Dogs at the Fundatia Daisy Hope. (Kim Bartlett)

Demolition, eviction, & good deeds that save animal shelters

DELHI, CANCUN, BUCHAR-EST, MONROE (Ct.)—Two kinds of good deeds are the life and death of animal shelters: good deeds for animals, and good title deeds to the land they occupy.

Rescuers who try to do good deeds without good title deeds may find their hopes and dreams crashing down around them, as Friendicoes SECA shelter manager Geeta Seshamani of Delhi, India did on March 16, 2005.

Acclaimed worldwide for tsunami relief work in Tamil Nadu state and the Andaman Islands, Friendicoes SECA "just had a large chunk of its shelter ripped down by a demolition squad," Seshamani emailed to ANIMAL PEOPLE.

In addition to her regular work-load, Seshamani for the first six weeks of 2005 supervised operations at the Wildlife SOS sanctuary for rescued dancing bears near Agra, while Wildlife SOS co-founder Kartick Satnarayan directed the three Wildlife SOS/Friendicoes SECA tsunami relief teams. The field work left both institutions shorthanded.

Then Wildlife SOS took in 15 bear cubs after a series of raids on poachers

and traffickers in Goa and Karnataka states. Nine of the cubs were so young that they required bottle feeding. Seshamani is the usual surrogate mama bear in such cases.

But no situation is so hectic that it cannot get worse.

"Have not slept a wink for the last two days and nights, running from pillar to post making petitions to all authorities," Seshamani continued. "Friendicoes has so (continued on page 19) National character & compassion (pages 3-4)

Pack ice slows start of seal hunt (page 13)

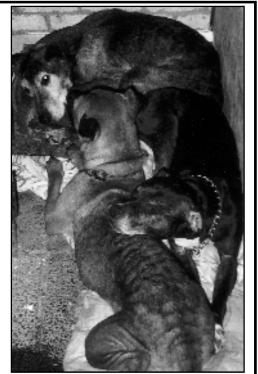
Ontario bans pit bull terriers

TORONTO—The province of Ontario, Canada, will on August 29, 2005 implement the farthest reaching ban in North America on the sale or acquisition of pit bull terriers, attorney general Michael Bryant announced on March 31.

Enforcement will be phased in over 60 days. A "grandfather clause" allows pit bulls already in Ontario or born within 90 days of the ban taking effect to remain, on condition that they are sterilized and are muzzled and leashed when out in public.

The Ontario pit bull ban was among several amendments to the Dog Owners Liability Act passed through the provincial legislature by the Liberal Party majority on March 1, 2005. Other amendments doubled to \$10,000 (Canadian funds) the maximum penalty for allowing a dangerous dog to escape control, and eased search-and-seizure warrant requirements for police and animal control officers who impound dangerous dogs.

The pit bull ban passed five days after three pit bulls rampaged through an



Rescued pit bullls & pit mixes. (Roger Troen)

Ottawa residential neighborhood, injuring three people, including two-year-old Jayden Clairoux. The dogs' legal owner, Shirdev Café, was charged with six Dog Owners

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ANIIVIAL PEUPLE News For People Who Care April 2005 Volume XIV, #3

Channel Islands National Park ex-chief hits cruelty of killing "invasive species"

SANTA BARBARA—Denouncing "systematic biologic genocide" committed by the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy in Channel Islands National Park, off the California coast, retired park superintendent Tim J. Setnicka has affirmed almost every criticism of the cruelty of "invasive species" eradication that animal advocates have issued since the killing in the islands began circa 1970.

Setnicka published his 3,500-word confession in the March 25, 2005 edition of the Santa Barbara *News Press*.

A globally recognized search-and-rescue expert, Setnicka developed his skills during approximately 30 years of killing non-native species in the Channel Islands. "The Park Service reassigned him to other duties before his retirement. He lives in Ojai," on the nearby mainland, the *News Press* said.

Setnicka was apparently brought to catharsis after viewing a slide show of the history of Channel Islands National Park at a celebration of the 25th anniversary of the official park opening.

"A large portion of the park's history revolved around killing one species to save another," Setnicka saw.

Efforts to eradicate non-native animals from the California coastal islands appear to have begun on San Clemente Island, south of Channel Islands National Park, in 1972. There the U.S. Navy shot 27,000 goats before killing the last one in 1990.

Critical of the slow pace of the Navy extermination program, the National Park Service and Nature Conservancy were much

more aggressive in the Channel Islands.

"Even before the park was established, park staff began shooting all the abandoned mules and donkeys on San Miguel Island," Setnicka recalled. "In 1976, then-Superintendent Bill Ehorn personally finished the eradication program by shooting the last pregnant jenny. On Santa Barbara Island, Bill and staff quietly shot the last hare in 1979. In the 1980s, Mac Shaver," Ehorn's successor, "completed the Santa Rosa Island pig eradication program," Setnicka continued.

"More than 1,200 pigs were killed, first by shotgunning from a helicopter, then by hunting them on the ground using vehicles and dogs. Some opposition developed," Setnicka said, mentioning the late Fund for Animals founder Cleveland Amory, "but a couple of controlled five-hour media trips to the island to look at pig-damaged vegetation took media interest away from the issue."

Amory in 1981 started the Black Beauty Ranch sanctuary near Tyler, Texas, to take in about 4,000 animals evacuated from San Clemente and Santa Rosa Islands, plus feral burros whom the National Park Service was shooting at the Grand Canyon.

Amory evacuated animals for three years, but "could not muster his troops in time to intercede and challenge the program," Setnicka remembered, largely because no film existed of the massacres.

"We never allowed the media to film the hunting. Safety reasons were always given as the reason for denial of their requests," Setnicka stated. "The real reason (continued on page 8)



Mustang awaits sale at the BLM Pyramid Lake adoption center in Nevada. (Kim Bartlett)

Galloping doubts about BLM wild horse sales ordered by Congress

WASHINGTON D.C.—The Bureau of Land Management and the buyers themselves tried to depict the first sales in a mass disposal of wild horses mandated by Congress as "rescues," by "sanctuaries," but horse rescue veterans are not all buying the dog-and-pony show.

The sales are required by a stealth amendment to the 1971 Wild and Free Ranging Horse and Burro Protection Act introduced by U.S. Senator Conrad Burns (R-Montana) in November 2004. The Burns amendment orders the BLM to sell "without limitation" any horse in custody who is 10 years of age or who has been offered for adoption three times without a taker.

About 8,400 of the 24,000 horses already in the BLM captive inventory were made immediately eligible for sale, and many of the remainder will be eligible by the end of the year. The BLM is also continuing to capture horses, with the stated goal of reducing

the U.S. wild horse population from about 37,000 to circa 28,000.

The very first transaction, 200 wild mares sold to the for-profit firm Wild Horses Wyoming, raised concern—especially after rancher Ron Hawkins, one of five partners in the venture, told the Laramie *Boomerang* that "There's a viable agri-product that will come out. These foals [expected from the pregnant mares] will be marketed, and we've got some tremendous marketing ideas...We'd like to get some sponsorship dollars to place these foals down in Third World countries or in Mexico where a little village may need some horsepower to clear a field or to run a pump and produce water."

Responded Willis Lamm of Kickin' Back Ranch Wild Horses, a wild horse rescuer for more than 25 years, first in California and now in Nevada, and a cofounder of the Alliance of Wild Horse Advocates, "Mexico

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POB 960, CLINTON, WA 98236-0960



March, 2005

Dear Partner,

I'm going to ask you a "what if?" question. Because if I just told you what's on my mind . . . you'd think I was nuts!

But before the "what if," do you believe in life BEFORE and AFTER death?

Most people automatically say "yes." They SAY yes. But do they really think it's true? Then if they think it's true, why do they scoff at anyone who offers proof of this truth?

Now, I can't tell you that I BELIEVE anything. Because I don't. I either know something or I don't know it yet. Belief is a word that is not in my personal dictionary.

I could tell you I know something . . . but without all of my experiences, you wouldn't "know" it just because I said that I do.

Instead, what I WILL do is tell you a "what if." You don't have to decide whether this is something I know or not. That part doesn't matter. I won't argue religion or other belief constructs with anyone. I will simply begin by asking . . .

... "what if?" ...

... what if the spirit of a most beautiful and pure being came to earth as an "innocent" ... an animal ... say a dog like Ellie?

And Ellie came here to bring the gift of unconditional love to one of us.

Ellie's life began very modestly, with her being nurtured by her mother, another pure being whom Ellie chose as the vessel through which to enter this world.

Back then, Ellie enjoyed the magical time . . . those first few weeks among other loving beings. But after that she got taken from her mother and siblings, and she eventually got passed to a family who thought she was cute . . .

 \ldots . . . so cute they just couldn't put her down \ldots . for the first month.

But then, as Ellie grew, the family cared less and less about her. She lived outside in a yard, until one day . . . when she was "taken for a ride" and dumped somewhere . . . far away from home.

Now this pure being, this little angel, our Ellie, felt the pain of hunger and also the more extreme pain of being abandoned by someone she had loved . . . purely.

Hardly able to stand the thought of her trip to Earth being wasted, Ellie searched for someone . . . some needy human . . . to give that love to.

And she found such a person. He was homeless, drunk most of the time, and he smelled very badly. But Ellie didn't care. She gave him her gift . . . she loved him. She didn't mind his condition at all.

For a whole year, Ellie lived under a sheet of plywood with him. She loved him and just wanted to be with him. Ellie even ate his garbage pickings with him. She thought it was a good life . . .



 \ldots until the man left one day, told her to stay, $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) +$

Ellie waited and waited . . . under a wise old oak tree. But the man never came back for her.

She roamed a bit, but she lived under that tree. Eventually, Ellie found one of our nearby feeding stations, so the pain of her hunger went away . . . but not the more severe pain of her loss.

Then this past fall, Ellie got pregnant. And when she had her kids, it was under the protection of that old oak tree.

Ellie knows that each of her six puppies is a very special spirit . . . choosing her through which to enter this planet. So with reverence, she nursed each one of them and kept them clean and healthy.

But Ellie was worried for each of them. What would become of them all? Being out there in the wilderness?

She wondered if she would see her children die in agony from disease. Or if she would have to watch them be torn apart by predators.

Would their trip here . . . to help us . . . be a wasted one, full of suffering? She wondered these things as she watched them play under the old oak.

Well, thanks to people like you, we were there for Ellie and her kids. I rounded them up, hugged each one, and loaded them in the van for the trip to our sanctuary. And they are all safe now at our mountaintop Supershelter . . . away from the floods that might have devoured them.

Each pup will grow and have a good life, a safe life. And when each one shares his love, we will be there to accept it thankfully.

Ellie and her kids are safe, and they can live a full life with us. But there is still more to this "what if"

Ellie made a long journey to come here. And while she's here, all of her experience becomes part of her . . . her memory, her soul.

When Ellie was alone and hopeless, we rescued her. Her journey would have been cut short . . . wasted. Her healing gifts not brought to this destitute planet.

But we saved her life. This is the big moment of Ellie's trip here. WE SAVED HER LIFE . . . so she could continue her soul's growth.

Ellie will take this event with her when she passes from this life. It will be with her always, for all eternity . . . your kindness.

Imagine if someone saved your life when you were a child . . . you would be grateful to this day. Ellie will be too . . . for all eternity.

What if . . . this were all true?

Then it would be impossible NOT to help these animals. All animals. To rescue them, love them, care for them . . . allow them to be free in the space you create for their safety.

It would be impossible NOT to fight for all animals, everywhere, all the time.

It would be impossible for me NOT to fight for all animals, everywhere, all the time. This is the secret I keep. It is sometimes unbearable to know who they really are, and yet to also know how much suffering they have to endure under our "stewardship."

We are cruel.

These precious spirits are being turned away daily. Their gifts of love REJECTED by **our arrogant species**. Their lives here CUT SHORT, their missions, ended.

Yes, there are a few happy ones. They take our love with them and they are forever bonded to us.

But the rest . . . dogs, cats, horses, cattle, sheep, squirrels, and all the rest . . . they will not return to us again . . . until the human race is no more.

What if . . . you knew all of this too?

Then every animal, everywhere, is a sacred being. And you would help them all. It would be impossible for you NOT to help them . . . it would become your life's work too.

And you would help ANY animal who crossed your path, physically or spiritually. You'd even make it so your own life's work here would go on and help future animals' spirits after you have passed.

Just know, or if you don't, then imagine . . . that we really do go on.

For the animals,

Leo Grillo, founder

D.E.L.T.A. Rescue

PO Box 9, Dept AP, Glendale, CA 91209

Editorial feature

Josphat Ngonyo of Nairobi, Kenya, in 1999 founded Youth for Conservation to clear poachers' snares from the Kenyan national parks. In 2004 Ngonyo helped to create the Kenya Coalition for Wildlife Conservation, including YfC, which persuaded Kenya President Mawi Kibaki to veto a bill heavily backed by Safari Club International and USAid that would have reopened sport hunting in Kenya, after a 27-year hiatus.

Novalis Yao of Abidjan, Ivory Coast, in 2000 formed *Monde Animal En Passion*, in response to conditions at the Abidjan National Zoo, once among the best in Africa but now a neglected ruin. While Yao cannot yet claim big victories, he has continued his efforts for quite long enough to confirm his dedication, under diffficult conditions, and has managed to build a small but visible animal welfare movement where formerly there was none.

Educated, outgoing, articulate, and multilingual, both Ngonyo and Yao could have sought personal fortune elsewhere long ago, had this been among their ambitions.

Instead, their common goal is to improve African treatment of animals. Ngonyo and Yao emphasize wildlife conservation, because the people of Kenya and Ivory Coast have unique opportunities to conserve rare species and enjoy the benefits of ecotourism, but they are also concerned about dogs, cats, and livestock, and can explain to anyone who will listen how improving the treatment of animals tends to improve the treatment of woman and children too. As Yao put it, in conversation at the 2003 All Africa Humane Education Summit in Cape Town, recognizing the rights of animals where women are still routinely traded for cattle will automatically raise the status of women, because women have only the status of animals.

Ngonyo and Yao each won a scholarship to attend the recent Compassion In World Farming international conference on animal sentience in London. Unfortunately, at almost the last minute Ngonyo was refused a visa and Novalis was given an appointment for a visa interview only after the conference had already started. Stumbling over stereotypes, British visa application reviewers could not believe—as one of them wrote, in similar words—that accomplished African gentlemen care enough about animal welfare to fly to a conference in England and then promptly return home to projects that pay them little or nothing.

Strong appeals on their behalf from CIWF and other animal groups did not help.

At the CIWF conference, polling data presented jointly by the International Fund for Animal Welfare and CIWF challenged any pretense by the British to moral superiority over the Vietnamese, Chinese, and Koreans in basic attitudes toward animals.

The British infrastructure of pro-animal laws, institutions, and educational media is much farther developed, reflecting a 200-year head start. Neither Vietnam, China, nor Korea had the political stability, the freedom of speech, press, and association, or the economic wherewithal to host an organized pro-animal movement of any kind until very recently. The oldest humane organizations they have are respectively less than five, 15, and 25 years old.

Yet in all three nations, latent support for pro-animal activity appears to have wanted only the opportunity to develop.

A MORI poll commissioned by IFAW with help from One Voice of France and the Royal SPCA of Great Britain in late 2004 asked 1,000 Vietnamese, 1,000 Chinese, and 1,000 Koreans to indicate how strongly they agreed or disagreed that humans have a moral duty to minimize animal suffering as much as possible.

A CIWF-commissioned MORI poll in early 2005 asked the same question of nearly 1,946 British citizens.

77% of the Vietnamese respondents strongly agreed; 16% generally agreed.

The next highest level of strong agreement, 58%, was in Britain. 43% of Koreans strongly agreed, as did 30% of the Chinese.

Overall, 92% of Vietnamese respondents, 92% of Koreans, 91% of the British, and 90% of the Chinese accepted a human moral duty to minimize animal suffering.

Asked if the law should require humans to minimize animal suffering, 75% of the Vietnamese strongly agreed, along with 60% of the British, 31% of Koreans, and only 19% of the Chinese. But the gaps narrowed with general agreement added in.

92% of British respondents endorsed the use of laws to reinforce the human duty toward animals, as did 90% of the Vietnamese, 78% of Koreans, and 77% of the Chinese.

The data can be challenged. The Vietnamese and Korean samples were not proportionately weighted by age, region, gender, income level, and educational attainment of the respondents. The Chinese data was collected from Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, and Chengdu, a representative set of cities, but was not otherwise balanced. Accordingly, the

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data is not verifiably representative of each nation. It is also possible that some respondents told the pollsters what they thought the pollsters wanted to hear.

Yet there are also external indicators that suggest the data could be correct.

For example, 55% of Vietnamese and 47% of Koreans are Buddhist. Buddhism recognizes a moral duty to prevent animal suffering, albeit much circumvented.

Commented IFAW and CIWF in a joint press release, "The surprisingly strong proanimal stance of the Chinese, Vietnamese and South Korean public is in stark contrast to their governments' actions on animal welfare. There is only minimal welfare legislation in South Korea, frequently flouted. In Vietnam there is none. Although China has wildlife protection laws, Beijing decided in 2004 to delay introducing legislation protecting all animals."

The lack of legislation, however, hardly means nothing is happening.

On March 10, for example, the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and World Society for the Protection of Animals jointly announced that they had agreed in February to "establish a national task force for phasing out bear bile farms." The agreement "outlines government plans for registering and microchipping all bears in captivity and phasing out bear-breeding on farms, and for strengthening the ban on taking bears from the wild," the announcement said.

WSPA is also to develop a bear rescue center in Cat Tien National Park.

Representatives of 22 Chinese wildlife parks and zoos on March 12 agreed at a conference in Kunming, Yunnan province, to discontinue feeding live horses and cattle to captive lions, tigers, and other big cats. Three more institutions, among a total of 30-plus, reportedly signed on within the next week. Thus the agreement will apparently start with promised compliance by two-thirds or more of the Chinese wildlife park and zoo sector.

Once common in the U.S. and Europe, live feeding as entertainment at accredited zoos ended by 1960, and was last documented in the U.S. at the non-accredited Steel City Petting Zoo in Florida, closed by the USDA in 1996.

As in the U.S. and Europe, live feeding is on the way out in China because surveys discovered an adverse response from the public. Zoo operators promoted live feeding initially because attendance around the big cat cages peaked at feeding time, when the cats were most active. Many zoos found a secondary revenue source in selling poultry to visitors, to be thrown to the big cats, or in charging an extra admission fee for visitors to watch big cats killing large prey.

But such practices tend to attract warped thrill-seekers, who have little actual interest in animals, and typically drive away people who care about animals. In particular, live feeding scares away children—and their parents. As overall attendance declined, zoo management eventually learned to poll and pay attention to the feelings of non-visitors and one-time-only visitors, albeit with limitations.

Also as occurred in the U.S. and Europe, Chinese zoos and wildlife parks appear to be seeking a compromise that will let them keep their sadistic clientele while winning back families and animal lovers.

"The agreement refers only to large livestock, specifically horses and cattle," e-mailed Royal SPCA East Asia senior program manager Paul Littlefair. "It does not mention other species," Littlefair said, "so we should infer that pigs and goats, as well as poultry, rabbits, and mice, will continue to be used."

"As positive as it sounds, there are parts of this story which are not as black and white as they seem," agreed Animals Asia Foundation founder Jill Robinson. "We spoke with a China Wildlife Conservation Association official who clarified that, 'The agreement among the wild animal parks is an industry self-discipline protocol, not a law.' Reports stating that reserves or zoos that break the pledge will lose their operating licenses are not accurate.

"As there is no law or official regulation to protect animal welfare in China, industry self-discipline is currently the only way to regulate wild animal parks," Robinson continued. "We are advised that a zoo management regulation might be enacted later this year, which may include content about animal welfare and possibly protection of birds and small animals."

By then the Chinese zoos and wildlife parks may learn, as their western counterparts did, that there is no compromise between promoting and prohibiting cruelty that will satisfy people who have decided for themselves that cruelty is offensive.

Live feeding at zoos, also recently reported in Egypt, is only one issue exemplifying a cross-cultural and almost universal ethical dilemma. Asian, western, and Islamic cultures have in common that they are challenged, stressed, and even destabilized by spreading recognition that cruelty to either animals or humans is not wrong only when done for amusement, or as part of producing food and clothing, but inherently wrong, in any context.

Throughout history, and perhaps throughout our evolution, leadership has derived from the capacity of dominant individuals to inflict suffering upon unsubmissive subordinates and outsiders. Legal justice emerged to help limit and direct cruelty, not to ban it entirely.

Even in ethically advanced societies, which have halted public executions and torture, dispensing justice remains inextricably linked to meting out punishment. Punishment is still linked to dominance displays that chimpanzees could understand. The use of rehabilitative treatment in place of societal revenge is just a few generations old, and so imperfectly developed that recidivism—the tendency of criminals to repeat crimes—still sabotages most attempts to use it. Prolonged incarceration under harsh conditions and the death penalty remain politically popular because they at least protect society from recidivism.

Ethical and compassionate people tend to favor the most restrained applications of punishment that promise to prevent crime, yet are unable—so far—to devise methods of justice that succeed without making anyone suffer.

This dilemma is not newly recognized. The Hindu/Buddhist/Jain and Judeo/ Christian and Islamic morality systems each have addressed it through the centuries by distinguishing in different ways between transgressions against specific individuals or institutions, which tend to have tangible effect, and transgressions against the stability and well-being of collective society, which may have only potential cumulative effect, for example gambling, intoxication, fornication, blasphemy, and idleness.

Transgressions against individuals and institutions are usually prosecuted here-andnow, if the offenders can be apprehended. Trial and punishment for transgressions against the social order may be reserved for the judgement of a deity. The punishment may be as severe as eternity in hell or reincarnation into a much lower life form, but the actual infliction of suffering is deferred, in recognition of the limited human ability to see what harm actually results from misdeeds which have no obvious or immediate victims.

In general, with many exceptions specific to time and place, the Hindu/Buddhist/ Jain morality systems allocate to criminal law what has material definition, and to karma, or the fate of the individual soul, whatever is not materially defined. Sins without specific material consequence tend to be punished by public approbation. This may circumscribe social and economic standing for generations. Nonetheless, Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain societies rarely seek to prevent sins other than material crime through the use of criminal penalties.

By contrast, the Judeo/Christian and Islamic religions are actually based on extensions of the use of criminal law to try to prohibit activities which may harm the soul. Especially in Judeo/Christian societies, the social strictures upholding morality may be weak or inconsistent, but laws exist to govern a broad range of conduct rarely formally regulated under Buddhism and Hinduism.

(continued on page 4)

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The Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain religions have recognized a moral obligation to prevent animal suffering for more than 2,500 years, and have encouraged charity toward animals.

Yet, even though the early Buddhist rulers Asoka of India and Arahat Mahindra of Sri Lanka enacted national animal protection laws before 250 B.C., animals in southern Asia have chiefly been protected by custom and public opinion.

Where time, outside cultural influence, and the pressures of poverty have eroded the meaning and moral force of the ancient pro-animal teachings, there have usually been no enforceable laws to restrain the ruthless.

Live markets, eating dogs and cats, wildlife poaching and trafficking, cockfighting, and other abusive practices have persisted for centuries as the vices of conquerors and affluent oligarchs, whose ability to command public cruelty has defined their privileged position.

Mosaic law, codified even earlier than Hindu, Buddist, and Jain teachings, prohibited a variety of practices harmful to animals, and prescribed kosher slaughter to try to minimize the suffering of animals who were to be eaten. Though Mohammed incorporated most of the same teachings into Islam, only *hallal* slaughter has received comparable emphasis, much separated from the original context. Mainstream Christian theology all but excised any concern for animals within a generation of separating from Judaism.

Paradoxically, because the laws of Judeo/Christian and Islamic cultures have always addressed personal morality as well as actual crime, the distance in Judeo/Christian and Islamic nations from culturally recognizing a virtue in kindness to animals to proactively prohibiting cruelty toward animals has usually been remarkably brief. In some nations, including modern Israel, which started without a secular humane law, the transition has occurred in less than one human lifetime.

Our own time, in the west, is seeing the gradual redefinition of cruelty from a subject of only lightly reinforced personal morality, to a subject of criminal law. This proceeds largely from growing recognition that cruelty toward animals erodes social values.

Also important and gaining momentum is increasing recognition of animals as sentient beings, who like humans possess what Bill of Rights framer Thomas Jefferson termed "certain natural inalienable rights." While most humans stop short of conceding to animals the rights to life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness, a right to not be tortured is perhaps more broadly accepted for animals than for battlefield enemies and convicted criminals.

That animals may have moral standing comparable or equal to that of humans has been accepted in Asian philosophy to some extent for thousands of years. Yet hardly anyone, human or animal, has enjoyed legal rights to the extent that westerners recognize them.

The change underway in Asa is the transformation of theocracies, including Communist governments opeerating as quasi-state religions, into secular states which recognize individual rights. The challenge for animal advocates is to ensure that individual rights are extended to nonhumans, as well as people, so that newly conferred human rights do not license and perpetuate cruelties that most Asians disapprove of, do not participate in, and might otherwise prohibit as recognition spreads that cruelty can be banned by use of democratic law.

The conflict between the extension of secular human rights and the effort to establish basic animal rights is especially intense right now in South Korea.

The underlying public issue is the demand for dog meat by older men, the most privileged class in an oligarchic and patriarchal society. If the dogs suffer in death, the consumers believe [contrary to science], their meat will become suffused with adrenalin, and have aphrodisiacal value.

Less discussed, also causing horrific suffering, is the use of a tonic for older women made by boiling cats alive.

These practices have long had the social status, or lack thereof, of vice. The providers of dog and cat meat are an underclass, shunned by most people yet protected from expulsion from society by their role in catering to the rich and influential. Only about 6% of South Koreans either eat dogs and cats or work in the dog and cat meat industry, but the consumers include President Roh Moo-hyun, many other prominent politicians, and the owners of big businesses, including some of the largest news media. This is approximately the same status that sport hunting has in the U.S. and Britain.

While British hunters seek ways around the recently adopted national ban on most forms of pack hunting, and are organizing in opposition to an anticipated drive to ban captive bird shoots, U.S. hunters rush to enshrine a "right to hunt" in state constitutions—usually succeeding, despite their dimin-



Ex-bile farm bear rescued by the Animals Asia Foundation.
(Kim Bartlett)

ished numbers, just as British hunters forestalled efforts to ban foxhunting for decades after opinion polls first showed majority support for a ban.

In South Korea, where dog and cat meat sales have nominally been banned under an unenforced law since 1991, the current guise for trying to legally preserve the industry is a "consumer protection" bill approved on March 9 after five months of review by the cabinet-level Ministry of Office for Government Policy Coordination.

"The Korean government is presenting their attempt to legitimize the dog and cat meat trade as a combination of protecting dogs and cats with protecting public health and the environment," explained International Aid for Korean Animals founder Kyenan Kum. "You cannot protect dogs and cats while developing a policy to hygienically control dog and cat meat production. The Korean government has long argued that to reduce cruelty to dogs and cats in the process of slaughter, they have to legalize the dog and cat meat industries—but if they genuinely wanted to reduce the cruelty to dogs and cats, all they had to do was to strengthen and enforce the existing Animal Protection Law."

While the dog-and-cat-eating debate raged, the Buddhist nun Jiyul Sunim completed her fourth hunger strike since February 2003 in defense of the endangered Mount Cheonseong clawed salamander and 29 other protected animal species, whose habitat she believes will be jeopardized by the construction of a railway tunnel. Her first strike lasted 38 days, her second for 45 days, her third for 58 days, and her fourth for 100 days. Each strike followed a broken promise by government officials, resembling some of the long series of broken promises about protecting dogs and cats.

Toward the end of Jiyul Sunim's most recent hunger strike, her caretakers turned away a visit from President Roh Moo-hyun.

Jiyul Sunim may be no closer to saving the clawed salamander *et al*, despite her exposure of political mendacity, than dog-and-cat meat industry opponents are to removing it from government protection. The South Korean government has already heavily invested in building the tunnel. Far more than the 6% of Koreans who eat dogs and cats are likely to use it, as it involves the most traveled intercity route in the nation.

What Jiyul Sunim has achieved is a dramatic reminder to Korean officialdom that the 47% of Koreans who practice Buddhism are supposed to protect all animal life, no matter how humble, and that many of the 49% who are Christian share an essentially compassionate if confused outlook.

Jiyul Sunim's hunger strikes might not have been undertaken and might not have won so much public sympathy if the species at risk had not been endangered, and if the threat had been cruelty rather than extinction.

Around the world, meat-eaters especially would like to maintain a "comfort zone" distinction between the global acceptance, in principle, of a species' right to survive and the rights of individual animals to not suffer. Throughout Southeast Asia, major branches of Buddhism have struggled for millennia to rationalize not observing the strict vegetarianism taught and practiced by the Buddha.

Still, a nation whose conscience can be awakened by the plight of a salamander and the protests of a previously obscure rural nun may not be far from recognizing an urgent moral duty to end the dog and cat meat industry. Certainly the IFAW/CIWF poll data suggests so.

Across the Yellow Sea from the Korean peninsula, in southern China and Vietnam, no laws exist against dog-eating, even on paper. Vietnamese consumption of dogs, especially in the north, rivals Korean consumption. Vietnam forbids eating cats and snakes, appreciating their role in controlling rodents, but China eats more dogs than the rest of the world combined. Guangdong, the only Chinese province where cats are often eaten, probably eats more cats than the rest of the world—and these are only two of the species suffering in the Guangdong live markets.

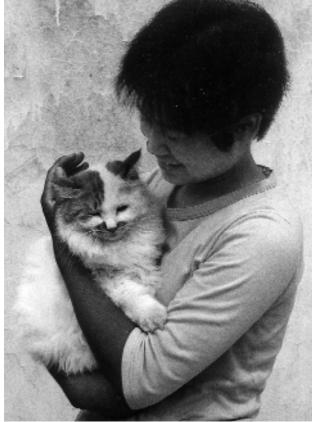
Yet there are hints that the Chinese and Vietnamese federal governments are fed up with the commerce. The live markets of Guangdong and northern Vietnam have in recent years spread Sudden Acute Respiratory Syndrome and repeated outbreaks of the deadly avian flu H5N1. They are depleting wildlife throughout Asia and even in parts of the U.S., where trappers are close to extirpating turtles to meet export demand.

Though the live markets of Guangdong have documentedly sold dogs, cats, and wildlife since the mid-14th century, their growth to present scale and prominence is relatively recent, reflecting the societal economic growth of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. The live markets are visibly cruel, attract foreign criticism, and are a frequent embarrassment to Beijing officials, who find the markets difficult to defend.

On November 2, 2004, the Chinese federal health ministry banned the slaughter and cooking of civets for human consumption, to promote "civilized eating habits," reported the state-run *Beijing Daily*. The ban could have been packaged as a disease control measure. As Associated Press observed, "The announcement came a week after the government said 70% of civets tested in Guangdong were carrying the SARS virus." Yet the announcement strongly indicated that civets are not believed to be the still unknown original host of SARS.

With Guangdong civet consumption abruptly curtailed. Cuc Phuong National Park near Hanoi, Vietnam, made a show of the export of three breeding pairs of Owston's civet to the Newquay Zoo, Thrigby Hall Wildlife Gardens, and Paradise Wildlife Park in England.

This was a conservation measure, on behalf of an endangered regional civet subspecies. But, like the Chinese ban on civet-eating, it was also a gesture of recognition that



A scene from the Beijing Human & Animal Environmental Education Center. (Kim Bartlett)

some decision-makers saw the horrified global response to the massacre of tens of thousands of civets in the 2003 SARS control effort, and had perhaps had the same feelings about it.

Other animals raised for the Guangdong live markets are still massacred in the name of disease control. China has tried since early 2004 to limit the culling of chickens and ducks by promoting vaccination, and has enjoyed relative success, compared with other nations which have had widespread cases.

But even though China is familiar with vaccination, officials are responding quite differently to canine rabies, in a manner mixing traditional Communist heavy-handedness toward dogs with hints that the goal might be to put some dog meat producers out of business—if only to protect others, who may be in greater political favor.

On March 15 the state-run Xinhua News Agency reported that there were 244 reported human rabies cases in western Guangdong in 2004, up 41% since 2003; that all dogs were being killed within a 2.5-kilometre radius of any village where rabies occurred; and that 60,000 dogs were killed in 2004 to contain rabies outbreaks.

The initial public statements blamed rabies, and the killing, on careless petkeepers. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** pointed out through ProMed, the moderated online forum of the International Society for Infectious Diseases, that dogs are not often kept as pets in Guangdong, but that Guangdong is the hub of the Chinese dog meat industry, and that dogs raised for meat are exempt from the anti-rabies vaccination requirement that is stringently enforced against individual petkeepers.

These are points that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has made repeatedly in recent years.

Reaching deep into China, ProMed was among the many online information sources that cracked official secrecy about SARS and avian flu several years ago. Perhaps the ANI-MAL PEOPLE response had something to do with the revised version of the Xinhua News Agency release that was distributed just a few hours later.

This time an unnamed official with the Guangdong Provincial Bureau of Health "said that poor oversight of dograising, increases in the number of unregistered dogs, and fewer dogs being vaccinated all have contributed to the spread of the epidemic."

It was the first known admission by the Chinese government that producing dogs for the live markets has a role in perpetuating the recurring Guangdong rabies outbreaks.



Attorney General Long Is Supposed

To Be *Fighting* Crime.

As seen in The Argus Leader, Rapid City Journal and Capitol Journal, South Dakota

But Is He Aiding And Abetting It?

magine receiving evidence of a crime—
including videotape and statements
from dozens of eyewitnesses—then not
only ignoring it, but tipping off the perpetrators
so they can clean up the crime scene!

Over a year ago, the Humane Farming Association (HFA) submitted a 70-page complaint as well as hours of videotape and 800 pages of worker testimony to Attorney General Larry Long. HFA urged him to enforce the state's anti-cruelty laws at the Sun Prairie hog factory farm on the Rosebud tribal lands in Mellette County.

Sun Prairie's own workers stated that sick and injured pigs were abandoned in barn alleyways to die of starvation and dehydration. Hundreds of piglets, trapped between floor slats, were also left to starve to death. Other pigs were routinely beaten to death with hammers and gate rods. Conditions were so bad that larger pigs commonly attacked and ate smaller and injured pigs alive.

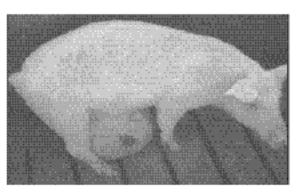


This injured pig is being attacked by overstressed penmates. With no intervention, he, like many others, will be eaten alive.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S COVER-UP

When presented with this evidence, Larry Long, the state's highest law enforcement official, refused to act on it. Instead of obtaining a search warrant so investigators could conduct a surprise inspection, the Attorney General's office announced it was going to visit the facility, allowing Sun Prairie time to hide evidence.

According to employees, management gave instructions to drag sick and dying pigs from pens and to kill debilitated pigs that had been left to die in alleyways.



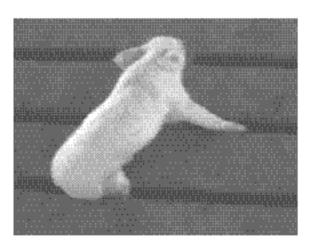
Pigs exhibiting abscesses and ruptures are left neglected. The abdominal rupture on this pig is so big he can scarcely walk.

Truckloads of diseased pigs were also shipped away from the site, workers said.

An unannounced inspection and a proper investigation likely would have uncovered evidence of ongoing criminal violations at Sun Prairie. But Larry Long failed to do either.

"Attorney General Long failed to interview a single eyewitness who provided evidence of criminal wrongdoing."

Months after the Attorney General's pre-announced "inspection," HFA obtained additional evidence—photos of emaciated pigs, sick and dying pigs in alleyways, rampant cannibalism and other flagrant violations.



Like hundreds of others, this piglet will slowly starve to death after becoming trapped between floor slats.

In the summer of 2004, this evidence of continued abuse was given to the Attorney General's office. Once again, nothing was done.

Attorney General Long appears determined to ignore this horrific animal abuse and to shield Sun Prairie from prosecution.

In fact, Long failed to interview a single eyewitness or worker who provided evidence of criminal wrongdoing. Even though these whistleblowers put themselves at great personal risk to do the right thing, they never received so much as a phone call from the Attorney General's office.

Unless Attorney General Long does what he was elected to do, animals at Sun Prairie will continue to suffer slow and agonizing deaths, violent beatings, and the misery of untreated disease.



Pigs are commonly left to die in alleyways.

Please contact Attorney General Long and demand that, as the state's top law enforcement official, he take his duty to enforce state law seriously. Urge him to act immediately to end the abuse and to prosecute Sun Prairie to the fullest extent of the law.

The Attorney General can be reached at:

Lawrence E. Long
Office of the Attorney General
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070
PHONE (605) 773-3215
FAX (605) 773-4106

ETTERS

6 - ANI MAL PEOPLE, April 2005

Thanks

Thanks for sending ANIMAL PEOPLE and I must congratulate you for investigating details and info.

Hardly any issue of yours does not have useful info, and we maintain a separate clipping file for ANI-MAL PEOPLE.

Your December 2004 edition gives a good analysis of funding for animal welfare organisations. Every year your summary of funds received by different organisations is also kept by us, and we also disseminate these to many people and NGOs.



—Laxmi Narain Modi Ahimsa Bhawan F-125 Lado Sarai New Delhi, India 110 030 Phone: 011-29523250 <shakahar@vsnl.net>

Gambian donkey club

We strive to find ways of getting our message about animal welfare across in a way that is fun and not too judgemental. We encourage everyone to name their animals, as this builds a bond and they regard an animal who has a name somewhat differently. Chrissie, our manager, has started the Gambian Donkey Club, to teach the children who care for the donkeys about welfare and management. She discovered that the children all love football, so suggested that they name the animals after their heroes.

Recently three men arrived at our center being pulled along by a donkey with attitude. They brought him to see if they could buy a headcollar, bridle, and bit, as this donkey was uncontrollable. The donkey was called Manchester United, because there was no stopping him, and he was stronger than any

I wrote to Sir Alex Ferguson, the manager of Manchester United Football team, to tell him this story and he very kindly sent out two sets of full team strips (uniforms) for our village football team. You can imagine the delight! The only problem was that they play barefoot as they have no boots, but when the football socks came, they wanted to wear them.

The villagers feel this gift came as a result of the donkeys, so the donkeys are held in slightly higher esteem, and have become mascots of the football team. To show their status, they now all have to wear red headcollars!

This worked well for us, as the Gambian people are humorous and have a good sense of fun, but a charity farther north tried involving football and it didn't work there at all.



-Heather Armstrong The Gambia Horse & Donkey Trust Brewery Arms Cottage Stane Street Ockley, Surrey RH5 5TH United Kingdom Phone: 01306-627568

Executive Director Animal Rights Intl.

Activist priorities

Kathy Perlo, in her letter, "Praise for editorial 'Prioritizing animal and human suffering," published in your March 2005 edition, makes an excellent case for putting a high priority on improving conditions for animals. However, I respectfully believe that since many people argue that they can't be concerned about animals when humans face so many problems, we should stress that improving conditions for animals also has many benefits for people. Without reducing efforts to make people aware of the many horrendous examples of the mistreatment of animals, we should also point out that a shift toward vegetarianism is a societal imperative because of the many negative environmental and health effects of animal-based diets, and a religious imperative, because production and consumption of animal products violate many basic religious mandates, including those involving treating animals with compassion.



-Richard H. Schwartz, President Jewish Vegetarians of North America Phone: 718)-761-5876 Fax: 718-982-3631 <rschw12345@aol.com>

Kalahari Raptor Centre

The Kalahari Raptor Centre is the only registered wildlife rehab center in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa, an area about two-thirds the size of Great Britain. Founded seven years ago, we specialize in the care of raptors and predators.

Working with wild animals has taken its toll. Tendonitis in cofounder Beverley Pervan's elbows has left her with chronic severe pain in both arms. Cortisone injections proved ineffective and orthopedic advice was that she would have to rest her arms completely or even surgery could not help.

After spending 14 months seeking persons to take over responsibility for the many birds and animals under care at KRC, we have been fortunate to find a British family, the Finlays, who meet the criteria. They previously ran a small rehab facility in West Africa. They took over from us at the end of March 2005.

We will move closer to Cape Town, where our son lives, and where Bev can get all the medical attention she needs to restore her health.

Our enforced retirement will not affect our campaigns to ban canned hunting and cruel methods of problem animal control. Our booklet Canned Lion Hunting -A National Disgrace goes into the bookshops this week.



-Chris Mercer Phone: 082-967-5808 <info@cannedlion.co.za> <www.cannedlion.co.za>

THOUGHTS ABOUT EUTHANASIA

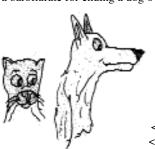
Euthanasia comes from two Greek words meaning "good To many animal control professionals, for a dog to have a "good death" merely means that the animal receives a lethal intervenous injection of a barbituate. In reality to have a "good death" is far more than just this.

In my years in animal welfare, I have observed dogs that have been poisoned, shot, gassed and electrocuted, in some of the most appalling circumstances imaginable. These dogs were clearly not having a good death. I have also observed dogs being administered pentobarbitone, who did not have a good death. Because barbiturates were used, this was termed "euthanasia," but "execution" would have been a more accurate term.

For example, I have seen dogs contained in a communal kennel adjacent to the room reserved for the final procedure. In theory this is good practice, for the dogs could not observe anything untoward. But the dogs were dragged through on catchpoles, defecating and urinating as they went—after being given a sedative. The dogs knew that something bad awaited them. There are many cues available to a dog, and to other animals, that we are just beginning to understand. Perhaps a fear message was transmitted chemically by the dogs who preceded them, or by the behavior of the handlers.

Compare this to the administration of euthanasia at a well run, caring veterinary clinic. The veterinarian may have a technician or nurse to assist, and the dog's human caretaker may be present. The dog is comforted throughout the entire process, spoken to gently, and treated with dignity.

There are many people in dog control who do care and do treat a dog with dignity during his final moments, but the mere use of a barbiturate for ending a dog's life may not be euthanasia. —Brian Faulkner



Stray Animal Solutions P.O. Box 5905 Poole, BH12 5ZX United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)1202 247072 Fax: +44 (0) 1202 388737 Mobile: +44 (0)7778 457999 <bri>description of the composition of the compo <www.strayanimalsolutions.co.uk>

GOOD WORDS FROM SRI LANKA

Your efforts to help vaccinate and sterilize orphaned cats and dogs after the tsunami will never be forgotten by the pet lovers of Sri Lanka. The veterinarians and the Humane Society International team had a tough ordeal to go to the camps and perform sterilization and vaccination under trying conditions in the midst of human suffering.

-Wolf

Clifton

We are grateful to Sherry Grant and Robert Blumberg for organising the campaign in a timely manner, despite the obstacles.

We at Pets V Care will give our full co-operation to eradicate rabies from Sri Lanka. We are confident that it can be done.

> —Bernard Peiris, DVM #35, Staples Street Colombo-02, Sri Lanka <bpeiris@gmail.com> <www.petsvcare.com/>

I have just read the January/February edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE, and was delighted to read the article on Sri Lanka highlighting Robert Blumberg's role in bringing relief to the animals of Sri Lanka. Bob has been truly an answer to prayer and this is not an exaggeration.

We do not have an organized national animal welfare program. Most of the work is done by a handful of individuals operating from their homes. Our few shelters are terribly overcrowded and short of funds.

Bob came and just threw himself into doing whatever he could. All of us are so grateful to him for everything he has done.

-Anusha David Colombo, Sri Lanka <packedge@blitzads.com>

Blumberg responds:

Anusha has actually been the moving force-we're a good team. She picked me up a number of times when I was at rock bottom, too. And she person ally rehomed 103 animals last year—all through her house!

Saving the street cattle of New Delhi

I was most interested to see your article about the absurdity of encouraging small-scale animal farming for the world's poorest people, especially in urban areas. We have been running our Mobile Cattle Clinic to try to alleviate the suffering of cattle in Delhi, India for the last two years, and can testify to the horrific neglect that these animals endure-from keepers, the public, and the cow shelters.

Actually, here in Delhi, the biggest threat to the welfare of the cattle now lies in being lifted from the city streets and deposited in one of the cow shelters, which in some cases offer nothing more than a place to die. A combination of

bad management and deliberate neglect mean that the cattle are effectively condemned as soon as they are captured by the Delhi Municipal Corporation. Starvation and lack of adequate drinking water overtake the inmates on a daily basis. We have seen many strong animals reduced to bags of bones in just a few weeks.

> -Jonny Krause, Trustee Brown Animal Welfare Foundation East Newton Farm Foulden, Berwickshire Scotland TD15 1UL

<jbfscotland@indiacattlecare.org> <www.indiacattlecare.org/> Phone/fax: 44-0-1289-386720

ARTIFICIAL COLORS, **PRESERVATIVES**

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration does not prohibit the use of artificial colors or chemical preservatives in pet foods, but because they are suspected carcinogens, have no nutritive value, and are unnecessary, the FDA does not recommend their use.

Purina, America's largest pet food producer, after many years of proudly advertising that its products contained no artificial preservatives or colors, last year added red, yellow, and blue artificial colors to most of its products. While several other pet food manufacturers continue to avoid these colors, they use risky chemical preservatives such as

BHA or BHT. To its credit, Purina continues to naturally preserve most of its pet foods with mixed tocopherols, a source of vitamin E.

Whatever brand of pet food you purchase, always check the ingredients. If there are artificial colors, or BHA or BHT preservatives, please call the toll-free number printed on the outside packaging and ask the manufacturers to stop using them. (Purina's toll-free number is 1-800-778-7462).

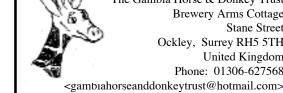
-Joel Freedman, chair Public Education Committee Animal Rights Advocates of Upstate New York Canandaigua, NY 14424

This little one will never face laboratory research or isolation or the beatings and stress of training to perform as "entertainment." She has found safe haven at Primarily Primates, among nearly 600 other rescued primates and 400 birds. We give them sanctuary for the rest of their lives.

Please help us to help them!







Executive Director Humane Society of South Mississippi Gulfport, Mississipp i

The Humane Society of South Mississippi, which was founded over 50 years ago, is entering a new era and needs new dynamic leadership. The turnaround at A started three vears ago and has been gaining momentum ever since. Adoptions are up over 40% to 4,200. Pet sterilizations have increased to a like number. The budget has more than doubled to \$1,300,000 and will increase to \$1,700,000 next year. A brand new 40,000 square foot with a 6,000 square foot spay/neuter clinic is under construction and will be finished in the late fall. We are an open-admission shelter, and received over 15,000 animals last year, down from 17,000 two years earlier.

HSSM is looking for a creative, passionate, intelligent leader who will be given wide latitude by its board to display his/her executive skills. You must have exceptional development skills and have excellent verbal and written communication skills. We expect that you will bring experience and knowledge that will professionalize our organization so that it will be one of the elite shelter operations in the country.

We require a bachelors degree and shelter management experience of at least five years. We place a very high emphasis on creativity, passion, and fundraising ability, but also require fiscal experience.

Please send a cover letter, your resume, and salary requirements to:

Eric Aschaffenburg Humane Society of South Mississippi 13756 Washington Avenue Gulfport, MS 39571

ETHIOPIANS FIGHT ON AGAINST DOG SHOOTING

I am writing to you on behalf of the Homeless Animals Protection Society of Ethiopia. I can not stress enough how bad is the situation in the struggle against the influence of the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Program at Bale Mountains National Park, where Efrem Legese and Hana Kifle put their own jobs and families on the line for the sake of animals. Such actions are rare, especially here in Ethiopia, where losing your job can mean starvation for your family.

Efrem had to send his children to relatives and take them out of school because he could not provide for them. Hana's family has been hurt, too. Their families do not understand why Efrem and Hana would risk their jobs for the sake of stray dogs. Even so, Efrem and Hana are trying to keep HAPS together and showing more courage, determination and integrity then anyone else I know in this field. They have continued to defend animals here in Addis Ababa. They have won governmental consent for implementing an Animal Birth Control program, and have increased membership in HAPS to almost 90 people.

They feel that the quarrel with the EWCP is now chasing them in the form of baseless and vicious rumors that hurt HAPS' good name and delay its progress. This is not only a disaster for HAPS, but for the abandoned animals of Ethiopia.

Please help us fight evil rumors in favor of people who really care.



—Einat Cohen
Homeless Animals
Protection Society
P.O. Box 14069
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
<einat_danieli@hotmail.com>

Editor's note:

Efrem Legese was formerly the Bale Mountains National Park acting head of finance and administration. Kifle, the first female to hold a senior post at the park, was head of development and protection.

The Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Program, sponsored by the Born Free Foundation and the World Wildlife Fund, began sterilizing and vaccinating pets and working dogs near Bale in 1999. Legese and Kifle helped. In March 2001 Legese sent ANIMAL PEOPLE extensive information about local homeless dogs. He argued that sterilization and vaccination should be extended to the homeless dogs.

ANIMAL PEOPLE publisher Kim Bartlett helped Legese and Kifle to form HAPS, helped them to obtain start-up funding, and arranged for them to obtain training at the Dogs Trust in London, the 2002 International Companion Animal Welfare Conference, and the All Africa Humane Education Summit in September 2003.

In July 2003 the EWCP quit sterilizing and vaccinating dogs at Bale, and—after HAPS opposition blocked an EWCP request for permission to shoot homeless dogs—claimed that there were no homeless dogs in the region. In five years, said the EWCP annual reports, it had vaccinated 1,475 dogs total. In October 2003, however, the EWCP would claim to have vaccinated from 2,000 to 2,500 dogs per year.

Kifle in August 2003 photographed an Ethiopian wolf with an apparent bite wound to her head, 25 miles from known wolf habitat and acting strangely. Believing the wolf to be rabid, Kifle reported the incident to superiors.

Kifle and Legese in late September 2003 expressed concern to ANIMAL PEOPLE that nothing was being done to halt a rabies outbreak which appeared among dogs and livestock several weeks later. The EWCP and Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Organization did not acknowledge the outbreak until mid-October 2003. As well as introducing oral vaccination of the wolves, they recommended shooting homeless dogs.

ANIMAL PEOPLE in November 2003 published Kifle's photo of the suspected rabid wolf, plus one of a series of photos obtained by Legese of officials shooting at dogs as they fled into the park interior—toward the wolves.

Continuing to advocate sterilizing and vaccinating homeless dogs, Legese and Kifle were fired on false allegations in early 2004. The allegations were rejected by courts in both Addis Ababa and the Bale region. Legese and Kifle were reinstated, but were then transferred to remote regions and left the park service to keep HAPS alive.

Upon learning from Cohen of their economic plight, ANIMAL PEOPLE guaranteed HAPS the funding to pay Kifle and Legese wages in 2005 equal to their former salaries at Bale Mountains National Park. With the help of our donors, we hope to secure their future ability to feed their families and educate their children while further building the first organization in Ethiopia to work on behalf of all animals.

H5N1 & Marburg outbreaks

HANOI, LUANDA—If an epidemiologist's worst nightmare isn't the avian influenza strain called H5N1, it might be Marburg hemorrhagic fever, a virulent close cousin to the better known Ebola virus. Both are zoonotic diseases, meaning that they spread to humans from animals. With a quirk or two of virus evolution, both could depopulate continents. The worst-ever outbreaks of each are raging right now in Southeast Asia and Central Africa.

H5N1, discovered after it killed three people in Hong Kong in 1997, apparently crossed from migratory wild birds to ducks and geese reared in huge outdoor pens and paddies in southern China, crossed to indoor-raised chickens, then raced throughout Southeast Asia with the mostly illegal but lightly prosecuted commerce in gamecocks.

Killing about 70% of the humans who contract it from birds, H5N1 has not killed millions chiefly because it has not evolved into a form that spreads easily from human to human, and does not spread easily from bird to human. Only the estimated 25 to 40 million Southeast Asians who raise poultry are believed to be at risk of becoming infected by the bird-to-human route.

A 10-year-old girl who died on March 27, 2005 in Hanoi was the 50th known human fatality since January 2004, and the 36th Vietnamese. Twelve Thais have died, and two Cambodians. There have been more than 3,000 known outbreaks among poultry. More than 60 million birds have either died from H5N1 or have been gassed, buried alive, or even burned alive in mostly futile control efforts.

China introduced an H5N1 vaccine for poultry in December 2003, has since introduced two more of increasing efficacy, and has innoculated more than 2.7 billion domestic fowl since January 2004. Indonesia began vaccinating 50 million poultry in March 2005. There are H5N1 vaccines for humans, too, but world production of all human flu vaccines combined is only 500 million doses per year. Only the U.S. is believed to have vaccination coverage enough to slow a serious flu epidemic.

Marburg was first identified in 1967, after laboratory workers in Marburg and Frankfort, Germany, and Belgrade, Yugoslavia, received infected monkeys who were captured in Uganda. Until 2005 the biggest known outbreak killed 123 people from 1998 to 2000 in the Democratic Republic of Congo. As with Ebola, the first victims are typically young men who have eaten monkeys. They infect their families, who infect health workers.

Like Ebola, Marburg is so infectious and kills so quickly that it has so far always burned itself out before mutating into a strain that victims could carry into contact with many others. Ebola victims typically have contact with 12 other people before death; Marburg victims have contact with just four.

The current outbreak hit Uige, Angola, 200 miles north of Luanda, in October 2004. Government censorship suppressed awareness of it until it reached the outskirts of Luanda, killing 29 people in the first four days of April 2005. People believed to have had exposure to victims were quarantined as far away as Italy and Portugal. The known death toll by April 5 was 156, including more than 125 children under age 15, with 88% mortality among identified cases. While the initial source of the outbreak is unknown, recycling the needles used to give childhood vaccinations is believed to be the major cause of the unprecedentedly high mortality among children.

HOW TO TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN

NEIGHBORHOOD CATS TNR HANDBOOK & VIDEO KIT



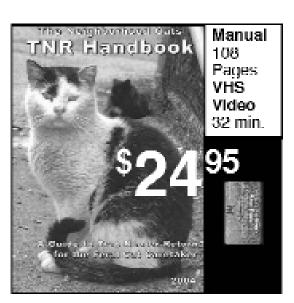
Learn how to run a successful Trap-Neuter-Return program. This comprehensive kit includes The Neighborhood Cats *TNR Handbook: A Guide to Trap-Neuter-Return for the Feral Cat Caretaker* and instructional video, *How to Perform a Mass Trapping*.

TNR HANDBOOK

This practical 108-page handbook includes trapping and caring for cats in traps: arranging and utilizing spay/neuter services; providing food, water and shelter; building community relations; socializing feral cats; and more.

VIDEO

Using footage from Neighborhood Cats TNR projects, this 32 minute instructional video takes the viewer step by step through the process of trapping and neutering an entire feral cat colony.





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8 - ANIMAL PEOPLE, April 2005

was that we wanted to avoid images of the ugliness of the hunt."

Setnicka admitted his own role in concealing animal massacres.

"Unknown to the public, in about 1998 I authorized the clandestine intermittent killing of problem pigs [on Santa Cruz Island] by signing a National Environmental Policy Act document called a Categorical Exclusion," explained Setnicka. "Pigs were either individually shot when no one was around, or were trapped first, and shot or knifed in the trap. This program probably continues," he said. "But we wanted to remove all pigs on an island-wide basis. How to do that?"

Even without film, word of the killing generated upset whenever it leaked out.

"Because of the National Park Service record of shooting mules, rabbits and pigs, plus The Nature Conservancy's program of shooting more than 36,000 sheep on their portion of Santa Cruz Island in the 1980s," Setinicka recounted, "rumors quickly spread [in the early 1990s] that the Park Service was going to shoot the remaining 9,000 sheep and 30 abandoned horses. If we could have gotten away with shooting all the sheep and horses, we would have," Setnicka admitted. "Opposition quickly erased thoughts of such action. We changed plans and began trapping and transporting."

About 2,500 sheep, poultry, horses, and burros were sent to the mainland by 1997.

"We had to fight off legislation," Setnicka recalled, "which might have allowed a Heritage Horse Herd on Santa Cruz Island."

Botched conservation

The Channel Islands killings of hooved stock have always been unpopular with rare breed conservators. Some of the Channel Islands hooved species had survived there since 1720, representing genetic lines that long ago vanished from commercial agriculture. But rare breed conservators are few, and allowing them to take some specimen animals largely quelled their criticism.

By 1999 the policy of exterminating non-native animals could also be recognized as a threat to endangered and threatened wildlife—if anyone looked.

"In the late 1980s," Setnicka wrote, "seeing an island fox was a daily occurrence, easier than seeing a pig on Santa Rosa Island."

Feasting on the carcasses of hooved animals massacred by the National Park Service and Nature Conservancy, the fox population soared to a probably all-time high.

"But their numbers mysteriously declined," Setnicka recounted. "In the mid-1990s it was learned their decline was due to an influx of golden eagles."

Setnicka did not acknowledge that the carrion-eating golden eagles were in effect baited into proximity to the foxes by the practice of leaving the dead hooved animals where they fell. To date, no one from either the National Park Service or the Nature Conservancy has admitted this.

But Setnicka did admit that, "To help sell the fox restoration program, for which we had no money, we came up with the media spin that one of the main reasons golden eagles reside on park islands was because of pigs. This would help vilify the pigs and help support the pig removal project.

"We didn't really remind folks that by 1991 we had shot all the pigs on Santa Rosa Island, so there were no pigs for eagles to

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eat," Setnicka continued. "Of course the golden eagles eat pigs, but" as the carrion supply dwindled, "they eat many more foxes, which are easier for them to catch."

Channel Islands National Park ex-chief hits cruelty to "invasive species"

"A successful fox plan also requires the 'removal' of golden eagles," Setnicka acknowledged. "We proposed doing this first by capturing them and then, if we couldn't capture them all, by shooting them. Shooting them was not emphasized in the media spin. We anticipated the huge amount of public heat that shooting eagles would cause. Unfortunately, golden eagles were much smarter and more elusive than we first thought. So the final plan was to shoot golden eagles from the ground, and with approval, from a helicopter. As far as I know [this] never was really tried, but who knows for sure?"

The Channel Islands fox is now officially recognized as endangered.

Though ANIMAL PEOPLE repeatedly exposed the role of the hooved animal exterminations in jeopardizing the foxes, beginning in May 1999, mainstream media merely noted the conflict between the foxes and the eagles, who are also a protected species. Once again the National Park Service avoided being called to account.

Rats rally opposition

Ironically, public scrutiny most intensified when the Park Service tried to kill all the rats on Anacapa Island. After conventional trapping and poisoning at bait stations failed, Setnicka wrote, "the park's chief of natural resources management developed a plan to use a helicopter to sprinkle poison bait all over the island.

"We didn't think we would have much problem in the media with this project. Who could love a rat? As it turned out, lots of people," Setnicka learned.

After other tactics failed to stop the indiscriminate poison distribution, Channel Islands Animal Protection Association founder Rob Puddicome and volunteer Robert Crawford sailed an inflatable raft to Anacapa Island and distributed at least five pounds of Vitamin K pellets as an intended antidote to protect the rats.

Puddicome and Channel Islands Animal Protection Association cofounder Scarlet Newton had particularly long and strong records of activism on behalf of wildlife of all sorts. Their criticism was not easily dismissed.

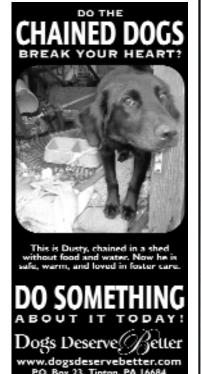
Crawford pleaded guilty, was fined \$200, and was placed on probation for two years. Puddicome demanded his day in court.

"Most embarrassingly," Setnicka recalled, the prosecution made "a poor case, and [Puddicome] was found not guilty by a Santa Barbara U.S. magistrate.

"The Channel Islands Animal Protection Association almost got the rat poisoning stopped, but was too late in mobilizing," Setnicka said.

Pigs

The Nature Conservancy and National Park Service on January 27, 2005 announced that they will jointly spend \$5 million to try to kill all 2,000 pigs remaining on Santa Cruz Island within the next



18 months. Of that amount, \$3.9 million will be paid to ProHunt New Zealand Ltd., a company which specializes in shooting feral animals. Dead pigs are again to be left where they drop.

"The current plan calls for fencing the island into units and then using aerial gunnery, followed by horse, dog, and ATV hunting," Setnicka said. "Once aerial shooting is complete, ground hunting begins. In the case of Santa Cruz Island, the vast majority of the hunting will be on foot, in thick vegetation.

"I participated in 10 or so of these eradication hunts both on Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz," Setnicka recalled. "In thick vegetation, clean kill shots are hard to make. We frequently gut-shot and wounded pigs who escaped. When sows were shot, their piglets were caught by dogs, or we chased them down on foot. The dogs frequently chased down and cornered pigs. They would often mangle the smaller pigs. The larger pigs would fight the dogs, occasionally injuring or killing one. The pigs were caught by their hind legs and then knifed or beaten to death.

"Later phases of pig hunting include widespread spraying of poison," Setnicka continued, "which kills native as well as nonnative vegetation. But killing native plants is acceptable as collateral damage to many scientists. To clear the dead vegetation, fire will be used. Not well-known," Setnicka confessed, "is that in the 1990s a Park Service-prescribed fire on Santa Cruz Island escaped and burned hundreds of acres. We escaped much criticism. This occurred before the disastrous NPS Los Alamos fire in New Mexico.

"In certain areas, widespread spraying of herbicide over large areas of the exotic fennel plant will occur at least twice," Setnicka added.

The pig extermination "will take a minimum of six years to accomplish," Setnicka forecast, "and will not eradicate fennel," which "will quickly grow back.

"Even though a large portion of the hunting will take place on private and closed lands, I predict that somehow opponents will get video or photos of the hunting activities," Setnicka said, "and these activities are very graphic and ugly. Regardless of how the NPS tries to spin this eradication effort, images of what 'eradication' truly means will go to the media and the general public will go nuts."

(from page 1)

Seek new concepts

Concluded Setnicka, "Each year, as a park superintendent, playing God in your national park gets harder and harder to do. Hiding controversial projects from the public, minimizing and denying their adverse impacts, and then outliving or litigating the opposition worked in the last century, but likely won't succeed in today's society. Opposition groups are wise to this technique, and the public is more aware of what the Park Service is up to.

"There is a solution to this dilemma," Setnicka suggested. "A Channel Islands National Park advisory board needs to be established. Until this board is in place, the pig hunting project should temporarily stop, along with the herbicide and burning activities.

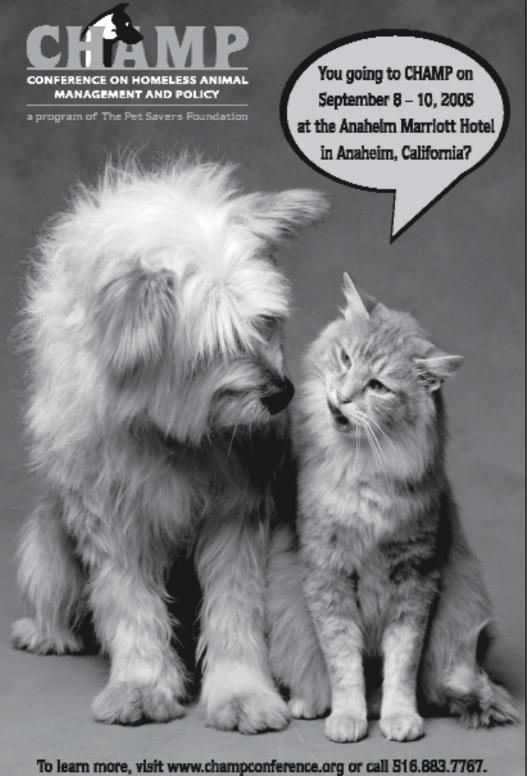
"The first goal of the advisory board," Setnicka recommended, should be to introduce "new concepts into how pigs and alien plants can be removed," such as using injectible immunocontraceptives and chemosterilants.

"Delaying the start of hunting, poisoning and burning until establishment of an advisory board to review and consider alternatives does not jeopardize the removal. Rather, it will ensure its success," Setnicka finished.

Responded Puddicome, "We're delighted that an insider is finally telling the truth about the cruelty and deceit of so-called restoration. Setnicka confirms CHIAPA's message that there's something for everyone to hate about these projects."

Added Newton, "This is a miracle. We're immensely grateful that Mr. Setnicka had the courage to speak up. Perhaps now Congress will finally grant our request for an investigation."

[Contact the Channel Islands Animal Protection Association c/o 805-882-2008 or <info@chiapa.org>.]



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Safari Club International lobbyist to head U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

WASHINGTON D.C.—U.S. Interior Secretary Gail Norton on March 17 appointed former Safari Club International chief lobbyist Matthew J. Hogan to be acting director of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, succeeding Steve Williams, who resigned a week earlier.

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Williams resigned hours after formally admitting that the Fish & Wildlife Service used incomplete and misleading data on Florida panther movements in assessing several high profile land use applications. Most involved projects favored by Florida Governor Jeb Bush, younger brother of President George W. Bush.

"Dan Ashe, the service's top science adviser and a member of the review panel, said the agency relied too much on data collected only in late morning hours to establish the panthers' home range. Panthers are most active at dawn and dusk," explained John Heilprin of Associated Press.

"The agency announced it would revise documents that understated the panther's habitat and painted an over-optimistic picture of its prospects," added Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel staff writer David Fleshler. "The review [of panther research] came after an agency biologist, Andrew Eller, filed a petition last May under the federal Data Quality Act accusing the agency of knowingly using flawed data to rubber-stamp eight con-

struction projects in panther habitat."

2005

Eller was fired, purportedly for missing deadlines, in November 2004.

The Hogan appointment signaled that White House wise-users were anything but chastened. Both George W. Bush and his father, former President George H. Bush, are life members of Safari Club International, while Jeb Bush has consistently favored Safari Club political positions.

"SCI has made a name for itself as one of the most extreme and elite trophy hunting organizations, representing some 40,000 wealthy trophy collectors, fostering and promoting competitive trophy hunting on five continents," responded the Humane Society of the U.S. "SCI members shoot prescribed lists of animals to win so-called Grand Slam and Inner Circle titles. To complete all 29 award categories, a hunter must kill a minimum of 322 separate species and subspecies—enough to populate a large zoo."

Because completing some of the most elite lists involves killing animals who are listed as endangered or threatened, HSUS continued, "SCI members have even tried to circumvent federal laws to import their trophies. Prominent SCI hunter Kenneth E. Behring," for example, "donated \$100 million to the Smithsonian Institution and according to published reports, tried to get the museum's help in importing a rare Kara Tau argali

sheep which he shot in Kazakhstan and had shipped to a Canadian taxidermist—one of only 100 Kara Tau argali sheep left in the world. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, now under Hogan's watch, is the agency charged with granting or denying trophy import permits."

In a similar case, involving feathered artifacts, San Francisco Chronicle reporter Eric Rosenberg disclosed on February 17, 2005 that, "More than a year after he was convicted of violating endangered species laws, Smithsonian Institution Secretary Lawrence M. Small is still negotiating with the Justice Department over exactly what kind of 'community service' he must perform as part of his sentence. The Smithsonian's chief executive wants to use the 100-hour punishment to lobby Congress to change the 'outmoded' laws he violated."

Federal investigators found that Small's 1,000-piece artifact collection "held at least 219 items containing feathers protected under the Endangered Species Act, the Convention on Intentional Trade in Endangered Species, and/or the Migratory Bird Treaty Act," Rosenberg wrote.

"Small was sentenced to two years' probation and community service, and was ordered to apologize in newspapers and the *National Geographic*," but Smithsonian spokesperson Linda St. Thomas said none of

the publications printed the apology.

As well as using museum collection permits as cover for importing hunting trophies, which may then remain with the hunters on "loan," hunters often claim income tax deductions for "donations" of trophies to museums at inflated values.

"One of the more active appraisers is Robert Bruce Duncan, founder of the Chicago Appraisers Association," *Washington Post* staff writer Marc Kaufman disclosed on April 5, 2005, as U.S. Senate finance committee chair Charles E. Grassley (R-Iowa) convened a hearing on trophy imports and tax fraud.

"Duncan was sentenced to 10 months in prison and fined \$47,000 in 1991 for helping to place mounts of illegally hunted endangered animals in the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences," recounted Kaufman. "His Chicago Appraisers brochure explains how to 'Hunt for Free.' It goes on to say, 'If you write and tell us where you are going, we'll suggest what extra animals to take and donate for tax savings. We'll then send you a written guarantee that we have a museum to accept them upon your return."

As many as 800 trophy pelts and mounts per year have been donated to the Wyobraska Wildlife Museum, in Gering, Nebraska, which auctions most of them off.

"Records show that in 2000, (continued on page 11)

Events

April 19: Animal Cruelty & The Law free seminar, 6 p.m., Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, N.Y. Info: Valerie Lang, 518-629-7319.

April 22-24: No More Homeless Pets, Portland, Oregon. Info: Best Friends, 435-644-2001, x163, <Nicole@-bestfriends.org > ; <www.bestfriends.org >. April 23-30: World Week for Lab Animals. Info: <Kristie@idausa.org >. April 24-26: Texas

April 24-26: Texas Federation of Humane Societies conf., Houston. Info: 512-282-1277 or <www.txfederation.org>

April 25: Romania Animal Rescue charity golf tournament, Clayton, Calif. Info: 925-672-5908; <Romania-Dogs@joimail.com>; <www.RomaniaAnimal-Rescue.go.ro>.

May 12-15: 2nd Inter-NICHE Conference: Innovations in life science education and training, Oslo, Norway. Info: www.interniche.org.

May 26-27: Let-Live Canada 2005, Windsor, Ontario. Info: clic@jazz-purr.org>.
June 11: Fur Ball,

Canton, Georgia. Info: 770-517-8210, x990.

June 11: Animal Place children's farm tour,

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Murder on the animal control beat

Dennis L. Rader, 59, longtime code enforcement and animal control officer for Park City, Kansas, a Wichita suburb, was on February 27, 2005 charged with serially killing 10 people in Wichita since 1974. The killings were claimed in letters to local media from "BTK," short for "Bind, Torture, Kill." Rader's tenure in animal control coincided with two long interludes between murders. Park City and Wichita are both in Sedgewick County, where the rate of animal control killing per 1,000 human residents is more than twice the U.S. norm.

Chi Luu Linville, 57, of Loxahatchee, Florida, was on March 11 convicted of trying to hire Palm Beach County sheriff's detective Kim Bradley to

kill animal control officer Tammie Crawford in October 2003, after Crawford impounded Linville's goats and cattle, and said she would return to impound Linville's pigs and cats. Explained Palm Beach Post staff writers William Cooper Jr. and Larry Keller, "A judge had barred Linville-cited many times for neglect and animals running loose-from keeping animals without court approval. Linville feared losing an agricultural exemption on her 10-acre property if all animals were removed, assistant state attorney Dan Galo said. Linville testified that her property taxes would triple if she lost the exemption." Linville contended that Bradley entrapped her by posing as the stepdaughter of an acquaintance.

Safari Club lobbyist ... (from page 10)

Wyobraska took in mounts worth \$1.4 million," Kaufman wrote. "In 2004, museum curator Mike Boone said, the value of donations grew to more than \$5 million, even though display rooms and storage containers were already overflowing."

Boone admitted to undercover investigators from the Humane Society of the U.S. that "most people donate for the tax write-off," Kaufman reported.

Wyobraska in 2003 sold mounts with an appraised value of \$4.2 million for about \$67,000, according to IRS Form 990.

Counter to the Bush administration

linkage of conservation with trophy hunting and collecting, and tax write-offs for the rich, Macedonian President Branko Crvenkovski in January announced that accredited ambassadors would no longer be invited to shoot boar, deer, wolves, and bears in the Matka forest.

Instead, they are asked now to plant symbolic trees, herbs, or flowers in a newly created Park of Tolerance in Skopje, the national capital.

The idea was quickly endorsed by Donato Chiarini, the European Commission chief delegate to Macedonia.

ANIMAL SHELTERS CHANGING THE GUARD

Phil Morgan, Escondido Humane Society president since 1998, resigned on March 31, effective June 30. His acting successor is director of operations Linda Martin, a 30-year veteran of animal and human health care work, hired on March 16. Nationally known for his efforts to extend humane services to the southern California community in Spanish as well as English, Morgan won further acclaim for rebuilding the Escondido Humane Society after a January 2001 fire that killed 115 of the 200 animals in the building. In January 2005 Morgan unveiled plans to expand the present \$4.2 million shelter, opened in July 2003, into a \$15 million complex including "a career institute for animal professionals, a 24-hour cable-access pet channel, a horse show arena and a pet columbarium, which is a vault for storing cremated remains," recalled San Diego Union-Tribune staff writer Craig Gustafson.

John Nix, 66, Houston Bureau of Animal Regulation & Care chief since 1996, retired in mid-March 2005, two weeks after Houston Department of Health & Human Services director Stephen Williams appointed departmental head of quality assurance Deoniece Arnold to oversee the Houston shelter. Sean Hawkins, founder of the Houston-based Spay-Neuter Assistance Program, told Houston Chronicle reporter Bill Murphy that Nix was unfairly blamed for the results of budget cuts. Houston had 36 animal control officers in 1997, but now has just 22.

Former San Antonio Animal Care Services director William Lammers, DVM, 63, resigned effective on April 30, 2005, after 19 years with the department. Lammers was succeeded as director by Sam Sanchez in December 2004, after the San Antonio Express-News extensively exposed the shelter death toll of about 46,000 per year, which at 33 dogs and cats killed per 1,000 human residents is nearly twice the national average. San Antonio kills 20,000 more dogs and cats per year than New York City, even though NYC has seven times more people.

Scots-born veterinarian Pauline Taylor resigned as president of the Hong Kong SPCA in early March 2005 after six months on sick leave during a bitter dispute with board chair Lisa Tsui Wing-miu and other board members. In her first year as president after four years as chief of shelter medicine "Taylor, 44, presided over a dramatic turnaround that saw a \$3 million deficit turned into a \$3 million surplus," wrote Simon Parry of the South China Morning Post. "She claims the society decided to oust her after the turnaround raised 'uncomfortable questions about past practices.' The SPCA struck a deal with Taylor days before the scheduled start of an industrial tribunal hearing at which she planned to claim she had been illegally forced out. Sources said that under the settlement, the SPCA will pay the bulk of Taylor's legal fees. One source said the fees run 'well into six figures.' The charity has also run up a considerable bill of its own."

More events

Vacaville, Calif. Info: 707-449-4814; <www.ani-malplace.org>.

(continued on page 11)

June 22-24: Asia for

Animals conf., Singapore.

Info: <louis@-

acres.org.sg>.

June 25: Animal Place summer farm tour, Vacaville, Calif. Info: 707-449-4814; <www.animalplace.org>.

July 7-11: Animal Rights 2005 conf., Los Angeles.
I n f o :

<www.AR2005.org>.
July 9-10: Friends of
Animals conf., NYC. Info:
2 0 3 - 6 5 6 - 1 5 2 2;
<www.friendsofanimals.or
g/the-foundations-of-amovement/-index.html>.

August 21-25: 5th World Congress on Alternatives & Animal Use in the Life Sciences, Berlin, Germany. Info: <www.ctw-congress.de/act2005>.

September 8-10: Conference on Homeless Animal Management & Policy, Anaheim. Info: www.champconference.o

rg>. Oct. 1-4: Frontiers of Wolf Recovery, Colo. Springs.

Info: <www.wolf.org>.

October 1-7: European

Vegetarian Union Congress, Riccione, Italy. Info:
<www.european-vegetari-

an.org>. Oct. 7-9: 20th Annual Compassionate Living Festival, Raleigh/Durham, North Carolina. Info: <www.animalsandsoci-

ety.org>.

Oct. 15: Natl. Feral Cat
Summit, Philadelphia. Info:
<summit@neighborhoodcats.org>.

Oct. 18-19: Intl. Companion Animal Welfare Conference, Dubrovnik, Croatia. Info: <www.icawc.org/>.

Nov. 3-6: Southern Regional S/N Leadership Conf., Atlanta. Info: Julie

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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.

"Animal terrorism" bill vetoed

PHOENIX—Arizona Goveror Janet Napolitano on March 14 for the second year in a row vetoed a bill by state senator Thayer Verschoor (R-Gilbert) which would have authorized use of state anti-racketeering legislation to pursue animal advocates and environmentalists who commit alleged acts of terrorism.

"It is already against the law to injure someone or damage property," summarized Howard Fischer of Capitol Media Services in describing Napolitano's veto statement. "The legislation would have expanded the racketeering laws to cover those acts if they were designed to deter people from participating in lawful "animal activities," ranging from mining and forestry to hunting and animal research.

Napolitano noted that parts of the Verschoor bill could have been used against people who picket abortion clinics. She pledged to help Verschoor and Arizona attorney general Terry Goddard "to craft a bill that targets intentional and well-defined animal and ecological terrorism."

Ohio state senator Jeff Jacobson acknowledged to Carrie Spencer of Associated Press that he copied the language of the Verschoor bill in a similar bill he recently introduced after finding it on the Internet.

The Verschoor bill was based on draft "Animal and Ecological Terrorism Act" authored by the Ohio-based U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance. It has been offered to state legislators for introduction since 2003 by the farright American Legislative Exchange Council. Amended versions are in effect in California and Washington. Versions under consideration in New York and Missouri, where such bills have already been defeated twice in two years, would outlaw videotaping at farms and laboratories.

Valentines from the un-chain gang

The 3rd annual Dogs Deserve Better "Have a Heart for Chained Dogs" campaign delivered 3,061 Valentines, dog treats, and anti-chaining brochures on February 14. The Valentines were made by 29 school groups, five Scout troops, three institutions for the mentally handicapped, a therapy dog group, and individuals including Bar Mitzvah candidate Andrew Moskowitz of Florida, said Dogs Deserve Better founder Tammy Sneath Grimes.

Galveston County
Animal Services manager
Michele Reynolds, of Galveston,
Texas, paid her staff \$1.00 for
each chained dog whose address
they sent in, Grimes said.

Grimes in March 2005 joined the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** staff as associate web producer.

Through the efforts of retired elementary school teacher Connie Davie, profiled on April 1 by Sarah Newman of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Creve Cour, Missouri in January 2005 became the 60th U.S. city in recent years to restrict how long dog may be chained. Davie, like many others winning passage of anti-chaining ordinances, brought to the task demonstrated commitment to both child and animal welfare. About a third of all fatal dog attacks on children involve dogs whose territoriality has been accentuated by prolonged chaining.

New faces at the Zimbabwe National SPCA

HARARE—If anything good for animals comes out of the last years of the Robert Mugabe regime in Zimbabwe, it may be the Africanization of the Zimbabwe National SPCA.

Often seen by Zimbabweans of African descent as a relic of colonialism, the ZN/SPCA has become emblematic of the battered hopes of many Afro-Zimbabweans who still aspire to a peaceful and productive society that shares norms and values with the developed world.

Mugabe, 81, on April 1, 2005 strengthened his grasp and that of his henchmen on control of what remains of the faltering Zimbabwean government after 25 years of increasingly corrupt misrule by claiming a two-thirds majority in Parliamentary elections. Critics of the regime both within Zimbabwe and abroad challenged the authenticity of the results.

Whether or not the balloting was rigged, supporters of Mugabe's ZANU-PF party again tortured animals to terrorize opponents before the election, as they often have before. In Makoni, for example, near Mutare, Mugabe backers burned an opposition leader's henhouse, killing 14 birds.

"No arrests have been made but police and the ZN/SPCA continue to make enquiries," said ZN/SPCA national chair Bernice Robertson Dyer.

ZANU-PF supporters also bought votes—and allegedly built cash reserves against when the government falls—by poaching Zimbabwe's fast-diminishing wildlife.

Five years after Mugabe first bought support for his faltering government by encouraging supporters to occupy farms owned by people of European and Asian descent,

Zimbabwean agricultural production has fallen far below food self-sufficiency, but Mugabe has refused international food aid, seeking to starve opponents into flight.

Supposedly to help feed hungry Zimbabweans, the Mugabe government in late 2004 began slaughtering wildlife in Hwange National Park.

"Operation Nyama, or 'Operation Meat,' is ostensibly a campaign to feed starving villagers in northern Matabeleland," wrote Christopher Munnion of the *London Daily Telegraph* on March 23, 2005.

The killing was to have ended in December 2004, Munnion noted, but Zimbabwean Conservation Task Force chair Johnny Rodrigues said he received a report at the beginning of March "from a group of disgusted American tourists. They saw a national parks truck which had broken down inside Hwange and was fully loaded with dead impala and buffalo. An attempt had been made to conceal the dead animals, but the Americans could easily see what was in the truck."

Rodrigues said an Australian couple also saw a government truck full of wildlife carcasses in Hwange, and cut short their visit due to hearing around-the-clock gunfire.

"If the aim was to feed the people, it is strange that most of the elephant bulls that are being shot have 60-to-70-pound tusks and are in their prime," added Rodrigues. "Old bulls with broken tusks are not targeted."

Downsizing

"It is a time of evolution and change for our Society," admitted Dyer in a March 25 e-mail, "as we grapple with the worsening situation and the continuing exodus of supporters and volunteers. Recent estimates put the dwindling Anglo population at a mere 12,000," with much reduced ability to donate.

"From 15 SPCA chapters in 2002, we are down to nine," Dyer continued. "We were devastated by Meryl Harrison's decision to leave at the end of 2004," when Harrison wrote to friends that she hoped to emigrate to England, after several years of stress-related health problems. Harrison, formerly manager of the Bulawayo Branch SPCA, in August 2000 became national coordinator of the ZN/SPCA, personally directing the ZN/SPCA response to cruelty by land invaders.

The parting was not wholly amicable. Harrison wrote that she resigned after conflicting with Dyer over the purchase and renovation of a farmhouse near Harare as a new large animal rescue facility and head

office, while property prices are at their lowest ebb since Mugabe took power. Harrison favored instead increasing the ZN/SPCA investment in mobile clinics and animal care supplies. Imported pharmaceuticals are reportedly now prohibitively expensive, due to the collapse of the Zimbabwean dollar.

Dyer also noted the April 2005 exodus to England of ZN/-SPCA horse rescue volunteers Claire and Mark Evans. "Sue Calasse and April and Angus Thompson in Mashonaland and Claire Einhorn in Matabeleland will continue with this important work," Dyer said, also introducing "new Matabeleland regional inspector Glynis Vaughan," and a new head office staff member, Roslyn Varkevisser," whose names reflect the traditional ZN/SPCA Anglo/Afrikans support base.

The recent stars of the team, however, include Simon Chikadaya, who "continues to attend to all reports in the Mashonaland area," Dyer recounted. He is "ably assisted by the gentle and hardworking Mathias Tengaruwa," Dyer continued, "who has made a name for himself" conducting rural clinics and humane education programs.

Succeeding Harrison as perhaps the most visible face of the ZN/SPCA in the field is John Chikomo, who "continues his excellent work in Masvingo Province," Dyer said. "John is now providing outreach to Mashava and Zvishavane, which no longer have SPCA committees, and Chiredzi, which no longer has an inspector, and he now includes Beitbridge in his patrols. A serious problem has developed along the Beitbridge roads to Bulawayo and Masvingo," Dyer added. "Nearly all of the fencing along 600 kilometers of road has been removed, and donkeys and cows are killed daily." Chikomo is often called to euthanize the injured animals.

"A sinister aspect of the disappearing fences," Dyer reminded, "is that the wire is used to produce snares. In a single sweep of one conservancy [overrun by land invaders], hundreds of snares were recovered."

Chikomo won 12 cruelty convictions in the first three months of 2005, Dyer said—a substantial achievement anywhere, more so in a nation notorious for failing law and order. His victories included two closures of slaughterhouses for not properly stunning animals, the conviction of a farm cooperative in Bakita for allowing 32 pigs to suffer from starvation and mange, and the conviction of the warden at Kyle National Park for allowing four horses to starve.

Join the No More Homeless Pets Forum

Join us to spend a week with some of the leaders of this lifesaving movement. They will share an inside view of their thoughts and work and answer your questions about topics near and dear to their hearts.

Coming topics—

April 4-8: Getting stuff donated

How can you get businesses to donate stuff? Claire Ives of Best Friends will give her top tips and answer your questions on how to get things donated, everything from pet beds to medications.

April 11-15: Understanding Feline Leukemia and FIV

Julie Levy, DVM of the University of Florida will answer your questions about how these diseases are spread, the accuracy of tests, and the prognosis for cats who test positive.

April 18-22 & April 25-29

These two weeks are off for the No More Homeless Pets Conference.

May 2-6: Racing to Shut Down Greyhound Tracks

Animal welfare advocates in Oregon recently succeeded in closing the last dog track in the state. Connie Theil of Oregon Defenders of Greyhounds and Carey Theil of GREY2K USA explain how to put a muzzle on this cruel sport.

May 9-13: Talking with Adopters

This week YOU are the forum guest! What's your top tip for ensuring that pets go to great homes?

May 16-20: Statewide Spay/Neuter, Step by Step

Targeted spay/neuter programs are proven to reduce the number of animals entering shelters. Sharon Secovich of Spay Maine will answer your questions about launching a publicly funded spay/neuter program.

May 23-27: When Dogs Fail Temperament Tests

Shannon Cummings of ShelterWorks and Sherry Woodard of Best Friends assess temperament assessments, gauge if a pooch can be rehabilitated, and offer advice on training "problem dogs."

May 30-June 3: Getting Together for Animal Welfare

How can you start a local network or coalition? Linda Young of Syracuse Onondaga Cat Council and Michelle Buckalew of Save our Shelter Animals will offer their advice.

To join, visit the Best Friends website:

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Rough weather slows 2005 Canadian seal hunt

CHARLOTTESTOWN, P.E.I.—

Pack ice and rough weather reportedly kept Gulf of St. Lawrence sealers from killing more than 40% of their quota of 90,000 seals, in the first phase of the annual Atlantic Canada seal massacre, but the 56,000 seals they didn't kill will be added to the Labrador Front quota.

The full 2005 quota of 319,500 seals is the largest in 50 years—although the sealers overkilled their quota last year, pelting 365,971 seals in all, 97% of them under three months old.

The 2005 protest effort, including rallies in 27 cities worldwide, was the biggest in 22 years, but was upstaged by nature.

"The sealing vessel Sandy Beach was abandoned 30 miles north of the Magdalen Islands," recited Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson from the bridge of the Sea Shepherd Farley Mowat on March 30, as the hunt got started. "Her crew were airlifted by a Coast Guard helicopter. The Yankee Point was abandoned, is listing heavily in the ice, and will most likely sink. The crew were rescued by the Cooper Island. The Cooper Island is now listing heavily with 40 sealers aboard. The icebreaker Earl Grey is en route to rescue them.

"The *Horizon I* was under tow by the Coast Guard ship *Amundsen* when the tow line broke. The vessel is reported abandoned," Watson continued. "The *Jean Mathieu* has called for help. Two distress signals came from unidentified sealing vessels. Some sealing vessels reported having their bridge windows blown in and their electronics damaged."

Added Watson on April 3, "Some of the sealing vessels are still in trouble. The *Gulf Venture* was calling for Coast Guard assistance at 9 a.m. today, and pleading to be towed into a Newfoundland port. The *Polar Venture*, stuck in the ice for five days, "has not taken a single seal," Watson said. "The *Brady Mariner*, whose crew viciously assaulted some of the *Farley Mowat* crew on April 1, was broken down in the ice last night."

The *Farley Mowat* proved solidly seaworthy, after having to "jump through Canadian bureaucratic hoops" to prove seaworthiness en route to the ice, Watson said.

Along the way, "the Farley Mowat was diverted to Port Aux Basques, Newfoundland, after a hull breach was discovered," Watson added. "First Officer Alex Cornelissen donned a drysuit to dive into the cold water and located a clean hole the size of a quarter beneath the main engine. It is an unusual hole and was not made by contact

with ice. Alex was able to insert a temporary plug into the hole and the flooding stopped."

The Farley Mowat was "in the middle of the sealing fleet when the Canadian seal slaughter officially opened," Watson emailed, "surrounded by 72 sealing vessels and shadowed by the Canadian Coast Guard icebreaker Amundsen."

Confrontations

The Farley Mowat "was able to document numerous sealing violations on the ice by the [sealers from the] sealing vessel Newfoundland Leader," Watson said. "At 8:30a.m., the Farley Mowat moved close to the Newfoundland Leader when the Canadian Coast Guard icebreaker Amundsen approached at high speed, running down seals in the ice. The icebreaker came straight toward the starboard bow of the Farley Mowat on a collision course. The Farley Mowat had to do a full reverse to avoid the collision. The incident was documented on numerous video cameras."

At 1:30 that afternoon, 18 of the Farley Mowat crew "crossed a mile of ice to witness and document sealing activities by the Brady Mariner," Watson e-mailed. "Eight sealers came toward them, armed with hak-apics [seal clubs], and began to shout and swear at them. Lisa Moises, 19, from Germany, was slapped in the face and punched in the stomach by one burly sealer. Another attacked photographer Ian Robichaud with a hak-a-pik,, striking his camera and hitting him in the side of the head. Adrian Haley was struck in the face. Jonathan Batchlor was punched in the mouth. Jonny Vasic was hit in the side of the head with a club. Petite Lisa Shalom of Montreal was struck by a sealer as she took pictures of the assault on her crewmates. When another sealer swung his hak-apik to strike Jonny Vasic's camera, surgeon Jerry Vlasak, from Los Angeles, jumped in his way and took the blow across the face."

Watson said he called the Canadian Coast Guard icebreaker *Amundsen* and asked the Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers aboard to investigate.

"They did not reply," Watson said. "Instead, a helicopter was dispatched to arrest the Sea Shepherd crew on the ice. Only seven were able to return. They barely made it."

The Amundsen split the ice to cut off the 11 others, who were charged with allegedly approaching sealers without a permit. Kept sitting on the deck of the Amundsen in handcuffs for nine hours, according to Shalom, they were taken to Charlottestown, Prince Edward Island. Shalom, the only Canadian, was released. Refusing to post bail of \$1,000 each, and threatening a hunger strike, the rest were held until the following day.

Said *Brady Mariner* captain Rendell Genge, of Anchor Point, Newfoundland, to Canadian Press, "They interfered with my sealers. I called (Fisheries officials) and told them I was taking appropriate action to defend my men...I'm the captain and I hit one guy with my fist to defend myself. Four men came at me. I fell down and when I got up, I was underneath. I just gave him one punch. They had 15 to 20 men on the ice and there were only eight of us."

Responded Watson, "Unfortunately for Captain Genge, the entire assault was fully documented on two different video cameras."

Watson said Sea Shepherd advisory board member Bob Talbot flew to the Farley *Mowat to* retrieve the video, in one of two helicopters chartered by the Humane Society of the U.S., so that "the evidence of the assault by the sealers on our crew will not be captured, confiscated or destroyed by the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans."

Watson said that sealers were also "recorded making death threats, and threats of rape to our female crew, and one rather bizarre individual got his kicks from dropping his pants and masturbating in front of the women. There was plenty of mooning."

Shooting incident

Gunfire erupted off the north coast of Prince Edward Island on April 1, after three helicopters carrying IFAW staff and news media landed near the *Cape Ashley*, a fishing vessel from Port aux Choix, Newfoundland.

"At first, about six sealers hurled verbal abuse at about a dozen protesters and observers," Canadian Press reported. "The protesters, who had observer permits that require them to keep at least 10 metres from the sealers, were then approached by at least one sealer who was swinging a short stick with a hook, otherwise known as a gaff. At one point, a snowmobile carrying two sealers hurtled towards the activists and swung away at the last moment. A shoving match ensued, several shots were fired from the boat, and the protesters retreated to their choppers."

Said Canadian Press photographer Johnathan Hayward, "There were single shots being fired when we first got there. Then there was a burst of gunshots, like four or five. I looked up and there was this gentleman walking towards us with a rifle."

Norwegian effort to push "trophy sealing" flops

OSLO—The Norwegian government opened the 2005 Norwegian sealing season to foreigners, anticipating a trophy hunting bonanza, but "Only 17-18 foreign hunters signed on," reported *Aftenposten* on March 14, while protests against the hunt were held outside 22 Norwegian embassies.

Pitching the hunt to tourists was not popular with Norwegian tour promoters.

"It is completely unnecessary to provoke world opinion with something as marginal as tourist seal hunts," Destination Ålesund & Sunnmøre head of travel Terje Devol told *Aftenposten*.

"If the media focus remains on the seal hunt, we will see it in our tourist statistics," Norwegian Hospitality Association director Knut Almquist told the rival newspaper *Dagsavisen*.

Stating that the altercation was videotaped by an Italian television crew, IFAW gave essentially the same account of events, additionally alleging that one of the Cape Ashley crew members struck an IFAW representative with a spiked seal club.

What next?

"The Farley Mowat was the last ship to leave the ice," Watson e-mailed on April 3. "Sea Shepherd crew watched joyfully every time a seal pup's head rose from the water or scrambled up on a chunk of ice.

"The Farley Mowat now has nowhere to go," Watson added. Until the Farley Mowat is drydocked to permanently fix the hole in the hull, Watson said, "We cannot go into a Canadian port, nor can we return to the U.S. Drydock costs could be well over \$25,000," Watson estimated, after "The demands of the Canadian government cost us an extra \$35,000."

Watson hoped to confront sealers on the Labrador Front, where the killing was to start on April 12, but admitted "We don't have the fuel, the provisions, or the crew to do that, at this point. We need a minimum of 40 extra tons of fuel for this stage of our campaign," Watson estimated. "One ton of fuel costs around \$500, so we need about \$20,000 for fuel costs. We need people with engineering and electronic experience. We need another cook. We need film makers and photographers. We need about \$2,000 worth of food—vegetarian, of course.

"If support can be found," Watson pledged, "the *Farley Mowat* could make port (continued on page 14)

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Rough weather slows start of 2005 Atlantic Canada seal hunt (from page 13)

in Bermuda to take on fuel and provisions," before returning to the ice floes.

"The ice is thicker, the sea more treacherous, the sealing ships more numerous, the government more hostile, and the sealers more brutal on the Front," Watson added. "Not a single protester has gone there since Sea Shepherd in 1983."

Money

While the Canadian government defended the seal hunt, as always, as an essential source of income for out-of-work fishers, Green Party of Canada environment critic Sharon Labchuk pointed out that, "Cod stocks were depleted by industrial fishing, which was encouraged by the federal government, not by harp seals," and explained the extent to which sealing is subsidized despite the official pretense that it is not.

Explained a Green Party press release, "The Canadian Institute for Business & the Environment reports the federal government provided more than \$20 million in subsi-

dies to the sealing industry between 1995 and 2001, to upgrade and construct seal processing plants, promote the seal hunt in Europe and elsewhere, develop new markets for seal products, and fund the development of new seal products."

Potentially the most lucrative new seal product is a "lipid emulsion" dietary aid developed by North Atlantic Biopharma, a firm started in 2001 with \$50,000 from the Newfoundland trade ministry, plus help from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, National Research Council, Industry Canada, and the Centre for Fisheries Innovation. "The Guangzeng Pharmaceutical Group of China will invest \$8 million to \$10 million in the coming years to complete clinical testing in exchange for exclusive distribution rights," reported Dene Moore of Canadian Press.

"Lipid emulsions are provided to patients with difficulty eating," Moore wrote. "The product currently available in North America is vegetable-based. In Europe, both vegetable and fish oils are used." North Atlantic Pharma researcher Lili Wang projected that the product could be approved for use within four years.

The sales potential is estimated at \$160 million [Canadian] a year in China alone. If 10% of the money returns to Canada in patent royalties and payments to sealers for carcasses, the new product could almost double the income now generated by the seal hunt, officially \$16.5 million [Canadian].

Buyers in Norway, Denmark, Poland, China, and Italy are now paying up to \$70 Canadian for seal pelts, technically an increase from the prices of 10 years ago when the offshore hunt was resumed after a decadelong suspension, but about the same after taking into account inflation and the sinking value of the Canadian dollar.

The number of licensed sealers is up from about 10,000 in 1995 to more than 15,000 in 2005, wrote Dene Moore.

The current sealing quota "is almost three times as many as when the anti-seal-hunt campaign was launched more than 35 years

ago," pointed out Bob Hepburn of the Toronto Star. "If anything, despite years of protests and boycotts, the campaign against the hunt has been a failure. About all it has accomplished is that sealers have been banned since 1987 from killing those cute little white seal pups whose adorable faces were splashed on anti-seal-hunt posters around the world. That's because a boycott of Canadian seafood by Americans and Europeans, even if only partly successful, could be an economic disaster for Canada. Such an outcome isn't what the activists want, though. They want Ottawa—and all Canadians —to rethink this entire issue."

Seafood exports add \$3.1 billion to the Canadian economy. About 75% of the Canadian seafood catch is exported. Top buyers include the U.S. and Australia.

"We are joining in a specific boycott of Canadian seafood, focused on snow crabs," HSUS vice-president for wildlife John Grandy announced from Prince Edward Island.

HSUS spokesperson Pat Regan told Reuters that the campaign would target restaurants including the Red Lobster chain—whose parent firm, Darden Restaurants Inc., has reportedly retained a consulting firm called Sustainable Resources International, headed by former HSUS vice president for investigations David Wills, 52.

Also now consulting for the National Trappers Association, Wills in June 1999 pleaded guilty to embezzling from HSUS between 1990 and 1995, when he was sued for sexual harassment by two HSUS employees and was eventually fired. The sexual harassment case was settled out of court.

The seafood boycott is not supported by IFAW, in keeping with a posture of opposing the seal hunt but encouraging efforts to improve the Atlantic Canada economy.

Pointing out that "What fish go through when they are killed is also quite disturbing," Friends of Animals opposed "the notion that the public ought to use their capacity to eat marine animals as a tactic to show their support for seals."

Robert Ovetz, of SeaTurtles.org, noted that the Canadian seal hunt is one of many "global resource wars... raging from Canada to Chile to Scotland to Taiwan," in which "small-scale subsistence fishers battle governments and industrial fishing companies to whom their traditional fishing rights have been given away."

In Atlantic Canada, however, anger which in other nations might destabilize governments is vented on the seal pups.

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Galloping doubts about BLM horse sales ordered by Congress (from page 1)

is the #2 producer of horsemeat world wide. One has to stop and smell the horses here. Why form a for-profit corporation to acquire horses for charitable purposes? Why would someone breed animals to mitigate an overpopulation problem?

"Wild Horses Wyoming acquired only mares and plans to breed," Lamm continued. "The only honest market for these animals involves head-to-head competition with the BLM adoption program. Without having established an honest market for the offspring of 200 head, Hawkins is reportedly looking to acquire a total of some 5,000 head. Assuming only a 75% conception rate, that would put 4,000 colts onto the market each year.

"The state of Wyoming has no livestock welfare laws," Lamm added. "There is already a major and expensive pony rescue underway in Wyoming after a large number of animals died. If Wild Horses Wyoming acquires a huge number of animals and starts to go under, we will have yet another large scale animal disaster, this time precipitated by our Federal government."

Under scrutiny, Hawkins told Casper *Star-Tribune* environmental reporter Whitney Royster, "We've never committed to send horses anywhere. All we're doing is searching and seeking out all avenues," Hawkins insisted. "We're not going to sell them to someone who is going to be abusive to them. Wild Horses Wyoming has no plans to send them to Mexico or Third World countries. It's only an avenue we are searching."

Hawkins' partners include Fort Collins realtors Sean Mater and Bill Clark. Both confirmed to Sandra Cherub of Associated Press their intent to acquire as many as 5,000 wild horses.

Repeal bills

"There are dozens of slick operators out there," Lamm cautioned. "Some have apparently already seen how they can profit from acquiring cheap taxpayer-subsidized horses and still stay just on the legal side" of bills pushed by animal advocates who hope to repeal the Burns amendment.

The bills include HR-297, introduced in January by U.S. Representatives Nick J. Rahall (D-West Virginia) and Ed Whitfield (R-Kentucky), which would restore to all wild equines the full protection of the 1971 Wild and Free Ranging Horse and Burro Protection Act; a companion bill, S-576, by Senator Robert Byrd (D-West Virginia); and HR-503, the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act, which would "amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human con-

sumption, and for other purposes."

As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, HR-297 had 41 co-sponsors, S-576 had none, and HR-503 had 70, after attracting 228 in the previous Congress.

Tribal buyers

Native American tribes were the first wild horse buyers in the Dakotas. Paying just \$1.00 per head, Rosebud Sioux president Charles Colombe bought 210 and Three Affiliated Tribes chair Tex Hall bought 400, reported Samantha Young of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*.

"There are plenty of cowboys here and they are willing to try and break the horses and train them," said Todd Fast Horse, executive secretary to Colombe, hinting that many of the horses might be used in rodeos.

Fast Horse said that horses who could not be broken would "roam free alongside buffalo on tribal pasture lands," Young wrote. Each of 20 tribal communities receiving horses will be allocated 25 acres of range per horse from the million-acre Rosebud Sioux Reservation land trust in South Dakota, Fast Horse promised.

Some of the land is now leased to non-tribal ranchers. "The only loss to the tribe would be lease income, but providing something for the children is more important," Fast Horse told Young. "Every tribal reservation is the same. There's nothing for the kids. We need something constructive to take them away from TV and video games."

The Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikira nations, forming the Three Affiliated Tribes of North Dakota, plans to resell wild horses for \$25 a head, MHA Buffalo Enterprises tribal ranch manager James Pete Hale told Young.

Wrote Young, "The tribe will require buyers to sign an affidavit modeled after a BLM adoption contract, promising to keep the horses for at least a year. Asked if the horses could then be sold to slaughter, Hale said, 'Indians do not believe horses should be killed. We never take old horses to sale. Normally we let them die of old age."

This is true of most of the Lakota, who were the dominant horse culture of the northern Great Plains in pre-settlement times. The Rosebud, Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikira nations are all remnant Lakota bands.

Historically, however, some of the the so-called "dog-eater" Lakota bands, considered a lower caste, followed the horse tribes on foot, at a discreet distance of about a day's ride, and scavenged what they left, including wounded bison not found by the mounted hunters and dead or injured horses.

After the surviving remnants of the Lakota and other northern and western tribes were herded into reservations, where band and

caste identity were blurred or lost, "dogeaters" often assimilated more easily into agribusiness, finding off-reservation jobs in the livestock and slaughter industries. Some became purveyors of wild horses to slaughter.

Friends of Mustangs

Friends of the Mustangs member Chris Egelston made the symbolic first purchase of a wild horse offered for sale in Colorado, a 20-year-old mare whose foal Egelston adopted in October 2004. The mare was placed with someone else at the same adoption event in Grand Junction.

"She was voluntarily returned to the BLM last month when her owner failed to take care of her," explained Grand Junction *Daily Sentinel* reporter Sally Spaulding. "Jim Dollerschell, wild horse program director with the Grand Junction office of the BLM, made Friends of the Mustangs aware of the situation. The volunteer group helped gather 68 horses

from the Little Bookcliffs Wild Horse Range last October," including the mare and foal.

By the third week of March 2005, the BLM had sold 824 of the estimated 8,400 wild horses who were released from protection by the Burns amendment.

"The BLM estimates there are 37,000 wild horses and burros living on public lands in 10 Western states, almost 9,000 more than the land can sustain," summarized Samantha Young. But the wild equines share the range with nearly four million cattle.

Dartmoor precedent

U.S. wild horse enthusiasts fear that "marketplace conservation," favored by the White House and western Republicans, will quickly thin many mustang bands below viability. Britain has relied upon "marketplace conservation" to preserve Dartmoor ponies, the last indigenous wild equine breed in the (continued on page 16)



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Galloping doubts

British Isles, but since Britain joined the European Community, giving British farmers access to continental horsemeat markets, the results have been catastrophic.

"Forty years ago the number of ponies on Dartmoor stood at 30,000. It could now be as low as 1,500. The problem is there are not a lot of economic reasons to keep these ponies," Dartmoor Pony Heritage Trust cofounder Elizabeth Newbolt-Young recently told *The Daily Telegraph*.

Only about 500 Dartmoor ponies are not crossed with Shetland ponies and other domestic breeds, Newbolt-Young estimated.

Sanctuaries

Conrad Burns has insisted all along that the idea behind his amendment to the Wild & Free Roaming Horse & Burro Act was simply to expedite the transfer of wild horses from BLM custody to nonprofit sanctuaries.

Lifesavers Wild Horse Rescue, of Lancaster, California, bought 13 at \$1.00 each, founder Jill Starr told Michael Milstein of the *Portland Oregonian*.

Never spending less than 72% of total expenditure on fundraising plus administrative costs [including "professional fundraising fees" declared on IRS Form 990 filings but claimed as a program expense], Lifesavers is among a constellation of animal charities with similar spending patterns which have been represented in recent years by firms owned or controlled by fundraiser Bruce Eberle. The Wise Giving Alliance recommends that combined fundraising and administrative expense [including all "professional fundraising fees"] should not exceed 35%.

Lifesavers on February 1, 2005 discontinued involvement with Eberle, whose firms have produced recent mailings for several other equine charities.

Some members of the Alliance of Wild Horse Advocates argue that the entire wild horse advocacy community should begin vigorous fundraising so as to be able to take more horses.

Willis Lamm, who is also a former Lifesavers board member, calls that "Dream stuff. As if the wild horse and burro groups are going to be able to raise some \$8 million per year to hold horses in sanctuaries."

"I don't think there is enough room in the system for all these horses or all the others they're going to bring off the range," agreed Starr.

Points out Lamm, "The wild horse groups couldn't even get organized to help Jean-Marie Webster with the Slick Gardner rescue," involving about 300 wild horses from Nevada whom Gardner was convicted of neglecting at several California sites. Lifesavers took some of the horses, as did other sanctuaries, but Webster ended up with most, according to Lamm.

"Webster is shelling out around \$900 per day to feed those horses," Lamm continued. "That's a huge outlay, even for someone with means. Where is all of this fantasy money? When we can adequately fund the animals now in private care, we can consider some of this pie-in-the-sky stuff," Lamm said. "Until then, and especially with the volume of mail some of us contend with daily, we need to distill what we distribute.

"Our solution, whatever it may be, can't be such that it drains the animal charity well," Lamm emphasized. "Even if we could raise the funds for these animals, any significant inroads would be at the expense of other worthwhile animal programs and projects.

"Even if there was some magical outpouring of new donor money," Lamm added, "there isn't a sufficient longterm revenue stream to maintain these horses. What happens when the money runs short? We will have created the thermonuclear equivalent of the Slick Gardner mess.

"An alternative model that can be cost-effective," Lamm allowed, "involves organizing grassroots volunteers to provide foster care for animals until they are adopted. These types of projects can be extremely beneficial when properly designed and managed, but they too can get complicated," Lamm warned. "I can't recall the numbers of times we've had to go in and recover animals belonging to other organizations when their foster system broke down. In most instances, foster care is effective only for short-term rescue, and the organizing groups need to have credible placement strategies, not assume that animals can stay in foster care indefinitely.

"I've dealt with enough dead and dying horses to last a lifetime," Lamm

reminded. "Almost all of those animals suffered at the hands of 'rescuers.'

(from page 15)

"Shifting gears, the BLM has thousands of horses who are in longterm holding but have not reached sale age," Lamm warned. "I'm concerned that if we somehow manage to successfully absorb all the current sale horses, some folks will say, 'See, that wasn't so bad,' and drop the sale age down to five or six. We need to be visibly engaged in a strategy for these 'middle-aged' horses."

Agreed Humane Society of the U.S. vice president for legislation Mike Markarian, "We're not in the position of privately funding new sanctuaries to clean up the government's mess. We need the BLM to let the wild horses roam freely on the public lands. The public lands should be viewed as sanctuaries for these horses," Markarian told Smantha Young of the Las Vegas *Review-Journal*.

Merle Edsall

"We have sanctuaries ready to go on line on the Crow Reservation in Montana and in the grasslands of Sonora, Mexico," Montana rancher Merle Edsall wrote to Conrad Burns on March 21.

"Our agent in Texas was able to obtain an electronic copy of Merle Edsall's letter to Senator Burns," Lamm explained before making it public.

Edsall in 2002 proposed to relocate up to 10,000 BLM horses to the northern Sonora desert in Mexico. This very dry region, which already has a small wild horse population, is heavily traveled by would-be illegal immigrants to the U.S. and the "peoplesmugglers" who help them cross the border.

Partners in the horses-to-Mexico scheme included retired McDonnell-Douglas vice president Philip Edsall, Sonora rancher Humberto Hoyhos, and Johannes von Trapp, one of the younger members of the family whose story was told in the 1963 film *The Sound of Music*, who went on to build the Stowe ski resort in northern Vermont.

National Wild Horse and Burro Program group manager John Fend stalled the Edsall scheme in August 2002 by advising that moving horses to Mexico would illegally remove them from the protection of the 1971 Wild and Free Ranging Horse and Burro Act, and would therefore require Congressional action to implement.

The Burns amendment was the requisite Congressional action.

"Mr. Edsall's plan seems like a benign solution to rancher/mustang conflicts on the surface. The likely outcome is much grimmer," opined the Humane Society of the U.S. in a 2002 alert. "In 2001, 626,000 horses were slaughtered in Mexico," HSUS noted.

"Edsall says he wants to build a wild horse tourist attraction," summarized Deanne Stillman in the February 16, 2005 edition of *Slate*, "but once they move south of the border, it would be impossible to monitor what happens to them. Edsall may also have influenced the Burns rider," Stillman wrote. "The language in the Burns rider was the exact same wording floated by Edsall at a meeting of the BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board in February 2004 in Phoenix."

Edsall in his March 21 letter to Burns began by complaining that the BLM is spending too much time and money trying to place horses with adoption groups instead of simply selling them to him.

"Many of us believe a new 'adoption' program was not the intent of the sale authority legislation," Edsall wrote.

Edsall told Burns that he had notified BLM wild horse program manager Jeff



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Mares and foals at the BLM's Pyramid Lake adoption center near Reno.

Pyramid Mountain is in the background. (Kim Bartlett)

Rawson that his partnership would "buy all remaining eligible horses on the condition BLM pay the holding costs for one year."

That would require the BLM to pay Edsall close to \$2 million if the horses were kept on the Crow Reservation, or about \$1 million if they were divided between the Crow Reservation and Sonora, based on estimates that Edsall gave to Perry Backus of the Montana Standard.

"The savings over the present \$1.25 [per horse day] paid for long-term facilities funded by BLM is obvious," said Edsall.

At the per day cost of keeping a horse of less than $75 \, \varphi$ projected by Edsall, the profit potential per horse at the present slaughter auction price of about \$1.00 per pound would be close to \$1.000.

"Our deal with the Crow is dead," Edsall told the Billings *Gazette* on March 31, after the BLM refused to be stampeded into selling horses to him.

"Edsall and his company, ETH Inc., had signed a letter of intent with the Crow tribe in February to pay the tribe more than \$1 million per year to look after 4,000 wild horses.," the Billings *Gazette* reported.

Hardly anyone believed Edsall had actually lost interest in horsetrading.

Slaughter link

"Due to the public's outcry against a perceived 'slaughter' authority," Edsall continued to Burns, "many people in the West are fearful of legislation in the House and Senate," specifically HR 503, the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act, "which threatens to eliminate the horse packing industry. The projected impact of this action will cost the private sector \$124 million the first year," Edsall claimed, "and will increase astronomically each year thereafter. The effect on the sales of horses of all breeds is incalculable, as is the effect on the wild horse adoption program.

"As you are aware," Edsall continued, "I spoke with Nevada Senator John

Ensign's office regarding a western constituency which desires to support legislation to halt such a threat. Senator Ensign's bill addresses banning horsemeat used for human consumption, a conciliation which should be offered to the American public," Edsall said.

The Ensign bill has not yet been introduced. Ensign introduced an unsuccessful attempt to repeal the Burns amendment late in the last Congress.

"We feel the momentum for humane legislation will assist in the passage of the Montana disposable lands action (MDLA)," Edsall added, "which we hope to join to this legislative proposal. Each bill is a component of action required to 'save wild horses."

The "Montana disposable lands action" is a bill to authorize the sale of BLM-leased federal grazing land to the current lease-holders, who often pay much less for grazing rights that the estimated free market value.

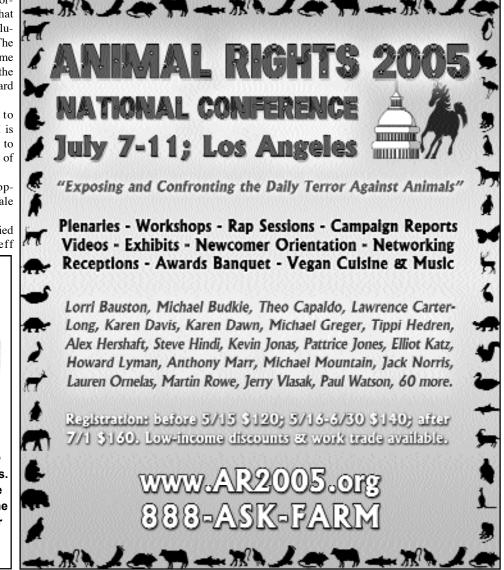
Thus the Edsall "save wild horses' scheme would convey horses, land, and funding to a handful of established landholders, who then might sell the horses, or their foals.

"We have assured the Montana Governor's office of a desire for our company to provide opportunities for other tribes," Edsall went on to Burns. "Reno Charette, the Director of Indian Affairs, has requested that I speak with all the tribal leaders of Montana in Governor Schweitzer's office on March 23," Edsall said. "This presentation is timely for the newly formed Montana Bureau of Indian Tourism. BIA regional director Keith Beartusk has stated that the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming will also be a site which may offer a large expanse of land.

"Like the Sonora business plan states, any sanctuaries which we propose with the Indian Nations will also have tourism and internet adoption components," Edsall said.

Noted Lamm, "This letter may be an interesting reference point," especially "if Senator Burns again denies any involvement with Mr. Edsall."

—Merritt Clifton



Ontario bans pit bull terriers after August 31, 2005

Liability Act violations, with possible penalties of up to \$30,000 in fines. A 17-year-old girl was charged with three counts of criminal negligence causing bodily harm. Her name was not disclosed, in keeping with the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

"Cafe was fined \$2,310 earlier this winter for another incident in which his dogs attacked a four-year-old boy and his 16-yearold stepbrother as they skated on an ice rink near Woodbridge Crescent," reported Neco Cockburn, April Lindgren, and Ken Gray of the Ottawa Citizen.

Bans on the sale or possession of pit bulls and other reputed fighting breeds have been in effect in the Netherlands, France, Britain, and Germany for as long as 20 years, as well as in China and several other Asian nations. Ordinances of similar intent have been adopted by many individual U.S. and Canadian cities, but the Ontario ban is the first in either the U.S. or Canada to extend beyond the limits of a single city or county.

The Ontario legislation is modeled

after the city statutes enacted earlier by Kitchener-Waterloo and Windsor, and by Winnipeg, Manitoba, where the last licensed pit bull died in 2004, 14 years after the breed ban took effect.

"The experience in Winnipeg and Kitchener was that you began to see a drop in pit bull bites, even after the first couple of vears." Bryant told Greg Bonnell of Canadian Press. "We should immediately have better protection of the public.'

Winnipeg animal services chief Tim Dack affirmed to Canadian Press that pit bull attacks in Winnipeg have dropped from a peak of 29 in 1989 to zero in recent years.

The Ontario pit bull ban was endorsed during February legislative hearings by Toronto police chief Julian Fantino, who in March became the provincial commissioner of emergency services.

"Pit bulls are the dogs of choice for criminals," Fantino testified, mentioning motorcycle gangs and drug dealers. Fantino associated pit bull proliferation with increasing use of firearms by police officers.

"Our officers are becoming as cognizant of dangerous dogs as they are of guns when they arrive on scenes of their calls." Fantino continued. "At that, multiple shots have to be fired" in a typical confrontation.

Pit bulls encountered by police, often while serving warrants or investigating domestic violence complaints, "have been trained to attack, and are being actively used as weapons," Fantino said.

Both opposition parties opposed the pit bull ban, as urged by the American Staffordshire Terrier Club of Canada, the Ontario Veterinary Association, the Animal Alliance of Canada, and the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club of Canada. The latter retained noted Toronto trial lawyer Clayton Ruby to try to overturn the ban in court.

Arguments against the ban include alleged inspecificity in defining pit bulls and the complications that could occur if pit bulls are transported through Ontario from provinces where they are legal. A person can-

not drive across Canada without either passing through Ontario or detouring into the U.S., around the Great Lakes.

Canadian provinces, however, have wider legislative autonomy than U.S. states and the provinces of most other nations. Canadian provincial laws are occasionally overturned under the national Charter of Rights & Freedoms, but mostly for infringing linguistic rights or regulating subjects not previously within the scope of government.

Organizations called the Dog Legislation Council of Canada and Advocates for the Underdog have formed "an underground railroad of sorts" to convey pit bulls out of Ontario, Bonnell of Canadian Press reported.

Others may be doing similar things. Investigating a suspected front for procuring "bait" animals for fighting dog trainers in rural Missouri that presented itself as a "rescue" for "dangerous dogs" and small mammals, ANI-MAL PEOPLE in mid-March 2005 found numerous mentions of both dogfighting and organized efforts to move pit bulls out of Ontario in web postings by devotees of a band called "My Chemical Romance." The suspect "rescue" used an e-mail address including a reference to the band, but had no evident direct connection with the band.

U.S. laws

The most recent of many lawsuits filed against breed-specific legislation in the U.S. was filed in mid-March 2005 by University of Mississippi student Paden McCullough.

McCullough sued the Tupelo-Lee Humane Society in U.S. District Court for allegedly unconstitutionally seizing eight fourweek-old pit bull puppies and fining him \$100, after he brought the dogs home from school in violation of a local breed-specific ordinance.

"The city of Tupelo has denied any culpability, saying that McCullough's complaint is with the humane society," wrote Leesha Faulkner of the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal. "According to an answer filed recently by the city in federal court, a contract with the humane society calls for the nonprofit to indemnify the city from all legal claims unless they involve the city's automobile insurance."

While Tupelo seems to be backing away from defending its own ordinance, political momentum in the U.S. has favored breedspecific ordinances at the local level.

The momentum has run the other way at the state level. Pit bull fanciers, the American Kennel Club, the American SPCA, and the Humane Society of the U.S. rushed this spring in Alabama, Arizona, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Texas, and Washington to head off local breed bans and insurance industry efforts to avoid covering pit bulls, Rottweilers, and close mixes.

> Pits, Rotts, and their close mixes (continued on page 18)

ew murder-by-dog case filed in Virginia

FREDERICKSBURG—The first murder-by-dog case filed in Virginia was on March 24, 2005 set for an April 20 preliminary hearing in Spotsylvania County Circuit Court, three days after a grand jury indicted Deanna Hilda Large, 36, of Partlow, on one felony count of involuntary manslaughter, carrying a possible 10-year prison sentence, and three misdemeanor counts of allowing dangerous dogs to run loose.

Large was briefly jailed but was released on \$10,000 bond after police determined that her three unneutered male pit bulls on March 8, 2005 killed distant neighbor Dorothy Sullivan, 82, and Sullivan's Shih Tzu in Sullivan's front yard.

The first sheriff's deputy to arrive, after an emergency call by Sullivan's daughter, reportedly shot two of the pit bulls at the scene. The third was captured and euthanized later. Local police shot two more pit bulls outside Large's home two days later when they charged as the officers interviewed her.

"The [five] dogs were suspected of killing other pets in the neighborhood, including a German shepherd [on March 1, 2005] and a kitten," wrote Emily Battle and Keith Epps of the Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star. "Sources said that although Large was questioned in those cases, there was not enough evidence to file charges."

The Large dogs apparently also skirmished with the dogs of a nearby pit bull breeder, who at least once fired a gun to break up the fighting, Battle and Epps reported. "Large is no stranger to the court system," added Epps and Free Lance-Star colleague Bill Freehling. "She was convicted of aggravated sexual battery in 1998 for having sex in a vehicle with a 12-year-old boy,"

identified as a friend of one of her sons. She was sentenced to three years in prison with all but four months suspended, according to court records. That same year, she was convicted of a felony charge of leaving the scene of an accident. She got a \$250 fine and a suspended 30-day jail sentence in that case."

Other cases

In a parallel but less publicized case, Billy Earl Marberry, 54, of Lanett, Alabama, was charged with manslaughter on February 16, 2005 for the February 4 fatal mauling of Barbara J. Pilkington, 70. Pilkington was killed on a sidewalk near her home by a loose pit bull who allegedly belonged to Marberry.

Charged with criminally negligent homicide for the November 2003 fatal mauling of horse rescuer Jennifer Brooke, 40, by three pit bulls in Elbert County, Colorado, William Lawrence Gladney, 48, is still at large. Missing a scheduled court appearance in the case on January 18, 2005, Gladney was additionally named in an arrest warrant in connection with the October 23, 2004 shooting death of Marlo Earl Johnson, 35, at an Adams County motel.

Gladney's wife, Jacqueline McCuen, 33, was in December 2004 sentenced to serve six years in prison for the Brooke killing. McCuen had an extensive prior criminal record including convictions in Iowa for prostitution and forgery.

Manslaughter charges against Roger Allen Hansen, 36, of Lucinda, Pennsylvania, were dropped on February 16, 2005, after Hansen accepted a three-month jail sentence for allowing his three Rottweilers to run at large. The dogs escaped from their kennel

and killed his three-year-old niece, Lily Krajewski, in March 2003. Hansen's mother, Kathleen Josephine Hansen, 62, who was also grandmother of the victim, was acquitted of involuntary manslaughter in January 2005, but served six days in jail and was fined \$5,000 for negligent conduct.

In Appleton, Wisconsin, Calumet County Circuit Judge Don Poppy on March 15, 2005 sentenced Jenilee Barlament, 19, to serve seven months in jail plus five months suspended, four years on probation, and 250 hours of community service for allowing her pit bull to run loose on May 17, 2004.

The dog inflicted severe head and facial injuries on Maika A. Thao, 8, as she walked home from school. Police told Barlament to have the dog euthanized after he twice attacked members of her family, but Barlament ignored the order.

Anastasia Melissa Richardson, 27 of Aloha, Oregon, on February 15, 2005 drew 18 months in prison for allowing her two pit bulls to escape and severely maul Joshua Pia Perez, 7, as well as Kathleen Imel, 51. Imel saved Perez by leaping out of her car and throwing herself on top of him.

Richardson "previously has been convicted of resisting arrest, harassment and several drug crimes, and was ordered not to have a dangerous dog so a parole officer could visit safely," wrote Holly Danks of the Portland Oregonian.

Richardson admitted that her dogs were vicious in a television news interview, but Circuit Judge Mark Gardner refused to admit the interview as evidence, and dismissed a charge of causing physical injury through extreme indifference to the value of

New Hampshire greyhound execs hit by indictments

Ayotte that a consortium called the New Hampshire Gaming Association is unfit to hold a dog racing license, "The Lakes Region Greyhound Park is actively seeking a buyer and upon finding one, may surrender its racing license under a tentative deal with the attorney general's office even before the state Pari-Mutual Commission conducts hearings on whether to revoke it," Fosters Daily Democrat staff writer John Koziol reported on March 29, 2005.

The Lakes Region Greyhound Park has reportedly lost money recently and laid off staff.

Former Lakes Region Greyhound Park general manager Richard Hart and assistant general manager Jonathan Broome were among 17 people indicted in January 2005 for allegedly running a five-state illegal betting ring based in Concord, New Hampshire that handled \$200 million in just four years. The ring allegedly operated within an entity called the International Players Association.

The money "was laundered through various off-site bet-

Responding to a report by New Off-Track on the Isle of Man in the March 4, one day after Grey 2K Hampshire attorney general Kelly United Kingdom," wrote Provi- USA president Carey Theil asked dence Journal State House Bureau reporter Scott Mayerowitz.

At least six members of the Hart family, some now suing each other, were involved in running the Lakes Region Greyhound Park and International Players Association. They bought the track in 1991, three years after Richard Hart and his brother Kenneth were convicted of running an illegal gambling ring in Massachusetts.

Indicted with Hart and Broome were three alleged associates of the Gambino organized crime family. The International Players Association arrangements purportedly allowed one alleged Gambino associate, Anthony Uvari, to collect a tax refund of \$156,794 in 2003 by claiming gambling losses that were actually incurred by other bettors.

The scheme used live feeds of greyhound races from Lincoln Park in Rhode Island, among other tracks. Told of the indictments on January 20, Lincoln Park did not quit providing live feeds to the Lakes Region

CONCORD, N.H.-- ting companies, including Euro track and Euro Off-Track until the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation to order Lincoln Park to stop.

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Province of Ontario bans pit bull terriers after August 31, 2005 (from page 17)

together appear to account for about 75% of total canine actuarial risk: about \$750 million of the annual \$1 billion payout in dog attack cases. [Actuarial risk is the ratio of payout on claims to the numbers of insured individuals.] The average settlement is about \$16,000, Charlie Soltan of the Maine Association of Insurance Companies testified at a recent Maine legislative hearing.

Clifton

The Colorado legislature in 2004 banned breed-specific ordinances, overturning a 20-year-old pit bull ban in Denver-whose shelters were receiving fewer pit bulls than those of any other major U.S. city.

Most of the breed-specific bills proposed in spring 2005 state legislative sessions did not clear preliminary committee reviews.

However, the Washington state house of representatives in March 2005 passed a bill that would bar insurers from denying or canceling homeowners' policies based on possession of a particular breed of dog. Now before the Washington state senate, such legislation is already in effect in some other states, giving insurers a choice between compelling all policy holders to subsidize the actu-

arial risk associated with the most dangerous few breeds, or simply refusing to insure anyone with any dogs.

An attempt by Illinois state representative Jerry Mitchell (R-Sterling) to introduce 10 breed-specific definitions to Illinois dangerous dog legislation was in mid-March amended into a bill that would encourage pet sterilization and discourage running-at-large, through the efforts of American SPCA lobbyist Ledy von Kavage.

Von Kavage pointed out that none of the dogs involved in 22 recent Illinois fatal

attacks had been sterilized. However, most unsterilized dogs are not nearly as capable as pit bulls of inflicting fatal injuries, and sterilization incentives have so far conspicuously not persuaded possessors of pit bulls.

Mitchell introduced his bill after Lydia Elaine Chaplin, 14, of Erie, Illinois, froze to death on January 27 after a mauling near her home by three free-roaming pit bulls and a boxer. Sheriffs' deputies promptly identified the man whose dogs killed Chaplin, but neither named him nor promptly filed charges.

-M.C.

the meth cookers

ANDERSON, S.C.—Firefighters responding to a March 20 explosion and fire at a methamphetamine still in Anderson County, South Carolina, found 23 pit bull terriers chained to nearby trees, along with 24 Chihuahuas and an Akita. Burn victim John Woods was airlifted to Augusta, Georgia for emergency care. Quilla Ralph Woods, 59, and Brenda Joyce Keaton, 51, with charged with illegally manufacturing methadrine. Q.R. Woods "has a 15-page criminal history dating to 1966 and is listed on the state's sex offender registry," reported Charmaine Smith and Kelly Davis of the Anderson Independent-Mail. Q.R. Woods also was charged with possession of a firearm by a felon.

The circumstances under which the dogs were found would appear virtually certain to bring related criminal convictions, but prosecutors have often run into legal obstacles in pursuing charges against suspected breeders of fighting dogs and the breeders' spouses. The main difficulty is in proving that the breeders and their spouses knew that the dogs were used for criminal activity.

Different judges have twice in four months thrown out racketeering charges filed against Luther Johnson Jr., 38, of Wetumka, Oklahoma, alleged organizer of a dogfighting ring that police hit with a series of raids between May and July 2004. Johnson, his girlfriend Shevetta Lee, and his brother LeShon Johnson, 34, an ex-pro football player, allegedly owned 68 of the 225 pit bulls who were seized in the raids. LeShon Johnson is also seeking dismissal of racketeering and conspiracy charges.

All charges against Lee were dropped in December 2004. She is now seeking to reclaim the 50-odd pit bulls who remain in custody at the Tulsa Animal Shelter.

Of the 30 other people arrested during the raids, about half have accepted plea bargains, Hughes County assistant district attorney Linda Evans told Anthony Thornton at The Oklahoman.

A Mobile County Circuit Court jury on March 18 convicted Walter Tyrone Ware, 33, of six counts pertained to dogfighting and possession of illegal steroids, but acquitted his wife Tanisa Latrice Ware, 31, who testified that she knew nothing of the activities that occurred on her land and never saw the dogs. All 23 dogs removed from the property were euthanized. Mobile veterinarian John Symes testified that that many were severely injured and emaciated. Six had fresh bite wounds.

Regardless of the outcome of dogfights and dogfighting cases, the dogs are the ultimate losers, Louisiana SPCA executive director Laura Maloney reminded the public after euthanizing 56 pit bulls on March 14 who were seized three days earlier from reputed dogfighting ringleaders Floyd Boudreaux, 70, and his son Guy Boudreaux, 40.

Forty alleged gamecocks were seized in the same raid, which came just over a month after 53 pit bulls were seized in the reported biggest ever dogfighting raid in Mississippi, two months after 88 pit bulls were seized in the reported biggest ever dogfighting raid in Texas. The SPCA of Texas was judicially authorized to euthanize the Texas dogs at the discretion of senior staff. Doll Stanley of In Defense of Animals' Mississippi Project took in the Mississippi dogs, along with nine more pit bulls who were seized five days before the Boudreaux raid.

Both Floyd and Guy Boudreaux were charged with dogfighting, cruelty to animals, illegal possession of a sawed-off shotgun, and illegal possession of steroids. The accused face potential fines of \$25,000 per charge plus 10 years in prison.

The Louisiana SPCA adopts out pit bulls, unlike many shelters, and Maloney has a pet pit bull, but she judged the Boudreaux pit bulls to be too aggressive, even those who were puppies, to take chances with.

Floyd Boudreaux sold pit bulls throughout the U.S., and to Mexico and Japan, police said, allegedly promoting them as "a piece of history."

The history of pit bulls in the South is inextricably intertwined with that of the Ku Klux Klan. Introduced to the U.S. from Britain as a waterfront gambling activity, dogfighting spread throughout the South with the rise of the Klan after the Civil War.

Until the 1930s the Klan in the South openly raised funds and recruited membership through dogfights, cockfights, raccoon hunting with dogs, and pigeon shoots. States with Klan-dominated legislatures were the last to ban dogfighting, and among the last to ban cockfighting (still legal in Louisiana).

White supremacist motorcycle and "skinhead" gangs reintroduced dogfighting to

the west in the 1970s and 1980s, after it had been all but eliminated for half a century. Closely associated with methadrine trafficking, dogfighting appears to have crossed into the Afro-American and Hispanic inner city drug cultures and into Native American reservations during the 1980s via prison gangs.

An allegedly racially motivated February 15 incident in Great Falls, Montana encapsulated much of this history in microcosm. Terry Lee Wells, 19, and Casey A. Klotz, 18, allegedly drove alongside a car driven by a 22-year-old Afro-American they did not know, yelled racial insults at him, chased him to his home, stoned his car, set a pit bull terrier on him, beat him, and stole his jacket and wallet, which were found by police in Klotz's car. Klotz, a Caucasian woman, was charged with theft and criminal mischief. A warrant was issued for Wells' arrest on a charge of felony criminal endangerment.

A Native American, Wells was already on probation for using a baseball bat to break the arm of a man who refused to fight him in June 2002, and was to be tried on April for criminal possession of dangerous drugs with intent to distribute.

The association of white supremacists with the breeding of fighting dogs was again exposed on March 14 in San Francisco, when attorneys for Marjorie Knoller, 49, asked the California First District Court of Appeal to reverse her involuntary manslaughter conviction for the January 2001 dog-mauling death of neighbor Diane Whipple, 33. On the same day, the prosecution asked the same court to reinstate a second degree murder conviction against Knoller, set aside by trial judge James Warren before she was sentenced. Knoller's husband, Robert Noel, 63, was also convicted of involuntary manslaughter, and has also appealed.

Summarized Associated Press legal affairs writer David Kravets, "Knoller and Robert Noel were keeping a pair of Presa Canarios [a mix of pit bull and mastiff developed for dogfighting in the Canary Islands] for a white supremacist prison inmate when the dogs attacked Whipple." The inmate, reputed Aryan Brotherhood kingpin Paul Schneider, 42, is serving a life sentence.

"Noel's attorney claims that Noel being portrayed as a white supremacist sympathizer prejudiced the jury. Knoller also makes



Historically using so-called blood sports to raise funds and recruit, the Ku Klux Klan solicited membership at the 1992 Labor Day pigeon shoot in Hegins, Pennsylvania. An unidentified protester [center] confronted them, closely watched by two state troopers [extreme right]. (Merritt Clifton)

that claim," Kravets wrote.

Both Knoller and Noel, now disbarred, were attorneys who represented Schneider and other alleged Aryan Brotherhood members.

A disbarred attorney and two Presa Canarios, also called bull mastiffs, were also involved on February 28, 2005, when Paul E. Meyer, 57, drew 10 days in jail from Akron Municipal Court Judge Alison McCarty, after a year-long court battle.

In May 2003, Meyer's two dogs mauled a neighbor's golden retriever in Bath Township, an Akron suburb, then bit and flattened a tire of an investigating police officer's cruiser. These were the eighth and ninth reported violent incidents involving the dogs since June 2000. Convicted on two counts of failing to restrain a dangerous dog and one count of failing to register a dog, all misdemeanors, Meyer appealed unsuccessfully to the Ninth District Court of Appeals and the Ohio Supreme Court.

Meyer's license to practice law was suspended in 1997 after he admitted having a drug abuse problem and pleaded guilty to grand theft and trafficking in food stamps. Meyer was investigated for violating the suspension in 2000 after appearing in federal court with a man who was accused of urinating on a park ranger's car.

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Demolition, eviction, & deeds (from page 1)

little space to begin with, and this corridor of land," where the demolition occurred, "was the hugest dustbin and pile of rubble you ever saw," before Friendicoes annexed it. The rubbish heap "had been there for 15 years while the authorities fought over who had a a budget to clean it up," Seshamani said. "I asked for use of it, saying if we could clean it up, we could keep our Animal Birth Control program post-surgery cases there. They must have thought I was mad, and the local [municipal] engineer gave me permission. It took us a year to make it presentable, a bit at a time," while a ruling by the Supreme Court of India in favor of the ABC approach and against killing dogs resulted in the Friendicoes SECA sterilization surgery workload doubling.

"We covered the corridor with fibreglas sheets to weatherproof it and tiled the floor," Seshamani recounted, "and suddenly the shopping complex next door eyed it as valuable property, and the next thing I knew, dogs, baby monkeys, cats and puppies were all out there traumatized, piled up and thrown out. Someone called up Priyanka Gandhi," daughter of assassinated former Indian prime minister Rajiv Gandhi and Congress Party head Sonia Gandhi, "and she at once intervened, and the Lieutenant Governor's office told them not to use bull dozers on us, or touch us further. Now I am sitting in various offices applying for formal allocation of this piece of land for the animals of Delhi," Sashamani finished.

Reported by local editions of the *Hindustan Times* and Times of India, the Friendicoes SECA crisis may have a happy ending.

Cancun demolition

The outcome of a similar case involving the Asociación Provida Animal, A.C. of Cancun, Mexico, appears much more difficult to project.

"Disregarding a commitment to relocate more than 100 dogs from the shelter, at 4:00 a.m. on February 5th the building company Opresa S.A. de C.V., which is building a commercial site by the name of Gran Plaza, invaded and demolished the shelter facilities while the dogs were still inside," charged shelter supporter Phillipe Jean Figueroa in an e-mail to ANIMAL PEOPLE.

"Some were run over by heavy machinery and killed," as attached photos confirmed. "Many more escaped," Figueroa continued. "The present conditions are very bad."

Translating Figueroa's e-mail from the Spanish original, ANIMAL PEOPLE promptly responded with questions to which a Marie Figueroa promised answers. Both Phillipe Jean Figueroa and Marie Figueroa may be related to Rosalinda Figueroa, who founded the Asociación Provida Animal, A.C.

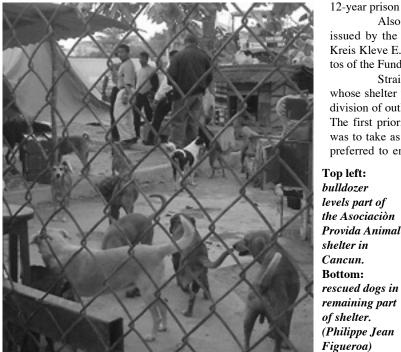
More than seven weeks later, ANIMAL PEOPLE still had no further information from any of the Figueroas, who may have been advised to say nothing by attorneys seeking settlement of their case.

However, Araceli Dominguez of Cancun investigated the situation for ANIMAL PEOPLE, at request of dolphin defender Ric O'Barry, of One Voice. Often clashing with Cancun "swim-with-dolphins" promoters, O'Barry introduced Dominguez as "The best animal rights activist in Cancun."

Rosalinda Figueroa, Dominguez reported, "had a refuge for the dogs in a place that was originally outside the city, but because the city has grown so much, the land became part of the city. Her family owns this land, which is near where the Gran Plaza mall is to be built. As I understand it," Dominguez said, trying to unravel an apparently quite tangled story, "there was a lot of misunderstanding among the family and the people who want to build. Supposedly they were negotiating with Rosalinda Figueroa to buy the land, and her brother sold it, but she never knew about it, and things like that.

"Finally the mall developers told her that they were





going to breach the wall of the refuge if Rosalinda Figueroa did not leave. They were talking about giving her money and another piece of land, and they were in this discussion when the company that was contracted to build the mall arrived and smashed the walls," Dominguez summarized.

"Rosalinda Figueroa tried to stop it. Allegedly the bulldozer driver said that he was going to kill her, and she said, 'Do it, because I am not going to move.' The police took the driver to jail. They released him two days later," Dominguez said. "The government is not doing anything.

"I can understand that there were many misunderstandings with the money, the land and whatever," Dominguez opined, "but this was not the right way to solve the problem. There were 185 dogs at the shelter that Rosalinda Figueroa took from the streets. Some were puppies. Some were sick. She fed them and took care of them. Ten dogs were killed and 23 disappeared. Rosalinda Figueroa still has 153, but without walls it is very difficult for her to handle them, and she does not want to move to any other place until this problem

"Rosalinda Figueroa is fighting this with lawyers, asking a judge to make justice. We will have to wait to see what is going to happen," Dominguez concluded.

K9 Friends

Bulldozers didn't come crashing through the walls of K9 Friends' shelter in Al Barsha, Dubai, but a 90-day eviction notice delivered in February comparably shocked the founders and volunteers. With 87 dogs on hand, and nowhere else to go, they needed to rehome almost a dog a day.

This was not necessarily impossible for K9 Friends —just difficult. Founded in 1987 as a dog club, K9 Friends branched into rescue fostering the following year. K9 Friends rehomed more than 3,000 dogs during the next 11 years. The organization then rented a warehouse in Al Barsha, renovated it as a shelter, and rehomed another 1,000 dogs in four years.

Along the way, K9 Friends also inspired formation of a parallel society, Feline Friends, to rescue, foster, and rehome cats.

Operating on a budget of \$109,000 in 2004, raised mostly from the Dubai expatriate community, K9 Friends has been perhaps the most successful dog rehoming project between western Europe and Hong Kong.

Yet through mid-March it had not found other rented premises it could afford, and had appealed to Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed, seeking donated space.

Rental properties are scarce in Dubai to begin with. Sites suitable for kennel use are scarcer still, and the situation may be compounded by prejudice against dogs and resentment of expatriates accentuated by the U.S. presence in Iraq.

Fundatia Daisy Hope

A similar catastrophe recently befell the Fundatia Daisy Hope, of Bucharest, Romania, profiled by ANIMAL PEOPLE in June 2004. Cofounders Aura Maratas and Daniela Ristea barely knew each other before starting the outdoor shelter in March 2001, after then-Bucharest mayor Traian Basescu threatened to start massacring street dogs. Ristea leased to the Fundatia Daisy Hope her third of a lot that she and her siblings had recently inherited, zoned for light industrial use. Maratas, who with her husband started a business that exports furniture and imports sugar, furnished most of the necessary cash and management knowhow.

The Fundatia Daisy Hope was one of only two animal shelters to get started in inner Bucharest before stricter enforcement of zoning laws forced other shelter operators to set up beyond the highway that rings the developed suburbs

The other inner Bucharest shelter, started at about the same time. located a block away on the same street, is the Asociatia Prietenii Animalelor Romania, also known as Adapostul Christi and Tierschutz Christi.

As ANIMAL PEOPLE reported after viewing both shelters, they could scarcely have been more different. The Fundatia Daisy Hope was bright, open, friendly toward neighbors, welcoming to visitors, and quick to present financial details to potential donors. Tierschutz Christi, admitting no visitors, was a high-security prison for dogs, accused by neighbors of making dogs into sausage. It was among the Romanian shelters in whose name German fundraiser Wolfgang Ullrich, 60, embezzled as much as \$45 million. Convicted in Munich in April 2003 of stealing \$28 million, Ullrich is now serving a 12-year prison term.

Also in 2003, Maratas obtained a copy of an appeal issued by the German organization Tierschutzverein fur den Kreis Kleve E.V. on behalf of Tierschutz Christi that used photos of the Fundatia Daisy Hope.

Straightening out the ensuing donor confusion over whose shelter was which was a minor irritant compared to the division of outlook that developed between Maratas and Ristea. The first priority for Ristea, as the dog massacres continued, was to take as many dogs off the streets as possible. Maratas preferred to emphasize outreach sterilization and quality care

bulldozer

shelter in

remaining part

of shelter.

Friendicoes SECA resident monkey & cats. (Bonny Shah)

for "only" 230 dogs at a time, in order to show visitors how dogs should be kept. Ristea, apparently pressured by siblings who want to sell the site, also wanted the Fundatia Daisy Hope to buy the land, including her siblings' shares. Maratas liked the idea in principle, but saw other priorities.

In late 2004 Maratas and Ristea finally split. Maratas in mid-February expected to have to leave the property immediately, but on March 12 e-mailed, "I solved my problem with the land until the end of the rental period in September 2006. In the meantime I will buy some land," outside the ring highway, "and next year I will move the shelter step by step."

Ce-Ce & Friends

The Friendicoes SECA and Asociación Provida Animal, A.C. partial demolitions were extreme examples of a pattern of failure to secure title deeds and zoning permits that ANIMAL PEOPLE has identified as responsible for more shelter closures than the combined totals resulting from fundraising failures, criminal mismanagement such as embezzling, deaths of founders, fires, and natural disasters.

The K9 Friends and Fundatia Daisy Hope episodes, though occurring abroad, exemplify how the pattern often plays out in the U.S.—and is playing out now for small shelters from the Ce-Ce & Friends Humane Society in Quincy, Massachusetts, to the Sylvester Foundation of O'ahu, Hawaii.

"Ce-Ce & Friends Humane Society has negotiated a settlement with landlord Antonio Bandis that will allow the animal shelter to stay at its present site until June," Jenn Abelson of the Boston Globe reported on February 6. "Bandis sent an eviction notice to the volunteers at the no-kill feline shelter, ordering them to leave by the end of January."

The shelter has occupied the site on a month-tomonth basis since 1998. Ce-Ce & Friends treasurer Karen Barrett told Abelson that Bandis had refused to provide a lease.

Bandis lives in a house behind the shelter, and has a rental apartment above it. He told Abelson that previous tenants have complained about the presence of the shelter, which houses approximately 30 cats at a time, adopting out 50 per year-including one cat placed with a former upstairs tenant, according to Barrett.

"We don't want to stay where we are not wanted, but we need more time to find a new place," volunteer Jeannie Allan told Abelson. "We're just having no luck.

Paying rent of about \$700 a month now, Ce-Ce & Friends hopes to find new space for approximately \$1,000 a month, but is finding that suitable locations start around \$1,500 a month, board president Peggy Wright told Abelson.

Recounted Abelson, "The search began in October 2004, after Bandis told them that the shelter had to vacate."

"He swore he would never do that," claimed treasurer Karin Barrett.

Bandis said he warned Ce-Ce & Friends in April 2004 that it would have to move when he finished renovating the upstairs apartment.

Sylvester Foundation

The Hawaii Department of Land & Natural Resources on March 1 evicted the Sylvester Foundation no-kill shelter from a leased 20-acre site near Waimanalu.

(continued on page 20)

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20 - ANIMAL PEOPLE, April 2005

"The lease expired on August 9, 2004, but the agency gave the group until December 17 to vacate the property and find a new home for its 300 animals," *Honolulu Advertiser* Windward O'ahu writer Eloise Aguiar recounted.

Sylvester Foundation director Candy Lake told Aguiar that about 30 Department of Land & Natural Resources personnel, police and others gave her 10 minutes to vacate the site at 9:30 a.m. on March 1, after earlier serving notice that she would subject to eviction at any time after 6:30 a.m.

"They wouldn't let me go back and get my cats," Lake claimed. "And they dumped my mongoose because I didn't have my permit in hand."

"Lake said she was able to remove all the remaining dogs," Aguiar wrote, "but about 25 cats remained. Although she was not allowed on the property, she was able to send a friend to try to capture the cats, she said. Nine dogs were placed in kennels, the cats will stay at a ranch in Waimanalo, and the chickens were moved to another ranch, she said."

The Department of Land & Natural Resources gave Lake at least four extensions of the original deadline to vacate, but lost patience when she turned down an 11.9-acre site the agency offered as unsuitable and too costly to develop, and claimed that bad luck and broken promises by supporters had interfered with other moving plans.

The Sylvester Foundation lost the lease to the 20-acre site at public auction in June 2004. The wnning bid was submitted by the nursery firm Landscape Hawaii.

Animal Adoption Network

Animal Adoption Network founder Fred Acker, of Monroe, Connecticut, expected to avoid the problems associated with not owning a shelter property outright. Acker in 1999 bought a 3.6-acre former farmstead in one of the neighborhoods where **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in 1991-1992 tested neuter/return feral cat control. The Town of Monroe Animal Care & Control mini-shelter is just a few blocks away.

Converting the barn and outbuildings to house about 30 cats and 50 dogs at a time seemed logical. The facilities apparently once included a breeding or boarding kennel—but that was decades ago, before the last working farms in Monroe were subdivided.

If Acker had moved into a vacant former supermarket about a mile to the north, he could have renovated to state-of-the-art adoption shelter standards, including glass-fronted soundproofed dog runs, comfortable in all weather, undetectable by the neighbors from sounds and smells.

CORRECTION ON FREE THE BEARS—The Australian group called "Save The Bears" in the fourth paragraph of "Bear rescue season follows tsunami," on page 18 of our March 2005 edition, is actually named Free The Bears.

Instead, Acker ended up with a more picturesque location that was conceptually obsolete 50 years before it opened. Neighbors irate about constant barking sued him. His legal fees exceeded \$100,000, he told Monroe *Courier* editor Karen Kovacs Dydzuhn. The Monroe Planning & Zoning Commission ordered Acker to keep the dogs indoors from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., and warned him against keeping dogs in a trailer on the property and an unheated greenhouse.

Demolition, eviction, & the deeds that save shelters

Finally, in early 2005, Monroe police seized 11 dogs from the trailer and greenhouse, and hit Acker with 84 cruelty charges. Police chief John Salvatore told the *Courier* "that the conditions went beyond messy cages. He said some of the animals were living in unheated buildings, some without water or with frozen water," Dydzuhn wrote.

Acker had strong defenders, Dydzuhn noted, including American SPCA board member Reenie Brown and local veterinarian David Basak-Smith.

Acker may beat the cruelty charges, but with foreclosure looming, after years of substantial operating losses, he announced in early February 2005 that the Animal Adoption Network shelter will close as soon as he can relocate all the animals, and that he has put the \$1.25 million property up for sale.

Mass neglect allegations are the only cause of shelter failure more common than lack of papers securing a shelter site.

Often lack of a clear title deed or a zoning permit is also the factor that flushes hoarding cases into the open.

Hoarders frequently claim to operate shelters, but—unlike Acker and the Animal Adoption Network—usually have not actually incorporated nonprofit, and have not sought permits to house large numbers of animals.

Legitimate shelters whose land use is threatened have usually followed the steps required to operate, but in their eagerness to get started, have tried to operate on rented, leased, or conditionally "donated" property—like K9 Friends, the Fundatia Daisy Hope, Ce-Ce & Friends, and the Sylvester Foundation. They learn too late that property they do not own can be yanked away from them whenever the landlords or donors change their minds about harboring animals instead pursuing more lucrative or less problematic uses.

Then, desperate to relocate with large numbers of animals, and caught without collateral for a mortgage, they repeat the mistake by moving to another rented, leased, or conditionally donated site.

In addition, legitimate shelters founded by inexperienced people are often situated in anticipation of securing zoning variances or reviving old land uses that are then thwarted, like Acker's hopes, by neighborhood opposition.

Zoning variances may be promised by public officials who underestimate such issues as barking dogs, increased traffic, increased sewer and water use, and the potential cost to a municipality of issuing a variance that results in a lawsuit.

Reviving a former "agricultural" land use in a newly gentrified neighborhood, as Acker tried to do, may be exactly what the neighbors say they want, to preserve green space, but they are more likely to have in mind a Christmas tree farm, a pumpkin patch, or a horse pasture than a rescue operation that recycles facilities left by a long defunct puppy mill.

(from page 19)

When the permits to operate are delayed, denied, or amended in ways that restrict the ability of a shelter to function, the shelter itself becomes vulnerable to lawsuit. Typically the neighbors trying to force it out have much deeper pockets than the young nonprofit organization trying to set up shop—again as Acker learned.

A shelter is a business

Set up shop? That represents another closely related problem. Founders of nonprofit animal shelters often fail to recognize that being nonprofit does not exempt them from the site requirements that must be met by for-profit businesses.

Compliance can require the addition of parking for disabled people and wheelchair ramps, for example, plus fire escape routes that the disabled can use—and that can make prohibitive the cost of renovating older buildings into animal shelters, even when the buildings and land are "free."

In one Vermont case that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** reported about some years ago, an invalid donated a Victorian house to her local humane society because she could no longer get around in it, then conditionally left her estate to the humane society several years later to help cover the crippling expense of making the house properly accessible. The chief condition was that the house had to be used as an animal shelter.

By the time the directors finished fending off relatives who contested the will, they realized that the humane society would be far ahead if they simply sold the house and used the proceeds to buy land and build from scratch. As judges eventually informed them, the will did not allow this.

Nearly bankrupted by the cost of complying with all legal requirements, the humane society finally opened the shelter eight years after the property was donated—and the volunteer staff almost immediately realized it was far too small.

When ANIMAL PEOPLE first mentioned the case, directors of two other Vermont humane societies, in a state which then had only nine, called to say that their organizations had gone through similar events in trying to convert bequests of homes into viable shelters. Some callers wondered if we had mislocated or written about a composite of cases that occurred in other New England states.

The case we wrote about exemplified not an exceptional well-intentioned catastrophe but a syndrome. We only heard about the examples in which the shelter caught in the syndrome survived. If shelters folded, there was no one to receive **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, read the article, and telephone. —*M.C.*

Pro-animal science fiction & fantasy author Andre Norton dies at 93

Andre Norton, 93, died on March 17 from congestive heart failure at her home in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, attended by longtime caretaker Sue Stewart.

Born Alice Mary Norton, in Cleveland, Ohio, Andre Norton changed her name to evade discrimination against female authors in 1934, when she published *The Prince Commands*, the second novel she wrote. Her first, *Ralestone Luck*, appeared in 1938.

Employed in the Cleveland Public Library children's section until 1950, except in 1941 when she owned a bookstore in Maryland and briefly worked for the Library of Congress, Norton at first wrote exclusively for the young audience she knew best. Two years after becoming a manuscript reader for Gnome Press, a science fiction publisher, Norton produced *Star Man's Son* (1952), her first attempt

I the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air, and they were also living souls. For I God breathed into them the breath of life.

Animals have souls same as you.

Hempstead/Nevada Humane Society 2811 Hwy 53 Rosston, Arkansas 71858 Ph. 870-899-2304 at sci-fi. Reissued by Ace Books as *Daybreak*—2250 A.D., it became her first mass market paperback hit.

After several more sci-fi successes, Norton left Gnome Press to write fulltime in 1958. To that point, science fiction targeted mostly male readers; fantasy was written for females. Norton mingled the genre in *The Beast Master* (1959), introducing both the style that would characterize the most productive phase of her career, and the motif of telepathic communication among animals and humans that recurs in most of her biggest hits.

The Beast Master and a sequel, Lord of Thunder (1962), were loosely adapted into the Beastmaster television series (1999-2002), produced in Australia. After the show was cancelled, Norton and Lyn McConchie, of New Zealand, issued two further sequels, Beast Master's Ark (2002), about an effort to recover lost species using stored DNA, and Beast Master's Circus (2004), involving a struggle to bring a cruel intergalactic circus to justice that mirrors current earthly efforts to prosecute ever-moving animal acts.

Keeping as many as seven pet cats at a time, Norton as "Andrew North" in 1953 published All Cats Are Gray, and a year later issued Mousetrap. Having created her first cat-like creatures with telepathic abilities in *The Beast Master*, Norton explored that idea further in Catseye (1961), which starts in an upscale pet shop; Breed to Come (1972), Star Ka'at (1976), Star Ka'at World (1976), Star Ka'Ats & the Plant People (1979), Star Ka'Ats & the Winged Warriors (1981), The Gate of the Cat (1987), and The Mark of the Cat (1992), reissued in 2002 with a sequel, The Year of the Rat.

Usually known for astute judgement of her audience, Norton in the latter made rats the villains,

and may have been surprised that the book was panned by some of the readers she had persuaded to view animals as moral equals.

Norton also edited several anthologies featuring cats.

In Star Hunter (1961), set on a planet opened to trophy hunting because it was deemed devoid of intelligent life, Norton satirized the pretexts and practices of recreational hunters. She expanded upon the theme in Night of Masks (1964) and Iron Cage (1974).

As the Civil War centennial approached, Norton produced the historical novels Ride Proud, Rebel! (1961) and Rebel Spurs (1962), recycling research done originally for her 1956 western Stand To ery side of the war, the Rebel series belonged to a literature of denial made notorious by The Clansman (1905) by Thomas Dixon, restored to respectability a generation later by Margaret Mitchell in Gone With The Wind (1936). Norton's efforts, published just as the civil rights movement made the genre anachronistic, are remembered chiefly for the characters Shawnee the horse and Hannibal the mule.

Norton herself seems to have reappraised her direction. To that point, Norton's work usually featured outcasts. Thereafter, her characters tended to be outcasts at least in part because they belonged to despised minorities or underclasses. Many were distinctly non-white.

Key Out of Time (1963) featured Karara, a Polynesian girl whose pair of telepathic dolphins help to save the earth from space invaders. Scientific attention to dolphin intelligence and communication had just begun, and the popularity of the novel may have contributed to the growth of the marine mammal exhibition industry—but it also helped to build opposition to human

activities that harm dolphins.

Moon of Three Rings (1966) combined pro-civil rights and pro-animal rights themes with political satire, in which Krip the Free Trader was turned into an animal resembling a pine marten as a defense against "evil power seekers," who somewhat resembled wolverines.

Writing about fantastic animals based upon familiar species was probably what Norton did best. Among her many works starring unicorns, dragons, and griffins were Year of the Unicorn (1965), Ride the Green Dragon, co-written with Phyllis Miller (1985), Dragon Magic (1967), The Crystal Gryphon (1972), Gryphon in Glory (1981), Horn Crown (1981), Gryphon's Eyrie, co-written with A.C. Crispin (1984), Falcon Hope, co-written with Pauline Griffin (1992), Flight of Vengeance, co-written with

Pauline Griffin and Mary Schaub (1992), *On Wings of Magic*, cowritten with Patricia Matthews and Sasha Miller (1993), *Falcon Magic*, with Sasha Miller (1994), and her last book, *Dragon Blade*, also coauthored with Sasha Miller (2005).

The unicorn/dragon/griffin stories led Norton into exploring the lives of characters combining human and animal characteristics. Three novels co-written with Mercedes Lackey, *Elvenbane* (1991), *Elvenblood* (1995), and *Elvenborn* (2002), thematically reflect the ongoing debate over genetically modifying humans and animals with DNA from other species.

Norton asked in her funeral arrangements that in lieu of flowers, memorial donations should be sent to a local charity she supported to help indigent people obtain veterinary care for their pets.

[Other obituaries are on page 22.]



Keiko Speaks: Keiko's True Story Based On His Communication With Bonnie Norton

by Bonnie Norton & Keiko

Animal Messenger (P.O. Box 275, Elgin, OR 97827), 2004. 195 pages, paperback. \$15.00.

Bonnie Norton told ANIMAL PEOPLE that she had never heard of the late science fiction and fantasy author Andre Norton (obituary on page 20), but she could pass for an Andre Norton character.

"In 1996 an Animal Communicator came to my riding stable and talked with several of my horses," Bonnie Norton opens. Fascinated, Norton studied Animal Communication herself.

"When I realized I could help many more animals and people," she writes, "I sold my barn and horses so I could become a full-time Animal Communicator."

How the horses felt, Norton does not say.

Most of Keiko Speaks consists of transcripts of telepathic conversations that Norton and others claim to have had with Keiko between August 1997, when Norton first visited him at the Oregon Coast Aquarium, and September 2003, when after his release, three months before his death in a Norwegian fjord, he is said to have pleaded through Norton for the last time to be allowed to live with human companions.

Norton summarized her case in a July/August 2003 ANIMAL PEOPLE guest column, "Listen to what Keiko wants!" Whether or not one believes in telepathy, Keiko made his wishes known. They were not honored by those who had raised and invested more than \$20 million in the effort to free him. -Merritt Clifton

Astonishing Animals

Extraordinary Creatures & the Fantastic World they Inhabit by Tim Flannery & Peter Schouten

Atlantic Monthly Press (841 Broadway, New York, NY 10003), 2004. Hard cover, 203 pages. \$29.95.

This absorbing book celebrates the diversity of evolution. Flannery takes the reader through a gallery of 97 of the strangest-looking creatures on the planet. Many appear to owe less to nature than to a Hollywood special effects studio.

Each turn of a page brings yet another fresh delight, sometimes enough to make one gasp.

The behaviour of some animals matches their extreme appearance. Sea devils absorb their own skeletons in order to procure the calcium needed for their eggs. The male net-devil eats his way into the female and then lives off her blood, a permanent parasite. (Some women may be tempted to make morbid comparisons). The stoplight loosejaw has evolved a separate set of formidable jaws-outside its body. The King of Saxony bird of paradise boasts eyebrows three times the length of its body, bedecked with streamers, in order to beguile the female.

The illustrations by Peter Schouten are magnificent. But unlike many coffee table books which propagate "feel-good conservation," the Astonishing Animals text by Tim Flannery does not try to hide the extinction that looms large for many of his cast. Behind the lovely pictures lies a deeper, subtle message.

Look at the power and extent of the evolutionary drive to survive and propagate, and there is much food for thought. There is inspiration for people to stop accepting progressive extinction as something which is depressingly inevitable. How can we stand by and allow such masterpieces of either the Creator's work or of evolution (take your pick) to be carelessly erased off the planet?

On a lighter note, Flannery tells us that one of the alien-like creatures depicted is a figment of his own imagination, and he invites the reader to identify the fake.

-Chris Mercer & Bev Pervan.

What The Dogs Have Taught Me & other amazing things I've learned by Merrill Markoe

This is not a book about dogs. Nor do the dogs who feature in some of the essays teach Markoe much worth writing about.

These essays are mainly about women: their anxieties, hopes and fears, needs and hates. "What living in Los Angeles has taught me" might have been a more descriptive title.

Some of the essays do revolve around dogs, including "Showering with your dog," "A conversation with my dogs," and "Zen and the art of multiple dog walking." But most of the book is devoted to the life and times of a modern American woman. It is written by an insider who is witty, worldly, erudite, obsessive and risqué—often to the point of being plain crude.

All this self-exposure and psychoanalysis makes for fascinating reading, coated as it is with comedy and neat literary flourishes. As an ageing third world male of reclusive habits, I could not fall further away from the target market for the book. But Markoe's brand of self-deprecating humour and scathing insights have a universal appeal, and I often found myself laughing out loud.

Buried in animal welfare issues to the point of chronic mild depression, as many activists

Merck Veterinary Manual

50th Aniversary Edition (9th Edition) Merial (3239 Satellite Blvd., Duluth, GA 30096), 2005. 2712 pages, hardcover. \$45.00.

The 50th Anniversary Edition of the Merck Veterinary Manual looks strikingly like a Bible. It incorporates the work of more than 350 contributing authors.

"Last updated in 1998," explains the promotional material, "the Merck Veterinary Manual is the oldest and most widely consulted reference of its kind. The Eighth Edition sold more than 100,000 copies worldwide, and was translated into six languages."

These days as many users, maybe more, simply go to the web site <us.merial.com/veterinary_professionals/veterinarians/vet_manual.asp>, enter a search term, and quickly retrieve the precise information that seems to suit their needs.

That may be the most efficient use of the wealth of knowledge in the Merck Veterinary Manual, which is probably the closest approach in existence to a single-source reference on everything known about animal health.

Most Merck Veterinary Manual users are hectically busy. They do not have the hundreds of hours that would be needed to read the Merck Veterinary Manual cover to cover, a page or two or whole chapter a day, as if it was a Bible and they were the religious faithful of slower times.

Yet there might be great value in reading and pondering each page. The Biblical approach might almost suffice for the textbook side of a general veterinary education.

As important, the Merck Veterinary Manual is structured to invite a broad perspective. Each chapter is written by a different team of specialists, but as a whole the volume works against narrow specialization, toward awareness and appreciation of animals of every kind. Most vets and certainly most non-veterinary humane workers will never need to refer to huge sections of the book, yet many of these passages may contain material worth having in the back of one's mind, iust in case.

For instance, "Most dilphid marsupials can be fed dry or canned dog or cat food...Wombats and the larger macropod marsupials can be fed a combination of large herbivore pellets and rabbit pellets."

The next time I get a latenight call from a bewildered cop who just found a hungry wallaby at a truck plaza, I'll be able to give a quicker answer about what to feed the critter besides potato chips. Meanwhile, here is a hint as to why rabbits so rapidly spread across Australia, after native marsupials were hunted to scarcity: rabbits were not only able to eat the same vegetation, but were preferentially adapted to a similar diet, having evolved to fill a similar ecological niche, with even a similar mode of locomotion.

As a technical reference, much of the Merck Veterinary Manual is turgidly Latinate, not at all light reading. It does not include colorful stories like those that keep Bible readers turning the pages. Yet reading random sections can be fun. There are dryly comic passages, such as the mention that gonads usually come in pairs, and frequent glimpses of animal personality.

For example, page 1535 mentions that, "The chief cause of death in captive marine mammals is believed to be pneumonia. It is not common in polar bears.'

Why not? Though the Merck Veterinary Manual itself does not even try to explain, the answer is in the animals' differing responses to stimulation and stress Some species, among them polar bears and tigers, thrive on activity levels that send most species looking for a place to hide. While other marine mammals suffer in captivity from sensory overload, polar bears more often suffer from boredom.

Chapter headings include the Circulatory System, Digestive System, Eye and Ear, Endocrine System, Generalized Conditions, Immune System, Integumentary System (skin and fur), Metabolic Disorders, Muskuloskeletal System, Nervous System, Reproductive System, Respiratory System, Urinary System, Behavior, Clinical Pathology & Procedures, Emergency Medicine & Critical Care, Exotic & Laboratory Animals (a pairing that perhaps unconsciously recognizes common conditions of exploitation), Management & Nutrition, Pharmacology, Poultry, Toxicology, and Zoonoses.

At just \$45 for the volume, amounting to \$20 per pound, the Merck Veterinary Manual looks to me like a bargain, whether viewed as prevention or cure.

-Merritt Clifton

Brushed by Feathers:

A Year of Birdwatching in the West

by Frances Wood

Fulcrum Publishing (16200 Table Mountain Parkway, Suite 300, Golden, CO 80403), 2004. 247 pages, paperback. \$16.95.

Frances Wood lives on the far side of South Whidbey Island, about 10 miles from here, as the crow flies-along with most other birds common to the Pacific Northwest. Most resident species have some presence here, in habitat that varies from old-growth cedar to open fields, orchards, rocky beaches, and light-density human development. Most Pacific Flyway migratory species stop over to feed.

Counting 20 species in 10 minutes is often no more difficult than stepping outside, amid hummingbirds, chickadees, nuthatches, finches, wrens, sparrows, American robins, and towhees, among the most frequent visitors; listening for woodpeckers, with the pileated, hairy, and downy varieties all nesting nearby; checking the sky for great blue herons, bald eagles, redtail hawks, osprey, northern goshawks, and American kestrels while walking to the car; watching for startled owls gliding across the road between here and the ferry landing; and observing the variety of gulls, ducks, cormorants, and pigeons at the landing while waiting to board.

Scarcer species, requiring books to identify, appear about once a week.

We moved to Whidbey Island, in the middle of Puget Sound, about two years before Wood arrived and began making my bird identifications easier through her monthly birding column for the South Whidbey Record.

While I often did not know what I was looking at, and still don't. I was already aware that I was seeing more different kinds of birds just by looking out the ANI-MAL PEOPLE office window several times a day than I had ever seen anywhere else except the now lamentably depleted Keoladeo sanctuary at Bharatpur, India.

Keoladeo, when we visited in 1997, before the devastating drought of the past few years, reputedly had more birds than any location of similar size in the world.

We have relatively few birds who are as spectacularly bright as the parrots or as unique as the hoatzen we saw on a 1999 trek into the Peruvian Amazon, but we do have more species and more individuals. Indeed, one of the truly odd moments in our time here came when two sisters visiting from India lamented the paucity they perceived of birds. The brush in front of them was seething with birds at that very moment-but they were camouflaged, small and brown, not nearly as obvious as the few ringnecked parakeets who might have occupied a similar niche back home.

Oddly enough, I have never met Wood, but have often exchanged bird sightings with her by e-mail, probably starting with the grey jay who flew down from Mount Ranier one clear summer day to spend the afternoon visiting his Steller's jay cousins at our feeder.

About two hours from

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–Marcia Pearson

sundown he finally headed home. He was probably the only species I ever saw here whom Wood hadn't.

Wood writes about our myriad local birds for two audiences: fellow birders, who form instant mental pictures of each species she names, and general readers, whom she tries to infect with her own enthusiasm for birding, though they may not be able to name 20 species.

Wood typically pursues the difficult balance by describing the human interest angles involved in each memorable sighting. She also tends to provide enough descriptive detail about the birds she mentions to enable non-experts to follow her stories without constantly consulting a field guide.

While many birding columns read as if cribbed almost entirely from field guides, Wood's best, edited into chapters of her book, contain little that could be found in a field guide. Her book audience probably consists chiefly of serious birders. Her newspaper audience are mostly people who will never be experts, but take an interest in what they see, and it is writing for this audience that keeps her -Merritt Clifton work accessible.

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ANIMAL OBITUARIES

Becky Louise, 14, among the last survivors of the 1991-1992 ANIMAL PEO-PLE test of neuter/return feral cat control in northern Fairfield County, Connecticut, died peacefully and unexpectedly on March 26. She was one of two indistinguishable littermates who were named after Alley Cat Allies cofounders Becky Robinson and Louise Holton. As the owner of the apartment complex where the cats were trapped did not want them returned, and they were not adoptable because they could not be handled, Becky and Louise were among 21 cats from the neuter/ return test who were evacuated in July 1992 to the first ANIMAL PEOPLE headquarters near Shushan, New York, along with 10 previously rescued cats. In August 1992 a female coyote who had lost a front paw, probably in escaping from a leghold trap, ate nine of the feral cats, in as many days. As either Becky or Louise was among the coyote victims, but we did not know which, the survivor became Becky Louise. Becky Louise then moved, by her choice, into the house from the basement with outdoor access that had been been adapted into a habitat for the ferals. Relocated with ANIMAL PEOPLE and all the other surviving cats in 1996 to Clinton, Washington, Becky Louise never tamed, never groomed herself, and required heavy sedation before her squirrel-sized mats could be shaved off. Probably because of her poor hygiene, Becky Louise had low status among the cats, though she was tolerated by all. Since the death of her twin sister. Becky Louise had only one close friend, Miriam, another shy feral whom ANI-MAL PEOPLE rescued in 2003. Among the 320 cats involved in the 1991-1992 Connecticut project, the known survivors are Sombra and Punto, kept by ANIMAL PEOPLE webmaster Patrice Greanville, and Rosalba, Peetee, and Sylvie, still with ANIMAL PEO-PLE. There may be other survivors among the 45 cats who were adopted out. To our awareness, the last of the 237 cats who were returned to their habitat either died or were tamed and adopted by mid-1995.

Bujji, a canine cofounder of the Visakha SPCA in Visakhapatnam, India, died on March 18 from kidney failure. Daughter of John Kennedy, the rescued dog (deceased in 1998) who inspired Pradeep Kumar Nath to start the Visakha SPCA, Bujji was adopted out once, "but on seeing that she was mistreated and left to starve, I brought her back," Nath wrote. "She was a symbol of peace and unity. She would not allow fights among our dogs. She would run to any animal we rescued and give care just like a parent. We cannot forget her and will not."



Becky Louise. (Kim Bartlett)



Bujjo (the dog) and unidentified friend.

HUMAN OBITUARIES

Frank Perdue, 84, died on March 31 at home in Salisbury, Maryland. His father, Arthur Perdue, started an egg farm in the year that Frank Perdue was born. After leukosis killed their 2,000 leghorns in the early 1940s, they switched to raising broiler hens, began developing factory-style protection methods, and prospered during the World War II meat shortage. Frank Perdue took over the \$6 million a year business in 1952. Annual revenues were up to \$56 million in 1970, when Perdue introduced the Perdue Farms brand name to supermarkets, appearing in approximately 200 TV commercials during the next 24 years to promote it. By 1991 Perdue Farms was the third largest poultry firm in the U.S., worth \$1.2 billion a year. In April 1997, Animal Rights International founder Henry Spira asked Perdue to lead the way in reducing the suffering to poultry that results from factory farming. After Perdue ignored repeated requests from Spira, Spira in October 1989 began exposing conditions at Perdue Farms in fullpage New York Times advertisements. The most famous, entitled "The P. Word," noted Perdue's appointment to the University of Maryland Board of Regents. "There's a word for someone who does bad stuff for money," it proclaimed. "Perdue." The ad noted that, "In 1986 Perdue admitted to the President's Commission on Organized Crime that when his workers tried to organize, he went to New York's Gambino crime family to get their help...National Public Radio reported that women were urinating on the [Perdue] workline because they were afraid to leave it." Recalled Spira biographer Peter Singer, "The advertisement continued in that vein, highlighting Perdue's false advertising, his conviction for polluting Virginia's waterways, his abuse of animals, and his evasion

of a manslaughter charge after he killed someone when speeding the wrong way up a one-way road." Spira, who died in 1998, never won concessions from Perdue, but his ads were cited in many Perdue obituaries.

Phil Simard, 40, one of the two animal control officers in Portland, Maine, since 1990, died on the job of an apparent heart attack on March 26. He was found dead still holding the leash he had just put on a stray husky, said Portland police chief Michael Chitwood.

Judith Ball, 65, general curator at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle, died on February 10 of complications from Alzheimer's Disease. Learning in 1996 that the Sepilok wildlife rehabilition center in Borneo was overcrowded with sun bears confiscated from illegal traffickers, Ball and William Karesh of the Wildlife Conservation Society evacuated 10 bears to U.S. zoos, including two who came to Woodland Park.

Henry Everding III, DVM, 42, was killed by falling rocks on February 19 in a climbing accident in Pategonia, Chile. Everding had for the past four years been medical director at the nonprofit Harrison Memorial Animal Hospital in Denver, and had done veterinary volunteer work in Nepal.

Natalie Ann Chambers, 30, a vet tech in Tumwater, Washington, on February 14 descended 15 feet from a trail above the White River to try to rescue her border collie Phoebe, who had fallen onto a ledge. Holding Phoebe, trying to climb back up by gripping a tree branch in her other hand, she plummeted 350 feet into the river when the branch broke. Phoebe survived with a minor hip injury.

Pope John Paul II "taught love for animals"

Pope John Paul II, 84, died on April 3, 2005. Recalled the PETA-owned <www.GoVeg.com> web site, "Pope John Paul II taught love for animals more than any other pope in recent memory. In 1990, His Holiness proclaimed that 'the animals possess a soul and men must love and feel solidarity with our smaller brethren.' He went on to say that all animals are 'fruit of the creative action of the Holy Spirit and merit respect' and that they are 'as near to God as men are.' After he became Pope, His Holiness went to Assisi, the birthplace of St. Francis, and spoke of the saint's love for animals. He declared, 'We, too, are called to a similar attitude.' PETA is grateful that His Holiness spoke out so beautifully for animals and their souls, and we hope that his successor will also speak out for them with the same love and compassion."

While Pope John Paul II never formally responded to petitions on animal issues, the Vatican under his direction shifted in small steps toward more animal-friendly policies.

In 1994, for instance, a new catechism stated in passages 2415-2418 that "Animals are God's creatures. He surrounds them with his providential care. By their mere existence they bless him and give him glory. Thus men owe them kindness."

These declarations were qualified with affirmations that animals may be used for food, clothing, work, entertainment, and medical and scientific research "if it remains

within reasonable limits. It is contrary to human dignity to cause animals to suffer or die needlessly," the catechism added, only to conclude, "It is likewise unworthy to spend money on animals that should as a priority go to the relief of human misery. One can love animals; one should not direct to them the affection due only to humans."

Pope John Paul II in September 2001 approved the use of animal organ transplants to save human life, nine months after Belgian theologian Marie Hendrickx hinted at the content of his eventual statement in the semi-official Vatican newspaper *L'Osservatore Romano*. In the same essay, which was widely believed to represent the thinking of the Pope, Hendrickx denounced bullfighting and other forms of ritual animal abuse sometimes associated with Catholic festivals, and went on to criticize factory farming and fur trapping.

Born Karol Wojtyla in Wadowice, Poland, ordained a priest in 1946, and made a Cardinal in 1967, Pope John Paul II in his 1984 official biography *God's Broker* described at length a dream he had in 1969 about a starving mother cat and six kittens, who find no help from Jesuit and Anglican clergy, but are fed by an impoverished old woman. Wrote Anton Gronowicz, who transcribed the Pope's account, "I had never seen such a sad expression on the face of this man." (Details of the dream are accessible at <www.all-creatures.org/hr/hra-popecats.htm>.

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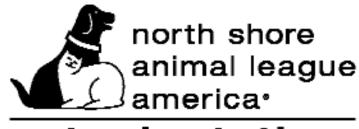
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