



The last two of the beagles who were rehomed by the Blue Cross of India. (Chinny Krishna)

Bred for labs, 70 beagles find homes instead

CHENNAI—Seventy beagle puppies bred in China by Beijing Marshall Biotechnology Co., Ltd for laboratory use were instead on December 19, 2012 adopted into homes by the Blue Cross of India.

Bought by the Bangalore pharmaceutical firm Advinus Therapeutics, the beagle pups were flown to Chennai on October 19, 2012 by Cathay Pacific Airways, misidentified as pets on transport documents.

“Cathay Pacific, which has a strict policy against transporting animals to laboratories,

was misinformed by the supplier,” recounted PETA/India chief executive Poorva Joshipura. Tipped to the ruse, PETA/India “notified the Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experimentation on Animals,” Joshipura continued. Responding to PETA alerts, Joshipura said, “More than 50,000 people from around the world sent e-mails to authorities calling for the dogs’ release.”

But that was just the beginning of the rescue effort.

(continued on page 11)

ASPCA pays Ringling \$9.3 million to end litigation after losing bid to halt use of elephants

NEW YORK CITY—The American SPCA on December 28, 2012 announced that it has paid \$9.3 million to Feld Entertainment Inc., producer of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus, to settle two federal court cases originating from allegations that Ringling abuses elephants, thereby violating the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

“The parties filed dismissal papers today in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia as a result of their settlement,” announced Feld Entertainment, headquartered in Vienna, Virginia. “The settlement covers only Feld Entertainment’s claims against the ASPCA for attorneys’ fees and damages in the initial Endangered Species Act case filed in 2000,” dismissed by U.S. District Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on the last day of 2009, plus a 2007 countersuit filed by Feld against the ASPCA and coplaintiffs under the federal Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act.

“The Court decided the underlying Endangered Species Act case filed by the ASPCA on the issue of standing, and never ruled on the merits of the elephant abuse allegations,” said



A circus elephant ride concession (not Ringling). (Kim Bartlett)

ASPCA president Ed Sayres, who arrived at the ASPCA three years after the case was filed, and announced in July 2012 that he will retire upon selection of a successor.

“This litigation has stopped being about the elephants a long time ago,” Sayres continued. “After more than a decade of litigating with Feld Entertainment, the ASPCA concluded that it is in the best interests of the organization to resolve this expensive, protracted litigation.” Sayres concluded, in a prepared statement distributed by ASPCA senior vice president for communications Elizabeth J. Estroff.

Feld Entertainment stipulated that “claims for litigation abuse and racketeering

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care

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About Animals

Animals Asia Foundation saves Vietnam Bear Rescue Centre and halts Zimbabwe/China baby elephant deal—in same week

HONG KONG, HANOI, HARBIN—The Animals Asia Foundation on January 16, 2013 won a six-month battle against the ordered eviction of the Vietnam Bear Rescue Centre from the edge of Tam Dao National Park, Vietnam—and just three days later won the cancellation of a controversial sale of baby elephants from Zimbabwe to China.

“This is a week we will all never forget,” assessed Animals Asia Foundation founder Jill Robinson.

Six years into developing the Vietnam Bear Rescue Centre, to rehabilitate and provide sanctuary to bears rescued from bear bile farms and smugglers, the Animals Asia Foundation in April 2011 came under pressure to vacate the property from Tam Dao National Park director Do Dinh Tien. Tien’s daughter was among the

four shareholders in the Truong Giang Tam Dao Joint Stock Company, which planned to redevelop the site as a “bear rescue and breeding center” open to the public, adjacent to a hotel and other tourist accommodations and attractions.

“In September 2011 Tien asked the agriculture ministry to approve the project,” recalled Mike Ives of Associated Press. The Animals Asia Foundation was ordered to stop making site improvements, but remained unwilling to abandon \$2 million worth of facilities to become, in effect, a roadside zoo.

On July 9, 2012 the Animals Asia Foundation received an eviction notice. Supposedly the site had become critically important to the Ministry of Defense. Animals Asia Vietnam country director Tuan Bendixsen was told at an October 5, 2012 meeting with representatives of various ministries that the bear sanctuary would have to go. But Robinson fought back with an international publicity campaign.

The October 2012 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** helped to expose the confrontation—and exposed some of Do Dinh Tien’s other dealings, too. One was use of the Tam Dao Botanic Garden to produce “mainly plants of economic importance such as medicinals, fruit trees, fodder, food and fiber plants,” as described by a report submitted by the garden management to Botanic Gardens Conservation International. Do Dinh Tien was also involved in the Vietnam Carbon Exchange, a scheme to sell conservation credits to Australian companies whose industrial processes produce greenhouse gases. The idea was to sell credit to the companies for helping to protect the trees already growing in Tam Dao National Park, which is already protected habitat, without actually planting any new forest to increase the global carbon absorption capacity.

“Tien denies he ever planned

(continued on page 13)



Young African lions in the wild. (Kim Bartlett)

Three nations move against hunting

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica; GABORONE, Botswana; LUSAKA, Zambia—The national legislature of Costa Rica on December 10, 2012 finalized a national ban on sport hunting, provisionally approved in October by a vote of 41-5.

The hunting ban, the first Costa Rican law passed by voter initiative, was submitted to the legislature after more than 177,000 Costa Ricans signed petitions favoring it.

Momentum toward passage of the hunting ban had been briefly slowed by a constitutional challenge filed by 14 legislators including eight of the nine elected members of the Libertarian Movement party.

“There is no data on how much money hunting generates in the country,” said Arturo Carballo, deputy director of the environmental organization Apreflofas, which led the petition drive, “but we do know there are currently clandestine hunting tours that go for about \$5,000 per person.” Hunters may now be imprisoned for up to four months, and may be fined up to \$3,000.

Hunting was already prohibited within the approximately 25% of Costa Rica that are national parks and forests. The hunting ban is expected to help to curtail poachers, who

typically operate from private property adjacent to protected habitat. The ban will also put out of business several “canned hunts” where clients shoot captive-reared birds and deer.

While hunting has never been big business in Costa Rica, trophy hunting was until recently a governmentally favored industry in Zambia and Botswana.

Zambian tourism minister Sylvia Masebo signaled that that era may be history, opening 2013 by announcing an immediate halt to hunting lions and leopards, and a suspension of the sale of trophy hunting permits to visitors.

“Tourists come to Zambia to see the lion. If we lose the lion we will be killing our tourism industry,” Masebo told Reuters.

Zambia is believed to have fewer than 4,500 lions left in the wild, plus an unknown number of leopards. Though depleted, the Zambian lion population is a substantial portion of the total number of wild African lions estimated by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature at 15,000 to 30,000.

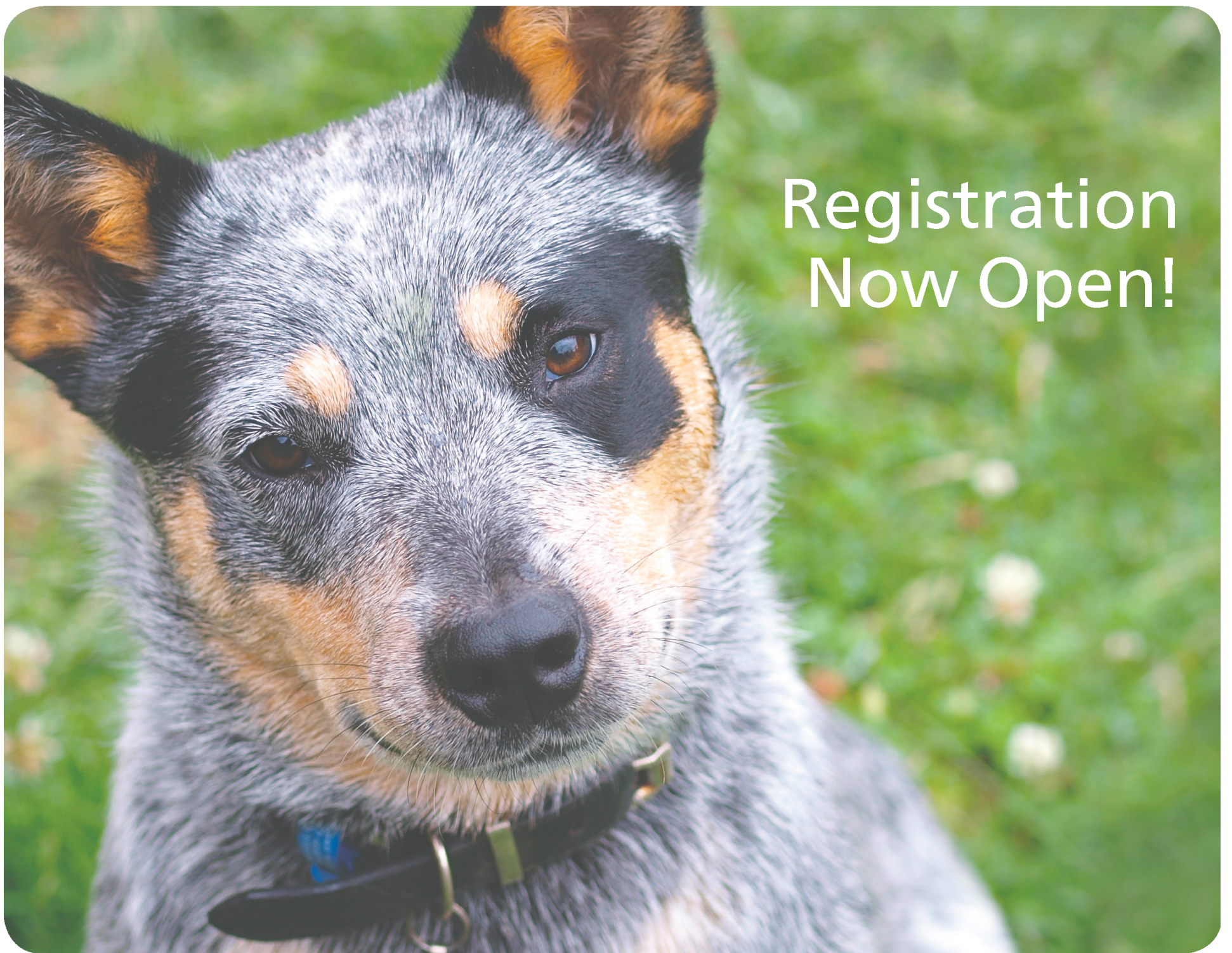
The British organization LionAid told Reuters that lions have been extirpated from 25 African nations, and have nearly disappeared from 10 more, leaving only about half

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Editorial feature

Pi, Dorothy, and the qualities of humane leadership

The title character in *Life of Pi*, possibly the most memorable film in years with a pro-animal theme, is a Hindu vegetarian boy raised in Pondicherry, India, whose parents run a zoo on leased land in the city botanical garden. Pi in adolescence becomes preoccupied with a spiritual quest which leads him to become also—simultaneously—Catholic and Muslim. As Pi explains, “There are 33 millions gods in the Hindu religion.. We get to feel guilty before hundreds of gods, instead of just one.”

A 1977 change of government means that the family may lose their lease on the zoo site. Therefore Pi’s father resolves to move the menagerie to Canada, where the animals can be sold for more money than in India, and to start a new life in Winnipeg. The family and their animals board a Japanese freighter, but a a violent storm sinks the freighter over the Marianas Trench, the deepest part of the Pacific Ocean. Pi, the sole human survivor, finds himself in a lifeboat with a hyena, an orangutan, a badly injured zebra, and a Bengal tiger named Richard Parker. Soon the hyena kills the zebra and the orangutan. The tiger then kills the hyena.

Despite the perils of the situation, in which there is constant risk that as Pi puts it, “A vegetarian Hindu boy may become the tiger’s last meal,” Pi feels a moral obligation to try to save the tiger as well as himself. Adrift for 227 days, Pi tearfully and prayerfully compromises his vegetarian beliefs to catch fish for Richard Parker, and eats fish himself. Twice Pi brings the tiger back aboard the lifeboat instead of improving his own chance to survive by leaving the tiger behind—once in the water, once on a mysterious floating island inhabited only by carnivorous vegetation and an impossibly dense congregation of meerkats, who could not possibly survive in such habitat. By then, however, Pi is quite likely delirious, and the meerkats’ cries are those of sea birds.

Fetching up on the coast of Mexico, Pi watches Richard Parker vanish into the jungle without a look back. Rescuers find Pi some time later. Questioned by Japanese maritime agency investigators, Pi finds that his story is not believed, so offers a different version in which his mother is the orangutan, the zebra and hyena are crew members, and Pi finds the tiger within himself, surviving by cannibalism. Asked to choose which story they prefer, the investigators choose the version with the animals.

Pi returns to vegetarianism and, as an adult, raises a vegetarian family.

Despite engaging the moral and philosophical issues that underlie the human relationship with animals, neither director Ang Lee nor Yann Martel, the author of the 2001 book on which the film is based, appear to have had any thought of constructing an allegory pertaining to organized animal advocacy. *Life of Pi* may be viewed as allegory on many levels, but uses Pi’s effort to save just one animal as a vehicle for introspection into matters of character and culture.

Life of Pi in some ways recalls a very different fictional odyssey by a very different orphan. *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, by Frank Baum, published in 1900, included much then-obvious socio-political satire. The heroine, Dorothy, is friendly toward animals, and trusts her dog Toto far more than any adult. In the Frank Baum book, Dorothy and Toto are blown far from their Kansas home after Toto runs from a twister and Dorothy tries to save him. In the 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz*, Dorothy and Toto are blown to Oz after Dorothy saves Toto from a Miss Gulch who wants to have Toto killed for biting her. Despite Dorothy’s concern for Toto, and often for other animals, the book version in particular may be jarring to animal advocates today. Seeking a way back to Kansas, Dorothy and Toto befriend the Cowardly Lion, who seeks courage, the Tin Woodman, who seeks a heart, and the Scarecrow, who seeks a brain. The Tin Woodman kills 40 wolves sent by the Wicked Witch of the West to attack them. The Scarecrow kills 40 crows, whom the Wicked Witch sends after the wolves. But together they liberate a winged monkey army from servitude to the Wicked Witch of the West.

The Wizard of Oz himself, an ex-circus performer whose help Dorothy and her friends try to enlist, proves to be a fraud, exposed by Toto. In the end Dorothy saves herself, and persuades the Cowardly Lion, the Tin Woodman, and the Scarecrow that they had within themselves all along the qualities they imagined they lacked.

As with any good allegory, including *Life of Pi*, the thought-provoking aspects of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* arise from ambiguities. There is general agreement among Oz scholars, however, despite much disagreement over which historical figures the characters were meant to portray, that Dorothy and Toto represent the support base of any great cause; the Wizard of Oz represents power-holders who merely put on a show, rather than leading in any meaningful manner; and the Cowardly Lion, the Tin Woodman, and the Scarecrow represent aspects of cause leadership.

Regardless of what specifically the cause is, every cause tends to include people and organizations who exercise great influence, with generally good intentions, yet often retard progress through cowardly, heartless, or brainless behavior.

Wizards at work

Unfortunately, while the Cowardly Lion, Tin Woodman, and the Scarecrow proved to be brave, caring, and intelligent when necessary, it is not difficult to point toward deficiencies in those regards among animal advocacy leadership.

The American SPCA, for example, recently paid Feld Entertainment \$9.3 million in consequence of an ill-advised decade-long attempt to pursue a lawsuit that sought to invoke the Endangered Species Act against the Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus. (*See page 1.*) The case was based largely on the testimony and claim to legal standing of a former Ringling elephant barn worker whom the court eventually found to be not credible. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** had reached that perspective at the outset of the case, when we declined to quote the former Ringling worker as a source.

Even if his testimony had held up, however, there was little basis in past jurisprudence to imagine that the Endangered Species Act could be used in lieu of the Animal Welfare Act to pursue a complaint based on animal welfare allegations.

Feld Entertainment continues to seek significant sums from coplaintiffs including the Animal Welfare Institute, the Humane Society of the U.S., which inherited the case through absorbing the Fund for Animals in 2005, and Born Free USA, which inherited the case through absorbing the Animal Protection Institute at the end of 2006. Without sympathizing at all with Ringling use of elephants and other animals, it is difficult to view the case against Ringling as having ever been well-considered, let alone adequately reconsidered at the several points much earlier when the animal charities involved might have cut their losses—including in 2001 when the first filing was thrown out of court.

A case that the Royal SPCA apparently publicized with inadequate attention to the evidence is meanwhile simmering in Britain.

RSPCA inspectors on September 12, 2012 intercepted a truckload of more than 500 sheep at the port of Ramsgate. As described in the September 2012 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, the sheep were unloaded into an improvised holding area in which two sheep were allegedly killed and several others injured by falling into an inadequately covered storm drain. The RSPCA inspectors later shot at least 41 more sheep dead with a captive bolt gun, due to lameness said to make the sheep unfit for transport.

All of this might be defended as necessary in purpose and unfortunate in outcome. More difficult to defend is the RSPCA release as alleged exposure of the live export trade of a photograph described by Guy Adams of the *Daily Mail* as “a pile of dead sheep, their bodies mutilated and their heads smashed,” whose blood “is liberally splattered over nearby walls” as result of the RSPCA’s own killing procedure.

This should not have been the outcome of proper use of a captive bolt gun.

It is in no way defending live export to point out that when humane societies must kill animals, the killing must meet animal welfare standards. Likewise, when a humane society assails an allegedly abusive industry, the evidence presented of animal suffering should show the conduct of the industry, not that of the investigators.

Animal advocacy charities have long struggled to develop ethically coherent and persuasive policies pertaining to farmed animals. This is partly because the donor base is more like Dorothy, whose attitudes toward animals are inconsistent, than like Pi, who recognizes his own inconsistencies and accepts the necessity of inconsistent actions in extreme circumstances, but strives to be compassionate even in dire distress.

Rather than risk alienating meat-eating donors by advocating vegetarianism, or at least recommending eating less meat, as several major environmental charities have, the RSPCA, ASPCA, Humane Society of the U.S., World Society for Animal Protection, and others have either introduced or joined animal product labeling schemes which supposedly assure consumers that the animals involved were treated humanely.

The Animal Welfare Institute helped to pioneer animal product labeling in the U.S. by promoting an “Animal Welfare Approved” label with standards that exclude any corporate-owned farm. That left a considerable marketing niche for the slightly older and somewhat more flexible Humane Farm Animal Care program, whose “Certified Humane” label requires producers to meet comparable animal care standards.

Instead of unequivocally endorsing either the “Animal Welfare Approved” or “Certified Humane” standards, however, the largest U.S. organizations have endorsed the Global Animal Partnership standards introduced in 2010 by the Animal Compassion Foundation—even People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, which otherwise promotes veganism. The GAP standards are also endorsed by the British charity Compassion In World Farming, even though the lowest two of five GAP certification tiers fall short of meeting the RSPCA “Red Tractor” standards, which have been widely criticised as being too lax and poorly enforced.

The “Wizard of GAP” is Animal Compassion Foundation founder John Mackey, also founder of Whole Foods Markets. The GAP program evolved out of Whole Foods Markets’ own certification program. These programs may be profitable for Whole Foods Markets, but the GAP standards in some respects fall short of animal industry organizations’ own standards, and do not cover transport and slaughter. Thus, whatever occasioned the RSPCA sheep slaughtering at Ramsgate, and whatever methods the RSPCA used to kill the sheep, GAP standards—had the farmers been GAP-certified—were not violated.

Whether any wizardry was involved in the controversial 2011 agreement between HSUS and United Egg Producers to jointly seek federal hen caging standards, renewed on January 28, 2013 for the current Congress, has already been debated for a year and a half. It is clear, however, that in accepting the terms that it did in 2011, HSUS compromised future negotiating position. Having once sought to establish somewhat larger “colony caging” instead of conventional “battery caging” as the law of the land, *(continued on page 4)*

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Pi, Dorothy, & the qualities of humane leadership

(from page 3)

with an 18-year phase-in allowance, and having fallen far short of delivering enthusiastic support for the proposed legislation from animal advocates, HSUS will now need help from a few friendly good witches to be able to bargain effectively for anything more.

The ASPCA, WSPA, and the American Humane Association, meanwhile, could scarcely be more compromised concerning farm animals if taken over by the Wicked Witches of the East and West. The ASPCA in May 2012 indirectly became a serious investor in agribusiness by granting \$151,100 to the five-year-old nonprofit organization Farm Forward, to be used “to promote humane poultry welfare at the Good Shepherd Poultry Ranch in Lindsborg, Kansas.” The Good Shepherd Poultry Ranch, said the ASPCA media release, “raises pasture-based, vegetarian-fed heritage breed chickens and turkeys free of unnecessary antibiotics in spacious, welfare-friendly conditions.”

As Humane Farming Association founder Brad Miller responded, “It is simply delusional to think that getting humane organizations into the business of promoting meat from heritage breed chickens will result in even the slightest reduction of animal suffering. Beyond the obvious ethical issues from the animals’ standpoint,” Miller continued, “there is also the matter of using charitable dollars to further the commercial interests of a privately owned, profit-driven poultry company. This is just the latest,” Miller charged, “in a growing trend on the part of several major animal organizations to, in effect, merge with the livestock industry.”

WSPA has since 2010 cultivated an alliance with Heifer International, which has from inception in 1944 existed to expand and encourage animal agriculture, and in recent years has specifically promoted “zero grazing,” a term which means that the farmed animals do not go out to pasture. “Zero grazing,” in other words, is intensive confinement, the same practice which when done on a large scale is called “factory farming.” Almost simultaneously, WSPA president Mike Baker has appealed to donors to “keep a wonderful tradition alive—the sight of dairy cows grazing in green fields” by politically supporting elements of the British dairy industry who fear competition from mega-sized U.S.-style dairy operations, whose basic method is “zero grazing.”

These beneficiaries of WSPA support are the British dairy farmers who within recent decades brought the world mad cow disease by feeding calves “milk replacer” made from the bones of cattle, badger culls conducted in futile attempts to fight bovine tuberculosis, the live export of calves to veal crating operations in Belgium and the Netherlands, and resistance to vaccinating cattle against foot and mouth disease, bringing the mass slaughter of more than three million hooved animals before vaccination was accepted as inevitable. Traditional British dairy farmers also often lease land to fox hunters, hare coursers, deer stalkers, and bird shooters.

Baker—and the Humane Society International division of HSUS—also enthusiastically favor the Rural Backyard Poultry Development program, introduced by the Indian Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs in 2009 with the goal of increasing backyard flocks into the range of “20 to 50 birds per [participating] family.” Lampooned by Indian media as the “Rural Backward Poultry Development Program,” the scheme has little chance of slowing down the rapid development of Indian agribusiness, but does perpetuate the fantasy that birds raised in backyard cages and killed with hatchets are somehow more humanely treated than birds raised in corporate-owned cages and guillotined on conveyor belts.

The AHA animal product standards program affords animals little more (if anything) than the lower tiers of GAP. After the 2008 passage of a California farmed animal welfare initiative that pro-initiative campaigners believed would end caged egg production, the AHA agreed with egg industry leaders—a year before HSUS accepted colony caging—that colony cages would meet the requirement of the initiative.

In 2010, 60 years after introducing decompression to kill dogs and cats at animal shelters, 25 years after decompressing dogs and cats was abandoned nationwide as inhumane, the AHA began pushing the use of decompression to kill chickens.

Street dogs & feral cats

Capitulation, failure to think through policies and strategies, dereliction of compassion when compassion requires taking a principled stand, and susceptibility to the advice of bogus wizards unfortunately also characterizes much current humane leadership on dog and cat issues—and not just at the national level.

Most of the humane community worldwide has embraced the ideal of no-kill animal sheltering—popular with the public, a magnet for donors, and a psychologically much easier *modus operandi* for shelter staff than having to do triage and killing. Unfortunately, the ideal has often become policy long before the programs and facilities are in place that are needed to make no-kill animal care and control viable while protecting the public—and other animals—from dangerous dogs and zoonotic disease. The most necessary prerequisite is that many years, perhaps decades, be invested in successfully promoting dog and cat sterilization, before trying to go to “no kill,” so that there are no longer huge, highly visible, and often problematic numbers of dogs and cats at large.

Introducing “no kill” animal control amid hue-and-cry about “dog menace,” for example, as has been done in many parts of the developing world, is a prescription for clandestine poisoning, shooting, and both public and political defiance. So, likewise, is trying to pretend the “dog menace” does not exist when thousands of people routinely experience bites, harrassment by dog packs, and sometimes the threat of rabies.

In the U.S. and other developed nations, the numbers of dogs and cats killed in shelters each year is now lower than the numbers of dogs and cats acquired as pets. Yet, even so, it is a shameless fiction that more adoption promotion can significantly reduce the killing. Despite colossally increased investments in adoption promotion, total adoptions from shelters and through rescue groups peaked circa 20 years ago and have slipped ever since. The animals now being killed in shelters are chiefly potentially dangerous dogs—60% of them pit bulls—and feral cats who cannot be handled.

Many of these animals are unlikely to thrive in homes, even if adopted. Most might fare well in appropriate sanctuaries, but the funding, suitable properly, and personnel needed to furnish adequate high quality sanctuary space to upward of three million unadoptable dogs and cats per year in the U.S. alone simply does not exist, and will not exist soon or ever. Meanwhile, the numbers of dogs and cats rescued from failed sanctuaries in mass neglect cases rose from about 25% of the total between 1982 to 2002 to 50% in 2012. (See page 15 for details.)

The key to reducing shelter killing today, just as it was when U.S. shelter killing increased sevenfold from 1950 to 1970, is to reduce surrenders and impoundments of animals at risk by preventing births—specifically, births of feral cats, births of street dogs in the developing world, and births of pit bulls, the dogs most often involved in abuse and neglect cases, the only dogs commonly used in dogfighting, and by far the breed most often involved in injurious attacks on other animals, as well as on humans.

Feral cat neuter/return programs achieved a 75% decrease in shelter cat intake during the 1990s, but have not reduced shelter killing much since then, as ANIMAL PEOPLE discussed in July/August 2012. Neither has a decade of street dog neuter/

return work in India and Turkey accomplished results sufficient, overall, to quell the hue-and-cry to kill dogs, despite remarkable successes where the neuter/return programs have been well managed and adequately funded. Though neuter/return is quite effective, when practiced conscientiously with the goal of eliminating either street dogs or feral cats, neuter/return has yet to be extended to many places where street dogs and feral cats remain, even in communities which have excellent programs working in other parts of town, partly because many of the remaining reservoirs of street dogs and/or feral cats are inaccessible to volunteers, in the case of cats partly because of birder opposition, and partly because neuter/return advocates have become bogged down in endless legal and political battles over problems associated with feeding street dogs and feral cats.

Feeding street dogs and feral cats is a side issue. These animals would not be present in the first place, or be breeding successfully, without adequate food sources. Enlisting feeder support is often necessary to win feeder cooperation in trapping and sterilizing street dogs or feral cats, but this must be done with the understanding that the goal of a neuter/return program is not to turn the animals into outdoor pets. Furtive scavenging dogs are much more easily tolerated by most people than sterilized packs who mob every passer-by carrying lunch or a bag of groceries. Likewise, the presence of mostly nocturnal cats who rarely hunt birds will attract much less opposition than just a few fat, friendly altered cats who lounge by daylight beneath bird feeders.

Every hour of paid lawyer time spent on street dog and feral cat feeding issues is the equivalent in budget of several dogs or cats who are not being sterilized. Every fight with birders or people who fear “dog menace” further rallies opposition to the only tactic which has ever actually reduced street dog and feral cat numbers. The key to further success is to sidestep the costly head-on conflicts, which are lost through waste of resources even when “won,” and get on with the necessary work.

Along the way, neuter/return practitioners need to do a much better job of documenting successes in zeroing out street dog poplations feral cat colonies. One of the reasons most often advanced for feeding street dogs and feral cats is to be able to count them, so as to identify and remove for sterilization any unsterilized newcomers. While there is some good data showing the success of street dog neuter/retrn programs, accessible data bases showing year-by-year reductions in cat numbers at counted fed feral cat colonies are dismayingly few. It is understandable that neuter/return practitioners do not want to post or publish records that will help birders to find and kill cats, yet birders have little reason to believe neuter/return is succeeding when they see more cats by day and see no before-and-after data demonstrating population reduction.

Pit bulls

The U.S. already had a large and ubiquitous feral cat population when Frank M. Chapman of the American Museum of Natural History produced the first known estimate of the numbers circa 1908. From then, through the mid-20th century surveys done by National Family Opinion founders Howard & Clara Trumbull, to the most recent available data, the combined total of feral cats and pet cats who go outdoors has remained remarkably steady, rising from 25 million in 1908 to a peak of 46 million circa 1990 before falling back to circa 30 million—about two-thirds pets, one third feral.

Pit bull proliferation is by contrast a relatively recent phenomenon. Pit bulls, by all the names used to describe them combined, were never more than 1% of the dogs

(continued on page 5)

Helping Tony Walk Again



When North Shore Animal League America rescued Tony, the young Chihuahua mix pictured here, from an overcrowded municipal shelter, it was clear that the adorable dog was in distress. Despite valiant attempts, Tony couldn't stand up, and he flinched when anyone tried to touch him.

From the minute they saw him, our rescue team fell for little Tony. It broke their hearts to see him in pain. They rushed him back to Animal League America, where they knew he'd be safe under the care of our expert veterinary team. He was given pain relief medication immediately to ease his suffering.

X-rays revealed that Tony had multiple fractures in his pelvis. Although we will never know exactly how Tony received this injury, it seems likely that he was hit by a car.

Regardless of how Tony ended up in such dire condition, we know one thing for certain: He deserves the compassionate medical care that will help him recover and start a new life with a loving adopter.

That's why we placed him in our life-saving Help Me Heal Program, in which generous animal lovers help fund the treatment of ailing and injured animals.

Tony will soon be seen by specialists to determine if surgery is the best course of treatment. This type of surgery is very delicate, especially on such a small dog, and it's also very costly. And, even if Tony doesn't require surgery, he will most certainly need many months of extensive rehabilitation.

Our dedicated veterinary team will continue to attend to Tony's immediate medical needs and provide him with round-the-clock care.

The dedicated support of the life-saving Help Me Heal Program allows Tony – and other innocent animals like him – receive the treatment needed that will save their lives. To learn more about our Help Me Heal Program, Please visit AnimalLeague.org/help-me-heal.

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Pi, Dorothy, & the qualities of humane leadership (from page 4)

listed in classified ads from 1851 until under 30 years ago, and were not even noticed in breed-specific survey of shelter dogs until circa 1984, when the ASPCA opposed the enforcement of legislation to keep pit bulls out of New York City public housing.

Wicked witches might be blamed for the subsequent explosion of pit bull impoundments and killing of impounded pit bulls, who have usually flunked behavioral screening. Reality is that the humane community itself largely created the pit bull problem by failing to acknowledge it as it developed; failing to recognize the behavioral differences bred into fighting dogs that make them uniquely likely to to attack without warning or inhibition; and failing to appreciate that allowing pit bull proliferation to continue would fuel a resurgence of dogfighting. Almost extinct 35 years ago, dogfighting has become again as culturally prominent as when Queen Elizabeth I attended dogfights and bear-baiting events at the Tower of London.

Most of all, much of the humane community has followed bad advice from bogus wizards in opposing breed-specific legislation to mandate sterilization of pit bulls, whose keepers and promoters have proved uniquely resistant to the messages which have persuaded more than 70% of all other dog-keepers to sterilize their dogs. In consequence, U.S. shelters are now impounding and killing more pit bulls—more than 900,000 per year killed on average over the past decade—than the sum of all dogs who were impounded and killed in 1950.

The Best Friends Animal Society in 2007 reaped a publicity and fundraising bonanza from taking custody of the 51 pit bulls who were seized in April 2007 from football player and subsequently convicted dogfighter Michael Vick. Since then, Best Friends, the AHA, the ASPCA, and HSUS—among others—ramped up pit bull advocacy, hoping to reduce shelter killing by boosting pit bull adoptions. Shelter killing of pit bulls fell for two years—and then rebounded to what it was before.

Meanwhile, three rescuers were killed by pit bulls in 2012, more than the sum of all people killed by shelter dogs in the first 20 of the 30 years that ANIMAL PEOPLE editor Merritt Clifton has logged fatal and disfiguring dog attacks occurring in the U.S. and Canada. More than 60% of the nearly 4,000 total dog attacks in the log have been inflicted by pit bulls. More than half of the pit bull attacks, including 53% of the fatalities, have come since the Vick arrest. Fatal and disfiguring attacks by pit bulls on other animals are believed to be anywhere from ten to 100 times more frequent than attacks on humans.

The solution to all of this mayhem is simple and self-evident: increase the pit

bull sterilization rate from the present 25% or less to the 70%-plus rate prevailing among all other dogs. This cannot be done with purely voluntary programs. One of the most successful voluntary programs, Operation Pit in New York City, from July 2010 to July 2012 sterilized 1,308 pit bulls—but it would have had to sterilize twice as many just to stabilize pit bull intake at the city shelters.

Instead of trying to undo breed-specific legislation in hopes this will help to rehome more pit bulls, the humane community needs to recognize that it cannot adopt its way out of the problem, and instead win laws that put pit bull breeders out of business.

Pit bulls are not produced by accident. Rather, they are line-bred, often sold with the pyramid scheme promise that the buyer can recoup the investment by breeding and selling more pit bulls. Like other pyramid schemes, those involving pit bulls seldom pay off. Instead, speculative breeding helps to keep animal shelters filled to capacity.

The most pernicious “pyramid scheme” afflicting humane work, however, was introduced by an unknown bogus wizard as an intended demonstration of why people should sterilize their pets. Drawings of pyramids of cute puppies or kittens ubiquitously present claims such as that “a female dog and her offspring can produce 67,000 puppies in six years,” or that “a female cat and her offspring can produce 400,000 kittens in seven years,” even though such claims never had any biological basis.

In 2007 ANIMAL PEOPLE joined Wall Street Journal columnist Carl Bialik in tracing this pyramid scheme back to source. The American Humane Association introduced the earliest known version about 60 years ago. The hypothetical numbers soared in a January 1968 press release from the Animal Protection Institute, mysteriously picked up a zero by 1973, and picked up another zero when first applied to cats. In truth, one female cat and her offspring, with normal mortality for outdoor cats, might produce a surviving population of 14 cats after seven years. Dog fecundity tends to be less.

Animal advocates imagine that the wildly exaggerated claims accompanying the pyramid drawings will be persuasive to the public. Instead, the exaggerations tell people that sterilizing pets is futile, because there will always be explosive overpopulation, necessitating killing. In the developing world, the pyramid drawings and exaggerated claims undercut the introduction of animal birth control in place of poisoning. Here in the U.S., exaggerated claims taken from the pyramid drawings often appear in attacks on feral cat neuter/return.

(continued on page 6)

Events

February 10-12: Texas Fed. of Animal Care Soc. conf., Austin. Info: <pnordyke@austin.rr.com> or <www.txfacs.org>.

February 15-17: Desert Tortoise Council Symposium, Las Vegas. Info: <www.deserttortoise.org>.

February 24-26: Animal Care Conf., Sacramento, Calif., co-sponsored by State Humane Assn. of Calif. & Calif. Vet. Med. Assn. Info: 1-800-655-2862; <www.animalcare-conference.org>.

March 20: Meatout 2013. Info: <www.meatout.org>.

March 22-24: Box Turtle Conserv. Workshop, Asheboro, NC. Info: <www.boxturtleconservation.org>.

April: Adopt-A-Greyhound month. Info: <www.adopt-a-greyhoundl.org>.

April 6: Conscious Eating conf., co-hosted by United Poultry Concerns, Animal Place, & Berkeley Org. for Animal Advocacy, Berkeley, Calif. Info: <www.upc-online.org/forums/2013>.

April 19-20: Rescue Me! conf., Swansboro, NC. Info: <www.safeharborfarm.org>.

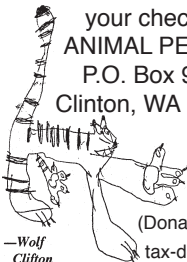
April 27: Free Feral Cat Spay Day. Info: 301-277-5595; <www.savea-cat.org>.

April 28-May 1: Animal Transport Assn. conf., Las Vegas. Info: <www.animaltransportassn.org>.

(continued on page 11)

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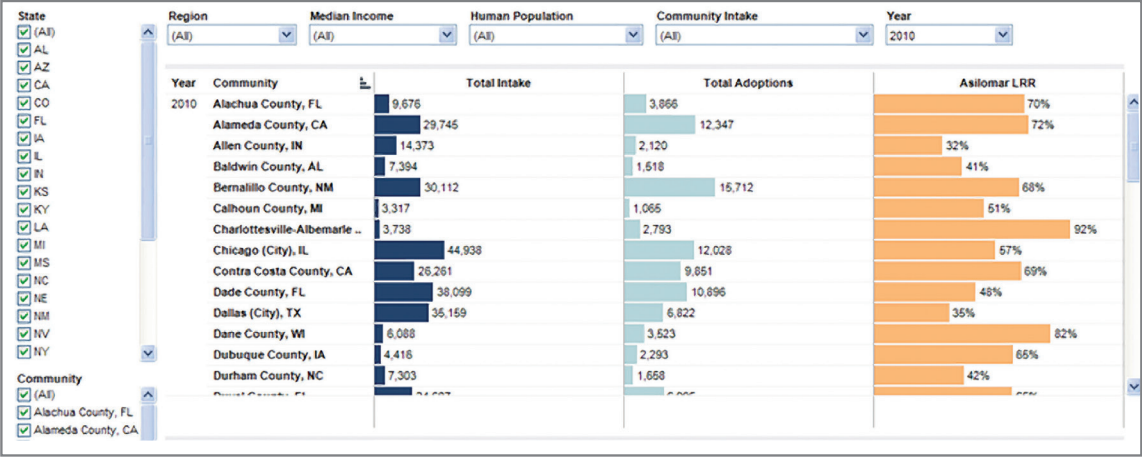
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Community Comparison Use the drop down filters to limit the list of communities to compare.



Maddie's Fund is a family foundation which is funded by the founder of Workday and PeopleSoft, Dave Duffield, and his wife, Cheryl, to help create a no-kill nation. Maddie's Fund is named after the family's beloved Miniature Schnauzer.



Pi, Dorothy, & the qualities of humane leadership

(from page 5)

A complete catalog of the self-defeating policies and strategies espoused by animal advocates might completely fill more than one edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Our November/December 2012 editorial, for instance, detailed the frequent misuse and misdirection of boycott appeals, focusing on campaigns waged from abroad which have accomplished more to perpetuate than to stop culturally rationalized practices such as whaling, sealing, eating dogs and cats, and bullfighting. Tourism boycotts in particular tend to be self-defeating, especially when the atrocity itself is a tourist attraction, as in the case of bullfighting. Bullfighting promoters, and the hoteliers, restaurateurs, and others whose facilities near major bullrings cater mainly to tourists who attend bullfights, simply do not care if those of us who find bullfighting cruel and offensive stay away.

We may, however, have underemphasized that there is a great deal that animal charities can do effectively from afar in opposition to bullfighting, though we mentioned that bullfighting persists in parts of Spain and Latin America chiefly through patronage by tourists who attend a corrida for the purported cultural experience, and mostly never attend another. Educating tourists against visiting bullfights, while encouraging visits to attractions that do not harm or exploit animals, is a strategy which supports the efforts of local activists, but now seems to be lamentably neglected.

In addition, activists can help to reduce the frequent equation of bullfighting with Spanish and Latin American culture by protesting the gratuitous appearance of bullfighting imagery in, for example, the decor of Mexican restaurants. A similar

strategy could help to reduce the profile of rodeo, the U.S. variant of bullfighting: far more people wear blue jeans advertised with rodeo imagery than actually attend rodeos. Large multinational animal charities could fund and facilitate the campaigning.

Recent promotions of synthetic fur garments by leading humane organizations comparably fail to recognize the importance of advertising in perpetuating cruel practices which are otherwise fading out. U.S. retail fur garment sales, in inflation-adjusted dollars, are now barely a third of what they were at peak, 25 years ago—but fur sales fell fastest when animal advocates emphasized the simple message “Don’t wear fur.”

Earlier, for several decades, the leading U.S. humane organizations energetically promoted fake fur—and wondered why fur sales only kept rising. Furriers knew, by paying much closer attention to marketing data, that people wearing fake fur garments that were hard to tell from real fur were merely helping to promote the “fur look,” and giving other people “social permission,” as well as cover, to wear real fur without fear of criticism. After having finally appeared to learn in the 1980s that promoting anything that can be mistakenly for fur is tactically suicidal, the same organizations today seem to have forgotten everything they ever knew about fur trade economics and the psychology of fur-wearers.

Despite such disappointments and setbacks, we persist, much as Pi persisted in his conviction that the tiger Richard Parker and all other animals have souls, in the hope that the Cowardly Lions, Tin Woodmen, and Scarecrows of the animal advocacy cause will eventually discover the qualities they need to stand up to the bogus wizards.

Letters

Taiwan agriculture official believes omitting strays from mention will solve the problem

Amendments to the Taiwan Animal Protection Act to limit the capture of stray animals to those who pose a threat to human beings were to be introduced on December 26, 2012. The current policy is to capture and kill all stray dogs. Over the past 13 years, approximately 1.4 million stray dogs have been killed. Since the government does not fully support neuter/return, and hopes to make it illegal, the stray population is destined to keep growing.

The proposed amendments also called for controls on the breeding of cats and dogs to help reduce the number of strays, and would have made it illegal to emotionally neglect and abuse animals. We hoped to bring in regulations specifying minimum cage sizes for animals, minimum leash lengths, and the maximum number of hours that animals can be kept caged per day.

On December 26, however, before our proposed amendments were even discussed

in detail, the Director of the Council of Agriculture told the legislators responsible for the Animal Protection Act that the amendments would be impossible to execute and that the term “stray animals” should not be included in the Act. He argued that including this wording in the Act would indicate that the government supports abandonment of animals and accepts them living on the streets.

As animal organizations we do not

want to see stray animals on the streets either, but we want the government to face the reality that our country has many strays on the streets already, and that therefore regulations must be set to protect their welfare and reduce their numbers humanely.

—Beki Hunt
Co-founder/deputy director
Taiwan SPCA
www.sPCA.org.tw



The importance of the Cambridge Declaration

I have just been reading Kim Bartlett’s commentary “The most overlooked victory for animals of 2012” about the Cambridge Declaration on Consciousness, a little noticed but incredibly important step forward.

Quite apart from the article being so powerfully written and moving, I also felt much empathy with Kim Bartlett’s concern that this very important breakthrough seemed to be largely overlooked. I didn’t see it published in animal protection journals, nor very much promoted online, but it is an extraordinarily significant piece of evidence for the animal rights movement, to be able to casually mention in conversation over the dinner table when friends are feasting on the dead bodies of pigs or cattle. When we founded the organization Animal Liberation in Australia in 1976, agricultural scientists were, incredible as it may seem now, claiming that lambs didn’t feel any pain from the mulesing operation,

as they ate again as soon as it was over. We know now that eating is a survival response among herbivorous animals, signaling to predators that the the injured animal will not be easy prey.

Kim Bartlett’s comments re consciousness are also important. The Cambridge Declaration reduces the pomposity of humans in thinking ours are the only minds, when in fact quantum physics is showing that “mind” is an electrical energy, invisible to us, but shared by all living things.

I believe **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has been hugely influential as back-ground information support for animal rights activists—a very valued contribution to the animal protection movement.

—Christine Townend
Sydney, Australia
<christownend@bigpond.com>



Watchdog Report

Thank you so much for publishing the 2012 **ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on Animal Charities**, that I purchased in October 2012. It is so helpful, and I very much appreciate having it. Your appeal letters, too, are informative. For example, I had not heard before about the Cambridge Declaration on Consciousness (featured in both the fall 2012 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** appeal and the November/December edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**), and I rejoice at hearing this news.

The work that you are doing for animals is so important and so worthy of support! Please never stop doing it. Human awareness of animal suffering is growing, albeit not as rapidly as we would like. We must never give up. Sometimes a tipping point occurs that can shift momentum quite suddenly.

—Lela Sayward
Lincoln, Nebraska



Boycotts

Thanks for your really excellent points in your November/December 2012 editorial “Why boycotts are not the answer to cruelty called ‘culture’”—really clearly explained, with a lot of very precise historical references.

I have often felt frustrated by people who call for boycotts—of China, and really of practically every country in the world (except the U.S.)—without giving much thought to the consequences or the effects.

I’m really glad you made the point about advocacy on the part of local animal people being needed, because without that absolutely no change at all happens, no matter how many Facebook appeals are sent around and around the world.

—Sharon St Joan
Co-Founder
Best Friends Animal Society
Kanab, Utah
sharonsj@bestfriends.org



We invite readers to submit letters and original unpublished commentary —please, nothing already posted to a web site— via e-mail to <anmlpepl@whidbey.com> or via postal mail to: **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, P.O. Box 960, Clinton, WA 98236 USA.

More about Cambridge

I so enjoyed reading your end-of-2012 appeal letter, including Kim Bartlett’s masterful takes on the complex situations raised by the Cambridge Declaration of Consciousness. Sometimes even activists can’t see the forest for the trees and your letter points the way. I was almost embarrassed for the eminent scientists finally realizing what anyone who lived with animals already knew!

—M.L. Corbin Sicoli, Ph.D.
Professor Emerita, Psychology
Cabrini College
<www.sicolitesting19382.com>



The Last Walk

Thanks for reviewing my book *The Last Walk: Reflections on Our Pets at the End of Their Lives*, in your November/December 2012 edition. I agree with you that my treatment of killing in shelters was weak, relative to the rest of the book, and since I finished the *The Last Walk* I’ve done more research and talked to a number of people working within sheltering.

Almost without exception, the people who work within sheltering that I’ve talked to—and it is a very small number, admittedly—think Nathan Winograd’s version of the “no kill” movement has caused more trouble than good—fascinating, and also, I think, counter-intuitive. I am very interested in the dynamics of shelter killings and hope to write something in the future that focuses on the kinds of issues you raised, e.g., what to do with dogs who cannot be safely re-homed.

I am a regular reader of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. It is a wonderful resource for those interested in and working on behalf of animals. Thanks for the work you do.

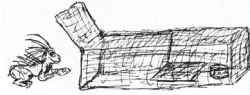
—Jessica Pierce
Lyons, Colorado



Superstorm Sandy

We were severely flooded during Superstorm Sandy, lost most of our possessions, and even some wildlife. We may never recover.

—Gayle Wertz
Wildlife Rehabilitator
Massapequa, N.Y.



On Origins of New Forms of Life

I have just come across your April 2012 article “On the Origins of New Forms of Life: A New Theory”. You managed to extract the two most important consequences of Eugene McCarthy’s work—first, that “speciation,” the formation of a pure strain, devoid of genetic variation, becomes progressively less able to adapt to changing environmental pressures. Thus “speciation” is the process which drives extinction. Second, hybridisation is the process which drives diversity into the genome, allowing the hybrid to occupy a new niche in a changing environment.

Of course, in a world with limited resources, it is inevitable that the new hybrid will oust one or even both of the parental lines or cousin lines, as humans seem to have done with our own proto-human hybrid cousins.

The realization that hybridization is the future, and not an abhorrent monstrous aberration, is an important gift. Yet probably the deeply engrained belief that sex across species is a sin, or at least morally reprehensible, is stopping most people from considering that humans are a relatively new hybrid. We are descended from apes, and are not some pinnacle of evolutionary development, but a happenstance creature with the

dexterity and pack identity of our ape mother, and the voice, intelligence and omnivore gut of our father, barely viable yet able to develop to the point that we think ourselves to have been anointed by God. I believe that Gene and those who see the rational sense in his theory have a long road ahead of them.


On a different subject, I work with an ex-racing greyhound rehoming charity. The charity has realized that they can never find homes for all the greyhound bred every year for the racing industry, and so they have set themselves the goal of working toward the end of the greyhound racing industry.


While browsing your site, I came across the most excellent November/December 2012 editorial “Why boycotts are not the answer to cruelty called culture.” I realized that this article applied directly to the dwindling residue of the racing industry. I wonder, would you mind discussing possible strategies that anti-racing supporters might adopt?

—Derek Smith
Long Sutton,
Lincolnshire,
United Kingdom
<derek@execsec.co.uk>



(Letters in response to other book reviews are on page 14.)






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More letters

Who ended dancing bear acts in India? *Rewriting history*

I just wanted to thank you for setting the record straight in your November/December 2012 Watchdog page article "Wildlife SOS ended dancing bear acts in India, but WSPA claims credit."

I was in India during the 21st International Conference on Bear Research and Management in New Delhi, and I can't tell you how dejected International Animal Rescue, Free The Bears, and of course Wildlife SOS cofounders Kartick Satyanarayan and Geeta Seshamani were with regards to the World Society for the Protection of Animals shamelessly trying to position themselves as the organization that solved the problem. I don't know that people were shocked because this fit into a pattern; however, people felt really downtrodden, realizing that WSPA had their marketing wheels in motion trying to rewrite history. Thanks for making it harder for them to take full credit.

Although I am not with Kartick and Geeta right now, I know it means a lot to them to feel that they have your strong voice trying to keep the facts straight.

—Nikki Sharp
Wildlife SOS USA
406 East 300 South, #302
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
<2knikki@gmail.com>
<info@wildlifesosusa.org>



"Ugly lies"

Your article "Wildlife SOS ended dancing bear acts in India, but WSPA claims credit" exposed the ugly lies of the World Society for the Protection of Animals, and brought the truth to the surface. We admire your investigative journalism.

—Kartick Satyanarayan
Cofounder, Wildlife SOS
D-210 Defence Colony
New Delhi 110024, India
<kartick@wildlifesos.org>
<www.wildlifesos.org>



Free The Bears

From the beginning of 2002, working very closely with Wildlife SOS, Free the Bears provided seed money to give to Kalandar people so they can develop another form of income, instead of parading "dancing" bears on the roads of India. Their bears were then surrendered into the care of Wildlife SOS and taken into a sanctuary.

Funds have also been raised and given to Wildlife SOS to provide the necessary infrastructure to build night dens, swimming pools, and climbing platforms to give the bears both mental and physical enrichment.

International Animal Rescue has also been involved in the Kalandar Rehabilitation Program, providing training in many different occupations so the Kalandar men and women are now able to earn a new form of income for their families. People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi also helped raise funds for the bears, on a speaking tour of Australia.

Raising over \$1 million Australian dollars, and rescuing over 500 "dancing" bears, while just 38 were rescued by other organizations, Free The Bears together with International Animal Rescue and Wildlife SOS on December 18, 2009 brought this sad and cruel trade to an end when Raju, the very last known "dancing" bear, was taken into the Bannerghatta sanctuary near Bangalore. It took seven years of hard work, campaigning for every single dollar, to achieve this.

Raju has now been rehabilitated, and along with other bears we rescued, enjoys a much improved life.

I was at the original Wildlife SOS sanctuary in Agra to see the first 25 bears come in on Christmas Day 2002, and witnessed Raju's arrival at the Bannerghatta sanctuary.

—Mary Hutton
Founder & chairperson
Free The Bears
P.O. Box 1393
Osborne Park, Western Australia
DC6916 Australia
<www.freethebears.org>



Wildlife Trust of India is "doing conservation"

More than 12 dancing bears are roaming between India and Nepal. Wildlife SOS is fully aware about this, but with the knowledge that dancing bears are still there in the streets, they announced that they have taken out the last dancing bear from the street.

I worked with Wildlife SOS for three years and was part of many dancing bear rescue operations. I later joined the Wildlife Trust of India and continued working on the bear dancing issue. You seem to feel that WTI has done nothing to stop the bear dancing, but this is not correct. Just few minutes back I received an update from a field team which provides protection to sloth bear dens during the winter season, when there are cubs in the den. The protection team are ex-poachers who used to supply cubs to bear dancers. One of the major tasks in controlling the trade was to stop the cub trade. Wildlife SOS never bothered about doing this, and were busy rescuing bears from the street. We have been doing this den protection for the last four years and successfully stopped any bear cub poaching from an area which was the major bear cub trade in the past. I personally

met the three major bear cub traders and ensured that they don't get involved in the trade again and used their old networks to monitor bear dens during winter. I have personally walked with bear cub poachers who told me that every year they used to poach 30-40 cubs from the forests and kill a few adult bears.

Also a good number of Kalandars were rehabilitated by the World Society for the Protection of Animals/WTI project. A detailed report is available from WTI. Yes, Wildlife SOS does run the rehabilitation centre for sloth bears, but what WTI is doing is more conservation-based work, not just animal welfare. Conservation efforts depend on various factors. But, an animal going back to the wild is much better than a hundred animals spending their lifetime in rehabilitation centers.

—Jose Louies
Regional Head, Peninsular India
Wildlife Trust of India
F-13, Sector 8
Noida, Uttar Pradesh 201301, India
<www.wti.org.in>

The Editor responds:

Nepalese reports document Wildlife SOS taking in at least fifteen dancing bears of Nepalese origin since 2006, including eight from within Nepal in 2010. We are unaware of the World Society for the Protection of Animals and Wildlife Trust of India rescuing even one dancing bear from Nepal.

Hidden camera video of Wildlife SOS cofounder Kartick Satyanarayan's undercover work against bear poachers and smugglers has often aired on Indian television, including coverage of four raids that rescued 15 cubs from locations in Odisha, Karnataka, and Maharashtra states in early 2005, only days after Satyanarayan returned from leading post-Indian Ocean tsunami animal relief efforts in Tamil Nadu and the Andaman Islands.

WSPA and WTI claim to have helped 46 Kalandar families to leave the dancing bear trade. Initiating this approach three years before WSPA and WTI began to use it, Free The Bears, International Animal Rescue, and Wildlife SOS have helped more than 500



Kalandar families to give up the dancing bear business.

WSPA and WTI claim to have returned 30 rescued bears to the wild, after years of failures in which bears who lacked wild survival knowledge either died or disappeared. More than 400 bears, few if any of whom could have survived in the wild, meanwhile enjoy high quality of life at the Wildlife SOS sanctuaries in Agra, Bhopal, and Bannerghatta.

Good riddance to Ken Salazar

President Obama’s recently resigned Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar, proved himself to be totally unqualified for his office. A former cattle rancher from New Mexico, Salazar was strongly promoted to the President by Senator Jeff Bingamen, also of New Mexico. Immediately after his appointment, Salazar delisted the gray wolves of the greater Yellowstone ecosystem from the protections of the Endangered Species Act. This was not only premature, but was essentially pandering to the ranchers.

Wolves are now “managed” (read killed) in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. All three states hold the view that the only good wolf is a dead wolf. There are no effective U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service controls over the excesses of these states.

Ranchers claim livestock losses as pretext for killing wolves. Actually wolf predation on domestic stock accounts for barely 1% of livestock losses on public lands.

Wolves are a keystone species. When wolves and pumas were exterminated, decades ago, elk multiplied tremendously. Elk often rested on the lawns outside the lodges within the park, behaving like tame barnyard stock instead of wild ruminants.

As the elk were protected by the elk hunters’ lobby, no attempts were made to control elk over-browsing the aspen, birch, and cottonwood trees. Thereby, the elk destroyed an important component of the Yellowstone ecosystem.

This resulted in the loss of the lynx, whose primary prey is the snowshoe hare, which depends upon aspens and birches. Loss of the aspen, birch, and cottonwood also caused a major decline of beaver, since beaver need these trees for sustenance and lodge-building.

With the return of gray wolves to their ancestral home in Yellowstone, the elk population was brought down to historic levels. The aspen, birch, and cottonwoods regenerated. Snowshoe hares returned, along with lynx and many avian species of importance. The remaining elk now act wild, maintaining a healthy population without lingering excessively among the aspen and birch.

Tourism in Yellowstone flourished. The presence of the wolves was a big inducement for photographers and other wildlife enthusiasts. Proprietors of eateries and motels outside Yellowstone were most pleased. Yet, despite the boost that Yellowstone tourism has given to Wyoming, the state remains politically dominated by cattle ranchers and elk hunters.

During very harsh winters, the elk, like bison, traditionally migrate out of Yellowstone to lower elevations to find more accessible forage. This is one reason why elk are fewer in severe winters. Another is that groups of elk hunters illegally and clandestinely captured and trucked elk who were untested for chronic wasting disease to Wisconsin, Michigan, and many other states for massacre in canned hunts. This helped to deplete the Yellowstone region elk herd and resulted in the spread of chronic wasting disease to whitetailed deer in the upper Midwest.

Unfortunately, elk hunters have feeble memories and make the gray wolf the scapegoat for the elk population decline. We need to impress upon President Obama the damage

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done by the ranchers and elk hunters. We also need to impress upon the President that we need a Secretary of the Interior who has the background and the ethics to conduct the office properly, not to pander to special interest groups.



I commenced my career as a livestock veterinarian, and know cattle and sheep ranchers all too well.

—Marvin J. Sheffield, DVM
Wild Canid Research Group
651 Sinex Avenue
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Nations move against hunting (from 1)

a dozen nations whose lion populations are not in imminent jeopardy.

Masebo stopped lion and leopard hunting a week after suspending 19 hunting concessions and firing the top management at the Zambia Wildlife Authority due to alleged corruption.

“There shall be no consumptive safari hunting activities in the aborted 19 game management areas for 2013,” Masebo told Chiswemwe Mwale of the *Daily Mail*.

Noted Mwale, “Zambia used to have 42 game management areas, but they are now down due to uncontrolled hunting some have called ‘plundering,’ which benefited foreigners much more than locals.”

The Zambian government collected about \$3 million U.S. from hunting license sales in 2012—less than 3% of tourism revenues. The United Nations Food & Agricultural Organization estimates that across Africa, the average price of a leopard trophy is \$7,000, the average price of a lion trophy is \$29,000, and the average price of an elephant trophy is \$30,000, but the value of the animals to attract non-consumptive tourism is much higher—if the host nation has adequate tourist facilities and if the animals are easily seen.

Officially, 3,807 animals were killed in Zambia under resident hunting permits in 2012, and 2,468 under much more expensive non-resident permits. However, “Some resident hunters have resold their licences to foreigners for more money, depriving the government of the revenue needed for effective wildlife management,” Masebo told Chila Namaiko of the *Times of Zambia*.

Masebo did not suspend issuing resident hunting permits, except for lions and leopards.

“Zambia’s moves follow those of neighboring Botswana, which will ban sport hunting from 2014,” said Reuters, “as it also works to promote itself as a big game viewing destination,” emulating the relative economic success of Kenya, which banned sport hunting in 1977.

Kenya is struggling to retain lions, leopards, elephants, rhino, and Cape buffalo—the “Big Five” coveted by trophy hunters—due to poaching and loss of habitat to development. But South Africa, Namibia, and Zimbabwe, which

aggressively promote hunting, have similar problems. South Africa, with the most wildlife and the most hunting revenue of the three nations, lost a record 668 rhinos to poachers in 2012, twice as many as the previous record set in 2011.

“The shooting of wild game purely for sport and trophies is no longer compatible with our commitment to preserve local fauna as a national treasure, which should be treated as such,” declared Botswana president Ian Khama in his 2012 “state of the nation” address. The actual ban on hunting, to be phased in over a year’s time, was announced on November 29, 2012.

Botswana previously suspended lion hunting from 2001 to 2005, but lifted the suspension for two years after intensive lobbying by former U.S. President George H. Bush, former U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, and retired U.S. Army General Norman Schwarzkopf, on behalf of Safari Club International. Lion hunting in Botswana was again suspended after 2007.



Cape buffalo. (Kim Bartlett)

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Maternal deprivation experiments on macaques in Madison recall Harry Harlow

MADISON, Wisconsin—Maternal deprivation research appears to be again under-way at the Harry Harlow Primate Psychology Laboratory on the Madison campus of the University of Wisconsin.

“The research in question is a new type of maternal deprivation research designed to study anxiety by creating adverse early rearing conditions and then exposing the maternally deprived young [male] monkeys to a snake and other frightening stimuli. The monkeys will be killed after the experiment is over and their brains will be studied,” summarized Wesleyan University professor of philosophy, feminist, gender, sexuality, and environmental studies Lori Gruen in an October 2012 critique of the experiments. “I believe this experiment is unethical and I also think it violates the spirit, if not the regulations, of the Animal Welfare Act,” Gruen concluded, “which explicitly requires that the psychological well-being of primates be promoted, not intentionally destroyed.”

Wrote lead experimenter and University of Wisconsin at Madison psychiatry department chair Ned Kalin in the research protocol he submitted in 2011 to the UW Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee, “At birth, infants will be removed from their mother and placed immediately in an incubator with a surrogate stuffed animal, towels, and/or blankets. As shown by Harlow (1958), infants will form attachment bonds to these items, which provide contact comfort as early as one day of life.” Added Kalin, apparently trying to distance his work from Harlow’s, “Unlike isolated monkeys, infants in the nursery will have full auditory and visual access to other animals, human caretakers, and/or television or radio. When mature enough, these animals will be paired with a peer.”

“It has been two decades since anyone at UW-Madison has isolated baby monkeys to cause them psychological trauma,” responded Alliance for Animals director Rick Bogle in an online response prepared for a local newspaper but then not published. “The university’s spin on their resumption of this cruelty is the assertion that the baby monkeys Kalin is isolating aren’t really isolated because someone comes by to feed them and clean up their incubators. They claim that because Kalin’s methods are not as extreme as some of Harlow’s methods, that they are not extreme at all.”

Obtaining Kalin’s research protocol in August 2012 through a Freedom of Information Act request, Bogle sought to stop the project, but it might by then have already started.

“To the degree that I can say with some certainty that anything is happening at the university, the project is underway,” Bogle told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “I’m unaware of any approved protocols that have not started up once approved. It remains to be seen, however, whether all 20 of the infant monkeys [whom Kalin plans to use] have been removed from their mothers. I suspect that the number of available incubators and male births might be a limiting factor.

“One point should be clarified,” Bogle added. “Harlow’s work was primarily an investigation into the effects of varying degrees of social and environmental deprivation and ways in which the effects could be accelerated. Kalin’s project is using the well understood effects of maternal deprivation, early isolation, and peer-rearing as a tool to create highly anxious baby monkeys.”

Kalin has done maternal deprivation experiments derivative of Harlow’s work before, Bogle explained in his online commentary. However, “When Kalin began publishing the details of his [earlier] cruel experiments on monkeys in 1983,” Bogle wrote, “the profound similarity of human and nonhuman primate cognition and emotion was less well known,” Bogle acknowledged. “The idea that other pri-

mates have cultures, a sense of self, use tools, can add and learn the meaning of abstract symbols, can reason, and are like us is so many other ways was dismissed as preposterous.”

This has all changed, but “Not once in Kalin’s defense of his maternal deprivation and fear-inducing terminal experiments,” Bogle continued, “does he try to explain why it would be moral to harm and kill animals he believes experience fear and anxiety much like our own.” Noted Bogle, “Kalin’s experiments on monkeys have been continuously supported by the National Institutes of Health since 1990. His grants have cost taxpayers over \$5 million since 2000, without yielding discernible benefit to human patients.”

Wrote Gruen, “There are many obvious ways to minimize the human suffering that results from anxiety disorders. In tough economic times, the provision of such services generally falls on charities that are already overburdened. Imagine how much real good the funds that UW researchers have used causing monkeys anxiety for 30 years could have done, directly serving those children who suffer so greatly.”

Committee for Research Accountability directors Rita Anderson and Barbara Millman announced in November 2003 that University of Colorado Health Sciences Center researcher Mark Laudenslager had ended his maternal deprivation research after 17 years.

The line of experiments that began with Harlow was then believed to have ended.

Harlow from 1930 to 1970 plunged generations of baby macaques and sometimes babies of other non-human primate species into stainless steel “pits of despair,” as he called them; subjected the babies to deliberately cruel robotic “mothers”; and allowed mother monkeys who had been driven insane by his experiments to abuse and kill their babies. When Harlow semi-retired to a part-time post at the University of Arizona, other University of Wisconsin faculty including fellow maternal deprivation researchers Stephen J. Suomi and Gene Sackett immediately dismantled his lab.

Suomi, now chief of the Laboratory of Comparative Ethology at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in Bethesda, Maryland, admitted to Deborah Blum, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning book *The Monkey Wars* (1992) and *Love at Goon Park: Harry Harlow and the Science of Affection* (2002) that the experiments gave him nightmares.

Sackett has attributed the subsequent rise of the animal rights movement in part to public revulsion at Harlow’s experiments, which by the early 1970s were already widely known and debated on university campuses.

Seven years before the first action claimed by the “Animal Liberation Front,” a failed bombing at the University of Wisconsin

Primate Research Center was at first believed to have been directed at stopping the maternal deprivation research, but was later found to have been a failed attempt by four anti-Vietnam War protesters to bomb the Army Mathematics Research Center across the street. The four succeeded on second try, killing post-doctorate math student Robert Fassnacht, who also opposed the war, and severely injuring three other students who had no involvement with the war.

Harlow died in 1981, at age 76, a reputed drunk whose chief contribution to mainstream laboratory primatology was inventing the “rape rack,” a device for artificially inseminating primates. But the University of Wisconsin primate lab was renamed in his honor, and has conducted many other controversial experiments.

Bogle, then heading the Primate Freedom Project, moved to Madison in 2004 to renovate a building located between the National Primate Research Center at Madison and the Harry Harlow Primate Psychology Laboratory into a planned National Primate Research Center Exhibition Hall. Bogle expected it to become a rallying point for opposition to primate experiments. Retired California physician and animal advocate Richard McLellan had agreed to buy the building from bicycle shop owner Roger Charly. However, the university stalled the purchase through legal action and then reportedly paid Charly \$1 million for it.



Scoshio and Junior, gibbons at Primarily Primates.

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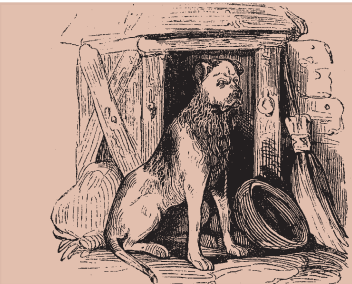
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ASPCA pays Ringling \$9.3 million after losing bid to halt elephant acts (from page 1)

will continue against the remaining defendants” in the 2007 RICO case, including the Humane Society of the U.S., the Fund for Animals, the Animal Welfare Institute, the Animal Protection Institute United with Born Free USA, witness Tom Rider, “and the attorneys involved.”

“Now that the two main parties in this case have settled,” responded HSUS president Wayne Pacelle, “it’s time to get back to the important debate about the ethics of the abusive training and control methods used by circuses upon their elephants. While The Humane Society of the United States was not a party to the original case against Ringling,” Pacelle said, “we agree with so many critics of the circus that its treatment of elephants is deplorable and unacceptable. HSUS will continue to speak up for elephants, even as Ringling resorts to retaliatory legal actions that divert and distract from the fundamental, underlying issue of its treatment of elephants.”

Fewer than 25 U.S. animal charities have annual budgets greater than the \$9.3 million that the ASPCA paid to Feld Entertainment. The ASPCA, with annual income of about \$125 million, is the second largest U.S. animal advocacy organization, trailing only HSUS, which has revenues of circa \$160 million.

Despite the exit of the ASPCA from the case, “It’s all very much alive,” HSUS president Wayne Pacelle told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

The ASPCA, the Fund for Animals, and the Animal Welfare Institute filed the original case, with former Ringling elephant barn worker Tom Rider as an individual plaintiff. Their complaint was dismissed in 2001 after a judicial ruling that they lacked legal standing to proceed, but was reinstated on appeal in 2003. The appellate verdict required Rider, who worked for Ringling in 1997-1999, to establish that he was injured in some manner by Ringling treatment of elephants.

Meanwhile, AWI president Christine Stevens, who founded AWI in 1952, died in October 2002. Sayres succeeded then-ASPCA president Larry Hawk in June 2003. HSUS inherited the lawsuit against Ringling when it absorbed the Fund for Animals at the end of 2005. The Animal Protection Institute joined the case in 2006, bringing the Born Free Foundation into it when Born Free absorbed API at the end of 2007.

By then the only senior executives at any of the plaintiff organizations who were involved from the start were AWI executive director Cathy Liss, who had succeeded Stevens as president, and Mike Markarian, national director for the Fund for Animals in 2000, who has headed the Fund as an HSUS subsidiary since 2005. Markarian also heads the Humane Society Legislative Fund.

Presiding over seven other Endangered Species Act cases since 2002, Judge Sullivan had ruled for the plaintiffs, including some of the same plaintiffs, in every one. But, after a six-week trial in 2009, Sullivan in a 57-page verdict slammed the plaintiffs—especially Rider, who had been paid at least \$190,000 by the ASPCA while the case proceeded. “The court finds that Mr. Rider is essentially a paid plaintiff and fact witness who is not credible, and therefore affords no weight to his

American Humane Association is sued by former set animal supervisor

WASHINGTON D.C.—American Humane Association board chair Eric Bruner “is no longer serving on the board, and we thank him for his six years of service,” the AHA said in a January 9, 2013 statement.

Bruner’s departure was announced 10 days after the AHA was sued in Los Angeles Superior Court by 13-year employee Barbara Casey for alleged wrongful dismissal.

Casey until January 3, 2012 was director of production for the AHA film and television unit. On-set supervision by the AHA, with no violations of the AHA animal care guidelines, qualifies screen productions to display a “No animals were harmed” banner among the production credits.

Casey in her lawsuit alleged that Stewart Productions, makers of the Home Box Office series *Luck*, “pressured AHA to allow them to violate the AHA’s animal safety standards, guidelines, and/or recommendations.” Four horses died during the year-plus that *Luck* episodes were made—three on set, one off.

The Casey lawsuit charges that “horses were often drugged to perform,” that “underweight and sick horses unsuited for work were routinely used,” and that the “production defendants intentionally misidentified horses so that the humane officers and/or animal safety representative could not track their medical histories, experience, and/or suitability for use.”

Continues the lawsuit,

“Plaintiff repeatedly complained to AHA and the production defendants about horses being criminally abused, neglected, and/or mistreated on set... Plaintiff urged AHA to get the police, the district attorney, and/or the city attorney involved...AHA bowed to political and financial pressure and refused to report the production defendants’ conduct to the authorities.”

Casey was terminated on January 3, 2012, about two and a half months before the *Luck* series was cancelled.

HBO in a prepared statement said, “We took every precaution to ensure that our horses were treated humanely and with the utmost care, exceeding every safeguard of all protocols and guidelines required of production. Barbara Casey was not an employee of HBO, and any questions regarding her employment should be directed to the AHA.”

The AHA declined to comment while the case is in litigation.

“The AHA statement did not specify the reasons for Bruner’s departure,” observed Richard Verrier of the *Los Angeles Times*. “The AHA paid \$233,863 to Bruner’s business partner, Gregory Dew, to provide unspecified consulting services to the nonprofit organization,” Verrier reported on October 4, 2012, “making him the highest paid ‘independent contractor’ for the AHA in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2011,” according to IRS Form 990.

“Dew was Bruner’s busi-

testimony,” Sullivan wrote.

Sullivan in July 2012 narrowed Feld Entertainment’s case against the defendant animal charities, but allowed it to proceed.

While Feld Entertainment chair Kenneth Feld claimed the ASPCA settlement as a vindication, media perspectives tended to see it as more a Pyrrhic victory, which may have cost the Ringling image more than it gained.

“Even with this victory for Ringling, evidence of three-ringed animal cruelty continues to mount,” assessed David Wagner for the *Atlantic Wire*.

An old dispute

The Ringling RICO case is only the latest of conflicts which erupted almost as soon as sea captain Jacob Crowninshield brought the first elephant seen in the Americas since the ice ages to New York City on April 13, 1796. Customs inspector Nataniel Hathorne, father of author Nathaniel Hawthorne (who spelled his name differently), logged the arrival.

Crowninshield sold the elephant to farmer Hackaliah Bailey, of Somers, New York, who formed the ancestor of the Ringling Bros., Barnum & Bailey circus and toured the east coast for 20 years. The elephant was shot by a religious fanatic in either Maine or Rhode Island (accounts differ) in 1816. Clergy from New England to the Carolinas had denounced Bailey’s circus, chiefly as a distraction from churchgoing, but sometimes also as cruel exploitation of the animals.

In 1850, recalled *Good Magazine* associate features editor Alessandra Rizzotti, “P.T. Barnum founded his Great Asiatic Caravan, Museum, and Menagerie. He hired ‘native assistants’ in Sri Lanka to capture the magnificent wild animals and bring them back to America. Barnum wrote in an autobiography that the expedition ‘killed large numbers of the huge beasts,’ but 11 live elephants endured a 12,000-mile voyage to New York City.”

One elephant died during the voyage. The survivors eventually became part of the Ringling Bros., Barnum & Bailey Circus. American SPCA founder Henry Bergh clashed with Barnum as early as December 1866, initially about Barnum’s practice of feeding live prey to snakes, but soon Bergh was confronting Barnum about elephant use and misuse too. An 1884 confrontation described by *The New York Times* involved Barnum’s use of a skin-whitening bleach designed for sale to African Americans to change a grey elephant into an alleged sacred white elephant.

Ringling in 1968 bought out the Harry Williams circus to acquire trainer Gunther Gebel-Williams, a pioneer of positive reinforcement training, who directed the Ringling animal acts until his retirement in 1998. Protest against during Gebel-Williams’ tenure focused on the issue of animal exploitation, rather than specific allegations of abuse.

In 1999, however, the Performing Animal Welfare Society brought complaints of abuse by former Ringling workers to the attention of the USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service.

ness partner in Spectrum Consulting Group, a management consulting firm in Austin, Texas,” Verrier continued. “Records showed that another board member also had ties to Spectrum. Former interim AHA chief executive George Casey,” who was also a former AHA board member, “had been managing partner and consulting principal in Spectrum since 2009, according to his LinkedIn site. He was paid \$277,102 by the AHA during the same period that the charity compensated Dew for his services.”

“There was no impropriety,” AHA chief executive Robin Ganzert told Verrier at the time. “The board followed its policy for conflicts of interest and everything was disclosed.” Ganzert, formerly deputy director of philanthropic services at the Pew Charitable Trusts, was hired after the AHA retained Dew.

Named interim AHA board chair was Mabel McKinney Browning, longtime director of the American Bar Association Division for Public Education, and an AHA board member since March 2008.

USDA-APHIS veterinarian Ron DeHaven, who later headed the agency, reported that “There is sufficient evidence to confirm the handling of these animals caused unnecessary trauma, behavioral stress, physical harm and discomfort.”

Summarized Rizzotti of *Good Magazine*, “In 2004, the USDA finally suggested an \$11,000 penalty against Ringling for excessive chaining and whipping when a video surfaced of an injured Ringling elephant being abused by a handler.” However, Rizzotti continued, “Even with PETA and then-Illinois Sen. Barack Obama’s support, the case hit a dead end.”

Feld Entertainment meanwhile hired the private security firm Richlin Consultants to infiltrate and disrupt PAWS and PETA. The \$8.8 million operation, underway from 1989 until 1992, was directed by Clair E. George, who had been deputy director of operations for the Central Intelligence Agency from July 1984 through December 1987.

The infiltrations came to light when one of as many as 16 spies placed within PAWS, PETA, In Defense of Animals, the Elephant Alliance, and other animal advocacy organizations allegedly tried to sell their secrets to PAWS founder Pat Derby. Derby sued Feld Entertainment in June 2000. Feld reportedly settled the case by agreeing to retire several circus elephants to the PAWS sanctuary and fund their upkeep. PETA sued Feld Entertainment over the infiltration in 2001, and again in an amended complaint in 2002, but a Fairfax County Circuit Court jury on March 15 found Kenneth Feld and Feld Entertainment not guilty of illegally conspiring to harm PETA.

While Ringling has mostly won in court, the circus has struggled to maintain a healthy elephant herd. Like other U.S. circuses and zoos, Ringling has had little success at captive breeding, while trying to contain tuberculosis outbreaks which are believed to have afflicted about 12% of all the elephants in the U.S. Ringling currently claims 45 elephants, down from 54 circa five years ago.

Ringling has also been fighting from the Massachusetts state legislature to the Los Angeles city council chambers to block proposals to either ban the use of the ankus, also known as the “elephant hook” or “bullhook,” and/or to ban performances by elephants and other exotic animals.

After inspecting a Ringling circus unit in July 2012, Los Angeles Animal Services general manager Brenda Barnette presented seven regulatory possibilities to the city council Personnel & Animal Welfare Committee. The committee on November 21, 2012 recommended that the full council should vote on proposals which would both ban the ankus and prohibit exotic animal acts.

Enlightening South African president Zuma

CAPE TOWN—Addressing a home province crowd in Kwa-Zulu Natal on December 26, 2012, South African president Jacob Zuma reportedly denounced keeping pets as part of “white culture,” and said that people who love dogs more than people display a “lack of humanity.”

Pan African Animal Welfare Alliance chair and Compassion in World Farming representative Tozie Zokufa responded by reminding Zuma that only one year earlier he declared, “We must build a society in which women and children feel free and safe, with no fear of abuse, rape or any form of violence, and a society in which our animals, especially the rhino, are safe from ruthless poachers.”

Wrote Zokufa to Zuma, “On the question of African culture and dog ownership, International Organisation for Animal Health research into animal welfare across the SADC countries shows a high level of dog ‘ownership’ across the region. It is true that keeping dogs in homes was not part of traditional African culture. Nor was it part of traditional European culture. In fact, the relationship between dogs and humans dates back at least 14,000 years,” to a time long before humans had permanent homes—and dogs and humans may have first kept company in Africa.

Zokufa urged Zuma to emulate Tanzania, which “introduced

a new animal welfare Act in 2008, which recognizes animals as sentient beings and states that ‘animal protection is an important aspect of any developed society which reflect the degree of moral and cultural maturity of that society’, and that ‘humans have a moral obligation to care for animals, respect and protect an animal’”

Media representatives for Zuma said his remarks about dogs had focused on behavior such as allowing a dog to sit in the cab of a truck while a worker sits in the back in rain, or rushing an animal to a veterinarian while ignoring sick relatives or workers.

Zokufa pointed out in response the importance of vaccinating and de-worming animals to protect human as well as animal health.

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Bred in Beijing for labs, 70 beagles find homes in Chennai through team effort (from page 1)

“I had to see two Finance Committees, the head of Customs in Delhi and Chennai, the Minister for the Environment, and about 30 other officials,” said People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi. As the case developed, Mrs. Gandhi continued, Pfa/Chennai representative Shiranee Pereira and longtime Blue Cross of India chief executive Chinny Krishna “went to do inspections of Advinus and the documentation—and pulled out 27 more beagles. Chinny Krishna got in touch with the Minister,” Jayanthi Natarajan, “got her to go to Chennai to see the dogs, spoke to the Animal Husbandry department officials, and then he and Shiranee found homes for the beagles in advance.”

Affirmed Krishna, who represented the Animal Welfare Board of India in making the arrangements, “The release took nine weeks of effort, including 17 days of hard bargaining and 20 hours of pulling out every stop.”

The 17 days of hard bargaining came after environment minister Jayanthi Natarajan told media on December 2, 2012 that Advinus Therapeutics would be ordered to show cause why the beagles should not be seized as smuggled goods, and suggested that the company might lose permission to operate in India.

“Advinus had permission to import 434 dogs for 14 experiments. This was the sixth consignment,” Natarajan told *The Hindu*. “Now I hear the experiments are over. We are deeply concerned that these animals may be misused by labs for other purposes,” including product testing under contract to foreign companies, “not done necessarily for the benefit of India.”

Advinus responded to the show cause notice by agreeing to release the puppies to

the Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experimentation on Animals. Preeti Zachariah of *The Hindu* reported on December 12, 2012, citing confidential sources, but the case was still a week from conclusion.

The puppies were finally released with strict biosecurity precautions.

“Two vehicles had been painted, fumigated, and kept ready for nine days, hoping to get the released dogs to a foster home—mine!—safely. All persons involved were volunteers who had not played with any animal that day after changing their clothes,” Krishna said.

Airline policies

Beijing Marshall Biotechnology Co., Ltd. and Advinus flew the beagle puppies via Cathay Pacific about seven weeks after Air India briefly suspended transporting animals for laboratory use. “In an e-mail to PETA,” reported Neha Madaan of the Times News Network, “Air India confirmed that a circular was sent to all stations in its network that instructs them not to accept animals who are being transported for experimental purposes. By October 26, 2012, however, a week after the beagle puppies arrived in Chennai, Air India had rescinded the suspension of transporting lab animals.

“India’s second-largest airline, Jet Airways, refuses to ship any animal to laboratories,” said PETA associate director of laboratory investigations Justin Goodwin. “Many other air carriers, including Korean Airlines, Qantas, EVA Air, FedEx, UPS, and DHL,” as well as Cathay Pacific, “do not transport animals to labs.”

United Airlines partially joined the list on January 8, 2013. “We do not book, accept,

or transport primates to or from medical research facilities,” United Airlines said in a statement released to PETA and Agence France-Presse.

A Canadian Transportation Agency tribunal in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on December 20, 2012 ruled that Air Canada may also refuse to transport laboratory animals. Queen’s University vice principal of research Steven Liss and the Public Health Agency of Canada had appealed to the tribunal against an Air Canada policy of refusing to transport nonhuman primates for use in research.

Airlines appear to have become increasingly cautious about transporting lab animals since a 2008 incident in which sixteen monkeys died from starvation and hypothermia en route from a breeder in Guyana to a laboratory in Bangkok.

Nine monkeys survived the ordeal, which included four days in holding at Miami International Airport before the monkeys were relayed to Los Angeles, and 39 hours in crates outdoors in near-freezing weather in China, where they were held due to allegedly incomplete paperwork before being returned to Los Angeles.

A Los Angeles jury in April 2012 acquitted Florida animal dealer Robert Matson Conyers, 44, of cruelty, but the USDA in September 2012 fined Southern China Airlines \$14,438.

About 70% of the monkeys used in U.S. labs in recent years have come from China, mostly flown by Air China and Hainan Airlines. Hainan Airlines announced in February 2012 that it would no longer fly monkeys for research use. Jason Wang, New York cargo manager for Air China, in July 2012 e-mailed to PETA, “We are notified by headquarters that we have stopped

conducting this business.” Agence France-Presse reported that Air China had been cited four times for alleged U.S. Animal Welfare Act violations in the first six months of 2012.

PETA senior vice president Kathy Guillermo pledged to continue to pressure Air France, China Eastern Airlines, Philippine Airlines, and Vietnam Airlines to stop flying non-human primates for lab use. These are believed to be the last four international airlines left in the lab monkey traffic.

Italian beagle rescue

The Advinus beagle case erupted to international notice a month after Italian senator Renato Schifani and rehabilitator Eleanor Bizzozzero on September 20, 2012 announced that the last of 2,500 beagles impounded in July 2012 from the Green Hill breeding kennel in Montichiari, Italy had been rehomed.

Green Hill, a subsidiary of Marshall Bioresources, was reportedly the largest kennel in Europe producing beagles for lab use. It became controversial after a related company, B&K Universal, sought permits to build a 2,000-dog kennel in Britain.

In October 2011 five activists drew attention to Green Hill by climbing to the kennel roof and staging a sit-in. As many as 1,000 activists on April 28, 2012 marched against the facility, clashing with police and removing several beagles. But the police apparently did not like what they saw at Green Hill, either, returning just over two months later to close the facility, seize the dogs, and investigate cruelty charges against three company managers, according to the newspaper *Gazetta del Sud*.

More events

April 29-May 2: North-east Region Stranding Conf., Riverhead, NY. Info: <jwo-cial@riverheadfoundation.org>; <www.riverheadfoundation.org>.

May 16-20: Veggie Pride, Geneva, Switzerland. Info: <info@Veggiepride.ch>.

May 18: Humane Soc. of Missouri. “Bark in the Park,” St. Louis. Info: <bark@hsmo.org>.

May 31-June 2: Anti-Fur Society AR Conf., Alexandria, VA. Info: <AntiFurSociety@msn.com>; <www.AntiFurSociety.org>.

June 20-22: 5th Intl. Symposium on Non-Surgical Methods of Pet Population Control, Portland, Oregon. Info: <symposium@accd.org>; <www.acc-d.org>; 503-310-4265.

June 27-30: AR-2013 conf., Alexandria, VA. Info: 888-327-6872; <www.AR-Conference.org>.

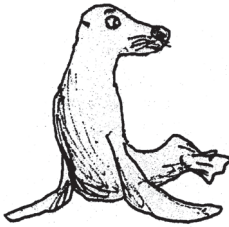
August 25-28: Partners in Flight conf., Snowbird, UT. Info: <www.abcbirds.org>.

Sept. 1-5: Pan-African Animal Welfare Assn. conf., Nairobi. Info: c/o <jos@anaw.org>.

Sept. 27-30: India Intl. Vegan Festival, Byn-door, India. Info: <www.indianvegansociety.com>.

October 3-9: IVU World Vegfest, Kuala Lumpur & Penang, Malaysia. Info: <www.worldvegfest.org>.

Oct. 10-13: No More Homeless Pets conf., Jacksonville, Fla. Info: <www.bestfriends.org>.



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West Virginia Supreme Court upholds pit bull law

CHARLESTON, West Virginia—The West Virginia Supreme Court on January 14, 2013 affirmed the constitutionality of an ordinance prohibiting keeping pit bulls within the Town of Ceredo.

The West Virginia Supreme Court upheld the November 2009 convictions of pit bull keepers Steve Hardwick, Sharon Nalley, and Glenna Pelfrey, who were each fined \$162 plus court costs. Pelfrey did not appear for an appellate hearing, but Hardwick and Nalley pursued an appeal aimed at overturning the Ceredo ordinance as “unconstitutional in that it is arbitrary and unreasonable.”

The West Virginia Supreme Court endorsed the finding of Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Darrell Pratt “That each Defendant’s dogs are of the breed that is typically referred to generically as pit bull dogs, which are aggressive by nature, known as attack animals with strong massive heads and jaws, and

found to represent a public health hazard,” and that the Ceredo ordinance “is legitimate, specific, rationally related to...the constitutional powers of the municipality to impose safety regulations to insure the health, protection and welfare of the citizens.”

The constitutionality of breed-specific legislation has also been upheld by state supreme court verdicts in Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, New Mexico, Ohio, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin, though the breed-specific laws that occasioned several of the verdicts were later weakened or repealed by legislative action.

The U.S. Supreme Court on February 19, 2008 declined to hear an appeal of a 2007 Ohio Supreme Court ruling which upheld a Toledo ordinance limiting possession of pit bulls to one per person, and requiring that pit bulls be muzzled when off their home property. The Toledo ordinance was repealed in 2010.

New record number of dog attack fatalities

AUSTIN, Texas—DogsBite.org recorded 38 fatal dog attacks within the U.S. in 2012, 23 of them by pit bulls, founder Colleen Lynn announced on January 11, 2013. Nineteen victims were eight years old or younger, Lynn said; 15 were under two years old.

DogsBite.org counts only fatalities resulting from bite wounds. Counting also deaths resulting from heart failures suffered during dog attacks, injuries suffered in trying to escape from dog attacks, and infections resulting from dog bites, and covering Canada as well as the U.S., **ANIMAL PEOPLE** recorded 47 fatal dog attacks in 2012, 33 by pit bulls.

“Only 5% of the dog bite-related fatalities in 2012 involved a tethered dog, down from 6% in 2011, 9% in 2010, and 19% in

2009,” Lynn found.

“I’m encouraged that maybe progress is being made,” said Tamara Thayne, founder of the anti-chaining organization Dogs Deserve Better.

Lynn attributed five dog bite deaths to “dogs referred to as a ‘rescue.’” **ANIMAL PEOPLE** counted six dog attack deaths involving dogs from animal shelters or nonprofit rescues.

Brandy Furlong, 22, of McKeesport, Pennsylvania, was on January 14, 2013 sentenced to six months of house arrest and five years on probation after pleading guilty to misdemeanor charges in connection with the February 16, 2012 fatal mauling of her two-day-old son Howard Nicholson Jr. by a husky who was recently adopted from an unnamed rescue. Three pit bulls were reportedly also in the home at the time.

Bangalore court rules that “menace or nuisance” can be cause to kill a dog, regardless of ABC status

BANGALORE—The Karnataka High Court on December 7, 2012 ruled that dogs who “are a menace or cause nuisance, irrespective of whether there is evidence of them having mauled or bitten children or adults, could be exterminated.”

Problem dogs may be killed “even if they are vaccinated, sterilized and free from diseases,” summarized *The Hindu*.

But the ruling stipulated that “dogs cannot be culled en masse,” the *Times of India* added. Endorsing the intent of the national Animal Birth Control program, the court “asked the Bangalore municipal corporation to verify the activities of nonprofit organizations involved in sterilization and vaccination of stray dogs,” and directed the Bangalore city government “to ensure clearance of garbage to keep stray dogs in check.”

The court prescribed that problem dogs should be killed “in a lethal chamber,” *The Hindu* said, “as prescribed by the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 and the Animal Birth Control Rules 2001.” A “lethal chamber,” in the animal control terminology of 1960, was either a gas chamber or a decompression chamber.” Neither killing method is now commonly used in India, and decompression is not known to be used at all. The ABC Rules 2001 allow the use of lethal injections.

“A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Vikramajit Sen and Justice B.V. Nagarathna delivered the verdict while disposing of a batch of public interest litigation petitions—some complaining about stray menace and seeking culling of such dogs, and others seeking protection against their killing,” *The Hindu* added. “The Bench made clear that animal welfare organizations have no role to play

in the decision with regard to culling of such dogs, except to ensure that they are destroyed in a humane manner.”

The Karnataka High Court ruling came days after dogs severely mauled a five-year-old girl and a 23-year-old housewife, in separate incidents in Bangalore suburbs.

The four major Bangalore ABC programs reportedly reduced dog bites from about 32,000 in 2003-2004 to 19,000 in 2010-2011, and cut human rabies fatalities from 20 in 2002 to just one in 2010, but failed to reduce fatal and disfiguring attacks by non-rabid dogs.

Non-rabid dog attacks appear to have increased following pit bull proliferation, documented by *Times of India* writer Ameen Khan in February 2010, but suspected by humane investigators since January 2007, when the first of three unwitnessed fatal attacks inflicting wounds on children characteristic of pit bulls occurred. Another child was killed when she ran in front of a concrete mixer while trying to escape a dog attack.

Mexico City dog attacks

MEXICO CITY—Mexico City in mid-January 2013 initiated a mobile dog sterilization drive after dogs killed five people between December 15, 2012 and January 5, 2013 at Star Hill Park in Iztapalapa borough. The last of the victims, Alejandra Ruiz, 15, made a cell phone call for help to her sister Diana as a pack of dogs mauled her and her boyfriend Samuel Martinez, 16. Dogs at the park earlier killed another 15-year-old girl, a 26-year-old woman, and her eight-month-old child. Of 54 dogs captured in the park during the second week of January, 25 were released after sterilization. The killer dogs were not identified.

Half of all dogs and cats impounded due to neglect in U.S. in 2012 came from failed shelters and rescues

U.S. law enforcement agencies in 2012 impounded at least 10,498 dogs, 4,392 cats, and 1,325 horses in response to neglect complaints, according to the annual **ANIMAL PEOPLE** tally of animal seizures in reported cases.

Failed animal shelters and rescues accounted for 4,196 dog impoundments and 1,824 cat impoundments in 2012—half the total number of impounded dogs and cats, and nearly 1,000 more animals than were seized from negligent breeders.

Puppy mill raids impounded 4,868 dogs, close to the totals from 2010 and 2011, but well below the record 10,000 impoundments from puppy mills in 2009, and the previous record 8,000 in 2008. Before 2008 the record for impoundments from puppy mills was 4,500 in 2005. Only 187 cats were impounded from breeders in 2012.

Among the dogs who were impounded were 924 pit bulls and 942 Chihuahuas. Both breeds were impounded in neglect cases at about twice the rate at which they occur in the U.S. dog population, based on classified ads offering dogs for sale or adoption.

The pit bull total included 298 pit bulls who were impounded from the failed Spindletop Refuge in Willis, Texas, in July 2012, plus a dozen pit bulls who were found dead, along with 60 cats,

at the former Don’t Bully My Breed sanctuary in Bloomington, Illinois, in November 2012. Founder Catherine Hedges, 42, died in August 2011. Her former boyfriend, Curtis Cleary, 30, was charged with neglecting the animals and with firing shots at a female companion.

The total of Chihuahuas impounded due to neglect, almost all in breeder cases, was more than three times the previous high of 293 that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found in 1993.

Neglect cases involving neither breeders nor failed shelters and rescues accounted for 1,434 dog impoundments and 2,381 cat impoundments in 2012.

Horse impoundments fell from 2,915 in 2011, when a record 829 horses were seized from Montana neglect defendant James Leachman, to 1,325 in 2012, the second lowest total in the 25 years that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has tracked horse neglect cases. The lowest previous horse neglect totals were 1,270 in 2010, and 1,350 in both 2005 and 2006. The highest total before 2011 was 2,375 in 1996.

Yellowstone County justice of the peace Larry Herman on December 12, 2012 sentenced Leachman, 70, to serve five years in jail, with all but 120 days suspended; fined Leachman \$5,000; and barred him from keeping horses or cattle for the duration of his sentence.



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Animals Asia Foundation saves Vietnam Bear Rescue Centre and halts Zimbabwe/China baby elephant deal—in same week *(from page 1)*

to evict the bears,” reported Ives of Associated Press, as word leaked out that the the Animals Asia Foundation had won. “Prime Minister Dung said that the center can stay and continue with a planned expansion, and that Tien will be ‘severely dealt with’ if violations are discovered.”

In November 2012, Ives continued, “Ten conservation groups, several foreign embassies, and seven Democratic U.S. representatives wrote to Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung urging him to not close the center. British comedians Stephen Fry and Ricky Gervais regularly tweeted to their millions of followers about the planned eviction. American actress Ali MacGraw visited the center. Conservationists said the planned eviction was an example of how development pressures often trump conservation agendas in Vietnam, which has less than 1% of the world’s land but about 10% of its species. Vietnam’s poor enforcement of environmental laws is adding to international criticism of its ruling Communist Party, which faces scrutiny over its human rights record and its management of a faltering economy.”

Confirmed Animals Asia Foundation spokesperson Stuart Lennon, “A communiqué issued by the Vietnamese government confirms that Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung has concluded that the rescue center should be maintained, and that construction on the project’s second phase should continue. This decision ensures that the 104 bears living at the center will stay, and 77 local Vietnamese staff keep their jobs.”

“We are very grateful to the prime minister,” said Tuan Bendixsen, Vietnam director for the Animals Asia Foundation.

“Our priority,” said Robinson, “has been to rehabilitate these bears after their years of trauma from being locked up in small cages and milked for their bile. If we had been forced to relocate it would have had a terrible impact on their well-being.”

Robinson thanked “tens of thousands of supporters from around the world who wrote

letters, sent e-mails and signed petitions calling for the eviction to be stopped,” including supporters “within Vietnam,” contributing to “the combination of internal and international lobbying, with sensitive footsteps whenever required,” which “finally saw justice prevail.”

Robinson estimates that there are still about 2,400 bears on bile farms in Vietnam, and more than 10,000 on bile farms in China, North Korea, South Korea, and Laos.

Elephants

The Animals Asia Foundation and the world learned about the export of baby elephants from Zimbabwe to China on December 18, 2012 from Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force chair Johnny Rodrigues.

“We have received a very disturbing report,” Rodrigues posted, “that on November 25, 2012, four elephants were transported by road from Hwange to Harare Airport, a trip that took 12 hours, where they were loaded onto an Air Emirates aeroplane and flown to Dubai. This flight took 10 hours. From Dubai, they were allegedly flown to Beijing. The total weight of the elephants was 3.9 tons, which implies they were very young. The fact that these elephants are juveniles indicates that they were taken away from their mothers, and family units are therefore being destroyed.

“It is further reported,” Rodrigues continued, “that another 14 elephants are being held in a *boma* in Hwange, awaiting exportation in January 2013.”

Animals Asia Foundation volunteers confirmed to Rodrigues that “Two of the elephants went to the Taiyuan Zoo, one of whom subsequently died. The other two reportedly went to the Xinjiang Tianshan Safari Park.”

The Animals Asia Foundation volunteers obtained and posted around the world photos of the surviving elephant at the Taiyuan Zoo.

“We are saddened and disgusted that these elephants have been removed from their

mothers and the African bush to live alone in a cold unfriendly jail cell in a foreign country,” Rodrigues posted. We believe the temperature at the Xinjiang Tianshan Safari Park is less than 20 degrees Celsius below zero. It is highly unlikely the elephants will survive in the cold when they have been accustomed to temperatures of between 30 and 40 degrees. There are apparently still another 14 elephants waiting to be exported and we have to try and stop this from happening.”

As protest erupted on the web, Animals Asia Foundation United Kingdom director Dave Neale on January 19, 2013 pronounced himself “thrilled to say that our campaign to prevent wild-caught elephant calves being sent to Chinese zoos has been successful. The remaining five calves in Zimbabwe have today been sent to the Umfurudzi national park,” Neale said, “where they will be rehabilitated for a life in the wild, instead of experiencing a life of misery in a Chinese zoo safari park.”

But “We still have three wild-caught calves languishing in miserable conditions in the Taiyuan zoo and the Xinjiang Safari Parl,” Neale reminded, “plus our Zimbabwe partners have let me know of many more deals being brokered among Chinese, U.S., and French zoos to bring wild-caught African elephant calves into their collections. The war on the trade in wild-caught animals for zoos is likely to be long,” Neale warned.

Meanwhile, Neale said, he and Humane Society International representative Peter Li “are corresponding with the China Association of Zoological Gardens to provide advice and support to hopefully improve the lives of the three calves already in China.”

The Zimbabwe National SPCA on January 21, 2013 affirmed to Associated Press that the elephant calves still in Zimbabwe would undergo “rehabilitation and integration with existing elephant herds,” since “the babies’ real mothers could not be traced.”

The Zimbabwe National SPCA hoped that “The capture of wild animals for zoos or similar habitats, irrespective of location,” will be stopped.

U.S. zoo demand

The mention that U.S. zoos might want to import wild-caught elephants from Zimbabwe came six weeks after *Seattle Times* staff reporter Michael J. Berens disclosed after an analysis of 390 elephant deaths that have occurred since 1962 at American Zoo Association-accredited zoos that, “For every elephant born in a zoo, on average two die. At that rate, the 288 elephants inside 78 U.S. zoos could be ‘demographically extinct’ within the next 50 years because there will be too few fertile females left to breed, according to zoo industry research.”

Twenty-two AZA zoos that formerly exhibited elephants no longer have any.

“Of the 321 elephant deaths for which the *Seattle Times* had complete records,” Berns wrote, “half were by age 23, more than a quarter of a century before their expected life spans of 50 to 60 years. Most of the elephants died from injury or disease linked to conditions of their captivity, from chronic foot problems caused by standing on hard surfaces to musculoskeletal disorders from inactivity caused by being penned or chained for days and weeks at a time.”

AZA zoos “have pinned their hopes for crowd-pleasing new elephants on artificial insemination,” Berens continued. “But success has been spotty, with miscarriages and premature and stillborn deaths reaching 54%. Of 27 artificial-insemination pregnancies since 1999, eight resulted in miscarriages or stillborn deaths, documents show. An additional six calves died from disease, including from the herpes virus.

“Simply to sustain the elephant population, accredited U.S. zoos need to acquire 10 new female elephants each year, according to modeling by scientists,” Berens explained. “Only three elephants were born in 2012 inside U.S. zoos. Eight died.”

Indonesian bear sanctuary fights closure

BALIKPAPAN, East Kalimantan, Indonesia—Sun bears, the smallest of the bear family, are known for their seemingly ceaseless foraging in the wild. Yet a decade after sun bears were made the official mascots of Balikpapan, the most affluent city in East Kalimantan, Indonesia, in part in appreciation of their industriousness, chief city councilor Andi Burhanuddin Solong reportedly wants to disenfranchise them because he views them as “lazy.”

More ominously for the six rescued sun bears kept at the Balikpapan Environmental Tourism & Education Centre, known as the KWPLH in the locally spoken Malay language, Solong wants to turn their \$2 million habitat into a campground.

“Over the last eight years we have been helping to develop a world class environmental education center, which has a large natural enclosure that houses the six sun bears as its centerpiece,” Dutch conservationist Gabriella Fredriksson told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

“Although the number of bears under our care is not large by rescue center standards,” Fredriksson said, “the aim of our center is primarily environmental and sun bear education. The number of local visitors & school children has risen from just several hundred in our first year to close to 70,000 people last year.

“Besides the sun bear part,” Fredriksson continued, “we also run a large domestic animal versus wild animal education program, as many people in Indonesia still keep bears, orangutans, slow lorises, other primates, wild cats, and so forth as pets. In developing this program we have also become responsible for some 130 cats and dogs who were found on the site as strays, who are now well taken care at the center. The center also “provides the public with information on pet care,” Fredriksson said.

Though sun bears have long been among her primary interests, Fredriksson may be best known for working with the Great Ape Trust to help protect orangutans in Sumatra. There are believed to be about 41,000 orangutans left in the wild in Southeast Asia, but only about 10,000 sun bears, who have a wider range but a much more scattered population, in part because of intensive poaching and habitat destruction, partly because the Southeast Asian habitat has never been particularly congenial for small bears with big appetites.

“To date,” Fredriksson continued, “the KWPLH site developments have largely been funded through donations, while the basic running costs have been funded by the city government. The site currently employs 41 staff,” including 36 locals.

At the end of 2012, however, the Balikpapan legislature refused to approve the 2013 KWPLH operating budget of about \$160,000 U.S.

“This was not because of a shortage of funds,” Fredriksson said. “In 2012 the city budget was underspent by many millions of dollars.”

The underlying issue, beyond Solong’s interest in developing an urban campground, may be that the KWPLH educational exhibits have helped to increase public concern about the deforestation of East Kalimantan by loggers and oil palm plantation developers.

“I’ve been to this place few years back to help them with their domestic animal program,” Hong Kong veterinarian Karthi Martelli told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “The bears are well kept with very good local management. The bears spend most of



Sun bear at the KWPLH sanctuary in Balikpapan. (KWPLH)

their time in an outside enclosure in an almost natural setting.”

Martelli, best known for work on contraception and sterilization of urban macaques, has also treated wildlife and domestic animals for the Hong Kong SPCA, International Animal Rescue, the Ocean Park zoo in Hong Kong, and dog sterilization projects in Thailand.

The Animals Asia Foundation, whose global campaign recently saved the Vietnam Bear Rescue Center from a development scheme advanced by Tam Dao National Park director Do Dinh Tien, has endorsed the effort to save the KWPLH, as has Asian Animal Protection Network founder John Wedderburn.

Paul Watson “resigns” from top Sea Shepherd posts to comply with U.S. court order

HOBART—Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson on January 8, 2013 “resigned” from all leadership roles within the organization, officially turning the helm over to former Australian Green Party leader Bob Brown.

Elected to the Sea Shepherd Australia board on December 30, 2012, Brown announced plans to relocate the Sea Shepherd international headquarters from Friday Harbor, Washington, where the U.S. headquarters will remain, to Williamstown, Victoria state, Australia. Brown will be assisted by Sea Shepherd Australia director Jeff Hansen.

Watson remained aboard the Sea Shepherd vessel *Steve Irwin*, he told media, “to document the campaign” this winter against Japanese whaling in Antarctic waters. The *Steve Irwin* is captained this winter by former first officer Siddharth Chakravarty, of India.

Legal authority among the Sea Shepherds was transferred in compliance with a December 17, 2012 injunction issued in Seattle by U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals judges Alex Koz-

inski, Wallace Tashima, and Randy Smith. States the injunction, “Defendants Sea Shepherd Conservation Society and Paul Watson, and any party acting in concert with them, are enjoined from physically attacking any vessel engaged by Plaintiffs the Institute of Cetacean Research, Kyodo Senpaku Kaisha, Ltd., Tomoyuki Ogawa or Toshiyuki Miura in the Southern Ocean or any person on any such vessel, or from navigating in a manner that is likely to endanger the safe navigation of any such vessel. In no event shall defendants approach plaintiffs any closer than 500 yards when defendants are navigating on the open sea.”

The injunction may not be enforceable against non-U.S. citizens aboard foreign-flagged vessels in international waters, but could be problematic for Watson, a dual U.S./Canadian citizen.

Watson was arrested in Germany in May 2012 on a 10-year-old Costa Rican warrant, issued after the Sea Shepherds intercepted a Costa Rican vessel that was allegedly catching sharks, cutting off their fins for sale to Asian buyers, and tossing the rest of the still living sharks overboard. The Guatemalan gov-

ernment sent a gunboat to obtain the release of the fishing vessel, while Costa Rica charged Watson with attempted murder.

Watson jumped bail and fled Germany on July 22, 2012, contending that the Costa Rican warrant was a ruse meant to deliver him to Japan. Japan then issued an Interpol “red alert” for Watson’s arrest.

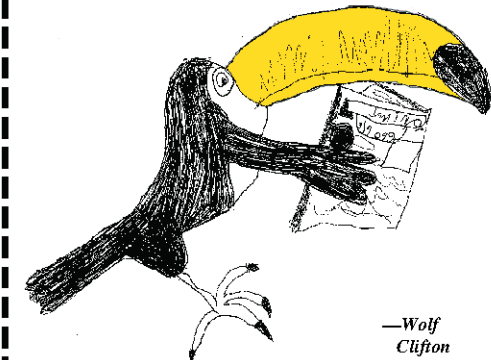
Watson told media that he had traveled first to The Netherlands, then crossed “two oceans and countless rivers, three mountain ranges, a desert, over lakes, and through dozens of cities and towns,” before taking three different vessels to reach the Steve Irwin. The journey, Watson said, was “A trifle inconvenient without a passport or any form of identification and all the more difficult without credit cards or access to ATM machines, without access to the Internet or even a cell phone.”

But Watson said the Sea Shepherds were well prepared for the winter campaign. “We have four ships, one helicopter, drones, and more than 120 volunteer crew from around the world,” he said.

The *Steve Irwin* sailed from Melbourne on November 5, two days after the Japanese whaling factory ship *Nisshin Maru* left Hiroshima. The Sea Shepherd vessels *Bob Barker*, *Brigitte Bardot*, and the latest addition, the *Sam Simon*, were already at sea. The *Sam Simon*, captained by Sea Shepherd veteran Lockhart MacLean, was previously a Japanese meteorological research ship. “Bought from unsuspecting Japanese authorities,” wrote *Guardian* Tokyo correspondent Justin McCurry, the ship was “re-registered in Tuvalu as the *New Atlantis*, and delivered to Australia by a Japanese crew. reflagged to Australia, and then renamed after the founding producer of *The Simpsons* TV series.”

While the seagoing Sea Shepherds had not yet encountered the Japanese “research whaling” fleet as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, the Sea Shepherd Cove Guardians stationed at Taiji documented the slaughter of more than 60 Pacific white-sided, bottlenose, Risso’s, and striped dolphins between January 7 and January 15, 2013, said Cove Guardian leader Melissa Sehgal.

YES! I'M AN ANIMAL PERSON!



—Wolf Clifton



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Veterinarian comments on canine perceptions of life & death, and the requirements of a good doggy diet

Merritt Clifton’s October 2012 book review of *Romancing the Dog: The Struggle To Make A Pound Dog Happy in Beverly Hills*, by Marion Zola, contains some of his most lyrical, lush, and insightful writing:

“Little is more likely to occasion bad karma for future lifetimes, or more surely consign a sinner to hell, than deliberately causing a dog to be so unhappy as to give up hope... Struggling to make a dog happy is misunderstanding the most self-evident behavioral trait of dogs.”

But contrary to the statement that “Canine pining usually comes only after someone drops dead, when the dog knows that the someone will never come back,” dogs do not know when someone will never come back. I can assure you on that. Many a time I have euthanized a dog at his/her home and witnessed a second dog, referred to by the caregivers as the deceased’s buddy, step over—and even on—the prostrate body of the deceased. I have never, in thousands of at-home euthanasias, seen a second dog in the home exhibit more than disinterest toward the dead soulmate. Even after 15 minutes, when the body is cold, there is no nuzzling of the body or other interest in it. Death has little or no meaning for a dog. The second dog almost always exhibits the same ho-hum attitude as the dead dog is removed from the home on a stretcher.

Second dogs may exhibit agitation in the days following the disappearance of their longtime canine companion. But is that agitation due to the second dog’s regular routine being abruptly terminated? Or is it due to some other doggy feeling? I don’t know. I am reminded of nursing bitches who always immediately abandon a dead or even just dying pup with nary a backward glance or lick.

Whatever a dog may be experiencing at these times, the dog does not appear to be “pining” or exhibiting recognition that “someone will never come back.” The emotion may be

powerful and deep, but it isn’t those things. Perhaps it is a hardwired response characterized by a feeling that humans don’t possess and don’t yet have a word for. Quien sabe?

The review of *Romancing the Dog* also stated that, “The more a dog’s diet resembles the refuse, offal, and occasional rats that constitute a street dog’s diet, the healthier the dog will be, so long as the dog receives regular treatment to prevent parasites—especially worms, fleas, ticks, and mange. The major virtues of canned food and bagged kibble is not that they are better food for dogs, but rather that they are less disgusting for humans to handle.”

It is not true that the only reason that commercial dog foods are used is that “they are less disgusting for humans to handle.” A dog’s nutritional needs and, perhaps even more important, nutritional balances are known right down to the last fatty acid, amino acid, and trace mineral. Minute and well-established nutritional knowledge is also established for cats, rats, mice, and chickens, plus, I would guess, a few other non-human species as well. Name brand, quality commercial dog foods guarantee that a dog will receive all of the more than two dozen essential vitamins, minerals, amino acids, and fatty acids that are necessary for good health—and in a convenient form.

Even trying to provide this formula balance by mixing and matching non-commercial food sources is so fraught with nutritional pitfalls (starting with the composition of the soil in which ingredients are grown) that people who feed their dogs this way are playing Russian roulette with their dog in the name of some principle which the caregivers consider a greater good than the welfare of their dogs. For me, my dog’s welfare trumps almost all other philosophical, economic, and social considerations.

Please note that nutritional deficiencies and toxicities are not always obvious, even to trained professionals. These

pathologic conditions may be subtle and obscure, and their diagnosis may require expensive laboratory testing and/or a diagnosis-by-exclusion. Meanwhile the dog suffers.

My professional advice is that people should buy for their companion animals name brand, quality commercial foods that have on their label a statement to the effect that they meet American Association of Feed Control Officials standards as determined by feeding trials, not just that the food meets AAFCO standards.

Dogs in the wild who are eating other animals are living a life different from the lives of domestic dogs in at least one critical aspect: in the wild, if the animal’s diet is too substandard, the animal dies. The same is true of street dogs, to whose diet you favorably refer. Twice a year for about 10 years I have lived for a month or two in a Mexican city of 120,000 with street dogs and no animal control. The dogs are invariably painfully thin, with a horrible coat and skin, and often with mucus-filled eyes. You wouldn’t believe the street dog population turnover! You probably should not be lauding a street dog’s diet of “refuse, offal, and occasional rats” as a desirable canine dietary standard.



—Bruce Max-Feldman, DVM
Berkeley, California

Merritt Clifton responds:

Having done night-and-day street dog counts in alleys and dumps from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to Zeeland, Netherlands, in nearly 40 nations altogether, I’m aware of the rate of population turnover. But an inadequate diet is rarely why many street dogs are painfully thin. The dogs would not be successfully reproducing without an adequate food supply. The critical issue for street dogs, worldwide, is lack of parasite control, as detailed in “De-worming makes a real-life ‘slum dog millionaire’,” published in our September 2009 edition.

More about Nature Wars: The Incredible Story of How Wildlife Comebacks Turned Backyards into Battlegrounds

Thank you for your generous review of my new book, *Nature Wars: The Incredible Story of How Wildlife Comebacks Turned Backyards into Battlegrounds*. I much appreciate your commending it to your readers as, in part, “excellent history,” which is high praise indeed.

I hope you will allow me to clear up a few points.

You are correct in saying I grew up in rural Michigan. I began hunting in the 1950s for sport, not meat, although we ate what we shot. I do not considered myself to be “a lifelong conservationist,” as you assert. If anything, I am a lifelong journalist.

You mention “two note-

worthy omissions” in my discussion of wildlife comebacks.

I quoted those who considered the Conibear body-gripping trap to be a humane alternative to the leghold trap. You are correct that I did not note that Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals’ cofounders George and Bunty Clements did not share fellow cofounder Clara Van Steenwyck’s early enthusiasm for the Conibear trap. For those against trapping, no trap is humane. I did mention, however, that the American Humane Association, the British Columbia government and Queen Elizabeth II lauded Frank Conibear for his invention. And that the European Union in 2008 refused

to buy South American beaver pelts until Argentina and Chile switched from using legholds to using more “humane” Conibear 330s.

As for the Canada geese that brought down U.S. Airways 1549 in 2009, whether they were migratory or residents is disputed. The Smithsonian feather fragment isotope analysis said the birds had been to Labrador and concluded they were part of a migratory flock. Bryan Swift, New York state’s geese expert, two U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service experts, and a Canadian Wildlife Service waterfowl biologist noted that resident geese go on non-nesting molt migrations on occasion, which could account for the isotope find-

ing. They also noted that nearly half the 89 goose-airstrikes around New York City in the previous 10 years occurred in months when few if any migratory birds were around.

A couple of other points: I don’t dismiss wildlife contraception “out of hand,” as you say. I say it’s costly and impractical. You are correct in saying I overlook declines in roadkills in recent years. That’s because I know of no sound data supporting that assertion. Likewise, your assertion of “steep declines in the feral cat population” thanks to trap, neuter, return programs is, in my opinion, wishful thinking. Indeed, even the American Veterinary Medical Association says neuter/

return doesn’t work to bring populations down.

I assume you were having a little fun mocking my battle with feral grapes in Maine in writing that I am “apparently unaware that the Vikings called the region Vinland after finding wild grapes there.” First, my battle began not in my youth, but when I was a youthful 40-year-old. Second, I sent samples of the grapes to the USDA’s Plant Genetic Resources Unit at Cornell University for analysis and they were pronounced—as I say on page 299 of *Nature Wars*—“prohibition-era table grapes, a Concord cousin.”

—Jim Sterba
New York, N.Y.



Merritt Clifton responds:

The late George and Bunty Clements were not always “against trapping.” They turned against trapping after more than 20 years of experimentation with purported quick-kill traps, including the Conibear, convinced them that the quest for a “humane” furbearer trap was futile.

The enthusiasm of the American Humane Association for the Conibear trap, more than 50 years ago, came parallel to AHA promotion of the use of decompression to kill dogs and cats in shelters—a method abandoned as inhumane throughout the U.S. by 1985, though now pushed by the AHA to kill chickens. The AHA meanwhile opposed surgical sterilization of dogs and cats as “vivisection,” even though it had withdrawn opposition to the release of shelter animals to laboratories for use in experiments and medical teaching and training. The AHA did not endorse surgical sterilization of dogs and cats until 1973, 50 years after the basic procedures were approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

The AHA abdication of

moral authority on behalf of animals during this time led to the formation of the Animal Welfare Institute in 1952, the Humane Society of the U.S. in 1954, Friends of Animals in 1957, and the National Catholic Animal Welfare Society in 1959—all of which opposed Conibear trap use, then and now.

Neither could the British Columbia government nor Queen Elizabeth II be considered exemplars of humane values. Though the Queen herself has rarely hunted, her husband, Prince Philip, at least twice shot more than 10,000 captive-raised birds in week-long sprints with other royalty. After the first such incident, in 1956, Princess Grace of Monaco prevailed upon her husband, Prince Rainier, to give up captive bird-shooting. The Queen, however, apparently said nothing when Prince Philip included their son, Prince Charles, in a similar week-long bloodbath.

Non-migratory Canada geese, whose normal range is just a few dozen miles, are unlikely to have made “non-nesting migrations” from New York City to Labrador.

The cost of wildlife contraception in the research-and-development phase, as with the cost of developing any pharmaceutical, is not to be confused with the actual cost of manufacture and delivery of a perfected product. If broadcast distribution of oral contraceptives could be used, the cost of delivery would be comparable to the cost of deploying oral rabies vaccination, which has proved highly successful against rabies in foxes, raccoons, and coyotes, at cost of less than \$1.00 per dose.

While developing oral contraceptives for wildlife that can be safely broadcast has not yet been accomplished, injectable chemosterilants effective in male animals are as inexpensive as calcium chloride, tests of which have been described in recent editions of ANIMAL PEOPLE by Parsumus Foundation director of medical research programs director Elaine Lissner and others.

Concerning the decline of roadkill, even as urban and suburban wildlife populations continue to increase, the largest data base on insurance claims is kept by State Farm

Inc., the largest U.S. vehicular insurer. Deer/car collisions decreased for the third consecutive year in 2011, the most recent year from which data is available, after peaking in 2008.

Concerning the decline of the feral cat population, U.S. animal shelter admissions of cats fell by more than 75% in 10 years after the formal introduction of neuter/return in 1991-1992. Roadkill studies found a decline of more than 90% in the numbers of cats found dead on city streets.

Since then, results have leveled off, as detailed in “Feral cat neuter/return results appear to have plateaued,” ANIMAL PEOPLE, July/August 2012, but—significantly—shelter admissions of cats and roadkills of cats have not rebounded, indicating that neuter/return is at the very least suppressing a feral cat population recovery.

Finally, according to the Concord Grape Association, “The Concord grape is a robust and aromatic grape whose ancestors were wild native species found growing in the rugged New England soil. Exper-

imenting with seeds from some of the native species, Boston-born Ephraim Wales Bull developed the Concord grape in 1849.”

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Getting to Zero: A Roadmap to Ending Animal Shelter Overpopulation in the United States

2012. 90 pages, paperback: \$28.95.

Replacing Myth With Math: Using Evidence-Based Programs to Eradicate Shelter Overpopulation

2010. 138 pages, paperback. \$19.95

Both by Peter Marsh

Town & Country Reprographics: 230 N. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. Free downloads from: www.shelteroverpopulation.org



Getting to Zero: A Roadmap to Ending Animal Shelter Overpopulation in the United States could be described as Animal Sheltering Statistics & Economics 1-A, and should be required reading for everyone aspiring to direct a humane society, animal control agency, or dog and cat population control program of any sort—or to make informed judgments about animal shelter management and funding.

Replacing Myth With Math: Using Evidence-Based Programs to Eradicate Shelter Overpopulation, though written two years earlier, is Animal Sheltering Statistics & Economics 1-B, a more detailed advanced course reinforcing the same points with more data.

Both are simply written primers, authored by New Hampshire attorney Peter Marsh, who has for more than 20 years practiced what he preaches as cofounder of Solutions To Overpopulation of Pets. STOP introduced programs which cut shelter animal intake and killing in New Hampshire by approximately 80% between 1992 and 2003, and have kept the numbers down even as the New Hampshire human and pet populations have increased by about 15%.

The major elements of the New Hampshire approach are a statewide subsidized dog and cat sterilization program, funded by pet licensing fees, combined with broad acceptance of neuter/return feral cat control.

Attempts to export the New Hampshire approach wholesale to other parts of the U.S. have proved difficult, but chiefly for reasons of scale. Because New Hampshire is small state, served by just eight major animal shelters, Marsh had fewer people to persuade and coordinate to get the STOP programs started. Because New Hampshire is also a relatively affluent and well-educated state, lack of resources and public ignorance were less problematic than in most. The harsh New Hampshire winters already held down feral cat numbers.

Even before Marsh started, New Hampshire shelters killed fewer dogs and cats per 1,000 residents than those of 46 of the other 50 states. But in statistical terms, that meant mainly that any new approaches had to achieve proportionately much more to be of demonstrable significance—and they did.

Most notably, Marsh and colleagues recognized that even though New Hampshire has relatively few low income households, the unsterilized pets in those households produced a disproportionately large number of animals admitted to shelters--

about twice as many per capita as come from people living above the poverty line. Targeting low income households, the New Hampshire subsidized sterilization program cut shelter killing by 30% in the first year.

Since then, studies done in several other states have confirmed these results. As a ballpark rule, if 12.5% of a community live below the poverty line, their households will produce about 25% of the dogs and cats arriving at shelters, including surrenders of accidental litters of puppies and kittens, dogs impounded for running at large and biting, and animals given up for reasons associated with home instability.

A key related finding is that preventing shelter admissions is about 7.5 times more cost-effective than trying to save animals' lives through rehoming. Ensuring that dogs and cats are sterilized before either birthing or siring a litter is the most cost-effective preventive measure, but counseling programs directed at keeping pets in homes also tend to be more cost-effective than promoting adoptions. Even if troubled pet keepers need to be counseled through extensive re-training, this is still less costly than doing the re-training plus housing plus advertising plus adoption counseling that would be necessary to find new homes for the animals.

Feral cats & pit bulls

While usually careful to ground his arguments in data, and emphasizing the need to gather current, accurate information, Marsh on page 103 of *Replacing Myth With Math* and page 62 of *Getting to Zero* repeats two of the most pernicious myths presently afflicting humane work.

The first of these myths is that "There may be as many stray and feral cats in the country as there are living in households," a claim last supported by credible research in 1908. National Family Opinion Survey founders Howard and Clara Trumbull, writing as "John Marbanks," produced surveys in 1927, 1937, and 1947-1950 which documented that by 1950 the numbers of pet cats in the U.S. had already come to double the numbers of feral cats. Currently there are about 74.1 million pet cats in the U.S., according to the U.S. Pet Ownership & Demographics Sourcebook, published by the American Veterinary Medical Association, down from 81.7 million in 2007. The feral cat population, as projected from shelter intakes, roadkill studies, rescuer surveys, and habitat

surveys, has for about a decade fluctuated between winter lows of about 6.5 million and summer highs of about 13 million.

The second myth Marsh asserts, while making a case for promoting and subsidizing pit bull sterilization, is that pit bulls do not behaviorally differ from other dogs. Pit bulls would not exist if they did not behaviorally differ from other dogs. Pit bulls have been bred for centuries to fight, instead of going through the repertoire of warning signals that other dogs use to avoid fighting; to attack without inhibition; and to fight to the death, not the submission, of any foe. To disregard this reality is to contribute to the reasons why pit bulls are now 30% of the dogs arriving at shelters and 60% of the dogs killed at shelters, mostly after flunking behavioral screening.

I will admit to finding both *Getting to Zero* and *Replacing Myth With Math* somewhat frustrating for an entirely different reason, knowing that on this count Marsh shares my frustration. Both Marsh books echo—and credit—*Save Our Strays: How We Can End Pet Overpopulation and Stop Killing Healthy Dogs and Cats*, published by veteran California shelter director Bob Christiansen as an intended primer for shelter personnel in 1998. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** expected *Save Our Strays* to join the National Animal Control Association Training Guide as one of the essential references near the director's desk in every animal shelter. Although Christiansen worked independently, his findings reinforced and confirmed data collected and published by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** mostly in the years 1992-1996, from sources including Marsh.

Unfortunately, Christiansen proved to be well ahead of his time. Most of the animal sheltering community ignored his work. This allowed No Kill Advocacy Center founder Nathan Winograd to take up many of his overlooked insights and rework them into a bludgeon in *Redemption: The Myth of Pet Overpopulation & the No Kill Revolution in America*. This 2007 screed has become a handbook for seemingly every hoarder, pit bull enthusiast, and crackpot with a grudge against his/her local animal shelter.

Now Marsh is offering the animal sheltering community another chance to learn the basics of reducing shelter intakes and killing before having to face the "no kill" extremists. Even in 1998, Marsh's insights were not new. By today, they are thoroughly time-tested, and need to be much more widely applied.

—Merritt Clifton

Roadkill counts, 1937-2006, showed longterm decline

MENTOR, Ohio—Cathy Strah, a transportation department employee in Mentor, Ohio, from 1993 to mid-2006 logged all roadkills collected by city workers, forwarding her data sheets to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Her work, covering more than 5,000 animal deaths over twelve and a half years, was the longest-running all-species, year-round roadkill count known to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Mentor, a city of just over 47,000 people, occupying 28 square miles, changed little during the years that Strah tallied roadkills—except that as the suburban tree cover matured, roadkills dropped precipitously.

Early in Strah's survey there were sharp year-to-year fluctuations, from a high of 778 in 1995 down to 456 in 1996, rebounding to 668 in 1997. To that point, the five-year average was 622. The overall trend, however, was down, bottoming out at 301 in 2000 and 325 in 2001. After that, the highest tolls were 508 in 2002 and 439 in the last six months of 2005 plus the first six months of 2006.

The Strah data did not show any significant changes in the percentages of animals hit by species. Squirrels were fairly consistently about 25% of the total, raccoons about 20%, skunks about 12%, rabbits and opossums about 7-8%, and cats and non-migratory Canada geese around 4%. Deer remained around 1%. Dogs were well below 1%. When the totals rose and fell, they appeared to rise or fall in a consistent manner for prey, predators, and scavengers alike.

The Strah findings suggest a roadkill-per-driver ratio that gradually dropped from the vicinity of one per year per 50 drivers to about one per year per 62 drivers.

The Strah data may be compared in several respects to findings from a single-year survey of roadkills collected in 1937 by the highway department in Greenville County, North Carolina, reported in the May 1938 edition of *The National Humane Review*, published monthly by the American Humane Association from 1913 to 1976.

Greenville County, then largely rural, and Mentor, wholly suburban, occupy different climatic zones. Mentor had about as many licensed drivers in 1993-2006, circa 30,000,

as Greenville County had human residents in 1937. Based on national norms, each Mentor driver drove about 10 times as many miles as the Greenville drivers did in 1937.

But the 180 miles of county highway in Greenville in 1937 compare well with the estimated miles of road from which the Mentor transportation department collected roadkill in 1993-2006. During 1937 the Greenville County highway department collected the remains of 524 animals, including 267 dogs, 93 cats, 34 rabbits, 17 chickens, 13 skunks, eight opossums, and one cow.

Reflecting the disappearance of stray dogs and free-roaming pet dogs from most of the U.S., the Greenville County drivers killed 10 times more dogs than were killed in Mentor during the duration of the Strah data collection. The Greenville County drivers also killed more cats than were killed in any four-year span in Mentor 1993-2006.

Altogether, about one driver in Greenville County per 17.5 killed an animal in 1937. Taking into account the difference in total miles driven, Greenville County drivers killed animals at around 30 times the rate of Mentor drivers in 1993-2006, even though few motor vehicles then traveled more rapidly than the typical pace of traffic today on an urban or suburban arterial street.

The Tail of Gigi:

Gigi finds a home

Story & art by

Maureen Skaggs

Windy City Publishers, 2012.

(\$10.99 c/o Amazon.com)



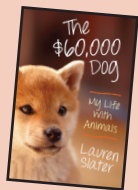
Even beginning readers, the target audience, will recognize the title pun in *The Tail of Gigi*, the story of a small fluffy street dog who is taken to a shelter, prepared for adoption, and placed in a perfect home.

In real life, street dogs who resemble Gigi are found mainly in Asia. Shelters like the one that finds a home for Gigi exist mostly in places that have had no street dogs in generations. As fantasies about street dogs and sheltering go, though, this one is harmless. Toddlers will love it.

—Merritt Clifton

The \$60,000 Dog: My Life With Animals by Lauren Slater

Beacon Press (c/o Random House, 1745 Broadway, New York, NY 10019), 2012. 251 pages, hardcover. \$24.95.



Usually if an author subtitles a book "My life with animals," or something similar, the author is known for having had a life with animals, as a veterinarian, sanctuarian, biologist, zookeeper, or trainer. Lauren Slater, though a veterinary technician for a brief time early in her adult life, is not known for anything much involving animals. She is the author of previous books including *Welcome To My Country* (1996), *Prozac Diary* (1998), *Lying: A Metaphorical Memoir* (2000), and *Opening Skinner's Box: Great Psychology Experiments of the Twentieth Century*. As Wikipedia summarizes, and somewhat understates, "Criticism has focused on Slater's research methods and on the extent to which some of the experiences she describes may have been fictionalized."

Though Slater is a former Knight Science Journalism Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, she is a much more accomplished literary stylist than a factually conscientious journalist. She prefaces *The \$60,000 Dog* with an author's note observing that "There is a significant difference between the truth of experience and the facts of everyday life...I may not have all the facts in perfect order, but I have no doubt about the truth of these stories."

The most frustrating aspect of Slater's fictionalizations is that often she could easily verify the facts she gets out of order, without at all interrupting the flow of her stories, if she cared to get the facts right. For example, on page 171 Slater writes, "Six hundred and fifty-four people died last year in the United States from dog bites." Reality is that this is more than the sum of all documented deaths from dog bites since 1851. The 2012 toll of 38 people killed by dog bites, including 24 killed by pit bulls, broke the previous record—now broken three times in four years.

Normally a title such as *The \$60,000*

Dog would point toward the focal or thematically most significant part of a book. Again Slater confounds expectation. The dog does not appear until page 170 of 251, following chapters involving a found wild bird's egg that does not hatch; summer camp riding lessons; a predictably ill-fated episode when as a misfit foster child, Slater makes a pet of a wild raccoon; and, as vet tech, a successful rescue and rehabilitation of a young mute swan who lost her bill to a snapping turtle.

"In our animal stories the only animal we learn about is man," Slater writes of her experience with the swan, "but when you come close to animals you see the true strangeness of the beasts who share our planet."

Had *The \$60,000 Dog* concluded with the swan story, it might have been brief but brilliant—albeit more about a troubled young woman trying to find her way than about the animals who become her foils. The 50 pages about the dog are by far the weakest parts of the book, resembling many other memoirs by people who once had a dog, and feeling much like padding to finish a manuscript of commercially viable length.

Slater ends with chapters about her phobic relationship with wasps who invade her weekend home and a brief encounter with a bat.

Having evicted wasps several times from old houses in nearby habitat with minimal difficulty and little harm to anyone, I am perplexed that Slater and family had as much trouble as they did. Careful observation, a bit of caulking, and perhaps some weatherboarding or screening should have solved the whole problem within a few hours. I'm also inclined to believe that the much younger Slater, who sought to hatch the egg, befriended the raccoon, and nursed the swan through a surgical bill replacement, would have more calmly studied the situation and found a way to resolve it.

—Merritt Clifton

Animal Rights Without Liberation: *Applied Ethics and Human Obligations* by Alasdair Cochrane

Columbia University Press (61 West 62nd St., New York, NY 10023), 2012. Paper, 256 pages, \$29.50.

University of Sheffield political theorist Alasdair Cochrane in *Animal Rights Without Liberation* advances a case for what might be described as pragmatic vegetarianism. Though Cochrane reaches some of the same conclusions as “welfarist” philosophers, he passes through on a different road, and arrives at quite a different place.

Cochrane argues that there was an overlooked fork in conceptualizing animal rights between the precepts that Peter Singer outlined in *Animal Liberation* (1975) and those that Tom Regan elaborated in *The Case for Animal Rights* (1983). Post-Regan, Cochrane observes, most arguments for “animal rights” and “animal liberation” have tended to suppose that Singer’s ideas led necessarily toward Regan’s, though Regan expressed some significant disagreements with Singer.

Other philosophers, notably Bernard Rollin, have used *Animal Liberation* as a foil in advancing animal welfare while limiting the notion of animal rights.

Cochrane might be seen as a “welfarist” and aligned

All My Patients Kick & Bite:
Favorite Stories from a Vet’s Practice
by Jeff Wells, DVM

St. Martin’s Griffin (175 5th Ave., New York, NY 10010),
2012. 246 pages, paperback. \$14.99.


Rural Colorado veterinarian Jeff Wells in *All My Patients Kick & Bite* follows up his 2009 hit *All My Patients Have Tales*, which was also subtitled “Favorite Stories from a Vet’s Practice.” Chiefly treating livestock, especially sheep and horses, Wells is among many vets aspiring to reprise the success of British veterinarian James Alfred Wright (1916-1995), who began his practice in 1940, and published the first of his 14 books written as “James Herriot” in 1970.

Participating in the transitions from animal-powered farming to the use of tractors, from home-brewed remedies to advanced vaccines and pharmaceuticals, and from treating mostly animals doomed to slaughter to treating mainly valued pets, Wright/Herriot wrote as much about the evolution of human attitudes toward animals, albeit often quite conservatively, as about animals themselves.

Wells in *All My Patients Kick & Bite* treats neglected horses and a flock of sheep who have been mauled by dogs, among other animals whose plight might lead into controversial discussion. Yet Wells time and again sidesteps the larger issues. I’m left thinking that the most interesting half of many of his stories has not yet been written. —Merritt Clifton

Snow Leopard
Stories from the Roof of the World
Edited by Don Hunter

Univ. Press of Colorado (5589 Arapahoe Ave., Suite 206-C, Boulder,
CO 80303), 2012. 216 pages. Hardcover \$26.95, e-book \$21.95.



Don Hunter, who assembled *Snow Leopard: Stories from the Roof of the World*, acknowledges inspiration and help in arranging publication from wildlife ethologist Marc Bekoff, co-editor of the 2008 anthology *Listening to Cougar*. Like *Listening to Cougar*, Hunter’s anthology collects first-person recollections of encounters with a seldom-seen big cat—but, while thousands of people per year catch at least fleeting glimpses of a puma, mere dozens see snow leopards.

Ranging through parts of 12 nations, mostly in the Himalayas, snow leopards live at altitudes of 11,500 to 23,000 feet above sea level. Thus at snow leopards’ lowest descent, they are still at twice the elevation of Denver and about the same elevation as Cuzco.

Snow leopard habitat would not be easy to visit even if gaining access did not require crossing politically and militarily sensitive national boundaries. But snow leopards thrive in the no-man’s-land dividing India, Pakistan, China, Russia, and several central Central Asian nations, including Afghanistan, which are often fighting insurgencies even if not officially at war.

To a certain extent, minefields and checkpoints protect snow leopards from habitat encroachment. Unlike pumas, snow leopards do not share their territories with ski resorts and four-lane all-weather highways. Yet, like pumas, snow leopards have historically been persecuted as a threat to livestock.

Further, the poverty and instability of range states such as Afghanistan and several nations fragmented from the Soviet Union tend to encourage poaching more than eco-tourism and conservation.

Hunter was able to find two superstar contributors, longtime Wildlife Conservation Society biologist George Schaller and multi-time best-selling author Peter Matthiessen, who wrote his 1973 book *The Snow Leopard* about an expedition undertaken with Schaller. Most of the rest of Hunter’s lineup are relatively obscure biologists and videographers. Among them are representatives of six of the 12 snow leopard range states, including Ali Abutalip Dahashof, whose Kazakh herdsman father

became legendary circa 1930 for killing two snow leopards with his bare hands in a single fight in defense of about 50 sheep, several camels, and some cattle.

“Ironically, those two snow leopards were the only wildlife my father killed in his entire life,” Dahashof wrote originally in Chinese, translated by Rich Harris.

Working with Harris on a 1999 study of argali wild sheep, Dahashof saw his first snow leopard when a herder brought them an emaciated kitten. “We released it at a site we knew would not have livestock for months and had abundant natural prey,” Dahashof recounted. “On this day Ali, son of Dahash, used his strength and wisdom to save the life of a snow leopard.”

Employed as a hunting guide in the Kharteng International Hunting Area, Dahashof later saw a snow leopard a second time, and has often seen snow leopard droppings, kills, and tracks. He is thereby among the most successful of snow leopard observers.

As in the U.S., wildlife conservation is funded in much of snow leopard range by fees collected from trophy hunters, especially hunters of the rare argali. “I’m not fully satisfied that there aren’t other, less invasive approaches to help snow leopards and local people co-exist,” writes Ashid Ahmad Khan, who set up the hunting-funded snow leopard conservation program in Pakistan. “I continue to explore new models in which the revenue from trophy hunting is replaced by eco-tourism, medicinal plant collection, or honey and fruit production. I look forward to the day when I can replace the slogan ‘money for conservation’ with ‘money without killing.’”

One could wish for similar ethical concern among some of the western contributors, Schaller included, who express no qualms in this anthology about such practices as staking out live goats as bait to lure snow leopards into view for photography and using leghold traps to catch snow leopards for radio-collaring, at risk of inflicting injuries that might disable the snow leopards, inhibiting their ability to feed themselves and their cubs.

—Merritt Clifton

with Rollin in making his argument that, “We can respect the rights of animals—while still using, owning, and exploiting animals for certain purposes.” This, Cochrane hastens to add, “is obviously not to condone all uses of animals—many of which cause them severe forms of suffering and result in their death—but simply to recognize that it is the suffering and killing that are harmful in such instances, not the use itself.”

Rollin would agree. But Rollin would stop well short of the view Cochrane reaches that animals should possess rights which “impose extremely strict limits on what we can do to animals in experimentation, agriculture, genetic engineering, and entertainment; in relation to the environment; and in cultural practices. If these rights were institutionalized and established as legal rights,” Cochrane explains, “The vast majority of animal experimentation would have to stop. The meat industry would have to shut down, with farmers limited to raising crops, along with reduced free-range egg and dairy production. The genetic engineering of animals would be prohibited unless it could be shown that the engineered animals would not lead lives of intolerable suffering...Pet keeping would be permitted only when the well-being of the animal and any offspring were guaranteed. Zoos would have to expand in size and provide sufficient stimulation in order to permissibly display animals. Circuses would likely have to stop using most species of animal altogether. Routine deforestation and other forms of habitat destruction would have to be curbed for the sake of animals...Therapeutic hunting [i.e. hunting to thin wildlife populations] would have to stop, and investment in the development of effective contraceptive treatments for wild animals would be required. Finally, cultural practices that are harmful to animals, such as bullfighting, jallikattu, whaling, hunting, animal sacrifice, and religious slaughter, would have to end.”

In all of this, Cochrane comes out closer to Regan.

Chapters of *Animal Rights Without Liberation* examine at greater length animal use in research, animal agriculture, animals and genetic engineering, animal entertainment, animals and the environment, and animals and cultural practices.

In reviewing the arguments for and against animal agriculture, Cochrane takes into account the contention of meat industry defenders that because raising crops occupies habitat, more animals would be harmed if the world adopted a vegetarian diet than now suffer in being sent to slaughter.

“While we cannot prevent any harm to animals being caused by our agricultural practices, we do have the power to reduce the harm to animals caused

by our agricultural practices,” Cochrane agrees. “Since field and livestock animals have compelling interests in continued life, it is evident that we should do as much as is reasonable to respect those interests. What we need to determine is the agricultural policy that will cause the least harm—the policy that will result in the fewest deaths of animals.” Cochrane then demonstrates that even if the meat industry claims are taken at face value, far more crops are raised to feed livestock than would be needed to feed a vegetarian world, and that therefore raising crops for human consumption kills and otherwise harms the fewest animals of all food production options.

Cochrane’s case would tend to favor veganism over vegetarianism, except that Cochrane believes that in theory humans could produce dairy products and eggs without actually harming animals, albeit that the volume of production would be much lower than present consumer demand, and that the costs of production would be relatively high.

While accepting pet-keeping and even pet-breeding, to a limited extent, Cochrane points out that, “The animal interest is avoiding suffering is strong and compelling. The human interest in maintaining a suffering breed, on the other hand, can only be described as trivial..While not ruling out all forms of animal breeding, this conclusion does require the end of breeding that creates animals who are more vulnerable to suffering than ordinary members of their species. This conclusion thus implies the loss of certain breeds of pet animals.”

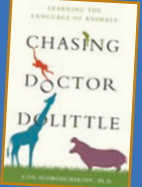
Cochrane never mentions pit bulls, but his argument is in effect an case for prohibiting pit bull breeding: pit bulls have never been more than 5% of the U.S. dog population, but are 20% of the dogs impounded in cruelty and neglect cases.

Cochrane also addresses conservationist arguments for the extermination of non-native species.

“The first thing to consider,” Cochrane suggests, “is whether the premise that non-native species cause harm is accurate...Claims that invoke the ‘natural’ by way of explanation are dubious in the extreme.” Cochrane continues, having earlier explored the considerable evolution of concepts of “natural” human and animal rights. “It is not clear,” Cochrane concludes, “why these animals should be denied the right to life simply because they are non-native. Their interests in continued life are pressing and should be given due consideration, just like those of any other sentient animal.” —Merritt Clifton

Chasing Doctor Doolittle
Learning the Language of Animals
by Con Slobodchikoff. Ph.D.

St. Martin’s Press (c/o MacMillan, 175 Fifth Avenue, New York,
NY 10010), 2012. 308 pages, hardcover, \$25.99.



“My parents left Russia around the time of the Communist Revolution, and made the trek across Siberia to live in exile in China,” opens Con Slobodchikoff. “I was born in Shanghai...Then my family moved to the U.S. and I was enrolled in school in San Francisco.”

Slobodchikoff at age five slowly learned his third of three languages that have not even an alphabet in common, while his teachers presumed that he was stupid, disobedient, or afflicted with a speech impediment.

Along the way, Slobodchikoff gathered insights into the nature of language which later enabled him to decode the communications of species as varied as bees, lizards, crows, field mice, and prairie dogs. Most significantly, Slobodchikoff developed an ear and an instinct for recognizing grammar and vocabulary in what to most listeners seem to be single animal utterances.

Suspecting that animals of differing size, longevity, and metabolism might perceive sound differently, Slobodchikoff and others experimented with recording the cries and songs of many different species, then playing the recording back at varying speeds. Time and again Slobodchikoff et al discovered that each species has a particular communication frequency at which seemingly continuous sounds break down into separate units of meaning, strung together in various ways to communicate more specific information than a single sound could.

In short, Slobodchikoff and colleagues learned that animals not only share information with each other, but share it in much the same manner as humans. When sounds that are too high and too low to be easily heard by humans are taken into account, even some of the seemingly most silent animals turn out to be saying quite a lot to each other, though not to us. Some animals seem to be overheard and understood to a degree by other species. And some, notably prairie dogs, are verifiably talking about us.

Now a professor emeritus at Northern Arizona University, Slobodchikoff turned relatively late in his academic career to studying Gunnison’s prairie dogs, proposed several times for threatened species status.

From his prior studies of linguistic ability in other species, Slobodchikoff soon recognized that Gunnison’s prairie dogs appeared to have a much more sophisticated vocabulary than humans have yet decoded among any other animals, from bats to whales. For instance, Gunnison’s prairie dogs use different warning whistles to alert each other to the presence of each of their major predators: hawks, owls, eagles, badgers, coyotes, dogs, and humans. Gunnison’s prairie dogs are able to indicate the direction from which a predator may be coming, and the speed at which the predator is approaching. Different evasive action may be taken, depending on the species and behavior of the predator.

Slobodchikoff learned through experimentation that Gunnison’s prairie dogs can also identify approaching humans by the colors of their shirts and can tell if a human has a gun. If five humans walk through a prairie dog colony at once, but only one of the humans is armed, Gunnison’s prairie dogs tell each other which human to most carefully avoid.

Slobodchikoff believes it is likely that other prairie dog species, other rodents, and perhaps many other animals communicate as precisely. We just have not discovered how to eavesdrop on their messages. Slobodchikoff suggests that humans have perhaps erred in looking for use of language first in the species most closely related to us, notably chimpanzees and gorillas, instead of looking first toward the most successful species of other orders, who may have obtained their advantages in part through making better use of language than other species with similar physical attributes.

Linking all of Slobodchikoff’s discoveries is his belief that just as animals have innate physical systems which conduct breathing, blood circulation, digestion, reproduction, sensory perception, and so forth, we have a “discourse system” which facilitates communication with others of our species. We even have a gene, identified as FoxP2, that may occur in all vertebrates and appears to convey communicative ability. More advanced species can communicate more information, but all vertebrates may have communicative ability as an essential function of life. —Merritt Clifton

Obituaries

“I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him. The evil men do lives after them. The good is oft interred with their bones.” —William Shakespeare

Babette Lewyt, rescuer who rescued the North Shore Animal League

Elisabeth “Babette” Lewyt, in her nineties and believed to have been close to 100, died on December 10, 2012. A resident of Sands Point, Long Island, New York, Mrs. Lewyt had headed the North Shore Animal League in nearby Port Washington since 1969. Born in Chartres, France, “she would often take in stray dogs and cats, earning her the nickname ‘Saint Babette,’” wrote *Christian Science Monitor* staff writer Kirsten A. Conover in 1996. As quiet as her late husband Alexander M. Lewyt was ebullient, including in developing the promotional techniques that are now almost universal in humane work, Mrs. Lewyt disclosed little else about herself before their marriage in 1956.

Whether Mrs. Lewyt had any formal association with humane work in France is unknown, but the SPA de Lyon, 240 miles east of Chartres, founded in 1853, is among the oldest humane societies in the world, had extensive youth outreach programs in the early 20th century similar to the Bands of Mercy promoted in the U.S. by the American Humane Education Society subsidiary of the Massachusetts SPCA, and may also have influenced Princess Elizabeth de Croy, who was born about halfway between Lyon and Chartres in 1921 and founded the Refuge de Thiernay sanctuary in 1968.

Alex Lewyt, recalled Sarah Lyall of *The New York Times* after his death in 1988, was “born in the Washington Heights section of Manhattan in 1908, the son of an Austrian immigrant who ran a shop near Gramercy Park in Manhattan that made metallic gadgets like coat hangers. By the time he was in high school, he was working for his father, fashioning such things as metal holders for harmonicas. When he heard an undertakers’ supplier complain that it was hard to fasten neckties around corpses, Alex, not yet 16, devised a new kind of bow tie that would clip on. He sold 50,000 of them.”

Inheriting the family business at age 18, Alex Lewyt continually expanded and diversified, despite the Great Depression, adding clients including International Business Machines Inc., best known as IBM. Employing more than 500 people at the outbreak of World War II, the Lewyt Corporation added another 1,500 people almost overnight to make bomb sights, radar and electronic equipment, a night vision device that remained classified until 1955, and a machine Alex Lewyt invented to clean naval gun barrels at sea.

Overhearing a female assembly line worker remark that the gun-cleaning device could be adapted to household cleaning, Lewyt designed his most famous invention, the Lewyt

vacuum cleaner, and by December 1944 was already preparing to transition from wartime production mode to producing vacuum cleaners and other devices for the post-war civilian sector. Lewyt also made popcorn poppers and air conditioners, and continued to make equipment for military use as well, landing a \$16.7 million contract with the U.S. Army Signal Corps in 1950. The Lewyt vacuum cleaner, however, remained his greatest success before the Lewyts took over the North Shore Animal League.

Jeffrey Gitomer, author of *The Sales Bible*, in 2003 recalled that Lewyt advertised his vacuum cleaner “before production was finished and created a demand in the market with no product, a market vacuum, if you will pardon the pun. When the cleaner finally emerged on the market, it was swept up, generating \$4 million in sales in four years.”

Much of Lewyt’s success resulted from swiftly recovering from serious mistakes.

Recalled Sandy McLendon of *Jetset*, also in 2003, “Lewyt’s round canister could have been used as a prop spaceship. The machine was extremely well-made, but it had no wheels or runners.”

Run over accidentally by a grocery store delivery boy named Martin Roche, Lewyt reaped a publicity bonanza by awarding Roche a four-year scholarship to Columbia University in exchange for the right to add the wheel arrangement from Roche’s improvised grocery cart to the Lewyt vacuum cleaners.

“Another Lewyt problem was the name,” McLendon noted. “Almost no one reading it could pronounce it. Finally, some unsung advertising genius,” probably Lewyt himself, “came up with the slogan that solved everything: ‘Do It With Lewyt.’ It says a lot for the innocence of the era that the ad raised sales, not snickers.”

Alex Lewyt is today noted by online sources for predicting to *The New York Times* in 1955 that “Nuclear-powered vacuum cleaners will probably be a reality in 10 years,” and for having turned down a chance to sponsor *The \$64,000 Question*, which became the biggest hit in early television. But Lewyt may have been best known at the time as a wealthy bachelor, who enjoyed speedboating, had been featured on the cover of the March 1950 edition of the popular magazine *Collier’s*, and was frequently mentioned by syndicated social columnists Walter Winchell and Hal Boyle, among others. More than 3,500 women wrote to express interest in Lewyt after John MacLeod profiled him in the November 12, 1950 edition of *The American Woman*, but Lewyt reportedly found none of them more interesting than his vacuum cleaners. Instead, looking for things to do with his money, Lewyt spent much of

1950 building an immense collection of antique clocks.

By 1952 Lewyt was living part-time in France, and had begun collecting art. He recounted to reporters that his first art acquisition of note came as a boy, when he traded five jelly beans for a Babe Ruth baseball card, just before Ruth emerged as a superstar.

The first published mention of Elisabeth Lewyt came when Alex Lewyt bought a Maurice Utrillo painting of Chartres for her as a wedding gift. For the next dozen years Mrs. Lewyt was quietly in the background as Alex Lewyt accepted the French Legion of Honor for wartime service to France, founded a Museum of Household Implements directed by his sister Margaret, started a program

to employ senior citizens in 1957, sold the Lewyt Corporation in 1973, and collected paintings by Cezanne, Degas, Bonnard, Renoir, and most famously, “The Man With the Axe,” by Paul Gauguin. Many of the paintings were later donated to the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Believed to have been Alex Lewyt’s art scout and advisor, Mrs. Lewyt was known to have eight purebred golden retrievers.

While Alex Lewyt built his manufacturing empire, Long Island animal advocate Marianne H. Sanders on May 1, 1944 incorporated the North Shore Animal League to bid for the Town of North Hempstead animal control contract, in competition with laboratory suppliers. Her inspiration was apparently the work of Bide-A-Wee Home founder Flora Kibbe, who had opened shelters in New York City, Wantagh, and Westhampton before her death in 1943.

Sanders won and held the Town of North Hempstead sheltering contract for 13 years by subsidizing the work with thrift store proceeds. Sanders sought from the outset to maintain a no-kill policy for healthy dogs. Cats arrived only when North Hempstead residents brought them. The cats were killed, at first, but within a year Sanders started a cat adoption program.

North Shore rehomed 73 of 342 dogs handled in 1946, an outstanding record for the era. By 1956, serving seven of the nine Great Neck villages, North Shore managed to return 250 dogs to their homes, adopting out 308.

Sanders in 1957 retired to California, but returned to help the shelter in the early 1960s. As the Long Island human population grew, North Shore had to choose between being no-kill and doing animal control. It gave up the animal control contracts, at huge loss of revenue. Only 129 animals were rehomed in 1968. The North Shore Animal League had no paid staff and was on the verge of dissolution when Mrs. Lewyt heard about the shelter and the situation, and brought Alex Lewyt to a mid-1969 board meeting.

“My wife adored animals, and I adored my wife,” Alex Lewyt recalled.

The Lewyts recruited their neighbor, Perry Como, to serve as celebrity chair of a membership drive. They drove through affluent Long Island neighborhoods collecting the names of people with dogs to call. The U.S. Postal Service had just been privatized in 1969, and had just introduced bulk mail presort discounts, so the Lewyts brought in experienced direct mail marketing help from *Reader’s Digest*, headquartered nearby on Long Island, and introduced a sweepstakes fundraising promotion modeled after *Reader’s Digest’s* own.

Most significantly, the Lewyts featured Como in prominent paid advertisements to promote shelter adoptions. Never before had a humane organization paid to advertise adoptions, in competition with pet stores and breeders. Conventional humane societies fumed that North Shore was treating animals like commodities—while those humane societies killed more than a quarter of a million dogs and cats in New York City per year, plus another quarter million in nearby suburbs. By 1972 North Shore had pushed adoptions up to 3,000 per year, leading the world, and was often running low on adoptable animals. Mrs. Lewyt began to make headlines by driving her station wagon to nearby pounds and paying \$10 apiece for as many dogs as they were willing to release from death row.

As revenue rose, North Shore added professional staff, including 10-year ASPCA humane officer Mike Arms as director of shelter operations in 1976, and dog trainer Charlie



Babette & Alex Lewyt with five of their dogs. (North Shore Animal League)

McGinley two years later, to help prepare dogs rescued from pounds for successful adoption. Heading the Helen Woodward Animal Center in Rancho Santa Fe, California since 1999, Arms in 20 years at North Shore boosted adoptions to a peak of 44,000 per year. Arms also introduced adoption co-promotion with other shelters, including the spring Pet Adoptathon, begun in 1995, now celebrated worldwide. After moving to the Helen Woodward Animal Center, Arms in 2000 started the similar Home 4 The Holidays program.

Arms extended Mrs. Lewyt’s animal acquisition outreach into the rural South. Instead of merely paying the redemption fees for adoptable animals, North Shore in 1990 began making grants to shelters to fund dog and cat sterilization. Shelters participating in the program advertised, “Bring us the litter and we’ll spay the mother for free.”

Thirty-one shelters participated in the shelter transport program by 1992.

Humane relocation was attacked by North Shore critics as “relocating pet overpopulation,” but cities whose shelters joined the North Shore program were soon killing far fewer homeless animals. Shelter killing in the New York City area meanwhile fell faster than anywhere else in the U.S.

The Lewyts in 1976 co-founded the Northeast Animal Shelter, of Salem, Massachusetts. Operating two shelters so far apart proved impractical. An amicable separation followed. The Northeast Animal Shelter also pioneered adoption transport, beginning in 1990.

The main North Shore shelter gradually expanded to occupy most of a large city block, surrounding the original shelter location at the end of an alley now called Lewyt Street.

After Alex Lewyt’s death, Mrs. Lewyt mostly entrusted the management of the North Shore Animal League to the staff, but continued to visit the shelter daily, for as long as her health allowed, to walk dogs and perform other chores alongside other volunteers, who seldom realized at first that she was actually the head of the organization.

“Babette’s passion and devotion to saving the lives of homeless animals led to Animal League America becoming the world’s largest no-kill animal rescue and adoption organization,” eulogized John Stevenson, who joined the staff as an attorney in 1988 and ascended to the presidency in 1993.

Rainforest activist drowned in surf

Rebecca Tarbotton, 39, executive director of the Rainforest Action Network since August 2010, drowned on December 26, 2012 at a beach near Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, where she was vacationing with her husband and friends. Originally from Vancouver, British Columbia, she interned with the David Suzuki Foundation before joining the San Francisco-based Rainforest Action Network.



Elisabeth “Babette” Lewyt (North Shore Animal League)

Samantha Mullen fought animal hoarding done in the name of no-kill sheltering

Samantha Mullen, 73, of Glenmont, New York, died on December 21, 2012 at the Hospice Inn at St. Peter’s Hospital in Albany. Born in Evansville, Indiana, Mullen earned a Ph.D. in French and taught French at the State University of New York’s New Paltz campus before becoming executive director of the New York State Humane Association circa 1982. In that capacity Mullen led a series of raids that eventually closed the Animals Farm Home, at Ellenville, New York. Founder Justin McCarthy had been described by *Newsweek* in 1984 as “St. Francis of the Catskills,” and by *Reader’s Digest* in 1986 as “a real-life Dr. Doolittle.”

But as *The New York Times* eventually revealed, McCarthy had been convicted of six armed robberies. Purporting to operate a no-kill care-for-life sanctuary, McCarthy at the Animals Farm Home allegedly took in

more than 1,000 dogs, 70 cats, and various other animals between 1981 and 1987, plus \$500,000 in donations. The money vanished while most of the animals starved. Mullen and fellow investigators in November 1987 found 475 animals alive at the Animals Farm Home, of whom 175 were so severely debilitated that they were euthanized at the scene, and found the remains of about 200 more animals.

Mullen went on to raid and prosecute many other alleged animal hoarders who claimed to operate no-kill shelters—and to point out at every opportunity the weakness of New York state laws governing shelter management. As an example, Mullen mentioned Edna Senecal, who founded the Estherville Animal Shelter in Greenfield, New York, in 1952. Cited repeatedly for alleged neglect after 1973, Senecal was in 1991 convicted of 100 counts of cruelty, but continued to direct the shelter

until her death in 2007. Mullen in 1994 became director of animal care and sheltering for the Humane Society of the U.S., in which capacity she attended the first No Kill Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, in 1995. Mostly, however, Mullen represented the policies and perspectives of her mentor Phyllis Wright, the first HSUS companion animal program director. Wright, who died in October 1992, authored the 1967 essay “Why we must euthanize,” which was canon for shelter workers trained before the advent of high-volume, low-cost dog and cat sterilization, when the volume of shelter killing was about eight times higher than today. Wright—and Mullen—argued that while a few very affluent and well-managed adoption shelters can operate on a no-kill basis, attempting to operate a shelter without killing unadoptable animals will usually lead to hoarding, as indeed often occurs. Mullen also echoed Wright’s criticism

of neuter/return feral cat control as “neuter/abandonment,” doubting the quality of life of most feral cats. HSUS nonetheless became markedly more accepting of no-kill sheltering and neuter/return during Mullen’s tenure. Mullen also led investigations of dogfighting, lobbied for stronger animal protection laws on a variety of topics, and in 2005 helped to lead the post-Hurricane Katrina relief effort. Upon retirement from HSUS, Mullen returned to the New York State Humane Association. Mullen’s last investigation helped to close the Angel’s Gate “animal hospice” in Delhi, New York. Facing 22 cruelty charges and a lawsuit brought by the New York State attorney general’s office for falling four years behind in filing financial reports, founder Susan Marino disbanded Angel’s Gate at the end of October 2012 as a judicially recommended condition of possibly having the cruelty cases dismissed.

NIH begins to retire most of chimp inventory from research

SHREVEPORT—The National Institutes of Health Council of Councils Working Group on January 23, 2013 “agreed that all but 50 of hundreds of chimpanzees kept for federally funded research should be retired from labs and sent to a national sanctuary,” summarized Janet McConnaughey of Associated Press.

“Already,” McConnaughey reported a day later, “nine chimpanzees have arrived at Chimp Haven, outside Shreveport, Louisiana, “from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette’s New Iberia Research Center, which no longer has an NIH chimp research contract.”

Another 102 chimps were expected to come from New Iberia during the next few months. Four NIH chimps at New Iberia were said to be too ill to relocate. About 230 chimps belonging to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette are to remain at New Iberia.

The NIH pledged in 2011 to phase out most invasive research on chimps. An 86-page set of recommendations released by the Council of Councils Working Group suggests that chimps should henceforth be used in research only if there is no other way to investigate a risk to human health. The recommendations are to go to NIH director Francis S. Collins for final approval following a 60-day public comment period.

“We should see more than 300 chimpanzees getting moved to the federal sanctuary system,” projected Humane Society of the U.S. vice president for animal research Kathleen Conlee. HSUS in December 2012 made a grant of \$500,000 to Chimp Haven to help build \$2.3 million worth of facilities needed to accommodate the additional chimps, who will nearly double the Chimp Haven population. Chimp Haven had 121 chimps when the transfers from New Iberia began.

The HSUS grant was supported by a contribution from philanthropist Audrey Steele Burnand, said HSUS president Wayne Pacelle. Chimp Haven has also received pledges for \$100,000 from the New England Anti-Vivisection Society and \$25,000 from the National Anti-Vivisection Society, reported Richard Burgess of the *Baton Rouge Advocate*. Originally, recalled Burgess, “The plan was to send 10 animals to Chimp Haven and to send the remaining 100 to the Texas Biomedical Institute in San Antonio, with the understanding that the animals would be permanently ineligible for further use in biomedical research.” The plan was revised, Burgess said, after “Several animal rights groups objected to sending any of the animals to another research facility.”

NIH is in theory to contribute 75% of the cost of keeping the chimps at Chimp Haven, estimated at about \$13,000 per chimp per year. However, total NIH spending for construction and care of chimps at Chimp Haven has been capped at \$30 million, a total now looming, Burgess reported. Lifting the cap will require a Congressional apportionment.

The NIH Council of Councils Working Group recommends that chimps should be kept in groups of at least seven, with about 1,000 square feet of outdoor space per chimp, including all-year outdoor access to play yards surfaced with a variety of natural materials such as grass, dirt, and mulch, with climbing structures sufficient to let all members of large troupes travel, feed, and rest as if in trees, and with material to allow them to build new sleeping nests each day.

Currently, chimps at Chimp Haven “can climb trees and walk through the woods, just as a wild chimpanzee would,” founder Lin-

da Brent told Burgess. But Brent will not have the challenge of expanding the habitat to ensure that the newcomers have the same opportunities. Brent retired at the end of 2012, as she had announced she would a year earlier, to spend more time with her husband, who works near Houston. Incorporating Chimp Haven in 1995, Brent “persuaded the Caddo Parish government to donate 200 acres in the Eddie D. Jones Nature Park near Keithville.” McConnaughey of Associated Press recalled. “In 2002, Congress approved up to \$30 million for construction and chimp care. The first 31 chimpanzees arrived in 2005.” Succeeding Brent is Cathy Willis Sprae-tz, identified by McConnaughey as “former president and CEO of Partnership against Domestic Violence and other non-profits in the Atlanta area.”

Altogether, about 950 chimps are still held at U.S. research facilities, of whom nearly 400 will remain at five federally funded primate centers after the transfers to Chimp Haven.

According to *A Review of Autopsy Reports on Chimpanzees in or from U.S. Laboratories*, published in the October 2012 journal *Alternatives to Laboratory Animals*, necropsies on 110 U.S. laboratory chimps who have died since 2000 found that 64% of those chimpanzees suffered from serious chronic illnesses, while 69% had diseases which should have caused them to be retired from research use.

“All chimpanzees suffering chronic or incurable physical or psychological illness should be immediately released to sanctuary,” said study co-author and NEAVS president Theodora Capaldo. “They deserve,” Capaldo said, “to spend every minute of their remaining years in the comfort and safety of a healing environment.”

Israeli laboratory monkey breeder is believed likely to close

TEL AVIV—The Israeli laboratory monkey supplier Mazor Farm “is expected to close down in two years,” Ilian Lior of *Haaretz* reported on January 6, 2013, “following environmental protection minister Gilad Erdan’s decision to ban the export of animals born in the wild for experimentation. Since Israeli research institutions need only a few dozen monkeys a year,” Lior wrote, “the Mazor farm will no longer be economically viable. It is therefore expected to close after a two-year transition period.”

Wrote Erdan in December 2012 to Israeli attorney general Yehuda Weinstein, “I intend to ban the import of wild animals by intermediaries who breed and then export them to other countries,” for “moral, ideological, and educational” reasons, “intended mainly to reduce the animals’ suffering and the harm caused to them.”

Weinstein agreed to to ban the export of wild-caught animals for experimentation, but allowed Mazor Farm to continue sell monkeys for lab use within in Israel, and to also continue exporting captive-bred monkeys.

But Mazor Farms is not expected to be able to maintain an economically competitive monkey breeding business, amid indications that global demand for monkeys may be contracting.

British Union Against Vivisection director Sarah Kite in October 2012 released to media photos of large numbers of monkeys—possibly hundreds—who were allegedly killed by lethal injection at the Noveprim breeding farm in Mauritius, after growing beyond the optimum size for housing in standard laboratory cages. The BUAV alleged that Noveprim has also killed pregnant monkeys and baby monkeys for whom there were no buyers. Noveprim has in the past exported as many as 10,000 monkeys per year to labs in the U.S., Britain, and Spain. Suppliers in Mauritius sold 3,011 monkeys to U.S. labs in 2011, second only to Chinese suppliers, who sold 12,636 monkeys to U.S. customers, according to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service documentation obtained by the International Primate Protection League.

The BUAV disclosures came about three months after Administrative Tribunal

Judge Elizabeth Lozzi Claudia Moreno, of Cundinmarca, Colombia, revoked a permit to capture up to 4,000 night monkeys, which had been issued to lab supplier Manuel Elkin Pataroyo by the Colombian Ministry of Environment and the Corporation for Sustainable Development of Southern Amazonia, even though Patroyo reportedly had a history of infringing wildlife protection laws in Colombia and Cambodia dating back to 1984.

The Patroyo case was brought to court by wild monkey researcher Angela Maldonado, of Fundacio Entropika, with investigative help from Animal Defenders International and publicity support from Kinship Circle.

There is no better way to remember animals or animal people than with an ANIMAL PEOPLE memorial. Send donations (any amount), with address for acknowledgement, if desired, to P.O. Box 960, Clinton, WA 98236.

Killing of “retired” racehorses & racing greyhounds shocks Australia

MELBOURNE—Run since 1861 on the first Tuesday of each November, fourteen years longer than the Kentucky Derby, the Melbourne Cup is marketed as “The race that stops a nation.”

What stopped Australian attention most in November 2012, though, may have been undercover video posted online by the Coalition for the Protection of Racehorses, showing injured racehorses being shot dead at the Laverton Knackery west of Melbourne. “The allegations are being investigated by the state’s meat regulator, PrimeSafe, as well as the Royal SPCA [of Australia],” reported *Melbourne Age* political correspondent Richard Willingham, “after Animals Australia—the group that uncovered cruelty to Australian cattle in Indonesia in 2011—made a formal complaint. In a detailed letter to the Department of Primary Industries, Animals Australia claims dozens of breaches of animal cruelty, hygiene, welfare and meat industry laws, which could result in the cancellation or suspension of the business’ licence.”

Animals Australia told the Department of Primary Industries that in one instance a worker “shot the horse twice, did not ensure the horse was dead, and then tied the horse to a tractor and dragged him across 60 meters of concrete and gravel, after which he was found to still be breathing. The worker shot the horse again and the horse’s throat was then slit, and the horse continued to make purposeful movements, paddling his legs and lifting his head

off the ground until he died.” “Zoos Victoria has ceased all supply arrangements with Laverton Pet Supplies following the presentation of evidence from Animals Australia showing inhumane treatment of horses at their premise,” Melbourne and Werribee zoos director Kevin Tanner told the *Melbourne Age*. “The racing industry can’t stand up and say they love these horses and then the next day when they can no longer earn money at the races get a bullet in the head and be killed for dogmeat,” Coalition for the Protection of Racehorses spokesperson Ward Young told Guy Stayner of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

Reported Stayner, “There are currently about 15,000 thoroughbred foals born every year [in Australia]. The industry calls the number of horses lost to racing each year ‘wastage.’” About 8,500 Australian racehorses per year are retired from racing, Royal SPCA of Australia president Hugh Wirth told Stayner, “mostly due to injury, due to the fact they are prepared for racing when they were juveniles and not mature in bone and limb.” This suggests that only about half of the thoroughbred foals born each year ever reach a race track—which would be more than reached race tracks five years ago. At that time, the RSPCA of Australia found, about 10,000 racehorses per year were slaughtered, and only

about 30% of the foals born were eventually raced. Australian horse racing industry spokespersons say about two-thirds of the thoroughbred foals born each year are raced. Either way, those who fall short of racing grade or pull up lame are among the 50,000 to 70,000 horses who are sold to slaughter in Australia each year. Some of the meat is exported to foreign markets for human consumption; some is processed into animal food. Though Western Australia minister for agriculture and food Terry Redman in June 2010 approved the slaughter of horses for human consumption, only one novelty meat butcher is known to supply horsemeat for human consumption within Australia.

The racehorse slaughter controversy blew up simultaneously with shock over a November 10, 2012 report by Timothy McDonald of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation about the admission of Greyhound Racing New South Wales that about 3,000 ex-racing greyhounds per year are killed in NSW alone. Some greyhounds are offered for adoption, but the major alternate destination for “retired” Australian racing greyhounds is export to the Macau Canidrome, the only legal greyhound track in China.

The Canidrome kills about 35 greyhounds per month. “They are usually put down if they fail to finish in the top three for five consecutive races,” according to Simon Parry of the *South China Morning Post*.

Memorials

In memory of Woofy, a joyous rescue belonging to my neighbor, Mary Deming Christensen. Woofy was treasured by everyone on the block and ran constantly even on his misshapen little front feet.

—Alice Holzman

In memory of Shiloh and Stew.

—Ruby Maalouf

In memory of Bootie.

—Laurie Goodman

To the memory of a great animal friend, Mary/Marijke Williams. We will miss you and never forget you. We hope you are with your Akita Ninja.

—Hilde Wilson

Que #1, you really were #1. We miss you. You were so special and survived six long years wandering the University Village, looking for food and shelter. I was so lucky to have you for ten very good years. Thank you for making those years so much fun. Always in my heart,

—Hilde Wilson and Que #2



In memory of Baxter, precious cat of Lindy and Marvin Sobel. Baxter was about 19 years old, taken in with a group of other elderly cats when their previous caretaker couldn’t keep them. Wrote Lindy, “Bax had been fighting lymphoma, and went down very fast. His greatest pleasure was to play in the large water bowl, but at the end he could not even look at it. Our house is a bit ‘colder’ without Baxter in it. It is so hard to go into his room without crying. His father and sister are very upset and hiding under the quilt. Death is the only time our beloved animals break our hearts.”

In memory of Marilyn David’s dog Dax, adopted from Doberman Rescue, which took him in after he was abandoned on the streets of New Orleans and was found sick, starving, and shot up with BBs at about six months old.

In memory of the glaucous-winged gull with the broken wing, removed from a busy road by three young men working at the Honda dealership nearby, and held tightly in a towel by Wolf Clifton as she was driven to the Progressive Animal Welfare Society Wildlife Center in Lynnwood, Washington. Unfortunately, they could not save her because in addition to the badly fractured wing, she had internal bleeding, and was euthanized.

Your love for animals can go on forever.

The last thing we want is to lose our friends, but you can help continue our vital educational mission with a bequest to ANIMAL PEOPLE [a 501(c)(3) charitable corporation, federal ID# 14-1752216]

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www.youtube.com/watch?v=0JXcPxxSGE

Based on Hindu mythology, this is the story of Yudisthira, a pious king whose place in Heaven is determined by his love for a dog. Animated by Wolf Clifton in the style of an Indonesian shadow puppet play.

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