancer Aug. 5.

Lucille Moses Scott, 90, who died circa March 20 in Escondido, California, was informally remembered recently by longtime animal protection colleagues--few of whom ever actually met her. A former school-teacher, Moses Scott lived most of her life in Minnesota. Also long active in the civil rights and peace movements, she began doing political work on behalf of animals in 1948, shortly after Minnesota adopted the nation's first law mandating that unclaimed impounded dogs had to be surrendered for biomedical research. Humane societies were unaware such legislation had been introduced. Thereafter, Moses Scott made it her business to monitor political activity involving animals, and to become personally acquainted with politicians. Circa 1954 she and Christian Norgovd of the American Humane Association were instrumental in persuading then-Minnesota senator Hubert Humphrey to introduce the Humane Slaughter Act, which finally passed after prolonged effort in 1958. In later years Moses Scott also personally obtained the support of senators Eugene McCarthy and George McGovern for a variety of animal protection bills. She was among the AHA supporters who broke away in 1955 to form the Humane Society of the U.S., but later recalled that her most active period began two years later, when she initiated a series of undercover investigations of puppy mills and suspected dog thieves in and around Minneapolis. Her

time for HSUS through 1967, when she retired and relocated to southern California. She remained energetically involved in letter-writing and fundraising on behalf of animals right up until her death, and was a particularly valuable regional correspondent to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** news editor Merritt Clifton, to whom she sent a considerable amount of historical file material as well as information on current events. "No one will ever know how much you accomplished," Ann Cottrell Free wrote to Moses Scott in a letter that never reached her. Agreed Christine Stevens of the Animal Welfare Institute, "She certainly was a great worker for the animals."

The late **George H. Montgomery** of Philipsburg, Quebec, was honored August 1 by the commemoration of the 1,200-acre George H. Montgomery Bird Sanctuary on some of the lands he long protected from hunters, trappers, and would-be developers. Also honored at the ceremony was the late John D. Delafield, longtime president of the 75-year-old Province of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds.

Memorials

In memory of my brother, Victor J. Albano, who died July 30, 1992--

Philomena Smith

In memory of Angel--

Ruth Levy and Judy Fein

Bunny Huggers' Gazette ad

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