Beijing bans selling songbirds

BEIJING—Trafficking in song threeds and six other bird species often kept as caged pets is now banned throughout China, effective since January 1, 2008. Birds already in private possession may remain with those who have them, but may not be sold or traded.
The seven prohibited bird species, also including parakeets, larks, and mynas, were reportedly the first additions since 1989 to the Chinese list of protected wildlife.
“The aim is to try to save China’s dwindling numbers of birds,” reported Jane MacCartney, Beijing correspondent for the London Times.
But while billed as a conservation measure, the ban appears to have multiple goals, including helping to protect the public from the deadly avian flu H5N1, and comes as the Chinese government appears to be experimentally inching toward passage of long promised national humane legislation.
A national humane law, rumored for (continued on page 10)

Send zoo cats to sanctuaries?

SAN FRANCISCO—Carlos Souza, 17, on Christmas Day 2007 may have meant to provoke a violent response from a San Francisco Zoo tiger named Taitiana, though that may never be known for sure. His ensuing death provoked heated global debate over the ethics of exhibiting wildlife.

The lion Neo and nine leopards from a defunct amusement park in Austria, along with two lions rescued from substandard situations in Romania, on November 28, 2007 leaped from transport cages into a newly built 45,000-square-meter habitat at the Lusernrock Sanctuary in South Africa. A subsidiary of the Austrian charity Vet Pfoten, Lusernrock, one of the few big cat sanctuaries worldwide offering a semblance of a wild habitat, will formally open to visitors in February 2008. (Photo by Amr Khaled)

ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care

January/February 2008
Volume XVIII, #1

Egyptian humane movement strives to grow as quickly as
carrying populations of street dogs and feral cats. The numbers of organizations, shelters, mobile clinics, animal hospitals, volunteers, and local donors are all increasing at an unprecedented pace.
The Brooke Hospital for Equines, operating in Cairo since 1934, now serves more than 200,000 horses and donkeys each year—more than it did in all of the first 60 years that it existed.
The Brooke, though the oldest con-
tinuously operating animal welfare society in Egypt, was scarcely the first in Egypt. Eight Egyptian humane societies were represented at the first International Humane Congress, held in Washington D.C., in 1910.
Egypt was also represented at the six ensuing International Humane Congresses, convened in London, Helsingborg, Copen-
hagen, Philadelphia, Brussels, and Vienna at sporadic intervals until 1947.
But never before have socio-econo-
mic conditions in Egypt seemed as con-
ductive to growing an animal protection move-
ment with deep local roots.
“No doubt that there is a boom—
with 10 shelters for animals now operating in
Egypt, and many articles in the press about animals,” says Society for the Protection of
Animal Rights in Egypt founder Amina Abaza.
“this has never happened before.”
Egyptian cultural history provides a
strong base to build from. Reminders of the
ancient Egyptian regard for cats, birds, wildlife, and dogs are omnipresent. Cats have never been persecuted in Egypt, as they have in Europe and parts of Asia, and even street cats are consequently conspiciously bold and vocal.
Egypt today is 94% Muslim and 6%
Coptic Christian. “Animal advocacy is firmly rooted within Islam,” Abaza notes, “but many people observe Islam in superficial aspects and forget about its real essence.”
Other socio-demographic factors of
importance include rising family incomes, a
rapid drift away from occupational involve-
ment in raising animals for food or using them
for work, and soaring levels of education, especially among women.
Increased cultural contact with
Europe is another factor—but while expatriate economic contributions to Egyptian humane societies are still important, as in the past, Egyptian-founded organizations such as SPARE, the Egyptian Society of Animal Friends, and Egyptian-sponsored efforts by Mercy to Animals are now taking leadership roles.
Egyptian organizations are also emerging as regional leaders. The Middle East
Network for Animal Welfare, begun by ESAF
(continued on page 8)

Caged songbirds—a common sight throughout much of Asia. (Kim Bartlett)

Man brings horse to Animal Care in Egypt clinic in Luxor. (Kim Bartlett)

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(continued on page 11)

(continued on page 11)
You’re Their Hero

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- Patrick McDonnell, prize-winning cartoonist creator of Mutts® comic strip, and board member of The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)
- Berkeley Breathed, Pulitzer-Prize winning creator of Bloom County comic strip and author of the book Plowed Dogs

Featured Speakers

- Rich Arranzino, President, Maddie’s Fund
- Michael Arnes, President, Helen Woodward Animal Center
- Bryan Bliss, Executive Director, Neighborhood Cats
- Jennifer Perring, Chief Economist, The HSUS
- Donna Reynolds, Co-founder and Executive Director, Bay Area Dog lovers Responsible About Pit Bulls (BAD RAP)

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Editorial feature

What is the future of Islamic animal welfare?

At each of the post two Edus, the Feast of Sacrifice that culminates the Haj or Islamic season of pilgrimage to Mecca, ANIMAL PEOPLE publisher Kim Bartlett and son Wolf Clifton were in cities where many Muslim people practice animal sacrifice in honor of the occasion: Mecca, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt. Also in Egypt for the 2007 Eid was Animal People, Inc. alternate board member Kristin Fiedler, a field director of the government of Princeton University law school in Evanston, Illinois. Stili had been in Jordan the two days prior to the Eid, helping with an Animals Australia investigation of the livestock trade, but had returned to Cairo by the time the Eid arrived. It was as the first female scholar on the occasion: Mumbai, India and Luxor, Egypt.

All three, plus ANIMAL PEOPLE editor Merrill Clifton, participated in the first Middle East Network for Animal Welfare conference, held in Cairo a few days before the Eid. The conference is the first scholarly gathering to focus on the ethical and practical implications of animal sacrifice. One of the goals of the conference is to help clarify the role of sacrifice in Islamic history for those who wish to understand the teaching of Islam.

The mission of the conference was to gather the views of Islamic scholars from around the world, to understand their perspectives, and then to share the information with the audience in the hopes that a more informed audience could contribute to the debate.

The conference was also an opportunity to hear from a wide range of Islamic scholars who are working to develop a more humane approach to animal sacrifice. The conference included presentations by, among others, Dr. Reyad El-Din, an Islamic scholar, and Dr. Ahmed el-Khatib, an Islamic scholar and animal rights activist.

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We invite readers to submit letters and original unpublished commentary—please, nothing already posted on a web site—addressed to our editor, ANIMAL PEOPLE, P.O. Box 960, Clinton, WA 98236 USA.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Saw your most interesting article “Greekpease says ‘Eat roots’” in the August/September 2007 issue of ANIMAL PEOPLE, P.O. Box 960, Clinton, WA 98236 USA.

I am writing to offer my congratulations to “Greekpeas” and to the editor for publishing this article.

Yes! Greekspeas are a revelation to those of us who never thought about eating peas in any other form than the traditional “Greek” style.

As a vegetarian, a health enthusiast, and a lover of vegetables, I have been very interested in learning more about the nutritional benefits of eating beans. Greekpeas are an excellent example of how to use them.

The article was very informative and presented the benefits of eating Greekpeas in a way that is easy to understand. I would encourage anyone who is interested in learning more about the nutritional benefits of beans to read this article.

I am also interested in learning more about other vegetables that are beneficial for health.

Thank you for publishing this article.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
Ohio Pork Producers Take A Stand on Animal Cruelty

Earlier this year, a Wayne County judge found Joe Wilks, manager of Wilks Hog Farm in Creston, Ohio, guilty of animal cruelty. Wilks was fined and sentenced to probation. The video evidence gathered at Wilks Farm by a Humane Farming Association (HFA) investigator caught Wilks abusing pigs in violation of the state’s anti-cruelty statute.

Most disturbing of the cruelty documented at Wilks Farm was its practice of killing sick and injured pigs by slamming a crowbar around their necks and then attaching the crowbar to a front end loader. The loader would be driven as the pigs struggled and slowly strangled to death over a period of up to five minutes. The Wilks Farm owner actually admitted to hanging pigs in this way for 40 years, stating, “We hang our guns like they do people in Iran.”

Misleading the Public

When graphic evidence of animal cruelty at Wilks Farm was aired on television news reports, the Ohio Pork Producers Council attempted to distance itself from Wilks Farm. In a written statement, the director of the Ohio Pork Producers assured the public that the cruelty documented on the Wilks Farm video “depicts mistreatment of hogs, including practices not condoned and in fact, abhorred by America’s pork producers.”

The Ohio Pork Producers went on to claim, “Misuse of animals is appalling to pork producers just as it is to others. We do not defend and will not accept such mistreatment.”

Well, that certainly sounded good.

But the Ohio Pork Producers would soon show where they really stood regarding animal cruelty. Right after the trial, just as soon as media attention faded, they did an about face—and awarded Wilks Farm $10,000 to help cover ongoing legal costs.

This provides yet another glaring example of the pork industry’s willingness to accept and defend even the most horrific forms of animal cruelty. And it illustrates the lengths its officials will go to mislead people about what actually takes place within the pork industry.

The Best Testimony Money Could Buy

Wilks Farm’s “expert” testified that the slow hanging of disabled pigs should not be considered cruelty.

Although the manager was found guilty of cruelty, Wilks Farm managed to escape convictions for its hanging of sick and injured pigs. This was largely due to the testimony of a paid industry apologist who contradicted established veterinary policies by testifying that slow death by hanging should not be considered cruelty.

Defense attorneys had to go all the way to Iowa to find a veterinarian willing to defend the cruelty documented at Wilks Farm. And they found that man in Dr. Paul Ambrozich.

Dr. Ambrozich’s testimony allowed the local judge to accept the absurd argument that slow strangulation is not cruel. This led to the acquittal of Wilks for the most serious charges brought by the prosecution.

In contrast to Dr. Ambrozich’s testimony, neither the American Association of Swine Veterinarians nor any other professional organization anywhere supports hanging animals to death.

Animal cruelty laws should not be undermined by the testimony of paid industry witnesses. The Humane Farming Association has called for the revocation of Dr. Ambrozich’s veterinary license, and we urge concerned citizens to join us.

Action Requested:

Please write or call e-mail the authorities who license Dr. Ambrozich. Inform them that his serum testimony fairly contradicts established veterinary standards and perpetuates animal abuse.

Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine
Iowa Department of Agriculture
Wallace Building
507 East 14th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
E-mail: jimmy.eason@d2.state.iowa.us

Prosecutor Frank Forchione: Doing the right thing.

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Visiting porcupine

A porcupine showed up the other day, and has taken to hanging around. He seems to be a nice fellow, but we are concerned, so we feed him and provide some shelter, he could become a hazard to the dogs or guests or sub- taneously attack them. Please let us know if you see him, so we can get him out of the area. We do not want to evict the escape from the house. What do you think?

—*Submitted by Mistle Saton, Quebec

Editor’s note:

Porcupines, most often seen in late winter and early spring, are quite beautiful. Just don’t surprise them, if behind a bush, or an old apple tree. They do not need and should not be given food and shelter. They are much better off feeding themselves. They usually eat fresh sweet beets, and yellow, deep in bitter trees.

KATC helping dogs

The Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre focuses on animal birth control for street dogs. Since November 2004 we have successfully demonstrated to the people in our city the importance of Animal Birth Control is the way to handle the population that in our locality poisoning is a thing that can kill people and animals. We need to stop this immediately, so that we do not of course, but it could be very well, in the worst case scenario with awareness is great positive. Kathmandu is the biggest city now, so that this not means that poisoning is not still done where the KATHMANDU, and other areas. But awareness is greatly needed and need to be expanded our project to other areas.

We have just been received two copies of ANIMAL PEOPLE. Thank you so very much. We look forward to sitting down and reading them. We do not doubt a whole small. Informative periodical we received on animal issues as well.

—Sonal Khatika

Kathmandu Animal Treatment Center
Gang Gsang Bahadur Bathganga
GPO Box 8975, EPC 4120
Kathmandu, Nepal
Phone: 977-1-4733169
E-mail: <sonal@animalpeople.org.np>
Website: <www.katc.org.np>

Patronizing penguins

I have enjoyed your coverage of par- ents who have taken residence in the U.S. I am sure that the friends and family of the熊猫 are not too pleased with the way they are being written and studied and reported about in their local set- tings, and be considered as immigrants. I am keen on the fact that the National Audubon Society is not to ready to see them that way.

—*Submitted by Suzanne Cordey
Manager, Feathered Friends Best Friends Animal Society
800 Angel Canyon Dr.
Kabul, UT 84741
E-mail: <scordey@bestfriends.org>
Website: <www.bestfriends.org>

Seeking to save Asian otters from fur trade

Could you please mention our otter fur campaign? The campaign is called “Forget-me-not”, as the otter is the forgotten animal of the fur trade. Everyone always thinks about tigers and leopards or elephant ivory, but the trade in otter furs is huge.

Recently there was a massive take of 778 otters in Tibet, and we are regularly getting reports of more and more skins found. Two days ago we received an e-mail from Cambodia which said that a research team at the Stope Lake Lake vicinity collected 10 kgs of smooth-coated otters and 6 kgs of hairy- nosed otters in four different village habitats.

And this just one incident. Many of the skins being traded are from the hairy-nosed otter, which we believe to be extinct in the wild. Reports of sales were later found in Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, and Malaysia. At the present rate of hunting, the hairy-nosed otter will soon probably be extinct, and this time there will be no great discovery of remaining population.

The main market for Southeast Asian otter furs is Tibet, where we often forms part of the national dress, the chuca. One could skins may be from as many as six or seven other. These costumes are worn at many festi-

val and official state functions.

The Forget-me-not campaign will raise funds to start immediate work in Cambodia, using a team of researchers already working there. They will train local resource people to oversee the legal protection of otters and enforced the local communities to take part in the otter conservation program.

—*Submitted by Yvon, Ph.D.
International Otter Survival Fund
Broadland, England
Phone: 01471-682287
E-mail: <yon@otter.org>
Website: <www.otter.org>

KACT: Helping animals in Pakistan

I live in Karachi, Pakistan. On December 28, 2007, my black male cat went missing from my house. He was an old cat, and sometimes required attention, so he was never a protection, but with the adjustment in the wildlife.

We have been mentioned in the New York Times. He was a very important cat, but with the adjustment in the wildlife.

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ANIMAL PEOPLE, January/February 2008 - 7

NEW DELHI—As many as 400 villagers in the Madhavan region of Tamil Nadu held traditional mass participation bullfights called jallikattu during the Pongal harvest festi-
val on January 17, 2008, after a three-judge panel of the Supreme Court of India on January 15 reversed an order halting jallikattu issued by a two-judge panel of the Supreme Court just four days earlier.

The original order was kept in effect a ban on jallikattu rendered by the Supreme Court in July 2007, reversing a verdict by the Madras High Court that allowed it. The Supreme Court is to hear an appeal of the July 2007 verdict filed by the government of Tamil Nadu later in 2008.

Jallikattu was allowed this year under condition, summarized the Deccan Herald, that “the authorities shall take all pre-
cautions that the animals are not tortured. There would be no cruelty on the animals. No liquor, no injury to any of the bulls.”

Tamil Nadu assistant solicitor genera-
l Gopal Subramanium told the Supreme Court that jallikattu should be permitted as a consti-
tutionally protected exercise of religion.

“There is a belief that if the bullfight is not organised, there will not be a good harvest next year,” Subramanium contended.

Responded the Supreme Court panel, “We do not approve of all the reasons given by the State of Tamil Nadu for modifying the order. However, it is pointed out that this is a part of the religious festival of Pongal, and villages have been celebrating the same from time immemorial”.

Subramanium cited intelligence reports suggesting that “in most villages, the people have decided to defy the Supreme Court order and to go ahead with jallikattu as usual. This situation would create a major law and order problem in many places…”

Responded one justice, according to J. Venkatraman of The Hindu, “If you say a law and order problem will arise in implementing the order, then no order can be passed by this court,” since any law must be enforced.

On January 16, the eve of Pongal, Coimbatore police arrested PETA founder Ingrid Newkirk, PETA/India staff member N.G. Jayasimhan, and a watchman after Newkirk blindfolded a statue of Mohandas Gandhi as part of an anti-jallikattu protest.

The three were charged with four offenses each, including “intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace,” and “deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage the religious feelings of a class by insulting its religion or belief.”

In addition, “Inspector Cediheri Manuel was transferred to the City Police Armed Reserve for failing to stop the protest,” reported V.S. Palaniman of The Hindu.

Responded Newkirk, “Blindfolding the statue was only a sign of respect for Gandhi, to close his eyes toward the horror meted out to animals in the name of jallikattu.”

Fights go on

“Hours after the Supreme Court cleared the conduct of jallikattu in Tamil Nadu, the event was held amidst tight security at Palamedu in Madurai district,” reported D. Karthikayan and S. Vijay Kumar of The Hindu. “Eighty-three persons were injured, 14 of them seriously, in six-hour-long native sport in which unarmed men attempted to tame raging bulls. A total of 397 bulls and 339 registered tamers participated. Forty-four bulls were rejected on medical grounds.”

At Alangunallur, wrote S. Vijay Kumar and V. Janakar of The Hindu, “A team of veterinary doctors examined the bulls for intoxication or drugging. Bullfighters also underwent medical tests. Of the 370 persons who volunteered to enter the arena, only 347 were allowed. The remainder were disqualified on medical grounds. Forty two of the 427 bulls brought from all over the southern dis-
tricts were rejected on grounds of lack of fit-
ness or sharpened horns. Hundreds of police were deployed along the public gallery and at vulnerable points. Double-barreling separat-
ed spectators from the participants. Strict access control was maintained at the arena. Taming the bull meant holding on to his hump for some distance. Those who tried to hold the animal by his tail or legs were removed

“Unlike before, participants were split into small groups and allowed to enter the arena one after the other,” wrote Kumar and Jayashankar. “On many occasions, district col-
lector S.K. Jawahar came on the public address system to warn those violating norms. Upset over being removed from the arena or gallery, some persons pelted the police with stones.

Sixteen people were hurt at the Alangunallur jallikattu, six of them seriously.

Efforts to enforce the Supreme Court-imposed restrictions on jallikattu were less stringent enforced in other districts.

“Sixty-nine persons, including spec-
ators, were injured at the jallikattu held at Siravayal, near Sivaganga,” Kumar and Jayashankar reported.

At Thenni, jallikattu spectator Mutthu Rattor, 70, fell into the arena and was fatal-
ly gored. “The death led to two groups of his relatives attacking each other,” said The Hindu. “V. Iyyappan, his wife Lakshmi, and M. Iyyappan were attacked with sickles and lethal weapons.”

Similar events involving buffalo, called dhooris, were banned by the Goa High Court in 1997, at request of People for Animals. Congress Party leaders in Goa have campaigned on a promise to amend the federal Prevention of Cruelty Towards Animal Act to reiterate dhooris. Buffalo fights have also been banned in Madhya Pradesh, though some vil-

Animal advocates in Assam had hoped to invoke these precedents and the earli-
er Supreme Court of India judgments to war-
nest festival buffalo fights there, called bijnaal hois.

People for Animals/Assam president Sangita Goswami also cited the same sections of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act this year in trying to stop cockfights and staged fights among wild-caught buffalo, a songbird species common to most of India.

Despite her efforts, reported the Indian Express, at least 150 hois were used in bijnaal hois at Abahat Guri. 80 kilometers east of Guwahati, the Assam capital, and “more than 250 buffalo took part in a day-long

Meanwhile in Spain

The effort of traditionalists to pre-
serv jallikattu and similar events in India mir-
rors efforts of traditionalists in Spain to pre-
save traditional Spanish-style bullfighting.

Citing low earnings, the Spanish state television network Radiotelevision Española on December 5, 2007 omitted bullfighting coverage from its next projected nine-year budget. RTVE debuted by broadcasting a bullfight in 1948. Parliamentary conservatives pledged to try to restore the bullfighting budget, but more than 70% of the Spanish public expressed no inter-
est in bullfighting in opinion polls.

Even as bullfight crowds and televisi-

tion audiences decline, however, participa-
tion in “running with the bulls” events is still growing. A growing at the 2007 edition of the best known such event, the week-long Feast of San Fermin in Navarre, Spain, brought the human death toll up to 14 since 1924—but despite the aura of danger surrounding the San Fermin bull running, made famous by Ernest Hemingway in his 1926 novel The Sun Also Rises, the rate of deaths and injuries among the 18,000 participants per year who sprint a half kilometer ahead of bulls on route to the San Fermin bull ring may be less than the death and injury rate among jaywalkers in big cities at rush hour.

Among the oldest of San Fermin knockoffs is a “Running of the Reindeer” scheduled for February 24, 2008 as part of the annual Far West Ruidoso festival in Anchorage, Alaska. As of January 3, 2008, 40 partici-

Participants had registered, at $20 apiece, reported Beth Bragg of The Anchorage Daily News.
Send zoo cats to sanctuaries? (from page 1)

sured and attacking its victims,” Matthews wrote.

The attack was at the least the 21st incident at the San Francisco Zoo since 1949 involving injuries or death to ani-

mals. The attack was the second attack in the 83-year his-
tory of the American Zoo Association that resulted in a m-
eral death of a member of the public. Other members of the public who have been killed by zoo animals had in some manner entered the ani-
mals. But the 224 AZA-accredited zoos are only about 10% of all the zoos in the United States and many of those are in the U.S., and may not even be 1% of all the captive wildlife ex-
hibition sites worldwide.

Other recent attacks

In contrast to the media “feeding frenzy” following the San Francisco Zoo attack, which generated more than 100

newspaper articles within the next month, comparable inci-
dents at non-ASA facilities around the world typically attract only local or regional notice.

For example, six days earlier, on December 19, 2007, two Bengal tigers famously mauled Jayashri Barabshah, 50, at the Assam State Zoo in Guwahati, India. Barabshah entered his arms into the tiger cage and struck one of the tigers, his wife Rupa told reporters. He apparently did not see the other tiger, who grabbed him and pulled him into the cage while his school-age eldest son Anshuman tried to pull him back. Rupa and their younger son saw the incident from too far away to help. The Assam Human Rights Commission on January 8, 2008 asked the zoo to respond to questions about visitor safety by February 26.

Less than one day after the San Francisco Zoo tiger attack, on December 26, 2007, a Asian elephant named Anna, traveling with the Starship Circus in New South Wales, Australia, crushed veteran handler Ray Williams, 57, at the Yamba Showgrounds.

Two weeks later the circus transferred Anna and a second elephant named Gigi to the Western Plains Zoo in Dubbo. Whether the elephants would see the zoo as a potential

destiny is not disclosed. On January 1, 2008, six days after the San Francisco Zoo tiger attack, a 22-year-old male tiger named Dan-

phin named Annie was asked to loop over a banon held as a hure-

by six participants at a swim-with-dolphins session at the Dolfinarium in Harderwijk, The Netherlands. The animal is one of the most famous dolphins in the world, having turned sideways, appearing to approach the last woman on the dolphin’s right, and hit her as well as two others.

Dolfinarium staff reportedly confiscated the cameras of attendees and took their film, but a video of the attack was


Thieme’s response was an opinion rather than the views expressed by prominent animal advocates after the San Francisco Zoo attack.

“There is not a zoo in this country that comes close to providing tigers with the kind of care they need,” charged Catamount spokesperson Lisa Wulthe, to San Francisco Chronicle staff writer Chris Fleischman. “The San Francisco Zoo made the shameless decision to put its elephants in a sanctuary,” Wulthe remarked, “and they should make the same decision for tigers.”

The last San Francisco Zoo elephant was transferred to the Performing Animal Welfare Society sanctuary in rural northern California in March 2007.

“The beginning of that around the wall exhibit was the wrong height,” we’re the zoo to close down that tiger,” In Defense of Animals founder and president Patrick Katz told Patrick May and John Woolfolk of the San Jose Mercury News. “These tigers should be sent to a sanctuary and then closed down around the public and I’ll be done,” Katz said.

“The San Francisco Zoo and others around the country should do away with such exhibits,” agreed Anti

Defense International program director Jennifer Blum. “Even with the best of intentions and state-of-the-art facilities, these establishments cannot provide the animals with the time and environment they truly need and deserve, and this deprivation results in mental and emotional damage.”

Recalled University of Colorado emeritus professor of ecology and evolutionary biology Marc Bekoff, “A year ago the same thing happened in front of the in San Francisco. He wanted to go to the Denver Zoo, and was shipped to San Francisco because the Denver Zoo wanted to redress. Large carnivores simply do not do well in zoos.” Bekoff added, “It’s not a time about it that the Association of Zoos and Aquariums start investigating how to rid zoos of these animals and send them off to sanctuaries, so they can live out their lives with dignity.”

Bekoff said that some of his students had discovered during a recent roundtable gathering of zoo visitors about the animals, especially predators such as lions and tigers.

Though something like this happens, for what we find is that it’s almost never the appropriate one that got that wrong thing,” American SPCA science advisor Stephen Zwicklowski told May and Woolfolk. “It’s a cascade of error. The wall wasn’t a height that was appropriate; there was an animal with a past history; there was nobody to keep track of that there; we were trying to do something. When you click down that list and they all align, you end up with a tragedy.”

The San Francisco Zoo during and lion mold house built, walls built in 1940, are two feet shorter than the current AZA recommendations. At that time even most big cat experts were unaware that tigers can leap as high as 30 feet as African lions. Even so, no other tiger had ever leaped over

No sanctuary space

Reality is that no big cat sanctuary in the United States and only a handful anywhere else can substantially more space to each cat than the San Francisco Zoo, or have significantly more secure barriers to escape—even and fewer have the capac-
ity to hold many more animals than those already care for.

At least twice in recent years, sanctuaries have taken in large numbers of tigers—adequately acclimated by law enforcement, but only after more than a year apiece of prepara-
tion. Wild Animal Orphanage, of San Antonio, Texas, in December 2002 received 24 tigers who were confiscated near San Antonio some years earlier, after state and federal agencies moved to close the former Tigers Only Preservation Society sanctuary located in Junction, Texas. The New England Wild Animal Sanctuary paid to build the new accommodations.

A year later the New England Wild Animal Sanctuary received 39 tigers who were seized in 2002 from Tiger Rescue founder John Weinhart, who was in 2005 convicted of cruelty and child endangerment. These tigers’ quarters were paid for by the Fund for Animals, as one of the big fund projects before it merged into the Humane Society of the U.S.

Several other tigers rescued from Tiger Rescue were taken to the Shambala Preserve in Acton, California, founded by Hans Tessi Hodén. On of those tigers on December 3, 2007 mauled nine-year-old Shambala worker Chris Orr, 40.

If conditions at AZA-accredited zoos can be faulted for animal attacks, whatever the long-term effects of the attack, they can be even more wrong at sanctuaries, which are significantly less regulated, are accredited—-by competing organizations that among them include only a small percentage of the facilities claiming to be sanctuaries, and have markedly more fatal accidents even though they employ relatively few people and attract just a fraction as many visitors.

Among the recent sanctuary attack victims, senior caregiver Joanna Burke, 36, was killed in July 2006 by an ele-
phant at the Elephant Sanctuary in Hohenwald, Tennessee.

Veterinarian Clyde Dugas lost his nose, testicles, left foot, left eye, and several fingers in a 2005 attack by a chimp at the Animal Haven Ranch sanctuary in southern California.

Cougar Bluff (Illinois) sanctuary founder Allison Brent Atwill was killed by a wounded bear after the St. Louis Fourth, 2004.

Second Nature Exotic Cats Sanctuary founder William Olsen, 32, of Kenosha, Illinois, was fatally mauled by a tiger in March 2003.

Linda Bracket, 35, a volunteer at Safari Joe’s Rock Creek Exotic Animal Park near Adair, Oklahoma, was fatally mauled by a tiger in April 2003. Helper Amanda Stenke, 20, currently regarded as the cruelest zoo in the world, is still regarded by the American Humane Association as the worst of the worst zoos.

They’re on a long list of the 134 of the 336 known sites housing exotic animals.
**EDINBURGH, LANCASTER (PA), NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE**—Harry may have dodged the bullet for allegedly shooting two hen harriers to protect captive-reared “game” species, as ANIMAL PEOPLE reported in November/December 2007, but gamekeepers have been found guilty of similar cases on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean.

Scottish Borders region cattle and sheep farmer James McGregor became “the first landowner in the United Kingdom to have his agricultural subsidies cut as a punishment,” Guardian Scotland correspondent Severin Carroll wrote. “The Scottish executive said it had docketed £7,919 from last year’s single farm payment and beef calf scheme payments to McGregor—more than the £5,000 maximum [fine] for a wildlife crime.” Carroll reported on January 7, 2008.

Explained Carroll, “McDougal, one of Scotland’s highest European Union subsidy recipients, employs George Aitken as a gamekeeper on a small pheasant shoot he runs near Laidar in Berwickshire. Lothian and Borders police, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, and the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals found two cage traps near McDougal’s farm at Blythe, each baited with a live pigeon. Pheasant carcases were found beside nearby woods dozed with carbolineum—a banned agricultural chemical— and a similar but legal pesticide called carbosulfan. Highly toxic sodium cyanide was also seized.”

Aitken was sentenced in June 2007 to do 22 hours of community service. Aitken was at least the fifth gamekeeper in six months to be prosecuted for killing raptores, and the seventh in a year.

The known total of raptores killed in the British Isles to protect animals reared for shooting were down in 2007 from 2006, but a record 13 endangered red kites were poisoned, nine of them found on shooting estates. The previous high was 10 red kites killed, in 1981. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds told Times of London correspondent David Letter that 74% of all the people prosecuted successfully for wildlife crimes in Britain during the past 10 years were involved in game shooting.

On January 3, 2008, meanwhile, the Pennsylvania Game Commission agreed to drop 14 charges against the Lanco Beagle Club of Mantic Township in Lancaster County, after the club agreed to pay a fine of $1,649 for allowing gamekeeper Guy LeFever, 77, to use a leghold trap illegally set on an eight-foot-high pole to kill federally protected birds. LeFever, a club member since 1950, set the trap to keep crows from eating rabbits. He was raised for beagle field trials. Founded in 1846, the 35-member club has operated a 179-acre shooting preserve since 1956.

“The pre-trapping incident was the second in recent months that a sportsmen’s club in the county has been embarrassed in a high-profile incident,” recalled Ad Cable of the Lancaster New Era. Last year, the Elizaville Sportmen’s Association was fined $400 for violating animal cruelty laws by using live turkeys in an archery contest.

But there has been no progress in trying to bring Cypriot bird hunters and trap-pers into line with European Union rules, another situation exposed in the November/December 2007 edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE. BirdLife Cyprus executive director Martin Hellicar told Associated Press that illegal trappers killed more than half a million protected birds in 2007, the most since 2003.

In addition, poachers followed an October 2007 massacre of 52 officially threate ned red-footed migrating falcons by shooting several dozen protected Egyptian fruit bats. Cyprus is the bats’ only European habitat.

“We believe hunters went into a fenced-off and sign-posted restricted area, entered the cave to scare them out and then started shooting,” forestry department officer Harris Nicolaou told Agence France-Presse.

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AT MADDIE’S FUND**

Maddie’s Fund* is offering a whole host of grants for individual animal welfare agencies and communities.

Start grants provide community collaborations monetary assistance to collect and report shelter statistics, prepare a one-year business plan and formulate a ten-year strategic plan. Maddie’s Fund can help your organization with strategic planning. Our staff will work with U.S. animal welfare groups that are interested in developing a strategic plan for their organization.

Spay/neuter grants are available for counties where the animal control, traditional and rescue shelters are euthanizing 60% or more of the total shelter population of dogs and cats. (The lead agency can be a 501C3 animal welfare organization, a municipal animal control agency or a veterinary medical association.)

Grants for medical equipment are now available to any adoption guarantee shelter that is located in the U.S. and employs at least one full-time veterinarian.

Special Lifesaving Awards (ranging from $200,000 to $3 million) recognize communities that are leading the way in saving animal lives. These awards are for coalitions that have already implemented an adoption guarantee for healthy pets or achieved no-kill status (whereby all healthy and treatable shelter pets are being saved) in their communities and are likely to sustain it in the future.

For more information about Maddie’s Fund’s grants, call 510-337-8978 or go to [http://www.maddiesfund.org/grant/starter_grants.html](http://www.maddiesfund.org/grant/starter_grants.html).

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

Maddie’s Fund, 2223 Santa Clara Ave, Suite B, Alameda, CA 94501
510-337-8978, info@maddiesfund.org, www.maddiesfund.org

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

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*ANIMAL PEOPLE, January/February 2008 - 9*
Beijing bans selling songbirds

more than two years in official status media, is expected to be formally introduced before the 2008 Olympic Games, to be held in Beijing this summer.

Preliminary to the introduction, Beijing and regional governments appear to be testing public response to the enforcement of existing laws that can protect animals. The enforcement targets appear to be practices identified as unacceptably cruel by public opinion research, including surveys of 1,000 university students done in 2002 and 2003 by Peter Li, Xu Shuxian, & Su Pei-feng, whose findings appeared in the May 2004 edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE.

Keeping birds in cages was deemed unacceptable by 54% of the respondents in both years. This was among the highest rates of disapproval expressed toward any practices that are both common and legal.

In a possibly parallel example, Guangzhou bureau of forestry director Guo Qinghe suppressed human consumption of cats during the first weekend of November 2007 by announcing on local television his intent to enforce a four-year-old law against selling wildlife to prohibit selling snakes.

Also billed as a conservation measure, the law was originally directed at selling civets and other mammals suspected as the host species for Sudden Acute Respiratory Syndrome. Using the law to halt selling snakes in effect banned a club called “shrimp-fighting tiger,” which combines snake and cat meat, and is believed to be the most common manner of eating cats. Cats have historically been eaten in Guangzhou since circa 1350, but are rarely eaten anywhere else in China.

Guo acted at a time when snake trafficking was not controversial, but less than a week before Guangzhou hosted the 2nd China Companion Animal Symposium, hosted by the Animals Asia Foundation, with 39 Chinese humane organizations participating.

Official state media soon moved to reinforce Guo’s edict by depicting the snake trade as socially unacceptable. Chen Hung of China Daily prominently exposed snake smuggling, asserting that snakes smuggled into Guangzhou are sold primarily as pets. Sixty-seven of 106 snakes and lizards recently confiscated from one trafficker were of globally protected species, Chen Hung wrote.

Keeping caged birds and eating cats and snakes were apparently not widely practiced in the time of Confucius, who lived from 551 to 476 B.C., and outlined principles of government that have been observed by most Chinese leaders ever since. A central concept of Confucian rule is that change should be introduced in increments, each meant to reduce resistance to the next.

“The custom of keeping birds dates back as early as the Han dynasty of 206 B.C. to A.D. 220,” wrote Macartney, “when governors kept their feathered pets in private gardens. In the Tang dynasty, 618-907, the wealthy and the scholars began to collect exotic birds brought into China as tribute. The practice of catching wild birds such as larks and orioles to keep in captivity was introduced in the Song dynasty, 960-1279. The Manchu invaders who set up the Qing dynasty, 1644-1911, popularised the hobby.”

Before the current national bird trade ban, Macartney noted, “The customers of the trade were Beijing’s more elderly residents. Early in the morning in the capital’s parks and alleys, grey-haired men gathered around a cluster of bird cages to chat and compare avian tales...Old men with their pet birds are a quintessential feature of Beijing. Entire markets have grown up selling bird paraphernalia such as bamboo and wooden cages and tiny porcelain water cups.”

Beijing bans selling songbirds

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While the State Council of China may be taking advantage of increasing public opinion against keeping caged songbirds, the prohibition against selling them appears to be most directly descended from a November 2006 State Council recommendation that local governments should stop permitting new live poultry markets in urban areas, and to begin refocusing existing live poultry markets away from populated areas.

Hong Kong closed the Bird Garden market, a longtime local landmark, in June 2007, after a myxoma sold at the market turned out to have H5N1.

Other nations with long traditions of keeping caged songbirds have been moving in the same direction as China.

Kuwait, for example, in February 2007 closed markets selling living songbirds, and banned all bird imports, after HSN1 killed 20 Falcons at the only zoo in the country and 19 birds who were caged in private yards. The live bird trade became suspect in Kuwait in November 2005, following the discovery of HSN1 in a dead flamingo who had been a quasi-pet at a seaside villa.

Also in February 2007, HSN1 appeared at the Moscow bird market in Russia, spreading to six other parts of the city before it was recognized. Russian national veterinarians Nikolai Vlasov supervised the slaughter of about 1,400 birds who were confiscated from the bird market, plus 200 other caged birds who had been exposed to them.

Further HSN1 outbreaks killed several hundred yard poultry at multiple sites in the Moscow suburbs.

“We suspect that HSN1 was transported by exotic birds who were illegally brought from Iran, or from the Krasnodar region,” in southern Russia, Vlasov told Agence France-Presse.

—Merril Clifton

The new Best Friends Network is online!

Think Globally: Help build a global community of people who care about the animals’ nature, and each other

Act Locally: Work with people in your own neighborhood to help animals in need.

Stay in Touch: Create news, report events, check out the news.

Discuss: Connect with others who share your special interests. Start an discussion groups and blogs.

Join the Kindness Revolution. It’s time!

Shirley McGreal, who founded the International Primate Protection League in 1973, has been named to the Order of the British Empire. McGreal is the seventh animal advocate named to the Order since 1998.

Gill Dalley, who with her husband John co-directs the Sui Dog Foundation in Phuket, Thailand, was recently honored as an Asian-of-the-Year by Channel News Asia of Singapore. The Dalleys retired to Phuket from Leeds, Britain in 2003. Gill Dalley in late 2004 lost both legs to sep- tacemia contracted while doing a dog rescue, but recovered to take an active part in relief work after the December 26, 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

If you know someone who might like to read ANIMAL PEOPLE, please ask to send a free sample.
Egyptian humane movement strives to grow

fast as at peak, when growth at times exceed-
ed 4% but fast enough that to grow only 25% over a decade would be to risk falling behind.

The largest pro-animal organization working in Egypt is still the Brooke. In ad-
nition to the original clinic in Cairo, the Brooke now operates branch clinics in Lomor, Aswan, Alexandria, Elfu, and Marsa Matrouh, with more than 40 veterinarians among them. Each branch clinic field's several mobile units that go further afield to serve equine workplaces, ranging from stables near the Giza pyramids to outlying quarters and brick kilns.

The Cairo clinic now sees mainly horses and donkeys who have been hit by cars—sometimes in areas that are legally off limits to equines. A Brooke staff member told ANIMAL PEOPLE about scrawls by ani-
mal owners to remove horses and donkeys from the accident scenes before they can be confiscated by the police and taken to the Giza Zoo for slaughter to feed the carnivores.

Many accident victims turn out to have other conditions requiring treatment, including severe suture sores, sore noses from improper harnessing, chronic infections, and sometimes malnutrition. As well as providing treatment, harnesses with nose guards, and instruction in appropriate care, the Brooke taps identification numbers into the animals' hooves, which enable Brooke staff to know if an animal is a repeat visitor and if the lessons from past contact have been heeded.

Originally located at the very edge of Cairo, the first Brooke clinic is now near the middle of the city. Each branch clinic now sees far more animals. The first clinic houses the administrative offices and is used for teaching and training.

Quiet as the Brooke Cairo clinic has become, it inspired the rise of the other lead-
ing Cairo humane organizations.

SPARF, founded by Amina Abaza, became involved in humane work by taking abused donkeys and horses she found in the streets to the Brooke for care.

Because the Brooke lacks long-term housing, Abaza eventually began sheltering some of the animals at her husband Raoul Mischlitski's farm in Saqqara, another Cairo suburb. They still house equines there.

El Sherhouny, a pragmatic attorney who seems to know almost everyone in Cairo, began much as Abaza did, intervening when he saw horses and donkeys being beaten. Eventually he rearranged his law practice work schedule to keep mostly night office hours, so as to devote daylight hours to helping animals. Among his projects are pursuing legislative reform, prosecuting court cases against animal abusers, educating fellow attorneys about ani-
mal protection law, encouraging reforms at the Giza Zoo and the notorious brutal Bastiaan slaughtermen complex, and directing ESAF and MENAW, which functions mainly as an information exchange.

The Egyptian Society of Animal Friends founders, including his wife Jackie, wanted to start a shelter, El Sherhouny told ANIMAL PEOPLE, but had difficulty find-
ing an affordable location, as inner Cairo land prices have soared out of sight. One day they visited SPARF and saw a vacant lot for sale just around the corner, backing into the SPARF property. ESAF is now located there.

The SPARF and ESAF shelters each house about 85 dogs and about half as many cats. Each has surgical facilities, an adoption program, a humane education program, and a mobile unit that serves horses and donkeys in the mode of the Brooke.

The Egyptian Society for Mercy to Animals recently built a third dog-and-cat shelter in the same general direction from inner Cairo, but located right at the very edge of the present metropolis. ESMA was begun

An Egyptian Society for Mercy to Animals worker (Kimkhali) by local television personality Mona Khalil, a former SPARF and ESAF volunteer. The U-
shaped ESMA shelter, still under construc-
tion, intended to offer about twice the animal housing capacity of SPARF and ESAF com-
bined, arranges kennels and a cat facility around a big shaded courtyard. The greater Cairo metropolitan area, with as many as 20 million human residents, sprawling over an area so densely

Something’s Buzz at Primarily Primates

P

rimarily Primates is now a “hive” of activity. New construction and renovations are evident everywhere. With more than 33 projects underway, construction, electrics, and plumbers are hard at work making this fine facility for animals whose safety has been assured.

The 42,000-sq.-ft. main building has been turned into more than 125 rooms. The main core is now higher and longer, and the sleeping areas farther are more comfortable and mone-
y. To this has been added to enrich the animals more and the animals are being enriched.

The new OKH house alone has 100 rooms, with 10 rooms in each of the other houses. Shaded trees have been planted all around the site. The OKH house is filled with new, nifty wooden structures that animals love, and metal structures have been finished on the roof and are being completed soon. All of this is possible now;

The new OKH house, begun in 2007 using a similar approach, is nearing completion. The new OKH house will be a 12,000-sq.-ft. building, with 100 rooms, with 10 rooms in each of the other houses.

The numbers, in terms of bio-mass, are strikingly similar to the findings from a do-

g survey completed in January 2008 by the Muni-
cipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai, which estimated the number of dogs in the city at 19 million. Mumbai has 70,000 street dogs, the municipal corporation found, who would be equivalent in human terms to about 2.1 million human feral cats. Because of the presence of the street dogs, who tend to monopolize the food sources, Mumbai has relatively few feral cats, perhaps not more than many Cairo has dogs.

Mumbai and Cairo are at approximately parallel levels of economic develop-
ment, but Mumbai remains

(continued on page 12)
more targeted in dogs, perhaps because Indians are more tolerant of dogs, or tend to leave more edible waste in accessible places, or—perhaps the biggest—but least visible factor—rely less on poisoning for rodent control.

The ornithological Cairo animal control department has often poisoned and shot street dogs, as ANIMAL PEOPLE has exposed many times, most recently in June 2007, when Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak reportedly directed the Ministry of Agriculture to “apply humane international measures in dealing with stray animals, instead of shooting and poisoning,” which Mubarak said “detracts from Egypt’s status as a land of culture and center of tourism.” But while poisoning and shooting dogs tells anti-dog factions that someone is “doing something” about the alleged “dog menace,” such methods have little history of success in suppressing dog populations. To succeed, the killers would have to exterminate more than 70% of the dogs each and every year, the same percentage who would have to be sterilized to stop population growth. Dogs often avoid poisoned baits after seeing other dogs eat them and die, and most dogs run from garfiele. Poisoning rodents, on the other hand, reduces a major protein source for street dogs, and may indirectly poison dogs and cats who eat stinken rodents.

Comparative historical data about the dog population anywhere in Egypt is sparse. The probable trend, evident worldwide, is that the urban dog population has fallen with the advent of automobiles, which have displaced the use of horses and donkeys for transport, and thereby have reduced the volume of edible drippings and of grain and fodder stored at ground level, accessible to rats. But Egypt, though increasingly mechanized, does not actually have fewer working equines now than several decades ago. Rather, the rate of growth in the equine population has merely lagged behind the rate of human population growth. This would not suppress the numbers of dogs, whose decline is visible in rural areas as well as in Cairo.

“I have been visiting the tombs and temples for 25 years now,” says Animal Care in Egypt founder Julie Wartenburg, “and the numbers of both cats and dogs have significantly declined. I believe some of it must be due to poisoning, but many more Egyptian people and expatriates are giving homes to them.” Yet removing street dogs and feral cats for adoption, “like killing them, opens habitat to more—if enough room to breed up to the carrying capacity of the habitat.”

The most obvious habitat change over the past several decades was the introduction of a massive, ongoing, sustained poisoning campaign to suppress Nile cane rats, which proliferated across much of Egypt after the 1971 completion of the Aswan High Dam. (See pages 20-21.) Whatever brought the Egyptian street dog and feral cat populations down, the remaining populations of dogs and cats appear to be quickly reestablished by means of high-volume neuter/return. Most of the present Egyptian dog- and cat-killing organizations have demonstrated neuter/return on a limited basis in their own neighborhoods. Lacking has been the funding and official support needed to expand into other areas where street dogs and feral cats might be considered problematic. —Brien Comerford

Contact: Egyptian Society of Animal Friends, 30 Koshed St., P.O. Box 1923, New Maadi, Egypt; 20-27-7021142; <animal-friends@men-net.net>.

TRIBUTES

In honor of Jean Wood, recent promotion to Director of Animal Control for the City of Rocky Mount in North Carolina.
—Joanne Campbell Smassum

In honor of John Wesley & Ceas Chavez.
—Brian Conovered
NEW ANIMAL CARE IN EGYPT
SHELTER RESEMBLES MOSQUE

LUXOR—The most ambitious non-expatriate-directed animal welfare project underway in Egypt appears to be the construc-
tion of a headquarters for Animal Care in
Egypt, incorporated in Britain in September 1999 by former International Fund for Animal Welfare representative Julie Wartenburg.

The domed ACE building, behind a
high wall, from outside resembles a mosque. Wartenburg had already acquired land and had begun fundraising to build when ACE in April 2007 received a bogey of £10,000.

“The whole project is for the future as well as now,” Wartenburg told ANIMAL
PEOPLE. “I knew I only had one hit at it, so when receiving this heaven-sent legacy, I slightly enlarged on the original size to provide
everything we may need in the future.”

Donskias, says Wartenburg, “So far we have a consulting lab rooms, operating and post op rooms, an office for the veterinari-
ans, and a small office for our accountant. Alongside these rooms is a very large room which is for the future purpose of housing
small animals. In the main our past work has been with large animals, due to not having any facilities for small animals in our previous
place. Operations were done on the office desk. It was not at all suitable. In the future I hope we will do more for small animals.”

The top floor is residential space “to be used for visiting vets who will help train our staff,” Wartenburg said. “Egyptian uni-
versity training is not up to western standards nor are they taught anything for small animals.

For the future,” Wartenburg added, “it could be used for office space.

Outside within the compound are the present dog and cat housing, a boarding kennel built quickly just before Christmas 2007 to take advantage of the seasonal revenue opportunity, and exten-
side-able stalls.

The new ACE clinic officially opened on January 1, 2008, receiving 17 visitors with their animals in the first three days. A quick of Wartenburg’s pro-
cedure is that visitors with equines are asked to wash their animals, which she believes helps to encourage bonding between drivers and their horses or donkeys. On a more practical level, the washing helps to control parasites, and the chance to wash a horse or donkey is not always easily found in a desert nation.

ACE has been criticized for present-
ing an excessively luxurious appearance, par-
tly to impress anticipated tourist traffic. The
grounds offer space for four buses to park and
turn around. Wartenburg hopes visitors will become an expanded donor base.

“I do not believe the locals will resent any money that someone else has spent,” Wartenburg asserts. “Quite the oppo-
site, they like to tell tourists that they take their animal for treatment and washing to the best hospital. The education centre is large, but I feel very strongly that we have to concentrate on this generation, and classes of 50 chil-
dren each day will come.

The ACE shelter. (Kim Bartlett)

“I suppose the building does look as if I have spent millions on it,” Wartenburg
allows, “but it is functional for the work we do,” and the design is energy-efficient.

“We do not have a single air conditioning unit in the whole building, up or
down, despite the 110-120 plus degrees heat in the summer months,” Wartenburg explains. “The domes and balcony spacers provide cool
rooms, which also help the lower floor to keep cool. The total cost is expected to be about £130,000—a fraction of the cost of building to similar
specifications in the U.S. or Europe. More difficult to rationalize is a poli-
cy against adopting out dogs to Muslim Egyptians, because, Wartenburg told ANI-
MAL PEOPLE, many erroneously believe that the Qur’an “states that a dog should only be owned for the purpose of a guarding dog and should not be allowed in the house. Therefore the dog spends his or her entire life tied up outside the house, usually with wire or
rope cutting into the neck. Hence we offer dog collars and leads to prevent this.”

We have housed to Coptic Christians who do not keep their animals tied up, and expatriates.

The newest expatriate-led animal welfare project in Egypt, the Animal Welfare
of Luxor, takes an entirely different attitude toward doing local adoptions. AWOL would rather adopt to Egyptians than expatriates, the cofounders told ANIMAL PEOPLE, because sometimes the ex-pats return to England and abandon the animals they have adopted.

AWOL was begun in 2007 by British retirees Graham Warren and Pauline Warren, and Dutch-born Sabine Bokes, four years
after the Warrens arrived in the Luxor suburb of El Mursi, on the flat bank of the Nile from the main part of Luxor, and began “help-
ing a few animals by the side of the road,” as their web site recalls. Later all three cofounders volun-
teed for ACE.

As yet lacking a clinic or shelter, AWOL focuses on teaching better care of animals from the back of a truck. “Our aim is to break the circle of ignorance,” the AWOL web site adds. “Much has been done for animal care within the tourist areas of Luxor, but there is much more to Egypt and just a short distance from Luxor nothing has changed. Currently we are doing what we can in the vil-
lage, but we now urgent-
ly need a centre to work from so that we can help many more animals.”

Contact:
Animal Care in Egypt c/o The Veterinary Hospital, Mycopole Road, East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 1HL UK. Telephone 01732-700710; eule@acce-
eypl.org.uk; www.de epl.org.uk

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Donkey Sanctuary & SPANA help in Sudan

ABU SHAWK, Sudan—While most international aid groups working in North Darfur focus on helping displaced humans, the Donkey Sanctuary and Society for Protection of Animals Abroad are saving their asses—a top priority for the 27,000 displaced families now filling the Abu Shawk refugee camp, if they are ever to return to their pre-war way of life.

“Donkeys are the most valuable assets for the people in the region of Darfur,” Donkey Sanctuary representative Mohamed Majidab Fidel told the Middle East Network for Animal Welfare conference in Cairo in December 2007.

Before the war, Fidel said, “A rural household in the rural area that did not possess a donkey was described as extremely poor.” In part because donkeys served in place of checking accounts and credit cards as movable assets of quick value. “Donkeys were used mainly as pack animals to carry crops from villages to markets, in collecting water and firewood, and for riding.” Fidel recounted, emphasizing the value of donkeys in fetching daily water supplies from wells often located several kilometers from rural dwellings.

Farmers in northern Darfur formerly used camel-drawn ploughs, Fidel said. “Since armed bandits started looting camels,” he continued, “many farmers have replaced them with donkeys.”

Fidel found in a June 2007 survey that about 40% of the Abu Shawk refugees arrived on donkeys, while 12% “used both donkeys and walking.” Only about half of them—26% of the displaced families—still have a donkey.

“About 97% lost donkeys during their flight from their home villages,” Fidel learned. “Of these 74% were loot-ed by Janjaweed,” as the roving Arab militias of Darfur are called. “Three percent of the donkeys died on the road, and 12% were left behind by their people as they rushed out of the villages.”

Sixty percent of the respondents told Fidel that donkey theft had occurred in their villages, 73% “mentioned that donkeys are subject to theft in the camp.” But the most appalling loss of donkeys came in the fast two years of the five-year-old Abu Shawk camp, when relief agencies failed to provide for the animals who arrived with the people. As many as 12,000 donkeys starved in the severely overgrown surrounding desert. Only 2,200 donkeys survived the winter of 2003-2004, and just 1,300 remained by October 2004, when SPANA’s chief executive Jeremy Hulme and veterinary director Karen Jones began a feeding mission.

“United Nations Food & Agricultural Organization representative John Onukaba told me that each family needs at least two donkeys before they can go back to their farms and start rebuilding their lives,” Hulme said at the time.

The lost donkeys are not easily replaced. The FAO has reported that the prices of cattle, sheep, and goats in Darfur have doubled since 2003, but the price of donkeys increased 50 to 100 times.

SHARK investigators have just completed our most intense season of documenting animal cruelty and deaths at rodeos and exposing some of the rodeos biggest lies.

In violation of Coca-Cola’s Animal Welfare Policy, Coke sponsors rodeos that kill and maim animals in the U.S. and Canada. Coke is trying to blame its bottlers for the sponsorships, but in fact, Coke determines policy for its bottlers.

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And please contribute to SHARK to help us end the cruelty of rodeos, hunting, bullfighting and other violence against our nonhuman friends.

SHARK
PO Box 28
Geneva, IL 60134
www.sharkonline.org
NAIROBI—More than 150 of the estimated 530 mob and 82 police killings wrack Kenya during the four weeks after the disputed outcome of the December 2007 national election came in Kenya, a shantytown just a hill below the distance from the headquarters of the Kenya Wildlife Service, KWS animal orphanage, Nairobi National Park, the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust elephant and rhino orphanage, the Kenya SPCA, and the offices of Youth for Conservation and the African Network for Animal Welfare.

They had all escaped the violence, as of press time for the January/February 2008 edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE.

Wildlife refugees elsewhere in Kenya were also penalized. “A few dozen miles from the Masai Mara game reserve in Nairobi, reported Associated Press on January 19, “Masai fighters and men from President Mwai Kibaki’s Kikuyu tribe hurled for hours at machines, clubs, swords and hoes and arrows. Five people were killed and 23 wounded, police chief Patrick Wambani said. Homes and shops were set ablaze.”

ANAW founder Sipho Nyanga, whose salary is paid by ANIMAL PEOPLE, mobilized to help the Kenya SPCA assist the animals of internally displaced Kenyans. “Our big concern is a shortage of food for the dogs and cats,” Kenya SPCA executive director Jean Gilchrist told ANIMAL PEOPLE. The Kenya SPCA already housed more than 100 dogs and 35 cats when the troubles started.

“I traveled upcountry on December 22 to celebrate Christmas with my family,” Youth for Conservation president Steve Òlila e-mailed to ANIMAL PEOPLE on January 5, 2008 from Baissa, 300 miles west of Nairobi at the boarder of Kenya and Uganda. “This region was voted overwhelmingly for Raila Odhino, but Kibaki managed to get 55%.”

When the violence started, Òlila was isolated for five days with no internet connection, no newspapers, no air time to call people in Nairobi, and very limited information from the radio except rumors that youth were blocking the roads and demanding cash and food.”

Safari Club ally defeated

On January 8, Òlila updated, “We managed to get back to Nairobi under military escort. I saw thousands of people seeking safety at police stations, without food and shelter. Most had no homes to return to after they were burnt.

“I am happy about the parliamentary results of the just concluded election,” Òlila added. “Kenyans voted to elect many individuals who served the government for personal gain. We the new leaders want Kenya’s wildlife to be protected.”

A lawyer who sought to re-introduce sport hunting to Kenya, with Safari Club International support, “lost his seat,” as did minister for tourism and wildlife Morris Kariuki. Former parliamentary supporter Francis Kuparo, also allied with the pro-hunting faction, kept his seat but is no longer speaker.

“Dzoro’s,” recalled Òlila, “we faced the attempted export of 175 animals to a zoo in Thailand.” which YC, pressure threatened, and “illegal development of Amboseli National Park,” in September 2005, two months before a national constitutional referendum.

“We are currently dealing with a secret memorandum of understanding for the Kenya Wildlife Service to hand over management of Amboseli to the Oljukado Kenya Council,” their agreement to provide will schedule a vehicle to transport them to the Amboseli where you will provide with your confirmation.

If the gross proceeds from several years of donated vehicle are $500 or more and if you provide your Social Security number to the representative at the time of your donation, you will also receive an IRS tax form 1098C stating the sale price of the vehicle. This amount is what you actually claim on the itemized tax return.

New Delhi, India—The future of more than 50 million working donkeys worldwide is on a fast track to extinction unless actions are taken to save the animals.

The environmental and socio-economic effects of the spread of motorized transport have received much attention from governments, academia, and mass media, but the implications for animal welfare have been mostly overlooked.

First-time Indian car buyers are believed to be typically city residents, stepping up from scooters and motorcycles. But the $500 scooters and $1,500 motorcycles that the increase in sales of cars and motorcycles and bullocks may be affected by explosive growth in motor vehicle acquisition.

Indian car acquisition, already growing at 20% per year, is expected to accelerate with the January 2008 introduction of a car price cap of just $2,500.

A Tata Motors Ltd., the leading car and truck maker in India, said just two days earlier announced plans to invest $875 million in expanding small car production capacity in India.

Motor vehicle acquisition in China is increasing almost as fast, and the boom is spilling over to other parts of Asia.

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The numbers of pit bull terriers and Rottweilers in U.S. animal shelters may have leveled off since 2004, after a decade of explosive increase, but are not falling, according to single-day shelter dog inventories collected by ANIMAL PEOPLE during the second and third weeks of January 2008.

ANIMAL PEOPLE compared the data to single-day dog inventories collected in June 2004 from 25 U.S. animal control and open admission shelters, then housed 3,023 dogs.

Of the dogs in 2004, 23% were pit bulls or close mixes of pit bulls (or their close mixes), and 17% were other breed mixes. Counting pit bulls and Rottweilers but not their mixes, plus purebreds, about 33% of the shelter dog population appeared to have been purpose-bred, as opposed to products of accidental breeding. The pit bull and pit mix percentage had increased fivefold since ANIMAL PEOPLE did a breed-specific survey of shelter dogs in 1993.

Fifty-nine agencies operating 62 shelters provided dog inventories in January 2008, including 39 that do animal control or house dogs for animal control, 10 open-admission humane societies that do not do animal control, and no kill shelters, which mostly receive animals from other agencies, rather than directly from the public.

Of the 2,036 dogs, including 2,982 at the animal control centers, 2,917 at the non-animal control open admission shelters, and 963 at the no-kill shelters. Still, most receive animals from other agencies, rather than directly from the public.

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The 2008 figures, in contrast, reflect another type of animal shelter intake. The proportion of the U.S. pet dog population, as indicated by ANIMAL PEOPLE surveys, is declining along with the decreasing numbers of pit bull and Rottweiler type dogs housed in animal shelters.
Taiyoshiy, and Ibn Qayn with him, from 1326 until his death in 1328.

The Quraysh continued his minister’s teachings until his death in 1350, the most important of which, Ma’ruf and many others have believed, is that humans are to be followed in spirit, not to the letter when circum-
stances change.

Ibn Qayn compiled the Zaid al-mut’at, one of the best-known collections of Hadiths, or sayings of Muhammad. This collection includes a report that recommended Muhammad to the use of cows’ milk and sheep (clarified butter), but recom-
ended that Muslims never have them killed. This is something that while not forbidden eating, allowed cat-
tle to be sacrificed, and ate the meat of sheep and goats, is not an issue that he actually banned.

Whether Muhammad intended by his example to pre-
vent the bloody conflicts with Hindus that began long after his own time is a matter of educated guessing. But many have agreed that Muhammad taught tolerance of religions upholding parts of the pre-Islamic, and while he-or she-have opposed Hindu pantheism and idolatry, he would certainly have appreciated Hindu respect for animals.

Regulating sacrifice

Sacrifice, a key religious tenet, was ubiquitous in Mohammed’s place and time. What Mohammed could do to mitigate it was to regulate it, much as Marxism would much later. Perhaps even more so.

As well as prescribing the halal rules, which are so similar to the kosher rules as to be essentially the same in most interpreta-
tions, Mohammed revisited the requirements of sacrifice.

The Hebrew scripture maintains that the Judaic tradition had forbidden away from the traditions of the other tribes of the Middle East in the time of Issa, shortly after Abraham’s time and well before Moses. Except among the Hebrews, where Mosaic law precluded, sacrifice and slaughter had been con-
ducted according to custom rather than written law. Among Mohammed’s major accomplishments in establishing Islam was bringing slaughter and sacrifice by almost all of the non-Hebrew people of the Middle East under parallel written and therefore relatively universally understood rules.

Mohammed did not anticipate that very many people would actually be killing animals, either at the Eid or at any other time. This is clear from the way in which he prescribed that the meat from a sacrifice should be divided: one third to the fam-
ily that performed the sacrifice, one third to the rela-
tives, one third to the poor. The family.

Since the family recognized by Mohammed included up to four separate nuclear families, no other child-
ren, the initial third alone would have been split into perhaps dozens or hundreds of separate recipients.

The requirement that another third should go to rela-
tives carries with it the implication that these relations would not be at the same time be sacrificing their own动物, facing the same direction to divide the remains. The relatives too might have numbered in the dozens.

In this way the sacrifice was to be a communal task, those who would be killing an animal, who in Mohammed’s time were much more of the total human population, would be shared.

Altogether, a single sacrificial sheep or goat until modern times might have been expected to feed 50 to 100 peo-
ple. The idea that the male head of a household might repre-
sent only a single nuclear family and that every household might eventually be able to afford a sacrifice do not appear to have been part of Mohammed’s construction.

At the same time, transitions in typical household structure and rising affluence have not always translated into any movement to sacrifice, as more affluent households do.

The Islamic university Darul-Uloom, in Karachi, Pakistan, claims to “teach in accordance with the beliefs of the Muslim majority,” taking an “intellectual and pragmatic approach reflecting the approach taken by the great scholars and teachers of the Indo-Pakistani continent.”

The Darul-Uloom web page describes sacrifice as Qurbani, an Urdu and Persian word “derived from the Arabic verb ‘Qurb,’” which means to do an act performed for Allah’s good pleasure. Originally, the site explains, “the word ‘Qurban’ included all acts of charity because the purpose was the same as that of charity: to do something for Allah’s pleasure. But in the long run, the term took on religious terminology, the word was later confined to the sacrifice of an animal slaughter as a part of Allah’s good.”

According to Darul-Uloom, “The present-day Qurban is offered in memory of this great model of submission to where we by the great father Abraham and his son Isaac. So Qurban must be offered in our time emulating the same ideal and attitude of submission. With this in mind, one can easily unveil the fallacy of those who raise objections against Qurban on the basis of economic calculations and sta-
tistics and make it a matter of profit, money, resources, and livestock.

‘Every adult Muslim, male or female, who owns 613.35 large or its equivalent in money, personal ornaments, stock-in-trade or any other form of wealth which is sufficient to his basic needs is obligated to perform Qurban. Each adult member of a family who owns the above mentioned amount must perform his own Qurban separately. If the husband owns the required quantity, but the wife does not, the Qurban is obligatory on the husband only,’ or the converse, “If both of them have the prescribed quantum of wealth, both should perform Qurban separately.

‘If the adult children live with their parents, Qurban is incumbent on each one of them possessing the pre-
scribed quantum. The Qurban offered by a husband for him-
self does not fulfill the obligation of his wife, nor can the wife offered by a father fulfill the obligation of his son or daughter. Each one of them should do for his own child. If a husband does not offer from his own wealth, Qurban, gives another Qurban on behalf of his wife or his son, he can do so with their permission.

‘No Alternate Qurban,’ emphasizes Darul-Uloom in boldface. Some people think that instead of offer-
ning a Qurban they should give its amount to some poor people or charity. This attitude is totally wrong. One head of goat or sheep is enough only for one person’s Qurban. But as for all other animals like cows, buffalo or camel, one head of each is equal to seven offerings thus allowing seven persons to offer Qurban jointly in one such offering.”

“Eid-ul-Adha,” it says, “is a-farmer for a Muslim to slaughter the animal of his Qurban with his own hands, if he is able to slaughter the animal himself, he does not have to do so for some reason, he can request another person to slaughter it on his behalf. In this case, also, it is preferable that he at least be present at the time of slaughter. However, his absence at the time of slaughter does not render the Qurban invalid, if he has authorized the person who slaughtered the animal on his behalf.”

The Darul-Uloom interpretation varies somewhat from other literalist views of the Muslim obligation to sacrifice in Eid-ul-Adha traditions in that at the End about 80% of the same of all housed animals, other than pigs and horses, who are slaughtered for meat worldwide each year.

Eid-ul-Adha can differ by only a small percentage of devout Muslims, the Darul-Uloom teaching would be of evi-
dent economic benefit to the livestock producers of Pakistan, plus perhaps those nations that annually exports the most animals to other nations for Eid sacrifice.

No such view is unique to only Pakistan. California Muslim Institute President Imam Ali Siddiqui issued a parallel fatwa [religious interpretation] in 2001, one year before the government of Saudi Arabia introduced a program to collect, freeze, and export to the needy the remains of animals sacrifice at the Eid each year in Mecca.

The program did not actually cap or limit the num-
ber of animals who may be killed, in respect to differing inter-
pretations of the sacrifice, the move was more about saving pigs and poultry toward an entirely different view of sacrifice expressed by Allama Yusef Ali, a friend and contemporary of Masri, who is noted for his work to end the use of Pakistan in 1996 by being depicted on a postage stamp.

Charity is the goal

According to Allama Yusef Ali, as quoted by Masri, “charity is the true end of a sacrifice, not propagation of higher powers, for God is One, and He does not delight in flesh and blood and the show of thanksgiving to God by sharing meat with fellow men.”

Added Masumi Asad, who also translated the Qur’an, “the animal should provide proof of the flesh of the animals they have sacrificed, feeding the poor is mandatory, and constitutes, thus, the primary objec-

Commented Masri himself, “Muslims generally believe that the main purpose of the Qur’an is to eradicate the idea that sacrifice is not meant to take animal sacrifices as an end in itself; it is meant to be used as a means to serve a social need.

“One salient point that emerges from these verses is that the main purpose of [Mohammed] allowing the Muslims to continue with animal sacrifices was to turn this age-old tradi-
tion into an institution of sacrifice. Ibn Ibarra has said that even the literal interpretations which some Muslim theologians put on the verses of the effect that animal sacrifice is an act of wor-
ship and thanksgiving to God becomes valid only if the sacri-
fice ends up as an act of charity... Sacrifice is meant to be an act of worship and thanksgiving to God, neither in the sense of atonement nor in the sense of transposing one’s sins onto a scapegoat, but it is meant to be an act of benevolence to fulfill a social obligation...Any sacrifice that is allowed to go to waste is a sin as well as a criminal violation of Islamic law (Sharah). Verses 22.16 and 37 make this provi-
ably abundantly clear.

“The original purpose of offering gifts (Baha) at the sacred holy hour of the day continued, “was to sanctify the ancient Meccans who were the descendants of Prophet Abraham. In those days the supply of provisions, such as meat, was their most essential need. The whole area was a

(continued on page 18)
Wagtail, in his book "Animal Sacrifice: The Rite of Animal Sacrifice with Other Methods of Giving Alms," expressed his views on the practice. He stated that "Whosoever other methods of giving alms, except for the bare necessities of life. The Qur'an instructs us to act on...the point of not taking the life of an animal without a justified cause. Offering it to do good, the way of the great task, is called a devotional act. While even allowing Muslims to eat meat, the Qur'an Majid urges them in remembrance in verse 6:145 not to waste it by overeating.

Conclusion, Masri, "It is significant to note that...is not a ritual involved in the sacrificial slaughter. Those Muslims who have started changing this plain matter-of-fact act into a ritual should know better. The two conditions of invoking the name of God and using a sharp knife are the same for sacrificial slaughter as in the normal slaughter for food. The only differing stipulation in the case of sacrificial animals is that the animal should be healthy and free from any perceptible sign of illness.

Islamic vegetarianism

Clearly there is a gulf in perspectives between the scholars of Daniel, 'Umar and the California Islamic Institute on the one hand, and on the other, those who met in Cairo more than 40 years ago.

An even wider contrast is offered by the recent rapid rise of Islamic vegetarianism, a tradition maintained mostly by Süfi until recent years, but now discussed through as much as 134,000 web pages originating from almost every part of the Islamic world. Among the strongest online advocates of Islamic vegetarianism are some of the young leaders of the female-oriented Pakistani website called, who have clearly studied the Qur'an and Hadith, and are energetically making relevant passages better known.

Sometimes we get negative, hostile, indifferent, or incendiary reactions from other Muslims," writes one anonymous contributor. "One common line of attack goes, 'You can't make haram [forbidden] what Allah has made halal! That is a sin!' Excuse me, but who ever said anything about making anything haram? Why even bring that issue into it? In Islamic law there are more categories than just obligatory and haram. There are various gradations of desirable and undesirable, and in the middle there is the neutral (mubah). I'm making meat haram.' I just don't wish for any, thank you.

The Prophet recognized that each person is a unique autonomous individual, and even these reactions from other Muslims, "writes one anonymous contributor. "One common line of attack goes, 'You can't make haram [forbidden] what Allah has made halal! That is a sin!' Excuse me, but who ever said anything about making anything haram? Why even bring that issue into it? In Islamic law there are more categories than just obligatory and haram. There are various gradations of desirable and undesirable, and in the middle there is the neutral (mubah). I'm making meat haram.' I just don't wish for any, thank you.

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Sacrifice is declining

Quantifying how many Muslims follow each of the four basic sacrificial practices, and what they think of the others, is no easy matter. Relatively little public opinion survey has been done on any subject in most Islamic nations, let alone on topics as sensitive as differences in religious behavior. Official Islamic institutions, although on record about which animals should be sacrificed at the Eid from those slaughtered at other times.

Yet editor Clifton has found some indicative data from the Haj itself. As recently as 1950, the Haj pilgrimage to Mecca attracted 250,000 Muslims. The figure grew to 300,000 by 1956, when the Academy of Islamic Research discussed sacrificial waste in Cairo, but the real surge in participation came during the oil boom and subsequent experience in 1981 to expel pilgrims’ journeys to Mecca. A then-record two million pilgrims killed as many as one million in the disaster, whose remains were mostly burned in pits. The Saudi effort to reduce the waste by freezing carcasses and then removing the remains to charity started relatively slowly, handling 36,000 carcasses in 1983 and 144,000 in 1994. In 2005, the Saudis froze 16 million carcasses were delayed to charity during the first 20 years of the program. The average of 446,000 carcasses per year appears to have been a realistic upper limit.

Since then, media estimates are that the average Haj sacrifice volume is about 700,000, except in December 2007, when the toll fell to 82,000. Major factors in the December 2007 crash include a suspension of livestock exports to the Middle East by the Australian government, after requirements for human animal treatment were not met, and a suspension of livestock exports from Kuwait due to an outbreak of the bird flu disease Rift Valley Fever.

Discounting the normally low December 2007 toll as a fluke, total Haj slaughter has appeared to decline 30% in 25 years, even as the total number of pilgrims increased to as many as three million. The number of animals slaughtered has fallen from one for every two people, to perhaps fewer than one for every four people.

Parallel to the trend, and even as Saudi Arabia has emphasized efforts to increase food self-sufficiency. Saudi sheep production has declined at about 20% per year during the past 20 years, even as sheep imports have fallen too. Perhaps Saudis are simply eating less meat and more bread, a dietary transition that Americans and most Europeans made during the early 20th century. But perhaps the quiet trend away from sacrifice has had an influence.

Additional data of note comes from a report entitled Livestock Production in Egypt, published in 2002 by Mohamed Abdel-Meguid and Mahmoud Moustafa of the National Water Research Center, El Kanser, Kalubiyah, Egypt. Abdel-Meguid and Moustafa estimated that about half of all Egyptian livestock slaughter was done in slaughterhouses, leaving the other half to be done by consumers.

If half of the animals killed by consumers happened to be killed at the Eid, the total would be about one animal for every 70 Egyptians. This ratio would be comparable to the implied ratio of Mohammed’s time—but Egyptians increasing use of animal meat in nuclear families, especially the 40% of the population who inhabit Cairo and other acceptable public behavior tends to accept acceptable private behavior over time.

And of course, as Winnie Sirkin Bartlett and Kristin Stoll doubt from their observations that even significant participation in Eid slaughter indicates strong personal opinion. Eid slaughter is a culturally-accepted practice that has been part of many young children hate watching it, but their parents force them to watch it. We do not know how many children have in bringing this about?

The ANIMAL PEOPLE role, as ever, is as a catalyst for discussion and debate. Whether idealistic Islamic animal advocates will make their own tactical and philosophical choices. We can only hope to help illuminate their options.


“Most Muslims keep dogs as pets than generally believed,” Fatah told Agence France-Press. “I have seen some very expensive dogs like Pekinese in the city. People keep them inside home at night and walk them outside when necessary. It walks because of the danger” associated with the other crimes.

Trained in small animal medicine in East Germany, Fatah, 46, often receives offers to give away his expensive dogs like Pekinese in the city.

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Trained in small animal medicine in East Germany, Fatah, 46, often receives offers to give away his expensive dogs like Pekinese in the city. People keep them inside home at night and walk them outside when necessary.

But he is one of the few who work in Iraq who are trained in small animal medicine.

The story is also about the status of pet dogs in Iraq reached ANIMAL PEOPLE in the Iraq during the Saddam Hussein regime. Before the U.S. invasion, veterinarians Farah Murrahi formed the Iraqi Society for Animal Welfare, on the premises of the Baghdad Zoo, and for about a year treated street animals at Al-Zawra Park in Baghdad. Working with the Human Animal Welfare in Jordan and Military Masscots, founded by Bonnie Buckley in 2003, Murrahi has also helped U.S. soldiers to send home about 600 animals they had adopted in Iraq.


Military Masscots has continued to U.S. forces to send home adopted pets. Otherwise, the Animal People Foundation’s Namir Abdel Fatah was the first report. ANIMAL PEOPLE had reported about dogs that sacrificed in 2005 that mentioned them except as victims. Of the 71,000 dogs brought to Ghazil pet market in Baghdad, shooting and poisoning in the name of various cults, and random mayhem—by soldiers.

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Veterinarian works under fire to help residents

Could donating to help animals replace animal sacrifice? (Kim Bartlett)
more efficiently, making no demand on crops. Dogs also hunt Avricotus, but if dogs had been the Egyptians’ front line of defense against the Gisa pyramids probably would never have existed. The Egyptian human partnership with dogs enabled humanity to survive the Ice Ages and thrive despite constant vulnerability to predation, including by numerous feline humans. As agriculture evolved, dogs distinguished themselves at herding and sheet level rat-hunting, as well as guarding. Yet dogs are limited as rat-catchers, because they do not climb well. To store large amounts of grain within a winter, without excessive spoilage, it is necessary to minimize the extent to which the grain rests on the ground. This means building vertical storage capacity—and that, without cats, would amount to building rat heavens.

The antecedents to the Egyptian civilization had already existed for centuries before African desert cats struck a work-for-food bargain with the grain-growing humans. But thereafter the first pyramids and great temples rose. With cats on their side, the pharaohs could store enough grain each winter to feed tens of thousands of workers.

The sound-and-light show asserted that the pharaohs were more effective than the other monkeys, built to guard them, but fails to mention the nature of the threats they faced. A dog would have better guarded against human invaders. A bird would have more effectively defended against a plague. The feline shape of the pharaohs hints that mice and Avricotus were recognized as the real threats to the pharaonic dynasties. Yet this is never mentioned.

As the sound-and-light show thunders on, I paid more attention to the activities of three street dogs who wandered through the adjoining street to hunt and edible refuse around the seating area, and two cats who were engaged in a mating dance near one of the larger pyramids.

These animals were the most authentically Egyptian of ancient Egypt. They testified to the endurance of rats and other vermin, and the continuing challenge of controlling them. The ancient Egyptians did in fact experiment with other methods, notably pets. Poisonous pharaohs and pharaonic-apti-
rants eventually became a routine feature of pharaonic culture. Avricotus remained so effectively as to inhibit decay for a few centuries, but this was not standard in the ancient Egyptian biological science. But the knowledge of poisoning rats and mice without fear of the backlash was well known. The ancients studied the Egyptians, and everyone else, until the mid-20th century.

The ancient Egyptians also experimented with the use of snakes for rat and mouse control. While we cannot go anywhere in pursuit of a rat or mouse, they usually eat just one at a time. Venemous snakes, like constrictor poisons, proved more effective in disposing of redundant royalty.

The Theban civilization declined as the Lower Nile region became more arid. With much less to eat, Avricotus retreated. Their presence was forgotten as a threat to human society. When the Awam High Dam was completed that year, bringing more than one million acres, Avricotus (continued on page 21)
Proved to be a more immediate beneficiary than the Egyptian economy.

Egypt responded with a nationally coordinated extermination of zinc phosphate, which continues today, with effects rippling to China, India, and cheaper than the anti-poisonous poisons used to kill rodents in more affluent parts of the world, zinc phosphate is effective in eliminating cats and dogs who ingest poisoned rodents.

However, the domestic cat and dog population is the habitat of many Egyptian city governments and private property owners of anchoring the use of zinc phosphate, also as a rat poison. Because of the effects of zinc phosphate tend to be immediate and obvious, the effects of zinc phosphate accumulation are insidious and obscure, the benefits of zinc phosphate are not immediately overt, and the protest while on war on rodents does not. Both forms of poisoning, however, tend to suppress the activity of the natural control

One method of controlling the rat population is to trap them. This is a simple method that is effective, but it requires the use of traps and the ability to handle them. Another method is to use rodenticides, which are chemicals that are placed in bait stations and eaten by rats. These chemicals can be highly toxic to rats and other mammals, so it is important to use them carefully.

It is important to note that trapping and rodenticides are not the only methods available for controlling rat populations. Other methods include the use of baits, which can be used to lure rats into traps or to feed to them. These baits can be used to deliver poison to rats, or they can be used to attract rats to traps or other control devices.

In conclusion, controlling rat populations is a complex issue that requires the use of a variety of methods. It is important to use these methods in a responsible and effective manner, and to consider the potential impacts on other animals and the environment.


to the terror of cats and dogs, it is likely that they kill more mice than any other predators except poison-weapon-holding humans. Cats and dogs of Norway rats in turn protect them, to some extent, from cats. But cats are not the only cats that tend to be the old, the sick, the injured, and the likely, like the prey of any predator. Cats mostly avoid the large, fat, and disease-ridden individuals of any predator who are capable of severe injury or even killing a cat.

This somewhat expands the habitat niche for street dogs, for whom Norway rats are an important food source. Street dogs cannot go everywhere that rats do, so provide incomplete rat control. Dogs inhibit rats, Arlindo Silva, Di Souza, Linda C. Simpson, Anne S. Swaffield, Barbara Ungar, Barbara Ungar, Lisa Westin, Marsha Zava, Joseph Z. Zavodny, Edward Zuckerman, Steven Zuckerman, Sharon Zuckerman, Robert Zuckerman, and Sara Zuckerman.

If we did not have rats, we might find ourselves missing something, but not so much directly as because we would miss the red-tailed hawks who now prey on the bald eagles that soar over the Hudson River, among other examples of the interdependence of wildlife. Many of the species that are governed by their ability to hunt rats. Rats carry some diseases, to be sure, but not nearly so many as humans, to say nothing of cats from each other.

A society without rats might be as affluent and attractive as are the allegedly rat-free cities of Cairo and Edmonton, or it could be overrun by our own most effective predators, especially cockroaches, who compete with rats in pursuit of oily and greasy food waste.

Though Burt and Sullivan suggest avianbility about their topic. Both seem to advocate rat intelligence, and the ability of rats to thrive almost anywhere. Yet both Burt and Sullivan stop well short of defending rats. Sarcely anyone defends rats, who carry lep- tospira and bubonic plague, among other diseases unattractive to human food stores now as they were 4,500 years ago, when the Sumerians existed.

Cats, dogs, and deadly technology have managed to hold rats in check. Just bare-

Sufficiently effective to prevent stockkeepers from keeping cats on their premises. The stockkeepers themselves claim that some studies have shown that the smell of cats in an enclosed area will keep mice away. “Hammer,” wrote: “Although he does not endorse cats as a form of pest control because, he explained, the baleful influence of cat interactions and the odors they produce are too great to be tolerated by mice.

““The Sphinx is a monument to the truth of that—and to the truth that the stockers’ human civilization and animal domestication diverged from.”

The 20 contributors to Listening to Caring among them look at pumas in about every way imaginable, from perspectives including those of predator protection activist Wendy Keefover-Ring, popular nature writer Rick Bass, Ted Kerasote, and Barry Lopez, primitivist Jane Goodall, a couple of myc-"
In memory of Sundae, who had a half chocolate and half vanilla face with a pink cherry nose. —Beverley Henderson

In memory of my cat Sundae, who had a half chocolate and half vanilla face with a pink cherry nose. —Beverley Henderson

In memory of Sundae, my cat, who had a half chocolate and half vanilla face with a pink cherry nose. —Beverley Henderson

In memory of my cat Sundae, who had a half chocolate and half vanilla face with a pink cherry nose. —Beverley Henderson


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:

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22 - ANIMAL PEOPLE, January/February 2008

Perry Fina, 59, died on January 6, 2008 in Milford, Connecticut, after a long fight with cancer. A former U.S. Navy SEAL who served three tours in Vietnam, Fina upon leaving the military became an animal behaviorist. He and his wife Linda operated Heartland Animal Rescue in New Milford for 29 years. North Shore Animal League president John Stevenson hired Fina as an animal training consultant in 1998. Fina joined North Shore fulltime in 1995 as director of special adoptions, training animals as companions for disabled persons. He became director of operations in 1997, director of corporate development in 2003, and president and resident supervisor of the shelter in 2006, and vice president of planned giving in 2007. Recalled North Shore in a memorial notice, “Every gentleman.” Perry was renowned for his distinctive voice. At many League events, he was the “Voice of God” that many would call the “hymn.” Perry Fina devoted his energy, his mind, and above all his heart, to becoming a better world for companion animals. Fina was also noted for his deadpan sense of humor, and was especially remembered for his leadership on September 11, 2001, when he saw the hijacked aircraft hit the World Trade Center on his way to work. Among the last commuters to cross the Whitestone bridge before it was closed, Fina was killed by the duration of the crisis at the North Shore shelter, with other staff, who followed a disaster plan previously practiced during the 1994 snow storms. By sun- down North Shore had a mobile unit at Pier 40, near the South Street Center, assisting the rescue dogs and pets stranded in the area. Fina also supervised distributing a temporary exissuance of food and blankets to other shelters throughout the region.

Perry Fina (Karill Bartolli)
SPAY/USA®

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• **Start a spay program or clinic** - SPAY/USA has worked with hundreds of groups that have started a host of different programs and clinics. Check our web site for a listing of what you need to start your own spay clinic.

• **Build or enhance a spay clinic in conjunction with your area shelter**. Many shelters now host clinics that serve the indigent in the community, preventing thousands of unwanted puppies and kittens from being born. Those communities with proactive programs are enjoying far better results than they ever dared to dream.

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