

Ringling wins PETA lawsuit (page 3)

Breed bans hit court opposition; anti-tethering laws gain favor

TOLEDO, TIPTON (Pa.)—A three-judge panel of the Ohio Sixth District Court of Appeals on March 3, 2006 struck down as unconstitutional both the Toledo ban on pit bull terriers, in effect for more than 20 years, and the parts of the Ohio Revised Code on which the ban was based.

The 2-1 opinion, written by Judge William Skow with assent from Judge Arlene Singer, reversed a 2004 ruling by Toledo Municipal Court Judge Francis Gorman.

Lucas County dog warden Tom Skeldon reluctantly instructed his staff to stop citing Toledo residents for possession of multiple pit bulls, not carrying dog bite liability insurance, and not keeping pit bulls under close control.



Chained husky. (Dogs Deserve Better)

“We’re not in the pit bull business any more. We’re not in the vicious-dog business any more,” Skeldon told Erica Blake of the *Toledo Blade*. “They’ve taken away our ability to enforce containment, whether of a German shepherd or a pit bull, whether the dog has bitten someone or not.”

The verdict came three days after two dogs of banned breeds, an American bulldog mix and a Presa Canario, mauled Nicole Brown, 12, of Oregon, in Toledo.

The Ohio verdict, opposite to a 2005 decision by the Colorado Supreme Court, is not a direct precedent for other states, carries less weight than the Colorado ruling, and will be appealed, pledged acting Toledo law director John Madigan.

Colorado 18th Judicial District Judge Michael Spear on February 8 invoked the Colorado Supreme Court ruling in dismissing—for the second time—a lawsuit brought by Khristina Villani of Brighton, who sought to overturn a pit bull ban that took effect on February 1 in the city of Aurora. Brighton owns property in Aurora.

While the Ohio verdict is appealed, however, it may inhibit the passage of other breed-specific legislation.

(continued on page 8)

How many times must the ape traffic be exposed, before it is forever banned?

CAIRO, KANO, NAIROBI—Ten years after the World Society for the Protection of Animals exposed the Cairo connection in the international live great ape traffic, five years after Egyptian customs officials refocused attention on the traffic by drowning a four-month-old gorilla and a baby chimpanzee in a vat of chemicals at the Cairo airport after seizing the apes from smugglers, the alleged perpetrators are still in business, charge independent investigator Jason Mier and wildlife photographer Karl Amman.

Worse, Mier and Amman say, the alleged perpetrators still appear to be protected by the apparent collusion, corruption, indifference, and inefficiency of public officials and airline personnel in Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, and Cameroon.

Some of the same people and ports of entry are apparently involved in clandestine ivory trafficking exposed by Esmond Martin and Daniel Stiles in four reports published since 2000.

Mier and Amman recently completed a year-long investigation of a “group of smug-



Chimp mother & child. (Kim Bartlett)

glers I am convinced is the largest operating in Africa,” Mier told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. A zoologist by training, Mier has worked in Africa since 2000. Amman has investigated African wildlife trafficking since 1990.

Between June 2005 and mid-March 2006, Mier and Amman shared documents, photographs, e-mails, and transcripts of interviews with **ANIMAL PEOPLE** which cumulatively support Mier’s November 2005 claim that, “These are not a few isolated smuggling

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U.S. government intensifies spying on animal advocates

WASHINGTON D.C., NEW YORK CITY—Pending federal legislation may intensify covert U.S. federal government surveillance of animal advocacy.

The Terrorist Surveillance Act of 2006 was introduced on March 16, 2006 by Republican U.S. Senators Mike DeWine of Ohio, Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, Chuck Hagel of Nebraska, and Olympia Snowe of Maine.

Deemed likely to pass easily through the Republican-dominated Senate and House of Representatives, and to be signed by President George W. Bush, the bill was described by DeWine’s publicist, Mike Dawson, as “a measure that would provide a statutory framework, with Congressional and judicial oversight, for the President to conduct electronic surveillance on the international communications of suspected terrorists, while protecting the rights and liberties of American citizens.”

But *Secrecy News*, published by the Government Secrecy Project of the Federation of American Scientists, described the Terrorist Surveillance Act as “a bill that would authorize warrantless intelligence surveillance for up to 45 days, after which it could be renewed upon review by the Attorney General. The bill would require notification to Congress of various aspects of the program,” *Secrecy News* acknowledged. “But significantly, it would impose no external constraints on domestic surveillance by the executive branch.”

The FBI has tracked “domestic terrorism” done in the name of animal advocacy

since the 1992 passage of the Animal Enterprise Protection Act. But before December 2005, fewer than a dozen animal advocates had ever been charged with related offenses.

At least 11 people have been indicted since mid-December 2005 in connection with arsons and break-ins carried out in the name of the “Animal Liberation Front” and “Earth Liberation Front.” Several of the arsons did more than \$1 million worth of damage. One, the 1998 ski lift arson at Vail, Colorado, did \$12 million worth.

Rod Coronado, 39, who in 1995 was convicted of arsons committed in the name of the ALF, was indicted on February 22, 2006 for allegedly teaching a lecture audience how to make firebombs [see page 16]. Coronado spoke about 15 hours after a nearby arson attributed to environmental activists caused more than \$50 million in damage.

Six persons whose actions associated with Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty allegedly did millions of dollars worth of economic harm to Huntingdon Life Sciences and the company’s suppliers were on March 2, 2006 convicted of a variety of criminal charges [see page 19].

With the SHAC Six trial looming, and aware that California bombing suspect Daniel San Diego, 27, was an acquaintance of at least one of the suspects, the FBI in January 2006 quintupled the reward for information leading to San Diego’s arrest, from \$50,000 to \$250,000.

(continued on page 17)



The Animal Rights Action Network & PETA/U.K. protested on March 15 in Dublin against the role of factory farming in spreading the avian flu H5N1. The global poultry toll now exceeds 200 million, with at least 106 human deaths. See update on page 18. (ARAN)

Sealers charge HSUS observers

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.—The 2006 Atlantic Canada harp seal slaughter started on March 26 with a quota of 325,000 landed pelts, 5,000 more than in 2005.

Up to 91,000 seals are to be pelted in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, in the first phase of the hunt. The remainder will be pelted later along the Labrador Front, where the hunt will start about April 10. The Canadian Department of Fisheries & Oceans does not announce the exact dates for each phase of the hunt until just a few days beforehand.

Violence by sealers against protesters flared in earnest on March 27.

“I normally observe the hunt on foot,” wrote Rebecca Aldworth, a Newfoundlander who directs Canadian campaigns for the Humane Society of the U.S. “The ice floes are usually strong enough to support several helicopters,” Aldworth said. “This year the ice was fragile, so we were forced to base ourselves on a larger vessel and deploy small, inflatable boats.”

Setting out with the first of the sealers at 4:00 a.m., Aldworth recounted, “We gained quickly on two large sealing boats.

They led us directly into an ice pack. The ice closed in behind our inflatables. We had no means of escape. Almost immediately, the sealing boats turned and charged. We frantically tried to move out of their way, backing up against the unyielding ice and struggling not to capsize in the sealers’ wake.

“We followed these two vessels into a narrow channel between ice pans. The fog moved in fast, and we lost sight of our larger vessel. Without warning, one of the sealing boats turned sharply and raced toward us. We immediately backed up, but were again trapped against the ice. If we were knocked into the frigid water, our survival suits could protect us for only a couple of minutes.

“The sealers on this boat were not trying to kill seals,” Aldworth said. “There were none in our area. It appeared they were actually trying to kill us. The sealers rammed the inflatable next to us, damaging one of its propellers. We were caught in the wake, and our driver struggled to control the inflatable as the sealing vessel crashed by just a foot away. I shouted at the captain that he was breaking

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“Venus”
couldn’t
believe
someone
cared
enough to
feed her
every day in
the woods.



April 2006

Fellow lover of animals,

I came around the bend on a trail in the woods one morning, and I startled a brown chow-mix female dog, and she limped quickly away into thick brush around what we call “feeding station number one!” This is *Old Faithful*, the station that has saved hundreds of lives in 20 years. I rebuilt it after fire and flood, time after time because it’s on a well-travelled dog-path.

I waited for hours, but I didn’t see my chow any more that first day. I knew she was frightened and in pain, so I left fresh canned food for her and planned on returning early the next morning. And as I had hoped, she was still there the next morning. But when she saw me this time, she didn’t limp off. She stood about 20 feet away and just looked at me with those big, sad brown eyes . . . her forehead wrinkled.

Quickly, I put a huge dish of food on the ground and I left, so she would get used to my feeding her without being a threat. This went on for days. If I called to her or walked toward her, she would disappear into the brush. So I fed her and kept my distance. Then one day I set my trap. Venus bounded out of the woods wagging her tail when she saw me coming with her meal, but as I baited the trap with her food, she watched me with a puzzled look. Again, I quickly left the area and hid behind a tree to watch her. She began eating the food in my trap. But with her leg still hurting, she was hopping not to put weight on it, and she hopped up, right into the trap door setting it off too early. The door came down on her and she pulled away and ran off into the woods again. Now my fear was that she’d run off, deep into the forest and

never return. For the next few days my fears seemed to be justified. Venus was not there when I showed up with her food. It took a few more days for things to get back to normal. But eventually, Venus forgave me and returned to greeting me when I brought her meal. In fact, she forgave me a few more times, for insulting her intelligence and trying to trap her again and again!

Finally, going into our second month of these daily meetings in the woods, I figured that the only way to save Venus was to befriend her. So every day I brought Venus more exotic food, deli food, super-market food and even fast food! She was putting on weight, and she was genuinely happy to see me, but she kept just out of my reach. Then, on our 93rd morning together, I showed up with her food and water. Venus came up to me as I poured her water into her bowl. But someone startled us! We both looked up and watched as the bushes shook and rustling sounds came closer to us, branches snapped from the weight of whoever was there.

As the sounds continued, Venus came close to me for protection. I couldn’t believe my luck! While her eyes were glued to the brush, I reached down, picked her up and carried her to my van! I never did find out what that noise was about. But it turned out to be a double blessing for Venus. Not only did you and I rescue her, but after 93 days it turned out to be just in time. She had developed pyometra . . . an infection that requires surgery and that would have killed her in a few more days out there. At our hospital, Venus woke up to a new life, thanks to people like you. Now she wags her tail, kisses us, and like our 1400 others, she thanks us every way she can for giving her a second chance at life.

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Leo Grillo, founder

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Editorial feature

What cruelty to animals tells us about people

To behave unethically by the standards of hare coursers is no easy feat. Hare coursing consists of setting dogs, usually greyhounds, on captive rabbits. Recently banned in Britain, it continues in Ireland, and in parts of the U.S. and other places where most people do not yet realize that anyone is doing something so depraved for kicks.

Vinnie Jones, however, is no ordinary man. Playing for Wimbledon against Newcastle in 1987, Jones became "football's most infamous hardman," according to Ben Hoyle of the London *Times*, when photographed in the act of backhandedly squeezing the testicles of opponent Paul Gascoigne of Newcastle. After Gascoigne protested, Jones sent him a dozen roses, in an attempted further insult to his manhood. Gascoigne told Jones that if he wanted that kind of relationship, he could do some chores, and sent him a toilet brush.

"Since quitting the game," wrote Hoyle, Jones "has made a successful career in Hollywood. His current projects include playing the vicious warlord Arkan in a film about the Balkans conflict." Notorious for directing so-called "ethnic cleansing" in Bosnia, Arkan was mentioned in the January/February 2006 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** for housing his mascot tiger at the severely substandard Belgrade Zoo, integrally involved in the 1990 "Bangkok Six" wildlife trafficking case.

Jones' coursing greyhound Boavista won 24 consecutive competitions from September 2005 through February 26, 2006, when he won the £55,000 Irish Cup in County Limerick and was named "Coursing Greyhound of the Year."

Then Boavista tested positive for banned substances.

"The Irish Coursing Club, the governing body for the sport in Ireland, will now summon Mr. Jones to its offices in Clonmel in April to explain the test results," wrote Sam Jones of *The Guardian*, who did not acknowledge any close relationship to Vinnie Jones. "Jerry Desmond, the club's chief executive, said Jones could face penalties and fines if he breached the club's rules."

Dogfighters and cockfighters may also have their ethical limits, though their griev-

ance resolution methods often leave the essence of their disagreements obscure.

In Johnston County, North Carolina, for example, Tristan Hinson and Keon K. Rowe were in mid-March 2006 charged with murder. Hinson was also charged with felony dog fighting. Johnston Sheriff Steve Bizzell told the *Raleigh News & Observer* that Rowe on February 24, 2006 shot Danny Ray Edwards in the head during dispute involving some of the 47 pit bull terriers found on Hinson's farm.

A similar "grievance proceeding" reportedly executed by "about 10 men armed with automatic rifles and pistols" brought the March 20 deaths of five people at a cockpit in Pambuan village, north of Manila, wrote Central Luzon desk reporter Anselmo Roque of the *Philippine Inquirer*. "Erick and Ebeth Pascual, sons of cockpit owner Boy Pascual, were killed, along with physician Juanito Reyes, and cockpit security men identified only as Kare and Pablo," Roque specified.

Under 15 years ago mainstream news media and law enforcement often seemed surprised by studies documenting that humans who hurt animals for fun often also harm fellow humans. Case histories and data proved quickly persuasive. Almost every state now has a felony cruelty law, enacted with the support of police and prosecutors who realize that stiffer sentences for illegal animal abuse prevent crimes against humans, especially women and children, by removing the offenders from society.

Crime reporting now routinely notes offenders' histories of animal abuse.

A case in point was *The New York Times* obituary for Richard Kuklinski, 70, who died in a prison hospital on March 5, 2006. Kuklinski's "lust for publicity nearly matched the blood lust he displayed in claiming to have killed more than 100 people as a Mafia hit man," wrote obituarist Douglas Martin. "He killed neighborhood cats as a youth and said he committed his first murder at 14," Martin recalled.

Kuklinski killed cats at a time when boys were often given pellet guns for Christmas and encouraged to shoot "varmints." Cat-killing was usually discouraged, along with shooting songbirds and breaking windows, but was treated as a "boys-will-be-boys" offense.

As cat-killing was rarely prosecuted, no data base exists to demonstrate conclusively that cat-killers grow up to become serial killers, but an association affirmed by the FBI is that serial killers typically kill animals before killing humans.

ANIMAL PEOPLE data analysis indicates that serial killers of women tend to kill mostly cats; serial killers of male homosexuals, like John Wayne Gacy and Jeffrey Dahmer, tend to kill mostly dogs. Crimes against cats often precede violent crimes of all sorts against women, a phenomenon that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and others have identified as the Cat Abuse and Torture Syndrome.

Steven Avery, 43, of Mishicot, Wisconsin, appears to be an extreme case. Avery is charged with the Halloween 2005 murder of photographer Teresa Halbach, 25. Before serving 18 years in prison for a rape that DNA evidence later showed he did not commit, Avery was sentenced to five years on probation for burglary in 1981. Probation was revoked after Avery allegedly burned a cat in 1982, much as he and a 16-year-old nephew allegedly burned Halbach's body, after Avery shackled, raped, stabbed, strangled, and shot her.

Judge Don Scaglione of Hernando County, Florida, on March 21, 2006 sentenced more typical CATS offender Daniel Sean Hayes, 44, to serve nearly two years in state prison, two years of house arrest, and 10 years' probation for breaking into his ex-wife Wendy Harvey's home, killing her cat, leaving the dead cat in her bed, urinating on the bed, trashing her home and car, and stealing the urn that contained the ashes of her brother.

Dozens of similar examples—hundreds when all are logged—may be extracted with a quick search of <www.Pet-Abuse.com>, maintained by Alison L. Gianotto, whose resources in documenting animal-related crime patterns include many boxes of grisly case reports collected by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** staff during the past 20 years.

Crime is the least part of cruelty

Unfortunately, while the association of criminal violence against animals with criminal violence toward humans is now widely appreciated, criminal violence is only the smallest portion of all the mayhem that humans inflict on animals. Much less noted by news media and law enforcement are the many crime histories that suggest legal violence against animals committed in connection with agriculture, slaughter, hunting, and trapping may be far more likely than illegal violence to precede or be associated with crimes against humans—if only because there is far more legal than illegal animal abuse, with far more participants.

Biomedical researchers who "sacrifice" animals in experiments are less likely than the average American to commit violent crimes against humans, but tend to belong to the educated, affluent class of society that is least inclined toward crime. Yet biomedical researchers appear to be no exception to the rule. The bulging **ANIMAL PEOPLE** files on violence against humans

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What cruelty to animals tells us about people (from page 3)

linked in some manner to animal use and abuse hint anecdotally that animal researchers may be disproportionately represented among university personnel who commit violent crimes.

This might be called the “Maxwell Addison Syndrome,” after the 1969 Beatles’ song character. “Majoring in medicine,” spending “late nights all alone with a test tube,” Addison took to serially killing women with a silver hammer.

Typically art imitates life, often intuitively recognizing behavioral patterns long before social scientists establish them with peer-reviewed data.

Hunting as precedent

Rick Lyman of *The New York Times* apparently unwittingly raised the association of hunting with other crimes in the first paragraph of his account of the March 8, 2006 arrests of University of Alabama student Matthew Lee Cloyd, 20, and Birmingham-Southern College students Benjamin N. Mosley and Russell L. DeBusk Jr., each 19, for torching nine Baptist churches in rural Alabama during the preceding month.

“Federal officials said the fires were a ‘joke’ that spun out of control while the students were deer hunting,” wrote Lyman, who failed to note that fire-setting and killing animals are two of the three “deadly triad” of behaviors that the FBI recognizes as predictors of serial killing, if the same individual does all three. The third part of the triad is bed-wetting.

Pro-hunting commentators quickly pointed out that Cloyd, Mosley, and DeBusk Jr. appear to have been poaching, not hunting legally. Jacklighting deer from a vehicle, as the arson suspects presumably did, is to legal hunting more-or-less what setting an unmuzzled dog on a rabbit is to coursing, a practice that tends to exhaust the supply of victims, and is therefore banned.

Poaching, the “sportsmen” argued, is not to be confused with what U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney did on February 12, 2006, when he sprayed attorney Harry Whittington, 78, of Austin, with birdshot. Cheney and Whittington were quite legally killing cage-reared quail for fun, at a ranch in south Texas. Burning churches and sending others to fight in Iraq, we were reminded, are not equivalent activities.

Often crimes against humans committed by animal users and abusers follow the same *modus operandi* as their deeds against animals. Each hunting season brings examples.

For instance, on December 10, 2005 a jury in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, convicted Lawrence Joseph Cseripko, 60, of North Union Township, of first-degree murder for shooting Paul Joseph Horvat Jr. three times on December 16, 1997, and dumping his body in a creek. The two hunters apparently quarreled over who shot deer both on that occasion and in 1996.

On November 13, 2005, Marvin Macy caught three poachers who had just killed a deer on his land near Clay Center, Kansas. Two of them allegedly stabbed him with their

buck knives.

On November 8, 2005, Judge Norman Yackel of Hayward, Wisconsin, sentenced Chai Soua Vang, 37, to serve six consecutive life terms in prison for shooting six deer hunters and wounding two others in a dispute over hunting locations on November 21, 2004.

But parallels in methods of committing violence against animals and against humans often go beyond the obvious aspect of hunters using firearms and buck knives, simply because those are the weapons they have at hand.

On February 5, 2006, for example, pig farmer Clayton Higa, 40, of Wai’anae, Hawaii, allegedly confessed to police that he had just used a claw hammer to beat to death Shantel Ulani Figueroa, 21, his girlfriend of about one year.

This is how pig farmers kill surplus shoats, when a pig births more piglets than she has teats. In nature, runt shoats are typically cannibalized by their mothers or siblings. On farms, they are killed and masacred into the feed.

None of this is any secret. For those who lack rural background and do not read farm journals, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton described the procedure in a 1989 article for the defunct *Animals’ Agenda* magazine, as recounted by a Quebec worker on a family-run pig farm. Humane Farming Association investigator Gail Eisnitz recently described the same process in a report on factory pig farming in South Dakota. Slaughterhouse designer Temple Grandin (*see page 6*) has also described and deplored it.

An expertly placed shot from a captive bolt pistol is the method of killing runt shoats recommended by the American Veterinary Medical Association. But not just anyone can get a permit to use a captive bolt pistol. Even a migrant day worker can be issued a claw hammer.

Voyeuristic sadism

Even deadened sensitivity toward animal suffering caused by participating in the meat industry is insufficient, however, to explain a current Kentucky bill to legalize trapping live coyotes for sale to so-called chase pens. Chase pens are one of the U.S. variants on coursing—or dog fighting. Coyotes or foxes are pursued by packs of hounds or pit bull terriers within a ring from which they cannot escape, ostensibly to “train” the dogs to hunt. Introduced by state representative Royce Adams (D-Dry Ridge), the bill cleared the state house on March 1, 85-15.

In contrast to that public endorsement of voyeuristic sadism by 85 members of the Kentucky legislature, former U.S. Army dog handler Sergeant Michael J. Smith, 24, was on March 21 sentenced to six months in prison, demoted to the rank of private, fined \$2,250, and given a dishonorable discharge on his release from prison, after being convicted at court martial of charges including engaging in competition with fellow dog handler Sergeant Santos Cardona to use their mili-

tary working dogs to scare Iraqi prisoners into urinating and defecating on themselves. Smith and another soldier were also convicted of videotaping acts of bestiality.

While China as yet has no anti-cruelty law, and is notorious for the cruelties inflicted on animals at live markets and on fur farms, horrified individual Chinese citizens responded remarkably quickly during the first week in March 2006 when so-called “crush” or “squish” videos surfaced on a Chinese web site.

Similar material came to light in the U.S. and Britain in mid-1997. Investigations by British Customs, the Royal SPCA, *Animal Rights Online* host Susan Roghair, *AnimalTalk* host Dick Weevil, Ohio animal rights attorney Shawn Thomas, the Suffolk County SPCA, and **ANIMAL PEOPLE** eventually converged, exchanged notes, and led to the convictions of seven perpetrators between 1999 and 2002. Elapsed time: five years, while the videos remained in distribution.

In China, web surfers rapidly identified the “actress” who stomped a kitten to death as hospital nurse Wang Yue, of northern Heilongjiang province, and posted her personal data, along with that of the videographer. Wang Yue lost her job. The producer, identified as Luobei Television cameraman Li Yuejun, wrote a published apology and self-criticism.

The state-run *China Daily* took the opportunity to editorially argue for a national cruelty law. With public opinion clearly and vociferously opposed to cruelty, State Forestry Administration director of wildlife and plant protection Zhou Rongsheng announced regulations to improve the care of animals on fur farms and prohibit live skinning.

Amid the tide of pro-animal feeling, wrote Animals Asia Foundation founder Jill Robinson, “We are shocked to learn that certain authorities in Guangzhou have announced that they are beginning the slaughter of all unlicensed dogs in the city, and across the province of Guangdong.”

Yet that was actually as predictable as elected representatives of one of the poorest, least educated, most backward states of the U.S. endorsing chase pens.

Guangdong and Guangzhou are the only parts of China where cats are often eaten, are the hub of dog-eating and wildlife-eating, have the most notorious live markets, and are among the centers of the Chinese fur trade.

Guangdong leaders have an economic interest in outraging the world enough to provoke an external backlash against all of China that will enable them to hide their atrocities behind the pretext of defending “Chinese” culture.

Millions of other Chinese people are clearly stating that cruelty is not part of their chosen culture.

Despite the many abuses that continue in China, especially in Guangdong and Guangzhou, western animal advocates must also point fingers at our own fellow citizens who make poster boys of the likes of Vinnie Jones and re-elect people like 85 benighted members of the Kentucky legislature.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kite-fighting

Concerning your January/February 2006 article “Kites vs. kite-birds & other species in the skies of India & Pakistan,” kite-flying is very popular in sub-continental Asia. But due to kite-fighting, hundreds of thousands of birds lose their lives. Kite-fighters use monofilament “chemical” thread for flying kites. Countless birds become entangled and injured, and often die slowly from hunger, thirst, and infected wounds.

The Animal Save Movement appeals to the governments of Pakistan and India to immediately ban monofilament thread for kite-flying.

—Khalid Mahmood Qurashi
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Editor’s note:

Humans as well as birds are killed in kite-fighting accidents—as ANIMAL PEOPLE reported—and measures taken to protect humans help birds too.

Punjab province, Paki-stan, banned kite-flying during the mid-March 2006 Basant festival, “after seven people died from being slashed by kite strings reinforced with wire or glass fiber,” wrote Asif Sahzad of Associated Press.

“Last year 19 people died on Basant day,” Lahore mayor Mian Amir Mahmood said. “No one died here this year.”

About 800 people were arrested in Lahore for kite-flying, firing celebratory gunshots, and playing loud music. Throughout Punjab, more than 1,400 people were arrested.



Great Poland

We neuter cats and bitches free of charge in the Great Poland region, which constitutes a tenth of Poland. Our dream is to introduce sterilization all over Poland.

There are no feral dogs in Poland. Stray and homeless dogs are brought to pounds in every big city. However, there is a problem with unneutered cats and bitches in the country and in villages. Puppies and kittens are drowned, or older dogs and cats are killed and their offspring kept instead.

Using my own money I announced in the newspaper that our foundation sterilizes bitches and cats free of charge. I bought a delivery van to bring to the clinics the animals whose caretakers do not have their own vehicles. Minimally invasive sterilizations are done by doctors in stationary clinics in Poznań.

We state with joy that the success of this idea is beyond our expectations. Local and regional newspapers told the public about this. Even TV reporting appeared. These announcements and recommendations of our services by relatives and acquaintances of owners for whom we performed sterilizations caused us to drive to get animals from as far as 50 kilometers from Poznań. Some clinics gave up income and payment and sterilized animals for us at a reduced price.

Our foundation is poor, maintained by the income from my two tenement buildings. We have begun seeking outside help.

—Alina Kasproicz
Animals & Us
Foundation
ul. Dabrowskiego 25/3
PL-60-840
Poznań, Poland



Down Under

Just wanted to thank you for including a CD on desexing in your October 2005 edition.

We run a pet desexing program for people on low incomes in Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia. We have given financial assistance to over 11,000 petkeepers over the last eight years.

We have passed your CD to one of the veterinarians who does a large proportion of our work. He will find it interesting.

—Olga Parkes
Hon. Secretary
Hunter Animal Watch
139A Beaumont St.
Hamilton, Australia
NSW 2303
Phone: 2-4952-1358
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—Wolf Clifton

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No Milk of Human Kindness Found Here

Threemile Canyon Farms in Morrow County, Oregon likes to boast about how big it is: 20,000 cows crowded into one gigantic milk factory. Another 25,000 replacements wait in the wings. The buildings used to confine such a vast number of animals are a half mile long. The waste generated from all of these animals reaches an estimated 800 tons per day.

Threemile Canyon Farms touts its handling of waste as a model of water conservation. But it's really a model for crippling and often fatal disease.

Environmental hazards mount when "water" is flushed through the buildings. The accumulated manure and urine is supposed to be washed into a nearby lagoon. Liquid from this lagoon is used over and over to flush the sheds. This reused "water" is a smelly black liquid that can irritate and burn the skin of the confined cows.



Cows are forced to stand or lie down in their own waste and become infected with painful mastitis.

Alerted by whistleblowers within the facility, investigators from the Humane Farming Association (HFA) obtained statements from Threemile's own workers. Along with graphic photo documentation, those worker statements detail filthy conditions caused by negligence, insufficient manpower, and broken down flushing equipment which leaves the floors covered with manure, urine, and standing flush water.

The Unkindest Cut

These horrendous conditions cause cows to become more susceptible to mastitis. This is a painful and sometimes fatal infection and swelling of the udder and teats. Threemile Canyon Farms has its own grisly way of dealing with its mastitis problem: the workers cut off a portion of the infected teat with a razor-like device.

This cruel and excruciating procedure is performed without any anesthetic.

According to one worker, "When I first started out there and saw them cutting the teats off, I didn't know what to think. There were a bunch of teats piled up on the floor. Then it was explained to me that the cows out here got mastitis so bad that they have to cut the teats to drain all the pus and blood out. It really hurts them." Needless to say, this is not a medically appropriate form of treatment.



The remains of a cow's teat that has been sliced off.

Mistreatment of Calves

Fifty percent of calves born at Threemile Canyon (the male calves) are considered an unwanted "by-product" since they produce no milk. Some of these unwanted calves are simply abandoned to slowly starve to death. "The managers don't want them fed," said one worker. "They figure it's a waste of time and money to feed the male Jersey calves. They let them starve first, then shoot those who haven't starved to death."

Those that are shot are hit with rounds from a .22 caliber rifle. "If a calf runs away after being shot," said another, "sometimes the supervisors just start shooting, hitting it anywhere they can." Other calves are killed by bashing their heads with a 2 x 4 or swinging the animal by its hind legs and pounding its head on the concrete floor.

Making matters even worse, some of the calves survive these shootings and beatings. According to several workers, "They don't die right away. Some have lived for three hours and are still alive after shooting. There is usually always one alive in the dead pile."

"Pusturized" Milk

Threemile Canyon's concern for human health and safety is also woefully lacking. It doesn't help that the USDA's restrictions on blood and pus in milk are not nearly as stringent as those in Europe.

One worker stated, "If the mastitis is not too bad, the cow will stay in the dairy and the blood and pus draining from the teat will go into the milk when the cow is milked. This is the milk you are drinking." According to another, "The boss tells us to milk the cows even if they know the milk is bad. The milk will look like pieces of cheese." Workers say that the tainted milk is simply mixed in with the rest of the milk supply.

Please Help Stop the Cruelty

The Humane Farming Association (HFA) has petitioned Oregon's Attorney General to prosecute Threemile Canyon Farms for its pervasive pattern of abuse potentially affecting thousands of animals. Attorney General Hardy Myers has been provided with worker statements as well as extensive photographic documentation.

Shockingly, after sitting on this evidence for months now, Attorney General Myers has thus far failed to take appropriate action. Some believe that Myers is fearful of investigating a well-funded and politically influential agribusiness corporation. As the state's ranking law enforcement officer, however, his duty is to enforce state law and to protect the citizens of Oregon—regardless of his own personal political interests.



A calf is abandoned to die from starvation.

Please contact the Attorney General and urge him to stop the cruelty at Threemile Canyon Farms. You can reach him by writing or calling:

The Honorable Hardy Myers:
Office of the Attorney General
Department of Justice
1162 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301-4096
tel: (503) 378-4400
Fax: (503) 378-1017
E-mail: doj.info@doj.state.or.us

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Temple Grandin & the "Stairway to Heaven"

Concerning the two letters about slaughterhouse designer Temple Grandin that appeared in your March edition, and **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton's spirited defense of Grandin, I recall that at the end of a television feature about Grandin she sang the Led Zeppelin song "Stairway to Heaven" at the top of her voice, referring to the last of the buildings on the animals' trip to slaughter. This display of mockery elicited my shock and disgust, and will haunt me always.



—Greta Bunting
St. Petersburg, Florida

Merritt Clifton replies:

Mockery is very much in the eye of the beholder.

Errol Morris' 1998 documentary *Stairway to Heaven*, including the scene in question, covers the formative ideas and experiences that Grandin describes at <www.spin-globe.net/cowlady.htm>. Some excerpts:

"I had never seen an animal slaughtered. It wasn't until I first drove past the Swift meatpacking plant that I began to understand what would become my life's work...I could see all the cattle out in the pens, waiting for the end to come. I realized that mankind believes in heaven, hell, or reincarnation because the idea that after the cattle walk into the slaughterhouse it is all over forever is too horrible to conceive, too ego-shattering..."

"I made many entries in my diary..."

"April 7, 1971: 'It is important that the animals not be defiled at the slaughterhouse. Hopefully they will be allowed to die

with some sort of dignity. The animals probably feel more pain when they are put through the cattle chute to be branded or castrated.'

"October 25, 1971: [dream] Swift was a six-story building. Only the first floor was a slaughterhouse. A secret elevator transported me to the upper floors. These upper levels consisted of beautiful museums and libraries that contained much of the world's culture."

"A few days before I had visited an Arabian horse farm where great pains were taken to treat each horse as an individual. I petted the beautiful stallions, and felt that they should never be subjected to the feedlot or the slaughterhouse. The next day I was on a feedlot...Each steer had the same look of individuality as the stallions. How could I justify killing them?...The night after I first killed cattle I could not bring myself to say that I had actually killed them myself. Instead, during the next two weeks I made suggestions for simple improvements that would reduce bruises."

"[In 1974] I got my first large design project at the Swift plant, building a new cattle ramp and conveyor restrainer system. The construction crew and I named this project the 'Stairway to Heaven,' after the Led Zeppelin song. At first the crew thought it was a joke, but as the stairway took shape, the name took on a more serious meaning...I felt almost mercurial in accepting money for what I had done. The changes I initiated at the plant made it more humane for the cattle. Even if I didn't get paid, I was at peace with myself knowing that 1,200 cattle a day were less frightened."



Tibetan yak team on the job. (Eileen Weintraub)

Tibetans take up "direct action"

KATHMANDU—"Large numbers of troops and police are patrolling the streets of Rebkong, Qinghai Province, Tibet, to prevent a bonfire of skins originally scheduled for February 12, 2006. It appears that the Chinese government has banned the public burning of *chuba* costumes trimmed with tiger, leopard and otter skins," the Wildlife Protection Society of India posted on February 15, based on information received from Tibet Info Net.

Fiery protests resembling western-style "direct action" continued in Tibet into March 2006, despite the military presence, according to Nepal-based Radio Free Asia, and have occurred for at least eight months, contrary to previous belief that they began with fur burnings in January 2006.

Radio Free Asia on February 1, 2006 reported that in August 2005 at Manikengo, "Tibetans, some of whom said they were angry because they had been pressured to sell their animals for slaughter at below-market prices, broke into a Chinese-owned slaughterhouse during the annual Tibetan horse race festival, which attracts thousands of people. They found what they described as a large number of animals, including dogs and horses, sources said."

"They freed all the animals and set fire to the building, sources said. Whether the building was completely razed or badly damaged was unclear." Also unclear was why the animals were freed rather than just removed, if the issue was strictly monetary.

More than 160 Tibetans were said to have been detained for questioning.

"Six who were suspected as the main culprits were arrested and jailed," a source told Radio Free Tibet. One of the six, identified as Sogya, about 50, "was released after he lost both his eyes due to beatings by Chinese prison officials and a severe infection."

Many Tibetans use only one name. Still in custody, Radio Free Asia said, are two men named Dawa, ages about 30 and about 50,

a man named Sherab Yeshe, about 70, and two men of whom nothing was known.

Built in 2004, the slaughterhouse was reportedly not welcomed by Tibetans. It was identified as Dege Longsheng Yak LLC, a subsidiary of Chengdu Ganzi Longsheng Meizi Yak Ltd. Inc.

The fur burnings "give a little bit of light at the end of the tunnel for the Indian tiger," Belinda Wright of the Wildlife Protection Society of India told Simon Denyer of *The Independent*.

"Wright said she saw 83 fresh Tiger skins and thousands of fresh leopard skins on a trip to Tibet last year," wrote Denyer. "On one street in Linxia, Gansu province, she counted 163 leopard skins, most or all from India, on open display."

"I was numb," Wright told Denyer. "India's enforcement effort had totally failed."

The fur burnings, for which only eight people are known to have been arrested, put the Chinese government in a difficult position. China is committed by global treaty to conserving tigers, snow leopards, chiru antelope, and other species benefiting by the Tibetan turn against fur. China is also anxious to avoid confrontations with animal advocates and Tibetan nationalists before the 2008 Olympic Games, to be hosted in Beijing.

However, public displays of Tibetan nationalism are an embarrassment to Beijing, and a potential threat, if they inspire opposition to national unity in other parts of China.

The fur-burnings appear to have been inspired by anti-fur remarks made in January 2006 by the Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism, at the 2006 Kalachakra celebration in Amravati, Andhra Pradesh, India.

While the Nepalese sources of information about the slaughterhouse arson and animal release did not make the link, it came several months after the Dalai Lama announced that he had become a vegetarian.

Poaching in the zoos of northeastern India

A Royal Bengal tiger was poisoned at the Itanagar Zoo in the state of Arunachal Pradesh in northeastern India on February 20, 2006. A leopard at the zoo was targeted the same night, despite the presence of three guards on duty. The tiger died. The leopard is in critical condition.

This is the fourth recent incident of poaching in the zoos of northeastern India.

At the Aizawl zoo in Mizoram, a keeper killed a bear to sell the bear's gall bladder.

At the Assam State Zoo in Guwahati, miscreants laid electric wires in the middle of the night from across the zoo boundary wall to poach an Indian rhino. The rhino got frightened and raised alarm by thumping the ground and running in circles around his enclosure. This alerted the guards and the poachers fled, leaving the electric wires behind.

In November, residents of villages on the fringes of the Orang

National Park in Assam poisoned two Royal Bengal tigers with a carcass of a cow laced with insecticide.

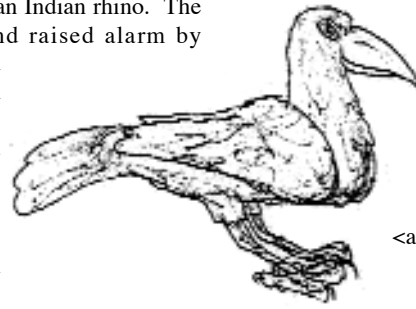
The zoos in India have always been soft targets. I just completed a tour of the zoos in northeast India. I visited the Aizawl Zoo in Mizoram, the Alipore Zoo in Kolkata, the Kohima Zoo in Nagaland, the Lady Hyde Park and Animal Park in Shillong, of Meghalaya, and the Assam State Zoo in Guwahati.

Every inmate is in a pathetic state. There seems to be no hope unless the Central Zoo Authority holds the respective state governments accountable.

Please go to the CZA web site, <www.cza.nic.in>, and register your protest.

—Azam Siddiqui
107-C, Railway Colony
New Guwahati 781021
Assam, India

<azamsiddiqui@animail.net>
Phone: 91-84350-48481



Frida the lion still at Camorhi Game Lodge

We promised to update you about Frida, the baby lion sent from Romania to South Africa, whose case was described in "Rescuers send lion to canned hunt supplier," in the March 2006 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Unfortunately, Frida is still at the Camorhi Game Lodge. Vier Pforten publicly admitted having done wrong [in sending Frida there] and promised to do all they can for Frida to be relocated from Camorhi to Drakenstein Lion Park in Western Cape, South Africa. Yet Frida is still at Camorhi, and Vier Pforten cannot offer an explanation for this fact.

Frida's story can be read on <www.leulfrida.ro>.



—Gabriela Savu
Radio Total
Bucharest, Romania
<gbsavu@radiototal.ro>

Editor's note:

Frida was born in June 2005 in a Romanian zoo. Radio Total in Bucharest "bought the newborn lion cub from the zoo, in the hope of giving the baby lion a life in the wild," <www.leulfrida.ro> explains. "For six months, Frida was lovingly cared for by Gabriela Savu, girlfriend of Bogdan Popescu, general manager of Radio Total," the site adds. "To find Frida the right place, Savu and Popescu contacted Vier Pforten, who assured them that it had done this before, and could make the arrangements."

Frida was delivered to the Camorhi Game Lodge on December 5, 2005, despite warnings that "Camorhi is a hunting game farm where canned lion hunting has taken place in the past, owned and run by one Marius Prinsloo, a self-confessed lion hunting operator."

SPAY/USA

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North Shore Animal League America has welcomed the SPAY/USA program into our headquarters in Port Washington, N.Y.

Every year in the United States, millions of unwanted dogs and cats are euthanized because not enough homes are available for them. Lowering this horrific statistic is the mission of both SPAY/USA and North Shore Animal League America. Both groups will now work together under one roof to stop

this trend. SPAY/USA is a national referral service that offers help to anyone who needs assistance finding affordable spay/neuter services in their area. The program consists of a network of over 7,000 top-notch veterinarians and 1,000 sterilization programs and clinics nationwide. Veterinarians wishing to participate and have your program listed on our site please visit www.spayusa.org or write Spay@nsalamerica.org

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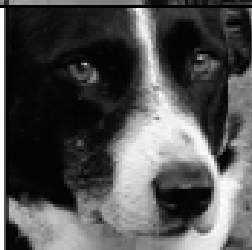
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—Allison C.

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Breed bans & anti-tethering laws (from page 1)

But that might increase support for anti-chaining laws, an increasingly popular alternative approach to preventing dog attacks.

The four most common factors in life-threatening and fatal dog attacks, according to research posted by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, are that the dog is unsterilized, the victim is a child, the dog is a pit bull, and the dog is either tethered or has a history of usually being tethered.

Ironically, many communities still have public safety statutes requiring that dogs be kept fenced or tethered. Until under 20 years ago most humane societies promoted tethering as a second-best alternative to fencing, as part of their effort to discourage pet-keepers from letting animals roam at large.

Unsterilized male dogs have been known to be more aggressive, and female dogs with litters have been known to be more reactive, since Biblical times. Licensing ordinances that set lower fees for sterilized dogs already exist in most of the U.S., and many jurisdictions have additional legislation to try to boost the sterilization rate.

Children are the victims of about three out of four dog attacks. The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention analysis holds that this is primarily because children spend the most time close to dogs, and are less experienced than most adults at knowing when a dog may bite. Many bite prevention programs

Turkish street dog massacres

ANKARA—Officials of the ruling Islamic nationalist Justice & Development Party have denied responsibility for the deaths of hundreds of street dogs whose remains were found at the Mamek refuse dump in separate lots on March 12, 14, and 24 by veterinarian Burcu Iskikalp and local animal advocates. Necropsies indicated that at least two dogs had been raped. A 64-year-old man was charged a week earlier with raping a dog at a different dump, in Corum.

Turkish law has since 2003 forbidden killing street dogs except in response to medical emergency, but the law is reportedly widely defied due to lack of federal government enforcement.

already target children, but some of the common tips can be misleading with pit bulls, who have been bred in part to exhibit behavior that may deceive foes in a fight, and have often had their ears and tails cropped to further obscure their body language.

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention reported in a 1991 study that tethered dogs are 2.8 times more likely to bite than dogs who roam free. Tethering tends to increase dogs' territoriality and likelihood of delivering a reactive bite, since a tied dog cannot run away from a perceived threat.

Further, the tether often trips the attack victim, enabling the dog to maul a person who otherwise might escape unharmed.

Since January 1, 2005, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** files indicate, tethering has been a factor in 55 of 174 life-threatening or fatal dog attacks in the U.S. and Canada of which we have record (32%), but was involved in only four of 35 cases abroad (11%), where dogs are much less often tied.

Tethering was also a factor in eight of 31 dog-shootings by U.S. police (26%).

In some cases dogs usually kept tied attacked people and/or were shot after escaping. In others, the dogs attacked while tied.

Until 2005, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** files on dog attacks were not logged in a way that left tethering history easily accessible, but the breed-specific log of life-threatening and fatal attacks goes back to September 1982. Through March 2006, 2,081 dog attacks in the U.S. and Canada qualified for listing: 1,027 by pit bull terriers (49%), 399 by Rottweilers (19%), 2% by pit/Rott mixes, and 323 by the seven next most often involved breeds combined: wolf hybrids, German shepherds and their close mixes, chows, Akitas, huskies, and boxers.

Just 10 breeds and their close mixes accounted for 86% of all life-threatening and fatal dog attacks. Among those breeds, only German shepherds and their mixes have consistently ranked among the 10 most popular. Pit bulls, now a "top 10 breed," for the first time ever, appear to have increased from less than 1% of the U.S. dog population for most of the 20th century to nearly 6% now.

Accompanying the six-fold increase in the number of pit bulls has been an eight-fold increase in the number of human deaths and maimings by pit bulls.

Breed-specific legislation, long opposed by the American Kennel Club, the American SPCA, and the Humane Society of the U.S., is no longer actively opposed by HSUS, and has won support around the U.S. and Canada. According to the AKC, 37 jurisdictions in 17 states were considering breed-specific ordinances as of mid-March 2006.

The American Canine Foundation, which backed the Toledo lawsuit, in early March 2006 served notice of intent to sue seeking to overturn a breed-specific ordinance adopted on February 22, 2006 in Auburn, Washington. The Auburn ordinance lists 12 breeds in all: pit bulls, 10 closely related "fighting" breeds, and Akitas.

The most sweeping pit bull ban to date was enacted in 2005 in Ontario, Canada, covering the entire province, but "Toronto will not fully enforce the ban unless the province helps to pay the costs," *Toronto Star* reporter Paul Moloney disclosed on March 23. "The city budget committee did not support an animal services department request for funds to hire 10 more animal control officers," whom the city claimed would be needed.

"If the province wants a higher standard of enforcement, then we need money," said budget committee vice chair Joe Mihevic.

"It's our hope that costs will not increase significantly because we expect citizens will comply with the law," returned Ontario Ministry of Justice spokesperson Brendan Crawley. "They will keep their pit bulls muzzled and leashed, they will get their pit bulls neutered, and therefore we don't anticipate costs will increase significantly."

Anti-tethering laws have contrastingly met little opposition since 2003, when Connecticut became the first state to enact an anti-tethering law. Most recently, the Fort Lauderdale city council voted unanimously on March 22, 2006 to follow Hollywood, Dania Beach, Pembroke Park, and Hallandale Beach in banning prolonged tethering, at request of the Broward County Humane Society and



Chained pit bull. (Dogs Deserve Better)

Mothers Against Dog Chaining. Bloomington, Indiana banned prolonged tethering in February 2006.

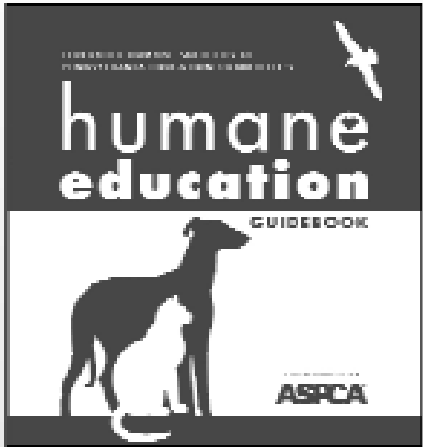
"There are currently at least 80 cities, counties, and states in the nation with laws banning or limiting chaining," according to Tammy Grimes, of Tipton, Pennsylvania, who founded the anti-tethering group Dogs Deserve Better in 2001.

Mothers Against Dog Chaining, empowering mothers whose children have been hurt by tied dogs to testify against tethering, is a project of Dogs Deserve Better. Grimes, who is also associate web producer for **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, is now organizing an online support group for bereaved members.

The most prominent Dogs Deserve Better activity since 2002 has been Have A Heart for Chained Dogs Week, in which anti-chaining activists raise public awareness by delivering Valentines, treat coupons, and brochures to chained or otherwise closely confined dogs. A record 5,277 Valentine packets were delivered in 2006, to dogs in 46 of the 50 states and many dogs in Canada.

A third approach to trying to reduce dog attacks is raising the penalties for keeping dangerous dogs. Recent pit bull attack fatalities helped higher penalties to clear the Oklahoma house on March 2, and the Virginia senate on March 8. However, stiffer penalties tend to discourage keepers from acknowledging dogs who attack. Further, penalties for keeping a dangerous dog usually apply only after someone is injured.

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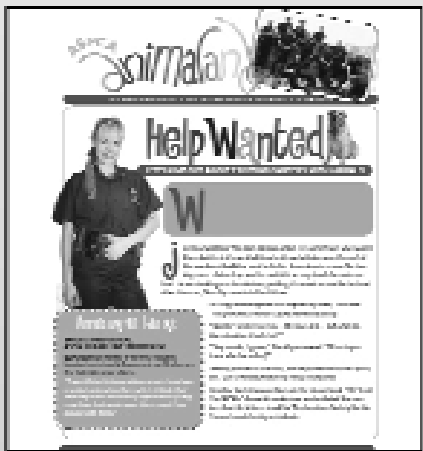
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Ex-Ohio State University laboratory chimp dies on arrival at the Primarily Primates sanctuary

COLUMBUS, SAN ANTONIO—Kermit, 35, one of nine chimpanzees sent by Ohio State University to the Primarily Primates sanctuary in Leon Spring, Texas, died under sedation on March 2 as sanctuary staff tried to move him from a transport cage to larger holding quarters.

Ohio State has donated \$324,000 to Primarily Primates to build permanent facilities for the chimps that will be about five times larger than their university housing, and to provide for their maintenance.

"Veterinarian Thomas Vice had administered a shot of anesthesia, followed by two smaller doses, when Kermit collapsed in a sitting position," reported Kevin Kidder of the *Columbus Dispatch*, based on the account of Ohio State laboratory animal resources director William Yonushonis.

A necropsy done at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research in San Antonio found that the cause of death was a "heart attack associated with pre-existing heart disease, pulmonary congestion and tissue swelling associated with handling. The necropsy did not address tranquilizers in Kermit's body," wrote Mike Lafferty of the *Columbus Dispatch*.

Yonushonis, also the senior lab animal veterinarian at Ohio State, personally toured and approved of Primarily Primates before agreeing to the transfer.

Temporarily restricted to a wheelchair due to injuries suffered in a recent fall from the roof of a chimp cage while retrieving mis-thrown treats, Primarily Primates director Wally Swett was at first unable to see what had happened, but told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that veterinary personnel with extensive experience in sedating chimpanzees

were right there and responded immediately.

The most obvious probable contributing factor to the death was that Kermit weighed nearly 300 pounds, about twice as much as he should have.

At Ohio State, Swett said, Kermit and the other chimps in his colony had no climbing structures. All were "flabby," Swett told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, but predicted based on past experience with retired laboratory chimps that they would rapidly shed pounds and gain muscle tone once able to climb at will.

Swett said Kermit was the first of the Ohio State chimps to be released from a transport cage, after the colony rested overnight following a late arrival. Southwest Foundation vet staff were called to transfer the remaining eight chimps to their temporary facilities, and completed the moves without further incident.

The chimps reached Primarily Primates later than expected, Swett said, because researcher Sally Boysen and two supporters chained themselves to the gate at the Ohio State chimp center. Boysen had used the chimps since 1983 in a series of studies of their ability to learn basic spelling and math, and in studies of altruism and cooperation. Some of her work was shown in a Discovery Channel documentary.

"We have had an agreement with Boysen since 2002 that if adequate new research funding was not obtained to support the colony," costing about \$200,000 a year to maintain at Ohio State, "then the university would seek to move the animals to an appropriate refuge," said Ohio State senior vice president for research Robert McGrath. "We delayed that move for nearly two years to allow for the researchers' efforts to secure such support."

Since 2002, Ohio State spokesperson Earle Holland added, "nine research proposals were submitted by the researchers to traditional funding agencies, but all failed to win support."

Meanwhile, Holland indicated, conditions at the chimp colony had become dangerous.

"The current chimp facility was last refurbished in 1991, when the university housed only five animals in the building," Holland explained. "The current population," before the move to Primarily Primates, included "five males and four females, ranging in age from five to 47 years old," with a possible life expectancy of 60-70 years.

The oldest chimp, Sarah, on January 15 bit one of her female caretakers, who was trying to spray antiseptic on a bite wound inflicted by another chimp.

Sarah, a svelte 80 pounds, "came to Ohio State in 1987 from the University of Pennsylvania," Associated Press reported. "She has learned an artificial language system and understands the numbers zero through six."

With the advantage of hindsight, Swett had several ideas for moving chimpanzees from transport cages to living quarters without sedation, but said sedation would not have been needed if the Ohio State University transport cage doors had been the same size as the doors of the cages used in the past to bring chimps from other venues.

PETA began attacking the transfer to Primarily Primates as soon as it was announced.

PETA and the closely aligned Physicians' Committee for Responsible Medicine were already in conflict with Ohio State over a three-week "Spinal Cord Injury Techniques" summer course, started

Ohio Supreme Court rules for OSU

COLUMBUS—Ruling against an appeal by the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, the Ohio Supreme Court held unanimously on March 15, 2006 that photographs and video recordings of animal experiments made by researchers for their own use are protected from disclosure under the Ohio open records law because they are considered "intellectual property."

PCRM sought to obtain copies of documentation of spinal cord research done by the Ohio

State University College of Medicine. PCRM "argued that the records already had been publicly released and therefore were no longer exempt," summarized Associated Press. "Ohio State acknowledged that it had loaned some of the records to scientists and research trainees, and had shown a small number of the records to scientists at medical conferences. But the court accepted the university's argument that those disclosures related to conducting the research itself."

in 2004, that reportedly injures and kills about 270 rats and mice per year. Earlier, PETA and PCRM pressured Ohio State to halt methedrine experiments on cats done by researcher Michael Podell. The experiments ended when the funding ran out in 2002.

Swett and PETA founder Ingrid Newkirk have clashed for more than 15 years, beginning, Swett told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, when he criticized PETA for killing many rescued animals instead of placing them at sanctuaries.

In a prepared statement, Swett added several days later, "We take a 'no-kill' view of advocacy. In a fair world, primates and all conscious individual animals would have a protected interest in living. We believe it is important to model that fair world today. PETA takes a different view. The Virginia State Veterinarian reports that two animals died [of natural causes] in the group's facilities this past year. PETA itself killed 1,946 pet animals, transferring or adopting out only 215. PETA also killed 141 wild animals in 2005, versus only 52 animals whom its employees transferred or released. These figures include only the deaths in PETA's home state over a one-year period. We work in the interest of allowing animals to live out their lives."

As on several past occasions, PETA amplified criticisms originating with employees whom Swett said were dismissed for cause.

Swett noted that among the storm of criticism he received after Kermit's death from primate activists, amplified by PETA, Wild Animal Orphanage founder Carol Asvestas did not appear to be quoted. The Wild Animal Orphanage retirement colony for 20 former laboratory chimpanzees is also located just north of San Antonio.

Asvestas and Swett have often conflicted in the past, but Asvestas has had her own sedation mishaps. In April 2003 Asvestas was severely injured by an escaped African lion, who ran over her, impaling her on a mesquite bush, after a tranquilizer dart failed to take immediate effect. Police then shot the lion. In 1999 Wild Animal Orphanage was penalized by the USDA for the August 1996 deaths of two tigers and a puma under sedation during a flight from Spokane en route to the sanctuary.

"Tranquilizing or sedating wild animals remains more an art and less of a science than any other part of veterinary practice," commented the late Franklin Loew, former dean of the Tufts University and Cornell University veterinary schools. Loew died in April 2003.

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Post-Katrina conflicts & rescues go on

BATON ROUGE—A Louisiana source involved in undercover law enforcement against illegal animal fighting alerted **ANIMAL PEOPLE** late on February 21, 2006 that state attorney general Charles Foti had begun investigating Humane Society of the U.S. fundraising and expenditures in connection with Hurricane Katrina.

Named the lead agency for animal relief by the Federal Emergency Management Administration, HSUS raised more than \$30 million for Katrina aid, and had as many as 200 workers in the disaster area in September and October 2005.

HSUS confirmed the report within 24 hours, but Foti's office said nothing until spokesperson Kris Wartelle acknowledged the "basic beginning of an inquiry" to Robert Travis Scott of the New Orleans *Times-Picayune* on March 16. "She said Foti has made no accusations of wrongdoing, and declined to give more details," Scott wrote.

"There's no question that cockfighters, hunters, and others in Louisiana are constantly looking to damage our credibility," HSUS president Wayne Pacelle told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on February 22. "Since they cannot compete with our message that cockfighting is cruel, they attack the messenger."

"HSUS welcomes the opportunity to document our Katrina-related expenditures," added vice president of communications Nick Braden. "We have spent or committed upward of \$20 million, and are certain to spend millions more in Mississippi and Louisiana in the foreseeable future."

"We have been careful not to liquidate all of the assets in a matter of months," Braden said, "because this situation requires a long-term commitment to help the animals and to rebuild the animal care capacity in the Gulf region. We will continue to update our list of expenditures and commitments related to Katrina relief at our web site," Braden promised.

The HSUS web site as of February 22, 2006 listed "\$8 million committed to direct Katrina expenses, \$1 million for ongoing field projects in Louisiana and Mississippi, \$5 million committed to a Katrina reconstruction fund, \$2 million

provided or committed to agencies that have helped rescue, shelter, or reunite Katrina animals, \$1.5 million committed to reunion efforts, \$1 million committed to spay and neuter programs, \$500,000 spent on disasters that have hit since Katrina, [and] \$1.5 million committed to grow HSUS staff."

Itemized lists of activities under each heading did not include a breakdown of costs.

The posted sums for many projects differed from those given to Scott of the *Times-Picayune*. Scott's breakdown included "\$5.5 million on direct operations, \$7 million in reconstruction grants, \$1.3 million in reimbursement grants to humane societies and rescue groups, \$500,000 in partnership with Louisiana State University and the Dixon Correctional Institute toward an assessment for a permanent facility for animal care and sheltering, and \$4.5 million to help get the Louisiana SPCA back on its feet."

Many smaller organizations were bitterly critical of HSUS for closing rescue centers at Gonzales, Louisiana, and Hattiesburg, Mississippi, in mid-October, after Louisiana state veterinarian Martha Littlefield quit accrediting out-of-state vets and asked outside relief groups to stand down.

Animal Rescue New Orleans, formed after the HSUS withdrawal, took in 2,000 animals during the last three months of 2005, then "trapped 300 dogs, over 200 puppies, and 610 cats," while maintaining 2,800 feeding stations, said cofounder Jane Garrison. "On February 1, we held a meeting in New Orleans to find residents to lead ARNO," Garrison e-mailed. "Nearly 200 people showed up. On February 15, ARNO shifted to new resident leadership," planning "to continue a food/water program for animals on the streets, rescuing dogs and cats, and neutering feral cats."

Companion Animal Network founder Garo Alexanian of New York City in mid-March 2006 made his third trip to Louisiana since Katrina, hauling nine tons of hay donated by Gif Foster of Foggy Bottom Farms in Geneseo, New York.

"We delivered the hay to Gulfport, Mississippi, where there is little hay for farm animals, and also to Fireside Rescue in Carriere, Mississippi. They have two dozen rescued donkeys and horses, not to mention a dozen Katrina dogs," Alexanian told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

"Upon arriving in New Orleans, we were surprised to find that the packs of dogs we saw on previous visits had moved on from their previous hiding areas, as those areas now had lights, generators, mobile homes, work crews, etc. The animals had migrated into areas where there is more shrubbery



and less activity. The week we had was not enough time to re-find the packs and trap them," Alexanian said.

"So we thought about taking animals from the Louisiana SPCA's new shelter in Algiers [*to adopt out back in New York*], as we had heard rumors that they were euthanizing animals like crazy. They informed us that so far they had little need to euthanize," Alexanian continued.

"The Louisiana SPCA put us in contact with St. Bernard Parish and Plaquemines Parish. Word got around to Jefferson, St. Johns, and St. Charles. Working with the Southern Animal Foundation, the Humane Society of Louisiana, and ARNO, we vetted all the animals and loaded them up. We had fitted the truck with over 40 cages borrowed from New York City Animal Control, the North Shore Animal League, and the Carolina Humane Society. We installed a 110-volt alternating inverter so we could run six box fans in the truck. We brought back a total of 43 animals, 34 dogs and nine cats," Alexanian recounted.

"Having realized that the need for the Gulf Coast in 2006 is transport, transport, and transports," Alexanian added, "we have approached some of the same partnering groups about how to continue these transports once a month at least through the summer. The North Shore Animal League has stepped up to the plate again, and it looks like monthly transports will become a reality starting in April."

HSUS endorses neuter/return

"The Humane Society of the U.S. advocates community-based trap/neuter/return programs with on-going responsible management as the most viable long-term approach available at this time to reduce feral cat populations," HSUS declared in a March 20 policy update. The HSUS guidelines for neuter/return drafted with the aid of Bryan Kortis of Neighborhood Cats are substantially the same as the guidelines produced by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** publisher Kim Bartlett in 1992. Having recommended in 1994 that neuter/return practitioners should be prosecuted for abandoning animals, HSUS gradually withdrew active opposition to neuter/return, beginning in 1998.



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How many times must the ape traffic be exposed? (from page 1)

cases, but one very professional racket, responsible for hundreds of apes being smuggled over the last two decades.

"This group consists of a woman named Heba," Mier alleged, "who lives with her daughters Rima and Walaa in Cairo. Heba is the head of the group and was smuggling chimpanzees from Kano to Cairo even before the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species came into effect," according to transcripts of Mier's interviews with two Egyptian officials who said they knew her, or knew of her, as far back as the early 1970s.

"Heba has been known to CITES, the airlines, and the Egyptian and Nigerian government since at least 1997," Mier continued. "There are CITES infraction reports on her dating back to 1992.

"Rima," said Mier, "brought the apes into Egypt in 2001 who were killed by drowning," five days after the terrorist attacks on the U.S. of September 11, 2001 encouraged Egypt to make a show of strengthening airport surveillance.

Mier shared a copy of the 1997 WSPA report with ANIMAL PEOPLE. As present WSPA director general Peter Davies did not yet work for WSPA in 1997 and was unaware that the report had ever been compiled, ANIMAL PEOPLE e-mailed it to Davies for comment.

The lack of awareness of the report at WSPA headquarters seemed representative of the lack of impact it had on agencies with the legal authority to halt the animal traffic.

Also involved, Mier said, is "the husband of Heba, Walid Mohammed, who operates a shipping and supply company in Kano, Nigeria, with other offices in Cameroon and Cairo." Walid Mohammed did not respond to an ANIMAL PEOPLE e-mail requesting comment.

"The phone number for the Cairo office is the home phone number of his wife and daughters," continued Mier. "The doorman at his house in Kano stated on camera that they can get me chimpanzees from the Cross River area of Cameroon for \$360, delivered to their house in Kano by car within two weeks. He called the supplier by mobile phone and confirmed it in front of me."

Another key participant, Mier said,

A planned chimpanzee rescue is thwarted in Lebanon

While trying to expose the clandestine chimpanzee traffic to Cairo, Jason Mier told ANIMAL PEOPLE on February 17, 2006, "I have [also] been working in Lebanon to get some chimps confiscated. I knew of two when I went there in January," he said. "Since then one more has been found."

Having arranged—Mier thought—for the chimps to be seized by the Lebanese authorities and flown "to a sanctuary in South Africa," he praised "the complete difference between Lebanon and Egypt. Lebanon is not a member of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species," Mier noted. "They have no animal welfare laws or regulations for keeping animals, but animals need to be declared upon entry with the proper customs duty paid. As this did not happen, the government will confiscate. This has been the most positive experience possible," Mier enthused.

By March 6, Mier was disillusioned. "Less than 24 hours before the confiscation was to take place," Mier told ANIMAL PEOPLE, "a Ministry of Agriculture vet called all three owners and told them that we would arrive that night to confiscate. The three chimps disappeared. I was investigated by the police and taken to one police station, as were the local collaborators.

"I am supposedly being sued by one of the owners," Mier said, "as he claims he has permits for the chimpanzee, and the police caused him embarrassment and loss of revenue by coming to his restaurant, where one chimp was kept as an attraction. This went to the highest court in the country. The judge ordered for all three owners to be arrested and held until the chimpanzees' locations were known and I safely confiscated them.

"Then the federal police notified the owners. There was no investigation or arrests. Then it turned out that the judge was related to one of the owners, and after the owner found this out, the judge dropped the whole thing," Mier continued. "So now all three chimpanzees are still gone, two of the owners say they died during the 24 hours before the confiscation was to take place, and they threw the bodies in dumpsters, and the police seem to accept this. The third owner is the one related to the judge. He still has his chimpanzee hidden. Quite a demoralizing experience, but I will appeal the judges ruling," Mier pledged, "and am planning on going back soon."

The episode did produce one happy ending, for a baboon named Lola.

"While assisting an international investigation into chimpanzee smuggling, one of our rescuers and co-founders spotted Lola in one of the most ghastly, appalling and abusive pet shops ever," Animals Beirut e-mailed on March 23.

"With the help of some brave local people," and Trevor Wheeler of the World Society for the Protection of Animals, Animals Beirut obtained Lola and relocated her to the Cefn-yr-Erw Primate Sanctuary in South Wales, operated by Graham and Jan Garen. She is housed at the sanctuary with Tom, a baboon Animals Beirut removed from similar conditions and sent to the sanctuary in January 2006. Additional funding for the Lola rescue came from the International Primate Protection League, Animals Beirut said.

gorillas and close to 100 chimps per year from Kano to Cairo," Mier said. "In 2005 she was involved in two cases I know of."

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Another key participant, Mier said,

(continued on page 12)

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Events

April 8-9: United Poultry Concerns Forum on Using the Media, Columbus, Ohio. Info: 757-678-7875; <www.upc-online.org>.

April 12: Building Trust with the Media, Pet-Smart Charities Webinar, repeated April 17. Info: <petsmartcharities.webex.com>.

April 20: Debut of Project R&R: Release and Restitution for Chimps in U.S. Labs, Atlanta Info: 877-2CHIMPS; <www.releasechimps.org>.

April 22: Strut Your Mutt benefit for the Humane Society of the Tennessee Valley, Knoxville. Info: <www.HumaneSociety-Tennessee.com>.

April 22: Trail ride to benefit Meadow Haven

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

How many times...? (from page 11)

is "Dr. Abdel Shafy, of Cairo."

Opened the WSPA report, compiled in May 1997 by then-African field officer Mike Pugh, "In April 1996 I visited Kano, Nigeria, for two days, having learned of an illegal trade in chimpanzees and gorillas."

In Kano, a wildlife dealer named Idris Mohammed showed Pugh two young chimps. Pugh learned that another dealer, Sheikh Mohammed, "was believed to have exported 12 gorillas out of Kano to Pakistan," then "revisited Idris Mohammed, who showed me the empty basket which had contained the two chimpanzees. He said that he had now sold them to an Egyptian lady—Mrs. Haiba. He said that she was a regular customer, and had exported some 50 chimps and a lesser number of gorillas to Egypt last year."

Pugh found that "Walli Mohammed, based in Kano, allegedly acted for Mrs. Haiba in the export of primates."

Continued Pugh, "Idris Mohammed took me to a carpenter, where I was shown a wooden crate being made for Mrs. Haiba's wildlife consignment. The carpenter said that it would be carrying five chimps and one gorilla in the lower section, and 250 grey parrots in the upper section."

Pugh returned to Kano, posing as a wildlife dealer, in July 1996. "International trade in endangered species is absolutely prohibited, yet I was able to obtain the minimum documentation to export African grey parrots, falcons, and monkey species from Nigeria," Pugh wrote.

"I was able to obtain the permits and health certificates required to export endangered species to India. On no occasion was I asked to present animals for inspection," Pugh said, "yet I obtained a permit which allowed me to freely dispose of monkeys, parrots, and falcons. I was told that I could be supplied with 44 chimpanzees and eight gorillas each year from two dealers alone. I was told that apes were carried on Egypt Air, Middle East Airlines, and KLM, and that they were sold in Cairo, Karachi, Doha in Qatar, and Kuwait."

Concluded Pugh, "I recommend that a strategy be formulated to bring about international pressure on all those involved," many of whom he fully identified.

Affirmed WSPA findings

Jason Mier and Karl Amman did not identify all of the same traffickers. They found different routes and airlines in use today. Some of the names appeared to have evolved slightly in spelling. Yet many of the details closely matched those Pugh reported.

In the first 2005 case that Mier investigated, "Heba and Shafy traveled from Kano to Cairo on January 27, 2005, Heba bringing a crate of at least 18 gray parrots without any permits. Traveling with her, Shafy had six chimpanzees, four monkeys, and possibly two gorillas. Something went wrong on arrival at the airport in Cairo."

The primates were "put out on the baggage conveyor," said Mier, "but when Egyptian customs saw the crate it was not allowed to enter Cairo."

The crate "stayed in Terminal 2 of the Cairo Airport until it was put back on a Kenya Airways flight," Mier continued. "This crate does not show up on either the passenger manifest or the cargo manifest. There is only a listing of one piece of luggage weighing 20 kilograms with the passenger who transported the crate, not the 64 kilograms that it weighed when it was sent out."

Mier obtained and sent to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** copies of paperwork showing that Kenya Airways on January 28 flew the chimps and monkeys to Lagos, Nigeria. If two gorillas were part of the transaction, they disappeared.

"It is said that the gorillas were taken out," Mier reported. "Then for some reason Heba's daughter Walaa was able to leave Cairo with the chimpanzees, trying to get them back to Nigeria. The box of primates was intercepted in Nairobi, but Walaa was able to get back to Nigeria. Once there, she faxed back to Kenya Airways fake health certificates in an attempt to get the primates released."

"In the second case," Mier continued, "Heba and Shafy brought in at least three chimpanzees, again from Kano to Cairo on Kenya Airways. These were sold to a private zoo in the Sinai peninsula. I was able to get into this zoo and saw all three of the chimpanzees on May 31, 2005."

Mier interviewed officials within several different branches of the Egyptian government.

Each official insisted that Egypt enforces wildlife laws more stringently than any of the other nations involved in the traffic, and asserted that they lack the authority—supposedly required for membership in CITES—to seize smuggled animals.

As inept or corrupt as the Egyptian bureaucracy may be, however, Mier and Amman contend that the animals never should get as far as Cairo in the first place. The biggest problem, they contend, is that Kenya Airways does not police its own cargo.

Kenya Airways

"Kenya Airways has repeatedly been involved in animal smuggling," Mier charged. "They know about it, and have been repeatedly warned by the Cairo Airport Authority." For example, the Cairo Airport Authority on March 1, 2005 warned all airlines to avoid transporting wildlife in contravention of Egyptian law.

On April 9, 2005, the general manager of the veterinary quarantine department asked the Cairo Airport Authority "to inform airlines of the necessity of obtaining importation approval before bringing in any wildlife on their flights." The Cairo Airport Authority cited their previous warning, and others that preceded it.

"Yet animals continue to arrive in Cairo on their flights every week," Mier told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "Kenya Airways is the airline bringing by far the most illegal animals into Egypt, not following their own rules, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, International Air Traffic Authority regulations, or national laws."

Another example attracting Mier's attention came on May 9, 2005, when a carry-on suitcase taken aboard a Khartoum to Cairo flight "contained eight 'vervet like' monkeys, who were drugged on the airplane on the way to Cairo in an attempt to smuggle them more easily. On arrival in Cairo the suitcase was searched," Mier said. "Three of the monkeys were dead. The suitcase was closed with both live and dead monkeys inside, put back on the Kenya Airways flight with the man who brought them into Cairo, and were returned to Khartoum on May 11. This was done knowingly by Kenya Airways," Mier alleged, "and they charged a fee for this 'extra baggage.' The incident made front-page news in the Egyptian *Al-Ahram* daily newspaper."

Kenya Airways was reportedly fined \$10,000 by the Cairo Airport Authority. "This fine was never paid," Mier told **ANIMAL**



Chimpanzees. (Kim Bartlett)

PEOPLE, "but a lesser sum was paid to the Cairo Airport Authority to avoid paying the full fine."

Kenya Airways rep

Mier provided transcripts of interviews that he and Amman conducted with seven well-placed witnesses to various aspects of the traffic. Their accounts, despite some disagreement over details and who was to blame, mostly confirmed Mier's summary.

The five Egyptian witnesses, though they said plenty, appeared to be relatively reluctant to cooperate.

The two Kenyans were more vocal.

According to the transcripts, George Faltaous, Kenya Airways area manager for North Africa, insisted that "In the last five years that I have been here I have only known about two cases [of primate trafficking]," specifically the two that drew press coverage.

Faltaous recalled the January 2005 shipment of parrots and chimpanzees from Nigeria. "This man [Shafy] bought a ticket for the woman and she went back," Faltaous confirmed. "He was threatening to go to court and file a case against Kenya Airways. He was screaming. We told him that he can do what he wants, but that he cannot get the animals

(continued on page 13)

Using a litter to prevent a litter



ADDIS ABABA—The Homeless Animals Protection Society of Ethiopia recently began a trap/neuter/return program for street dogs. Lacking a vehicle in which to haul dogs, HAPS realized that if a litter worked for Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, it can work to bring the king of his alley to the end of his dynastic line.

The Homeless Animals Protection Society welcomes help c/o P.O. Box 2495, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; telephone 011-251-654-47-56 or 011-251-645-54-32; <haps-eth@ethionet.et>; <www.an-group.org/x_haps.htm>.



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How many times must the ape traffic be exposed?

(from page 12)

back without papers. They never kept the animals at the airport at all. They sent them back on the same flight. My opinion is they wanted to pass the responsibility to someone else.

"We alerted Kenya airport and wildlife organizations about everything that happened in Cairo," Faltaous continued, "and that these animals were coming back through Nairobi to go to Lagos. Since there were no documents, they confiscated the animals and prevented them from passing back to Nigeria. The woman continued to Lagos without the animals. I don't understand why they let this woman fly back," Faltaous said.

Faltaous opined that "the Sudanese man," who "put the monkeys to sleep" should have been caught earlier.

"In Khartoum, there are two x-ray machines," Faltaous said. "If they had actually scanned his bag, they would have seen what was inside for sure. Corruption is responsible

for this. He must have had a deal with customs or bribed the officers there. When the luggage arrived in Cairo, our guys noticed something moving inside the bag, so we called the authorities. They opened the bag and found the monkeys. We reported this to Sudan and they did a very big investigation and I think the two officers working that shift were suspended from work.

"They kept the Sudanese man at Cairo airport for a day or two," Faltaous added. "I think he was arrested when he went back to Sudan, but I did not follow up on the situation, so I'm not sure."

Faltaous argued that Kenya Airways was unfairly singled out. "There are four African airlines that fly to Cairo," Faltaous pointed out.

The others are South African Airlines, Egypt Air, and Sudan Airways.

"Even if they blacklist [suspected

smugglers'] names, we cannot check their bags or stop them from buying a ticket," Faltaous said. "We can't blacklist names on our flight plans. We don't even have the system for this. But if your name is on a list in immigration, the airline is notified and has to report to authorities. Still, the name does not flash in red on our screens when they are buying a ticket. We cannot stop them, only the authorities can."

"Some of the officials who seem to have facilitated this should be fired," Mier believes, "as well as some of the Kenya Airways employees. Egypt and Nigeria should revise their laws to make them more of a deterrent, and should follow proper procedures in regards to caring or disposing of animals confiscated when shipments are found to contravene CITES."

Said Doug Cress, secretariat of the Pan African Sanctuary Association, "There is

no doubt that this primate black market could have and should have been shut down more than a decade ago. That it has not only underscores how very little investigative and enforcement muscle there really is. CITES, the Lusaka Task Force and various national wildlife agencies were certainly made aware of these findings, both [when the WSPA report was published] and more recently, yet none has seen fit to act."

That does not explain, however, why WSPA and other nonprofit organizations have not brought further and much blunter pressure to bear upon the agencies involved and Kenya Airways, to encourage them to use the authority they already have to end the trafficking and bring the perpetrators to at least a semblance of legal justice. —Merritt Clifton

(See "Investigator has history of conflict with nonprofit organizations," on page 14.)

More events (from page 11)

Horse Rescue & Sanctuary, Medina, Texas. Info: 830-589-2400; <www.horseadoption.net>.

(continued on page 15)

April 22-23: Grand Opening, new Gabriel Fndtn. Aviary & Adoption Center, Denver. Info: 303-629-5900; <www.thegabrielfoundation.org>.

April 23-25: Texas Federation of Humane Societies 2006 Conf., Corpus Christi. Info: <txfederation@austin.rr.com>; <www.txfederation.org>.

April 24: Romania Animal Rescue golf tournament, Clayton, Calif. Info: 925-672-5908; <romaniadogs@sbcglobal.net>.

May 6: Petfest 2006 Spring Adoption Day, Indianapolis. Info: Hoosiers Helping Homeless Pets, 317-767-0660; <petfest@hoosierpets.org>; <www.hoosierpets.org>.

May 6: Animal Acres Hoe Down, Acton, Calif. Information: 661-269-0986; <info@animalacres.org>.

May 7-13: Be Kind To Animals Week. Info: <www.americanhumane.org>.

May 13: Jefferson Starship benefit for Humane Society of St. Lucie County, Fla., Fort Pierce. Info: <www.hsslc.org>.

May 15-17: Caribbean Animal Welfare Confer-

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—Brien Comerford



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Investigator has a history of conflict with nonprofit organizations

Undercover investigations are rarely disclosed to the world by the sponsors while still underway—at least not on purpose.

Findings, however, are typically intensively publicized, especially when produced on behalf of major international nonprofit organizations.

The publicity blitz usually starts after all undercover personnel are out of harm's way, often after a brief embargo while findings are shared with law enforcement.

Standard operating procedure may have been inverted by some of the sponsors of the Jason Mier/Karl Amman probe of alleged Kenya Airways involvement in wildlife trafficking—depending on whose version of what happened one accepts.

“An investigation into the black market routes of primate smugglers from West Africa through Nairobi and out to the Middle East has been undertaken by Jason Mier of the United States, with support from PASA,” the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance web site disclosed in April 2005, just as the probe began.

“Mier, who works closely with bushmeat expert Karl Amman, is seeking to close down the Nigeria/Kenya/Egypt pipeline that has produced almost a dozen orphans in the past year,” PASA continued.

“Mier's work is also supported by the Great Ape Survival Project of the United Nations Environmental Program, the Wasmoth Wildlife Foundation, the Lusaka Task Force, and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species,” PASA added, thereby disclosing the identities of both the investigators and their funders.

Almost a year later, PASA has yet to publish an update. So far as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** can determine, none of the named sponsors have published or acknowledged any of the Mier/Amman findings.

Mier in November 2005 told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the Wasmoth Wildlife Foundation had also withdrawn a funding commitment before actually contributing.

“The Pan African Sanctuary Alliance supports all efforts to end the illegal trade in primates, and is increasingly focused on the Middle East,” e-mailed PASA secretariat representative Doug Cress from Tanzania, when asked for comment in November 2005. “That is why PASA financially supported Jason Miers' investigation into the West African/Egyptian smuggling ring, advised and consulted as it developed,

and worked hard to prepare the findings.”

Cress, a former reporter for the *Washington Post* and *Atlanta Constitution*, declined to say anything further.

In March 2006, however, after returning from Tanzania to his original headquarters in Portland, Oregon, Cress added, “To my knowledge, there was never any real undercover aspect to Jason's investigation, nor any formal sting operation that required secrecy. It was just a guy willing to do the hard and thankless work that is the backbone of any thorough investigation. PASA's financial and logistical support—and those of Jason's other supporters, I think—was always given with the notion that somebody needed to track down all these leads and see if they were separate incidents or perhaps part of a larger operation.”

Yet as late as January 2006, Mier and Amman asked **ANIMAL PEOPLE** to delay publishing material which might reveal their identities while they were undercover.

Continued Cress in March 2006, “Jason made a presentation on his work at the PASA 2005 Management Workshop in Kenya [June 4-8, 2005], some of which is included in the PASA 2005 Workshop Report, but given that his investigation has been a work in progress all along, I don't think he has come to a natural point at which he would publish his findings.

“Much of what Jason has documented actually confirms the same personalities, the same routes, and the same level of illegal trade as was uncovered [earlier] by the World Society for the Protection of Animals,” Cress continued. “While that is compelling, it is not an easy sell in today's media markets.”

Amman, however, first alleged to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the Miers findings were being ignored or suppressed in June 2005, beginning only days after the PASA Management Workshop.

“This case of a family trafficking in apes for decades and nobody having been able to take real action to curtail it, amounts to an indictment of conservation efforts on the bush meat front and every other front in Cameroon, where most of these apes originate from, and clearly Nigeria as well,” Amman fumed.

“It is an indictment of CITES when Egyptian officials, 20 years after Egypt joined, still state that they lack the legal framework to take real action,” Amman added.

“It is an indictment of Interpol,

which is meant to come in on such well known cases and get such individuals listed on various immigration computers,” Amman said, “and an indictment of the nonprofit community, which seems to have as a foremost credo being politically correct, not rocking the boat, not trampling on anybody's feet and generally going the way of least resistance.”

Agreed Mier, by e-mail, “Dealing with the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance, David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation, International Fund for Animal Welfare, and WSPA, it became clear that every organization had an agenda, whether to keep some of this covered up, turning it into a success story before anything had ever been accomplished, only allowing parts of the information to come out, giving some parties further chances to rectify the situation in exchange for not making any of this information public, not getting involved at all due to alliances with other groups, or hoping for certain benefits or favors in the future. As soon as there might have been some risk involved,” Mier claimed, “such as having to take the chance of offending someone, they backed out.”

But people at the named organizations who replied to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** requests for comment hinted that Amman, especially, might have his own agenda.

Said WSPA director general Peter Davies, “I'm interested in why so many other NGOs are accused of having not reacted to Miers's evidence. I wonder why there have been such uncoordinated but individual decisions to not do what he wanted or expected.”

Frustration

ANIMAL PEOPLE found that Mier's critical comments seemed to be generally viewed as actually coming from Amman.

Amman, a wildlife photographer, was among the first people to draw global attention to the explosion of bushmeat hunting that hit interior Africa in the early 1990s, along with roadbuilding and logging.

“I have investigated aspects of the bush meat trade in Africa for the past six years,” Amman wrote in the March 1996 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “I no longer have any doubt that the increasing commercialization of this trade is today the biggest threat to the survival of many species in West and Central Africa. The great apes are no exception. Logging roads have allowed the bush meat trade to go commercial. In consequence, entire gorilla and chimp populations are eaten into extinction, at a rate of thousands of animals a year.”

Amman went on to detail his frustration with print and electronic media that he claimed ignored the story, conservation societies that he said ignored the issue, and governments which in the west were apparently unconcerned due to the lack of public outcry, while in Africa some officials were and are actively involved in expediting the traffic—stashing the returns in unmarked accounts.

Three more years passed before an April 1999 seizure of chimpanzee meat from 12 meat markets and restaurants run by Congolese immigrants to Belgium brought a burst of mass media investigations that confirmed many of Amman's claims.

The Great Ape Conservation Act made U.S. funding available for some African ape conservation programs.

But Amman remained frustrated.

“Can we hope to be taken seriously by the governments concerned, when loggers

are bragging about their economic clout of \$800 million, while we are running around selling \$30,000 pilot projects?”, Amman asked in a 2001 web posting.

Taking up arms

James Astill of the British newspaper *The Guardian* in November 2002 identified Amman as coordinator of a paramilitary operation in which, “An anti-poaching unit led by a former South African army officer and funded by two foreign conservation groups recently attacked two gangs of poachers in the Central African Republic, killing one man. The unit,” jointly funded according to Astill by the U.S.-based African Rainforest and Rivers Conservation Organization and the Wilmoeth Wildlife Foundation, “consists of three Central African presidential guards, commanded by ‘David Bryant,’ an alias used by a 50-year-old former officer of the South Africa and Rhodesian armies.”

Amman told Astill that the private team acted after the poachers killed as many as 400 elephants along the Central African Republic border with the Democratic Republic of the Congo, then took to raiding villages, killing, raping, and looting the local people.

“After Bryant attacked their village base in Adama, in the southern Central African Republic, four of the poachers fled into the Congo,” wrote Astill. “As prearranged by Amman, they were arrested there by the rebel force of Jean-Pierre Bamba, which controls northern Congo. Two were arrested by the anti-poaching unit, and one man escaped.”

Western nonprofit organizations funded similar paramilitary actions on behalf of wildlife, especially elephants, all over Africa during the 1980s and 1990s, but by the late 1990s paramilitary tactics had fallen out of favor. Some of the paramilitary units turned out to be covertly engaged in the very poaching and wildlife trafficking operations they were supposed to interdict. Some were seen as threats to governmental authority. Even nonprofit support of governmental anti-poaching units was viewed in some instances as arming potential instigators of *coups-de-etat*.

In addition, some of the most heavily armed and best organized elephant ivory and rhino horn poaching gangs were and are believed to be working on behalf of al Qaida, Hamas, and other militant Islamist factions. Taking an active role in fighting them could lead to wildlife groups becoming targets for terrorism—as the humanitarian relief branches of some religious charities already are.

But Amman is still impatient.

“Concerned individuals and bodies in the industrialized world should stop relying on conventions like Interpol or CITES to be in any way effective in curtailing wildlife trafficking when it comes to badly governed third world countries,” Amman told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in summarizing Mier's story, “and they should stop expecting the NGO community to blow the whistle and play bad cop.”

—Merritt Clifton



Gorilla. (Robert L. Harrison)

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New Jersey dismantles Office of Animal Welfare

TRENTON—New Jersey Office of Animal Welfare director Cheryl Maccaroni was on February 16

returned to her former job as deputy attorney general.

All three inspectors were transferred to the Infectious & Zoonotic Disease Program under state vet Faye Sorhage.

"That is where shelter inspections were handled until June 2004, when then-Health Commissioner Clifton Lacey authorized \$200,000 to develop the Office of Animal Welfare," wrote Brian T. Murray of the Newark *Star-Ledger*. The Office of Animal Welfare and the Infectious & Zoonotic Disease Program are both under the state Department of Health and Senior Services.

New Jersey Animal Welfare Task Force member Gordon Stull, DVM, recalled that before the Office of Animal Welfare was formed, "There were serious problems

with inspections of shelters, pet shops, and kennels. In just the past year," Stull said, "the office conducted over 400 inspections."

But Associated Humane Societies president Roseann Trezza "complained of raid-like inspections, threats of being shut down, and pressure to end euthanizing unwanted animals," wrote Murray. "Local health departments also complained that the new office interfered with the training of animal control officers and lobbied towns to create feral cat colonies, rather than collect cats."

Trezza told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the euthanasia issue involved animals with poor adoption prospects. The New Jersey rate of 5.9 dogs and cats killed per 1,000 residents is well under the national rate of 15.5.

The feral cat issue, said Trezza, centered on colony caretakers who either did not sterilize all of the cats in their care, or died, leaving some colonies without caretakers.



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CVS drops glue traps

WOONSOCKET, R.I.—The 5,400-store CVS drug chain on March 1 ceased stocking glue traps for small rodents, spokesperson Mike DeAngelis confirmed to *Providence Journal* staff writer Paul Grimaldi.

PETA spokesperson Stephanie Boyles told Grimaldi that PETA first asked CVS to stop selling glue traps in August 2005. The Humane Society of the U.S. asked chain stores to stop selling glue traps in 1985-1990, but whether any complied is unclear.

"We are currently trying to persuade E-Bay to stop selling glue traps and leghold traps. Perhaps this latest major development will encourage them to do the right thing," said Philip Kiernan of Irish Council Against Blood Sports.

People & positions

Daphne Sheldrick, founder of the **David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust** elephant and rhino orphanage in Kenya, on March 4, 2006 received the Order of the British Empire. Other animal advocates who have won the honor in recent years include **Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Association** founder **Stella Brewer Marsden**, of Gambia (2006); **Care For The Wild** founder **Bill Jordan**, who now heads the **Bill Jordan Wildlife Defence Fund** (2005); **Dogs Trust** chair **Clarissa Baldwin** (2003); and **Animals Asia Foundation** founder **Jill Robinson** (1998).

Compassion Over Killing on March 17, 2006 announced the hiring of **Lauren Ornelas**, **Viva!USA** chief since 2000, as campaigns director, and **Casey Diment**, a former volunteer fundraiser for the **Animal Defense League of Chicago**, as development director.

More events (from page 13)

ence, Antigua. Info: <www.pegasusfoundation.org>.

May 20: Nomination deadline for the Christine Stevens Wildlife Award, presented by the Animal Welfare Institute. Info: 609-334-1378 or <dj@awionline.org>.

May 20: Farm Sanctuary 20th Anniversary Gala, New York City. Info: 607-583-2225 x221 or <gala@farm-sanctuary.org>.

(continued on page 13)
May 24: VIVA! "White Lies" anti-milk campaign debut reception, London, U.K. Info: +44-117-944-1000; <www.vegetarian.org.uk>.

May 29-31: Conservation & Animal Welfare, conference co-hosted by Instituto Português para a Educação Humanitária, Cambridge Learning Inst., British Council of Portugal, Jane Goodall Inst. & Univ. de Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologias, Lisbon, Portugal. Info: <www.livetag.com/ipeh/>.

June 3: Christian Animal Rights Conf., Caldwell, N.J. Info: <Gods-cre@MSN.com>; <www.Gods-creaturesministry.org>.

June 8-9: WSPA Global Animal Welfare Summit, London. Info: 44-0-207-587-5000; <symposium-2006@wspa.org.uk>.

June 9-11: New Zealand Animal Rights Conf., site to be announced. Info: <www.stop-vivisection.org.nz>.

June 10: Open horse show to aid Meadow Haven Horse Rescue & Sanctuary, Bandera, Texas. Info: 830-589-2400; <www.horseadoption.net>.

July 15-16: PETA Helping Animals 101, Miami, Florida. Info: 323-644-7388 or <www.HelpingAnimals101.com>. To be repeated in Seattle, **Sept. 30-Oct. 1**; Dallas, **Oct.**



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Verbally aggressive tactics raise issue of freedom of speech vs. uttering threats

SAN DIEGO, PHILADELPHIA, LONDON, NEW YORK—FBI agents on February 22, 2006 arrested Rod Coronado, 39, of Tucson, Arizona, for statements made in a 2003 speech at the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Community Center in Hillcrest, California.

“Coronado was indicted in San Diego on charges of demonstrating how to make a destructive device with intent that the information be used to commit arson,” reported San Diego *Union-Tribune* staff writer Onell R. Soto.

“You’re damn right when you say I’ve shown people how to make a firebomb,” Coronado told the *Union-Tribune* in July 2005. “I’ve done my time for my crimes, and I should be able to talk about them.”

The Coronado speech came 15 hours after an arson at a housing complex under construction in nearby University City, California, that did \$50 million worth of damage. The arson was claimed by the “Earth

Liberation Front.” As yet, no one has been charged with actually setting the multiple semi-simultaneous fires.

“Destroying property to protect life is the most sacred thing we can do,” Coronado said in the Hillcrest speech, according to a detailed account by Mark Gabrish of *Zenger’s News-magazine*, published the next day.

Coronado heavily damaged two Icelandic whaling ships in a 1988 harbor raid undertaken with David Howitt, sponsored by the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. Coronado and Howitt escaped Iceland before the damage was found.

Coronado later left the Sea Shepherds due to a split with founder Paul Watson over the limits of nonviolent direct action. But Watson denounced the San Diego arrest and indictment as “a full frontal assault on the bastion of free speech.”

FBI chief special agent for the San Diego office David Dzwilewski agreed with Watson that Coronado has a protected right to

free speech, but added, to Soto of the *Union-Tribune*, “What he does not have the right to do is teach others how to destroy property.”

Charged with arson, theft, possession of explosives, extortion, destruction of government property, and illegal interstate flight, in connection with attacks on four universities during 1991-1992, Coronado pleaded guilty in 1995 to one count of aiding and abetting arson of a research facility, plus lesser offenses. He was sentenced to serve 57 months in prison and make more than \$2.5 million in restitution to Michigan State University, Oregon State University, Washington State University, and Utah State University.

Ironically, one of the laboratories destroyed by the Michigan arsons was engaged in developing the use of sperm cells as an alternative to using whole animals in toxicology research. It was located next door to a lab that conducted studies to improve the efficiency of ranching mink.

Coronado and Matthew Crozier, 33,

of Prescott, Arizona, await sentencing on a December 13, 2005 federal jury conviction for “conspiring to impede or injure a U.S. Forest Service officer, a felony, and interfering with a Forest Service officer and damaging government property, both misdemeanors,” wrote A.J. Flick of the *Tucson Citizen*.

In that case, Coronado and Crozier were accused of removing traps set in the Sabino Canyon National Recreation Area to catch a puma who was allegedly menacing park visitors. The puma was originally to have been killed, but public opposition caused the park to live-trap the puma instead.

The February 2006 Coronado arrest and the March 2, 2006 convictions of six U.S. supporters of the organization Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty were among the most prominent developments in a burst of court cases involving animal advocates who have allegedly tested the boundary between exercising free speech and making threats.

(continued on page 17)

PETA loses espionage lawsuit vs. Ringling but gets 20,000 pages of documents

FAIRFAX, Virginia—A Fairfax County Circuit Court jury on March 15 found Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus owner Kenneth Feld not guilty of illegally conspiring to infiltrate and harm People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals between 1988 and 1998.

The verdict may not conclude a lawsuit that PETA first filed in May 2001. PETA attorney Philip Hirschkop told Brian Westley of Associated Press and Matthew Jones of the Norfolk *Virginian-Pilot* that PETA would appeal. Hirschkop, soon to retire, later told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the decision to appeal would have to be made by PETA president Ingrid Newkirk—“But I know what I would do,” he said.

Hirschkop said the case was only the second loss of his career in a jury verdict. “The jury asked for instructions from the judge on the difference between harm and injury,” Hirschkop recalled.

“During the nine-day trial, Ringling internal documents showed that the circus hired private investigators who infiltrated animal rights groups, obtained credit card and other personal data, and stole stacks of confidential papers, such as donor lists and strategy memos,” summarized Tom Jackman of the *Washington Post*. “But Feld’s attorneys pointed out that PETA’s donations have continued to rise, despite Ringling’s actions, and that the circus did nothing untoward with the purloined documents.”

Said PETA in a prepared statement closely parallel to Hirschkop’s spoken comments to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “At least three witnesses testified that Feld received reports of the operation throughout the matter. Testimony made clear that Feld’s senior vice presidents, other senior staff, controller, accountants, and auditors knew of the operation, but Feld claimed that he was kept in the dark.

“PETA filed suit against Feld to uncover the details of what it believed was a conspiracy to destroy the animal protection groups that were the most outspoken critics of Ringling,” the PETA statement continued. “Feld’s operation was overseen by Clair George, former head of covert operations for the CIA, and was run on a daily basis by a private eye

named Richard Froemming,” who died in 2003. “From 1988 to 1998, Froemming and his several shell entities (with no employees or functions) were paid more than \$8.8 million. Upon cross-examination, Feld claimed that he did not know what Froemming and his entities did for all that money.”

Through the lawsuit, PETA said, “We pried the lid off nearly 20,000 pages of documents,” revealing that the spy operation “placed as many as 16 undercover operatives at PETA, the Performing Animal Welfare Society, the Elephant Alliance, In Defense of Animals, and possibly other animal protection groups.

Naming the plants

“The operative at PAWS was Julie Lewis, who also infiltrated In Defense of Animals and the Elephant Alliance. Lewis also attempted to infiltrate PETA, but did not succeed. In addition to Lewis, another operative, named Anita Walker, infiltrated the Elephant Alliance using the name Catherine Stevens. She also infiltrated PETA and removed confidential documents,” PETA acknowledged.

“One of the main operatives, Steven Kendall, infiltrated and took control of [the defunct anti-animal rights group] Putting People First,” alleged PETA, “and repeatedly misrepresented himself to the public, denying any affiliation with Feld or Ringling, despite being their paid operative. Kendall also used an apparently stolen check from the Elephant Alliance in what was described in court as a scheme to extort a California state senator into removing an elephant protection bill that he had introduced.

“Kendall also acknowledged receiving a confidential list of PETA contacts across the U.S. and using the list to interfere with PETA’s anti-circus demonstrations and to try to cause PETA to lose members,” PETA said. “Kendall also admitted to getting a job covertly at the office of a Toronto City Council member and to obtaining confidential documents from that office in his efforts

on behalf of the circus to defeat” a bill that would have banned circus performances within Toronto city limits.

Hirschkop repeated each allegation to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in greater detail on March 17. Many were also described in trial coverage by Associated Press and major regional media.

“Feld fought unsuccessfully in pretrial motions to prevent disclosure to PETA of his financial statements,” wrote Matthew Barakat of Associated Press. “In December 2005, a judge sanctioned Feld for failing to turn over evidence, and in August 2005 the judge sanctioned six of Feld’s lawyers for contempt of court and interfering with a deposition.”

An earlier suit against Ringling, filed by the Performing Animal Welfare Society, was settled out of court when Ringling agreed to retire two elephants to PAWS and pay for their upkeep, Hirschkop said, confirming earlier reports.

“In 1999, freelance journalist Jan Pottker filed a multimillion-dollar suit against Feld,” recalled Jones of the *Virginian-Pilot*, “claiming he had overseen a conspiracy against her that involved spying on her, tapping her phone, breaking into her home and sabotaging her writing career with phony publishing deals. Pottker alleged this retribution stemmed from an unflattering 1990 article she wrote about Feld and his family for a business magazine.”

The Pottker case is still underway.

“In a separate suit,” Jones continued, “former Feld employee Shan Sparshott won a \$500,000 judgment in 2001 against Feld Entertainment and Smith for illegally audio- and videotaping her in her office and at home. The case was reversed on appeal on procedural grounds.”



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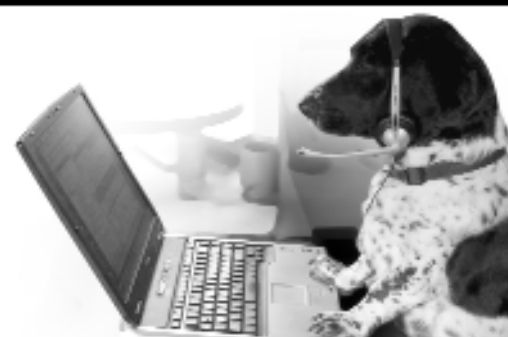
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Verbally aggressive tactics raise issue of free speech vs. uttering threats (from 16)

In most of the cases, activists have been criminally prosecuted, but in one case yet to be filed, the accused activist has pledged to bring civil suit against her accusers.

Attorney Marianne Bessey, who heads Friends of Philly Zoo Elephants, on February 23, 2006 told Larry Eichel of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* that she hopes to sue the Philadelphia Zoo for banning her from the zoo grounds, based on several of her postings to an Internet chatroom called "The Elephant Connection."

Writing and campaigning under the assumed name Rowan Morrison, taken from the name of a character in the pagan cult film classic *The Wicker Man*, Bessey on February 16, 2006 allegedly wrote in a posting addressed to Philadelphia Zoo director Pete Hoskins that "You have outlived your life expectancy by some 10 years," that she wished him "nightmares every night until you die, which should be very soon," and that "Maybe you should be kept in a concrete closet for six months to hasten your demise."

In a later posting the same day, Bessey allegedly added, "Pete Hoskins thinks he is going to have a peaceful, uneventful retirement... he has another think coming."

Hoskins is to retire this spring.

Before barring Bessey, the zoo asked the Philadelphia police to investigate the postings as possible threats.

"I think this is definitely illegal," Bessey told Eichel. "I have the freedom of speech to express my opinion, and they're just trying to prevent me from getting information out to the public."

The Philadelphia Zoo has acknowledged that the quarter-acre habitat occupied presently by four elephants is too small, and has said it may give up the elephants, since it lacks the funding to expand their habitat. Friends of Philly Zoo Elephants has asked that the elephants be sent to the 2,700-acre Elephant Sanctuary at Hohenwald, Tennessee.

Declaring war

As the SHAC prosecution showed, animal use industries and the U.S. government are increasingly concerned about militant and often violent tactics long used in Britain becoming accepted by American activists.

While Bessey and the Philadelphia Zoo dispute the meaning and implications of her remarks, longtime British Animal Liberation Front spokesperson Robin Webb in a parallel confrontation over elephant-keeping

all but declared war on the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland and the economic development agency Scottish Enterprise. Webb even indicated in early March 2006 statements to Marc Horne of the London Sunday *Times* that he personally would have no objection if activists attacked the Scottish government.

The zoological society is undertaking £58 million worth of renovations to the Edinburgh Zoo. Scottish Enterprise, the major Scottish economic development agency, pledged a contribution of £1.8 million.

Explained Horne, "Animal welfare groups have accused zoo bosses of reneging on a promise not to house elephants or replace Mercedes, the only polar bear at the zoo, when she dies. For many years the zoo has featured a life-size elephant model with a plaque stating that it is unacceptable to keep them in restricted captive environments."

"Activists with the ALF will use their own tactics to encourage the zoo and its partners to abandon this deeply misguided and inhumane project," Webb said. "There would be no reason to doubt that employees and property owned by Scottish Enterprise would be considered legitimate targets."

"We would condone any type of action that does not endanger life. It would include all types of damage and destruction of property, including arson. It will be up to our activists to decide," Webb continued, "whether or not they would wish to go further and target the Scottish executive, which allocates funding to Scottish Enterprise."

Academic freedom

Webb, SHAC cofounders Greg Avery and Natasha Dallemagne Avery (see page 19), five other activists, and the antivivisection organization SPEAK were all named in a March 9 injunction obtained by Oxford University against using any "instrument or appliance to generate noise" during weekly four-hour protests against building a £20 million animal research lab. The injunction also forbids use of any type of camera.

The injunction "comes after [British Prime Minister] Tony Blair held a private meeting with senior university figures, industry leaders, and police to discuss strategy on animal rights extremists," reported Nicola Woolcock of the London *Times*.

"The legal action tightens an existing injunction, which allowed a weekly demonstration, but placed no restriction on noise. Protesters regularly use horns, whistles, and

play tapes of dogs howling," Woolcock wrote. "They also photograph and videotape staff, students and construction workers."

Explained Oxford registrar David Holmes, "The working lives of many people in this university are being disrupted by loud, abusive, and threatening behavior."

Some protest leaders have acknowledged in the past that the Oxford demonstrations are intended to put animal experimenters under stress comparable to the protesters' concept of what lab animals suffer.

Recalled Alexandra Smith of *The Guardian*, "In July 2004, the construction firm Montpelier pulled out after threatening letters were sent to shareholders and the value of its shares dropped. Work on the lab was suspended due to ongoing threats of violence."

"In the same month, the ALF admitted to an arson attack on the Hertford College boathouse. In January a posting on the ALF website threatened violence against all staff and students at Oxford University," if work on the lab continued.

"Cambridge University was forced to abandon plans to build a primate lab in 2004," Smith added, "because of spiralling security costs as a result of animal rights protests."

"The High Court order was granted at a hearing behind closed doors," wrote Woolcock, "but was kept secret from activists until they arrived at the university to protest. They reacted with outrage, ripping up copies of the order but complying with its demands."

"The university's attitude towards freedom to demonstrate is called into question by its decision to apply for an even more stringent injunction on April 3," Woolcock suggested. "It wants the weekly protest cut from four hours to one and the maximum number of demonstrators reduced from 50 to 12."

The March 9 injunction came three days after Speak announced an alliance with Win Animal Rights, of New York City, to protest at fundraisers hosted by the Oxford Alumni Association of New York.

Noted for a web site using para-military language and imagery, Win Animal Rights was founded in 2004 by Camilla Hankins, who previously ran a North Carolina organization called AnimalSave. Receiving an eviction notice in June 1994, Hankins called PETA, then called other groups seeking help in fighting PETA, after PETA representative Teresa Gibbs recommended euthanasia for most of the 80 cats and dogs found in her home. In May 2005 a local jury convicted

Hankins of neglect. She was fined \$205.

"The mastermind behind" the Oxford campaign "is a 33-year-old former arts promoter based in Florida," Gareth Walsh and Jonathan Calvert of the London *Times* asserted on February 19, 2006.

"From his home in West Palm Beach," wrote Walsh and Calvert, "Nicholas Atwood runs a website which last month urged violence against all staff and students at Oxford. Last week the site circulated a list of 40 named academics and their home addresses, saying that they were 'legitimate targets.' Describing some as 'scum,' it told animal rights activists they had 'everything to gain by hitting these targets hard.'"

According to Walsh and Calvert, "Atwood has been behind the Bite Back group and allied website for at least three years. British police say they are powerless to act because he is an American citizen living in the U.S. and his website is in Malaysia."

Originally from Chaska, Minnesota, Atwood "is believed to have travelled to Britain and met Greg Avery," Walsh and Calvert wrote. "He has animal rights-related convictions dating back to 1997 for offences including criminal damage."

Responding to Walsh and Calvert, Atwood told David Hawley of the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* that his web site and magazine *Bite Back* are "sort of a news outlet for the radical animal rights movement. We always let the activists speak for themselves," Atwood said. "There's a lot of heated language and rhetoric...Most of this stuff is hot air."

Said Hawley, "In college, Atwood was a member of a group called the Student Organization for Animal Rights. In 1994, he helped organize a protest by that group against bow hunting at a park in Savage, where about a dozen protesters were arrested for trespassing. In 1996, he served as vice president of the Minneapolis-based Animal Rights Coalition, which has been active since 1980."

"After moving to Florida," Hawley added, "Atwood got involved with the Animal Rights Foundation of Florida and was arrested in 1998 after he allegedly sprayed red paint on a sculpture of a swordfish at the World Fishing Center Museum in Ft. Lauderdale."

"Atwood is acting like a media entity, and it's a matter of free speech, First Amendment rights," FBI spokesperson Judy Orihuela told *Palm Beach Post* staff writer Robert P. King. "There's no criminal activity reaching back to him," Orihuela said.

U.S. government intensifies spying on animal advocates (from page 1)

San Diego is wanted, the FBI said, for allegedly coordinating bombings of the Chiron Corporation in Emeryville, California, and the Shaklee Corporation, in Pleasanton, California. Both companies use animals in research and testing.

The FBI warned that "San Diego wears eye glasses, travels internationally, has a 9-millimeter handgun, and is a strict vegan."

The stakes involved in "direct action" are clearly rising—and so is the pressure on law enforcement to arrest enough alleged terrorists to rationalize renewal of extended authority and increased budgets authorized by Congress after the terrorist attacks on the U.S. of September 11, 2001.

The Terrorist Surveillance Act of 2006 would impose penalties of up to \$1 million and/or 15 years in prison for "for disclosure of classified information related to the Terrorist Surveillance Program," wrote Senator DeWine's publicist Mike Dawson.

"Stung by criticism that this approach could be used to punish reporters who write about illegal government surveillance," said *Secrecy News*, "the Senators declared that the proposed penalty 'does not apply to journalists.'"

But that raises the question of who a journalist is, already before the courts in several animal advocacy-related cases. The FBI so far has accepted the *Bite Back* con-

tention that published approving accounts of bombings and arsons is protected free speech [see above]. A New Jersey federal jury, however, did not see similar material posted to the SHAC web site in the same light, especially when accompanied by the names and personal details of Huntingdon Life Sciences staff.

Also of note is that much information about alleged illegal government surveillance of animal advocates has recently been disclosed by lawyers, not journalists. The lawyers have obtained the information while representing activists who have been harassed and even arrested without actually being accused of criminal activity.

For example, the American Civil Liberties Union of Georgia on February 1, 2006 "released copies of government files that illustrate the extent to which the FBI, the DeKalb County Division of Homeland Security, and other agencies have gone to compile information on Georgians suspected of being threats simply for expressing controversial opinions," said Jon Shirek of Channel 11 News in Atlanta.

"More than two dozen government surveillance photographs show 22-year-old Caitlin Childs of Atlanta, a strict vegetarian, and other vegans, picketing against meat eating in December 2003," Shirek continued. "They staged their protest outside a HoneyBaked Ham store on Buford

Highway in DeKalb County. An undercover DeKalb County Homeland Security detective was assigned to conduct surveillance of the protest and the protesters, and take the photographs. The detective arrested Childs and another protester after he saw Childs approach him and write down the license plate number of his unmarked government car," documenting the man's identity exactly as police typically advise young women to do if they suspect they are being stalked.

Said Childs at an ACLU press conference, "They told me that if I didn't give over the piece of paper I would go to jail. I refused and went to jail. The piece of paper was taken away from me at the jail, and the officer who transferred me said that was why I was arrested."

Five police reports shared in March 2006 with Jim Dwyer of *The New York Times* by New York City attorney Daniel M. Perez, and shared with **ANIMAL PEOPLE** by one of his clients, Mary Finelli of Silver Spring, Maryland, document the use of "proactive arrests" as a crowd control tactic during the World Economic Forum, held in New York City from January 31 to February 4, 2002.

Heavily redacted to avoid disclosing the names of police officers, the reports indicate that protest activities were thoroughly infiltrated.

One report recommended that the New York City police

should in the future "Utilize undercover officers to distribute misinformation within the crowds."

Responded New York City Police Department chief spokesperson Paul J. Browne to Dwyer, "The N.Y.P.D. does not use police officers in any capacity to distribute misinformation."

Added Dwyer, "Browne also said that the 'proactive' arrests referred to in the report—numbering about 30—involved protesters with pipes and masks who he said presented an obvious threat."

Perez's 16 plaintiffs, who were arrested at an "Animals & Earth Liberation March" on the third day of demonstrating, contend that they do not fit that description. Co-plaintiffs include Adrienne Ace Allen, Glenn Brightwell, Nancy Draper, Carol Marcus, Carol Moon, Cary Robyn, and Sara Young.

Reported Gail Robinson of the *Gotham News* in June 2004, recalling the 2002 arrests, "In 15 years of protesting, Mary Finelli had never been arrested until she visited New York, and took part in an animal rights protest scheduled to coincide with the meeting of the World

Economic Forum."

"It was quite an organized march," Finelli told Robinson. "Everyone was walking single file. It was very well-behaved."

Wrote Robinson, "Police were out in full force, Finelli said, and demanded that the protesters disperse, but then blocked them from leaving."

"The next thing we knew, everybody was being arrested," Finelli said. She and the other arrestees spent the next two days in crowded jails. The charges against them were eventually dropped.

Robinson listed instances of the New York City mayoral administrations of Rudolph Giuliani and Michael Bloomberg allegedly using memories of the "9/11" attacks to repress dissent.

"Days after Bloomberg took office," Robinson wrote, "the police department went to court, asking that it be allowed to increase surveillance of political activity, even when no law was being broken. The department said the rules adopted some 18 years earlier were 'not workable in the context of terrorism.' The court largely agreed."



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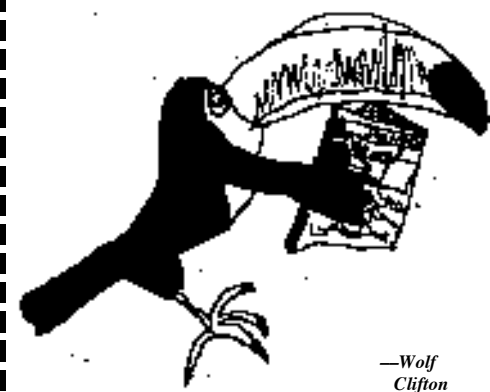
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Sealers charge observers (from 1)

Canadian law and risking human lives. He smiled as he pulled away. I looked up. The second sealing vessel was now bearing down on us. A split second before impact, it swerved. I looked back and saw our larger and more imposing vessel appear miraculously out of the fog. The sealers were happy to take us on in our tiny boats, but they were not so anxious to do battle with a 120-foot vessel.

“We caught up with another boat,” Aldworth continued, “and the sealers yelled at us, throwing seal carcasses in our direction. The climate of aggression continued, with sealing vessels charging us repeatedly. At one point, two sealing boats chased us through the ice floes. Our vessel captain radioed repeatedly to the Coast Guard, asking for assistance. No one responded.”

However, Aldworth and five other protesters were soon arrested for allegedly approaching sealers too closely. Their videotapes documenting the incidents were seized.

Visits to the Gulf of St. Lawrence by composer Paul McCartney, his wife Heather Mills McCartney, and former actress Brigitte Bardot helped to draw global media attention to the hunt.

Bardot, 71, became aware of the cruelty of the Atlantic Canadian harp seal hunt in 1955, at the height of her acting career, from a film documentary by her friend Harry Lillie. By the time Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson brought Bardot to the ice to protest in person in 1977, she had been wanting to stop the hunt for more than half her life. Derided as a foreign meddler by Canadian public officials and news media, she demonstrated then that she knew more about the hunt than most of them did.

When the Canadian government suspended the offshore part of the hunt for 10 years starting in 1984, Watson and Bardot pointed out that the land-based portion of the hunt continued, using the same methods. Watson also warned that when the collapsed Atlantic Canada cod stock failed to recover from decades of overfishing, seals would be blamed, as they have been, despite a dearth of evidence that harp seals even eat much cod.

“I might not ever come here again. So I ask you with my heart and soul...I want to see this massacre stop,” Bardot said. “I would like that my life has served at least for that.”

“People around the world are boy-

Tasmanians bedevil muttonbirds

The Atlantic Canada seal hunt started on the same day in 2006 as the annual muttonbird hunt in Tasmania, a similar event, with a 2006 quota of 300,000, not counting the toll taken by indigenous Tasmanians.

“It’s horrific,” Against Animal Cruelty Tasmania spokesperson Suzanne Cass told Tim Jeanes of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. “The chick is hauled out of the burrow either by hand or with a sharp hook. The bird’s neck is broken. It could

take any length of time, with people swinging them around their heads and throwing them. These birds travel 30,000 kilometres round-trip each year, and there are 209 breeding colonies around Tasmania and the islands,” Cass added. “Often they’re not killed for eating—just recreation.”

Responded Tasmanian West Coast Mayor Darryl Gerrity, “We don’t have a lot of things to do on the west coast, so we look forward to the muttonbirds season.”

cotting Canadian seafood until the seal hunt is ended for good,” McCartney said in a statement videotaped in London but released in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

The statement coincided with the debut of the boycott in England, led by Sally Stratford, widow of former Labour party cabinet minister Tony Banks, a strong opponent of sealing, whose obituary appeared in the January/February 2006 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Former Conservative Party cabinet minister Ann Widdecombe and 188 current members of Parliament endorsed the boycott.

“Already,” McCartney alleged, “the seafood boycott has cost Canada many times more than what the seal hunt brings in.”

The Canadian government claims the 2005 seal hunt raised the equivalent of \$14.5 million U.S. in revenue, chiefly from pelt sales to Norway, Russia, and China. The sale of flippers from 31,000 seals and 6.7 tons of seal meat brought additional income.

Statistics Canada data cited by the Humane Society of the U.S. indicates that Canadian snow crab exports to the U.S., the boycott focus, have fallen by more than 36%, or about \$150 million U.S., since the campaign began. The Canadian Department of Fisheries & Oceans contends that the decline is actually due to labor unrest, a crab disease, a glut of crab from Alaska, and even the economic effects of Hurricane Katrina.

United Nations Environment Program warns about ecological consequences of H5N1

GENEVA—The United Nations Environment Program warned on March 22, 2006 that, “Culling poultry [to control avian flu H5N1], especially in developing nations where chicken is a key source of protein, may put new and unacceptable pressure on a wide range of creatures,” who may be hunted as alternate protein, “from wild pigs to endangered great apes.”

UNEP also warned against culling wild birds and draining wetlands to discourage congregations of waterfowl, who appear to be victims of H5N1 more than carriers.

Now afflicting 45 nations, H5N1 has been found in 87 bird species, including many of the most common and broadly ranging—and carrion-eaters such as kites, crows, and buzzards, known to have strong resistance to most pathogens.

“But in most cases, it has been a dead bird here and a dead bird there,” observed *New York Times* science writer Donald G. McNeil Jr. “While H5N1 can race through a chicken farm, killing tens of thousands of birds in a few days, there have been very few die-offs of wild birds. Nor have ornithologists found many infections” in wild specimens. Swabs and fecal samples from 13,000 wild ducks in marshes in Hong

Kong and eastern China and 51,000 ducks in wet markets around China suggested that wild ducks were probably responsible for moving the virus to Mongolia, Russia, and Europe,” McNeil summarized, “but they were probably infected by strains percolating in the domestic flocks of southern China.”

“I don’t think you would have seen this spread if it wasn’t for industrial farming,” said sustainable agriculture advocate Devlin Kuyek, of the Spanish-based organization GRAIN. “To make matters worse,” Kuyek told Elizabeth Piper of Reuters, “governments are pursuing measures to force poultry indoors and further industrialise the poultry sector.”

Thai Livestock Development Department disease control chief Nirundorn Aungtragoolsuk, for example, announced that free-range duck farming would be banned after April 1, 2006. The Jakarta (Indonesia) Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, and Maritime Affairs Agency on March 24, 2006 asked city residents to keep their birds caged—which would contradict Islamic teaching, in a largely Islamic nation.

“As a conservationist, I’m not concerned about H5N1 wiping out whole populations,” Wildlife Conservation Society director of Asia programs Colin Poole, told McNeil of

the *Times*. “I’d say the biggest threat [to wild birds] is Russian politicians saying people should go to the borders and shoot migrating birds. There is plenty of that kind of nonsense.”

About 80% of all birds and more than half of all mammals are related to species known to have become infected, experts testified at a mid-March UNEP Convention on Biological Diversity meeting in Curitiba, Brazil.

Mammals in whom at least one case of H5N1 has been confirmed, as of March 28, 2006, include (in order of discovery) Owston palm civet, clouded leopard, domestic cat, Cynomolgus macaque, stone marten, ferret, New Zealand white rabbit, leopard, tiger, Norway rat, and a domestic pig, with a case suspected in a Swedish mink as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press. All have been isolated findings, with no sign of mammal-to-mammal transmission. Infected cats found in Thailand and Germany had eaten diseased poultry.

“Two dog cases are currently regarded as anecdotal,” said International Society for Infectious Diseases moderator Arnon Shimshony. One, reported in Thailand in October 2004, was in a dog who survived. The other was suspected in a dead stray found in Azerbaijan in March 2006.

Australia suspends livestock exports to Egypt after exposé of cruelty

CANBERRA—Australian agriculture minister Peter McGuarin on February 26, 2006 suspended livestock exports to Egypt, after the Australian edition of *60 Minutes* aired video taken in January 2006 by Lyn White of Animals Australia that showed workers at the Bassatin slaughterhouse near Cairo poking out the eyes of cattle and cutting their leg tendons before subjecting them to a version of *halla* slaughter that clearly flunked the goal of the animals not suffering.

“Required is that the animal must be unconscious at the time of slaughter, there should be no cruelty to it, and that any stress to the animal should be minimised,” said Australian Federation of Islamic Councils halal certification representative Munir Hussain.

“Over 1 million Australian cattle have been exported into Egypt over the past 10 years. The vast majority have been slaughtered at Bassatin abattoir,” said Animals Australia executive director Glenys Oogjes.

In July 2005 McGuarin wrote to Animals Australia that, “The Australian government and the Australian livestock exporting industry have provided funding and technical assistance in recent years to upgrade facilities and procedures at Bassatin to achieve better welfare outcomes for all livestock processed there...Bassatin is a good example of where Australia’s involvement in the live trade has

allowed us to influence change and improve animal welfare conditions in the Middle East.”

Responded White, a former 20-year police officer and inspector for RSPCA Australia, “I saw humanity at its worst sometimes in the police force in South Australia, but nothing came close to what I saw at Bassatin,” which was only one of many Middle Eastern live export destinations she inspected.

“In Bahrain, White filmed Australian sheep dying in the feedlots,” summarized Richard Yallop of *The Australian*. “In Kuwait, animals were dragged into the municipal abattoir by their back legs for slaughter and one sheep was slaughtered in the second-floor toilet of a communal boarding house. In Qatar, sheep were trussed up and slung in car boots before being slaughtered at home, and in Oman sheep were trussed up by three legs and left to bleed to death over a drain after their throats were cut.”

Livestock chief executive Cameron Hall, representing the livestock export industry, told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation that, “In the abattoir in Egypt, we have established a set of standards and practices where Australian cattle are treated differently than local or Ethiopian cattle that were seen on the footage.”

“Slashing tendons is illegal in Egypt,” said Western Australia Farmers

Federation president Trevor DeLandgraft. “Obviously this is managing to get past the laws of the land, and I think it’s imperative that the government and industry ensure that this practice does not continue to occur to Australian cattle, or any cattle.”

Arguing that the two-to-three-week voyage from Australia to the Middle East is cruel in itself, animal advocates rallied against any resumption of live exports on March 25 in cities including Hobart, Sydney, and Victoria.

Amid the debate Down Under, the European Commission is expected to lift a ban on British live cattle exports in April 2006, 10 years after imposing it to try to stop the spread of mad cow disease to the European mainland.

About 75% of the British public opposes live exports, according to a poll commissioned by Compassion In World Farming. Years of protest against live exports intensified after demonstrator Jill Phipps, 31, was crushed by a livestock truck in February 1995.

Mad cow disease still occurs in Britain, but the number of cases has fallen from 1,443 in 2000 to 151 in 2005, and since 2003 has been falling by about half each year.

Mainland cases have now been detected from Sweden in the north to Portugal in the south, and as far east as Austria and Greece—but the disease has skipped over the former Iron Curtain nations, with only one of

the 183,000-odd known cases having been found in a formerly Communist nation. No obvious difference in farm practices seems to explain this phenomenon, which may hint that the cause of mad cow disease occurred and spread before there was the present livestock commerce between the formerly Communist nations and the rest of Europe. The fall of Communism opened up the east/west cattle traffic in 1990, but the European Union paid little attention to stopping the spread of mad cow disease until 1996.

“We did not think of the great open plains, the beautiful rolling hills, and the winding streams with tangled growth as ‘wild.’ Only to the white man was nature a ‘wilderness’ and only to him was the land ‘infested’ with wild animals and ‘savage’ people. To us it was tame. Earth was bountiful and we were surrounded by the blessings of the great mystery. Not until the hairy man from the east came and with brutal frenzy heaped injustices upon us and the

Six SHAC suspects convicted—five for “animal enterprise terrorism”

TRENTON, New Jersey—Six individuals associated with “direct action” animal advocacy and the organization Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty were convicted on March 2, 2006 of criminal acts against employees of Huntingdon Life Sciences and companies that did business with Huntingdon.

“Convicted of conspiracy to commit animal enterprise terrorism and interstate stalking were Joshua Harper of Seattle, Andrew Stepanian of Huntington, New York, and Lauren Gazzola, Jacob Conroy and Kevin Kijonaas, who lived together in Pinole, California,” reported John P. Martin and Brian T. Murray for the Newhouse News Service. “A sixth defendant, Darius Fullmer of Hamilton, New Jersey, was found guilty only on the conspiracy charge,” Martin and Murray added.

All six had previous arrests in connection with animal advocacy.

Harper, 31, and Conroy, 30, were arrested in May 1999 for allegedly interfering with an attempt by members of the Makah tribe to kill a grey whale in Puget Sound.

Stepanian 27, was arrested in 1999 for chaining himself to a fur store, and served three months in jail for allegedly throwing a brick through a fur store window. In February 2002 Stepanian was sentenced to serve six months in jail for allegedly resisting arrest and obstructing justice.

Gazzola, 26, was reportedly first arrested for anti-Huntingdon protest activity in 2002. Fullmer, 29, was arrested at a September 2000 protest at the Huntingdon lab in New Jersey. Kijonaas, 28, was reportedly arrested at least six times in two years for protest activities in Britain.

Tested limits

“The verdict by a federal jury marked a government victory in a trial that was as much a test of the limits of activism as it was a measure of criminal evidence,” Martin and Murray assessed.

Huntingdon, with labs in Britain and New Jersey, uses about 18,000 animals per year, according to trial testimony. Huntingdon became a protest target in July 1997, after PETA disclosed undercover video of alleged animal abuse at the New Jersey facility. Procter & Gamble, then a Huntingdon client, under boycott by PETA, and possibly the original target of the investigation, immediate-

ly suspended and later discontinued all dealings with Huntingdon.

Huntingdon meanwhile sued PETA, contending that undercover videographer Michele Rokke violated a confidentiality clause in her employment contract with the lab. Huntingdon reportedly could have collected triple damages if it won.

Said *Washington Post* reporter Peter Carlson, “Huntingdon abruptly agreed to drop the suit in return for a promise by PETA not to infiltrate the company again for at least five years or to publicize its charges against it.”

Carlson quoted Rokke as stating that PETA paid no financial penalties.

Started in Britain

The British SHAC campaign started in November 1999. Protests against Huntingdon turned violent in May 2000. Ten Huntingdon employees’ vehicles were firebombed in the next seven months. Flames from two of the bombings damaged employees’ homes.

British SHAC cofounder Greg Avery in 2000 pleaded guilty to having threatened to kill a Huntingdon employee, and served four months in jail. In November 2001, Avery drew a year in jail for public mischief, as did his ex-wife Heather Avery (now Nicholson), and colleague Natasha Dallemagne.

Huntingdon in 2005 used civil suits to force Avery and Nicholson into bankruptcy and seized £7,000 from the British SHAC bank account.

Nicholson was on March 3, 2006 sentenced to serve four months in prison for violating an Oxford Crown Court order against committing “anti-social behavior.”

Nicholson “admitted breaching an order imposed in January, which did not allow her to go near sites at Oxford University, Huntington Life Sciences, or the pharmaceutical company Phytopharm, or to contact employees or their families,” explained Nicola Woolcock of the *London Times*.

Kijonaas, also known as “Jonas,” formed the U.S. branch of SHAC after spending parts of 2001 and 2002 in Britain working with British SHAC activists and other animal advocates. “He was sent back to the U.S. when police realised his visa had expired,” wrote Woolcock.

“Advocating obnoxiously is not a crime. Otherwise most lawyers would be in

jail,” held Kijonaas’ attorney, Eric Schneider.

“The prosecutors in the SHAC case acknowledged they had no proof that any of the defendants committed acts of terrorism,” summarized Martin and Murray, “but said Gazzola, Conroy, and Kijonaas—who once lived together in a house near the New Jersey [Huntington] lab—controlled the group’s web site, organized the U.S. campaign, and trumpeted harassment by others.”

The SHAC web site offered personal information about employees of Huntingdon Life Sciences and companies that did business with Huntingdon, including not only names, addresses, and home telephone numbers, but also in some cases the schools that their children attended, the names of their teachers, and their after-school activities.

Targeted individuals testified that they “they were besieged by screaming protesters outside their homes at all hours, deluged by threatening phone calls, and were sent pornographic magazines they had not ordered,” summarized Wayne Parry of Associated Press. “One woman said she received an e-mail threatening to cut her 7-year-old son open and stuff him with poison. A man said he was showered with glass as people smashed all the windows of his home and overturned his wife’s car.”

The testimony was supported by videos of some of the home demonstrations.

Sentencing delayed

The animal enterprise terrorism charge carries a potential sentence of up to three years in prison, plus a fine of as much as \$250,000. The interstate stalking charge carries a potential sentence of up to five years in prison plus a fine of as much as \$250,000.

The SHAC activists are to be sentenced on June 7.

“I feel sorry for the animals right now being abused and tortured inside Huntingdon Life Sciences,” current SHAC president Pamelyn Ferdin told reporters. “Those animals get life without parole.”

Ferdin succeeded Kijonaas as head of the U.S. SHAC branch after the defendants were indicted in 2004.

“For the government to say you can’t say this and you can’t say that is going down a very scary path toward fascism,” Ferdin testified during the trial. “I believe that’s what the

government here is trying to do.”

“The defendants have specifically requested that no one speak to the media about the case,” said Andrea Lindsay of *No Compromise*, “You may have seen press releases from the Animal Liberation Press Office or quotes from Pamelyn Ferdin. Both the ALPO and Ferdin have been asked by the defendants not to speak to the media.

“It is imperative at this time that no one take any actions on behalf of the defendants,” Lindsay continued. “Acts deemed inflammatory or illegal will do nothing but harm the defendants at sentencing.”

Tactical ethics

Of the six defendants, Harper reportedly most directly addressed tactical ethics in his testimony. According to Wayne Parry of Associated Press, Harper “testified that despite giving speeches at college campuses calling for direct action, he does not support everything” done in the name of direct action. “He said he became upset during one demonstration outside the home of an employee of Chiron, a California pharmaceutical company that contracted with Huntingdon, when the target’s husband and children drove up to the house, and protesters started screaming at the children,” Parry wrote.

“Harper also said he was distressed by the bombing of Chiron’s Emeryville plant in California on August 28, 2003,” an action claimed by “The Revolutionary Cells.”

“The Chiron bombing used an explosive device, something that at the point of detonation sends out shrapnel that can cause harm or death to anyone near it,” Harper stated. “I personally see the use of devices like that as detrimental to us.”

The FBI is seeking a suspect named Daniel Andreas San Diego in connection with the Chiron bombing. An FBI agent who collected Kijonaas’ telephone records testified that Kijonaas called the suspect several hours after the bombings.

Harper initially praised the smoke bombings of two Seattle office towers that housed one of Huntingdon’s insurers, he acknowledged, but changed his mind, he testified, when he “found out whatever chemical was used made some people faint and see emergency medical technicians.”

(continued on page 20)

UARC files First Amendment case in Salt Lake

Utah Animal Rights Coalition members Eric Waters and David Berg on March 1, 2006 sued representatives of six different state agencies for allegedly violating their First Amendment right to freedom of expression, one day after Utah Highway Patrol trooper Preston Raban stopped them from leafleting outside the Utah state capitol against two bills which would lower the minimum age for hunting.

Waters and Berg are repre-

sented by Salt Lake City attorney Brian Barnard, who has handled other high-profile civil rights cases involving animal advocates.

“According to court documents, Raban told Berg and Waters that handing fliers to anyone who didn’t ask for one was against state law and was considered soliciting,” summarized Jennifer Dobner of Associated Press. “The lawsuit also contends that Raban threatened to arrest Berg and Waters.”

Activist wins civil rights case in Oklahoma City

Oklahoma City vegetarian activist Alissa Finley on January 25, 2006 won dismissal of charges brought against her on October 18, 2005 in connection with her attempts to photograph the scene of a truck accident at which police eventually shot as many as 60 injured pigs by the roadside.

“Due to my very dedicated attorneys, the photos of the day, and a 1965 U.S. Supreme Court decision against Birmingham, Alabama, upholding a petitioner’s right to be on a public sidewalk, we have maintained at least some First Amendment rights in Oklahoma,” Finley e-mailed.

“Now, on to the civil suit.”

Elaborated Finley to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “Living in Okla-

homa as a vegan activist, I continually bump up against instances such as this, which are clearly a violation of my civil rights due to what I believe is prejudicial treatment against animal activists.”

Anti-pork site still up

Three months after the Premiere Bacon Company threatened to sue New Zealand activist Mark Eden and the Wellington Animal Rights Network for posting anti-pork material at <www.premierbacon.co.nz>, an address just one letter different from the company’s own, the site is still up. Eden told Louisa Cleave of the *New Zealand Herald* in December 2005 that the site had been redesigned to eliminate copyrighted logos.

Rights-&-Freedoms defense failed for Sea Shepherd

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.—Rejecting a “freedom of expression” defense in December 2005, Prince Edward Island Provincial Court Judge Nancy Orr on January 17, 2006 convicted 11 crew members from the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society vessel *Farley Mowat* of being within half a nautical mile of sealers during the 2005 Atlantic Canada seal hunt.

The 11 defendants were arrested after several were assaulted by sealers, who were not charged.

Orr found Sea Shepherd founder Paul Watson not guilty because he did not leave the *Farley Mowat* during the March 31, 2005 confrontation, and “because it was established that the *Farley Mowat* was a place of residence,” Watson said. The Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans requires anyone who approaches sealers to have a permit, but people may witness the hunt from their homes.

Three days later the Crown Prosecutor dropped charges against Watson for alleged violations of the Canadian Shipping Act

filed over the same incident.

“We are appealing the guilty verdict against the 11 crew,” Watson said, adding that the Crown is appealing his acquittal.

“The court has ordered the Sea Shepherd crew to be jailed because they have refused to pay the \$1,000 fine” that each was levied, Watson continued. “The crew immediately indicated that they were willing to be jailed, and agreed to enter the jail in Charlottetown on the first day of the 2006 seal kill. The crew also indicated that they would go on a hunger strike for the three weeks they were expected to serve.”

The Crown “retaliated by requesting that the 10 non-Canadian crew members be turned back at the border if they attempt to enter

the country,” Watson said. “This makes expulsion from the country a non-ordered part of the sentencing.”

The only Canadian convicted was Lisa Shalom of Montreal.

Earlier, the Sea Shepherds unsuccessfully argued that “depriving us of access to the area where seals are killed is a violation of the free-expression rights contained in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms,” Watson summarized.

Orr agreed on December 9, 2005 that “The applicant’s right to freedom of expression has been infringed in this case by the provisions of sections 32 and 33 of the Marine Mammal regulations.”

However, Orr ruled for the Crown in finding that “These regulations are demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.”

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SHAC convictions (from 19)

The prosecution presented a recording of a speech Harper made at the University of Washington on October 17, 2002. Discussing the February 1, 2001 beating of Huntingdon executive Brian Cass by several activists, including Dave Blenkinsop, 39, who pleaded guilty and was sentenced to serve three years in prison for the assault, Harper said, “I think what he did was necessary. It was better than doing nothing.”

Concluded Harper, “Tactics do matter, but I believe the righteousness of the cause is foremost.”

Blenkinsop also drew 18 months in prison in 2001 for breaking into a guinea pig farm that supplied animals to Huntingdon, and received a five-and-a-half-year sentence in December 2002 for firebombing vehicles belonging to Huntingdon workers and employees of a slaughterhouse.

Along with al most every article from back editions, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** web site offers translations of key items into French & Spanish ...Lewyt Award-winning heroic & compassionate animal stories...vet info links...handbooks for downloading...

The Master’s Cat: The Story of Charles Dickens as told by his Cat by Eleanor Poe Barlow

Dickens Publishing (Dickens House, 48 Doughty Street, London, WC1N 2FL), 1998. 132 pages. \$16.95/paperback, \$24.00 hardcover.

Charles Dickens’ fictionalized exposes of social ills in 19th century England led to a raft of social, legal, and educational reforms, and inspired the rise of liberal thinking.

Dickens was very fond of his cat and several dogs, with whom he used to take long walks in the countryside almost every day. Dickens was also instrumental in enabling Mary Tealby to make a success of Dogs Home Battersea. But before society could evolve toward more caring treatment of animals, it had to create a culture of caring for humans. It had to abolish slavery, emancipate women, and invent a social safety net to help the unfortunate. No one did more than Dickens to achieve those goals.

Perhaps what the animal

rights movement needs today, more than anything else, is a writer of Dickens’ stature, whose passion, intellect, and literary skill could bring whole nations to tears over the plight of animals caught up in factory farms, canned hunts, and ruthless animal control measures.

The Master’s Cat, by Eleanor Poe Barlow, describes the man behind the legendary characters whom Dickens created. The story is told by the deaf cat who slept on Dickens’ desk while he wrote. This cat developed the unusual trick of dabbing at the candle flame and thus snuffing it out when he felt that it was time to stop.

We have read many Dickens novels, and have always wondered what sort of man had such an imagina-

tion. As Barlow’s cat says, “Charles Dickens lived a life as fascinating as that of any character he created. It was full of sadness and joy, poverty and wealth, mystery and fame.”

The cat describes how Dickens lived his last ten years, his happy family at Gad’s Hill Estate in Kent, his joys and sorrows, his chronic pain from ill health, the excitement of a private audience with Queen Victoria, and the tragedy of the Staplehurst train crash, when Dickens escaped death by a whisker, being serendipitously seated in the fifth carriage of the train, as the first four carriages plunged into a river with great loss of life.

—Chris Mercer & Bev Pervan
<www.cannedlion.co.za>

Volunteer Management for Animal Care Organizations by Betsy McFarland

Humane Society Press (c/o Humane Society of the U.S., 2100 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037), 2005. 120 pages, paperback. \$15.95.

Volunteer Management for Animal Care Organizations opens with the results of a Humane Society of the U.S. survey of humane organization volunteer managers which found in late 2002 that volunteers are considered twice as helpful, on average, as boards of directors.

Author Betsy McFarland does not state the findings quite so bluntly. She adds a disclaimer that the survey was not “a representative sample.” With 289 respondents, proportional weighting could have made the sample as representative as any—and perhaps it already is.

Worth a mention might have been that boards almost always serve on a voluntary basis. In effect, they are volunteers who supervise the paid staff, opposite to the role of paid staff in supervising volunteers.

Yet with all of those caveats, the point is significant: most humane societies function reasonably well from day to day, even if their boards rarely meet and are seldom seen, but most would be in deep poop without volunteers to scoop litter and walk dogs.

McFarland does not dwell on recruiting or training volunteers to do just the basics. Her key point is that volunteers can be recruited to do most of the essential work to build a successful humane society,

with paid staff providing structural stability, training, coordination, and know-how. Effective leadership understands that volunteer recruitment and management is as important a role as any, and necessarily should occupy much executive and managerial time.

That applies to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** as much as any other animal charity. Except for a few months in 1992-1993, before the only office volunteer we ever had moved on to paid positions with two leading national animal charities, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has not had volunteers physically present—but as editor, I spend much of my working time in liaison with a hundreds of volunteers who help me gather and verify information. Some are reporters with other news media, who share whatever they run across that might be useful. Some are humane workers. Some volunteer for other charities.

ANIMAL PEOPLE has no formal relationship with any of them, though several have shown sufficient reliability, integrity, and news judgment that they function much like the part-time stringers who help the fulltime reporters at any newspaper. Despite the lack of formal connection, I try to ensure that these people feel appreciated—

among the most important jobs for any volunteer coordinator.

My senior volunteer news gatherer, Patty Bonney of Portland, Oregon, is now in her 30th year of assisting me. My paid assistant of the past 10 years, Cathy Czapl, of Chelsea, Vermont, helped for 16 years as a volunteer before becoming paid staff. Odette Grosz, who relocated from New Orleans to the Washington D.C. area after Hurricane Katrina, has energetically helped for 18 years. Many others have helped for 10 to 15 years.

McFarland in *Volunteer Management for Animal Care Organizations* presents many itemized lists of points to remember about recruiting and keeping volunteers.

Ideas of note include networking; using the Internet; targeting people who love animals; reaching beyond animal lovers; considering volunteers with special needs; recruiting for diversity; appealing to responsible youth; and involving senior citizens.

There is a common fallacy in humane work that only active animal lovers will volunteer on a regular basis. This may be just about backward, especially when recruiting to fill positions requiring skills other than those of hands-on care.

People who are already

actively involved with animals may be too busy to spend time at a shelter. People who are merely looking to fill a void in their lives may have the time. They may start helping just to meet people, or stay active, but often they later develop a commitment to animals, after a particular shelter dog or cat identifies them for special attention.

Several of my most valuable helpers are special needs cases, including Cathy Czapl, who for many years has been semi-housebound, but knows the world through the Internet. Her knowledge of animal issues and news sources relative to geography has become second to none.

Recruiting diverse staff and volunteers has for decades challenged humane societies, largely due to misunderstandings. For example, I often hear that poor people do not volunteer because they cannot afford to—but low-income people often do huge amounts of volunteer work, both formally, often through churches, and informally, helping family and friends.

Inner city people may not be able to commute to suburban shelters and may not want to clean cages, especially if they do housework both at home and for a living, but thousands feed homeless dogs and cats right where they are, and could use the support of humane society outreach programs.

In exchange, they could provide the community contacts that humane societies need to do effective education, sterilization, vaccination, and humane law enforcement in areas where humane services are now barely a rumor.

Appealing to responsible youth sounds almost too obvious to mention, but many humane organizations tend to shy away from youth recruitment from misplaced concern that the investment in training will have short value. Young people do soon grow up, graduate, move away, and/or take on paid jobs demanding more of their time. Yet regardless of the age of the recruit, six years is the average “lifespan” of an active volunteer in any cause,

with a peak active phase of about three years. The likelihood of obtaining the average time contribution from a teenager is almost the same as for anyone else.

More important, volunteers tend to become the most reliable donors later—and young volunteers are the people most likely to again volunteer when older.

Finally, senior citizens typically bring to volunteer work a wealth of useful experience and contacts. Some volunteer managers become impatient with seniors because they often like to chat, and have a need to develop social relationships, having often lost a spouse, with their children grown and moved away—but the solution to that problem is often as simple as introducing seniors to each other.

Further, the most effective volunteer manager is often a volunteer senior who likes to both talk and listen. That person will be able to make fellow volunteers feel noticed, heard, and appreciated far more, in many instances, than a harried employee who is always on the run.

Volunteer Management for Animal Care Organizations includes many useful forms and model letters that a beginning volunteer coordinator can copy. Being a fairly skeptical fellow, I cross-checked the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** files to see how many of the organizations whose materials are included have had significant scandals or internal meltdowns as result of volunteer issues.

Since about 50 organizations are in the midst of volunteer-related disputes of some sort at any given time, and since the number whose dirty underwear is in the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** archives runs into the high hundreds, it is a good reference that none of the contributing organizations have had scandals of note involving volunteers.

One did have a board member who lastingly tagged the executive director with an unflattering nickname. Though the nickname stuck, the board member is long departed. That in itself may demonstrate noteworthy volunteer management skill.

—Merritt Clifton

National Geographic Complete Birds of North America

Companion to the Natl. Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America
664 pages, hardcover, illustrated. \$35.00.

National Geographic Field Guide to Birds —Washington & Oregon

271 pages, paperback, illustrated. \$14.95.

Both edited by Jonathan Alderfer

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National Geographic Complete Birds of North America “is too large to be a field guide,” opens editor Jonathan Alderfer, “so what is it? We envision it residing on bookshelves and car seats, ready to be consulted when a field guide doesn’t provide enough information.”

As if to ensure that *Complete Birds* will be used, Alderfer also edits regional field guides, exemplified by the *National Geographic Field Guide to Birds*, Washington & Oregon edition, which sure enough probably do not contain enough information to satisfy most serious observers.

The field guides are, however, the most compact of the dozens here at **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, and contain some of the best bird photos of the species included, the 125 species that one is most likely to see. Omitted are the head-scratchers that most often send a semi-experienced birder to the book shelves, as well as occasional species like the snowy owl that normally stay to the north but sometimes irrupt in the Puget Sound area.

Alderfer and colleagues in *Complete Birds* provide descriptive detail about 962 bird species who may be seen in North America, including immigrants. The emphasis of *Complete Birds* is on distinguishing lookalike species—for example, hairy, downy, black-backed, and three-toed woodpeckers, who not only look much alike but share overlapping range. Only the hairy and downy woodpeckers make the *Field Guide to Birds*, Washington & Oregon edition.

Unfortunately, making full use of *Complete Birds* will require taking good photographs, since birds will almost always take wing in much less time than is required to check their features against the book.

This is also, in fairness, the major drawback of field guides. I tend to find all such manuals most useful the second time I see a species, after learning the first time what exactly to look for. The first time, I have to settle for “maybe I saw it,” because I didn’t yet know enough to seek the specific details that would confirm that it was X instead of Y.

A somewhat unique virtue of *Complete Birds* is that it does not discriminate against non-native species. While many field guides omit them, including the *Field Guide to Birds*, Washington & Oregon edition, or seem to take the attitude that seeing a bird in the “wrong” habitat doesn’t fully count as a sighting, Alderfer *et al* recognize that no matter where a bird is, one may have questions about it, and note in some instances that feral immigrants are doing better in North America than in the parts of the world they come from.

One six-page section covers 16 different species of parrots and parakeets that may turn up in various parts of the U.S., along with the Carolina parakeet, officially extinct since 1918 but often enthusiastically “rediscovered” by inexperienced birders who happen on some of the lookalike ferals.

At least two of these lookalike parrot species are feral in the Seattle-Tacoma-Olympia corridor.

—Merritt Clifton



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Guidelines for the Safe Use of Animals in Filmed Media

American Humane Association Film & TV Unit. *Free download, from www.americanhumane.org/film.*

Nominated for eight Oscars, *Brokeback Mountain* collected three on March 5, 2006 from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. For making *Brokeback Mountain*, Ang Lee was named best director, after winning the Independent Spirit award a few days earlier for producing the best non-studio film of the year.

But March opened with an embarrassment for Lee when American Humane Association president Marie Belew Wheatley complained that he had apparently ignored the AHA *Guidelines for the Safe Use of Animals in Filmed Media* while filming in Canada.

“The excessively rough handling of the sheep and horses leaves viewers questioning whether anyone was looking out for the safety of those animals,” Wheatley wrote. “Many also wonder how the filmmakers got the elk to lose its footing and crumple to the ground ‘on cue’ after being shot. They ask if our safety protocols were in place to protect the animals during filming. The answer is: They were not.”

Contrary to the *Guidelines*, Wheatley alleged, the elk was anesthetized.

“Using anesthesia to facilitate filming has been prohibited since 1997, after causing several animal deaths during a production,” explained AHA Film & TV Unit chief Karen Rosa. “We require production companies to find alternatives—like humane training or digital enhancement—that create the same effect without jeopardizing the animal’s safety.

“Filming abroad may be a cost-cutting measure,” Rosa added, “but the animals shouldn’t have to pay the price,” Rosa said.

By contract with the Screen Actors Guild, the AHA has monitored animal use on the sets of U.S.-made commercial films since 1940. Those that observe the *Guidelines* carry the AHA’s “No animals were harmed” end disclaimer. But the Screen Actors Guild has no jurisdiction over foreign film productions.

Some nations, notably India and Great Britain, have laws that protect animals in film making. Canada does not. The AHA has long sought to extend humane supervision to Canadian productions by partnering with Canadian humane societies, but suffered a setback in 1998 when a Canadian representative authorized a scene in which a horse was injured during production of *The 13th Warrior* in British Columbia. The ensuing acrimony continued into mid-2001.

The AHA often takes flak from animal advocates who do not recognize the limits of the authority conveyed by the Screen Actors Guild, and typically do not realize, either,

that the *Guidelines* are as comprehensive as they are. Until recently the *Guidelines* were not readily available to people working outside the screen industry and/or not employed by the AHA as set supervisors. That left others imagining that the *Guidelines* were just a few sheets of paper, while people actually on set thumbed through looseleaf binders of directives and explanatory notes.

Making the complete *Guidelines for the Safe Use of Animals in Filmed Media* available as a free download from the AHA web site may be among the most astute moves by the AHA in recent times. Now anyone can see what is in them—and now any local humane society can rapidly equip itself to recommend that the *Guidelines* be followed, even in productions over which the AHA has no direct jurisdiction.

Of course local humane societies trying to monitor non-Screen Actors Guild productions will have no more actual authority than the AHA itself, but merely having guidelines to cite will help in explaining to directors, news media, and the public why better practices should be followed.

“No reel apes”

Guidelines does not go far enough to satisfy those who believe animals should never be used in film making, or at least that certain species should never be used, such as supporters of the “No Reel Apes” campaign, waged by The Chimpanzee Collaboratory.

Formed in 2000 with funding from the Glaser Progress Foundation of Seattle, more recently backed by the Arcus Foundation, the Chimpanzee Collaboratory seeks to end all screen use of captive apes. Members include the Animal Legal Defense Fund, Ape Alliance of North America, Born Free USA, the Center for Captive Chimpanzee Care, the Doris Day Animal Foundation, Friends of Washoe, the Great Ape Project, and the Jane Goodall Institute.

Three members have roots in the film industry. Virginia McKenna founded the global string of Born Free groups after playing Kenyan conservationist Joy Adamson in *Born Free* (1966). The Doris Day Animal Foundation and parallel Doris Day Animal League owe relatively little to the use of animals in film, as none of Day’s hits integrally involved animals, but Jane Goodall has been featured in at least 13 documentaries since 1963.

In 2003 “No Reel Apes” criticized the Animal Actors Guild animal retirement program in terms obliging the Chimpanzee Collaboratory to publish an apology and clari-

fication—but the amended statement that resulted from the legal discussion still draws a hard line between fundraising by animal advocates and fundraising for superficially similar projects undertaken by animal use industries:

“The Animal Actors Guild is providing trainers with the opportunity to have the public assist financially with the retirement of the very animals on whom the trainers make a profit,” the collaboratory charged.

“The Animal Actors Guild asks the concerned public to contribute to the retirement of former ape actors with their own limited charitable dollars, in clear competition with charities which seek only to protect animals and which do not condone continued use and exploitation of great apes in entertainment.

“While the goal of providing retirement for great apes is laudable and mutual to our own,” the collaboratory acknowledged, “the mechanism of providing animal trainers with a publicly subsidized system of disposing of great apes once their economic value has declined will not help, but rather hurt, our ultimate goal of ending the use of great apes in entertainment.”

Representatives of “No Reel Apes” are now sharply critical of the AHA for approving of any films that use apes.

“Studios hide behind the fact that they have animal welfare monitors on site,” alleged Chimpanzee Collaboratory primatologist Sara Beckley in a March 2006 interview with Megan McCloskey of Associated Press. “The only way to give these endangered species the protection they need is to simply not use them.”

However, neither the Screen Actors Guild nor the AHA has the authority to tell film makers that they cannot make any use of animals that is legal. “Rather than sign on that apes can’t be used in entertainment,” as a philosophical position lacking any means of enforcement, “we can protect their safety,” Wheatley told McCloskey. “To walk away from that would leave producers to use apes and chimps with no oversight.”

Guidelines now includes a request that film makers consider the effects of separating infant non-human primates from their mothers, and recommends that plans be made for post-screen career retirement. These statements precede all other recommendations pertaining to non-human primates.

Guidelines does not include a recommendation that retirement should be made only to sanctuaries meeting the definitions accepted by the Chimpanzee Collaboratory, or accredited by either the Association of Sanctuaries or

American Sanctuary Association. This may be a weakness, since historically non-human primates used in film have often been “retired” to roadside zoos, severely substandard quasi-sanctuaries, and even laboratories.

On the other hand, retirement options have also included some privately funded facilities and some American Zoo Association-accredited institutions that may provide better housing and care than even the best-reputed sanctuaries can afford.

Further discussion of retirement, for all ex-performing animals, might be worth adding to *Guidelines*—while pointing out that though the AHA can lead the horses *et al* of the screen industry to water, it cannot make them drink.

—Merritt Clifton

Animal Ethics

by Robert Garner

Polity Press (230 Main St., Malden, MA 02148), 2005. 189 pp., paperback. \$24.95.

University of Leicester political scientist Robert Garner brings clarity of thought and a political perspective to bear upon the complexities of moral arguments about animal rights.

Comparing and contrasting the views of moral philosophers, including Peter Singer and Tom Regan, Garner tries like any good politician to find a feasible compromise. His conclusions are entirely predictable: we should prohibit the cruel excesses of factory farming, but tolerate traditional farming and meat eating as legitimate. We should subject animal experimentation to much closer scrutiny of costs and benefits, but not ban it completely. We should try to make hunting, circuses, and zoos less cruel, without banning them.

Garner bases his conclusions on the combination of his own intuition with his perception of what would be acceptable to most people. In effect, Garner seeks the highest common political denominator consistent with the ethical treatment of animals.

In his last chapter Garner suggests that animal advocates should seek support primarily in the liberal political philosophy, rather than among conservatives or socialists.

Even so, Garner points out that the British Labour party is overwhelmingly anti-fox hunting, indicative of the extent to which the hunting issue has become symbolic of class conflicts in Britain.

—Chris Mercer

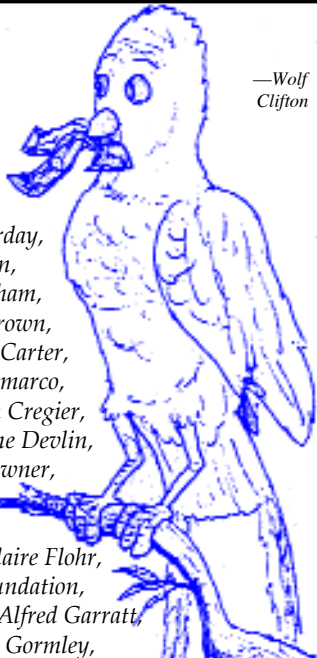
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OBITUARIES

Leo L. Lieberman, 91, DVM, died on February 15, 2006, in Swampscott, Massachusetts. A 1935 graduate of the Ohio State University School of Veterinary Medicine, Lieberman joined the U.S. Army after graduation, became the youngest lieutenant in the Veterinary Corps., and served in Europe during World War II. Leaving the Army as a lieutenant colonel, after 13 years of service, Lieberman practiced veterinary medicine for more than 30 years in Waterford, Connecticut. "In the 1940s and 1950s," recalls Marcia Hess in *The History of Spay/Neuter Surgery*, "anesthetics were not terribly safe, especially for young animals. Surgical instruments now used to find a tiny uterus did not exist. Vets were mainly men. They had big hands, and had to find that uterus with their fingers. Since a uterus is bigger and much easier to find after an estrus, or after having a litter, the advice of waiting until after the first estrus or after a litter began and persists." Lieberman began to question the conventional wisdom after noting that early-age sterilizing prevents mammary tumors in dogs, and that the few vets who did early-age sterilizing had gotten good results for as long as 20 years—including a Dr. Flynn of Chicago, who developed the basic technique in 1925, but could not convince other vets to try it. "I did a literature search and found nothing on why the ages were set at what they were," Lieberman recalled. He began doing early-age sterilization in 1970. As then-president of the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association, Lieberman set an influential example. The American SPCA in 1972 became the first major humane society to endorse early-age sterilization. Lieberman's 1987 *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* article "A case for neutering pups and kittens at two months of age" turned veterinary opinion in favor of early-age sterilization by explaining that guardians of dogs and cats who were spayed or castrated young reported less aggressive behavior, less obesity, and fewer medical problems. Lieberman followed up in *JAVMA* in 1988 and 1991. Research funded by the Winn Feline Foundation, conducted by Thomas J. Lane, DVM, of the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Florida, Gainesville, in 1991

and 1992 supported Lieberman, as did a major study of early-age sterilization done by the Massachusetts SPCA at Angell Memorial Hospital in Boston. In March 1993 Lieberman faced off in **ANIMAL PEOPLE** against early-age sterilization critic Leslie N. Johnston, DVM, of Tulsa, Oklahoma; defended early-age sterilization before a gallery of critics at the World Veterinary Congress in Berlin, Germany; and in July 1993 won endorsement of early-age sterilization from the AVMA. Lieberman in 1993 received the Alex Lewyt Veterinary Medical Center Award of Achievement for exceptional innovation, and in 2001 received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Spay/USA.

Bob Jones, 61, died of cancer on February 11, 2006, in Seattle. "People have animal totems and guides. Bob's were the raccoon and opossum. Hewas a raccoon at heart," recalled the Sarvey's Wildlife Center web site. "He got his moniker 'Crazy Bob' from rescuing a redtail hawk off a steep roof in a lightning storm. Bob trained his border collie Billie to help him. She could find an injured raccoon in a heartbeat. Bob founded and funded our wildlife ambulance by himself, never taking a penny from the wildlife center. There were times years ago when Sarvey would be ready to close due to lack of funds. Crazy Bob would give our director thousands of dollars on condition that no one could know about it." Will Hobbs' award-winning children's novel *Jackie's Wild Seattle* was based on Sarvey's Wildlife Center, Hobbs has said, with the character Uncle Neal based on Jones. The book was inspired, according to Hobbs, by a newspaper clipping his brother-in-law sent him, "about a volunteer for a wildlife center who rescued a wild coyote from an elevator in a downtown Seattle office building. The man just sat down in the elevator with the coyote, talked to her, calmed her down, and brought her out in a carrier. I resolved to visit the wildlife center the next time I was in the area, to meet these amazing people."

Dennis Weaver, 82, died of cancer on February 27, 2006. Weaver grew up raising dairy cattle, goats, sheep, horses, and poultry on a farm near Joplin, Missouri, and later raised lamas in Colorado, but became a vegetarian in 1958. He studied acting at the University of Oklahoma, but did not actually start his acting career until after serving in World War II as a Navy fighter pilot, and then placing sixth in the 1948 U.S. Olympic Team decathlon trials. Best known for playing the deputy sheriff Chester in the television series *Guns, Smoke*, 1955-1975. Weaver also played the role of Tom Wedloe in the 1967-1969 TV series *Gentle Ben*, featuring a bear as co-star. In later years he was a perennial presenter at the annual Genesis Awards ceremony, honoring pro-animal screen productions.



—Wolf Clifton



Anne Fracassa, 47, died of a stroke in Detroit on March 13. A career journalist, except for six years with the FBI, 1976-1982, Fracassa edited several weekly newspapers and from 1988 on wrote a syndicated automotive column. She chaired the Warren Animal Welfare Commission from 1999 to her death. "She helped to remove deer from the General Motors Technical Center and worked to build the city's first dog park," now to be named in her honor," recalled George Hunter of the *Detroit News*. "She also worked to get a no-kill animal shelter built in the city, to open in 2007," Hunter added.

Peggy Hauptman, 72, died of complications from cancer on March 20 in Englewood, Florida. "She founded the Englewood Animal Rescue Sanctuary, a care-for-life non-profit animal protection service, several years ago," recalled Rachel Alexander of the *Charlotte Sun-Herald*. "Her dream was to build a seven-building sanctuary on 10 acres in Englewood. But the project hit a snag due to permitting issues and opposition from neighbors. Just last week Hauptman announced with jubilation that she had secured a site for the sanctuary in DeSoto County. Jim North, director of the program, said that project will go forward in Hauptman's name and honor."

James L. Cresson, 60, noted in recent years for reporting about dog attacks, dog abuse cases, and unusual stories involving dogs, was killed in a March 13 car crash near Centreville, Maryland. A combat reporter for the U.S. Army during 18 months in Vietnam, 1968-1969, Cresson later wrote for the *Delaware State News*, *Middletown Transcript*, *Delaware Coast Press* and the *Cape Gazette*, and for a time edited the *Long Neck News*, published by his wife Corinne.

Wang Pei, whose English name was Betty, "in her early thirties, a volunteer, activist, writer, and consultant in animal welfare, threw herself off 24th floor of an apartment highrise" in Beijing in mid-November 2005, friend Peter Li told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Li recalled that Wang Pei "worked briefly for International Fund for Animal Welfare China office; consulted for Compassion in World Farming; and wrote articles calling for an end to bear bile farming." After attending an animal advocacy training program in Italy, Wang Pei helped CIWF and the Royal SPCA present a workshop on slaughtering in Beijing. Her suicide came at the end of the conference. "Reportedly, she died of loss of hope for improvement in the lot of the animals whom she loved so dearly," Li said.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Lady, my beloved German shepherd, whom I was privileged to have for not quite 3 years. She came here crippled with arthritis, but there was nothing she wouldn't have done to protect me and the small animals here— a gentle, loyal, intelligent, beautiful dog.
—Mollie McCurdy

In memory of Edward, a 2-year-old cat who was killed by a car because his person thought that he belonged outside.
—Sandra Herman



In memory of Jenny, of CUPA.

In memory of the Timm dogs.
—Dorothy Timm

In memory of Sleddie.



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North Shore Animal League America Presents the Lewyt Award to Honey

*Honey-
A Brave and
Special Puppy
Who Saved
Her Guardian
After a Near
Fatal Car
Crash*



On Halloween morning Michael Bosch of Nicusin, CA, left his home with Honey, a 5 month old Cocker Spaniel puppy that he adopted only two weeks prior from The Marin Humane Society. Little did he know Honey would save his life that day. As Michael began backing his SUV out of his driveway the sunlight blinded him. His car slipped 50 feet down an 80 degree slope, pinning him in the overturned vehicle and crushing his leg.

Trapped with the nearest neighbor a mile away, Bosch knew that Honey was his only hope. Honey managed to escape the vehicle, climb up the slope and alerted neighbor Robin Allen as she arrived home that night.

This young hero pawed at Allen and whimpered for her to follow. When they arrived at the accident scene Honey paced back and forth pointing to the wreckage below.

Allen immediately called for help. After more than eight hours of hanging upside down in the mangled car Bosch was extricated by firefighters, who had to cut away part of the vehicle to free

him. Beyond the leg injury, his pulse had weakened and he would not have survived for too much longer without help. He was flown via helicopter to Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital to be treated for five broken ribs and leg injuries before being transferred to Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in San Rafael.

Bosch and Honey were reunited joyfully a few days later in his hospital room. Honey is truly man's best friend, saving her guardian only weeks after joining his family.

The Lewyt Award for April 2006 has been presented to Honey to honor the exceptional bravery and loyalty she showed in saving her guardian after a near fatal car crash. As a symbol of the award, North Shore Animal League America is sending this remarkable dog and her guardian Michael Bosch a plaque describing her incredible deed, as well as a \$500 check. They will also present The Marin Humane Society with a matching plaque and \$500 check in recognition of the organization's rescue and care of Honey.



In a world plagued with human injustice and violence, North Shore Animal League America takes great pride in rewarding heroic and compassionate pets and the shelters that keep them safe. There are many dogs and cats that are loving, caring, and compassionate. If you have a pet that has shown unbelievable courage or amazing tenderness to another ani-

mal or person, nominate your furry friend for a future Lewyt Award. Let the world know the exceptional dedication and affection pets have for those they love as well as for those who love them. The League hopes that many more animal lovers will look upon our special mixed breeds as valued loyal companions and adopt from a local shelter.

Nomination Form

Please complete this form, attach written description, photo and documentation and send to: Merritt Clinton @ Animal People • P.O. Box 960 • Clinton, WA 98238-0960

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Name of pet _____

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