

Civil disobedience comes to farm country

ITHACA, TOLEDO, SALT LAKE CITY, TEXAS CITY, TWIN FALLS—Purported anti-terrorism bills pushed in recent legislative sessions by lawmakers in Texas, Oregon, Utah, and Pennsylvania, among other states, have sought to criminalize almost any unauthorized exposure of anything done in the name of agriculture.

Factory farmers are finding that even when they win convictions of activists who enter their property to rescue ani-



(M.C.)

mals and document suffering, they lose in the court of public opinion. Prosecuting rescuers, moreover, appears to increase the public perception that the farmers are cruel—even when the farms are traditional family operations.

Consider the case of Susan E. Costen. Costen, 38, a farm manager for the Ithaca, New York branch of Farm Sanctuary, on November 22, 2002 responded to a call about an injured lamb by visiting the property of sheep farmer Rory Miller, in the nearby village of Tyrone. Finding that Miller was not home, Costen entered the barn, found the lamb, and took him to the Cornell University veterinary teaching hospital, where he was euthanized.

On December 3 Costen was charged with third degree felony burglary. The charge was reduced to misdemeanor criminal trespass on January 27, because Costen had no prior criminal record.

After Farm Sanctuary cofounder Gene Bauston publicized the case in an e-mail alert, Schuyler County district attorney Joseph Fazzary received more than 1,500 messages urging him to drop all charges.

Instead Fazzary pressed the case. Costen on March 17 plea-bargained a sentence of 100 hours of community service, and was ordered to write Miller a letter of apology, to accompany restitution of \$200 to Miller for the lost value of the lamb.

But Miller won little if any sympathy from nationally syndicated news coverage of the case. Costen, conversely, was widely praised as a Good Samaritan

Bauston may have anticipated that public opinion would favor Costen from his own experience in 2000, after he

CHRONOLOGY OF HUMANE PROGRESS (PAGE 17)

rescued two chickens from a trash can on the property of the New Jersey egg producer ISE America. Bauston won a rare cruelty conviction against ISE America, which was fined \$250 plus court costs.

The ISE America defense attorney sought immunity from prosecution under the New Jersey Right-to-Farm Act, which pertains to waste disposal.

Asked Central Warren Municipal Court Judge Joseph Steinhardt, “Isn’t there a big distinction between manure and live animals?”

Responded the ISE defense, “No, your honor.” Even had ISE been acquitted, those three words made for Bauston the very point that he had hoped to make: factory farmers treat their animals like refuse.

A hen named Hope

As the Costen case was resolved, prosecutor Richard Howell of Darke County, Ohio, was still reviewing competing complaints brought to him weeks earlier by Weaver Brothers Egg Farm president Tim Weaver and teenagers Nathan Runkle and Derek Koons, cofounders of the local activist group Mercy for Animals.

After videotaping conditions at the Buckeye and Delay egg farms in 2001, Runkle and Koons in December 2002 conducted an unauthorized videotaped inspection of Weaver Brothers.

“We documented really callous acts of egregious cruelty, neglect, and abuse to the hens,” Runkle told *Columbus Blade* regional bureau chief James Drew.

Runkle and Koons also rescued a hen they named

(continued on page 6)

ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who



Care About Animals

April 2003

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Hedgehog rescuers face a prickly situation off the Scottish coast

EDINBURGH—Operation Tiggy-winkle was to commence at dawn on March 27, 2003 in the Western Isles off Scotland.

Ross Minott, campaign director for the Scots group Advocates for Animals, was to lead a 20-member volunteer team ashore to try to rescue an estimated 5,000 hedgehogs from the islands of North Uist, Benbecula, and South Uist, ahead of death squads to be sent in April by Scottish National Heritage.

The hedgehogs were introduced to the Western Isles in 1974 as an attempted biological control for garden slugs and snails who annoyed the 6,000 human residents of the islands. Eventually the hedgehogs came to be considered pests themselves.

In December 2002 a six-year study commissioned by Scottish National Heritage blamed the hedgehogs for declines of up to 60% during the study period in the populations of dunlin, lapwing, redshank, ringed plover, oystercatchers, and snipe. The hedgehogs have purportedly been killing off the wading birds by raiding their nests to eat their eggs.

The birds are protected by international treaty. Hedgehogs, whose mainland population is estimated at 1.5 million, are not.

Likened by Paul Kelbie, Scotland correspondent for *The Independent*, to the “pillaging Vikings and English redcoat soldiers hunting Bonnie Prince Charlie” who invaded the Western Isles in past centuries, the hedgehogs were condemned to death.

Scottish Natural Heritage chair John Markland argued that humane capture and repatriation to the mainland could not be done.

Fiona Stewart, Fay Vass, and Ann Salmond of the Hedgehog Preservation Society, Les Stocker of St. Tiggywinkle’s wildlife hospital in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, and Advocates for Animals directors Minott and Les Ward were all unconvinced.

All knew, for example, that hedgehogs have been captured from the wild and relocated all over the world as exotic pets, and have proved surprisingly adaptable to many new environments. Their success in the Western Isles was itself an example of their adaptability.

When the hedgehog defenders failed to persuade the Scottish Parliament to intervene, they organized the attempted Dunkirk-like evacuation, using private aircraft to swiftly move as many hedgehogs as can be captured. The hedgehogs are to be relocated to suitable habitat including the estates of Sir Paul McCartney and the Duchess of Hamilton.

The Mammal Trust volunteered to help, but withdrew when the organizers refused to allow biologists to put radio collars on the relocated hedgehogs to trace their fate. The scheme was opposed because of growing indications that radio-collared animals of all sorts have higher mortality than non-collared animals, possibly because the sounds the collars emit are audible to some predators, and possibly because the collars inhibit evasive maneuvers.

The rescue effort was bitterly attacked by Alasdair Morrison, the Western Isles member of the Scottish Parliament.

(continued on page 8)



Street dog digs in. This one was rescued by the Blue Cross of India. (Kim Bartlett)

Hard times and hostile politics threaten street dogs and ABC

GOA, MUMBAI, BANGALORE, PUNE, CHENNAI, NEW DELHI, VISAKHAPATNAM—Corruption, caste politics, ancient anti-dog prejudice, and lack of funding for escalated street dog sterilization and vaccination threaten to reverse seven years of remarkable gains in India toward achieving world leadership in the humane population control of street dogs.

Whether India will maintain pursuit of the official national goal declared in December 1997 of trying to accomplish no-kill animal control nationwide is now up to the Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court.

Goa bench of the Bombay High Court Justices D.G. Deshpande and P.V. Hardas in January 2003 ruled that the grossly underfunded dog sterilization and vaccination efforts of nonprofit organizations have failed to reduce the dog population enough to protect public health, and that the 1960 Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act could allow high-volume dog-killing to resume.

The 30-page Deshpande/Hardas verdict endorsed the position of plaintiff Rosario Menezes, an organization called People for the Elimination of Stray Troubles, and 38 local governments.

But Deshpande and Hardas left the final decision as to whether or not dog-killing should resume up to the Chief Justice, who is expected to appoint a special panel to take the matter under advisement.

With the verdict of the Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court pending, Justice N. Venkatachala of Bangalore also favored dog extermination in a 70-page ruling favoring Citizens for a Stray Dog Free Bangalore.

Venkatachala, said *The Hindu*, wrote that World Health Organization rabies division chief F.X. Meslin has called the Indian street dog sterilization efforts a failure. What Meslin actually said was that they have not yet reached enough dogs to be completely successful. Venkatachala reportedly also attributed to Meslin a claim that the World Society for the Protection of Animals does not oppose shooting or otherwise killing street dogs. WSPA representative Joy Leney has outspokenly favored killing street dogs by lethal injection, but not by cruder methods.

Venkatachala characterized “the so-called stray dog-lovers” of India as a limousine-riding elite who are “unleashing terror by promoting Animal Birth Control,” *The Hindu*

(continued on page 10)

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“shell” was pleading with me to let her go -- but I couldn’t ... then I almost had to!



April 2003

Dear Partner,

At a freeway off-ramp in the middle of brush country, there is a gas station and a fast food restaurant surrounded by wilderness.

“Shell” came to them both every morning between 6:30 and 7 to hit the trash and inhale whatever edible scrap she found . . .

. . . she was starving, she even ate the paper sandwich wrappers along with the french fries they held. She ate a tiny bit, fast, once a day . . . and then ran off and disappeared again until the next morning.

This went on for weeks until my wife, Stacy, saw her by chance.

I planned on where I would set up my trap to rescue her. But when I first saw Shell, she was scampering around my van, sniffing, eating . . . licking the ground where a soft drink or ketchup had spilled . . . but she never stood still. At least not long enough so I could set my trap.

So I took the bag of cut up hot dogs I brought for her, and I started tossing them around my van, to keep Shell hanging around while I unloaded the trap onto the road. And by the time I opened the trap door, Shell was on top of it. I threw hot dogs into the trap and she ran right in and set off the trigger . . . then kaboom, the door came down. I had her in less than three minutes. I think Shell was my fastest rescue ever!

It was so easy to catch her, I kept waiting for the other shoe to drop.

This was 6:30 in the morning. At 7:30 Shell was at our Supershelter hospital, hysterical, trying to get away from us. We chalked it up to her being all alone in the wilderness for a long, long time.

But my sense of foreboding was very strong. I figured maybe Shell was pregnant . . . that must be it.

She didn’t have milk, so there weren’t any pups left behind. Okay, I guess I rescued this poor dog in record time. I feel like I didn’t work hard enough somehow. Or maybe my anxiety was just that she reminded me so much of “my son,” my late terrier, Fred, that all kinds of emotions were churning my stomach.

It just seemed too easy.

Later that night, driving in the cold & rain, I couldn’t get Shell out of my mind. I called our hospital . . . “Is Shell okay?” She was.

But something was still not right. So I checked again the next morning. Shell was still fine!

That afternoon I drove to an important meeting an hour away. Then around 3 o’clock, Stacy called . . . and she said something that knocked the wind out of me . . . it was about Shell . . . the other shoe had finally fallen.

And it was my worst fear. Shell had milk! She had been nursed dry when I rescued her, but now it was back big time!

Here it was, almost 36 hours after I rescued her, and it would be dark soon. And Shell’s puppies were out there in all those miles of wilderness . . .

. . . cold and hungry . . . or worse.

Now I knew why Shell was so frantic. And I had to take her back out there . . . this would be dangerous! I told Stacy to put two harnesses on her. With two harnesses, the top one held the bottom one down and it would be nearly impossible for Shell to wiggle out of them and get away.

I bought steel chain leads in a store, and I told Stacy to bring Shell and meet me where I rescued her.

While I was waiting for them to arrive, I did a grid-search of the field between the freeway and where I found Shell. I was looking for any signs of a den. I found nothing.

When Stacy arrived, I put the chain leads on Shell and I walked with her, hoping she would lead me to her pups. Fat chance! She was so terrified of me that she went in huge circles trying to figure out how to get away.

That double harness idea paid off fast . . . Shell did try to wriggle out of them. And when that didn’t work she tried biting through the leads . . . but they were steel!

As darkness fell, it also got cold and damp, with a light rain off and on. Shell was still taking me in circles. Her pups were out there, I could feel them huddled together, suffering . . . but there was no way I could find them. What a terrible feeling of helplessness.

Then, operating on pure instinct, I did something I never did before. I begged my late dog Fred to help me. Help me find these puppies. Then, as if guided by another hand, I reached down and I held Shell’s face in both my hands. We were alone, nobody could see us . . .

. . . “Shell, please listen to me,” I said, as she stared. “Your babies are going to die Shell, all of them. If you don’t take me to them now, they WILL die. I will help them. And I will help you. But you have to take me to them NOW. Please Shell, take me to them now.”

I gently let her head go and she stared at me for another moment. Then she pulled me across the highway and we started going uphill . . . in the dark. All

my gear, and my heavy jacket, was in the van. All I had was a flashlight and a cell phone.

After about 20 minutes, Shell stopped and just stared at me . . . as if she was questioning her own wisdom in trusting this stranger.

I held her head again, she felt my heart beating through my fingers, and we continued on. Again and again, whenever she stopped, I held her head in my hands and I pleaded with her to go on . . . to help me save her babies.

In the dark, I could make out an even darker line, a streak, on the mountain that we were on . . . it was a coyote and deer trail.

Shell was moving fast, mostly pulling me behind her.

I was out of breath when the rain started. But all I could think of was those poor puppies, terrified, cold, and hungry. I didn’t know if Shell was taking me far away from her pups . . . or if she wanted me to rescue them. I wouldn’t know for sure until we stopped . . . I even thought, “What if she doesn’t stop?”

As we went over one mountain and I figured it couldn’t get any worse, she always started up another one. In the dark . . . hardly able to see Shell a couple of feet in front of me . . . I just followed where ever she was pulling me.

I reached in my pocket for my cell phone and called Stacy down below. I told her Shell was taking me somewhere . . . I didn’t know where . . . and I was cold and thirsty. But the phone cut out, as usual.

Then, just as we started up yet another hill, suddenly Shell quit!

She stopped pulling me and she squeezed under a Juniper tree . . . to get out of the rain, I thought. My arm was connected to her with a short lead, so I was halfway under the tree with a tangle of sharp branches in my face.

I reached for my flashlight, just to see what a mess we were caught up in.

But when I flipped on that blinding light . . . I discovered the most amazing thing! I literally gasped. I saw the most beautiful, smooth head of a brown puppy looking up at me with those innocent eyes . . .

. . . it was a miracle! This terrified dog led me to her puppies!

In seconds all four pups were slurping away, loudly. It was their first meal in a day and a half!

They were in a den that was a depression under the tree trunk. I was overjoyed. In the dark, on a hill somewhere above the highway, I thanked my Fred for convincing Shell to take me to her puppies.

When I tried my phone from this new location, it worked. I told Stacy that Shell took me to her puppies and Stacy said, “It’s a miracle, there’s no way you could find that den in those mountains.”

I didn’t want Stacy to lose it, so I didn’t tell her about my Fred, and about holding Shell’s head in my hands and touching her soul. So all I answered was, “Shell led me to them.” Stacy said she still couldn’t believe it —“It’s impossible!”

Back at our Supershelter hospital, Shell and her babies were examined. Her pups were very healthy considering their ordeal.

Shell was a wreck.

Her body was weak and she was starving. In time, we would build her up and she would be physically fine.

But she was traumatized from being abandoned. And people probably threw stuff at her to keep her away when she was searching the trash for food.

It was a special moment for me when the pups bedded down with their mom for the night. Their precious family was reunited.

Shell was tired that night . . . we did a lot of hiking. I was tired too, but that good tired . . . the one where you could do it all over again. In fact, the next morning I climbed back to Shell’s den to get pictures.

Shell was afraid the first few weeks. She didn’t know how to take all the unfamiliar love and kindness.

But I keep thinking about the connection we both had with Fred, on that hill. And of how important it was to find these beautiful pups before they died of exposure or starvation, or from predators.

Thank you for making Shell’s rescue possible. Without your support, I would not be able to be there for desperate animals like Shell and her family.

And please spread the word about Shell, and about how her pups were almost left behind. Please tell her story to other rescuers. And if you don’t know

any personally, please tell this story to your veterinarian so that he will tell the rescuers that he knows. I’d be happy to send anyone a copy of Shell’s story to help prevent litters from being left behind.

For the animals,

Leo

Leo Grillo, founder



D.E.L.T.A. Rescue
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Editorial

Meat avoidance and what it means

“In terms of nonreligious literature handed out to pedestrians, *Why Vegan?* may be the most widely distributed brochure in recent years. Hundreds of people and organizations distribute hundreds of thousands of copies annually—more than 500,000 in 2002,” Vegan Outreach cofounder Jack Norris recently wrote to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Norris listed ways in which the most recent updated edition of *Why Vegan?* differs from previous versions, including the addition of “a spread depicting real experiences on factory farms, described by people who have been there.”

Yet the new *Why Vegan?* includes less descriptive text about animal suffering, overall, than in the recent past, and is actually quite different from the original edition issued in 1999. The drift, through several updates, has been away from an emphasis on issues of diet and philosophy, toward bluntly reminding readers that meat comes from animals. The animals on the front cover are alive and appealing. Most of those inside are clearly miserable, albeit in standard factory farm conditions, and some are already dead and butchered.

Not long ago, vegans and vegetarians were commonly believed to fall into either of two categories: those who renounced meat in connection with maintaining personal health, and those for whom giving up meat is a matter of conscientious ethical choice.

Meat industry research, however, in the late 1980s identified another vegan and vegetarian category, larger than the other two combined. These are “meat avoiders,” who avoid consuming animal products and byproducts as a matter of preference, often without articulating either to themselves or anyone else just why they eat as they do.

Meat avoiders turn out to have a strong aversion to meat which is emotionally rather than intellectually based, and tends to become a lifelong habit. While people who become vegan or vegetarian for reasons of health or abstract philosophy are notoriously likely to backslide when their peer groups change, meat avoiders find ways of evading meat consumption even without acknowledging that they have in fact become committed vegans or vegetarians.

Why Vegan? has evolved from trying to “convert” people who might quit eating meat for reasons of health or philosophy, into helping meat avoiders “come out of the closet” so as to help lead others into choosing meatless meals as part of a compassionate lifestyle. The Vegan Outreach idea seems to be that far more people are willing to become vegans or vegetarians than are willing to say so, thereby bringing upon themselves the associated social risks. As more meat avoiders become overt vegans and vegetarians, however, avoiding meat and even professing meat avoidance becomes easier for not yet fully meat-avoiding sympathizers, who may nonetheless have already reduced their meat consumption.

A study commissioned by the British organization Animal Aid in March 2003 confirmed the extent to which vegans and vegetarians still battle prejudice—and the extent to which the barriers to meat avoidance have been lowered. Among 800 vegetarian parents, 47% felt that they were subjected to “negative pressure” for not feeding their children meat.

“The finding that shocked us most,” Animal Aid campaigns officer Becky Lilly told Jonathan Thompson of *The Independent*, “was the amount of pressure coming from close relatives—no doubt well-meaning, but ill-informed. This is despite bodies such as the British Medical Association and the American Dietetic Association confirming that a well-balanced vegetarian, indeed vegan diet, is exceptionally healthy.”

The finding that shocks **ANIMAL PEOPLE** most, after experiencing and observing half a century of vegetarian family life in the U.S. and Canada, is that more than half of the vegetarian parents surveyed by Animal Aid had *not* encountered the “negative pressure” that for most U.S. and Canadian vegetarian parents remains ubiquitous and omnipresent.

Even now, the purported veganism of a Long Island couple who nearly starved their infant daughter Ice to death on a decidedly non-vegan diet of nuts, juices, and cod liver oil receives heavy news coverage, while parallel neglect cases involving parents of ordinary diet receive scant notice. Mainstream news media to date seem unaware that “Ice” is a name more closely linked with methadrine use than with any aspect of veganism—and rarely note that vegans do not use cod liver oil, which is made from fish. Popular perception is therefore that the child was a victim of parental fanaticism rather than of criminality.

The Vegan Outreach *Vegan Starter Pack*, published as follow-up to *Why Vegan?*, goes a long way toward enabling psychologically normal and healthy vegans, vegetarians, and meat avoiders to cope with the social and practical difficulties they are likely to encounter. Even longtime vegans, vegetarians, and meat avoiders will find useful tips in it, especially in the opening essay “On being vegan” and in the last-page question-and-answer section.

The *Vegan Starter Pack* is online, free for downloading, linking, and forwarding at www.veganoutreach.org/vsp. Printed copies of *Why Vegan?* and the *Vegan Starter Pack* are available from Vegan Outreach at 211 Indian Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15238; 412-968-0268; vegan@veganoutreach.org.

Much as individual vegans and vegetarians were once divided into the health/fitness and philosophical categories, vegan and vegetarian societies until relatively recently tended to

avoid strong identification with humane concerns. Commonly attracting more male participation than humane groups, whose support base in the U.S. and Britian has been about 80% female since the mid-19th century, vegan and vegetarian group leadership may have felt that exhibiting concern for animal suffering was “unmanly,” and might have scared away the athletes and intellectuals who gave their cause whatever mainstream respectability it enjoyed. Already subject to ridicule for not eating meat, male vegans and vegetarians might have flinched away from any risk of enduring further mockery as alleged “bunny-huggers.”

Conversely, many humane organizations to this day eschew any identification with vegetarianism and veganism, from evident and sometimes admitted fear of losing economic support from meat-eaters.

The advent of the animal rights movement included the rise of national groups which were not afraid to engage in both vegan or vegetarian advocacy and overt animal defense. Animal Rights International, founded in 1976 by the late Henry Spira, was initially identified by mainstream media with antivivisectionism, for obvious reasons, since the first four ARI campaign victories were ending cat experiments at the American Museum of National History, persuading Avon and Revlon to give up animal testing, and convincing Procter & Gamble to invest \$120 million to date in developing alternatives to animal testing of pharmaceuticals.

Spira broke the stereotype by founding the Coalition for Nonviolent Foodand campaigning mostly under that banner throughout thelast 14 years of his life.

By the mid-1980s the emergence of the Farm Animal Reform Movement, PETA, the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, the Humane Farming Association, and Farm Sanctuary had repeatedly demonstrated that campaigning against cruelty and meat-eating could be successful as part and parcel of the same platform.

Newer anti-cruelty and pro-vegan or vegetarian organizations including United Poultry Concerns, Defending Farm Aninals, and Viva!, an ambitious British import, have more recently developed successful niche campaigns on behalf of specific farmed species and with specific regional accents.

Two separate surveys of self-professed animal rights activists and antivivisectionists confirmed in 1990-1991 that 85% were already vegan or vegetarian. Yet only 1% of Americans were vegan, and only 3% to 4% were vegetarian—and these percentages seem to be remaining relatively steady. Among the 281 million Americans today, just 10 to 15 million declare themselves to be vegans or vegetarians. By contrast, there are believed to be as many as 50 to 60 million supporters of mainstream humane societies.

The U.S. Bureau of the Census and Department of Agriculture in fiscal 1994 discovered, however, that while overt vegetarianism and veganism are growing only in approximate proportion to the total U.S. population, meat avoidance is markedly more prevalent among each younger generation. As of 1994, members of the Korean War generation ate 4% less meat per capita than members of the World War II generation; members of the Baby Boom generation ate 20% less; and members of the post-Boom generation ate 31% less.

These numbers appear to be holding up over time, and are perhaps becoming even more skewed.

Also by now clearly no fluke was the 1996 survey finding by Scott Plous that animal right advocates under age 35 considered the treatment of farm animals to be the most urgent concern of the cause. Activists who were 35 then are 42 now, just entering their peak years of economic and political influence. The World War II and Korean War generations are meanwhile thinning, and only population growth and the still disproportionately large size of the Baby Boom generation keep total U.S. meat consumption relatively steady.

Humane Farm Animal Care

If the present trends continue, the 10 billion animals per year killed for U.S. dinner tables could decline to seven billion or fewer during the next 20 years. Unfortunately, that would leave seven billion animals per year still suffering on factory farms, including more than six billion chickens. Thus there will be a continuing need to pursue improved standards of farm animal care, as well as promotion of meatless eating, through the foreseeable future.

This leaves a critical role to Humane Farm Animal Care, the new organization founded by Adele Douglass to carry on the Free Farmed certification program that she began in 2000 under the name Farm Animal Services and the umbrella of the American Humane Association. Though the financially troubled AHA proved unwilling or unable to sustain the Free Farmed initiative, under the standards that Douglass and leading livestock behavior experts developed, Douglass and her entire scientific team are pushing on as planned.

Eventually the U.S. may become a vegetarian nation, but until then, the best hope for improving the lives and deaths of farm animals will be certification programs like HFAC, which ensure that the animals are raised and killed according to “best practice” standards, not just the minimums that can be established by law. Laws can only set the floor for acceptability, which will almost always be at approximately the majority status quo, because if a legal standard is set too high it cannot be effectively enforced. A certification program, by contrast, can set standards at any level that it can persuade participants to try to meet, based on perception of a sales advantage in operating above the floor level.

“The new humane certification program will be modeled on the Freedom Foods effort in the U.K and the Free Farmed program in the U.S.,” Douglass told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “The Royal SPCA began its humane labeling initiative in 1994 with all products sold under the Freedom Foods brand name. Accredited farms now represent 90% of all non-caged egg production and 25% of all retail shell eggs. The Freedom Foods’ share of the British pork industry is estimated at 5%.”

Douglass believes her Free Farmed program “helped 1 million farm animals. Fifteen producers representing the beef, chicken, pork, egg and dairy industries joined the effort. Four million products carrying the Free Farmed logo have been sold in leading stores such as Albertson’s, Giant (Ahold), Wild Oats, Whole Foods, and Trader Joe’s.”

The RSPCA Freedom Foods program has already run into at least one scandal when some producers allegedly failed to uphold their animal care standards after passing inspection, and when the RSPCA was allegedly lax about follow-up. Yet this setback was typical of the early years of any accreditation and certification program, including those that have become the front line of defense against quack doctors, shyster lawyers, and rapacious innkeepers. Over time, in countless professions, accreditation and certification do tend to protect consumers at least as well as occasional prosecutions of malefactors.

The greatest risk inherent in a certification program for “humane” livestock farmers is that if it is hugely successful in establishing baseline standards of care which are not then gradually raised, it might eventually be used by agribusiness as a shield against criticism—much as the mostly unenforced Humane Slaughter Act has served since 1958 to reassure the public that the routine slaughterhouse atrocities documented by Gail Eisnitz of the Humane Farming Association, former SHARK investigator Dug Hanbicki, and others are aberrations.

Yet humane certification has the potential to significantly reduce what Henry Spira called “the universe of suffering” during the decades between now and whenever meat avoidance becomes the norm. Meanwhile, scrutinizing Humane Farm Animal Care as keenly as HFAC scrutinizes producers, will be an increasingly sensitized activist community.

Many years from now, the time may come when HFAC is an anachronism, after the demise of factory farming, but by then the Vegan Outreach activities will also have become irrelevant, and the question *Why vegan?* will long since have become *Why not vegan?*, in a world in which instead of growing numbers of supporters of humane societies, we have societies that are increasingly humane.

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LETTERS



WELFARE RANCHING

Although I am highly biased towards the merits and strengths of the arguments put forth in *Welfare Ranching: The Subsidized Destruction of the American West*, edited by George Wuerthner and Mollie Matteson, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** review of the book was among the best I have read (80-plus reviews so far). Congratulations to reviewer Andrea Lococo!

Hopefully you may publish other articles and editorials about this issue. Nowhere in all of North America are there as many acres affected as in this issue of domestic livestock on public lands (nearly 300 million acres!) Few people understand this and it is important to get out the word.

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Seeks vet in Turkey

Thank you for mentioning us in the November 2002 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. We are very grateful to three ladies who were interested in our situation.

We do not have any veterinarian at our facility. However, we need a veterinarian to sterilize the animals. Can you help us with this matter?

—F. Sunay Birsen
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Zoos breaking up bonded pairs

Your March edition publication of my letter “San Francisco Zoo orangutans” raises the subject of the treatment of animals in captivity. Having spent a large part of 30 years at San Francisco Zoo, I was aware of much going on there, and also of much about the zoo world as a whole. While the separation of the orangutans Denny and Josephine after a 20-year companionship may have been an extreme case, reports of similar cases involving other zoos have also showed a lack of consideration for the welfare of the animals involved.

Being shipped is in itself a hardship for the animals, compounded by leaving a familiar home and companions. In the case of a female gorilla I knew about, the third move in a matter of months resulted in her death.

Those of us who care about animals and who are aware of their character and intelligence despise the practice of separating bonded animals.

Some years ago, Jane Goodall spoke on this subject in a videotape called “Forgotten Apes.” She stated that there are those who are not even aware of their cruelty, but she said “They are cruel,”

Crate training

Tammy Sneath Grimes, founder of Dogs Deserve Better Inc., stated in your March 2003 edition that her organization has “bought crates to help housetrain dogs, and will continue to do so.”

I consider crate training to be pathological cruelty to animals. Locking dogs in small cages and kennels is a punishment, especially used by American women, it seems.

I asked the Association of Veterinarians for animal Rights what they think about crate training. They did not answer.

Please delete my subscription immediately.

—Michael Horan
Moffat, Colorado

Enkosini case

Thank you for your review of our book *For the Love of Wildlife* and for your suggestions. Your comments are always valuable, being based upon a long and global experience of animal welfare.

May I offer clarification on that section of your review which gives the impression that I as Enkosini’s legal representative am making statements on Enkosini’s behalf. The statements made are those of the Enkosini Trustees and are indeed contained in sworn affidavits in High Court proceedings, making them a matter of public record. They should not be attributed to me.

I am not Enkosini’s attorney, nor am I a South African lawyer. I am a retired Zimbabwe advocate (barrister, trial lawyer) with qualifications and many years of practical experience in England, Botswana and Zimbabwe. Because of my legal experience I am often asked by members of the S.A. animal welfare community to assist them in their battles against a delinquent nature conservation regime which we have inherited from the apartheid era. This is how I came to assist Enkosini. I also act as a spokesman for the community on some issues. However my time, effort and cost in helping wildlife sanctuaries like Enkosini to fight for their rights is given on a purely voluntary basis, without charge.

If I have misled you in any correspondence to assume that my relationship with Enkosini was professional, I apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

—Chris Mercer
Kalahari Raptor Centre
P.O. Box 1386, Kathu,
Northern Cape ZA 8446
South Africa
<krc@spg.co.za>
<http://www.raptor.co.za>

Bioethics Centre

Thank you for your March article about the Bioethics Centre at the Kharkov Zoological & Veterinary Academy. The article will definitely be an additional stimulus for the staff, and for other educational institutions which do not teach bioethics.

We also must thank the rector of the academy, V.A. Golovko, who has made the Bioethics Centre possible.

—Igor Parfenov, President
Center for the Ethical
Treatment of Animals,
Leo Tolstoy Chapter
Stepnaya str. 23
Malaya Danilovka
Kharkovskaya Oblast 62341
Ukraine
Phone: 380-576-358321
Fax: 380-576-331-825
<cry@3s.kharkov.ua>

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360-579-2505**

Revenue Canada censors favor fur

Excellent January/February editorial on the fur issue!

The fur industry here is enjoying free sailing in Canada, and delights in claiming that there is very little protest about fur. They are right: Revenue Canada’s threat of canceling any group’s charitable status if they criticize the fur industry has effectively silenced all of the big groups in eastern Canada. They are now afraid to speak out on this issue. Very few fur coats are worn in the west, and it is most difficult to influence easterners from here. Few eastern media even know we exist, though we are trying to change this.

CBC did a half hour TV show two weeks ago with the heading that “fur is flying.” It was the most biased program we have seen them do. There was almost no “other side” presented. Despite our protests and a sentence-by-sentence rebuttal, we have not been successful in persuading them to do another program. They “might” do another story exploring why there is so little opposition to fur in Canada, as result of our explanation that the voice of fur-bearing animals has been silenced.

Enclosed are the latest Canadian fur statistics. There were 868,206 animals trapped in Canada in 2001, the lowest total since 1993, whose pelts sold for \$19.9 million in Canadian dollars. There were 1,147,060 animals killed on fur farms, the most since 1989, whose pelts sold for \$50 million. The recorded peak of fur trapping was in 1980, when 5.5 million animals were killed, whose pelts sold for \$85 million. The recorded peak of fur ranching was in 1983, when 1.5 million animals were killed, but the highest prices were paid in 1986, when Canadian ranched pelts sold for \$78.6 million.

—George V. Clements
Director
The Fur-Bearers
3727 Renfrew Street
Vancouver, B.C.
Canada V5M 3L7
Phone: 604-435-1850
Fax: 604-435-1840

The Fur-Bearers, formally known as the Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing animals, founded in 1952, gave up their charitable status rather than be silenced by Revenue Canada.

The ignorance of fur-buyers

After reading your January/February editorial on fur. I must add a few of my own thoughts. People wearing fur definitely bring out the worst in me. I just flip when I see someone wearing it. At my veterinarian’s clinic I see a lot of people come and go and in the waiting room, pet owners wearing fur trimmed parkas. These same people buy fur toys for their cats, and fur-covered figurines. The fur is often from dogs and cats who were killed for meat in Asia. Don’t they get the connection?

And then there are animal advocacy organizations that charge activists for their literature, stickers, posters, and so forth, when we are the ones out there doing the work. Why haven’t these organizations been educating people about fur, even if it wasn’t in fashion? Now look! Just as everybody thought the bloody seal hunt was gone, again look!

I have some friends who just came back from visiting the

rainforest. They told me about the beautiful animals that the villagers brought out to the boat for them to see, and they bought a necklace with a claw of the very animal that they went to see. No one gave this any thought, and I explained to them that they were wiping out the very animal they went to see, because that claw was probably from the mother of this cute animal that the villagers brought out to them, because in most cases to get them as babies they have to kill the mother. They were shocked.

So, if there was some education, maybe so much of this stuff wouldn’t be sold.

When the buying stops, the killing will stop too.

—Judy Watson
Vancouver East Side Animal
Awareness Society
1831 East 8th Ave.
Vancouver, B.C.
Canada V5N 1T7
Phone: 604-255-2457
<iaam@telus.net>

His mother was killed.
His family destroyed.

Then came the long terrible journey trapped alone in a dark box... and he was only a few weeks old.

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to comprehend their suffering.

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THEN CLICK ON VIVISECTION'S

FAILURE

British ad media “chicken out”

LONDON—London Underground, responsible for London subway operations, according to the BBC in February 2003 refused as “offensive” a Compassion In World Farming ad that “featured scantily-clad models huddled together on one side of a poster and chickens on a farm on the other.” The ad was reportedly captioned “Thousands of big-breasted birds packed together for your pleasure.”

Supreme Court affirms HFA Rosebud win

WASHINGTON D.C.—The U.S. Supreme Court on February 24 handed the Humane Farming Association a hard-won victory over factory hog farming on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation in South Dakota, declining to review an April 2002 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals verdict that Bell Farms and Sun Prairie Inc. had no legal standing to seek a 1999 injunction that allowed them to build and run the first two of 13 planned hog facilities.

“We can now plan an orderly shutdown,” attorney Jim Dougherty told Associated Press. Dougherty represents HFA, the Concerned Rosebud Area Citizens, and other hog farm opponents.

But the first two facilities, producing 48,000 hogs per year, are likely to stay open pending resolution of a second lawsuit, filed by Sun Prairie in mid-2002. Sun Prairie seeks damages from federal and tribal agencies for alleged unconstitutional interference in the affairs of the investors. Sun Prairie claims to have borrowed \$45 million to start the project, which was to have expanded up to 288 barns, producing

The CIWF ad was at least the second critical message about poultry husbandry to be banned in Britain. In November 2001 the Broadcasting Advertising Clearance Centre banned a 30-second Royal SPCA ad contrasting the growth rate of layer hens to the hormone-stimulated growth rate of broiler hens, “on the basis,” the RSPCA said, “that it was controversial and seemed to attack the industry.”

nearly 900,000 hogs per year. “The proposed project was scheduled to be the third largest hog factory farm in the world, producing roughly three times the amount of raw sewage produced by the entire human population of South Dakota,” HFA chief investigator Gail Eisnitz told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

The Rosebud Sioux Tribal Council and the Bureau of Indian Affairs authorized Bell Farms and Sun Prairie to build on tribal land in 1998, but the deal was vetoed in January 1999 by then-assistant secretary for Indian affairs Kevin Gover.

“Most of the tribe had been kept in the dark about the Bell Farms venture and the downsides of factory farming,” recalled Eisnitz. “We did everything we could to educate the tribe about the horrendous cruelty, environmental hazards, and terrible working conditions on factory farms. Eventually the tribe kicked their tribal council out of office, voted in a new tribal council who opposed the hog factory, and legally realigned themselves with HFA,” Eisnitz said.

Toys for pigs?

BRUSSELS—British agricultural officials and information media are significantly misrepresenting an October 2001 European Union directive on pig welfare, says European Commission spokesperson Beate Gminder.

“Britain’s farmers have three months to place a toy in every pigsty or face up to 90 days in prison or a £1,000 fine,” BBC declared on January 29, 2003.

“We mean footballs and basketballs. Farmers may need to change the balls so that the pigs don’t get tired of them,” a U.K. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs spokesperson told *The Times*.

“Britain’s three million pigs are guaranteed a playful future,” added *The Guardian*, reviewing the appeal to pigs of rubber boots, footballs, radios, toy fire engines, dolls, cricket bats, and Scrabble sets.

“The day of the toy inspector has arrived. The dictators of Europe have dreamed this up,” Warminister hog farmer Neville Meeker complained to *Farmers’ Weekly*.

Corrected Gminder, “To make this very, very clear, our directive does not talk about toys.” Instead, Gminder told Agence France-Presse, the directive specifies that “Pigs should have permanent access to a sufficient quantity of material to enable proper investigation and manipulation activities, such as straw, hay, wood, sawdust, mushroom compost, or a mixture of such. These are all naturally available on a farm,” Gminder said, “and no farmer should need to buy extra toys to keep his pigs happy.”

Commented Joyce DeSilva, chief executive of the British group Compassion In World Farming, “It is quite clear that there are people in the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs with little knowledge of pigs, apart perhaps from those they see in toy shops. They are trivializing the serious issue of outlawing the keeping of pigs in stalls with barren concrete floors.”

The impending EU deadline for improving pig welfare received serious attention, however, in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

Urging a pro-active response, Canadian Pork Council representative Catherine Scovil told Karen Morrison of *The Western Producer* that a voluntary code of practice for hog producers developed by the CPC, Agriculture Canada, and the Canadian Agri-Food Research Council should be incorporated into the Quality Assurance program now in effect nationwide to promote food safety.

The CPC recommendation is endorsed by Alberta Pork and Saskatchewan Pork.

Governmental reviews of pig welfare standards are underway in both Australia and New Zealand, where there is both industry and activist support for the idea that new codes of practice should meet the EU requirements.

HFA pig ad (last ran Jan/Feb 2003)

If you know someone else who might like to read ANIMAL PEOPLE, please ask us to send a free sample.

What “Holocaust” really means

SAN DIEGO, RENO, PHOENIX—“Abusive treatment of animals should be opposed, but cannot and must not be compared to the Holocaust,” Nazi death camp survivor and Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith national director Abraham Foxman told Michelle Morgante of Associated Press, as People For The Ethical Treatment of Animals hit the road in the U.S. southwest with a mobile exhibition called “The Holocaust on Your Plate.”

Using photographs to compare the slaughter of poultry and pigs to the Nazi massacre of Jews during World War II, the eight-panel PETA exhibit is scheduled to tour the whole U.S.

Tour coordinator Matt Prescott responded at early stops by pointing out that he is himself Jewish, and had relatives who were killed in the Nazi death camps.

But he ought to be telling the world what “holocaust” really means, says Humane Religion founder Regina Hyland.

“The word *holocaust* is taken from the Biblical term used to describe the total immolation of sacrificed animals. They were known as whole-burnt offerings,” Hyland told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and electronic media. Confirmation appears in most dictionaries.

“The Greek word for such sacrifices is *holókaustos*,” Hyland continued, “and was used in the translation of Hebrew scrolls as far back as 250 B.C. That translation, called the Septuagint, was completed for the Jews who lived in Alexandria, Egypt, who could no longer read or speak Hebrew. So referring to the death of millions of animals as a *holocaust* was done more than 2,000 years before people applied the term to the torture and slaughter of

human beings. It was not animal rights people who linked the death of animals and the death of people,” Hyland emphasized. “It was those who were appalled at the human carnage of Nazi Germany.”

Traveling in country-western music territory, PETA nearly upstaged their own controversy a few days later by confirming to Ashley Pearson of MSNBC that the Dixie Chicks singing group “posed for one of those ‘I’d Rather Go Naked Than Wear Fur’ ads, but the ad was never released.”

Pearson quoted an anonymous source as saying, “Their management got worried that some of their fans were rifle-toting, Bambi-shooting types who would take offense at an anti-fur, pro-animal message. They forbade release of the ad because they were worried about backlash or boycott,” as experienced by Canadian country-western singer K.D. Lang after she acknowledged in 1990 that she has been a vegetarian since 1981, and said “Meat stinks!” in a statement for PETA.

“They even tried to pay PETA \$10,000 to say it never happened,” the source told Pearson, while a Dixie Chicks spokesperson would not comment.

PETA also prominently clashed with the March of Dimes in Billings, Montana, where Lamar Outdoor Advertising refused to rent billboard space for placards targeting animal experiments funded by the biomedical research charity, and in Charlotte, North Carolina, where PETA general counsel Jeffrey Kerr threatened to sue the Bank of America for participating in March of Dimes fundraising while telling customers that it does not donate to national health charities.

Hope. For that, Weaver reportedly asked that Runkle and Koons be charged with trespassing and theft. The Ohio Department of Agriculture called their work a “biosecurity hazard.” United Egg Producers, Inc., indirectly accused Runkle and Koons of “bioterrorism.”

But the heated rhetoric did not seem to convince the public, especially when Hope the hen joined the innocuous-appearing Runkle and Koons for TV interviews.

Courting arrest

Compassion Over Killing founder Paul Shapiro, 23, and director Myun Park, 32, of Washington D.C., “court arrest by entering chicken sheds at night and filming the rows of hens crammed 10 to a cage the size of a file-drawer cabinet,” Elizabeth Becker of *The New York Times* reported in December 2002, after the COK team made at least their third visit to Red Bird Egg Farms, of Millington, Maryland.

“They get close-ups of swollen eyes, infected skin, and shattered wings entangled in cage wire,” Becker continued.

Yet despite “courting arrest,” Shapiro and Park do not actually seem to be getting arrested for their work, even after rescuing 10 hens from Red Bird Egg Farms on November 20, 2002. This may be because agribusiness in the media-savvy Washington D.C. area is aware that prosecuting them could become a public relations fiasco.

The hens taken in November “were in dire need of immediate care,” claimed a COK account of the action. “These hens will live out the rest of their lives free from the misery of factory farming,” COK pledged.

Altogether, says the COK web site, “Five investigations at commercial egg farms in the U.S. have been conducted in just two years. Documentation of extreme cruelty at facilities in Minnesota, Maryland, and Ohio demonstrates that animal abuse is the norm, not the exception, in commercial egg production. The six major egg producers exposed in the five investigations since January 2001 are not the ‘bad apples,’ of the egg industry, but rather reflect the inherent problems of keeping hens in battery cages.”

Circle Four

United Animal Rights Coalition founder Sean Diener, of Salt Lake City, Utah, meanwhile spent the winter of 2002-2003 daring Circle Four Farms and Beaver County Sheriff Ken Yardley to prosecute UARC members who in September and December 2002 entered some of the Circle Four hog barns at Milford, Utah, without permission to photograph and videotape the conditions.

As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, no charges had been filed.

On December 20, Diener told news media, the UARC intruders removed two small sickly piglets, restored them to health, and eventually placed them at a sanctuary.

Circle Four, the 15th largest hog producer in the U.S., sends a million pigs per year to slaughter. Management had not even noticed that any piglets were missing. After Diener disclosed the incident, however, Circle Four asked Yardley to prosecute, setting a value of \$30 apiece on the piglets.

“In Utah, farmers are not subject to animal cruelty laws, but stealing one of their animals is considered a felony,” pointed out Brent Israelsen of the *Salt Lake City Tribune*.

Circle Four Farms operations manager Erik Jacobsen, like United Egg Producers in Ohio, tried to play on fears of terrorism.

“It concerns us greatly that someone would break into our farms, especially in light

of national concern about bioterrorism,” Jacobsen declared. “These people put our herd at risk because they didn’t follow our biosecurity protocol.”

But Diener said his team did wear the kinds of protective clothing that Circle Four employees are required to wear.

The concern professed by Circle Four sounded hollow, in any event, beside the documented history of the facility as a biological safety hazard.

Starting to raise hogs in 1995, Circle Four was fined \$6,800 for contaminating groundwater with an estimated 80,000 gallons of liquefied manure in mid-1996. Circle Four was fined again in 1998 after nine workers were overcome by hog manure fumes in two separate incidents. Other manure leakage incidents occurred in 1999, 2000, and 2001, bringing another \$35,000 in fines.

The Utah Bureau of Epidemiology disclosed in January 2000 that residents of Milford had suffered elevated rates of diarrhea-causing illnesses and respiratory illnesses, 1992-1998, with 409 diarrheal illnesses and 517 respiratory illnesses per 10,000 residents in 1997. The statewide rate of diarrheal illness was 20/10,000, and the statewide rate of respiratory illness was 73/10,000.

Because the data showed a rising trend even before Circle Four opened, the relationship of the symptoms to alleged air and water contamination was unclear, but the problems surged after Circle Four expanded up to full-scale operation.

A faulty ventilation system contributed to the deaths of 12,000 pigs in a July 2001 fire at Circle Four. Another ventilation problem killed 45 sows in November 2002.

After years of obtaining legislative concessions to fend off complaining neighbors, Circle Four in February 2003 announced that it will invest \$20 million in building a refinery which is intended to prevent pollution by converting hog slurry into diesel fuel.

The controversy ignited by the UARC activity escalated in late January 2003 when former Circle Four employees Wayne and Krysta Jenson, of Cedar City, Utah, described to news media the abuses of pigs they had witnessed.

Starting work at Circle Four on November 28, 2001, the Jensons quit just 16 days later, they said, after seeing piglets who failed to grow to five pounds in weight within a week being beaten to death and seeing castrations awkwardly performed with dull tools and no anesthetic. Raised on a sheep ranch where castration of young rams without anesthetic was also a routine chore, Wayne Jenson said he saw piglets disembowled by the ineptitude of some workers at Circle Four.

Wayne Jenson also described severe beatings of sows who resisted being moved.

Krysta Jenson described the frantic behavior of sows whose piglets had just been taken away to be fattened for slaughter.

Responded National Pork Board assistant vice president for veterinary issues Paul Sundberg, “I’m not so sure I would subscribe to the theory that this is a traumatic experience to the mother.”

This may not have reassured many human mothers, and contradicted the standard training of hog handlers, who are typically warned that sows can become quite dangerous if they sense that their piglets are in jeopardy.

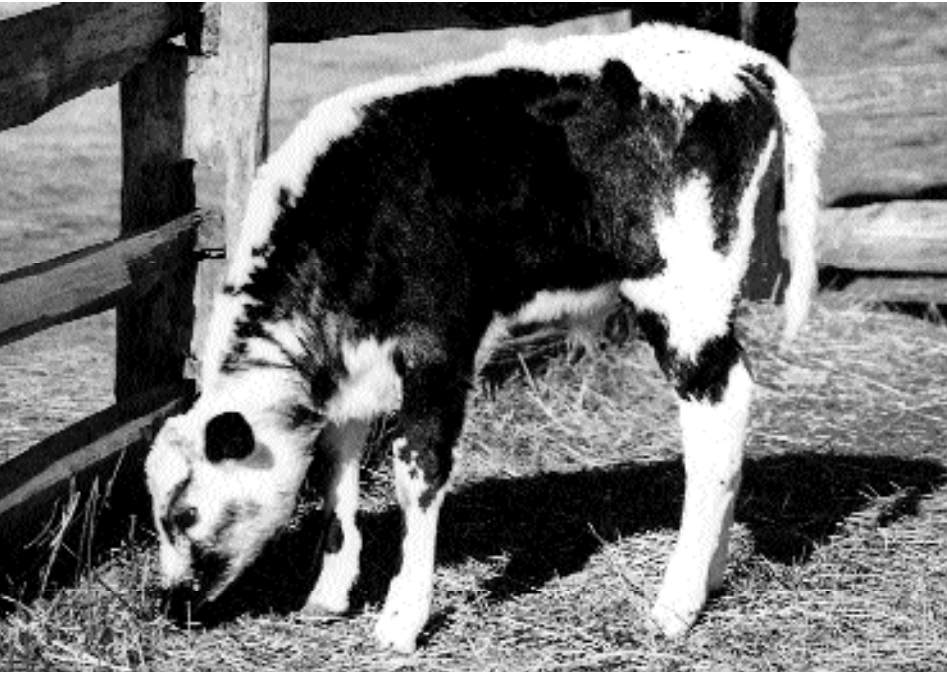
Open rescue

“Open rescue,” as Australian animal advocate Patty Mark terms the tactic of removing sick and injured animals from factory farms and then publicizing the cases, has been practiced for at least a decade Down Under.

“We began our open rescue work in 1993,” Mark told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Mark at the time had already been campaigning on behalf of farm animals, especially battery-caged hens, for a dozen years, but like other farm animal advocates had enjoyed little success. Among farm animal causes, only the suffering of sheep in live export attracted much media attention Down Under, and even within the animal rights movement the most prominent concerns involved dogs, cats, wildlife, and animals used in laboratories.

Mark and friends turned to open rescue more-or-less as a desperation tactic—but it proved to be perhaps the most effective form of civil disobedience yet undertaken in connection with any animal issue.

“If there is no damage done, only rescue of animals, and if the TV footage shows these very ill and crippled little birds being lovingly held and given aid, then all the



Dairy calf. (Robert L. Harrison)

sympathy is with the rescuers,” Mark told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “This has been born out time and time again, every time we are in the courts. At this point in time it is almost impossible for our rescue team to get arrested. The industry wants nothing to do with this and never presses charges any more. We can virtually break-and-enter at any factory farm we choose. I think the industry has realized,” Mark continued, “that us taking the sick and injured and dead birds out of the cages does them far less damage than when there is a big court case. But this only developed after we had a ten-year run of really good media against the industry, while our rescue team had never encountered any adverse response from the public.”

Following the rescue of 20 broiler chickens in January 2003, Mark said, “I even wrote to the Chief Commissioner of Police stating that we had broken the door down to get in,” and giving further details of allegedly illegal acts committed to retrieve the birds. “This letter was totally ignored. I also rang the local police station near the factory farm,” Mark added, “and they too totally ignored me. I was convicted of burglary and theft in connection with a rescue in Tasmania last year,” Mark acknowledged. “The magistrate then let myself and co-defendant Pam Clarke walk free from the courtroom after the verdict, even though we said we would not pay the fine he gave us, and each owe thousands of dollars in unpaid previous fines.”

Mark recently founded the web site <www.openrescue.org> to encourage and document the spread of open rescue to the U.S., Europe, and elsewhere.

According to a detailed account posted to the site, the Austrian organization Verein Gegen Tierfabriken (Association Against Animal Factories) “conducted the first known European open rescue of battery hens” on March 14, 2003.

The Austrian activists and several reporters “entered a battery farm owned by Florian Zichtl in Lower Austria,” the web account states, documenting “poisonous air,” cages with 17% less space than European Union regulations require, “15 dead hens inside cages, and seriously injured and weak and dying birds everywhere. We took seven birds with us,” the rescuers said, “and drove straight to an emergency vet in Vienna. We reported the rescue to the authorities, and detailed nine charges of broken animal husbandry laws. We submitted photographs and video footage of the conditions inside the shed. The rescue received good media coverage,” they continued, “and whether a case will be brought against the rescuers is still open.”

Opposition

The U.S. state-level legislative efforts of agribusiness to squelch public discomfort about animal care on factory farms by preventing exposure parallels earlier pursuit of similar legislation by the biomedical research industry. It may likewise misjudge the level of mainstream revulsion against cruelty that the public can easily recognize.

Eleven years after PETA stopped experiments by primate researcher Edward Taub and seven years after PETA and ITrans-Species Unlimited ended primate skull-crushing at the University of Pennsylvania, each through the use of clandestinely obtained photos and videotape, biomedical research lobbyists backed by agribusiness and the fur trade at last won passage of the 1992 federal Animal Enterprise Protection Act.

Yet if the 10-year lobbying effort accomplished anything substantive to ease public mistrust of biomedical research, the

evidence is not visible. Rarely used, the Animal Enterprise Protection Act has helped to put some alleged Animal Liberation Front members in prison for bombings and arsons, but these activities were already illegal, and crossing state lines to commit them already brought the crimes under federal jurisdiction.

The Animal Enterprise Protection Act does not appear to have stifled the flow of clandestinely obtained information about either laboratory activities or agribusiness to activist groups and news media—not least because much of the most damaging material has come all along from biomedical researchers and agribusiness insiders, who share the objections of activists to avoidable animal suffering.

A long series of insider leaks to In Defense of Animals and other activist groups, for instance, brought the Coulston Foundation to economic collapse in early 2002, followed by the mid-year transfer of the Coulston chimpanzee colony to the custody of the Center for Captive Chimpanzee Care in Florida.

Opinion research continues to show, as in the 1980s, that the public has an adverse response to arsons and vandalism committed in the name of animal rights, but generally sees as justified any nonviolent clandestine activity that rescues a suffering animal.

Still more culturally indicative, however, may be the changing response of agricultural communities to disclosures about routine cruelties that as recently as a decade ago were mainly ignored, and were denied when pointed out by activists.

In Texas City, Texas, for example, the *Texas City Sun* in January 2003 gave prominent attention to the allegation of Runge Park livestock auction neighbor Amanda Bradshaw that a dying cow was improperly left to freeze outdoors, and was roughly chained and dragged after she called local police and the Galveston County sheriff.

In Twin Falls, Idaho, the *Twin Falls Times-News* even more heavily covered similar allegations against Dutch Touch Dairy owners and prominent local philanthropists Jack and Tillie Tuls—but the Tuls case involved many animals, over many months.

Claims that Jack Tuls mistreated “downers” first surfaced in August 2002 after contractor Michael Cody Prestin sued the Dutch Touch Dairy for nonpayment of debts, and former Dutch Touch office secretary Jo Anderson resigned.

On December 27, 2002, the *Times-News* filed a public records request with the Idaho Department of Agriculture to obtain inspection reports on the alleged incidents produced by state dairy inspector Tami Frank.

A month later *Times-News* reporter Jennifer Sandmann revealed that criminal charges would not be pursued, “although state investigators say they found evidence of animal cruelty, including burial of a live cow and inhumane treatment of sick and dying cows.”

Jack and Tillie Tuls did, however, pay a fine of \$5,000 for improper disposal of dead animals.

The Sandmann exposé of the evidence against them was among the longest articles produced by the *Times-News* staff in the first quarter of 2003.

A decade ago such detailed accounts—and such vigorous follow-up—were provided only by a few animal rights groups. Discussion of the treatment of “downers” in farm country periodicals, reflecting the attitudes of their audience, mostly railed against “city people” and “do-gooders” who purportedly did not know where their food came from.

Maintaining denial that farm animals suffer is getting harder—even in farm country.



Leghorn hen at Pasado's Safe Haven. (K.B.)

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DELTA Rescue founder Leo Grillo and friend

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Swathi Buddhiraju of the Visakha SPCA in Visakhapatnam, India, cleaning a dog's teeth during her training at D.E.L.T.A. Rescue.



Dog quarters at DELTA Rescue

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Inside one of the DELTA Rescue cat facilities

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R.I.P. VANCOUVER CRESTED MYNAS

VANCOUVER, B.C.—The usual fate of introduced species, even if they thrive for a time, is to die out eventually from inability to cope with the climate changes, predators, diseases, and food competition in their new habitat.

Vancouver Sun reporter Larry Pynn on March 1 eulogized such a species failure.

“A native of China and Indochina,” Pynn wrote, “the crested myna was introduced to Vancouver in the 1890s, perhaps arriving as stow-aways aboard a ship or as pets released by Chinese immigrants. By the 1920s they numbered in the thousands, living

as far afield as Ladner and New Westminster.”

The USDA warned in 1935 that “Every precaution should be taken to check the spread of this species and prevent its spread into the U.S.,” but Canada was then much more tolerant of Asian immigrants, both animal and human, and did nothing to stop the mynas from doing as they would.

Besides, from about 1930 on, the Canadian myna population was in slow decline, not spreading, coinciding with increasing motor vehicle traffic.

The last two, a mated pair, were apparently hit by cars within days of each other in February 2003.

Hedgehog rescuers (from page 1)

“Those who want to transfer the hedgehogs elsewhere are willing to risk extreme trauma and leave them prey to more savage predators,” he said. “These hedgehogs have adapted to life foraging on seashores, not in lush forests. They are unequipped for mainland Britain,” Morrision told Kelbie of *The Independent*, “and will face vicious deaths from foxes, badgers, and every other roving predator because of dogooders who cannot face practical, common-sense solutions that are best for all.”

But if the hedgehogs themselves had a say, they would undoubtedly prefer taking their chances against the four-legged predators over dealing with the human kind.

The massacre by Scottish Natural Heritage awaiting any hedgehogs who evade rescue is only one of many planned for the British Isles in 2003.

The European Union has already helped to fund a £1.65 million effort to eradicate mink from the Uists and Benbecula. The mink are descended from hundreds who either escaped from fur farms during the past few decades, or were released by saboteurs. Fur farming is now banned, and feral nutria, another species introduced accidentally by the fur trade, have already been extirpated, but mink have proved more elusive. The Western Isles mink extermination effort last fall included the use of nine mink hounds, and became a campaign exhibit for opponents of the Scots ban on hounding wildlife and the long debated proposed ban on hounding in Britain.

The British Environment Agency and Suffolk Wildlife Trust are currently planning a national putsch against mink, to try to save the water vole. Mink are blamed for reducing the water vole population from about nine million in 1980 to circa 800,000 today.

Ruddy ducks

Responding to demands from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Wildlife Trust, and the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trusts, British wildlife minister Elliott Morley on March 2 ordered the extermination of the entire resident population of 6,000 ruddy ducks, introduced from North America after World War II by Sir Peter Scott.

Scott, an avid duck hunter, founded both the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trusts and the World Wildlife Fund. He imported the ruddy ducks to become a huntable population. But he apparently did not realize that though officially classified as a separate species from the white-headed duck, an annual migrant between Britain and Spain, they are biologically just a color morph of the same species—and when the colors mingle, the ruddy tones prevail.

Spain has since 1977 been attempting to preserve a “pure” race of white-headed ducks. The initial population of 22 has slowly increased to 2,500—about the same number as the volume of ruddy ducks shot in test culls during the past three years to perfect methods of killing the rest.

The final impetus to the extermination of the British ruddy ducks was the war in Iraq, which Birdlife International warned might harm the only white-headed ducks who winter outside of Spain. That flock winters near Basra.

Animal Aid director Andrew Tyler called the ruddy duck killing “grotesque and hypocritical, an attempt



Hedgehog. (Kim Bartlett)

to impose a kind of genetic uniformity on nature,” and suggested that the RSPB “should be called the Royal Society for the Protection of Some Birds.”

Tyler also pointed out that for the projected cost of the killing, all 6,000 ruddy ducks could be flown back to North America at business class fares.

The RSPB is also poisoning the black rats of Lundy Island in the Bristol Channel this spring, to protect puffins and manx shearwaters. The puffin population of the island has reportedly fallen from 3,500 pairs in 1939 to fewer than 10 pairs in 2000, when they were most recently counted.


Animal Aid campaigns director Becky Lilly suggested to BBC News that overfishing, cutting into the birds’ food supplies, might be harming them more than the rats.

British red squirrel advocates are pushing for massacres of feral North American gray squirrels, who have become the dominant squirrel species in much of England and Scotland.

Sterling University researcher Dan Tomkins reported in late March that the major factor favoring gray squirrels over reds may be the paropox virus, carried by gray squirrels but more harmful to reds. Human-planted woodland corridors intended to help red squirrels by linking habitats, Tomkins said, are actually just bringing the greys and reds into closer contact. Changing the tree varieties chosen for planting could help to keep the species separate, while thinning the gray squirrel population might just encourage infected survivors to roam farther and socialize more with red squirrels in search of mates.

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—Wolf Clifton

Puddicome v.s. National Park Service

SANTA BARBARA, Calif.— To the National Park Service, Santa Barbara bus driver and Channel Islands Animal Protection Association founder Rob Puddicombe, 52, is an eco-terrorist. Puddicome is expected to go to trial soon for allegedly illegally feeding wildlife and interfering with the functions of a federal agency. If convicted, he faces up to one year in prison.

Puddicome, according to the Park Service, sailed an 11-foot inflatable boat to Anacapa Island in October 2001 with Robert Crawford, 40, of Goleta, and distributed at least five pounds of Vitamin K pellets as an intended antidote to the poison the Park Service dumped from helicopters repeatedly during 2002 to kill black rats.

Crawford pleaded guilty, paid a fine of \$200, and was placed on probation for two years.

Puddicome wants his day in court—and one of the points he hopes to make in court is that the National Park Service action, not his own, is the act of eco-terrorism.

His view is endorsed by the Santa Barbara Surfrider Foundation and the Fund for Animals.

Puddicome has credentials as an environmentalist going back to his days as an Eagle Scout. His appreciation of nature increased while working as a diver on offshore oil platforms in the North Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. He arrived in Santa Barbara to become an abalone diver, but found a different avocation as a seabird rehabilitator and advocate for the designation of a proposed “Gaviota Coast National Seashore.”

He is also known as a keen observer of the regional ecology. Just a few weeks after Puddicombe was charged for trying to save the rats of Anacapa Island, he and fellow activist Scarlet Newton were first to recognize a seabird kill in progress for which the California Department of Fish and Game had no explanation. Puddicome and Newton found a pelican, two grebes, two cormorants, and a western gull in the same area where a fish kill two weeks earlier was attributed to oxygen depletion of the water caused by rotting kelp.

The Park Service rat poisoning was only one of many exterminations undertaken in the Channel Islands during a effort of more than 30 years so far to restore the habitat to pre-Columbian conditions. Horses, pigs, goats, sheep, and even golden eagles have previously been killed or other-

wise removed.

Rescuing some of the animals slated for massacre was among the first activities of the Fund for Animals, and led to the acquisition of the Fund’s Black Beauty Ranch in Texas, as a new habitat for the rescuees. More recently, In Defense of Animals removed goats from one of the islands to keep the Park Service from shooting them.

But for every animal taken off the islands alive, dozens have been poisoned or shot. Pig-shooting, still underway on Santa Catalina and Santa Cruz Islands, is expected to continue for another five to seven years.

“How far do they want to go back? To the Chumash? The pre-Chumash? The Cretaceous era?” Puddicome rhetorically asked David Kelly of the *Los Angeles Times* in December 2002, pointing out that the ecology of the Channel Islands has been in flux for as long as they have existed, with many changes over the years as result of new species drifting over from the mainland.

“I want to save them all”

“I want to save the rats, and I want to save the Xantus murrelet and the Anacapa deer mouse too. I want to save them all,” Puddicome later explained to *Washington Post* staff writer William Booth, citing the species that the rats are accused of harming through egg theft and predation. Xantus murrelets only started to breed on Anacapa after the rats were poisoned, but the poisoning also killed deer mice.

The golden eagles, however, perhaps best exemplify how the effort to “restore” the Channel Islands ecology is upsetting the ecological balance. When the massacres of “non-native” wildlife began, the regional population of native bald eagles and turkey vultures was markedly down due to the effects of DDT. Golden eagles meanwhile found and scavenged the remains of the animals killed and left to rot by the Park Service gunners. The “native” Channel Island foxes also thrived on the carrion. When the carrion ran out, however, the fox population crashed—and the golden eagles turned to hunting foxes.

Therefore, since 1999 the Park Service has been trapping and removing golden eagles, while trying to increase the numbers of foxes through captive breeding.

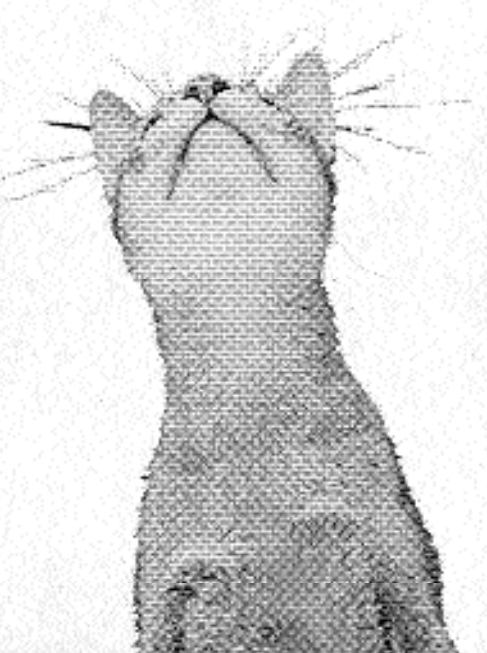
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Chickens, pigeons & sea lions go to war; Brooke Hospital hopes to help Iraq zoos

BAGHDAD—Sentinel chickens deployed to detect poison gas attacks were among the first casualties of the March 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq—but they were not gassed, and they never left the Kuwait staging area, where they were distributed to the U.S. Marines in February.

Exactly what killed 42 of the 43 chickens was unclear. Avian influenza and heat stress were among the theorized possibilities. Contrary to some reports, the birds were not in the care of experienced chicken handlers.

The dead chickens were replaced by pigeons before the fighting started.

“I have sensors that cost \$12,000 and birds who cost \$60 each, and I place just as much trust in the birds as the sensors,” said Marine Corps staff sergeant Dan Wallace.

The deployment was the first U.S. use of pigeons in combat in 50 years, but carrier pigeons were used by the U.S. Army Signal Corps from the Civil War until after the Korean War.

Also on the front lines were as many as 20 California sea lions, recently flown to Manama, Bahrain, to join the Harbor Patrol Unit at the U.S. Navy 5th Fleet headquarters. Two of the sea lions, trained at the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center in San Diego, were exhibited to news media in mid-February. The sea lions are supplanting the dolphin patrols used by the U.S. Navy for about 30 years because, said civilian head trainer Brenda Bryan, “They are a lot more agile in tight places.”

U.S. deputy defense secretary Paul Wolfowitz on March 7 ordered the Army, Navy, and Air Force joint chiefs of staff to

furnish President George W. Bush with specific examples of impediments to military training resulting from animal and habitat protection laws, for Bush to cite in attempting to persuade Congress to exempt the military from obedience to the Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Clean Air Act, and Clean Water Act.

The proposed exemptions could jeopardize species including the Sonora desert pronghorn, Mojave desert tortoise, California gnatcatcher, all species of albatross, and the northern spotted owl.

But animals of all kinds could be among the big winners in Iraq, should the U.S. invasion succeed in ending the Saddam Hussein regime.

If, that is, the animals survive the fighting.

Never hospitable to animal advocacy, Iraq became overtly hostile even to hunter/conservationists after the 1980-1988 Iran/Iraq border war and the 1990-1991 Persian Gulf War.

“One of the main battlegrounds were the Mesopotamian marshes, one of the most important bird areas of the Middle East. Vast areas of reedbeds were burned and wetlands were drained,” explained avian demographer Les Underhill of University of Cape Town recently to Helen Bamford of the *Cape Town Argus*.

Because the people of the marshes were culturally and ethnically close to the Shi’ite majority of Iranians, Saddam Hussein destroyed more than 90% of the habitat. Migratory waterfowl were catastrophically

affected throughout central Asia.

The harm to birds and other wildlife was increased when Iraqi troops torched the oil wells of Kuwait during their Gulf War retreat from the U.S.-led liberation force.

Environmentalists hope to try to restore the Mesopotamian marshes, once peace is established and a friendlier Iraq government is established. Currently, however, few experts have even seen the damage except in satellite photographs.

The favorite sport of the Saddam Hussein regime was horse racing at the Amiriya track near Baghdad, built on land donated by Uday Saddam Hussein in 1995, after his father demolished the Mansour track built by King Faisal II in 1948.

Saddam Hussein’s other son, Qusay, owned a conspicuously successful racing stable during the late 1990s, but neither son had been seen at the track in some time before the present war began, reported John F. Burns of *The New York Times*.

Zoos

There are two dilapidated zoos in Baghdad—or were.

The 11-acre government zoo, founded in 1973, closed in 2002, soon after director Adel Salman Mussa complained to Ezzedin Said of Agence France Presse that he lacked the food, vaccines, and medicines necessary to take proper care of the resident menagerie of six lions, two tigers, six monkeys, and miscellaneous birds and hooved stock.

Adel Salman Mussa said the zoo had been forced to breed pigs in order to keep the

carnivores fed.

“The government zoo is under renovation and is scheduled to reopen later this month. Until then, journalists are not allowed to visit,” Associated Press writer Niko Price wrote a week before the fighting started.

Price interviewed Saddam Jolan, 59, owner of the Rasafa amusement park zoo.

“The entrance gate is painted with cheery pictures of elephants, lions, and tigers, but the schoolchildren rushing inside see none. They gape at eight chickens, two cocker spaniels, and a family of goats. They taunt a northern Iraqi bear and a dirt-caked bone-thin camel with bald spots on legs and neck, and laugh as two tired chimpanzees unwrap pieces of chewing gum passed through a chain link fence,” Price related.

Lions, tigers, and ostriches formerly kept at the Rasafa zoo have all died. A replacement tiger cub died after only two weeks, Jolan said, blaming the plight of the animals—as Adel Salman Mussa did at the government zoo—on the United Nations trade embargo of Iraq imposed after the Gulf War.

“We are ready to help both zoos in Baghdad, and will offer the same coordinating service that we have provided to the Kabul Zoo,” North Carolina Zoo director and Brooke Hospital for Animals board president David Jones told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Jones has headed the Kabul Zoo relief effort since planning and fundraising for it began in late September 2001. The Brooke Hospital was then the only outside animal care agency with a permanent presence in Pakistan, fielding six mobile teams and three clinics in Peshwar to assist the pack animals of Afghan

Events

April 8-10: North American Interagency Wolf Conf., Pray, Montana. Info: <www.keysecure.com/-forwolves.org/confer2003.html>.

April 12: Touched by an Animal lunch with Marty Becker, DVM, Chicago. Info: <www.touched-by-an-animal.com> or 773-728-6336.

April 12: Wild About Wildlife dinner & auction for Southwest Wildlife Rehabilitation & Educational Fndtn., Carefree, Ariz. Info: 480-471-9109.

April 25-27: No More Homeless Pets, Anaheim, Calif. Info: Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 435-644-2001, x129, or <www.bestfriends.org>.

April 26: San Francisco Vegetarian Society Mad Hatters’ Spring High Tea. Info: 415-552-8883.

April 26: Humane Soc. of the Tennessee Valley Bark In The Park, Knoxville. Info: 865-573-7627.

April 27-29: Texas Fed. of Humane Soc. conf., Plano. Info: POB 1346, Manchaca, TX 78652.

April 28: Neighborhood Cats online TNR course starts. Info: <www.suite101.com/course.cfm/17484/overview>.

May 3-4: Pet Adopt-a-thon. Info: <www.petadoptathon.com> or 877-be-My-Pal.

May 4: Chester County SPCA Walk for Paws & Spring Music Festival, West Chester, Pa. Info: 610-692-6113.

May 4-10: Be Kind to Animals Kids Week. Info: 1-800-227-4645 or <www.americanhumane.org>.

May 10: Fur Ball Auction for Merrimack River Feline Rescue Soc., Newburyport, Mass. Info: 978-462-0760 ;



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Library and Resources In-depth reports such as *Canned Hunts: Unfair at Any Price* and *Crossing the Line: When Hunters Trespass on Private Property*. Fund Fact Sheets on everything ranging from entertainment to agriculture, state agencies to student activism, and solving common problems with urban wildlife.

Humane Education Free publications for teachers, as well as curriculum units on hunting, circus-es, companion animals, and much more. Kids can order free comic books and coloring books on animal protection issues, and can enter The Fund for Animals’ annual essay contest.

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Hard times and hostile politics threaten street dogs (from page

stated. Venkatachala went on to accuse Bangalore officials of “doling out public money to their favorite organizations in the guise of implementing animal birth control,” even though the ABC programs in Bangalore, as elsewhere, are chiefly supported by private contributions and volunteer labor.

“Street dogs under the ABC program receive modern vaccine (at public cost),” Venkatachala wrote, “whereas dog-bitten human victims receive outdated sheep brain vaccine. This is against any tenets of philosophy, reason, and virtue, and must not happen in any civilized society.”

A parallel controversy over the scarcity of modern post-rabies exposure vaccines erupted in Thiruvananthapuram. The planned start of an ABC program there was delayed in March by opposition to the proposed clinic site.

In fact, the use of modern post-exposure anti-rabies vaccines in place of the vaccines cultivated in sheep brains has been vigorously urged and pursued for many years by the Animal Welfare Board of India, the Blue Cross of India, and People for Animals, which are respectively the Indian federal animal welfare agency, the originator of the ABC strategy, and the organization administering the most ABC programs nationwide.

Compassion Unlimited Plus Action, conducting the largest ABC program in Bangalore, also strongly endorses the use of modern post-exposure anti-rabies vaccines.

So does Beauty Without Cruelty/India, the leading activist group in Pune, where one Meghna Uniyal has mounted an aggressive campaign against ABC.

Commented People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi after Uniyal posted some of her anti-ABC remarks to the <HSI.Animalia> online discussion board maintained by the Humane Society of the U.S., “Uniyal and her husband Sujoy are involved in a battle over land with her relatives who run the Blue Cross in Pune, which does the ABC for dogs. First Uniyal said she wanted to do the ABC work if she were given the land used by the Blue Cross. When the land was handed over to her, she refused to accept it, as the colleagues and doctors she had said were prepared to work with her were nonexistent.”

Hydrophobia

The use of the sheep brain post exposure vaccine persists largely because this type of vaccine is locally produced around India with the help of government subsidies, Mrs. Gandhi told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in 2001, noting that the makers tend to be politically better connected than the animal advocates who urge their replacement—not only to help suppress rabies, but also because the production method is cruel to sheep.

Much of the opposition to the Indian ABC programs originates from fear of rabies, endemic in India for centuries. As recently as a decade ago rabies was still believed to be killing more than 20,000 Indians per year, but that estimate has been discredited by the increasing recognition of outside experts that it was based on poorly coordinated data collection, much speculative projection, and a widespread tendency in India for people unfamiliar with rabies to describe any disease pro-

ducing a high fever as being “rabies,” if preceded by a dog bite. Accordingly, while actual rabies is inevitably fatal, it is not unheard of in India for alleged rabies victims and rabid dogs to make miraculous recoveries.

Dog-killing in response to fear of rabies was for decades a convenient means for corrupt politicians to keep local *goondas* on municipal payrolls, whose real job was intimidating opponents. Selling dog leather became a lucrative side industry to animal control—and awarding contracts to process dead dogs also proved to be a politically handy way for politicians to dispense patronage among the lower caste illiterates who make up more than half of the Indian electorate.

As opposition to dog-killing comes mainly from the Brahmins, other high-ranking vegetarian castes, and Jains, who also tend to be educated and of high socio-economic status, humane concern for dogs is easily characterized by demagogues seeking the illiterate vote as a demonstration of the alleged disregard of the rich for the suffering of the poor.

Yet this markedly misrepresents who the humane workers of India actually are. Far from riding in limousines, many do not even have automobiles. Visakha SPCA founder Pradeep Kumar Nath came to India as an almost penniless teenaged refugee from Bangladesh, and still owns virtually nothing, having put most of his personal income into the VSPCA work. Many other Indian humane workers have sold their homes and property to help fund animal aid projects, like Animal Welfare & Protection Trust cofounders C. Padmavathi and C. Narasimhamoorthy, of Santhoshapuram, who took up ABC work in retirement, after witnessing illiterate and untrained municipal rabies control workers catching dogs with chains, breaking the dogs’ bones to inhibit escape, and then drowning them in a garbage cart full of acidified water.

Even the few humane workers like Blue Cross of India cofounder Chinny Krishna



Cuddling up to a big wheel could be the best strategy for Indian street dogs. (Bonny Shah)

and Mrs. Gandhi who were born to relative privilege have earned more status than they inherited—Krishna as designer and builder of the radio telescopes used in the Indian space program, and Mrs. Gandhi as a journalist and long-serving member of the Indian parliament. Her support base among lower income women reflects an outstanding voting record on behalf of human rights, education, social justice, and public health—and a reputation as the most incorruptible figure in Indian politics.

After Mrs. Gandhi

Federal support for the 1997 national mandate to achieve no-kill animal control gained economic backing when in mid-1998 the Congress Party coalition that had ruled India for all but one year since 1949 collapsed and was succeeded by a coalition led by the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party. The coalition enlisted Mrs. Gandhi, elected as an independent, as minister for social justice and empowerment. In that capacity, and later as minister for culture and minister for statistics, Mrs. Gandhi arranged federal funding for ABC programs, but her influence waned as the BJP coalition gained strength in more recent elections. Mrs. Gandhi lost her position in the BJP cabinet as result of mid-2002 clashes with the Indian pharmaceutical industry, including the producers of sheep brain-based anti-rabies vaccines, and with practitioners of animal sacrifice. Although animal sacrifice has not been part of mainstream Hinduism since Vedic times, and is technically illegal in India, animal sacrifice cults have considerable strength in some regions, and are politically aligned with fundamentalist Hindu nationalism,



Mumbai volunteer rescuer Rita Viziriani holds a street dog for vaccination. (Bonny Shah)

a major branch of BJP support.

Mrs. Gandhi was replaced as minister for animal welfare by T.R. Baalu, a Chennai parliamentarian whose background was in the liquor industry. Under Baalu, federal funding for the ABC programs stopped. With weeks the In Defense of Animals ABC hospital at Deonar, a Mumbai suburb, was forced to do sterilizations without electricity. The Delhi Municipal Corporation ABC program acknowledged operating at 25% of the pace it had projected for the year, while reported dog bites in Delhi jumped 20%.

“The only good thing to come out of all this is that for the first time everyone realizes how much Maneka did to get a moribund government department to move and respond,” Chinny Krishna told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, after the federal Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals was reconstructed to the liking of the pharmaceutical industry. “It is imperative,” he continued, “that we seriously look for alternative sources of funding for the ABC initiatives, so that there is no let-up. Once any of the municipalities with ABC programs go back to killing, it will be virtually impossible to stop it.” Krishna warned.

Introducing ABC has been for Krishna almost a lifelong avocation.

“In 1964,” he recalled, “appalled by the horrific way that Madras was killing street dogs, the Blue Cross began to study this issue. We were surprised to learn that Madras (now called Chennai) started its catch-and-kill program in 1860. From an average of less than one dog per day in 1860, the number of dogs killed by the city rose to 135 dogs per day in 1995. The Blue Cross was convinced that if a procedure designed to control or eliminate street dogs had not showed positive results after implementing it for over 100 years, something was wrong. Starting in 1964, the

(Continued on page 11)

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Ed Sayres of the San Francisco SPCA offers tips and advice for working productively with your board of directors.

4/14 – 4/18 What do you say when they just want the cats gone?

Becky Robinson of Alley Cat Allies answers your questions about working with your community to help feral cats.

4/21 – 4/25 How can you move your community toward no-kill?

Robin Starr and Denise Deisler of Richmond SPCA talk about their cooperative plan to make Richmond a no-kill by 2006.

4/28 – 5/2 Burnout: How can you cope with it?

Faith Maloney of Best Friends shares her insights into beating burnout.

5/5 – 5/9 What can you do to keep the shelter animals healthy?

Mary Martin of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control and Dr. Virginia Froehlich of Best Friends offer their advice.

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Blue Cross proposed ABC. The municipal response was to reject our proposal outright. It was not until 1995 that we were finally able to get the Corporation of Madras (Chennai) to agree to try out ABC as an alternative to killing dogs in part of South Madras.”

Although Mumbai halted animal control killing and started an ABC program in early 1994, “Chennai and Jaipur were the first cities to begin sustained ABC,” Krishna continued. “Within six months, the results in the areas we covered were promising enough to prompt the city government to extend the program to the whole of South Madras. People for Animals agreed to take up ABC in North Madras and the city converted its electrocution chamber into an ABC center.

“We find a steady decrease in human rabies cases wherever an ABC program is carried out,” Krishna stipulated. “In Jaipur, the cases of rabies from the walled city where Help In Suffering is carrying out the ABC program is zero for the third year running. In Kalimpong where the program has been carried out by an HIS associate, there has been no reported case for the last 15 months.”

Data kept by municipal health departments confirms Krishna’s claims:

City	Rabies deaths in year before ABC	Rabies deaths in 2002
Bangalore	19 (2000)	4
Chennai	120 (1996)	16

Jaipur	10 (1996)	0
Kalimpong	10 (2000)	0

“Several other cities have taken up ABC, but in many cases it has not been a sustained,” Krishna lamented. “In many places where ABC was implemented, local officials suddenly ordered the destruction of dogs on a massive scale, in a knee-jerk reaction to complaints, and the dogs destroyed were usually those who had been spayed and vaccinated at great expense and effort,” coming to trust humans as result of receiving humane care.

Hell on wheels

Pradeep Kumar Nath ran into that problem in Visakhapatnam but eventually won over most of his critics by achieving the sterilization of up to 85% of the free-roaming dogs in the city within under four years of the start of the Visakha SPCA’s ABC program.

That, however, was just the start of his ambition. The Visakha SPCA dog sterilization campaign is now moving out into the Visakhapatnam Circle of approximately 2,600 villages, beyond the municipal limits. Outreach to the first 92 villages is already underway—a considerable reach for an organization raising barely \$50,000 a year, but urgent, Nath believes, because of outbursts of anti-dog violence in December 2002.

“Bheemunipatnam, the second oldest incorporated municipality in India, 30

kilometres from Visakhapatnam, resorted to killing stray dogs by beating them with sticks,” Nath told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “Most of them ran around for some time in total chaos, attacking anything in the way before falling down. A small girl was severely bitten on the forehead. This also happened at Gajuvaka municipality. As soon as the incidents were brought to our attention by representatives of Vikasa, an organization working to help the fisher folk, we began intervention. The killings have stopped for now at Bhimli, Gajuwaka, the Visakha Steel Plant, Anakapalle, and the entire village area on the promise that we will extend the ABC program to them, but we are having to operate in dual locations,” due to the distance between the villages and the Visakha SPCA hospital.

Photos that Nath e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on March 24 showed in unflinching detail exactly what Nath and his niece, VSPCA hospital manager Swathi Buddhiraju, are confronting.

Dog control in Madhurvada, another local village, was until their arrival the job of collectors who packed as many dogs as they could into an iron cage on two wheels, drawn behind a truck. Dogs who did not suffocate from being piled on top of each other were bludgeoned.

On the day the photos were taken, Nath and Buddhiraju confronted the dogcatchers with a copy of the 1960 Prevention of

Cruelty to Animals Act. The dogcatchers fled, leaving the trailer behind. Buddhiraju opened the cage while Nath documented the scene. Seventy-two dogs escaped, leaving the remains of 23 others behind.

Even a photo of dogs leaping to freedom, over the corpses, was too horrific to publish in **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, but the sequence can be forwarded electronically on request to those with a serious need to understand the context of Indian ABC work.

“We are filing criminal charges against the persons responsible,” Nath said. “We would like to conduct ABC programs in all of the villages. I would like to be a millionaire so that we would have the money.”

ABC programs mentioned:

Animal Welfare & Protection Trust, 788 Kalaingar Karunanidhi St., Santhoshapuram, Chennai, India 601 302; telephone 91-44-227-5224.

Blue Cross of India, 1-A Eldams Rd., Chennai 600 018, India; 91-44-234-1399; fax 91-44-234-9801; <aspick@kmr.net>.

Compassion Unlimited Plus Action, 257 1st Cross, Hall II Stage, Indira Nagar, Bangalore 560038, India; 91-80-525-8429; fax 91-80-558-7172; <“Suparna Bakshi Ganguly” <suparnaganguly@hotmail.com>.

People for Animals, 14 Ashoka Road, New Delhi 110001, India; 91-11-335-5883; fax 91-11-335-4321; e-mail <gand-

More events

<www.mrfrs.org>.

May 16-18: Off-Lead Training Expo and Natl. Pet Expo, Lebanon, Pa. Info: <mrfrs@mrfrs.org>.

May 20-24: Intl. Seminar on Wildlife Rights & Wild Nature Freedom, Kiev, Ukraine, co-presented by the Kiev Ecology Cultural Center, Azerbaijan SPCA, and Wildlife Protection Center. Information: <aspca@azintex.com>.

May 24: Farm Sanctuary Farm Animal Forum, New York City. Info: <www.farmsanctuary.org>.

May 29-30: Natl. Animal Control Association conference, St. Louis. Info: <www.nacanet.org>.

June 4-7: A.L.I.V.E. in Canada: Converting to a Let-Live Nation, Windsor, Ontario. Info: <conference2003@jazzpurr.org>; <www.jazzpurr.org>.

June 8: Vancouver Humane Soc. “Chicken Walk,” Stanley Park, Vancouver, B.C. Info: <www.vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca> or 604-266-9744.

June 17-21: Vegetarian Festival, Turkey. Info: <www.europeanvegetarian.org>.

June 27-July 1: Animal Rights 2003/East, McLean, Va. Info: c/o Farm Animal Reform Movement, <chair@animalrights2003.org> or <www.animalrights2002.org>.

July 11-13: 2nd Intl. Conf. on Transport of Horses, Gloucestershire, U.K. Info: <transcon@ilph.org>.

July 20: Bark In The Park, Federal Way, Washington. Info: Shelley Lebel, 253-661-4058.

July 31-August 3: Conference on Homeless Animal Management &

IF YOUR GROUP IS HOLDING AN EVENT, please let us know—we’ll be happy to announce it here, and we’ll be happy to send free samples of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** for your guests.



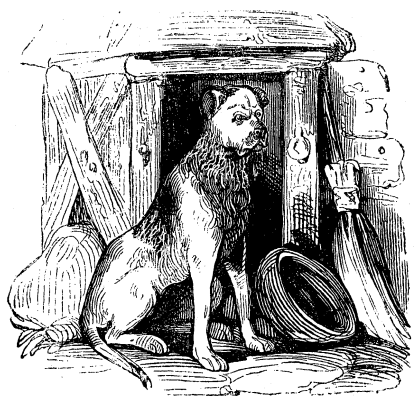
The Maddie’s Fund 2001-2002 Annual Report is now available on-line at www.maddiesfund.org/aboutus. For hard copies, contact info@maddiesfund.org or (510) 337-8989.



The Pet Rescue

Maddie’s Fund® The Pet Rescue Foundation (www.maddiesfund.org) is a family foundation endowed through the generosity of Cheryl and Dave Duffield, PeopleSoft Founder and Board Chairman. The foundation is helping to fund the creation of a no-kill nation. The first step is to help create programs that guarantee loving homes for all healthy shelter dogs and cats through collaborations with rescue groups, traditional shelters, animal control agencies and veterinarians. The next step will be to save the sick and injured pets in animal shelters nationwide. Maddie’s Fund is named after the family’s beloved Miniature Schnauzer who passed away in 1997.

Maddie’s Fund, 2223 Santa Clara Ave, Suite B, Alameda, CA 94501
510-337-8989, info@maddiesfund.org



The Watchdog

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

Coin-can scandal & alleged penny-pinching end an era at Associated Humane

NEWARK—Lee Bernstein, 72, resigned on March 5, 2003, after 34 years as executive director of the Associated Humane Societies of New Jersey.

Few heads of humane societies anywhere have served longer.

Bernstein was succeeded by Roseann Trezza, 58, the Associated Humane Societies' assistant director since 1968.

Joining Associated Humane as a volunteer after a much more glamorous stint selling Alfa Romeo sports cars, Trezza served without pay for two years before accepting \$125/month in 1970. Her 2001 pay was \$88,464—slightly more than Bernstein paid himself, and significantly less than the salaries of people in comparable positions with other humane societies of comparable size in the greater New York City metropolitan area.

Bernstein, wrote Brian T. Murray and Tom Feeney of the *Newark Star-Ledger*, “was credited with ending the use of gas chambers for animal euthanasia in New Jersey. He also led a legislative effort to ban selling impounded animals for scientific experiments. He made national headlines in 1994, when he (unsuccessfully) pressed cruelty charges against a man who killed a rat in his garden.”

Made enemies

Bernstein led Associated Humane in a long fight to raise New Jersey animal control standards. During his tenure Associated Humane put numerous substandard private animal control providers out of business by taking their business away through competitive bidding on municipal contracts. Associated Humane now holds about 70 local animal control contracts, three county animal control contracts, and provides animal rescue service to the New Jersey Highway Authority.

Under Bernstein, Associated Humane also aggressively publicized deficiencies within many of the 18 chartered New Jersey SPCAs.

Many of the Associated Humane criticisms of the SPCAs were affirmed in May 2001 by the State Commission of Investigation. On February 7, 2003, New Jersey Governor James E. McGreevey appointed a 30-member Animal Welfare Task Force whose job during the next year is to recommend reforms in the antiquated New Jersey humane law enforcement and animal control system. Prominent appointees include Nina Austenberg of the Humane Society of the U.S., Lisa Weisberg of the American SPCA, Terry Fritzges of the New Jersey Animal Rights

Alliance, Stu Goldman of the Monmouth County SPCA, and Linda Ditmars of the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting.

But after hitting the SPCAs, the State Commission of Investigation produced a follow-up report accusing Bernstein of holding too much money in reserve and spending too little on the care and comfort of the 15,000 animals admitted each year to the Associated Humane shelters.

Bernstein resigned within hours of the report reaching New Jersey news media.

The allegations against Bernstein had been amplified since 1995 by a coalition of ex-staff and former volunteers. In the interim, AHS built a new cat shelter and renovated other facilities.

Trusted ex-convicts

In the end, fallout from Bernstein's very first controversy at Associated Humane appeared to have the most to do with bringing about his departure.

Bernstein joined the AHS board in 1967, while also serving as a member of the Newark city council, and was hired in 1969 as the first executive director of AHS, which then had just one shelter and few other assets.

“Bernstein lost his council seat before he took the executive director's job,” Murray and Feeney said, “but he was accused of steering a favorable animal control contract to the AHS when still in office, and served four months in jail for conflict of interest.”

While in jail Bernstein met Al Bergamo, who according to *Asbury Park Press* staff writer Tom Troncone “was serving time for running a gambling operation in Essex County. Upon his release from jail,” Troncone continued, “Bergamo and another convict, Seymour Medwin, went to work for Bernstein,” managing a coin cannister fundraising program.

“Bergamo said the canisters yielded ‘about \$5,000 to \$6,000 a week,’ but admits to giving Associated Humane only \$1,000 per week until 1999, and \$1,200 per week thereafter,” Troncone continued. “According to contract, he should have been handing over between \$1,650 and \$2,000 per week, based on how much was contributed. Ileana Saros, who headed the Commission of Investigation probe, said there was no formal accounting, and

no way of knowing how much money Bergamo made, either with Medwin or through the front companies he founded when a new state law in 1994 made him ineligible as a convicted felon to register to do charitable fundraising. Medwin left the business in 1995, and died” on July 19, 1999, according to Social Security Administration records.

Bergamo continued to run afoul of the law while representing Associated Humane, receiving a contempt of court citation in 1993 for violating a restraining order, and plea-bargaining a May 2002 charge of cocaine possession down to conviction for disorderly conduct, according to Andrew Johnson of *The Press of Atlantic County*.

Bernstein fired Bergamo after the latter incident.

Dead man talking

Medwin, meanwhile, set up a parallel coin cannister fundraising scheme with another former Associated Humane fundraiser, Patrick Jemas, doing business as the National Animal Welfare Foundation.

ANIMAL PEOPLE and John-Henry Doucette of the *Times Herald-Record* in Middletown, New York, recently published exposés of that operation after receiving complaints about it from Associated Humane and Sara Whelan, founder of the Pets Alive shelter in Middletown. Neither **ANIMAL PEOPLE** nor Doucette found any verifiable record of National Animal Welfare Foundation program activity—but on February 20 Doucette, unaware that Medwin was dead, interviewed a NAWF representative by telephone who identified himself as Medwin.

“Medwin said questions must be written and mailed to the charity. We will publish any responses as soon as we receive them,” said Doucette.

Would you buy a used car from this man?

HARTFORD—Connecticut attorney general Richard Blumenthal “is investigating whether the Animal Health Care Fund is just a clever vehicle for a used car dealership to help itself,” reported Alan Cohn of WTNH-News 8 on February 18.

Explained Cohn, “Some charitable organizations use donated vehicles as a way to raise money. Donors receive a tax deduction for the fair market value of their car. The charity then re-sells the vehicle and uses the money.”

The IRS in two mid-2002 rulings authorized charities to use outside firms—such as used car dealers—to manage vehicle donation programs.

However, “The office of the Animal Health Care Fund is a used car lot: the Connecticut Auto Auction in Stratford,” Cohn found. “The owner of the used car lot, Rocky Guarneri, is also the president of the Animal Health Care Fund. Guarneri has a rap sheet,” Cohn added, “which includes convictions in the mid-1990s for burglary, larceny, robbery, drugs, and more.”

The Animal Health Care Fund does not yet have tax-exempt charitable status, Cohn learned, but in response to a subpoena from Blumenthal, the organization acknowledged receiving 40 cars worth \$89,000 between October and December 2002.

Only \$500 of the proceeds went toward

charitable work, reported Cohn, based on the documents that Blumenthal obtained.

“The organization says the sole beneficiary of its donations is the Black Rock Animal Hospital in Bridgeport,” continued Cohn. “but the receptionist there never heard of the Animal Health Care Fund. The hospital owner, Amr Wasfri, DVM, says the only arrangement he has with [Animal Health Care Fund spokesperson] Christy Kochanowicz is to treat her family cat.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE in October 2001 received information and made inquiries about a used car donation program with an allegedly similar modus operandi that was then operating in the Lucerne Valley, near Los Angeles. The purported beneficiary was a pit bull terrier rescue group that did not seem to be known to other rescuers in the Los Angeles area. Car donations were solicited in newspaper advertisements placed in direct competition with similar ads for the Los Angeles SPCA and Last Chance for Animals car donation programs. The ads included an unlisted telephone number and did not mention support of any specific nonprofit organization. The ads apparently stopped running after **ANIMAL PEOPLE** left a message on the answering machine that received the calls, asking for the program particulars.

If you know someone else who might like to read ANIMAL PEOPLE, please ask us to send a free sample.



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P&G, Iams fire testing lab over PETA disclosures

CINCINNATI, CHICAGO, DAYTON—The pet food manufacturer Iams and Procter & Gamble, owner of Iams since 1999, took a public relations beating from PETA on March 25-26 over alleged substandard conditions at an unidentified contract laboratory.

PETA senior vice president Mary Beth Sweetland stated at a March 25 press conference that undercover video taken at the lab, which she refused to name, shows animals in “small, barren cages, some for up to six years.”

Stating that “The lab is not in Ohio, Kentucky or Indiana,” Sweetland said that animals there “are not given a resting board off the cement floor when the temperature is less than 50 degrees, as required by federal regulations,” reported Cliff Peale of the *Cincinnati Enquirer*.

“Video clips aired during the press conference showed sluggish dogs with surgical wounds lined up together on the floor, a dog apparently left untended while wearing an anesthesia mask, and a lab employee instructing the investigator to strike a dog in the chest if he stops breathing,” added Tim Tresslar of the *Dayton Daily News*.

Sweetland “said PETA would soon file a formal complaint with the USDA” about alleged Animal Welfare Act violations,” wrote Peale.

“In September 2001,” Peale added, “PETA officials met with top Iams executives to review the company’s policies on animal treatment. Iams agreed within the last year to fund a monitor for each of its contract labs, putting it ahead of many other companies. It has done that so far in contract labs, including universities, handling about three-quarters of the animals it uses,” according to Iams spokesperson Bryan Brown.

Tresslar disclosed 24 hours later that, “Iams on Tuesday suspended its research operations at a private contract lab after PETA alleged that the lab provides inadequate care for the dogs and cats housed there as test subjects. Neither Iams nor PETA identified the plant under suspension.”

“Iams spokesman Bryan Brown said the company wasn’t aware of PETA’s investigation” until just before the press conference, Tresslar added.

Quit Urbana lab

The PETA allegations sounded as if they pertained to the subject of a June 2002 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** inquiry to Procter & Gamble senior manager in corporate communications Linda Ulrey about statements received from a whistleblower referred by the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary.

“Many beagles are used for tests at the University of Illinois’ Animal Sciences Department, where I used to work,” the whistleblower said. “One facility is in the campus building under-

ground, behind quite a lot of security. Another facility is west of town at a kennel operation. At least the dogs at this kennel get to see the outdoors from their indoor/outdoor runs. On campus, the dogs live underground in a concrete room. They are well cared for, but never get to run outside in grass.

“There were about 6-12 dogs, all beagles I think,” the whistleblower continued. “They each had runs and padded floors. People played with them, but I seem to recall that the dogs were not able to play with each other. They had surgically implanted tubes in their stomachs so that tests could easily be done on the material they ate after it was digested. I don’t know absolutely for sure that these dogs are being used for Iams,” the whistleblower said, “but talk by the faculty indicates that they do a lot of work for Iams, and this is their main lab site.”

Similar statements, from different sources and giving less detail, were circulated at about the same time by animal advocacy electronic newsgroups.

However, Ulrey said in July 2002 and repeated on March 26, “Iams is not currently funding or sponsoring research with cannulated dogs at the University of Illinois. The Iams study there—designed to evaluate canine metabolic energy and effective carbohydrate sources—ended in July 1998. We have no plans to use that procedure in the future,” Ulrey added.

Iams policy

“Yesterday’s news from PETA was quite troubling to us,” Ulrey continued on March 26. “I hope you know from your contact with us over the years that we stand behind our policies. If something is not being followed, we will act to correct it.”

Ulrey confirmed that Iams had “suspended research activities with the contract lab” depicted in the PETA video, “launched a full investigation of that facility,” and “will review compliance with Iams’ new research policy at all the facilities we use.”

The Iams research policy states that “The results must help veterinarians and pet owners to nutritionally enhance the well-being of cats and dogs, and manage important pet health conditions. [Animal] studies will only be conducted if alternative non-animal methods or existing research cannot answer the questions raised. We will ensure the humane treatment of cats and dogs, and provide for animal well being, socialization and husbandry. We will also meet or exceed standards established by the Animal Welfare, the USDA, and Directive 86/609/EEC of the European Union.

“We will not fund or participate in any study requiring or resulting in the euthanasia of cats or dogs,” the policy continues. “We will only conduct research that is equivalent to nutritional

or medical studies acceptable on people, including: urine, feces, blood and immune cell analysis, allergy tests, and skin and muscle biopsies, for which adequate anesthesia and analgesics will be provided whenever necessary.

“Research will be closely monitored at internal and external facilities,” the policy pledges, “with the goal being to eliminate even minor pain or discomfort and to create enriched environments for the cats and dogs involved. To enforce this principle, Iams will place at these facilities a company-designated and funded person responsible for ensuring the well being of cats and dogs,” who “will make certain that cats and dogs are properly cared for and socialized.

“We will test our foods on groups of cats or dogs within the general population,” the policy stipulates, “who already suffer from target diseases or conditions. However, we will not contract for, nor conduct, any study involving surgeries to create or mimic diseases such as diabetes, stroke, heart disease, kidney disease, or intentional damage to other organs,” such as were conducted for Iams prior to the P&G acquisition, “nor will the company use non-surgical methods to induce or simulate diseases that are not acceptable in nutritional or medical research on humans; nor will the company fund any university positions that may be involved in such activities for the study of cat and dog nutrition.

“We will not use, in any studies,” the policy pledges, “animals who are already induced with disease or surgically altered through other research; nor will the company conduct such studies under the auspices of any industry association or group.

“Our findings will be communicated,” the policy finishes, “to benefit others who are seeking to improve the health and well being of cats and dogs, and to help prevent repetition of tests requiring animal involvement.”

P&G policy

P&G has spent more than \$120 million since 1984 in fulfillment of a 1984 pledge to the late Henry Spira of Animal Rights International to phase out animal testing as fast as alternatives can be developed and win governmental approval. In June 1999 P&G announced that it had ended all use of animal tests for current beauty, fabric, home care, and paper products, except as required by law. “This announcement covers roughly 80% of P&G’s total product portfolio,” said P&G spokespersons Mindy Patton and Amy Neltner.



Gorillas now face Ebola

KAMPALA, Uganda—Rwandan rebels Leonidas Bimenyamana, 34, Francois Karake, 38, and Gregoire Nyaminami, 32, were flown to the U.S. and charged on March 1, 2003 with the March 1, 1999 murders of eight tourists to Uganda, including two Americans, who had climbed into Bwindi Impenetrable National Park in hopes of glimpsing endangered mountain gorillas.

Gorilla tourism visits fell by half during the year following the killings, but have tripled since then.

The three Rwandans were allegedly also participants in the 1994 massacre of more than 500,000 members of the minority Tutsi tribe by the majority Hutu. The arrests of the suspects signified a possible impending end to threats to gorillas from Hutu militia hiding in the mountains of Uganda to escape justice—although lethal shootouts with rangers still occur. Three weeks after the Rwandan suspects arrived in the U.S., rangers in Queen Elizabeth National Park, Uganda, killed 15 alleged poachers in one pitched battle and seized a submachine gun plus 200 pounds of hippo meat.

In the nearby Democratic Republic of the Congo, Congolese Rally for Democracy/Liberation Movement head of external relations Honore Kadima warned that, “After acting against the Pygmies, the men of the Congolese Liberation Movement are in the process of exterminating the elephants and rare apes who live in Epulu Park, near Mambasa.” Kadima spoke soon after the CLM put 27 of its own troops on trial for alleged cannibalism and other crimes.

Yet the dreaded Ebola hemorrhagic fever appeared to present an even more imminent hazard to gorillas, chimps, and bonobos, as well as people, than even bushmeat poaching and the ongoing Congolese warfare.

A raging Ebola outbreak first detected in January 2003 had by mid-March killed at least 111 Congolese, with a dozen more gravely ill. But great apes took the worst hit.

“The bodies of hundreds of gorillas and chimpanzees killed by Ebola have been found in the Lossi wildlife sanctuary between Kelle and Mbomo,” Agence France-Presse reported. “Other great apes have died in the Odzala National Park, the biggest in central Africa, near Mbomo.”

Spanish primatologist Magdalena Bermejo estimated that Ebola had killed 500 of the 800 lowland gorillas believed to have been in Lossi when the outbreak started.

The source of the Ebola outbreak in great apes was unidentified. Humans appeared to have become infected by poaching great apes or scavenging ape remains.

Ebola was previously seen nearby between October 2001 and March 2002, when it killed 43 Congolese and 53 Gabonese, and in June 2002, when it recurred in Gabon.

FIXING THE PROBLEM

The San Francisco SPCA and **San Francisco Animal Care and Control** in 2002 lowered shelter killing of dogs and cats per 1,000 human residents of the city to 2.45, about half the rate of the next lowest major U.S. city. The national average is now 15.7, down from 115 in 1970. The SF/SPCA dog and cat sterilization clinic has now fixed more than 100,000 animals, including more than 12,000 feral cats.

Vermont Volunteer Services for animals recently honored Rutland animal control officer **Craig Petrie** and health officer **Pamela Petrie**, his wife, for feral cat sterilization work accomplished with volunteers operating as **City Cat Allies**. The net effect of fixing 60 feral cats in Rutland, a city of 17,300 people, was that “2002 was the first year in the 25 years I’ve been here that we did not have to euthanize any kittens because we had too many,” **Rutland County Humane Society** executive director **Thomas Browe** told *Rutland Herald* staff writer **Brent Curtis**.

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WOLVES MAY BE LEFT WITH NOWHERE TO RUN

WASHINGTON D.C.—The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on March 18 began the process of downlisting grey wolves in the Lower 48 mainland states from “endangered” to “threatened” status, except for Mexican grey wolves in Arizona and New Mexico and the reintroduced population in and around Yellowstone National Park.

USFWS said there are now about 664 wolves in the Yellowstone ecosystem, 2,445 wolves in Minnesota, where they were downlisted in 1978, and 600 in Wisconsin and Michigan.

The status reduction will enable ranchers to kill wolves they catch in the act of attacking livestock—and may end the hopes of wolf enthusiasts that reintroduction might be attempted in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, or upstate New York. The north-eastern habitat sector will instead be considered an extension of the Great Lakes sector.

Downlisting the Yellowstone ecosystem wolves could also occur soon, if Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming adopt management plans satisfying USFWS conservation requirements.

Wyoming Governor Dave Freudenthal on March 4 signed into law a management plan which may not win USFWS approval, since it classifies wolves as “predators” subject to being shot on sight except within Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, if there are more than 15 active packs in the state. Freudenthal also signed a bill asserting state control over wildlife.

Wolves from the Yellowstone region have occasionally entered Utah and

Oregon. The Utah senate on March 3 killed a bill to create a compensation fund for ranchers who lose stock to wolves, on the theory that it might indicate that wolves are welcome. Oregon state senator Roger Beyer (R-Molalla) on March 4 introduced a bill to take wolves off the state endangered species list. Keeping state endangered status would give wolves more protection in Oregon than they will have in the rest of the U.S. after downlisting.

In Alaska, where wolves have never been federally protected, Governor Frank Murkowski is expected to approve a wolf-culling plan unanimously recommended on March 12 by the Alaska Board of Game. Elected in November 2002, in part on a promise to reinstitute wolf-culling after an eight-year suspension, to make elk and caribou more abundant for human hunters, Murkowski recently appointed six of the seven current Board of Game members.

State senator Ralph Seekins (R-Fairbanks) on March 20 introduced a bill to liberalize the rules pertaining to wolf-culling, including to allow pre-emptive culling, before a prey population declines.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game on March 21 announced that it will fly wolf-spotting missions over the McGrath game management area, where culling is to begin, to help hunters and trappers find wolves to kill.

The British Columbia government is reportedly soon to declare an open season on wolves in the northern part of the province, also to boost the numbers of hooved animals available to human hunters.

Atlanta Humane gives up animal control

ATLANTA—The Atlanta Humane Society, managing the Fulton County Animal Control shelter as well as its own facilities since 1974, on March 20 returned animal control duties to the county.

After rejecting bids on the animal control contract from the Southern Hope Humane Society of Cobb County and a newly formed for-profit company called Synergy Management Services, deputy county manager Terry Todd reached an 11-day temporary agreement with Southern Hope at 5:40 p.m. on March 20, and agreed to buy \$350,000 worth of animal control equipment from Atlanta Humane.

“A panel of county staff recommended Synergy Management” as the preferred new longterm animal control provider, wrote Ty Tagami of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. Synergy Management “promised a smooth transition by hiring the Atlanta Humane pound director,” Tagami said.

According to Tagami, the longtime partnership of Atlanta Humane and Fulton county fell apart because “Atlanta Humane was killing 80% of the animals that came in the door, and county officials, bothered by complaints from animal advocates, decided last year to write new animal protection requirements into the contract,” which had been unchanged since 1982.

“Fulton County declined to negotiate with Atlanta Humane,” Tagami elaborat-

ed, “after Atlanta Humane executive director Bill Garrett and board chair Bill Summerlin on December 4 requested a \$500,000 increase to their \$2,005,000 base budget. Combined with income from licensure and impoundment fees, that would have boosted the animal control budget to nearly \$3 million a year. Fulton county responded on December 17 that it planned to look for new management.”

Responded Atlanta Humane in a written statement, “For more than several years, the county has been furnished information that the Fulton County facilities are aging badly, breaking down and in desperate need of replacement. Fulton County has been notified that there would come a time when the Atlanta Humane Society could no longer accept substandard facilities.

“Atlanta Humane has also notified the county,” the statement said, “that reimbursements for animal control expense would have to be sufficient to cover expenditures, as the Society could no longer subsidize a government function. Several years ago the Society wrote off a loss of more than a quarter million dollars in uncollected reimbursements,” and in 2000-2001 reimbursements of “more than \$65,000” had not been paid.

Since 1974, when Garrett’s tenure began, animal control killing in Atlanta has fallen from more than 30,000/year to about 11,000/year, while the human population of Fulton County has more than doubled.

Lab victories

“Hokkaido, Iwate, and Yamagata prefectures have voted to end the transfer of homeless dogs and cats from local pounds to research institutions by March 31, 2003,” World Association for Voice of Animals president **Stephanie A. Nakata** told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on March 10. The three Japanese prefectures together sold 1,003 animals to labs in 2000, but the total fell to 378 in 2001, Nakata said. **Fukushima, Tochigi, and Hiroshima** quit selling animals to labs earlier. “WAVA is now stepping up our campaign to end this archaic practice in other parts of Japan such as **Kagoshima, Okayama, Aomori** and **Gunma**,” Nakata concluded.

The University of Colorado Health Sciences Center on January 29, 2003 suspended the use of live dogs in physiology labs for first-year medical students. Spokesperson **Sarah Ellis** ascribed the suspension to the need to cut \$10.2 million from the medical school budget. Offering the dog labs cost \$17,000 per quarter. “The use of live animals in renal labs was replaced with computer simulation in 2001,” Associated Press reported. The use of dogs in respiratory labs was halted earlier in 2003. About 70% of U.S. medical schools have already eliminated animal labs, according to the **Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine**.

The University of British Columbia medical school announced on January 23 that as of September 2003 it will no longer use live animals in teaching. Only two Canadian medical schools still hold animal labs, says PCRM: **Memorial University** in Newfoundland and the **University of Western Ontario**.

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HONG KONG SPCA CHANGES LEADERS

HONG KONG—Scots-born veterinarian Pauline Taylor is acting executive director of the Hong Kong SPCA, following the March 14 resignation of Chris Hanselman at the request, Hanselman said, of the executive committee.

Previously assistant director, Taylor has done extensive rural veterinary outreach on the Chinese mainland.

Hanselman, a former financial crimes investigator for the Hong Kong police, and coholder of a world record for endurance on a two-man rowing machine, engineered the HK/SPCA plan to achieve no-kill animal control in Hong Kong, following the San Francisco model of dropping animal control work to focus on dog and cat sterilization.

“Chris’ departure had nothing to do with the no-kill initiative, and will make no difference to our efforts to make Hong Kong the City of Life,” Asia Animal Protection Network founder John Wedderburn, M.D., told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Hanselman was also a cofounder of the Asia for Animals conference series. The first Asia for Animals conference was held in Manila in 2001. The second was to open in Hong Kong on May 7—but on March 27 the HK/SPCA cancelled it amid a regional panic over Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, a flu-like disease diagnosed in 1,323 people worldwide between February 1 and March 26, 316 of them in Hong Kong and 792 in adjacent Guangdong province, China.

International animal control & shelter news

Barcelona, Spain, instituted high-volume sterilization of dogs and cats in January as cornerstone of a no-kill animal control policy. Since 2000 the Barcelona city shelters have reduced their killing of stray dogs from 72% of intake to 36%, and have reduced their killing of stray cats from 89% to 27%, Agence France-Press reported.

A 2002 deficit of £3.2 million in meeting operating costs of £8.9 million is expected to oblige the Scottish SPCA to close nine of its 13 shelters and lay off 60 of 229 staff, **Lee MacKay** of the *Edinburgh Evening Express* reported on March 22. Plans to build a £650,000 shelter in Aberdeen may be cancelled. “The decisions are blamed on the collapse of the stock market,” and on insurance costs which have increased by £100,000 since September 11, 2001, MacKay said.

Perihan Agnelli, founder of **Fethiye Friends of Animals** in Fethiye, Turkey, and **Robert Smith**, founder of both the **Society for the Protection of Stray Animals** in Istanbul and the **Foundation for the Protection of Community Dogs** in Campina, Romania, are joint recipients of the 2002 **Marchig Animal Welfare Trust Award**. Nominations for the 2003 award are due at www.marchigawt.org by Sept. 30.

The city of Johor Baru, Malaysia, has since January 1, 2003 required residents whose neighbors are Islamic to obtain their neighbors’ permission before renewing or applying for a dog license. Mohammed taught kindness toward both dogs and cats, but anti-dog prejudice is common among Muslims as an apparent legacy of fear of rabies, a long-time scourge in central and southern Asia.

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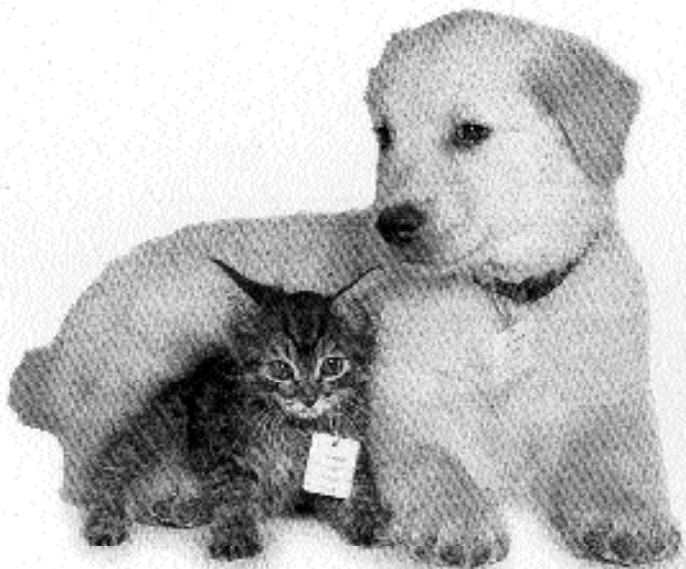
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Cockfighters spread worst U.S. outbreak of Newcastle since 1971: 3 million birds killed

SAN DIEGO—Cockfighters are blamed for the worst outbreak of Newcastle disease to hit the U.S. in 30 years. Agriculture officials had ordered the killing of more than three million chickens on 20 California ranches through March 19, in futile efforts to contain the spread of Newcastle. Other cases were reported on the Colorado River Indian Reservation in Arizona, and were suspected in a backyard flock near Goodyear, Arizona.

More than 12 million chickens and other poultry were killed to control the worst-ever U.S. Newcastle outbreak, discovered in California in 1971 but eventually afflicting most states with significant poultry industries. That outbreak, costing poultry producers and taxpayers \$56 million, arrived with wild-caught parrots.

The international traffic in wild-caught birds was at that time virtually without legal restraint. The Newcastle outbreak was instrumental in convincing animal use industries to accept the longtime recommendation of animal welfare groups that the wild-caught bird traffic should be controlled or eliminated.

Animal advocates including the late Animal Welfare Institute founder Christine Stevens had warned that poorly monitored bird imports could trigger such an epidemic since 1950, when the first known U.S. Newcastle outbreak came from Asia with exotic pheasants who were bred for shooting preserves.

Experts suspect that the present Newcastle outbreak may become the hardest yet to contain. The cost of the outbreak exceeded \$35 million by the end of February, with no end clearly in sight. More than six million laying hens are kept in Riverside and San Bernardino counties in California, in proximity to the majority of the detected cases.

The first cases known to agricultural health officials appeared among backyard flocks of chickens around Los Angeles in September 2002. Because the flocks were widely separated, included free-roaming birds, and had apparently already been afflicted for some time, investigators realized almost immediately that this round of Newcastle might already have spread far beyond anywhere that anyone might have recognized it.

"We have seized sick birds at several cockfights," Merced County Sheriff's Department detective Frank Swiggart noted—but how many birds had what disease, from where, was largely guesswork.

"Fighting birds are moved around without regard to quarantines. They don't go to veterinarians. They are not vaccinated," California Poultry Federation president Bill Mattos told the *Modesto Bee*.

In a February 11 posting to the ProMed online bulletin board maintained by the International Society for Infectious Diseases, Texas Department of Health regional zoonosis veterinarian James Alexander, DVM, warned from past experience that trying to eradicate Newcastle among gamecocks would be especially difficult.

"Certain segments of the population, especially those engaged in an industry that is dependent on an illegal activity such as cockfighting, will not comply with disease reporting because the people do not perceive it to be in their self-interest," Alexander explained.

Alexander recalled that when he was with the Texas Animal Health Commission in the mid-1980s, "A game bird owner/fighter sent some birds to our poultry lab due to illness and death. When infectious laryngotracheitis was diagnosed, TAHC destroyed the remaining birds, eliminating the man's line of game bird genetics and an important source of income. The gist of his final comment was that he would not make that mistake again."

California Department of Food and Agriculture veterinarian Richard Breitmeyer predicted that Newcastle would become endemic among gamecocks and yard fowl.

Julia Allen, DVM, of Seattle, suggested from her observation of the cockfighting subculture in Saipan, the Philippines, that "continuing to pursue a traditional program of detection and slaughter" to contain Newcastle among gamecocks "would seem to be ignoring reality. I am opposed to cockfighting and do think it should be eliminated," Allen stipulated, but for the purposes of disease control she urged "quarantine, limited depletion, and intensified vaccination," as also recommended by Breitmeyer, to try to win at least some cooperation from illegal cockbreeders.

Members of the California Exotic Newcastle Disease Task Force swept southern California neighborhoods killing backyard poultry in February and March, trying to stay ahead of scam artists, including suspected cockfighters, who seized and removed live birds in some cases, and in other cases charged residents to demolish chicken coops and "sanitize" yards. The California Exotic Newcastle Disease Task Force does not charge birdkeepers or property owners.

Bird fanciers protested against the massacres, to no avail. Most animal shelters in the region quit accepting or keeping birds.

The killing exposed some of the daily realities of factory farming to public view in mid-February, after Lieutenant Mary Kay Gagliardo of the San Diego County Department of Animal Services told the *San Diego Union-Tribune* that workers at Ward Egg Ranch facilities in Valley Center and Potrero allegedly threw as many as 100,000 live hens into wood chippers.

"We're trying to find out who is behind this. It's clearly animal cruelty," Gagliardo said.

Ward Egg Ranch owner Bill Wilgenburg admitted using chippers to kill "about 15,000" chickens because quarantine rules did not allow him to remove the birds for slaughter. Workers said that the use of the chippers was approved by USDA veterinarians.

Mulching newly hatched chicks alive is in fact standard procedure at egg factory farms throughout the U.S., and mulching

"spent hens" alive is not uncommon.

Animal control and humane officials throughout California escalated efforts to suppress illegal cockbreeding, with mixed results.

Mendocino County district attorney Norman Vroman on February 26 refused to prosecute Crio Ruiz, 67, of Redwood Valley, because Vroman said county major crimes task force commander Bob Nishiyama raided Ruiz with an illegal warrant. Mendocino County Superior Court Judge Richard Henderson had authorized the immediate killing of all 58 birds seized in the February 12 raid, but Vroman said California law required keeping the birds alive pending conviction of their owner.

Authorities in Napa seized 1,546 alleged gamecocks and an unknown number of hens and younger cocks in a February 22 raid. The flock turned out to be free of Newcastle. The birds were to be held for a time pending identification of their owner, and were to be killed if no owner could be found.

In Montebello, the Southeast Area Animal Control Authority on February 22 found about 50 people and 150 gamecocks who had allegedly been prepared for fighting, but were unable to remove the evidence because of the Newcastle quarantine requirements. Therefore the alleged cockfight participants could only be charged with quarantine violations, SEACA Captain Aaron Reyes told Michael Del Muro of the *Whittier Daily News*.

The March 4 seizure of 90 gamecocks and hens from Jesus Dimas Leon, 69, and Gonzalos Pena, 57, in Santa Ana, was comparatively small, but was described by

police as the largest in local memory.

Bills addressing cockfighting were meanwhile before the legislatures of 13 states.

In Oklahoma, where a November 2002 ballot initiative outlawed cockfighting by a margin of 124,000 votes, the state senate on March 10 passed a bill proposing a statewide referendum on whether to lower the penalty for cockfighting from a felony to a misdemeanor. The state house passed a similar bill on February 24.

The West Virginia senate on March 6 approved an amendment to a state house bill that would keep cockfighting a misdemeanor. The West Virginia House of Delegates had approved making arranging fights among dogs, cats, cows, horses, and pigs a felony, but had entirely exempted cockfighting from the anti-animal fighting legislation.

The Oregon house on March 13 passed a bill to criminalize raising gamecocks and make cockfighting a felony, 46-9, but the Oregon senate killed a similar bill in 2001 and was expected to kill this one. Opponents of the bill argue that the illegality of cockfighting is causing the spread of Newcastle, and that breeders would comply with disease control regulations if they could not be prosecuted.

The New Mexico house passed a similar anti-cockfighting bill, 45-21, but the New Mexico senate killed a parallel bill earlier in the spring legislative session.

The Maryland house unanimously passed a bill to criminalize possession of cockfighting paraphernalia, use of premises for cockfighting, and attending a cockfight.

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RECENT DOG ATTACK CASES CONTINUE TREND TOWARD STIFFER CHARGES & SENTENCING

Benjamin Moore, 28, of Richmond, California, who left neighbor **Shawn Jones**, 10, for dead after Moore’s three pit bull terriers mauled Jones beyond recognition in June 2001, was sentenced on March 14 to serve six years plus eight months in federal prison on a plea bargain for possession of cocaine with intent to sell. Moore will not be prosecuted for Jones’ mauling because no applicable charge would carry a stiffer sentence than he received on the drug conviction.

Michael L. Petry, 21, of Canton, Ohio, could get five years in prison after pleading guilty on March 17 to felony child endangerment for leaving three adult pit bulls and six puppies unrestrained in the house he shared with the mother of a 13-month-old

child. The child was severely mauled. His mother faces the same charges as Petry.

Also in Canton, **Ruth A. Garaux**, 38, pleaded guilty earlier in March to felonious endangerment for allowing her four dogs, including a pit bull mix, to run free. The dogs mauled a 47-year-old man.

Another Canton defendant, **Kelli L. Rhynes**, 26, drew 58 days on house arrest for failing to restrain his pit bull. The dog escaped from a pen and mauled an 11-year-old boy.

Wayne Hardy, 24, of Elroy, Wisconsin, is to go to trial on April 28 for being a party to homicide resulting from a vicious animal and felony reckless endangerment, for the fatal mauling of **Alicia Lynn Clark**, 10, on Valentine’s Day 2002. Six Rottweilers tore

Clark apart in a 15-minute attack. Hardy and codefendant **Shanda McCracken**, 32, not yet scheduled for trial on the same charges, were not home. McCracken’s 11-year-old daughter Melissa was unable to save Clark. Hardy, who has prior felony convictions, could get up to 72 years in prison. McCracken could get a maximum of 38 years.

Penny Whipple Kelly, mother of dog attack victim **Diane Whipple**, and Whipple’s companion, **Sharon Smith**, in December 2002 accepted an undisclosed cash settlement from **Marina Green Properties Inc.** and **Rudolph and Annette Koppl**, managers and owners of the San Francisco apartment house where Whipple was killed in January 2001. Smith donated her portion of

the settlement to charities favored by Whipple. Kelly and Smith have suits pending against attorneys **Robert Noel** and **Marjorie Knoller**, who were convicted of manslaughter after their two Presa Canarios attacked Whipple.

Michael Dean Caldwell, 40, of Las Vegas, in November 2002 drew five years on supervised felony probation from **Superior Court Judge James Dorr** of Barstow, California, for owning a dog who was trained to attack. Caldwell and **Gilbert Garcia**, still facing charges, were co-owners of a pair of pit bull terriers who fatally mauled **Cash Carson**, 10, in April 2000. The dogs were left with **James Chiavetta**, 54, who started a four-year prison term for manslaughter in May 2001, but died in May 2002.

Smart investigation should have looked at histories of animal abuse

SALT LAKE CITY—Karen Dawn of Pacific Palisades, California, was not surprised to read in the March 24 edition of *Newsweek* that accused kidnapper and rapist David Brian Mitchell had a history of cruelty to animals. As an active distributor of online action alerts, via <www.dawn-watch.com>, Dawn long since became familiar with the frequent association of violence toward animals with violence toward humans—especially women and children.

Dawn was surprised, however, that the linkage involving Mitchell seemed to be so little remarked by news media—and unrecognized by the Salt Lake City police.

Mitchell, 49, and his wife, Wanda E. Barzee, 57, are charged with kidnapping Elizabeth Smart, 14, from her Salt Lake City bedroom on June 5, 2002, raping her, holding her prisoner until their capture on March 12, 2003, and attempting to kidnap Smart’s 18-year-old cousin.

Newsweek quoted Mitchell’s stepson, Mark Thompson, who had suspected Mitchell for some time and helped to bring him to justice.

“He shot our dog in front of us. He killed our bunny and made us eat it,” Mitchell recalled.

Doing an electronic search of 650 articles published in major news media about the Mitchell arrest, Dawn found that the March 31 edition of *People* reported that Mitchell killed his step-daughter LouRee Gayler’s pet rabbit Peaches and served it to her for dinner.

“He said it was chicken. The next day I realized my rabbit was gone,” Gayler said. Mitchell allegedly molested Gayler from age 8 to age 12, when her mother finally left him.

“I found that the animal cruelty incidents were first mentioned by KSTU-TV reporter Scott McKane on March 13,” Dawn told her <DawnWatch> audience. “Gayler was on ABC’s *Prime Time Live* the same night and mentioned the rabbit. Gayler brought up both incidents on CBS News, as did Thompson on Larry King Live, each on March 14.

“However,” Dawn continued, “only four other news media mentioned the animal cruelty: *The Washington Times*, *The Guardian* of London, the *Saskatoon Star Phoenix*, and *Long Island Newsday*.

“If consciousness of the link between cruelty to animals and cruelty to humans was more entrenched in our culture, things might have turned out quite differently for Elizabeth Smart,” Dawn opined. “Animal cruelty would be a felony in every state. The killing of two family companion animals would not have gone unreported. David Brian Mitchell would have had a felony record. Police would have known, upon the disappearance of a child, not to just wade through the long list of transients who had worked in the Smart household, but to search first for any with a record of cruelty to animals.

“In a better informed world,” Dawn said, “Richard Albert Ricci, the longtime primary police chief suspect, who had a history of burglary and theft, would have seemed a much less likely kidnapper than David Brian Mitchell,” whose record of intimidating and coercive behavior seemed in hindsight so obvious that it should have given him away from the beginning.

Rural norms

The catch in Dawn’s scenario is that the cruel acts toward animals that Mitchell allegedly committed were so close to rural norms that they are not even recognized yet as cruelty in many states, by many police, and by much of the public. Thousands of people still believe that it is appropriate to shoot a dog who misbehaves; thousands still raise and kill rabbits for their tables; tens of thousands still encourage their children to make pets of animals raised as part of 4-H Club activities, the culminating lesson of which is the heartbreak of being compelled by 4-H rules to sell the beloved animals for slaughter. The entire exercise is designed to teach would-be farmers to avoid developing an emotional attachment to their livestock.

Even where police and news media have begun to recognize criminal cruelty to animals as a frequent precursor to rape, murder, and other violent crimes against humans, there is a prevailing cultural reluctance to recognize legal violence done to animals as having essentially the same predictive relationship to violent abuse of humans.

Hard data demonstrating the likelihood that legal violence toward animals is associated with violent crimes against humans began to surface in 1977 when Yale University researcher Stephen Kellert identified a “dominionistic” attitude toward animals held to a significantly greater degree by hunters, trappers, and rodeo and bullfight fans, the characteristics of which, Kellert wrote—but later denied—are that the individual’s “primary satisfactions [are] derived from mastery and control over animals.”

The desire for mastery and control were already well-recognized leading characteristics of sadists and pedophiles. As

a hunter, however, Kellert has argued ever since that the dominionism he found among fellow hunters and others who harm animals or watch harm to animals for amusement has no relationship to the behavior of criminals.

Even major humane groups with nationally prominent campaigns publicizing the associations of illegal animal abuse with violent crimes against humans have tiptoed around the 1994-1995 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** finding that rates of convicted pedophilia and child abuse closely parallel the rates of hunting participation at the county level in the states of New York, Ohio, and Michigan.

Yet cases illustrating the linkage of hunting with dominionistic crimes against humans occur almost every day. Typically an avid hunter kills a wife or girlfriend who is attempting to end an abusive relationship.

Such a hunter was Barry Tkachik of Otis, Indiana, who on February 18 fatally shot his wife, Michelle Tkachik, 39, and her sister, Jean Dakin, 38, then committed suicide during a standoff with the LaPorte County Sheriff’s Department.

“I never expected this,” said neighbor Denver Gabbard. “I thought he was a family man who liked to fish and hunt.”

But Sandy Peters, another neighbor, was aware of “The Link,” as it is commonly called among animal advocates, and had seen it in Tkachik.

“A puppy was shot there last week,” Peters told *Laporte Herald-Argus* staff writer Colleen Mair. “He was a volatile man who liked to shoot things. He once shot the dog I gave him with a BB gun and then a bow-and-arrow. I took the dog back.”

LaPorte County Sheriff Jim Arnold confirmed that deputies had paid repeated calls to Tkachik in response to domestic disturbances and animal-related complaints.

“The last incident was on January 3 when Tkachik was arrested for domestic violence,” Mair wrote.

Treating women like pigs

Instances of farmers treating humans like livestock evoke even more intensive denial—as PETA learned in November 2002 after attempting to place advertisements pointing out the relationship between what accused serial killer Robert William Pickton did for fun and what he did for a living. Pickton, 52, of Port Coquitlam, British Columbia, was a pig farmer, in partnership with his brother David. Pickton also owned and operated a local nightclub called Piggy’s Palace.

The *Vancouver Sun* and *Vancouver Province* both refused the PETA ad because they believed it might offend meat-eating readers and the families of Pickton’s victims.

Pickton was arrested in February 2002 in connection with the disappearance of as many as 63 Vancouver-area women since 1983, after Royal Canadian Mounted Police investigating a report that he possessed an unlicensed shotgun stumbled across identification cards belonging to some of the missing women. Vancouver police had informed the RCMP in 1998 that Pickton might be a suspect, a year after he was charged with attempted murder when a woman named Wendy Lynn Eistetter escaped from him. Pickton beat the rap by claiming she had tried to rob him.

Three private investigators also fingered Pickton in 1998, but the RCMP decided that among 200 potential suspects, a pig farmer did not seem to them likely to be a serial killer. More women disappeared. Fragmentary remains of 18 victims have been identified, primarily by DNA traces. Pickton has been charged with killing 15 of them.

The remains are so few because, the investigators now believe, Pickton handled the women exactly as pig farmers often handle dead pigs: he ran their remains through a wood chipper, then mixed the pieces into the live pigs’ feed.

While the Pickton investigators sifted tons of manure-saturated soil to find bone splinters, a 1955 serial-killing-by-farmer resurfaced in Cook County, Illinois. Former horse

breeder and stable owner Kenneth Hansen, 69, drew 200 to 300 years in prison after his second conviction for the kidnap/murders of three adolescent boys, at least one of whom he allegedly raped. Hansen was not charged with the crimes until 1994, when he was also identified by police as a suspect or possible material witness in the murders of four young women and a sheriff’s deputy—and possibly the 1967 beating death of a stablehand. The evidence against Hansen emerged from an investigation of an associate, Richard Bailey, who was eventually convicted of the 1977 murder of heiress Helen Vorhees Brach. Hansen and Bailey were also key figures in a long string of horse killings to collect insurance money. Twenty-five horse owners were convicted of participating.

Another agrarian, of sorts, drew 20 years in prison on December 5 for for trying to fly £22 million worth of cocaine into Britain. Christopher Barrett-Jolly, 54, and his copilot and brother-in-law Peter Carine, 50, were sentenced at the Basildon Crown court in Essex.

Barrett-Jolly “achieved notoriety in 1994 as director of Phoenix Aviation, which specialized in the export of live calves for veal,” London *Independent* crime correspondent Jason Bennetto recalled. Barrett-Jolly’s activities attracted demonstrations by animal rights activists. “At the height of the protests,” Bennetto continued, “activist Jill Phipps was run over and killed by a lorry delivering calves to the airport. In 1996, Phoenix Aviation went into liquidation.”

But Barrett-Jolly apparently developed his disregard for the lives and well-being of other creatures well before his involvement in the veal industry.

“In 1974,” continued Bennetto, “he admitted being involved in arms dealing for 20 years.”

“Normal” link killers

In recent “Link” cases involving illegal animal abuse:

- **Michael Allen West**, 33, was convicted on February 2 in Bend, Oregon, of six counts of attempted murder, 56 counts of illegal use of a weapon, 42 counts of illegal manufacture of a destructive device, one count of possession of a concealed weapon, and one count of animal abuse, for shooting a neighbor’s dog in March 2002 and then preparing to stand off sheriff’s deputies who sought to confiscate the weapon. West had outfitted three bunkers inside his house with an arsenal of 56 loaded weapons, including several assault rifles and a machine gun.

- **Bill P. Marquardt**, 27, was convicted on February 3 in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, of seven felony counts of cruelty to animals, two counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm, and one count of burglary, for shooting dogs and rabbits at his own home and breaking into a neighbor’s home, where he shot a dog. Marquardt is now awaiting trial in Chippewa County for allegedly shooting and stabbing his mother to death in March 2000.

- **Jonathon Lee Stephens**, 18, is awaiting trial in San Bernardino County, California, for allegedly beating to death Christy McKendall, 16, raping her corpse, and throwing her remains into a well. Alleged accomplice Joshua Curnette, 15, is also awaiting trial, while a second alleged accomplice, Luke Miller, 14, is serving a three-year sentence as an accessory after the fact. Police say Curnette and Miller introduced Stephens to the victim. Stephens was known around their neighborhood for killing squirrels, cats, and dogs, beating up children and a homeless man, attacking his sister with a knife at age 13, and sexually assaulting a 12-year-old girl. Police reportedly videotaped Stephens and his alleged accomplices as they re-enacted the McKendall murder during interrogation.

- **Pablo Francisco Hernandez**, 19, is awaiting trial in San Jose, California, for allegedly cutting the heads off a bird and a dog, then decapitating his mother, 38, and calling 911 to confess.



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Chronology of humane progress

(Part 1 of two parts: from Moses to Walt Disney)

by Merritt Clifton

1300 B.C. — Hebrew law as proclaimed by **Moses** includes provisions for humane slaughter and care of work animals.

740 B.C. — Rise of **Isaiah**, the most prominent of the Hebrew vegetarian prophets, and the prophet who most emphasized opposition to animal sacrifice.

600-500 B.C. —**Buddhism** and **Jainism** rose in India in opposition to sacrificial cults within mainstream **Hinduism**, which otherwise encourages vegetarianism and requires members of the highest caste, the Brahmins, to be vegetarian. Both **Mahavir**, the last of the 24 great teachers of Jainism, and the **Buddha** taught vegetarianism and compassion for all beings. Said Mahavir, “It is not enough to live and let live. You must help others live.” This is the idea embodied in the Jain word *ahimsa*. Both Mahavir and the Buddha also taught that humans have an obligation to shelter and care for their aged and infirm work animals just as they would shelter and care for aged human beings. Whether this inspired the Hindu tradition of sheltering cattle in *gaushalas* and *pinjarapoles*, or simply revived it, is unclear and is disputed. Either way, however, it was in this era that sheltering cattle became the first established and enduring form of sheltering animals as an act of charity. Both Jainism and Buddhism may have evolved from the beliefs and practices of the **Bishnoi**, **Sindhi**, and **Thari** people. The renowned Indian conservationist Valmik Thapar, described the Bishnoi in his 1997 book *Land of the Tiger* as “the primary reason that desert wildlife still exists on the subcontinent. The women of the community have been known to breastfeed black buck fawns and save insect life,” he wrote, “while many of the men have died in their efforts to counter armed poaching gangs. Bishnoi is an offshoot of Jainism,” Thapar asserted, reversing the tradition claimed by Bishnoi elders, “which teaches that all nature’s creations have a right to life. This belief reached its apotheosis in 1778 when 294 men and 69 women laid down their lives to protect the khejri tree. A senior officer of Jodhpur state arrived to cut down the trees, which were needed for burning lime. The first to challenge him was a woman, who hugged one of the trees and was promptly decapitated. Her three daughters followed suit and were also axed. Many others followed. This mass slaughter led to a royal order that prohibited the cutting of any tree in a Bishnoi village.” To this day, Bishnoi villages are wooded oases in the otherwise harsh Rajasthan desert, where wildlife congregates in proximity to the people. The Thar region of Pakistan is adjacent to the Rajasthan desert of India. Although the Thari people are now mostly Islamic, their traditional teachings about the sanctity of life somewhat resemble those of the Bishnoi. The Sindh desert is farther west in Pakistan. The Sindhi people, related to the Thari, have similar beliefs, but are now culturally divided: Sindhis who practice Hinduism long ago migrated into the Mumbai region of India, while those who practice Islam remain in Pakistan.

580 B.C. — Birth of **Pythagoras**, Greek scientist and philosopher, who taught vegetarianism and the equality of women as part of a theory of reincarnation.

250 B.C. — (India) Introducing the first animal protection laws in the Indian civil code, the Buddhist emperor **Asoka** practiced a form of Buddhism which like Hinduism and Jainism holds that animals should not be eaten, and that an aged or disabled cow or work animal should be retired and well-treated. Asoka sent missionaries to Thailand and Sri Lanka to teach Buddhism, including his son **Arahat Mahinda**. Interrupting a hunt upon arrival in Sri Lanka in 247 B.C., “Arahat Mahinda stopped **King Devanampiyatissa** from killing the deer and told the king that every living creature has an equal right to live,” according to Sri Lankan elephant conservationist Jawantha Jayewardene. Persuaded, the king became a Buddhist and “decreed that no one should kill or harm any living being,” Jayewardene continues. “He set apart a large area around his palace as a sanctuary that gave protection to all fauna and flora. This was called **Mahamevuna Uyana**, and is believed to be the first sanctuary in the world.” Arahat Mahinda and the other Asokan emissaries also introduced animal sheltering as a central function of monasteries wherever they went. Buddhist monasteries in Thailand and Sri Lanka to this day often double as animal shelters, though at some the custom was long ago distorted into keeping just a lone chained temple elephant.

34 B.C. — Approximate date of the birth of **Jesus of Nazereth**. In accurate historical context, Jesus appears to have been the most militant leader of his time of Jewish opposition to animal sacrifice, which was then still practiced—in very high volume—at the Jerusalem temple. Jesus built directly upon the teachings of the vegetarian prophet **Isaiah**, and his direct predecessor in advocacy, the vegetarian **John the Baptist**. The **Jerusalem Christian church**, founded by Jesus’ brother **James**, taught and practiced vegetarianism, and historian Keith Akers argues in *The Lost Religion of Jesus* (2001) that after about 200 years of recorded existence, the congregation became the forebears of the **Sufi** sect within **Islam**. “The Sufis express an extraordinary interest in Jesus and have sayings of Jesus and stories about Jesus found nowhere in Christianity,” according to Akers. “Especially interesting and significant is the treatment of Jesus by **al-Ghazali**, an 11th century Islamic mystic who is widely credited with making Sufism respectable within Islam.” The Jesus described by al-Ghazali “lives in extreme poverty, disdains violence, loves animals, and is vegetarian,” Akers summarizes. “It is clear that al-Ghazali is drawing on a tradition rather than creating a tradition because some of the same stories that al-Ghazali relates are related by others both before and after him, and also because al-Ghazali himself is not a vegetarian and clearly has no axe to grind. Thus, these stories came from a pre-existing tradition that describes Jesus as a vegetarian.”

46-120 — Life of **Plutarch**, Roman biographer and historian whose works were part of a standard classical education for 1,700 years before his lesser-known essays “On the Eating of Animal Flesh” and about animal intelligence found a fully receptive audience. Plutarch especially influenced the 19th century vegetarianism (and attempted vegetarianism) of American Transcendentalist and



Bishnoi elder. (Bonny Shah)

Abolitionist leaders including **Ralph Waldo Emerson**, **Bronson Alcott** (and his daughter **Louisa May Alcott**), and **Henry David Thoreau**. Following the example of Plutarch, who founded a successful vegetarian community at Chaeronea, the Alcotts founded a vegetarian commune called Fruitlands in 1843, which ran afoul of an ill-timed dalliance by Bronson Alcott with a female member who was not his wife. Plutarch also persuaded the conversion to vegetarianism in 1811-1812 of the British Romantic poet **Percy Shelley** and of his second wife **Mary**, whose 1818 novel *Frankenstein* was the first prominent literary expression of anxiety about human scientific meddling in the life process. Other prominent vegetarians who attributed their beliefs in part to Plutarch included French philosopher **Jean Jacques Rousseau** and Russian novelist and advocate of vegetarianism **Leo Tolstoy**.

341 — Sri Lankan **King Buddhadasa** found a higher calling as a veterinarian.

497 — Formation of the **Shaolin Temple** in Henan, China, by **Ba Tuo**, a vegetarian Buddhist evangelist from India. Although Shaolin from 527 on was also influential in spreading the non-vegetarian branch of Buddhism throughout China, strict followers of Ba Tuo have remained vegetarian despite centuries of oppression from foes including dog-eater sects, Genghis Khan, tyrannical Chinese warlords and emperors, and the Communists under Mao tse Tung. Rather than bear arms against other living beings, the monks of Shaolin gradually invented, developed, and popularized the practices of judo, ju-jitsu, and karate.

622-570 — **Muhammed** built **Islam** on existing regional religious beliefs, apparently including the teachings of the remnants of the Jerusalem branch of Christianity, which may have become the Sufi branch of Islam. These included pro-animal teachings. According to Islamic scholar Jasmi Bin Abdul, “The care and love of wild animals has been emphasized both in the Qur’an as well as in Sunna, the traditions of the Prophet. In verse 54:28, there is a reference to Allah insisting that the people of Tamud share the water with their camels. In the Sunna of Prophet Muhammad, we see many instances to show that He advocated kindness toward animals. According to one tradition, Allah punished a woman because she imprisoned a cat until the cat died of hunger. The Prophet also tells us that a prostitute’s sins were forgiven because she gave water to a thirsty dog,” a story which if better known would suggest that women

subject to the Islamic fundamentalist law of Sharia should be spared stoning for alleged adultery if they have been kind to the street dogs who are much feared and despised in many Islamic nations. [ANIMAL PEOPLE has verified the authenticity of the story by finding three other scholarly references to it.]

1150 — Sri Lankan **King Nissanka Malla** carved into a stone a decree stating that, “It is ordered, by beat of the drum, that no animals should be killed within a radius of seven gau from the city” of Anuradhapura, his capitol. The decree combined consideration for animal welfare with concerns about public health and sanitation, and about the emotional effect on children of witnessing slaughter.

1150-1250 — Rise and persecution of the **Cathari**, a vegan sect in southern France who were eventually exterminated by the **Albigensian Crusade** and the institution of the **Inquisition** in 1233.

1182-1226 — Life of **St. Francis**, the most prominent of a long line of Catholic saints who rescued animals, intervened to prevent the killing of wild predators, and practiced vegetarianism. Although such practices seem to have been honored as holy much more often than not, there never seems to have been a strong belief within mainstream Catholicism that they should be adopted by ordinary people. Francis in almost all of his teachings except his acceptance of the Catholic hierarchy headed by Rome closely paralleled the Cathari, and the Church was during his own time and afterward often vexed to the point of rewriting history by the difficulty of distinguishing Franciscanism from Catharism.

1197-1253 — Life of **Richard of Wyche**, **Bishop of Chichester**, an early British critic of the morality of slaughter.

1334-1354 — **Bubonic plague** killed up to 75% of the human population of Europe and Asia. Brought to Europe from Constantinople by returning crusaders, and the flea-infested black rats who stowed away on their vessels, it attacked most virulently after terrified cities blamed it on “witchcraft” and purged from their midst both the majority of people who had medicinal skill (mostly older women) and their “familiar,” mostly the cats who had provided rat control.

1452-1519 — Life of **Leonardo da Vinci**, scientist and painter, who prominently practiced and taught vegetarianism, and wrote that, “The time will come when humans look on the slaughter of beasts as they now look on

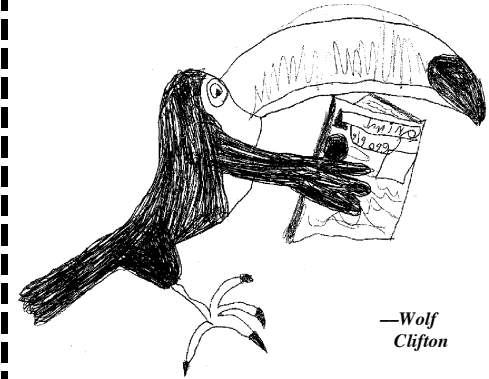
(continued on page 18)

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CHRONOLOGY OF HUMANE PROGRESS (continued from page 17)

the murder of men.”

1480-1540 — Life of **Bartholomew Chassenee** of France, a distinguished jurist whose first case was an impressive defense of rats before the ecclesiastical court of Autuns, making him the first “animal rights attorney” on record. His last case, in defense of a doomed “heretical” sect called the Waldenses, used the same arguments and tactics, and might have saved the Waldenses, in the opinion of observers, had he not died before the trial was over.

1516 — **Sir Thomas More** of England included mention of kindness toward animals and the abolition of animal sacrifice and sport hunting as signs of the moral advancement of the citizens of his fictitious *Utopia*.

1533-1592 — Life of **Michel de Montaigne**, a French attorney whose 1588 essay *Of Cruelties* denounced abuse of animals as “the extremest of all vices.”

1567 — **Pope Pius V** issued a papal bull condemning bullfighting and other forms of animal fighting for entertainment as “cruel and base spectacles of the devil,” whose promoters are subject to excommunication. **Pope Pius IX** reiterated the 1567 bull in 1846, and **Pope Pius XII** cited it in 1940 in refusing to meet with a delegation of bullfighters. The 1567 papal bull eventually brought prohibitions against bullfighting throughout Italy, plus a 1928 ban on bullfighting to the death in Portugal, amended in 2000.

16th century — “The Mogul emperor **Akbar the Great** established zoos in various Indian cities which far surpassed in quality and size anything in Europe. Unlike the cramped European menageries, Akbar’s zoos provided spacious enclosures and cages, built in large reserves. Each had a resident doctor, and Akbar encouraged careful study of animals. His zoos were open to the public. At the entrance to each he posted a message: ‘Meet your brothers. Take them to your hearts, and respect them.’” [David Hancocks, *A Different Nature*.] This appears to be the first clear differentiation between exhibition of animals for entertainment and exhibition as

attempted humane education.

1596-1650 — Life of **Rene Descartes**, of France and Holland, among the most prominent of the early vivisectionists whose work sparked an antivivisection movement in Europe even before there were organized humane societies. (Covered extensively by Richard Ryder in *Animal Revolution*, 2001 edition.) Descartes was memorably satirized more than a generation after his death by the French philosopher **Voltaire**, who also attacked “the barbarous custom of supporting ourselves upon the flesh and blood of beings like ourselves,” but continued to eat meat.

1634-1703 — Life of **Thomas Tryon**, a vegetarian shepherd from Gloucestershire, England, who crusaded against slavery and advocated the “natural rights” of animals. He appears to have been instrumental in persuading many leading Puritans that animals have souls. The repression of animal-baiting by the Puritan regime of **Oliver Cromwell** included killing the animals, however, as well as punishing the human perpetrators.

1641 — The **Massachusetts Bay Colony** adopted as their Liberty 92 (of 100 “liberties” which were in fact the laws of the colony) the statement that “No man shall exercise any Tyranny or Crueltie towards any brute Creature which are usually kept for man’s use.” This is the first humane law adopted by any western nation.

1665 — **The Great Plague of London** followed a wave of persecution of “witches” and cats.

1684 — A man is pilloried in Sagan, Germany, for cruelty to a horse. Other early German convictions for cruelty to animals were recorded in 1765 and 1766.

1721-1728 — Spanish medical historian **Juan Gomez-Alonso, M.D.** has identified a rabies epidemic which swept eastern Europe during these years as the historical origin of the vampire legends, later grafted by the Victorian era British novelist **Bram Stoker** to the much earlier legends of **Vlad the Impaler**, the original **Count Dracula**, and

Elizabeth Bathory, the Hungarian “blood countess” who bathed in the blood of virgins.

1748-1832 — Life of **Jeremy Bentham**, British attorney whose 1780 book *An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation* includes a footnote on “Interests of inferior animals improperly neglected in legislation by the insensibility of the ancient jurists.” The footnote concludes, “The question is not, Can they reason? Nor Can they talk? But, Can they suffer?” It may be the most quoted footnote phrase of all time. Bentham was a friend of **Lord Thomas Erskine**, 1750-1823, who in 1809 made the first attempt to pass a British humane law.

1789 — **Kaiser Joseph II** of Germany banned animal baiting for sport.

1790 — Emergence in Vermont of the **Dorrilites**, a short-lived vegan sect which allegedly practiced “free love,” and may have inspired both the **Millerites**, who became the **Seventh Day Adventists**, and **Joseph Smith**, founder of the **Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints**.

1794-1851 — Life of **Sylvester Graham**, U.S. Presbyterian minister and temperance crusader, who invented the Graham cracker as an alleged cure for lust. Sylvester Graham became a vegetarian circa 1826 under the influence of the **Rev. William Metcalfe**, founder of the first vegetarian church in Philadelphia. Metcalfe had been a member of the first vegetarian church in England, the **Bible Christian Church** founded by **William Cowherd** near Manchester in 1809. Graham’s followers included **William Alcott, M.D.**, the first prominent vegetarian in the Alcott family, cousin of **Bronson Alcott**; pioneering newspaper publisher **Horace Greeley**; and **Seventh Day Adventist Church** builders **Ellen** and **James White**. Two others, **John Harvey Kellogg, M.D.**, 1854-1941, and his brother **W.K. Kellogg**, 1860-1951, went on to invent and popularize peanut butter, corn flakes, granola, and soy milk.

1805-1844 — Life of **Joseph Smith**, founder of the **Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints**, better known as the **Mormons**. Smith wrote in his *History of the Church* that he “exhorted the brethren not to kill a serpent, bird, or an animal of any kind unless it became necessary in order to preserve ourselves from hunger.” A later Mormon church president, **Joseph F. Smith**, wrote in *Gospel Doctrine* that, “I do not believe any man should kill animals or birds unless he needs them for food. I think it is wicked for men to thirst in their souls to kill almost everything which possesses animal life.”

1809-1882 — Life of **Charles Darwin**, whose 1859 book *The Origin of Species* both established the theory of evolution as a scientific verity and established human kinship with animals. Darwin himself was an outspoken opponent of cruelty to animals, especially trapping, and had strong anti-vivisectionist leanings, criticizing exercises undertaken “for mere damnable and detestable curiosity,” but never fully broke ranks with fellow scientists to clearly



The 1871 Dogs Home Battersea building. (Kim Bartlett)

denounce experiments which in his view had some redeeming purpose and value.

1822-1904 — Life of **Frances Cobbe**, founder of the **Victoria Street Society** (1875), which became the British **National Anti-Vivisection Society**, and later founder of the **British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection** (1898).

1822 — “**Humanity Dick**” **Martin** won passage of the first British humane law. British prohibition of dogfighting and cockfighting followed in 1835. Rat-fighting was not banned until 1911. There is record of cruelty cases being prosecuted occasionally under other legislation prior to the Martin Act of 1822, including a 1749 case in Gloucester in which two men were convicted of spitefully killing a mare. One man got the death penalty.

1824 — Formation of the **London SPCA**, which began enforcing the 1822 humane law five years before **Sir William Peel** formed the first London police force. About 150 convictions were won in 1824, the first year for which records exist. The London SPCA nearly went bankrupt in 1828, but was saved by **Lewis Gompertz**, inventor of the expanding chuck which makes changing drill bits possible. Gompertz was drummed out in 1832, however, for the alleged offenses of being a Jew and a vegetarian. He went on to found the Animals’ Friend Society, which he headed until 1848. The London SPCA became the **Royal SPCA** by charter granted by **Queen Victoria** in 1840. Victoria herself donated money to antivivisection efforts, but the **British Charities Commission** has recently interpreted antivivisection campaigning to be outside the scope of the charter.

1827-1915 — Life of **Ellen Gould (Harmon) White**. An early convert of **Seventh Day Adventist Church** founder **William Miller** (1782-1849), she along with the other “Millerites” prepared for the “Second Coming of Jesus” in 1844. When the Second Coming did not come, Ellen White and her husband James White built the remnants of the sect into a substantial vegetarian religion. The Adventists have de-emphasized vegetarianism since her death, and the deaths of those who

(continued on page 19)



Brooke Hospital for Animals, Luxor, Egypt. (Jeanne McVey)

TRIBUTES

With love to Calamity. —Eleanor Brown AHA

In honor of the Prophet Isaiah, St. Martin de Porres, and Albert Schweitzer. —Brien Comerford

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CHRONOLOGY *(from page 18)*

knew her, to the point that the majority of Adventists today are not vegetarian.

1828 — **New York** passed the first U.S. state anti-cruelty law, followed by **Massachusetts** in 1835 and **Connecticut** and **Wisconsin** in 1838. Every state had an anti-cruelty law by 1913, including **Alaska**, whose first anti-cruelty law actually preceded statehood by 46 years. Obtaining meaningful enforcement in any state really only began in 1990, when a Massachusetts man became the first American known to have actually been jailed for abusing an individual animal.

1830 — **Saxony** adopted an anti-cruelty law, followed by **Prussia** (1838), **Wurttemberg** (1839), and **Switzerland** (1842). “Pastor **Albert Knapp** founded the first German animal welfare society in 1837 in **Stuttgart**; **Nuremberg** and **Dresden** followed in 1839, **Berlin**, **Hamburg**, and **Frankfurt** in 1841, **Munich** in 1842, and **Hanover** in 1844. In **Switzerland**, animal protection societies were formed in **Berne** in 1844, in **Bale** in 1849, and in **Zurich** in 1856,” according to Richard Ryder in *Animal Revolution*. Anti-cruelty societies were also founded in **Oslo** in 1859, **Gothenberg** in 1869, and **Strangnas** in 1870. **The Lithuanian SPCA**, recently revived after a long suspension during the years of Soviet occupation, was founded in 1873.

1839 — Formation of the **Scottish SPCA**. Circa 1850 the Scottish SPCA produced more than 100 glass photographic plates to teach inspectors how to investigate cruelty and neglect of horses. Long forgotten, the plates were recently rediscovered at the Scottish SPCA headquarters in Balerno.

1844 — Formation of the **New York State Association for the Preservation of Fish & Game**, a distant ancestor of the **National Wildlife Federation**. In 1881 it hosted the massacre of 20,000 passenger pigeons—the last great flock netted in the wild—at a Coney Island fundraiser.

1851-1939 — Life of **Henry Salt**, vegetarian advocate, founder of the anti-hunting **Humanitarian League** in 1891, and influential teacher of both the vegetarian and antivivisectionist playwright **George Bernard Shaw**, and the vegetarian moral philosopher and politician **Mohandas Gandhi**, at whose request **Jawaharal Nehru** wrote into the Indian constitution the statement that it is every citizen’s duty to prevent animal suffering. Although others including **Abraham Lincoln** apparently used the phrase “animal rights” in various contexts, Salt is believed to have been the first person to advocate an *animal rights movement*.

1860 — **Mary Tealby**, 59, a London divorcee who was already dying of cancer, founded **Dogs Home Battersea** near the Holloway debtors prison, as “The Temporary Home for Lost and Starving Dogs,” to care for the animals of the inmates. **Charles Dickens** saved it from fiscal failure with an article called “Two Dog Shows,” comparing and contrasting the plight of Tealby’s rescued dogs with the luxury enjoyed by **Crufts Dog Show** contestants. Tealby died in 1865. The shelter moved to the present location in 1871.

1862 — Formation in Sri Lanka of the **Animals Non-Violence Society** and passage of the first wildlife protection law adopted under British rule. The first Sri Lankan anti-cruelty law was not passed until 1907.

1866 — **Henry Bergh** founded the American SPCA. Other early U.S. humane societies include the **Massachusetts SPCA**, founded by **George Angell** in 1868; the **San Francisco SPCA**, founded in 1868; the

Pennsylvania SPCA, founded in 1869; and the **Women’s Humane Society of Philadelphia**, founded by **Caroline Earle White** in 1870, after women were excluded from the board of the Pennsylvania SPCA. Bergh, Angell, and White had all been anti-slavery activists before the Civil War, and viewed animal advocacy as an extension of their work on behalf of human rights. Both Bergh and White were also instrumental in founding societies to protect children from neglect and abuse, while Angell was regarded as “The father of humane education.”

1872 — **The Women’s Humane Society of Philadelphia** became the first humane society to take an animal control contract, followed in 1895 by the **American SPCA** and the **San Francisco SPCA**. Humane societies did not commonly do animal control until the onset of the Great Depression in 1929-1930 encouraged many humane organizations to take on the job as a way of stabilizing their income. Typically, however, animal control was (and is) done at a net loss over time, and tends to become the only major activity of the humane societies that do it.

1874 — Formation of the **Bombay SPCA**, the longest continuously operating western-style humane society in India.

1876 — **The American Humane Association** is formed as an intended umbrella for the humane movement. Resolutions passed at the founding convention called for protecting the North American bison, beaver, and bald eagle from extinction, and for protecting livestock from suffering and abuse in transportation and slaughter. In 1878 the AHA separates into separate divisions for child protection and animal protection. The child protection division operates the orphanage system for the state of New York, 1895-1950.

1877 — Publication of *Black Beauty*, by **Anna Sewell**. Sewell’s mother wrote many books for children, but *Black Beauty* was the only published work by Sewell herself, who died less than a year after the first edition appeared. A British Quaker, born in 1820, Sewell suffered a knee injury at age 14 which left her even more dependent upon horses for transportation than most people of her era. She became an expert horse handler, using only a loose rein and no whip. “Anna and her mother protested” when they saw horses being beaten, according to Joan Gilbert in the *Oxford Companion to Children’s Literature*. “Some drivers threatened to beat them too.” Use of the bearing rein was ubiquitous, and Sewell hoped to abolish it. Bearing reins, explained Gilbert, held horses’ heads and necks in “an unnatural and painful arch. It cut off their wind as well, and many young horses were ruined due to respiratory problems.” Under the influence of *Black Beauty*, Gilbert continued, “The bearing rein went out of style...Ironically, during Sewell’s funeral procession, her mother noticed that all the horses wore bearing reins. She went from carriage to carriage, requesting that they be removed, which they were.” Massachusetts SPCA founder George Angell distributed a private printing of 100,000 copies to U.S. horse handlers. “In the span of about 100 years, over 30 million copies have been printed, an all-time record for fiction,” Gilbert concluded. “*Black Beauty* has been made into at least eight movies. Three British sisters, Christine, Diana and Josephine Pullein-Thompson, wrote two sequels to *Black Beauty*—*Black Beauty’s Kin* and *Black Beauty’s Family*.” In addition, *Black Beauty* inspired Fund for Animals founder **Cleveland Amory** to name the first and largest of the Fund sanctuaries The Black Beauty Ranch, and the name has



Inside the Brooke Hospital for Animals in Luxor, Egypt. (Jeanne McVey)

been used in connection with many other humane projects.

1881 — Circus magnate **P.T. Barnum** and friends founded the **Connecticut Humane Society**, partly to forestall humane criticism of circuses. Like many other early humane societies, Connecticut Humane was active in child protection, and continued to provide various child protection services by contract with the state until the early 1970s.

1881 — Unsuccessful attempt of the **Victoria Street Society** to prosecute British monkey vivisector **David Ferrier** causes vivisectors to organize the **Association for the Advancement of Medicine by Research** the following year. This is the first known anti-animal welfare organization.

1882 — Formation of the **Swedish Anti-Vivisection League**.

1882 — **Caroline Earle White** founded the **American Anti-Vivisection Society**. The **New England Anti-Vivisection Society** was formed in 1895, and the **U.S. National Anti-Vivisection Society** was established in 1929. The early anti-vivisection societies fought against cruel experiments on humans, including illiterates, prisoners, and the mentally handicapped, and were prominent opponents of eugenics, the notion of “improving the race” by prohibiting reproduction of “inferior” races and classes of humans—an idea which in the early 20th century was favored by both the political right and the left.

1888 — **The Ryerss Infirmary for Dumb Animals** was among the first U.S. humane societies begun specifically to protect horses and other farm animals.

1889 — Formation of the **Royal Society for the Protection of Birds**, in response to the prolific killing of birds by “sportsmen.” Ironically, the RSPB itself now engages in the prolific killing of birds if they are judged to be alien threats to native species.

1889 — **George Angell** formally incorporated the **American Humane Education Society** as a subsidiary to the **Massachusetts SPCA**. Actually begun in 1882, it focused for about 30 years on forming school-room humane education clubs called the **Bands of Mercy**. More than 265,000 Bands of Mercy were chartered by Angell’s death in 1909. His successor, the **Rev. Francis Rowley**, organized a Band of Mercy convention in Kansas City circa 1912 that drew 25,000 children plus 15,000 parents and teachers. Rowley also started the **Jack London Clubs** to seek the abolition of animal use in entertainment, inspired by the London book *Michael, Brother of Jerry*. The Jack London Clubs claimed 750,000 members at peak. However, Rowley incurred enormous debt in building **Angell Memorial Animal Hospital**, opened in 1915, dominating the MSPCA program ever since. Financially hobbled for more than a decade even before the Great Depression, the MSPCA allowed the Bands of Mercy to disappear and the Jack London Clubs to fade, though they still existed at least on paper as late as 1963. **Jack London** was a self-proclaimed Red, at a time when the term still had the original meaning of “radical” rather than the narrower later meaning of “Communist.” The early Soviet Communists nonetheless regarded him as a “fellow traveler,” and for that reason, Jack London Clubs formed in eastern Europe as the **White Fang Societies** were virtually the only pre-Communist humane institutions in that part of the world to survive the Communist era.

1891 — Formation of the **National**

Canine Defence League. Initially focused on vivisection, within 20 years NCDL evolved to emphasize improving the care of pet dogs. For much of the 20th century it focused on providing veterinary services, but since 1980 it has become the British leader in promoting dog adoption, and since 1996 has cosponsored the **International Companion Animal Welfare Conference**, with the **North Shore Animal League International**, to assist eastern European humane societies.

1891 — Formation of the **Animal Humane Society of Hennepin County**, Minnesota, the only humane society ever known to issue a public statement in favor of lynching, which the board felt was an appropriate punishment for child molesters. The statement was not influential: Minnesota and North Dakota are the only two U.S. states which have never had any lynchings.

1895 — **The American SPCA** and **American Humane Association** abandon active lobbying to protect wildlife and wildlife habitat, in a still shadowy political division of roles associated with the ASPCA obtaining the New York City pound contract while the AHA obtained the New York state contract to operate orphanages. Legislative efforts to ban hunting—which had nearly succeeded at one point—were dropped, while the lead role on wildlife issues was ceded to the organization which had been the **N.Y. State Association for the Preservation of Game**, merged with the **New York Sportsmen’s Club** at some point, and eventually metamorphosed through further mergers and alliances into the **New York Conservation Council**, the original New York affiliate of NWF. Under the ASPCA, the former practice of drowning stray dogs in the Hudson River was replaced by gassing them. The number of homeless animals killed by the ASPCA soared over 100,000 per year in 1908, and averaged more than 250,000 per year from 1966 through 1968, when **Lloyd Tait**, DVM, started the first ASPCA discount dog and cat sterilization program. The ASPCA killed only 40,000 animals in 1994, then turned animal control duties over to the newly formed **Center for Animal Care & Control**. Under the CACC, the toll dropped to 35,000 in fiscal 2002.

1902-1910 — The **Brown Dog Riots** broke out annually in the vicinity of University College, London, at demonstrations held in memory of dogs vivisected at the College. British **National Anti-Vivisection Society** president **Stephen Coleridge** is convicted of libel for his description of the death of a small brown terrier at a 1903 public meeting. The verdict is perceived by the public as unjust, and escalates the protests.

1903 — Formation of the **Hong Kong SPCA**, which began animal sheltering in 1921, eradicated dog-eating and cat-eating in Hong Kong and the New Territories by the early 1980s, and since 2001 has worked to make Hong Kong a no-kill city, following the San Francisco model. The Hong Kong SPCA is the chief organizer of the *Asia for Animals* conference series. The Hong Kong SPCA works closely with the **Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden**, begun in 1951 by electricity tycoons Horace and Lawrence Kadoorie to teach animal husbandry. Initially the Kadoories helped refugees to feed themselves. Later the Kadoories recognized that protecting the habitat that the farm occupied mattered more than producing meat. Abandoning animal agriculture except for beekeeping, they converted most of the former pig barns and

(continued on page 20)



Road scene from Gujarat, India. (Ratilal Shah)

More Than A Meal:
*The Turkey in History,
Myth, Ritual, and Reality*
by Karen Davis, Ph.D.
Lantern Books (One Union Square West,
Suite 201, New York, NY 10003), 2001.
192 pages, paperback. \$20.00.

This review appears on the same page as the conclusion of the first installment of my “Chronology of Humane Progress,” an attempt to put into context the major ideas and events that over the past 3,300 years have often falteringly coalesced into the global animal protection cause of today.

The second installment ends with the major events of 1998, to give current and recent developments at least five years to settle before trying to decide what really made a difference and what was just part of the flow.

Even 1990 is too recent to judge from adequate distance, but as best I can determine right now, the two most significant animal protection events of that year were the first March for the Animals and the incorporation by Karen Davis of United Poultry Concerns.

The March was in effect the beginning of the end of the vivisection-focused first phase of the modern animal rights movement, in which the bad guys were someone else, doing awful things in either an academic ivory tower or Dr. Frankenstein’s castle. The formation of United Poultry Concerns marked the start of the second phase, in which activists shifted their attention to what they could personally do to set an example and make a difference: fix feral cats, get involved in electoral politics, and go vegetarian or vegan.

There were active vegetarian communes in the U.S. more than seventy years before anyone founded a humane society, and there were many other farm animal advocacy organizations before UPC. Already integral to the animal rights movement were the Farm Animal Reform Movement (1981), the Humane Farming Association (1985), and Farm Sanctuary (1986). Henry Spira, the most accomplished anti-vivisection crusader of all time, had argued since 1985 that the movement should logically refocus on diet, since that would be the next opportunity to effect a steep reduction in what he termed “the universe of suffering.”

Neither was Davis the first to point out that chickens and other poultry, doing more than 95% of all the human-caused animal suffering and dying in the world, hold a far higher moral claim on humane movement consciousness than they have ever received. Spira recited that statistic like a mantra while pushing poultry baron Frank Perdue in futile hope of getting him to make reforms. Peter Singer, Jim Mason, and

The Raven Who Spoke With God *by Christopher Foster*
Singing Spirit Books (4127 Ash Ct., Loveland, CO 80538), 2001. 148 pages, paperback. \$12.95.

Joshua, *The Raven Who Spoke With God*, is more-or-less kin to *Jonathan Livingston Seagull*, the title-bird of the 1973 best seller by Richard Bach, reissued to renewed success in 1995. Those who like spiritual bird stories seem to be as enthralled with Joshua as they were with Jonathan, judging from the many rave reviews published elsewhere.

Author Christopher Foster sold me on reading his book, however, by describing it in a telephone call as being about raven intelligence, inspired by mutual acquaintance Bernd Heinrich, who authored *Mind of the Raven* and *Ravens In Winter*. But Joshua, though identified as the equivalent of a teenaged bird, struck me as seeming less like any real bird than like a rather rootless human male having a midlife crisis.

Whether or not this describes Foster himself, I have not a clue.

The one really interesting idea I found in *The Raven*

Who Spoke With God is the notion that ravens might be trained to do search-and-rescue work. That would not be a far stretch of raven capabilities and habits. Ravens long since learned to be the avian scouts for coyotes, wolves, and armies on the march, giving away the locations of ambushes, for example, by congregating where they expected there would soon be corpses. I have watched wild ravens as they helped a coyote to locate a poached but unrecovered deer carcass, and have followed ravens to find and remove baited leghold traps. Though they did not mean to tell me that they had discovered a meal, which they did not realize could be deadly to them because of the traps, they shared the news of their finds with others, and when I saw them gathering, I investigated.

Few creatures “volunteer” more information to the keen observer than a raven, few are as sociable, and as Heinrich discovered, few are quicker to learn. —M.C.

Speaking for turkeys

Those who know chickens really well are aware that they do not limit their circle of compassion to their own kind. They can practice cannibalism, and roosters notoriously fight to the death, yet a hen will faithfully sit on any eggs she is given, and will mother the hatchings to the best of her ability whether they are close relatives, reptiles, or even a neonatal kitten placed in the nest to keep warm—and not because hens are too stupid to know the difference. On the contrary, many hens will somehow know enough to lead ducklings and goslings to water, will lead other birds to whatever they need, and will even try to lead a kitten to kibble, skipping the nursing stage perhaps because they simply lack the means to nurse.

I like to think that such an instinct is why The Little Red Hen wrote *More Than A Meal* on behalf of turkeys—and made it her best book yet. Davis has done some first-rate investigative reporting to chase down the origins of myths about turkeys, and the origins of turkeys themselves. Her writing is passionate, yet not shrill. For me, on a recent flight from San Francisco to Seattle, it was a page-turner, opened at takeoff and completed right at landing.

As we taxied to the gate, the young man across the aisle and one row back tapped me on the shoulder, and asked if he could have the title, in order to buy his own copy. He had been reading along with me, he explained, and got hooked.

Handing him my card, I expected to hear that he was an animal rights advocate and militant vegan.

Not at all. He was a second-generation wildlife biologist. His dad was restoring huntable turkey populations not far from Davis’ home in Virginia. Still, the young man never knew before that there was so much to know about turkeys, and he sounded as if the Little Red Hen had ensured that he would never see turkeys the same way again. —M.C.

CHRONOLOGY OF HUMANE PROGRESS, PART ONE (continued from page 19)

hen houses into wildlife rehabilitation facilities for injured raptors, primates, turtles, snakes, and non-native wildlife confiscated by law enforcement. Kadoorie Farm also runs captive breeding programs for several endangered native species, and still propagates some rare varieties of native livestock. Since 1995, however, the main work of Kadoorie Farm has been teaching thousands of visitors per year, including official delegations from the mainland, about the importance of protecting animals and habitat.

1905 — Fifty-four years after bird painter and hunter **John James Audubon** died, 18 years after cofounding the **Boone & Crockett Club** with **Theodore Roosevelt** to regulate competitive trophy hunting, **George Bird Grinnell** in 1905 started the **National Audubon Society** to do the same for competitive birding. Birding, until **Roger Tory Peterson** popularized nonlethal verification of sightings with a camera during the 1930s, was done mainly with shotguns. Audubon was honored in the title of the organization as the shotgunner with the longest and best-verified “life list” of birds killed. The evolution of the National Audubon Society into an group with an authentic interest in bird conservation was a slow and apparently still incomplete process, owing to a continuing close alliance with other pro-hunting groups.

1905 — **Jack London** publishes *White Fang*, attacking pet theft and dogfighting, and uses the popularity of the book to support **George Angell** in a successful effort to drive dogfighting off the sports pages of respectable newspapers.

1914 — Formation of the **Performing Animals Defence League** leads Britain to pass the Performing Animals Act in 1925 and the Cinematograph Films Act in 1937, the first laws protecting animals used in otherwise legal entertainment.

1923 — **The American Veterinary Medical Association** formally approved the now standard surgical techniques for sterilizing dogs and cats.

1924 — **The League Against Cruel Sports** formed from a split within the **Royal**

SPCA. Anxious hunters responded in 1930 by forming the **British Field Sports Society**.

1930 — Massachusetts approved a ballot initiative to abolish leghold trapping, advanced by the **Massachusetts SPCA**. The state Department of Wildlife did not enforce it.

1933-1942 — Nazi Germany adopted 32 “animal protection laws” in only 10 years. **Adolph Hitler** and **Heinrich Himmler** were more sympathetic toward animals than toward much of humanity, and at times practiced vegetarianism, but vegetarian historian **Rynn Berry** reports that in Hitler’s case it was only when his personal physician ordered him to avoid meat to relieve constipation, and that Hitler never kept to a meatless diet for more than a few days. Hitler’s cook recalled in her memoirs that his favorite meal was roast squab. Certainly the Nazi s never encouraged vegetarianism for the masses. The Nazi agricultural policies emphasized increasing the meat supply through the introduction of factory farming (also pushed by the Soviet dictator **Joseph Stalin**), and the Nazi regime eventually liquidated all independent vegetarian societies as part of a consolidation of power after the outbreak of World War II. Further, many of the Nazi “animal protection laws” were actually thinly disguised cover for oppression of Jews, gypsies, and other minorities. The first two banned kosher slaughter; the last one barred Jews from keeping pets. The strongest Nazi influence on animal advocacy may have been on Jewish activists who endured the Holocaust and saw in it a parallel to the slaughter of animals for human consumption. Yiddish author **Isaac Bashevis Singer** may have been the first to invoke Holocaust imagery on behalf of animals. The comparison was later made by **Coalition for Nonviolent Food** founder **Henry Spira**, who survived Krystalnacht before escaping from Nazi Germany, and **Farm Animal Reform Movement** founder **Alex Hershaft**, who states that he knows what a veal calf feels like, living in tight confinement in the dark, constantly in terror, because he spent much of his childhood living in a closet to hide from the Nazis. The Holocaust metaphor is also used by *Animal Liberation* author **Peter Singer**

(*born in 1946*), whose entire family except for his mother and father were killed by the Nazis.

1936 — Hunting writer **Jay “Ding” Darling** founded the **National Wildlife Federation** as national umbrella for 48 state hunting clubs, organized to institute the funding of wildlife conservation through the sale of hunting licences. This was meant to shield hunting from abolition by an increasingly disgusted public.

1940 — **The American Humane Association** begins supervising U.S. film productions, by contract with the **Screen Actors Guild**, amid public outrage over the deliberate driving of a horse over a cliff during the making of the 1939 film *Jesse James*.

1940 — **Walt Disney** produces the classic anti-hunting film *Bambi*, followed by *Dumbo* (1941), the first influential screen expose of circus elephant training; *Lady & The Tramp* (1955), offering a starkly desolate depiction of dogs on death row at the pound; *101 Dalmatians* (1959), blamed by furriers for flattening fur sales and for making Jacqueline Kennedy’s ocelot coat a 1960 presidential campaign issue; *Mary Poppins* (1964), including the earliest film depiction of fox hunt sabotage; and three pro-coyote documentaries and cartoon features released during the 1960s, when official U.S. government policy was to try to eradicate the species. Wrote **ANIMAL PEOPLE** publisher Kim Bartlett in 2001, “I am not the only animal activist who grew up watching Disney movies. I would go so far as to say that the late Walt Disney and the company he founded have done more humane education than all of the animal groups put together, and the effect goes on and on because the Disney movies are never obsolete. Want to see Disney’s portrayal of a

hunter/trapper? Check out *The Fox & The Hound* (1981), or *Beauty And The Beast* (1993), or *The Rescuers Down Under* (1990). *Pocahontas II* (1999) vividly depicts bear-baiting, the favorite sport of Queen Elizabeth I, still practiced in Pakistan. See the first *Pocahontas* (1995) for the strongest attack ever on “sustainable use” as cover for wildlife exploitation. Disney heroines are always gentle, kind, and helpful to animals: Cinderella, Snow White, Aurora, Ariel, Belle, Pocahontas, and of course the Dalmatian heroines. With the scattered exceptions of Davy Crockett and a few other quasi-historical American heroes, the male heroes of Disney films rarely exploit animals—or when they do, the exploitation tends to be mixed with redeeming values. For example, a 1950s-era Disney film favorably depicted a mink farmer, because he allowed his son to keep an orphaned otter as a pet and later return the otter to the wild, despite the havoc the otter was wrongly accused of wreaking at a neighbor’s henhouse. Authentic Disney villains, on the other hand, are always mean to animals. Decades before any talk about ‘The Link’ appeared in other mass media, you could identify the bad guys in the opening scene of one episode of the 1958-1959 Disney TV series *Zorro* because they were the ones who had enjoyed a bull-and-bear fight. Even before *Babe*, now regarded as the landmark pro-pig film, Disney Productions gave us *Gordy* (1995), with terrifying scenes of a slaughterhouse...Watch *102 Dalmatians* and laugh as exploited immigrant laborers triumph over La Pelt in his sweatshop factory outside Paris, while the puppies bake the fur fiend Cruella DeVil into a cake in the *patisserie* next door. Good triumphs when the Second Chance animal shelter is awarded Cruella’s entire fortune

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J.D., Bull, Voltaire, Alfred the Great, Isaiah, and Vincent share a meal. (K.B.)

The Nine Emotional Lives of Cats:
A Journey Into The Feline Heart
by Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson
Ballantine books (c/o Random House, 1540 Broadway,
New York, NY 10036), 2002. 240 pages. \$24.95 hardcover.

Cats, enigmatic creatures, what are they all about? What are their emotions? How do they experience the world?

Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson, author of *Dogs Never Lie About Love* (1997), who now lives in New Zealand with five cats, purports to reveal many feline secrets in *The Nine Emotional Lives of Cats*. Other observers might disagree with many of his beliefs.

According to Masson, the nine basic emotional states of cats include narcissism, love, contentment, attachment, jealousy, fear, anger, curiosity, and playfulness, often in mixed combination.

The independence of cats is perhaps their best known trait. All cats have their own agenda, which they will not alter to fit ours. Cats cannot be controlled, resist calls to come, move, or obey, and do not seem to care if they drive us crazy. A cat may feel uncomfortable to see us becoming angry with whatever the cat is doing or refusing to do, but cats never seem to feel guilty over disobedience.

Masson traces this to evolution. For ten million years cats lived as solitary hunters, interacting only with their mothers during the first weeks of their life, and with other cats as sexual partners from time to time. They were domesticated only about four thousand years ago. How can we expect them to alter the mentality of solitary dwellers in such a relatively short period of time, Masson asks?

Yet cats do genuinely love us. They miss us when we are absent, and if we are sad, they will often try to cheer us up. To demonstrate their love they will purr, rub against us, blink, and look away, all of which are signs of affection and trust in cat language.

Many cats choose a particular human to whom they become emotionally bonded. They then may expect their human to be only theirs, exclusive of relationships with other cats. Jealous cats usually do not exhibit jealousy of people or animals other than cats. Masson believes, contrary to the observations of other researchers, that male cats appear to be more often jealous than females.

Masson notes that baby kittens, at least in normal-sized litters, do not seem to be jealous of one another. Instead, each kitten simply chooses one nipple and shows remarkable fidelity to it. Nipple competition may develop, however, when the numbers of kittens exceed the number of nipples available.

Masson argues that cats are not jealous of other cats' possessions, as they possess nothing, are not interested in owning anything, and do not even fight over food, other than live prey. Cats are perfectly happy, he asserts, if they have a safe home, freedom of movement, and human friendship.

Though perhaps generally true of most cats, it is not difficult for people who have known many cats to think of exceptions.

When feeling secure, when trusting in their immediate environment, including in their relationships with nearby humans, Masson continues, cats are perfectly content with life. They can become so absorbed in their contentment, that it literally "rubs off" on us. For example, scientists have demonstrated that petting a purring cat tends to lower the blood pressure of stressed humans.

Cats can often read our intentions. They think about us on a regular basis, and seem to be quicker to trust us than most other animals, especially other species which have the ability to survive without human help.

Some cats take empathy to farther extremes. Masson describes the case of a devoted cat who threw himself out of a ten-story window after his human guardian had done the same and died. Though badly injured, the cat survived.

When in trouble, even half-tamed feral cats will often ask for our help and protection.

The narcissism of cats, Masson believes, may mean nothing more than that cats are happy to be themselves.

Some cats are well aware that they are pretty, and enjoy being looked at. They know how fine they are. On the other hand, cats also seem to understand when they are laughed at, and they mostly hate it, much like most humans.

What do cats feel toward each other? Male/female cat relationships usually seem to be purely sexual, Masson asserts, but mother cats may become very attached to their daughters. Cats can become inseparable from each other, humans, and dogs, Masson continues, but very rarely develop such attachments with other animals.

These assumptions can be debated. For example, many observers have noted that certain female cats, both domestic and feral, will accept only one male, and will vigorously express their affection for that male whenever they meet, while fighting off all others. Also commonly observed is that while some wandering toms kill kittens, tomcats of high status protect their kittens and territory from marauders, often in coalition with subordinate males. Although cats usually do not hunt or fight in packs, an exception can occur if an outsider threatens a colony. Then "deputy" cats may rush to the aid of the dominant tom.

The territoriality of cats may be their second most observed trait, and is shared by most wild felines. Cats resist relocation, if they perceive any choice about it. Neither do most cats readily accept new people in their homes, according to Masson—but there are gregarious cats in homes and businesses all over the world for whom greeting and welcoming visitors is a favorite occupation.

When cats have no need to fight for food and mating opportunities, they put their hearts into play. Cats express their affection for humans by inviting us to play with them, and also enjoy playing with each other. Often cat play will become a fight, but it will not be a serious fight, and a few minutes later the combatants may lick one another as if nothing has happened.

Some people believe cats are cruel, even sadistic, because they will often play with an injured mouse or bird. However cats do not appear to derive pleasure from the pain of the mouse or bird. Instead, it is re-enacting the hunt that cats enjoy, and they seem to have at least as much fun with catnip-filled toys, especially if the toys are capable of bouncing or rolling in unexpected ways.

Despite the attachment of cats to their homes and humans, Masson believes, a cat is rarely ever happy without some freedom of access to the external world. Feline nature requires attention to external stimulus. Cats of all species, including those kept behind zoo bars, familiarize themselves intimately with their surroundings and then watch, listen, and

Sonya Fitzpatrick, The Pet Psychic:
What the animals tell me by Sonya Fitzpatrick
Berkley Pub Group (c/o Penguin Putnam Inc., 375 Hudson St.,
New York, NY 10014), 2003. 272 pages, hardcover. \$21.95.

The Pet Psychic is just too dumb to finish.

In childhood, Sonya Fitzpatrick claims, she had a hearing impairment that made her relate better to animals and made her more aware of her psychic/telepathic powers. Then one holiday her father cooked her pet geese. Fitzpatrick became so traumatized that she turned off her communication with animals, and didn't start again until she was an adult.

Then, however, St. Francis came to her office and told her that she was to work to help animals, with the help of angel guides. Fitzpatrick moved to Texas from England to open a school of etiquette, but her husband told her how her pets back home were having a rough time. She started communicating with them telepathically and got them through their separation anxiety.

Now people employ her to heal sick pets, uncover the roots of depressive and aggressive pet behavior, and find lost pets.

For example, Fitzpatrick claims to have found a lost dog named Sugar. Sugar described the road she was walking on and how a lady in a cream-colored car picked her up and took her home. Fitzpatrick said Sugar did not feel hunger, so she knew that the dog was well taken care of.

Sugar told Fitzpatrick that when the lady picked her up, they passed a church on the right and a school on the left and...

Flashing Fitzgerald a picture of the room she was in, Sugar explained that the husband was telling the wife that they know her name and address from her collar and should return her. But the wife wanted to

keep her because she and the kids liked her. Sugar communicated that she was afraid she would never see her mommy again.

Eventually the people returned Sugar, in a cream colored car.

Regardless of the strength of Sonya Fitzpatrick's alleged psychic powers, Sugar seems to have a remarkable ability to identify human landmarks and understand human speech. If Fitzpatrick's description of Sugar's skills is taken at face value, Sugar may not have been lost at all, and even if she was, might only have needed a quick look at a roadmap to find her own way home.

Fitzpatrick purports to have known other animals with even stronger evident command of human language. As a child, for instance, she had a horse who told her all the community gossip. Later, after she moved to Texas, one of her dogs back in England told her the gossip from home. This dog mentioned that a neighbor had to go into the hospital, and that her housekeeper was doing a poor job of housecleaning. Does a dog know what a hospital is? And when many human families do not even know if a house is clean, is it plausible that a dog does?

Fitzpatrick loves animals. She encourages pet sterilization, discourages cruel and painful practices such as tail docking and dewclawing, and urges people to become pro-active and help animals in everyday life. For that I give her kudos. In many situations she relieves petkeepers' stress.

But is she telling them the truth? Reading the minds of animals and not people means that usually no one can say for certain.

—Lucy David

taste the air continually to detect small changes which may signify something of importance, such as the arrival of food, or a threat.

Cats in the wild alternate between lying in half-asleep ambush and making territorial rounds, in search of more promising ambush locations. When caged cats pace with a longing look in their eyes, says Masson, they are frustrated by their inability to roam.

Cats kept exclusively indoors or left alone in an apartment for the whole day may likewise miss their freedom to make rounds. We could enrich their lives by taking a companion animal, installing cat doors or indoor gardens, or by moving to accommodations more congenial to cats. Often furnishings and storage areas can be rearranged to multiply the territory for cats to explore each day.

Let sleeping cats lie, Masson believes, if you want to be in your cat's good graces. Though rarely angry with humans, cats resent disrespect of their wishes.

Men more often than women "rub cats the wrong way" by expecting obedience and attempting to "train" cats by showing them "who is boss."

Cats do not recognize bosses. They will accept the leadership of dominant cats, or humans they respect, but at all times are dignified creatures who "walk by themselves" rather than accepting any kind of mistreatment or humiliation.

Masson believes that cats are in general very good-tempered animals, whose occasional outbursts of anger tend to be short-lived. Neither do cats seek revenge, Masson opines, adding in another observation likely to be challenged that females are much less quick to anger than males.

His observations are not original. Indeed the pioneering tiger conservationist Jim

"Curiosity killed the cat" is an appropriate saying, Masson believes. Cat curiosity may originate from their hunting instinct, but they will often investigate a new object or strange noise for the mere pleasure of it.

Masson thinks this is a clue as to why cats sleep 16 to 20 hours a day: they need a good rest, he believes, in order to stay so alert when they are awake. Yet scientific researchers long ago demonstrated that cats are also uncommonly alert to even the most minute changes in their environment when seemingly sound asleep.

Cat senses are much more acute than ours: they hear three times better, and have the largest eyes of all domestic animals, relative to their body size. Cats see colors differently from humans, having fewer color receptors in their eyes because much of their inner eye surface is reflective, magnifying light so as to give them superb night vision. Thus cats see the world more-or-less as we do at twilight, with green and blue hues predominant. Yet wild cats appear to have at least some ability to see the full color spectrum.

Masson concludes that there is still much we do not know about cats, and much that is observed but not yet deciphered. Certainly cats do not always understand our behaviour either—but, though cats "walk by themselves," they rarely walk far from us.

—Tanja Maroueva
(Tanja Maroueva, now living in Switzerland, cofounded the Moscow group profiled in the January/February 2003 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** as *People for Animals/Russia*. The group is now called VITA.)



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OBITUARIES

Fred Rogers, 74, died from cancer on February 27 at his home in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. A strict vegetarian, Rogers taught on his television show *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood* that “True wisdom is never separate from compassion.” Rogers debuted in children’s television in 1954 as a puppeteer for *The Children’s Corner*, aired by WQED-Pittsburgh. Ordained as a Presbyterian minister in 1963, Rogers was assigned to continue working in TV. Later in 1963 Rogers developed a 15-minute show called *Misterogers* for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. He returned the show to Pittsburgh in 1966, and expanded it into *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood* for the Eastern Educational Network. It was picked up by National Educational Television in 1968, which later became the Public Broadcasting Service. Rogers produced more than 1,700 episodes. He retired due to declining health in 2000, but returned to the air briefly in 2001 to reassure children about the goodness of the world and their ability to make it better after the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Garrett Lemire, 21, a bicycle racer just starting his professional career, memorialized by Jesse Phelps of the *Ojai Morning News* as a “dedicated vegetarian, political thinker, and animal rights advocate,” was killed in a freak head-on collision during the March 16 Tucson Bicycle Classic.

Susan Barber, 27, animal rights activist and University of Arizona second-year law student, was bludgeoned to death in her Tucson home circa March 2. Her boyfriend, Everett O’Quin, 25, was arrested in Alexandria, Louisiana, and is to be returned to Arizona to stand trial for her murder. Police investigators have not established a motive for the killing, but recovered evidence from the scene reportedly including marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Diane Steumer, 44, died from cancer on March 15 in Ottawa. Steumer and family sailed around the world in 1997-1999. Meeting Bali veterinarian and orangutan advocate Bayu Wirayudhaalong the way, Steumer became a major supporter of the Bali Friends of the National Parks Foundation, which seeks to protect orangutan habitat.

José Marco Ayres, 49, died from lung cancer on March 7 in New York City. Ayres developed an interest in primatology as a teenager in Germany. He earned a master’s degree in primate socioecology in 1981 at the University of São Paulo, Brail, doing field work at the São Paula Zoo and at the National Institute for Amazonian Research. He wrote his Ph.D. thesis on white uakaris in 1986, joined the Wildlife Conservation Society staff in 1990, and since 1992 was senior zoologist managing WCS programs in the Amazon region. His crowning achievement was “coordinating the creation of a protected zone bigger than Costa Rica,” including the Mamirauua Sustainable Development Reserve, started in 1996, and the Amana Sustainable Development Reserve, begun in 1998, when both were also linked to Jaú National Park.

Andree Valadier, 75, who founded the Societe Nationale pour la Defense des Animaux in 1973, died under mysterious circumstances at her Paris home circa November 15, 2002. SNDA board members were not told until January 28, Friends of Guenady founder Janne Sieben of Nice told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Valadir “did not die of natural causes,” Sieben said. “The autopsy showed that she had been given a shot of a shelter euthanasia drug and then, while she was still alive, her head was cut almost off,” apparently with a saw. “Mme. Valadier’s daughter, who helped her run the association, is missing,” Sieben added, expressing skepticism of the police theory that the daughter killed Valadier and then committed suicide. Valadier was author of *Le Grand Bluff Tauromachique*, an attack on bullfighting, was engaged at her death in a court battle seeking to close a large puppy mill, and had recently “intervened successfully with the Mayor of Paris to remind him that the law forbids using animals for prizes at public events and village fairs,” Sieben said.

Roland E. Kreibich, 80, remembered by Associated Press as “a fervent animal rights activist,” died on March 12 at his home in Auburn, Washington. Born in Glassert, Czechoslovakia, Kreibich was drafted by the Nazis in 1941, refused to bear arms, and was assigned to removing landmines. He later earned the Iron Cross, the highest German military honor, as a battlefield medic, before escaping the Wehrmacht with the help of an Austrian priest. He emigrated to Canada in 1951, and later moved to the U.S. After his wife Gladys died in 2000, Kreibich established a benefit fund for PETA in her honor.

Gwendolene Ferris, 74, of County Armagh, Northern Ireland, was found dead in her home on February 18 among the remains of up to 25 dogs and a donkey. A former judge at the Crufts dog show, Ferris left a significant estate for the benefit of her animals. The animals who survived her were rehomed.

ANIMAL OBITS

Roadway, a semi-feral cat known to many as "the cat who plays with deer," and famously photographed in an encounter with a wild turkey, was rescued by the Rocky Mountain Alley Cat Alliance in 1990 from a Denver warehouse after he arrived as a stow-away on a Roadway truck from Ohio. On March 19, 2003, one day after 51 inches of wet snow blanketed his habitat, Roadway developed a urinary tract blockage. Friends and neighbors hauled him one and a half miles by snowshoe and 20 miles by highway to a veterinary clinic, where after successful surgery he pulled a catheter from his leg and bled to death. —*Audrey Boag*

Adult Condor #8, one of the last 22 California condors left alive as of 1986 when she was captured from the wild and put into a captive breeding program in a last-ditch effort to save the species, was found dead on February 13 in Kern County, shot by a poacher. She may have been as old as 40. AC-8 was returned to the wild in April 2000, after hatching about a dozen young, but was recaptured for treatment in fall 2002 to be treated for lead poisoning, probably cotracted from ingesting fragments of lead shot while consuming a carcass. She was re-released on December 23. There are now 79 other California condors in the wild and 118 in captivity.

Elephant Lin Wang, also called Grandpa Lin, 86, believed to have been the oldest Asian elephant in captivity, died on February 26 at the Taipei Zoo, his home since 1953. Drafted by the Japanese army to drag cannon and supplies through Burma, Lin Wang was captured by Chinese and British forces in 1943. General Sun Li-jen took Lin Wang to China in 1945 and then evacuated him to Taiwan with a female companion, who soon died, in 1947.

Sporty Old Joe Bailey, 37, was euthanized on January 22 due to cancer. A registered American quarter horse, Bailey was a ribbon-winning barrel racer in his youth, and then part of a sheriff’s posse. In retirement near Kushla, Alabama, he was often reported to the Mobile County SPCA as a suspected neglect case, because of his bony appearance, but humane officer Elizabeth Flott learned upon investigation that his biggest problem was an inability to digest all the rich food such as corn and apples that passers-by tried to feed him. “He was like a 110-year-old man,” Flott told *Mobile Register* staff reporter Karen Tolkkinen.

Hawkeye, 22, the star performing California sea lion at Zoo Negarain Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, since 1986, died on February 24.

Wolf #2, imported from Canada to help lead the Yellowstone National Park wolf restoration in January 1995, lost his place as alpha male of the Leopold Pack in November 2002, and was found dead on New Year’s Eve, killed by members of the Geode Pack. Wolf #2 raised eight litters of pups with his longtime male, Wolf #7. The pups grew up to replenish the Leopold Pack and form the Swan Lake Pack. Wolf #7 was found dead, a probable victim of other wolves, in May 2002.

Hugo, 42, a male Asian elephant nicknamed “The Master of Disaster” for the gusto with which he smashed ice blocks, destroyed snowmen, and broke down doors, died unexpectedly from an unknown disease on January 17 at the Oregon Zoo, his home since 1983.

Veko, 11, a German shepherd police dog handled by Officer Hank Minor of Manchester, Connecticut, was euthanized on February 23 due to incurable conditions of age. Veko received the Daniel Wasson Memorial K-9 Award for 2001, the top honor for Connecticut police dogs.

Ivan, 20, the oldest known Siberian tiger in North America, was euthanized on January 9 due to conditions of age. Born at the Fort Worth Zoo, Ivan had lived at the Potter Park Zoo in Lansing, Michigan, since 1989.

Meena, 33, a female chimpanzee born in Sweden, brought to India in 1995, died on February 19 at the Mysore Zoo, 24 hours after undergoing an emergency amputation of a gangrenous right arm that was allegedly crushed on purpose by four corrupt employees, in retaliation for improved security measures that curtailed their thefts. The four men allegedly also killed a boar and an emu. They were arrested and charged after a week-long investigation.

Shiva, 22, a male chimpanzee recently rescued from a circus by People for Animals/Chennai, along with his companions Ganga, 43, Lakshmi, 22, and Guru, 10, died in quarantine on March 16 at the Arignar Anna Zoological Park in Vandalur.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Fritz, the love of my life. — <i>Edna Paine</i>
In memory of Prissy, my lost kitty. — <i>Russell W. Field</i>
In memory of Bonnie & Bentley. — <i>Mollie W. McCurdy</i>
In memory of Petey Brown, our beloved kitty for 15 1/2 years — <i>Shirley & Irwin Brown</i>
In memory of Purr Box (12/3/87), Prometheus (3/21/81), Friendl (10/30/87), Lizzie (5/8/84), Boy Cat (12/26/85), Miss Penrose (11/18/98), Duke (11/1/98) and Blackie (9/9/96).

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(To be continued, 1945-1998, in May.)

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August 1-5: *Animal Rights 2003/West*, Los Angeles, Calif. Info: c/o FARM, <chair@animalrights-2003.org> or <www.animalrights2002.org>.

August 16-17: *United Poultry Concerns Forum*, Boulder, Colorado. Info: <www.upc-online.org>.

