

Foie gras vector for H5N1?

WASHINGTON D.C.— The U.S. Department of Agriculture on June 29, 2006 released a draft summary of a \$91 million battle plan to combat any U.S. outbreaks of a “highly pathogenic avian influenza,” such as the H5N1 strain that has killed more than 130 people worldwide since 1996.

The plan discusses migratory bird surveillance, the bird-breeding industry, poultry dealers, live-bird markets, auctions and slaughterhouses, but appears to make no specific reference to foie gras farming, a \$25 million a year branch of poultry production with just three major U.S. producers, whose farms are concentrated in upstate New York and northern California.



Goose. (Robert L. Harrison)

The odds that H5N1 or any other deadly influenza might hit the U.S. through foie gras farming may be incalculably low—but if H5N1 begins killing human poultry workers in Europe, as it has since 2003 in Southeast Asia, experts suspect the lethal crossover might begin on the sprawling foie gras farms of southwestern France and parts of Hungary.

There are so far no known cases of H5N1 being transmitted through consumption of foie gras, but the paste-like substance is made from the macerated livers of artificially fattened ducks and geese. As the livers of birds are among the body sites infected by H5N1, Japan quickly banned imports of French-produced foie gras, as well as all other French poultry products after H5N1 was found on a French turkey farm in March 2006.

As Japan is not a large importer of most French poultry products, the ban accounted for relatively little of a 50% drop in French poultry exports during the next few weeks—a \$130 million hit. French exports within the European Union were protected somewhat under protocols that quarantine producers by region rather than

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China tries to
rewrite the
prescription
for tigers

HONG KONG—Trying to reshape world opinion about tiger conservation, in hopes of reopening legal commerce in tiger parts, the State Forestry Administration of China during the second week of June 2006 hosted visits to two major tiger farms by four outside “experts.”

Three of them soon extensively praised Chinese tiger programs in published statements.

Free market economic advocate Baron Mitra, who directs the Liberty Institute in Delhi, India, in a guest column for India Today unfavorably compared the faltering Indian effort to conserve wild tigers with the Chinese proliferation of tigers in captivity.

“There are around 20 tiger-breeding facilities in China,” Mitra stated. “While most are small, some are quite large. A 40-hectare tiger and bear park in the town of Guilin houses around 1,000 tigers. This is a major tourist destination, but the revenue from tourism is



(Kim Bartlett)

nowhere near adequate to meet the cost of raising a tiger. To meet the expense,” Mitra asserted, “this park has been completely mortgaged to banks. Some years ago, it had to destroy a stock of bones from dead tigers, because the cost of refrigeration was too high.

“Yet Chinese entrepreneurs and

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

July/August 2006
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Norwegian buyer declares whaling moratorium after IWC ban holds

OSLO, ST. KITTS, TOKYO— The Norwegian fish wholesaling firm Norges Rafisklag on July 7, 2006 asked whalers to stop killing whales because there is insufficient market for whale meat to warrant more whaling this year.

“We don’t have buyers for more whales than those already shot. Therefore we are sending out a message to halt the hunt,” Norges Rafisklag spokesperson Hermod Larsen told NRK, the Norwegian national broadcasting company.

Larsen is the Norges Rafisklag regional director for Lofoten, the hub of the Norwegian whaling industry. Norges Rafisklag is the only major buyer of whale carcasses.

“It’s not possible now, for those who don’t have their own [storage] facilities, to shoot more whales for the time being,” Larsen added.

Norwegian whalers had landed only 444 of the quota of 1,052 minke whales unilaterally allocated for 2006 by the Norwegian government, which has for 12 years defied the 20-year-old International Whaling Commission moratorium on commercial whaling.

Other whaling industry representatives hinted that Norges Rafisklag might resume buying whales after the three-week national summer holiday ends on August 7.

Norges Rafisklag likewise suspended whale-buying in July 1999, after Greenpeace documented that the company still had frozen whale meat in storage from 1986, the first year of the IWC moratorium.

“Norway dramatically increased its

whaling quota this year to make a political statement, but that is backfiring now,” commented Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society spokesperson Sue Fisher.

“They did not get their quota last year either,” said Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson, “and the reason is simple. There are just not as many whales in the North Atlantic as the Norwegians consistently claim that there are.”

Norges Rafisklag suspended whaling this year three days after “Eager Norwegian whalers gunned down a whale before the eyes of tourists out on a whale-watching expedition,” reported Nina Berglund of the Aftenposten English web desk.

“Around 80 tourists paid to go out on a whale-watching boat from Andenes, in northern Norway,” Berglund explained. “Called ‘whale safaris’ locally, whale-watching has become an increasingly popular tourist attraction in recent years.”

In Norway, as in Japan, the whaling industry is sustained and subsidized largely in tribute to the political clout of the fishing industry, allied with nationalists whose voting strength is in socially conservative coastal regions. The fishing industry fears the precedent that the IWC whaling moratorium sets for international restrictions on exploitation of sea life. Nationalist politicians exploit the social conservatism of fishing communities whose economic base has collapsed with declining fish stocks.

Japanese whaling is in truth an

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Singapore Zoo elephant rides. The Singapore Zoo & Night Safari are the apparent inspiration for the Chiang Mai Zoo & Night Safari Zoo in Thailand. (Kim Bartlett)

Thai zoo deals with Kenya and Australia put on hold

BANGKOK, MELBOURNE, NAIROBI—Two controversial international zoo transactions involving Chiang Mai Night Safari Zoo in Thailand may yet proceed, but as of mid-July 2006 were both on hold.

Fast-tracked by the national governments of Thailand, Australia, and Kenya, both animal exchanges were derailed by rising public skepticism about the humaneness of keeping wildlife in captivity.

Activist pressure in each case eventually exposed alleged self-interested dealing by Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and Chiang Mai Night Safari Zoo director Plodprasop Suraswadi, who previously served as both fisheries minister and wildlife minister, but lost both positions amid allegations of facilitating wildlife trafficking.

Both Thaksin and Plodprasop were sued on June 7, 2006 by the Love Chiang Mai network, for allegedly improperly creating the Night Safari Zoo in a national park.

Nairobi High Court Justice Joseph Nyamu on July 4, 2006 delayed until September 25 hearing arguments on the legality of exporting Kenyan animals to the Night

Safari Zoo. Nyamu in December 2005 issued a temporary injunction blocking the exports, and has repeatedly extended it.

Thaksin Shinawatra and Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki inked a memorandum of understanding that purportedly made the deal official on November 9, 2005.

“Thaksin has asked us about putting up a hotel here in Kenya and we are considering his application just like any other investor,” Kenyan Tourism and Wildlife Minister Morris Dzoro told a press conference in Nairobi on June 28, 2006.

Thaksin denied that he has any personal economic interest in Kenya.

Only days after the November 2005 wildlife deal was announced, Plodprasop Suraswadi generated outrage in both Thailand and Kenya by disclosing his intent to open a restaurant at the Night Safari Zoo that would serve dog meat and the meat of lions, tigers, elephants, and giraffes.

As the transaction was originally structured, Kenya was to send the Chiang Mai Night Safari Zoo as many as 300 animals

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Jodi has moments of happiness, but she is still afraid to let herself go. "Is this for real?" she keeps asking herself!



July 2006

Dear Partner,

I put a jug of water down, in the hot sun, and I moved about fifty feet away . . . and sat down in the shade of a huge tree.

Jodi was watching me, and when I was far enough away, she got up from under a bush and she trotted over to the first clean water she'd had in days.

Looking through my binoculars, I noticed that she had a huge hole in her right arm . . . a terribly infected, painful wound that could have made her very sick at the least.

But when I got up to walk over to her with some food in my hand, Jodi ran off.

This went on all day long. I would move near her and then Jodi would run off. I'd put a morsel down on the ground, whistle at her and quickly walk away . . .

. . . and then she'd come back to eat it.

One time I tried my cage trap. But Jodi was too afraid of it to even go near the dish of food that I put in front of it.

It was 99 degrees in the shade and I was getting really tired and thirsty myself. But I had to rescue Jodi.

Without immediate medical attention, things would only get worse for her.

After a whole day, and many failed rescue attempts, I couldn't think of anything else to do. Exhausted, I just laid down

under my tree, closed my eyes and hoped for a miracle.

It happened in an instant! My prayer was answered. An idea popped into my head, and I just knew it would work.

About a quarter of a mile away was the old fenced yard that I built in the wilderness for a very hard rescue. If I could get Jodi to follow me all the way over there . . . and then go into the yard . . . !

Jumping to my feet, I called out to Jodi and tossed some food toward her. She got up and came over to eat it. Then I began hiking over to that beautiful yard!

Every twenty feet or so, I'd turn around and toss another morsel to Jodi behind me and she'd stop to eat it . . . then she'd follow me again, hoping for another treat. We did this all the way to the yard!

Once I was inside, I threw a bunch of treats into the far corner and I moved away so Jodi would come in and run over to the food. She did.

Then I slowly circled around to the gate and closed her in. I was ecstatic . . . after a long, hot day, this hungry, suffering, injured dog was saved!

It took about an hour to get her maneuvered into a cage so I could lift her into our van for the long ride to our hospital. On the way, I blasted our van's rear air conditioning so Jodi would be comfortable.

The next morning Jodi had surgery on her arm. She's recovering now. But I can tell that she's terribly afraid of being abandoned again. We have to convince her, daily, that she is safe and that thanks to people like you, she will be here with us for the rest of her life . . .

. . . never to be hungry or hurt again.

For the animals,

Leo

Leo Grillo, founder

D.E.L.T.A. Rescue

PO Box 9, Dept AP, Glendale, CA 91209

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Write today to get your free video, and then build a house your dog will truly love and enjoy. Send to: **D.E.L.T.A. Rescue, P.O. Box 9, Glendale, CA 91209.** Or call us at **661-269-4010** and get it faster!

Editorial feature

Who will inherit the animal rights movement?

Shouting through a bullhorn on the steps of the American Museum of Natural History in New York City throughout the summer of 1976, competing for attention with the U.S. Bicentennial celebration and the near-bankruptcy of New York itself, the late Henry Spira embarrassed the American Museum of Natural History into cancelling a series of cruel sexuality experiments on brain-damaged cats. Never before had anti-vivisection activists stopped research that was already funded and underway.

Inspired by philosopher Peter Singer, who wrote much of his 1974 opus *Animal Liberation* as Spira’s house guest, Spira had already researched the 3,000-year recorded history of animal advocacy. Spira found that he could not identify any specific time, place, or issue that marked a definitive defeat for the cause of animals in the court of U.S. public opinion. Spira could not find record of any elected leader speaking in favor of animal suffering, as opposed to abstract and sanitized defenses of hunting, trapping, animal agriculture, and animal research that almost always included paens to sportsmanship, good husbandry, and not “sacrificing” animals unnecessarily.

Spira felt perplexed and frustrated that animal advocates had not achieved more after the 1966 passage of the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act and the 1971 expansion of the act into the much broader ranging Animal Welfare Act of today. The time had come, he believed, for animal advocates to seize the moment, press their issues, and not let up.

Spira’s American Museum of Natural History campaign is remembered as the beginning of the animal rights movement. But Spira’s own organization, Animal Rights International, supplied impetus rather than institutional direction. Early institutional support came from groups founded somewhat earlier, all then still under the direction of their founders, all quick to recognize the value of establishing a young, new, and different identity from the mainstream humane cause.

The National Catholic Animal Welfare Society in 1977 became the International Society for Animal Rights. Other “charter members” of the animal rights movement included the Fund for Animals, Friends of Animals, United Action for Animals, the Animal Protection Institute, and the Animal Welfare Institute, whose often updated 1968 volume *Animals & Their Legal Rights* discussed “animal rights” in practical terms well before anyone tried to philosophically separate “animal rights” from “animal welfare.”

The International Fund for Animal Welfare, American SPCA, Humane Society of the U.S., and American Humane Association were keenly interested observers. Each took advantage of animal rights movement support, yet maintained a discreet distance from positions and postures that they thought might offend Middle American donors.

Five years later, a 1981 conference organized by Farm Animal Reform Movement founder Alex Hershaft either imminently preceded, inspired, or otherwise commemorated the debuts of PETA, Trans-Species Unlimited, Mobilization for Animals, and the *Animals’ Agenda* magazine. Most other organizations now associated with “animal rights” started in the next five years. After 1986 the take-off phase of the cause had effectively ended. The no-kill movement would rise in the mid-1990s, and farm animal advocacy at the start of the 21st century, but those causes would be built by much more specifically focused organizations.

In large part the animal rights movement rose as a cause of generalists, responding to an ideological narrowing among traditional humane societies during the preceding generation, as many were reduced by economically stabilizing but politically inhibiting animal control contracts to doing little more than killing homeless dogs and cats.

The animal rights movement tended toward preoccupation with laboratory issues, partly because labs mostly exist on the college campuses where young causes draw much of their support. But opposition to wearing fur, sport hunting, and the meat industry were also ubiquitous themes.

Kim Bartlett, editor of *Animals’ Agenda* 1986-1992, and Merritt Clifton, *Animals’ Agenda* news editor 1988-1992, began publishing **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in October 1992. A national economic recession and excessive diversion of funding into the 1990 “March for the Animals” in Washington D.C. had forced some winnowing and consolidation of animal rights groups. Several prominent early-phase groups had already collapsed. Some of the groups that would lead the no-kill movement had formed, but had not yet won national recognition.

Twenty-six leaders listed in our December 1992 “Who gets the money?” feature headed groups that were either closely identified with the rise of the animal rights movement or—like IFAW, the ASPCA, HSUS, and AHA—had enjoyed institutional growth that could be attributed to it. Seven of those 26 leaders are now deceased, four are retired, one was fired, one dropped out of the cause, 12 still head the same organizations, and one now heads an organization that split off from her former affiliation.

Of the 12 people who still head the same organizations, 11 were founders or cofounders. None came to their present positions after 1986.

Approximately half of the general animal advocacy and anti-vivisection group leadership in the U.S. have been on the job 20 years or longer. None of the 20-year leaders are under age 50. Most of the rest are between 40 and 50—whereas, heads of major dog-and-cat charities currently range from mid-thirties up, and heads of leading farm animal advocacy and vegan or vegetarian groups range from early twenties up.

Fifty-plus is not necessarily old for an animal advocate. Henry Spira was 49 when he picked up his bullhorn. The late Cleveland Amory founded the Fund for Animals at 49, and supplied inspirational leadership for 30 years. The late Christine Stevens founded the Animal Welfare Institute at age 33 and remained on the job until just before her death at 84.

However, the 27% mortality rate among the national animal advocacy group leaders of 1992 suggests that significant transitions are just ahead. Some of the 50-something animal advocacy group leaders of today will undoubtedly still be in their present posts 15 years from now, and do not plan to leave except feet first, but others are prudently seeking successors.

The institutional perils of succession are well-known and many. One is that the personality who makes a good second-in-command does not always have the vision and charisma to lead. Another is that successors in waiting can become tired of waiting, and either jump to other organizations or attempt to back-stab the person whose position they hope to fill.

Activist organizations, across the spectrum of causes, frequently collapse or become ineffective because the personal traits that make a successful campaigner rarely coincide with the traits that are needed to manage a staff and a budget.

Many of the most inspired and effective individual campaigners, like Spira, never build large organizations, or even try, because they prefer to work alone. Conversely, some of the most capable organization builders rarely initiate campaigns, or win them, though they might be quick to grab credit with well-timed mailings.

Within the animal cause, hands-on humane societies usually achieve transitions of leadership relatively successfully. There are some spectacular failures, and instances of revolving-door leadership, typically resulting from micro-management by boards of directors, but there is an established path to the top. Shelter managers work their way up from floor staff; executive directors usually start as humane educators, publicists, or fundraisers. Executives at smaller organizations typically advance by moving to larger organizations.

Because hands-on humane work includes thousands of organizations, there is a large pool of experienced staff among whom leadership talent may be identified. Executive directors may be recruited from outside the field, as many of the most innovative were, but they tend to be recruited for specific skills, and to be supported by experienced shelter managers.

Advocacy group leadership is quite a different matter. Most animal advocates are not employed in the cause. Most people who are employed in advocacy causes are not animal advocates. There are relatively few animal advocacy groups with a payroll, and there is relatively little opportunity for career-building by moving from group to group. What opportunity exists tends to be in moving from the more confrontational breaking-edge organizations to those that try to represent the pro-animal perspectives of Middle America—notably, HSUS, the ASPCA, and American Humane.

HSUS collects legacy

As the animal rights movement has grown, evolved, and matured, many once radical ideas have become sufficiently well accepted by the mainstream that many former animal rights radicals are now comfortably employed by HSUS in particular.

Positioning itself as the alleged “reasonable alternative” to the animal rights movement under former presidents John Hoyt and Paul Irwin, HSUS today is headed by Wayne Pacelle, who more-or-less grew up in the animal rights movement at *Animals’ Agenda* and the Fund for Animals. One might argue that one of the most significant legacies of the animal rights movement is that Pacelle has been able to bring aboard younger leaders such as Coalition Against the Fur Trade founder J.P. Goodwin and Compassion Over Killing founders Myun Park and Paul Shapiro, while increasing public support. Just as Spira argued 30 years ago, the American public will respond positively to animal advocacy leaders who take forthright stands, especially on uncomplicated issues involving obvious animal suffering.

The typical awkwardness of advocacy group leadership transitions can be overcome. Pacelle is the sixth HSUS president since 1954. His two immediate predecessors had overlapping tenures of more than 25 years apiece as president and vice president.

Of the first organizations to associate themselves with the animal rights movement, the Animal Protection Institute has retained donor support through three leadership transitions. Friends of Animals and the Animal Welfare Institute have each changed leadership once.

Conversely, Trans-Species Unlimited, the International Society for Animal Rights, United Action for Animals, and Animal Rights International variously lost identity and donor support through relocations and name changes, or through passing to dormant leadership. All still exist, but with just a fraction of the influence that they enjoyed at peak.

The Fund for Animals took a different approach to succession, merging into the Humane Society of the U.S. after a transitional interlude between Amory’s death and the retirement of Marian Probst, his longtime assistant and successor as board president.

In the long run, merger may be the most logical solution to the succession problem for most of the remaining broad-spectrum animal rights groups. The distinctions that the founders and present leaders perceive among them are mostly not perceived by donors, who typically confuse their campaigns and names in calls to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. The role of the broad-spectrum groups was to win mainstream attention for animal issues and to provide many different portals of entry for newcomers during the growth phase of the movement. Now that the movement is an enduring theme in public discourse, the ongoing cause of animals may be better represented by fewer but larger organizations at the national advocacy level.

There will continue to be a niche and need for special-focus charities such as Alley Cat Allies and the International Primate Protection League, just as there is a niche and need for specialty stores in the age of Walmart. But that raises a further succession issue. Under new leadership, some of the present broad-spectrum groups may evolve in the direction of emphasizing whatever they do best, becoming specialists instead of generalists. This may be a successful institutional survival strategy, but might not fulfill the intent of donors in leaving estates to charities that discontinue the programs that attracted the bequests.

On the other hand, continuing to try to be all things to all donors may be the way to do the least for animals.

Spira warned in a 1976 guest column for a long defunct newspaper called *The Humane Family* that the anti-vivisection movement had become moribund by continuing to campaign for generations on the topics that attracted their early support, accumulating estates by harping on familiar themes, without educating donors about how the issues were changing, opening new topics, or advancing new strategies. He anticipated that the animal rights movement would challenge the established anti-vivisection societies to start using their assets or lose their support.

At least a dozen once well-endowed anti-vivisection societies quietly vanished as the animal rights movement gained momentum. Self-interested mismanagement typically killed them, just when they could have become most successful, if the founders’ heirs had combined their forebears’ motivation with the flexibility to restructure, revitalize, and adapt.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ocean "curtains of death" may return

In July 2006 the National Marine Fisheries Service announced intent to issue an Exempted Fishing Permit as early as August 15 for the cruel and destructive practice of drift net fishing in protected areas along the U.S. Pacific coast. They may also again permit longlining. This will result in sea turtles, marine mammals, birds and other species becoming entangled and drowned.

Drift nets are often referred to as "curtains of death." This form of fishing was banned on the high seas by the United Nations in 1991, and was closed in areas along the U.S. Pacific coast in 2001.

In west coast areas that were still open to drift gill netting, the toll on marine species since 2002 has included at least 64 dolphins, whales, seals and sea lions.

Spay/Panama

Spay/Panama was started by a group of volunteers in 2001, inspired by the McKee Project in Costa Rica and Spay/USA. With great pleasure I announce that Spay/Panama has been granted non-profit status on the same day that we reached 8,000 animals sterilized. May God bless all our furry friends!

—Pat Chan

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Industrial longline fishing also kills marine species in huge numbers. Fishing vessels can deploy thousands of baited hooks on hundreds of lines that can total up to 60 miles long. This non-selective technique is estimated to snare 40,000 sea turtles, 30,000 seabirds, and millions of sharks worldwide each year. Due to the devastating impact of longline fishing, it was banned along the entire U.S. West Coast in 2004.

Issuing Exempted Fishing Permits will allow as many as 24 drift gill net vessels and over 100 longline vessels back into the closed areas.

Public comments are urgently needed to let the government know there is strong opposition to rolling back protection for marine animals. Visit <www.seaturtles.org/pacific> to send your comments. All comments must reach the National Marine Fisheries Service by August 10, 2006. "I.D. 070506D" must be included in the subject line of any faxes, letters, or e-mails, which may be addressed to: Rodney R. McInnis, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802; fax 562-980 4047; e-mail <0648-AU25.SWR@noaa.gov>.

—Karen Steele

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Fan in France

I just wanted to tell you how very much I enjoy reading **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. I read first the Lewyt Award story, then the obits, then the DELTA Rescue story, the editorial, the letters to the editor, articles that are not continued from the front page, and finally the front page articles. Reading **ANIMAL PEOPLE** re-energizes me in terms of my animal rights work, reminds me what is truly important in my life (trying to do something to change the situation of non-human animals), moves me, and in general is just a great read as well as an unparalleled source of information. I feel as if I haven't been as active as I should be lately, but **ANIMAL PEOPLE** keeps me on the right course.



—Debbie Hirst
Paris, France
<debbie.hirst@bnpparibas.com>

Animal Birth Control in Sri Lanka

While the President of Sri Lanka has ordered local authorities to stop killing dogs, and to implement humane methods of rabies prevention and population control, the policy makers are still talking about imposing a registration fee on dog-owners, which would definitely double or triple the number of homeless dogs, because, if people are supposed to pay for their dogs, many will disown the dogs instead. Many have not intentionally acquired dogs in the first place, but have adopted them since they were roaming around hungry and in need of shelter.

We would have expected that after the presidential order, the Kandy Municipal Corporation and Central Province Government would release funds to vaccinate and sterilize dogs, but so far all sterilizations of community dogs in Kandy are still done by us, with the help of donations received by animal welfare groups and individuals abroad. In Kandy we have sterilized and vaccinated more than 7,500 animals (mostly female dogs) in the past four years. If one adds to this figure the numbers who have been sterilized by other animal welfare groups, Kandy has reduced its dog population substantially. The number of dog bites has decreased by more than 50%, and therefore 50% fewer rabies post-exposure vaccinations have been issued.

Now we are facing a high number of dogs being brought for sterilization not only from Kandy, but also from the Central Province, and are receiving many requests for field clinics from all parts of Kandy and surrounding villages. We would like to respond positively to all these requests, and would gladly increase the number of community dogs and strays we sterilize, but this will not be possible with the contributions from our present donor base. Therefore we can only hope that the local authorities will soon either establish their own clinics, or assist those of us who already carry out clinics to reduce

the numbers of homeless dogs.

It will also be necessary for the media to step in with educational programs, because many Buddhists still believe that if they sterilize their dogs, they will not be able to have children in their next life, as a punishment.

Meanwhile, the wise presidential decision to introduce humane methods of animal control has been altered. Instead of sterilizing the animals, the local authorities may use progesterone treatment to prevent pregnancies. After consulting the Peradeniya University veterinary surgeons, we concluded that this method should not be adopted.

Even after one progesterone injection, animals can develop pyometra, a very painful condition, which is fatal if not treated in time by removal of the womb. This is more likely after repeated treatments. Progesterone injection have to be repeated every six months. Even if the animal does not die of pyometra, doing repeated injections is neither economical nor efficient.

Further, since no animal warden can know when each street-dog was in heat last, the warden cannot know whether an injected dog is pregnant. Injecting pregnant dogs can cause them a very painful slow death.

We have urged the President to give a strict order that dog population control has to be done through surgical sterilization.

—Rohini de Silva

Secretary

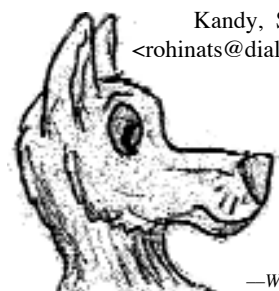
Save Our Friends Assn.

11 Jaya Mawatha

Watapuluwa

Kandy, Sri Lanka

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—Wolf Clifton

Poaching in Virunga, Democratic Republic of the Congo

Fighting in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, formerly Zaire, began in 1997. The prelude was the arrival of refugees from the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.

Refugee camps put tremendous pressure on the natural resources of Virunga National Park. Since then, the whole region has suffered from fighting among both rebel groups and regular armies.

Established in 1925, Virunga National Park is a World Heritage Site. Traveling from Rutshuru to Kanyabayonga, or across the Vitshumbi plain, one could normally see snakes, warthogs, elephants, buffalo, and antelope. But Virunga National Park today is a desert.

"Poaching" doesn't exist any more because of the difficulty of differentiating between soldiers and criminals. Local authorities exploit public ignorance to involve the public in despoiling the park ecosystem.

We are hated. Our members are put in jail and obliged to move from area to area, village to village, escaping pursuit by administrative and military authorities for having exposed their complicity in

destroying Virunga.

Animals are slaughtered before the eyes of the authorities whose duty includes protecting biodiversity. Militias and their dependents, in unknown numbers, provision themselves from the Virunga National Park wildlife. Even guided by a park game ranger, you will need several days to see a lion or an elephant. Traumatized by the noise of heavy weapons, they flee if they see a car or a man.

Killing animals in Virunga, practiced with open arrogance, is a source of money for the combatants, as well as food. Only those with weapons dare to speak, no matter their age so long as they belong to one the militias or are employed by administrative authorities.

Military camps set up both inside and outside Virunga facilitate commerce in wildlife, including elephant tusk ivory. We identified in one house in Rumangabo 250 kilograms of ivory. We believe it was collected by a military officer, who sold it for \$10 U.S. per kilo. Our observers were allowed to remain there, and on May 15, 2006 military

personnel confiscated our camera, saying that we had taken prohibited photos and were there to spy.

In another case of blatant arrogance, a captain known to us as Kalume Kahere on June 6, 2006 ordered his soldiers to kill wildlife to fund his marriage. Some would be sold, and some served at a wedding feast. We counted seven antelope cut down, without counting those who were killed by the soldiers on their own accounts.

Now the wives of the soldiers have demonstrated their enterprise by selling the meat buccaneered for them.

In Vitshumbi, people do not even buy fish any more because butcher shops selling wildlife are everywhere in this locality. The best known is in the Kyaviboko quarter, within 100 meters of the Lake Edouard navy base.

—Paul Lughembe
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Editor's note:

Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of the Congo abuts Queen Elizabeth National Park in Uganda and Volcano National Park in Rwanda. "The region has been battered by years of conflict," affirmed BBC News on June 6, 2006. "Congolese conservationists have been working hard to try preserve the dense forests, but a bloody civil war has made this hard. Many species have seen a dramatic fall in numbers due to poaching."

Perhaps because habitat loss has thinned the hiding places for the rare giraffe-like okapi, a World Wildlife Fund team recently found okapi tracks in Virunga, while live okapis were last reported in 1959.

In other recent regional updates, "Over 1,200 people of the Basongora ethnic tribe were in March 2006 expelled from Virunga," reported Micheal Karugaba and Grace Natabaalo of The Monitor in Uganda.

Summarized Uganda Wildlife Agency public relations manager Lillian Nsubuga, "The Basongora, who were expelled with large herds of cattle, settled in Nyamugasani and displaced the elephants. So the elephants moved into Queen Elizabeth National Park." Residents of Katwe, a city partially within the park, alleged that the displaced elephants destroyed 3,000 acres of crops. Nsubuga said this did not occur.

Queen Elizabeth National Park Chief Park Warden Tom Okello Obong in mid-July blamed the displaced Basongora for poisoning five lions, as a potential threat to cattle.

Rwandan Office of Tourism and National Parks director Rosette Rugamba, announced in May 2006 that Volcano National Park will soon be fenced to protect endangered mountain gorillas from poaching, and to protect the habitat from encroachment by subsistence farmers.

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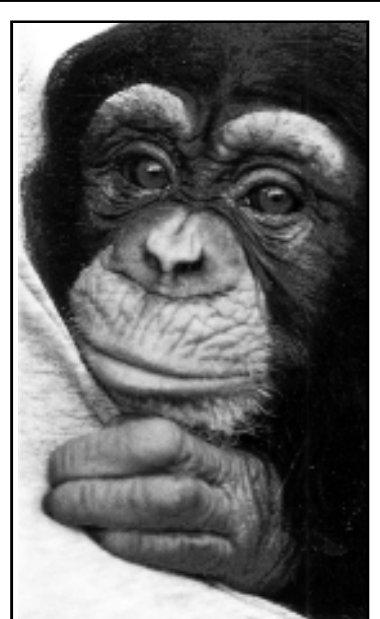
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No Milk of Human Kindness Found Here

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

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

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



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

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

The Unkindest Cut

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

This cruel and excruciating procedure is performed without any anesthetic.

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



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

Mistreatment of Calves

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

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

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

"Pusturized" Milk

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

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

Please Help Stop the Cruelty

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

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



A calf is abandoned to die from starvation.

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

The Honorable Hardy Myers
Office of the Attorney General
Department of Justice
1162 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301-4096
Tel: (503) 378-4400
Fax: (503) 378-4017
E-mail: dog.anto@doj.state.or.us

IWC whaling moratorium holds (from page 1)

industry imported from Norway, politics and all, Watson noted in June, during the 58th annual IWC meeting in St. Kitts.

"A few isolated Japanese villages had killed whales in the past, but Japan as a whole demonstrated very little interest in whaling until a man named Jura Oka learned whaling and purchased the equipment from the Norwegians," Watson explained. "Modern whaling began in Japan in 1898. That year the first Japanese whaling company, with one vessel, killed three whales. The harpooner and crew were hired Norwegians. The company failed and Oka started a new company. Again the company employed a Norwegian harpooner and crew."

Eventually the Japanese whaling industry eclipsed the Norwegian model.

Japan has reportedly now spent more than \$400 million trying to break the IWC moratorium by providing extensive foreign aid to mostly small nations, mostly in the Caribbean and Africa, who join the IWS and vote with Japan and Norway.

Of the 15 nations who formed the IWC in 1946, 14 favor the moratorium, but the membership is now up to 70, including

eight completely landlocked Japanese allies.

"There must be whales somewhere in Mongolia," said Watson. "Maybe some Goby Dick is at this very moment lurking in the depths of Lake Baikal."

Breaking the whaling moratorium would require a 75% majority, but changing the IWC rules to help bring that about could begin with a simple majority. With the aid of the landlocked block, Japan hoped to have a simple majority this year.

However, "Their two chances at making direct changes to the IWC were beaten when the whalers failed to obtain either an alteration to the agenda or secret ballots," summarized Andrew Darby of the *Melbourne Age*. "The third and fourth votes—a plea for a coastal whaling quota for Japan and condemnation of the Southern Ocean Sanctuary—were also lost."

The apparent pro-whaling majority going into the meeting was upset by the timely appearance of an Israeli delegation and the unexpected defection of Belize from the Japanese-led faction.

"Thousands of years after a whale saved Jonah, Israel has returned the favor by helping to save the whales," observed Watson.

Watson credited longtime Sea Shepherd Conservation Society member Bruce Foerster, who owns the Jaguar Reef Lodge in Belize, with winning over Belize.

"Then Togo paid [dues for voting rights], a Senegalese delegate arrived, and the numbers tilted Japan's way," Darby wrote.

Picked up *Los Angeles Times* staff writer Carol J. Williams, "St. Kitts and Nevis, host of this year's IWC meeting, joined five other Caribbean countries and about 20 developing states in Africa and the South Pacific to give Japan a one-vote majority on a non-binding resolution," that called the whaling ban unnecessary and asked the IWC to end it.

"The passing of the St. Kitts and Nevis declaration has changed the dynamics of the organization and is likely to cause all parties to reassess their approach towards regulated whaling," claimed Eugene Lapointe, a career defender of hunting, trapping, whaling, sealing, and the elephant ivory trade, who now heads the IWMC World Conservation Trust, formerly called the International Wildlife Management Consortium.

"As of this week, all parties have to negotiate from a position of equality," Lapointe told Stephen Collinson of Agence France-Presse.

"Japanese delegate Minoru Morimoto, who was elected vice chair of the IWC, said the group 'has now begun the process for bringing its functions back on track as a resource management organization,'" reported *Washington Post* staff writer Juliet Eilperin.

But other observers were less certain that much would change. "The resolution was the first victory for the pro-whaling side since

the ban was enacted," Carol J. Williams of the *Los Angeles Times* acknowledged. However, she added, "The vote has no real influence on whaling because Japan and Iceland exploit a loophole that allows whaling in the name of scientific research. Norway ignores the ban."

"Japan appeared reluctant to test its slender majority," Williams continued. "Japanese delegate Joji Morishita said that in the interest of avoiding further polarization, he had decided against calling for a vote on eliminating the IWC conservation committee. Tokyo also backed off a threat to strip Greenpeace of observer status."

Following the IWC meeting, "Japan held talks attended by 37 nations, outside the IWC umbrella, to discuss a meeting it plans to hold before next year's annual talks on how to implement a process it calls 'normalization,'" Collison wrote. "Critics fear this may be the start of a bid to split from the IWC."

Said Kitty Block of Humane Society International, "I envision their plan to be to set up a parallel organization, a whalers' club. What they want to do is have their own association that doesn't have conservation measures, and is not transparent."

The High North Alliance, formed in 1991 by the Lofoten Regional Council and Norwegian Whalers' Union, already serves somewhat the same purpose, but the 12 member agencies represent only Norway, Canada, the Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Iceland.

Assessed Jonathan Leake and Julian Ryall of the London *Sunday Times*, "Japan is now likely to pursue expansion of its 'scientific' whaling program. It has already announced that it will increase the number of whales it catches within the Southern Ocean whale sanctuary to 935 minke whales plus 10 fin whales in the current year. Tokyo does not recognise the sanctuary. Over the next two years Japan



plans to kill similar numbers of minke, plus 40 more fin whales and 50 humpbacks," considered endangered by the IWC.

"Japanese inshore fishermen also kill thousands of dolphins and porpoises, including an estimated 10,000 Dalls dolphins—each year," Leake and Ryall noted.

But Japanese whalers are dealing with the same market realities as Norway.

"The major problem for advocates of whaling is that a third of the harvest of 'scientific research' remains unsold," wrote Temple University of Japan director of Asian studies Jeff Kingston in *Japan Times*. "That is why whale meat is being processed into dog treats. Declining whale consumption preceded the moratorium on whaling, and now very few Japanese are eating it even though it is widely available at reasonable prices," Kingston said.

"Japan's taxpayers are paying for this mind-boggling boondoggle," Kingston continued, "subsidizing research whaling expeditions that gain international opprobrium while funding a research institute that produces little research and markets whale meat that most Japanese don't want. The Institute of Cetacean Research is in the business of promoting whaling and orchestrates a media campaign to convince Japanese that whaling is part of their national identity, but to little avail."

Namibian seal hunt

The 2006 Namibian sealing season opened on July 1, with a quota of 85,000 pups, 20,000 more than in 2005, and 7,000 bulls. Adult females are exempted, to keep the seal breeding population up.

Just a fraction of the size of the annual Atlantic Canadian seal hunt, the Namibian hunt has attracted little public attention and protest—and even less since South Africa ended sealing in 1990. As Namibia and South Africa share the same seal population, a common misperception was that all sealing had ended along the Atlantic coast of Africa. In fact, the Namibian sealing quota was doubled to 60,000 after 2000, when according to the Namibian government as many as 300,000 seals starved due to depleted fisheries. Overfishing and climatic change due to global warming appeared to be the major causes of the seal deaths, but Namibia claimed the seals had overpopulated their habitat. Current reports indicate, however, that the Namibian seal population has never recovered to more than 75% of the size it was in 1993, the recent recorded peak year.

The Namibian seal hunt has been noticed this year, as result of internationally distributed daily bulletins by Francois Hugo of Seal Alert. Initially involved chiefly in rehabilitating stranded seals at Hout Bay, South Africa, Seal Alert has in recent years expanded into education and advocacy.

[Contact: Seal Alert c/o Box 221 - Post Net, Hout Bay 7872, South Africa; <sasealion@wam.co.za>.]

Navy, NRCA settle conflict over sonar use

LOS ANGELES—The U.S. Navy and the Natural Resources Defense Council on July 11, 2006 announced an out-of-court settlement of cross-filed lawsuits over the use of high intensity mid-frequency sonar during the "Rim of the Pacific 2006" war games.

"The settlement prevents the Navy from using the sonar within 25 miles of the Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument and imposes a variety of monitoring methods to watch out for and report the presence of marine mammals," said Associated Press writer Eric Berkowitz.

Involving 35 ships from eight nations, RIMPAC 2006 during the latter half of July tested the ability of U.S. anti-submarine defenses to detect ultra-quiet diesel/electric submarines belonging to Australia, Japan, and South Korea, whose technology is believed to be similar to that of China, Iran, and North Korea.

Similar exercises were followed by mass whale strandings in the Bahamas in 2000 and a near mass stranding in Hanalei Bay in 2004, that was averted with the loss of only one whale.

The legal maneuvers over the sonar use may have been as frantic and intricate as the war games, beginning on June 27, when the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration for the first time explicitly authorized the use of high intensity sonar. The Natural Resources Defense Council, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Cetacean Society International, and Ocean Futures applied the next day for a restraining order, issued by U.S. District Judge Florence-

Marie Cooper on July 3.

In the interim, the Defense Department invoked authority recently given to it by an Act of Congress to issue the Navy an exemption from having to obey provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act which might have interfered with the war games.

While the RIMPAC 2006 permitting process played out, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility charged that underwater demolition exercises conducted in Puget Sound are significantly damaging fish stocks.

In May 2006 the National Marine Fisheries Service warned about the possible consequences of establishing a proposed 660-square-mile Navy sonar practice range off North Carolina.

"If they are doing acoustic exercises on a routine basis, I think it's possible that fish will avoid that area," Town Creek Marina marine biologist and operations manager Steve Tulevech told *Raleigh News & Observer* staff writer Wade Rawlins. "It could wipe out the recreational and commercial fishing," Tulevech said.

"North Carolina's commercial fishing harvest of 79 million pounds in 2005 was the lowest on record," Rawlins added.

North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources secretary William G. Ross Jr. told Rawlins that the Navy should take a much "broader, harder look" at the environmental consequences of the sonar range, noting that the Navy's environmental study lacked "analysis of impacts on marine life, seabirds and other species."

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New Animal Welfare Board chair hopes to eradicate rabies from India

CHENNAI—Major General R.M. Kharb, named chair of the Animal Welfare Board of India on May 9, 2006, took office in June with a pledge to “eradicate rabies from India by mass vaccination of stray dogs, and further strengthen Animal Birth Control by encouraging rehabilitation and adoption of stray dogs.”

Adoption has long been seen as unlikely in India, due to the abundance of street dogs, but “In the past two years, over 2,000 people have adopted homeless dogs from our center,” Pet Animals Welfare Society president R.T. Sharma, of Delhi, recently told Prashant K. Nanda of the Indo Asian News Service. “Besides Delhi,” Sharma said, “the trend is prevalent in the Gurgaon and Noida suburbs.”

To accomplish rabies eradication, Kharb and new vice chair V.N. Appaji Rao outlined plans to increase the number of animal welfare organizations supported by the Animal Welfare Board from the present 2,200 to more than 10,000.

Kharb, a veterinarian who served for 38 years in the Indian Army Remount & Veterinary Corps, told *The Hindu* that India needs more ABC programs, more anti-cruelty societies, and more cattle rescue groups, calling for “institutional synergy” in partnership with the Veterinary Council of India, state governments, veterinary colleges, charities, and private foundations.

Funding programs to help all domestic species, the animal Welfare Board has often been split between “cow people” and “dog people,” competing for funding priority. Yet to be seen is whether Kharb and Rao, also a veterinarian of more than 30 years’ experience, can attract the resources needed to adequately support both the “cow” and “dog” factions, let alone to extend the Animal Welfare Board reach fivefold.

The Asia for Animals conference, coming to Chennai in January 2007, offers the Animal Welfare Board an unprecedented chance to show the humane universe what India has accomplished since the duty of every citizen to prevent animal suffering was enshrined in the Indian constitution in 1960.

“Rao said that the incidence of rabies in Chennai had come down significantly owing to the partnership between the city government and organizations such as the Blue Cross of India and the People for Animals,” reported *The Hindu*. “Birth control and successful solid waste management,” reducing the food available to street dogs, “contributed to the success of the drive.”

Chennai health commissioner K. Manivan affirmed that after Chennai quit killing street dogs, shifting to the ABC approach, rabies cases in the city fell from 120 in 1996 to just five in 2005.

Kharb and Rao took office amid resurgent efforts in many parts of India to reinstitute animal control dog killing, legally abolished by recommendation of the Animal Welfare

Board in December 1997.

Though the federal policy against killing street dogs is not always observed, it has been upheld by the Supreme Court of India. On March 3, 2006, however, one week after dogs killed a 80-year-old woman in an unwitnessed attack in the Korani suburb of Thiruvananthapuram, the High Court of Kerala affirmed that dogs may be killed to protect human health and safety.

Thiruvananthapuram resumed killing dogs, but in early June 2006 was ordered to stop by the national Secretary for Urban Affairs, infuriating city councillors and the Federation of Residents Associations of Thiruvananthapuram.

“The councillors came down heavily on People for Animals,” the national animal welfare charity that runs many Animal Birth Control programs, *The Hindu* reported. “Poojappura councilor K. Maheswaran Nair urged the government to inquire into the functioning of the PfA. Chakka councillor S. Ratheendran alleged that vehicles purchased by the PfA with government funds were used for other purposes. Communist Party of India leader M. Sujana Priyan called for legal action against individuals and organisations trying to stop the killing of rabid stray dogs. Deputy Mayor V. Jayaprakash highlighted the need to explore legal options to override opposition [to killing

dogs],” but also spoke in favor of strengthening the local Animal Birth Control program.

World Zoonosis Day, July 6, little noted elsewhere, was widely observed in India this year. Many of the celebrations featured hue-and-cry against street dogs, especially in Andhra Pradesh, where according to *The Hindu*, “Officials of the Health Department are in a dilemma over implementing a recent government order to destroy all stray dogs in the state to end the menace of rabies.”

The Blue Cross of Hyderabad operates a major ABC program, but a city-run “ABC” program has at times allegedly been used as a cover for killing dogs.

Just north of Hyderabad, in Kapra, a suburb of Secunderabad, scandal erupted in December 2005 when newly hired dog catchers allegedly poisoned puppies in the streets. In Eluru, Andhra Pradesh, mayor Kare Babu Rao complained on July 6 that “The Wildlife Protection Act and the Prevention of Cruelty Against Animals Act are hindering efforts to kill rabid and stray dogs.” In Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh state, “The Indian Institute of Forest Management is facing charges of poisoning stray dogs on its campus in violation of the law,” reported Sanjay Sharma of the Indo-Asian News Service on June 6.

Instead of either killing dogs, risking prosecution, or fund-

ing an ABC program, risking higher taxes, the Andra Pradesh city of Vijayawada has for years hired dog-catchers to dump street dogs 10 kilometres outside the city. P. Sujatha Varma of *The Hindu* revealed.

Vijayawada mayor Tadi Sakuntala celebrated World Zoonosis Day by “inaugurating a vaccination camp for pet dogs, organized jointly by the city, Rotary Club, Vijaya Dairy and Indian Immunologicals,” *The Hindu* said. The camp treated 525 pet dogs—but pet dogs are relatively seldom at issue.

“The crematorium in Venkataramana has become home to almost all stray dogs of Bellary since the last few months,” reported M.T. Shivkumar of the *Deccan Herald* on June 17, 2006, describing the sort of situation that often provokes street dog massacres. “The dogs, in search of food, dig into the tombs. They eat to their fill and carry the remains into town.”

Some of the pressure for resuming dog killing reflects the traditional use of dog-catching as a pretext for patronage employment. Some also reflects the inefficiency of many ABC programs, especially those operated by cities. The rules for receiving government funding require that ABC boards of directors must include at least two representatives of animal welfare groups, but in some cities the representatives are drawn from the management of cow

shelters, religious societies, or organizations set up on paper to enable a city to qualify for funding.

The Tamil Nadu city of Coimbatore started an ABC program in January 2006, to deal with a street dog population estimated at 50,000. After two months, the Coimbatore program had sterilized only 124 dogs.

“Lack of functional animal welfare organisations is a hindrance,” observed Anima Balakrishnan of *The Hindu*. The local chapter of People for Animals was helping, Balakrishnan noted, but had the capacity to house only 15 animals at a time in surgical recovery.

Ineffective government response to rabies outbreaks is a further concern. Nominally, India guarantees post-exposure vaccination to anyone bitten by a suspect dog. But vaccine stocks in much of the country are perpetually low, and the vaccines used are often of local manufacture, using obsolescent formulas. Better vaccines are available—at a price, which can put vaccination beyond reach of the poor.

Eighteen residents of the Thoubal district in Manipur died from rabies in April 2006. Because effective post-exposure vaccination was unavailable, residents of the Maring village in Sandang Shenba killed and ate many pet dogs, in the mistaken belief that consuming dog meat would protect them.

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Could *foie gras* become the vector for an H5N1 pandemic? (from page 1)

nation, but 45 non-European Union nations suspended all poultry imports from France.

However, the Japanese ban hit the *foie gras* industry hard. Japan had imported approximately 10% of French *foie gras* production in recent years.

The EU quarantine hit the *foie gras* industry too, as 22% of French *foie gras* output is within Landes, the quarantined area.

Foie gras farmers were accordingly among the first French poultry growers to vaccinate their flocks against H5N1, under government orders.

Among those vaccinating were Benoit Descorps, of Horsarrieu, and Eric Degert, of Clermont, witnessed by Associated Press writer Elaine Ganley.

"Local officials deny that ducks were selected for vaccination simply to protect luxury products like *foie gras*," Ganley wrote. "Veterinary teams are racing from farm to farm. They use a vaccine against the H5N2 strain of bird flu, rather than H5N1, so that laboratories can differentiate between vaccinated and infected ducks."

The H5N2 vaccine also protects birds against H5N1.

"Non-vaccinated sentry ducks—50 to a flock of 500 to 3,000—serve as a control group to flag contamination," Ganley continued. "Breeders say the alternative, keeping flocks indoors, is unworkable because their free-range birds need to roam outdoors."

Even in France, which produces 83% of the global *foie gras* volume, and consumes 90%, *foie gras* farms are few compared to the 200,000 egg and broiler farms that account for 20% of the total European Union egg and chicken output. The French *foie gras* industry is worth \$110 million, but the French

egg and chicken industry is worth \$3.6 billion.

Yet the *foie gras* industry presents unique risks.

One of those risks is that domestic ducks and geese are much more closely related than chickens to wild migratory waterfowl who may bring H5N1 into a particular neighborhood. That means a virus need not mutate as much to spread from a form carried by wild birds to a form that attacks birds on *foie gras* farms—and potentially can mutate from there to attack humans.

A second risk is that most European *foie gras* producers, like those of Landes, still keep their flocks outdoors. Infection from the wild is not considered the main route by which H5N1 spreads, since most wild birds who become infected appear to die quickly, close to domestic outbreaks. However, transmission by wild birds is the H5N1 exposure route least susceptible to human control, and migratory waterfowl are the birds believed to be most capable of carrying H5N1 from farm to farm or region to region.

Unique risk

The greatest H5N1 risk associated with *foie gras* production, however, is the method by which *foie gras* is made: ducks and geese are induced to develop livers as much as six times their normal size by having excessive rations of grain poured directly into their gullets through a tube. This is done for anywhere from 10 to 30 days preceding slaughter. The invasive and frequently violent aspects of forced intubated feeding are the basis of humane opposition to the *foie gras* industry.

Most laying hens and broiler fowl are handled by humans only three times in their lives: when they are put into the cages or

enclosures where they spend most of their lives, when they are taken out and stuffed into transport cages, and when they are killed.

Most chickens who fall ill die without any close-up human examination or treatment. Except for carcass removal, they are not handled at all. Poultry workers who wear gloves accordingly have no direct physical contact with chickens who may be harboring a live lethal virus.

Ducks and geese raised for *foie gras*, by contrast, are handled or at least closely approached at least 20-30 times each, mostly during the force-feeding. The process is semi-mechanized, but not to the point of precluding all direct handling.

Because birds raised for *foie gras* are both potentially exposed more to H5N1 from wild birds and have more opportunity to infect humans, *foie gras* farms are potential incubators for mutant forms of H5N1 that might easily cross into humans and then spread from person to person.

Person-to-person transmission is believed to be an essential development before H5N1 can become an authentic human epidemic, as most humans do not have enough contact with poultry to be highly exposed.

Although *foie gras* production is among the most labor-intensive types of poultry farming, worker exposure is geographically limited. Force-feeding birds for *foie gras* production and/or sale is already banned in Britain, Denmark, Switzerland, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Luxembourg, Germany, Poland, the Czech Republic, and Israel.

The *foie gras* production bans substantially lower the risk that *foie gras* could become a direct avenue for transmitting H5N1 to the public, but a worker infected with a

strain that passes from human-to-human could become the source of an outbreak that might radiate throughout Europe as rapidly as mass transportation can carry anyone the worker comes into contact with before the disease is identified.

H5N1 transmission to people, so far, requires more than just casual contact with infected birds. Globally, most of the 130-plus known human victims have actually shared their homes with poultry. Many, especially in Southeast Asia, have been cockfighters. Some, most often in Turkey and Egypt, were children who made pets of chickens or ducks.

Poultry barn workers, butchers, and feather-pluckers have become ill chiefly when they did not wear gloves when handling birds.

Foie gras workers are not known to have contracted H5N1 yet, though there is suspicion that China in particular has withheld information about human cases lest public fear create civil unrest.

China is known to have a rapidly expanding *foie gras* industry. China, the only nation in Asia with noteworthy *foie gras* production, has had recurring H5N1 outbreaks in some of the same areas, but whether *foie gras* farms have been involved is unclear from the currently available information.

Partnering with the French firm Delpyrat, a Chinese company called the Jifa Group is currently force-feeding about 200,000 geese in northeastern Jilin province, managing director Qi Mingce told Agence France-Presse in April 2006, and plans to have about two million geese by 2010.

Other Chinese *foie gras* producers reportedly now have about 100,000 ducks and geese, with expansion plans of their own.

(Related articles are on pages 10 and 11.)

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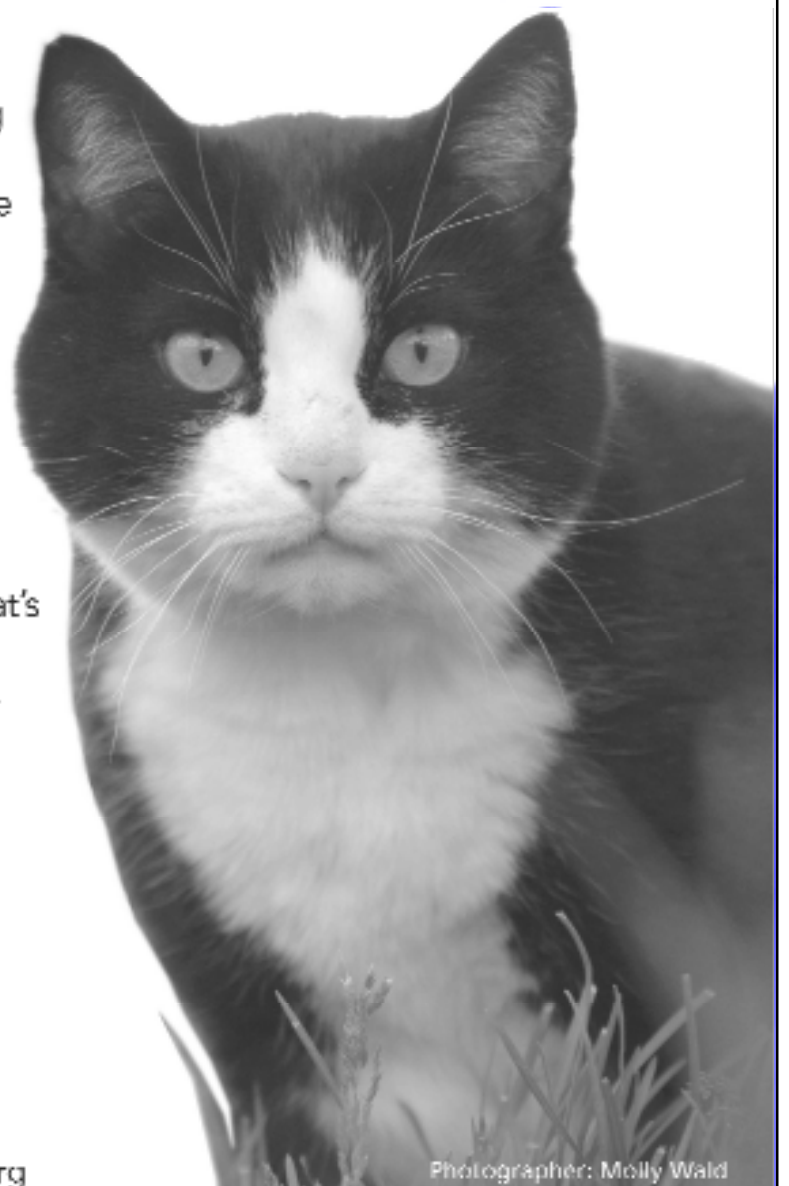


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Roaster ducks go without water

LONDON—Cruel as the *foie gras* industry is, ducks on French *foie gras* farms live under more natural conditions than most ducks raised for meat.

“Farmed ducks endure worse conditions than battery hens,” bannered *The Independent*, of London, above a July 6 exposé of the roaster duck industry by Sanjida O’Connell.

Both wild and domestic ducks who are given their choice of habitat spend about 80% of their time in water, but “Most of the 18 million ducks reared for meat in Britain have no access to water,” O’Connell reported. The same is

true of most of the 26 million ducks raised for slaughter in the U.S., and actually of most ducks raised for slaughter almost everywhere except southern Asia—where governments are trying to abolish rice paddy duck-rearing to stop the spread of avian flus.

“Most ducks are kept in sheds holding about 10,000 birds, at densities of eight per square meter, in artificial light, with no outdoor access,” O’Connell continued, citing findings by the British group Vegetarian International Voice for Animals.

“A review of duck welfare published in December 2005 in

the *World’s Poultry Science Journal* said that ducks without water show abnormal behavior, such as head-shaking; their beaks, nostrils and eyes become dirty; and they can suffer from heat stress,” O’Connell summarized.

“The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Council of Europe recommend that ducks have enough water to cover their heads and splash their backs,” O’Connell wrote, “but this rarely occurs.”

Said British Poultry Council chief executive Peter Bradnock, “No supermarket would want ducks who had access to deep water. It

becomes contaminated quickly because ducks suck water into their system, like colonic irrigation, and evacuate into the water, which other ducks drink. This results in a serious health problem.”

The bottom line is, there is no natural, humane, and sanitary way to raise ducks to be eaten.

The Royal SPCA some years ago accredited the Irish duck producer Kerry Foods under its Freedom Food program, intended to promote humane agricultural practices, but rescinded the accreditation after viewing undercover video taken in 2003 and 2004 by representatives of Viva! and the Hillside

Israeli *foie gras* ban now is in force

JERUSALEM—“*Foie gras* production has ended in Israel,” Israeli activist Adela Gertner affirmed on July 13, 2006. “Suspected delinquents are being investigated. Otherwise, producers are obeying the law.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE had asked Gertner to find out if Israeli *foie gras* producers were at last complying with court rulings against force-feeding. Most recently, the Israeli High Court of Justice ruled on February 22, 2006 that force-feeding geese was to end by April 15, 2006, “while expressing harsh criticism against the state for not enforcing” an earlier ruling that force-feeding was to have ended in March 2005, attorney Keren Klar told ANIMAL PEOPLE. Klar represented Let the Animals Live and Anonymous for Animal Rights.

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The RSPCA tried to use the video to prosecute Kerry Foods for cruelty, but the case was dismissed because the videographers were held to have been trespassing when they obtained their evidence.

Events

August 6: **Walk for Country Critters**, Animal Acres, Venice Beach Boardwalk, Calif. Info: <info@animalacres.org>.

August 6-10: **Wildlife Disease Assn. & American Assn. of Wildlife Vets conf.**, Storrs, Conn. Info: <wda.2006@gmail.com>.

August 10-14: **Animal Rights 2006 Natl. Conf.**, Washington, D.C. Info: 800-632-8688; <register@arconference.org>; <www.arconference.org>.

Sept. 2-5: **Taking Action for Animals** conf., Washington, D.C. Info: <www.TakingActionForAnimals.org>.

Sept. 9: **Natl. Feral Cat Summit, San Francisco**. Info: 212-662-5761; <summit@neighborhoodcats.org>; <www.neighborhoodcats.org/special/nfc_summit_2006.htm>.

Sept. 9: **Animal Acres Gala**, Acton, Calif. Info: <info@animalacres.org>.

Sept. 10-16: **World Vegetarian Congress**, Goa, India. Info: <www.ivu.org/congress>.

Sept. 14-17: **So. Reg. Spay/Neuter Leadership Conf.**, Memphis. Info: 203-377-1116; <www.spay-neuterconference.org>.

Sept. 16: **Gala for Doves**, Detroit Zoo. Info: <www.stopshootingdoves.org>.

Sept. 18-24: **Animals In Disaster**, Let Live Canada conference, Windsor, Ontario. Info: <Info@jazzpurr.org>.

Sept. 28-30: **American Humane** annual conf., Schaumburg, Ill. Info: <www.AmericanHumane.org>.

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Foie gras is banned by Chicago council, but subsidized by New York governor

ALBANY, N.Y.—While other jurisdictions are moving to end the *foie gras* industry, the tax-supported Empire State Development Corporation in late May 2006 authorized a grant of \$420,000 to help Hudson Valley Foie Gras increase production by about 10% per year over the next three years.

Hudson Valley Foie Gras, which accounts for about half of all U.S. *foie gras* production, would be raising about 325,000 birds per year at the end of the planned \$1 million expansion. The expansion would add 10 jobs to the present staff of 150.

The Empire State Development Corporation is “a public authority that answers to Governor George Pataki, but not the Legislature,” explained *Syracuse Post-Standard* staff writer Michelle Breidenbach. The corporation “will borrow \$140,000 for the project and use cash from the state’s general fund for the remaining \$280,000.”

The grant was announced four months after a bill calling for a 10-year phase-out of *foie gras* production died in the New York state legislature. The bill was similar to others introduced in Massachusetts, Illinois, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington, backed by the Humane Society of the U.S.

HSUS, Farm Sanctuary, In Defense of Animals, and PETA in September 2004 claimed a victory over *foie gras* when California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed a prototype for the other state bills that will purportedly ban force-feeding ducks and geese in 2012. But the bill, as passed, “does not ban *foie gras*,” Schwarzenegger stipulated. “This bill provides seven and a half years to perfect a humane way for a duck to consume grain to increase the size of its liver. If producers succeed, the ban on *foie gras* sales and production in California will not occur.”

The Humane Farming Association and Friends of Animals opposed the bill.

Said HFA co-founder Brad Miller, “California has become the first state to explicitly legalize force-feeding ducks and geese to produce *foie gras*,” since “In addition to protecting Sonoma Foie Gras,” the only California producer, “from being prosecuted under existing animal cruelty laws, this bill took away the right of citizens to sue the company for force-feeding.” This “effectively eliminated a lawsuit pending against the company.”

Sonoma Foie Gras endorsed the bill in final form—and recently filed a lawsuit of its own against the Whole Foods Market grocery chain, accusing Whole Foods of “intentional interference with contract” for “demanding that supplier Grimaud Farms end its 8-year partnership” with Sonoma Foie Gras, summarized the

electronic newsletter *Farmed Animal Watch*.

“Approximately 20% of Grimaud Farms’ revenue comes from its partnership with Sonoma Foie Gras,” *Farmed Animal Watch* added. “For the past decade, Grimaud has also provided Muscovy ducks to Whole Foods for retail sale, accounting for 15% of its revenue. Whole Foods and Grimaud agree that Grimaud’s association with the processing and distribution of *foie gras* is incompatible with Whole Food’s new Animal Compassionate Standards,” introduced in 2004, after former Viva! U.S. office director Lauren Ornelas confronted Whole Foods CEO John Mackey at the company’s 2003 board meeting and gradually won his attention in six months of subsequent e-mail correspondence.

Ornelas recently moved from Viva! to Compassion Over Killing.

“Whole Foods has not carried *foie gras* since 1997 because of the cruelty associated with the process,” *Farmed Animal Watch* summarized. “*Foie gras* has been banned in Chicago,” through an ordinance adopted in April 2006, “and Philadelphia is considering banning it. The newly formed North American Foie Gras Producers Association is examining the constitutionality of such bans.”

China’s prescription for tigers (from page 1)

wildlife managers look optimistic,” Mitra continued. “An adult tiger leaves behind about 12 to 15 kilograms of dry bones, which could sell for \$500-\$1,000 per kilo in the traditional Chinese medicine market. The skin, claws, and some other organs could fetch another \$10,000. In addition, there is a constant demand for purebred subspecies of live tiger cubs and young adults from zoos and other establishments around the world. Tiger farms are eminently viable financially,” Mitra argued, saying nothing of the irony that his opinions about tigers were sought by a government which does not allow much public discussion of his economic philosophy.

The tigers whom the delegation saw “lived in conditions comparable to what I would call a ‘basic’ zoo,” said fellow tour member Kristen Conrad. “Some of the animals were roaming around large semi-natural enclosures,” with “More room than what I see in Singapore, the American Zoo Association-certified zoo of which I was a board member, and at the San Diego Zoo.

“I think it can be more humane to kill a zoo animal” than to kill wildlife, Conrad added.

San Diego-based blogger Cory Meacham had the strongest credentials as tiger conservationist, journalist, and observer of China among the identified tour participants, as author of *How The Tiger Lost Its Stripes* (1997) and a speaker of Mandarin. He also raised the most criticisms of the Chinese agenda for tigers, while appearing to endorse the economic theory behind it.

“In 1993,” Meacham recapped, “China

installed a ban on the domestic trade of anything derived from a tiger,” two years after China signed the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. “Farms that bred tigers to supply the domestic trade were converted by mandate into less profitable exhibition-only facilities, unless they were willing to indulge in the black market.

“We were not paid for our time,” Meacham disclosed, “but all our expenses were covered. Only one of my three colleagues had ever even heard of me a month ago,” he admitted.

“We were presented to park operators, local and regional politicians, wildlife management, law enforcement, educational establishments, and many emissaries from the traditional Chinese medicine community. Banners heralded our arrivals, banquets took place in our honor, and on one occasion our advent was accompanied by stand-up applause. Cameras were focused on us continuously. We even found ourselves in a motorcade ushered fore and aft by police cars with lights flashing and sirens blaring.

“We were of course being buttered up, trotted out, and carefully guided,” Meacham acknowledged, noting “the lack of time we were granted to ask questions and listen to answers.

“The tigers now housed in at least two tiger-breeding facilities in China, a thousand or so of whom I’ve just been up close and personal with, are happy cats,” Meacham asserted. “None of the tiger farmers we met in China has plans to kill

(continued on page 12)

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China's prescription for tigers (from page 1)

tigers," Meacham claimed, "and they even looked a bit confused when we brought up such plans. Their plan is to breed enough tigers to satisfy the demand for tiger parts with the bodies of tigers who die naturally. That's right, no slaughter. Indeed, those farmers have been letting their tigers die naturally since 1993," Meacham wrote, "and have been stockpiling the cadavers in walk-in freezers, awaiting the day the ban might be lifted."

"China still has a couple of enormous blind spots and some very big problems with their tiger-farming plans," Meacham allowed. "In my opinion what they are on the verge of doing is going to spell either the doom or the salvation of the wild tiger."

Commented Asia Animal Protection Network founder John Wedderburn, of Hong Kong, after AAPN shared the Mitra, Conrad, and Meacham commentaries with the international animal welfare community, "I would prefer extinction of my species to a future of captivity, certainly of captivity in the conditions currently offered in Chinese zoos."

Wedderburn has visited and reviewed dozens of Chinese zoos since 1994, revisiting many, also frequently reviewing zoos in other parts of the world, always as an uninvited guest whose presence is seldom known to officials until afterward.

Rumors that China might again allow the sale of tiger products surfaced earlier

in reports from Agence France-Press and *The Independent*, of London, in September 2005.

"Make no bones about it—this could be the end for tigers," warned World Wildlife Fund tiger conservation program chief Callum Rankin. "Poachers living near the world's last populations of tigers may kill them to supply illegal markets that are likely to develop alongside any new legal ones."

"If this goes ahead, it will undo all the excellent work that the Chinese government has done over the past 12 years," agreed Steven Broad, executive director of the WWF-sponsored wildlife monitoring group TRAFFIC International.

"This single decision by the Chinese, if they decide to lift the ban, could be the turning point and drive the tigers into extinction," agreed Crawford Allan, North American deputy director of TRAFFIC.

Wrote Maxine Frith of *The Independent*, "The charities believe that the Chinese government is bowing to pressure from tiger farmers and traditional medicine practitioners. Observers believe that many of the farmers are breeding far more tigers than zoos need because they believe the ban will be lifted, and trade in their body parts will resume. One tiger park in Guilin, Guangxi province, claims to be able to raise up to 1,000 tigers."

As of March 2006, China had 4,000 captive-bred tigers, among them 1,300



(Kim Bartlett)

Siberian tigers, but had fewer than 100 tigers left in the wild, including no more than 10 Siberians, said Zhuo Rongsheng, director of wildlife and plant protection department for the State Forestry Administration.

However, the wild Manchurian tiger population in China has increased from five to seven in 1999 to 14 as of April 2006, according to findings by the Academy of Wildlife of Heilongjiang Province.

A controversial attempt to raise tigers under wild conditions in South Africa for release in China is still underway, three

years after the first of four cubs arrived from China. The project is directed by former fashion executive Li Quan, 44.

Zimbabwean tourism minister Francis Nhema in September 2005 told Reuters that he expected to soon receive four tigers from China, who would be used in a similar project. "We do not have a tiger in this country, and we would like to benefit from the exchange program with China," Nhema said. "We have also given China various animals for breeding, including zebra, impala and elephants," he added.

More events (from page 10)

Sept. 30-Oct. 1: World Vegetarian Day Celebration, San Francisco. Info: 415-388-9641, x240; <info@sfvs.org>; <www.sfvs.org>.

Sept. 30-Oct. 1: PETA Helping Animals 101, Seattle. Also Dallas, Oct. 21-22; & Boston, Nov. 4-5. Info: <www.Helping-Animals-101.com> or 323-644-7388.

(continued on page 12)

October 5th-17: Friends of Roman Cats tour of Italy. Info: 415-334-8036; <www.friendsofromanecats.org>.

Oct. 6-8: The Strength of Many conf., Los Angeles. Info: Animals & Soc. Inst., <www.animalsandsociety.org>.

Oct. 13-15: Animal Law Conference, Lewis & Clark Law School, Portland, Oregon. Info: 503-768-6795; <jsaldf@lclark.edu>; <www.lclark.edu/org/saldf/conference.html>.

Oct. 14: Ruffin' It, co-presentation by Angel Halls pet therapy and United Against Puppy Mills, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Info: 703-424-7238; <angelhalldogs@yahoo.com>; <www.angelhalls.org>.

Oct. 16-18: Intl. Congress on Concepts in Animal Welfare, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Info: <wspabrzi@iis.com.br> or <www.wspabr.org>.

Oct. 25-27: Intl. Companion Animal Welfare Conf., Ljubljana, Slovenia. Info: 44-020-7837 0006; <mailto:tina.barker@dogstrust.org.uk>; <www.icawc.org.uk>.

Oct. 28: Walk/Run for animals & Expo, Atlanta. Info: 770-455-7077; <info@atlantawalk4animals.com>; <www.atlantawalk4animals.com>.

Oct. 30-Nov. 2: Intl. Colloquium on Working Equines in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa. Info: The Donkey Sanctuary, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 0NU; 44-1395-578222; <colloquium2006@thedonkey-sanctuary.com>;

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Thai zoo deals on hold (from 1)

of approximately 30 species, including elephants, hippos, rhinos, and lions. The deal was scaled back to involve about 100 animals, chiefly zebras, giraffes, and gazelles.

Meanwhile, eight elephants scheduled for export from Thailand to the Taronga Zoo and Melbourne Zoo in Australia were instead kept in quarantine at Mahidol University in Kanchanaburi province, after activists blockaded their exit on June 6, 2006.

"The elephants were in separate trucks, waiting to be driven to Bangkok airport for the flight to Australia," reported Agence France-Presse. "But Soraida Salwala, founder of the Thai group Friends of the Asian Elephant, stepped in front of the lead truck, blocking its way. Ms. Soraida was joined by another activist," Ms. Pinan Chotirojseranee, "and about 20 students gathered farther out on the road in support of her cause, she said."

Hearing of the protest on television, Nobel Peace Prize nominee Sulak Silvaraksa drove to the scene from Bangkok to lend his support. Reinforced first by about 50 students from the Kanchanaburi Children's Village school and Moo Ban Dek alternative school, then by about 15 local villagers, the blockade grew overnight and for most of the next day.

"The tableau remained frozen for more than 24 hours, until finally an order came from the highest level of the Thai government to unload the elephants," reported the Melbourne Age.

The elephants "were to have been taken to Bangkok by trailer and flown to the Cocos Islands for three months' [additional] quarantine," before entering Australia, explained Peter Alford of *The Australian*. "The Australian government lost a \$500,000 (Australian) deposit on a cargo plane that left Bangkok empty," Alford said.

The Bangkok *Nation* put the cost of the missed flight at \$1.7 million (Australian).

The Taronga Zoo was left with a

new \$40 million (Australian) elephant habitat, but no elephants.

The governments of Thailand and Australia contend that the eight elephants slated for export were captive-born and were formerly used for logging and tourist rides.

Friends of the Asian Elephant has argued since August 2005 that at least three of the elephants were illegally captured from the wild, and has repeatedly asked the Thai government to order DNA tests that could prove the elephants' parentage.

Exporting wild-caught elephants would be in violation of the United Nations Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Thai National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department chief Damrong Phidet pledged on June 6 to investigate the allegation, but both Thai and Australian officials declared later that DNA testing would not be necessary because paperwork—which Friends of the Asian Elephant has claimed all along is inaccurate—established that the elephants were born in "elephant shelters."

Piyaporn Wongruang of the *Bangkok Post* reported on June 30 that Australia and Thailand were planning an expedited transfer of the elephants in semi-secrecy, to avoid more activist attention.

The attempted export of elephants, who are the national symbols of Thailand, "has coincided with a huge celebration of Thai nationhood," noted the Melbourne Age. "The streets are awash with yellow for the 60th anniversary of the ascension to the throne of King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the longest-serving monarch in the world," who is known as an animal advocate.

"The Thai government is locked in political limbo," the Age continued, "after the April 2 election results were declared void."

Prime Minister Thaksin's Thai Rak Thai Party and four other parties are reportedly



Tourist elephant in Thailand awaits rides on a concrete pad. (Kim Bartlett)

at risk of being dissolved by the national Constitutional Court for alleged election fraud.

The Thai elephant export "was to have been the first stage of a swap between Thailand and two zoos in Australia," recounted Jan McGirk of *The Independent*. "In exchange, more than 100 kangaroos and other marsupials," of 21 species, "were to be shipped to the Chiang Mai Night Safari Zoo."

The first of the Australian animals, four koalas, was delayed for four to six weeks in July by the Australian Department of Environment & Heritage "because they thought Thai veterinarians needed more train-

ing in treatment for sick koalas," wrote Kultida Samabuddhi of the *Bangkok Post*.

"The delay has nothing to do with the protest against the export of the Thai elephants to Australian zoos. This is not a case of tit-for-tat," an Australian embassy spokesperson insisted.

The elephant export to Australia, if completed, involving a bull and seven young cows, would notably boost the dwindling captive Asian elephant population.

About 52,000 Asian elephants remain in the wild, scattered across southern (continued on page 14)



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Thai zoo deals with Kenya & Australia put on hold (from 13)

Asia. As many as 6,500 are captive in Asia, including 2,700 in Thailand and more than 3,000 in India, kept as work animals, temple attractions, or in zoos.

About 500 Asian elephants are in U.S. zoos and circuses, but most are aging females, who were imported in much greater numbers than males back when imports were unrestricted. Asian elephants occasionally reproduce in captivity, but captive breeding has failed to sustain the U.S. captive population.

The career of Rosamond

Gifford Zoo general curator Chuck Doyle is in microcosm the story of Asian elephant reproduction in U.S. zoos. An elephant specialist, Doyle in April 2006 was promoted to succeed 13-year director Anne Baker, who left to head the Toledo Zoo.

"Doyle helped develop the zoo's international reputation for its Asian elephant breeding program, one of the most successful in North America," enthused Syracuse *Post-Standard* staff writer Mark Weiner.

The Gifford Zoo has raised four baby elephants during

Doyle's tenure. However, in early November 2005 the USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service fined the zoo \$10,765 for two alleged violations of the Animal Welfare Act, said to have contributed to the accidental drowning of a four-day-old elephant calf named Kedar on August 4, 2005, when other young elephants jostled him into deep water.

Among Doyle's first moves as Gifford Zoo director was to transfer two of the zoo's six Asian elephants to African Lion Safari,

near Chicago. This was supposed to lower the stress on a pregnant elephant named Romani—but her calf was stillborn anyway.

Doyle hopes to get the nod from Onondaga County to build a \$4.5 million expanded elephant exhibit. "The key is space," he told Weiner. "We need it."

The Seneca Park Zoo in Rochester recently completed a \$4.4 million African elephant habitat expansion, to house resident adult females Genny C. and Lilac plus a calf Genny C. was bearing—but Genny C. miscarried in March 2006.

Space enough to keep young elephants safely is also the issue for Bamboo, 39, an elephant brought to the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle from Thailand in 1967.

Conflicting with Hansa, 5, who was born at the Woodland Park Zoo, Bamboo was transferred in

mid-2005 to the Point Defiance Zoo in Tacoma, which has successfully kept many other elephants of difficult disposition and history.

"But the other elephants in Tacoma didn't accept Bamboo, and the elephant returned to Seattle on June 12," summarized Seattle *Post-Intelligencer* reporter Kathy Mulady.

To protect Hansa, Bamboo is kept apart from the other Woodland Park elephants.

The Northwest Animal Rights Network has alleged in a lawsuit that the zoo is violating the federal Endangered Species Act and Washington state Environmental Policy Act by "failing to provide Bamboo space for roaming, foraging and bonding with other elephants," wrote Mulady. NARN argues that Bamboo should be sent to the 2,700-acre Elephant Sanctuary in Hohenwald, Tennessee.

Trying to survive the fighting in Lebanon

BEIRUT—The young Lebanese humane movement is struggling to avoid becoming a collateral casualty of the July 12 Israeli invasion of Lebanon in pursuit of Hezbollah militia members, who raided Israel earlier in the day.

"I just came back from two weeks in Lebanon, and by chance left just two hours before the airport was destroyed," Kenya-based wildlife trafficking investigator Jason Mier e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Mier has worked closely since January 2006 with Beirut for the Ethical Treatment of Animals to arrange rescues of illegally obtained and exhibited nonhuman primates.

"I am speaking to BETA twice a day by phone," Mier said.

"Even when the bombs were falling near [BETA cofounder] Joelle Kanaan's house the other night she was still on the phone to me worrying what could be done for the primates," testified Graham Garen of the Cefn-Yr-Erw Primate Rescue Sanctuary in Wales.

"Lebanon is now at war," affirmed emergency appeals from Kanaan and fellow co-founder Marguerite Shaarawai. "We are effectively cut off from the world. The necessary goods to care for our animals are becoming difficult to find. What is available is becoming expensive due to scarcity. With the country shut down, our in-country fundraising has been forced to stop.

"Our dog shelter is located on the border of Dahye, the area that is being bombed the most," Shaarawai and Kanaan said. "The shelter is in sustained danger."

BETA hoped to relocate the 130 dogs in their care to boarding kennels outside Beirut, but found that all accessible boarding kennel space was filled with the pets of people who had fled Lebanon during lulls in the fighting.

"Things are getting worse and worse each hour if not each minute," Kanaan updated on July 17. "Bombs are falling closer to the shelter. All the dogs are terrified and going crazy and getting sick from

fear. As I'm writing to you, some of the BETA girls are under the bombs at the shelter with the dogs."

BETA houses about 100 cats, divided between two locations. The cat shelters were reportedly safe, but getting to them to look after the cats was increasingly risky.

"Trips to our cat shelters take us through a large part of Beirut," explained Shaarawai and Kanaan. "Attacks continue making this more difficult and dangerous," as several bridges along the route were blown up, temporarily stranding some BETA volunteers away from their families.

BETA was formed in 2004 through the collaboration of Shaarawai, Kanaan, Hania Jurdak, Katia Sleiman, and Sylvie La Voie, who had all been working independently, assisted by Beirut veterinarian Ali Hemadeh.

[Contact: <maggy_sha@yahoo.com>, <joelle_k@idm.net.lb>, <animals@beirut.com>, or <http://beta.beirut.com>. Postal contact has been disrupted by the fighting.]

Coping with elephant moods

The debate over whether elephants can be kept safely and humanely spread to China after a sick elephant named Qing Qing on June 8, 2006 used his trunk to smash the head of 15-month Shanghai Wild Animal Zoo attendant Li Guohua, as Guohua, 43, prepared to clean the elephant's food basin.

But zoos continue to believe they can somehow find ways to resolve the many problems associated with elephant-keeping.

An elephant named Patna died from cancer in early May 2006 at the Zagreb Zoo, in the capital city of Croatia. The keepers feared they would lose Patna's longtime companion Suma, too.

"Suma was refusing to eat,

became uncommunicative, and showed all the signs of a serious depression," Zagreb Zoo director Mladen Anic told Agence France-Presse.

Suma in early June blew stones through her trunk at five musicians who came to the zoo to play classical music. "But as soon as the concert started," Anic recalled, "Suma leaned against the fence, closed her eyes and listened without moving" through compositions by Mozart, Vivaldi and Schubert. This inspired Anic and staff to begin daily music therapy sessions.

"We are so glad that we can provide things that Suma really enjoys," Anic said.

PETA, Ringling clash in Austin

AUSTIN—Members of PETA and Action for Animals claimed on July 6, 2006 that police improperly seized their videotapes and refused to take a cruelty complaint that they sought to bring against the Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus.

Activist Robert Hutton reportedly alleged that he saw blood behind an elephant's ear, possibly caused by use of an ankus, while circus staff walked a group of elephants from a performance site to the Ringling train.

Another activist, Karina Hilliard, "said she called 911 to report that trainers made sexually harassing comments to her," wrote Susannah Gonzales of the Austin *American-Statesman*. "When police officers arrived, Hilliard said, they accused Hilliard of lying about the harassment so that police would respond to the previous reports of animal cruelty. Hilliard denied the accusation and said she did not know that complaints of animal cruelty had been made."

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HELP END THE HORRORS OF FOIE GRAS

Dear Friends,

Thanks to the tens of thousands of caring people like you, our campaign to end the horrors of foie gras is making remarkable progress.



On the heels of the unanimous passage of a law banning the sale of foie gras in Chicago, Philadelphia City Councilman Jack Kelly announced plans to introduce an ordinance to ban foie gras in his city.

"Force feeding birds to make an expensive appetizer is cruel and unnecessary, and it should not be condoned in our society," stated Kelly.

I am also pleased to report that New Jersey Assemblywoman Joan Voss has joined the fight by introducing legislation to ban the force-feeding of birds in her state.

Simultaneously, restaurants across the country are notifying us that they are removing foie gras from their menus after receiving our videos and literature that document the horrors. To date more than 75 restaurants have removed foie gras from their menus.

"It's shocking and saddening to see the reality of the conditions these poor animals have to endure," said Seth Woods, chef and owner of Aquitaine in Boston, after receiving our materials. "You can count on my support."



In Defense of Animals
3010 Kerner Blvd.
San Rafael, CA 94901
www.idausa.org

It seems like yesterday that we went to court to sue a producer of foie gras for animal cruelty—to protect four activists who gained access to his property to videotape the horrors and to rescue sick and dying birds.

The cruelty they documented was truly horrific.

Filthy, overcrowded conditions, birds so weak they were unable to move away from rats who were eating them alive.

Some of the birds were literally bursting from being force-fed, choking to death on their own vomit and blood, hemorrhaging internally, before death overcame them.

The images I viewed haunt me to this day—driving me to do everything in my power to end this outrageous animal torture.

We shall continue to expose the horrors of foie gras by way of articles and media outreach that will bring us closer to abolishing this vicious industry. To this end, thousands of brochures, posters, and videos must be produced for distribution to activists, members of the media, and legislators across the country.



With your help and support, the production and consumption of foie gras here in the United States will one day be a thing of the past. That is why I urge you join us now in this critically important lifesaving campaign. To receive our restaurant packs, our hard hitting brochures and videos, please fill out the form below, or you may sign up online by visiting www.stopforcefeeding.com.

Thank you for your commitment to end the suffering and abuse of innocent animals. For the victims of foie gras who have died such terrible deaths, for animals everywhere, let us never rest until these horrors end forever.

Respectfully,

Elliot M. Katz, DVM
President, IDA

REQUEST FORM

Dear Dr. Katz, Thank you for your determination to end the horrors of foie gras. Like you, I am committed to doing everything in my power to end the outrageous callousness and barbaric torture of innocent animals. To this end, I have enclosed my tax-deductible donation of:

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My email: _____

Please send me _____ restaurant packs, which include a video, foie gras literature, and brochures (include \$3 each for production and shipping costs)



The Watchdog

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

Post-Hurricane Katrina pet custody cases challenge adoptions

BATON ROUGE—Pet custody cases arising out of the post-Hurricane Katrina animal rescue effort are presenting a nationwide challenge to some animal advocates who have worked for decades to promote recognition of pets as family members, and to strengthen anti-pet theft laws.

“People who first considered themselves foster caregivers now say some Katrina pet lovers don’t deserve their animals back,” summarized *Philadelphia Inquirer* staff writer Kathy Boccella in a mid-July profile of four cases that are expected to soon go to court. “They cite failure to have animals spayed or neutered and not getting rabies and heartworm prevention as evidence of unfit care.”

Also often mentioned by defendants in Katrina-related custody disputes is that many people who were displaced by Katrina were allegedly slow to begin searching for their animals. Most apparently waited until they returned to their homes and found no trace of missing pets before going to the Internet, many as first-time Internet users.

The cases involve “almost entirely a movement of animals from poor blacks to middle-class whites,” Florida animal rights lawyer and author Steven Wise told Boccella. Boccella examined disputes between Katrina refugee Sheila Combs and adopters Lynne and Joseph Welsh, Katrina refugee Malvin Cavalier and adopter Lisa Fox, and two Katrina refugees, Army Lieutenant Jay Johnson and Linda Charles, who have separately sued the Dallas-based SPCA of Texas over custody of a shih tzu and a German shepherd.

Many of the stereotypes do not apply to the animals involved in the lawsuits. Combs’ dog, for example, was neutered; Cavalier, 86, identified and began trying to recover his dog in October 2005.

Summarized Boccella, “Rescue workers left spray-painted notes on houses and posted information on Internet sites to help people locate their animals. But by the time Katrina survivors were resettled and ready to search, many pets had found new homes. Some groups set deadlines for owners to

retrieve animals. After that, they were considered eligible for adoption. But under Louisiana law, residents have three years to claim lost property,” including pets.

The Louisiana Attorney General’s Office has assigned staff member Mimi Hunley to help resolve pending lawsuits originating from Katrina rescues. Hunley has reportedly resolved about 15, but as many as 20 may go to court.

Many of the conflicts have resulted from the work of Stealth Rescuers, an Internet activist network formed after Katrina to help evacuees find their animals.

“I don’t think people realize how little choice these Louisiana residents had in leaving their pets,” Hunley told Demorris A. Lee of the *St. Petersburg Times*.

Lee investigated the cases of Master Tank and Nila, two dogs who before Katrina belonged to Steven and Dorreen Couture of St. Bernard, Louisiana. “Master Tank and Nila were among nearly 290 animals brought to the Humane Society of Pinellas County’s

Clearwater shelter in September,” Lee wrote. “In October, the dogs were adopted by Hillsborough assistant state attorney Pam Bondi and Rhonda Rineker of Dunedin. The Coutures have now gone to court to get them back. A trial is scheduled for mid-November.”

Former Humane Society of Pinellas County director Rick Chaboudy signed an agreement with St. Bernard Parish stipulating that animals from the parish would not be adopted out to new homes before November 1. Chaboudy, 53, who headed the humane society for more than 20 years, resigned in May.

Superior Court Judge Rosemarie Williams, of Somerset County, New Jersey, ruled in January 2006 in the first adjudicated case between a Katrina victim and an adopter that Pam and George Behmke, of Flemington, had to return a black Great Dane to Annabelle Arguello of Louisiana. Arguello left three dogs for safekeeping at the Lamar-Dixon rescue center operated by the Humane Society of the U.S., later recovered two of them, and spent six weeks tracing the Great Dane.

Executive changes at major regional humane societies

Longtime Massachusetts SPCA vice president Carter Luke has been promoted to president, succeeding **Larry Hawk**. Luke has served the MSPCA in various capacities under every MSPCA president since **Eric H. Hansen**, the fourth president of the 138-year-old organization, who was hired in 1942. Recruited from the **American SPCA** in 2003, Hawk resigned in March 2006.

“Hawk increased revenue and took a more businesslike approach to running the organization,” laying off 20 employees and eliminating 32 vacant jobs, reported **Sacha Pfeiffer** of the *Boston Globe*. Among Hawk’s first major actions was killing the award-winning but money-losing *Animals* magazine, begun as Our Dumb Animals by MSPCA founder **George Angell**.

However, Pfeiffer wrote, “several former MSPCA employees said Hawk left after persistent concerns that his brusque management style damaged morale without doing enough to improve the MSPCA finances. Hawk also hired his wife and two children to do paid consulting,” at total cost of \$37,000, about 10.5% of Hawk’s own salary, “and outsourced fundraising activities that resulted in donations not being acknowledged. The MSPCA endowment has lost nearly a third of its value since the late 1990s,” although Hawk doubled direct mail expense, “and for years,” Pfeiffer wrote, “the MSPCA has been violating its own spending policy by bypassing limits on the percentage of endowment gains that may be used to pay operating costs.”

Hospital revenue accounts for about 60% of the MSPCA’s income—mostly via Angell Memorial Hospital in Boston, built in 1918 but recently upgraded. The Springfield MSPCA hospital, “rebuilt in 1999 for \$9.5 million, had an \$861,000 operating loss last year,” Pfeiffer said, “and the MSPCA carries an \$8.6 million debt, mainly on the Springfield building.”

Despite all that, the MSPCA still has assets of \$110 million, plus control of subsidiaries that are cumulatively worth about \$10 million.

Brenda Barnette in June 2006 became chief executive of the **Humane Society of Seattle/King County**, succeeding **Nancy McKenney**, who resigned in November 2005 after serving for 22 years. Barnette, originally from Port Townsend, Washington, was executive director of **Tony LaRussa’s Animal Rescue Foundation** in Walnut Creek, California from mid-2003 to January 2006. She resigned after doubling program spending, halving overhead, and cutting the remaining debt owing for a \$16 million new shelter from \$6 million to \$3 million. Adoptions increased from 456 in the year before the new shelter opened to more than 1,800 in 2005. Barnette earlier achieved a similar turnaround as executive director of **Pets In Need**, in Redwood City, California, and was development director at the **San Francisco SPCA** while it increased revenue ninefold within 10 years of going no-kill in 1984. The Humane Society of Seattle/King County, under McKenney, rehomed more than 4,500 animals per year, raising about \$3.2 million per year with an operating budget of about \$2.8 million and net assets of just under \$4 million.

Michelle Williams, DVM, resigned in May 2006 after nine months as executive director of the **Humane Society of Nevada**, amid a dispute with rescue groups over the April euthanasia of a two-year-old Rottweiler whom staff deemed dangerous.

Phil Olsen, previously head of the **Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County**, and earlier of the **Humane Society of Cowlitz County**, resigned in May 2006 as executive director of the **Humane Society for Southwest Washington**, in Vancouver.

Michael Philbrook, executive director of the **Humane Society of Greater Nashua**, New Hampshire, since 1993, was fired on July 12, along with director of operations **Devon Eskelson**, after a dispute with the board over alleged micromanagement. Board member Sheila Quinn resigned.

N.J. coin can fundraiser fined

ELIZABETH, N.J.—New Jersey Superior Court Judge Thomas Lyons on June 14, 2006 barred Patrick G. Jemas of Woodbridge, New Jersey, from fundraising within the state, fined him \$330,804, and ordered him to help the state Division of Consumer Affairs to locate and remove hundreds of coin collection canisters that Jemas placed in businesses throughout New Jersey in the name of the “National Animal Welfare Foundation.”

Lyons did not have the authority to dissolve the National Animal Welfare Foundation, or to stop Jemas’ reported fundraising activities in New York and Pennsylvania.

New Jersey Attorney General Zulima V. Farber and Consumer Affairs Director Kimberly Ricketts alleged that Jemas “collected \$70,795 in canister donations, but spent \$75,891 on fundraising, payroll, meals, automobiles, printing, and other undefined areas. In only one fiscal year,” they said, “did reported donations exceed reported expenses.”

Little if any trace of NAWF spending for animal welfare can be discovered.

Jemas’ activities came to light in September 2002 though a “phony organizations” alert issued by then-Associated Humane Societies of New Jersey assistant director Rosanne Trezza. Jemas formerly worked for the Associated Humane Societies.

Trezza in May 2003 was promoted to executive director of Associated Humae, after the complicity of her predecessor in other dubious coin-can fundraising schemes was flushed out by a state audit and investigative reports by three different newspapers.

Coin canister fundraisers were believed to have bagged as much as \$5,000 a week, while giving Associated Humane only \$1,000 to \$1,200 a week.



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Court kills Massachusetts "Dog Protection Act" fall 2006 ballot initiative

BOSTON—The Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts on July 13, 2006 barred a proposed ballot initiative called the Dog Protection Act from the November 2006 Massachusetts ballot. If approved by the voters, the Dog Protection Act would have prohibited greyhound racing, and would have provided stiffer sentences for dogfighting and assaulting police dogs.

The court upheld the contention of Raynham-Taunton Greyhound Park owner George Carney that the initiative improperly combined unrelated issues.

Massachusetts secretary of state William Galvin Jr. in December 2005 certified that Dog Protection Act backers had gathered 83,431 bona fide signatures from voters in support of the initiative, about 18,000 more than were needed in the first step of the two-step petitioning process, but after the Massachusetts legislature failed to enact the Dog Protection Act itself, the act supporters were required to gather at least 10,971 new signatures to put the initiative before the voters.

Grey 2K cofounder Christine Dorchak told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the goal was reached on June 16, five days ahead of the deadline.

Progress against docking dogs

EDINBURG, JOHANNESBURG—The Scottish Parliament on May 31, 2006 approved inclusion of a ban on tail-docking dogs in a pending Animal Health & Welfare omnibus bill, while leaving open the possibility of exempting working dogs. The Scottish language parallels language approved by the British Parliament in March 2006, as part of a general update of anti-cruelty legislation. Similar language was introduced in 2005 but not put to a vote in New Zealand.

The South African Veterinary Association ruled meanwhile that vets who dock dogs' tails after June 2007 may be charged with "unprofessional, improper or disgraceful conduct."

Australia banned tail-docking dogs except for medical reasons in 2004. Tail-docking dogs was already prohibited in Sweden, Norway, the Netherlands, Finland, Germany, and Denmark. Nations including Austria, Cyprus, Greece, Luxembourg, and Switzerland have ratified the Convention on the Protection of Pet Animals proposed in 1987 by the Council of Europe, which includes a tail-docking ban, but have not adopted anti-docking legislation of their own.

Fate of U.K. ex-racing greyhounds exposed

LONDON—The London *Sunday Times* on July 16, 2006 exposed the fate of as many as 10,000 ex-racing greyhounds over the past 15 years. Reporter Daniel Foggo and a photographer documented building supply dealer David Smith in the act of shooting greyhounds, whom Smith buried on his property near Seaham in Durham. Smith took over the business of killing "slow" greyhounds from his father, Foggo wrote.

About 75% of the racing dogs in Britain are bred and trained in Ireland, Foggo reported. About 10,000 racing dogs per year are "retired" and replaced, but the National Greyhound Racing Club can account for about 3,000 "retired" dogs per year.

Lab dog dealer C.C. Baird is sentenced

LITTLE ROCK—Former laboratory dog and cat suppliers Chester Clinton "C.C." Baird Jr. and his wife Patsy Baird, both 59, were on July 14 sentenced for multiple violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act. U.S. District Judge Leon Holmes gave C.C. Baird three years on probation including six months of home detention, and fined him \$7,500. Holmes gave Patsy Baird two years on probation, and fined her \$2,000.

The Bairds and two of their five daughters in August 2005 paid \$262,700 in fines to settle civil charges against them, forfeited \$ 200,000 cash from "ill-gotten gains," paid more than \$40,000 in restitution to animal welfare groups that rehabilitated and placed 215 dogs and 145 cats seized from the Bairds in 2003 and 2005 USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service raids, and turned over their home, land, and kennel, worth about \$1.3 million, to the USDA.

Now employed in construction in Dallas, the Bairds rapidly expanded their laboratory dog and cat supply business after the 1990 incorporation of stronger anti-pet theft language in the Animal Welfare Act brought the exodus of more than 90%

of the then-active lab dog and cat suppliers in the U.S. from the field.

"In a strange twist," wrote Linda Satter of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, "Last Chance for Animals president Chris DeRose testified [before the sentencing] on the Bairds' behalf. DeRose said that four weeks ago Baird provided a briefing to a Congressional subcommittee to explain enforcement problems with laws governing dealers that 'invite breaking laws.'"

The HBO *America Undercover* series in February 2006 aired video obtained by a Last Chance for Animals operative who in 2001-2003 worked for Baird, and was credited by U.S. attorney Bob Cummins with enabling the prosecution.

Earlier, however, USDA attorney Colleen Carroll told Todd Frankel of the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* that her office did not use or even view the Last Chance material.

The USDA first cited the Bairds for Animal Welfare Act violations in 1991. Others credited with helping to bring them to justice have included Animal Lobby founder Cindy Schultz and In Defense of Animals "Project Hope" director Doll Stanley.

New mobile S/N record

GREAT FALLS—Thirteen veterinarians and nearly 300 volunteers tried from June 15 through 19, 2006 to break the Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force record for most dogs and cats sterilized in five days by a mobile surgical team, but fell barely short.

The final total of 370 dogs and 866 cats sterilized, for a total of 1,236, was third best for the task force, whose top figure was 1,354 achieved during Lewis & Clark Count Pet Care Week in 2004. That broke the 1998 record of 1,336 sterilizations done in six days during Salish & Kootenai Love Your Pet Week.

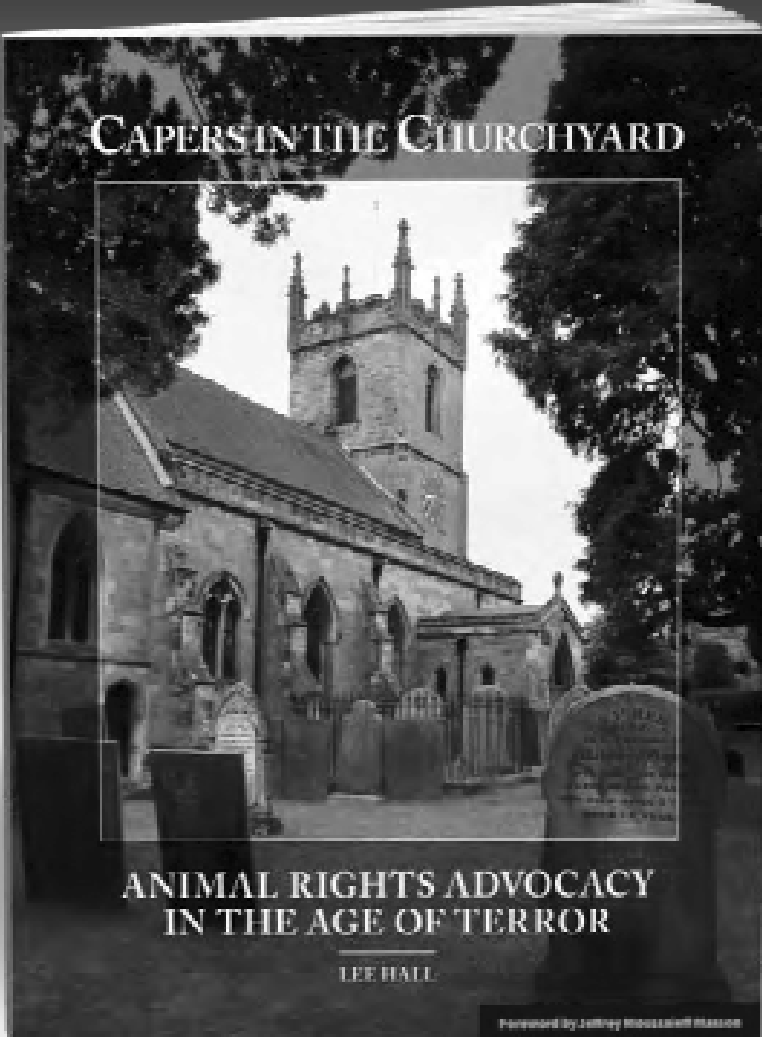
The Great Falls City Council and Cascade County Commission pledged to fund a follow-up task force visit to sterilize 800 animals who were left on a waiting list, said Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force founder Jean Atthowe.

Great Falls was the last Montana city of at least 5,000 people to receive a task force visit. On the road since 1996, the team has noted results including a 76% drop in intake at the Wolf Point Dog Pound on the Fork Peck Reservation, after four visits, and a 26% drop in intake plus a 42% drop in killing at the Billings Animal Shelter, after just a single two-day visit.

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Lively and Agile

A Timely and Comprehensive Critique of 'Eco-terrorism'

A tour of radical activism, with key insights for sorting progressive from reactionary tactics

Can our planet be saved through fear and violence? Activists who think so are zeroing in on enterprises coast to coast, country to country — with ever burgeoning law enforcement units in hot pursuit.

Morris Dees, co-founder, Southern Poverty Law Center, calls *Capers in the Churchyard* "a beautifully written book that lays out an ethical animal rights activist's vision of a world without violence and offers a comprehensive critique of the 'eco-terrorism' of recent years."

The book's lively and agile analysis of the interplay between militancy and increased police power will appeal to anyone interested in the dynamic of ethical movements, especially those hoping to define the advocate's best role in addressing the urgent questions of our age.

By Lee Hall, with a Foreword by Jeffrey Moussier Masson. Published by Nectar Bat Press. \$14.95. Available now from Friends of Animals www.friendsofanimals.org and internationally through Amazon.com.

Gains against shelter killing come hard in the Gulf states, West, & Midwest

	Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed
CONNECTICUT	0.8	2003	3,483	2,647
Ithaca, NY	2.2	2003	97	214
New York City	2.6	2005	8,086	21,171
Onandaga County, NY	4.2	2003	311	1,300
Oswego, NY	7.5	2003	18	135
Madison County, NY	7.8	2003	70	548
NORTHEAST (36%)	2.2			33,495
72,322				
NEW JERSEY	5.9	2003	8,638	50,637
Pittsburgh, PA	8.6	2003	1,261	10,907
Baltimore	9.2	2003	762	7,003
Harford Cnty, MD	11.2	2002	219	2,448
Berks County, PA	11.8	2002	85	4,489
Frederick Cnty, MD	13.7	2003	203	2,784
Philadelphia	19.7	2002	1,518	29,935
MID-ATLANTIC (43%)	8.5			30,759
261,851				
Richmond, VA	7.7	2004	195	1,489
Miami/Dade County	9.2	2003	2,300	21,205
West Palm Beach	13.5	2005	1,216	16,411
Wake Cty, NC	15.2	2003	656	10,000
Norfolk	15.9	2003	1,500	23,869
VIRGINIA	18.1	2003	7,386	133,800
Lee County, FL	18.7	2002	463	8,667
Alachua Cty, FL	21.5	2005	224	4,820
Tallahassee	22.4	2004	239	5,350
Coweta Cty, GA	22.6	2004	101	2,288
Buncombe Cty, NC	25.5	2005	213	5,444
Muskogee Cnty, GA	27.5	2003	275	7,500
Volusia County, FL	28.6	2003	455	13,000
*NORTH CAROLINA	28.1	2004	8,407	236,327
Tampa	32.4	2002	1,000	32,431
Columbia, SC	37.0	2004	332	12,275
Gastonia, NC	38.9	2005	193	7,511
Polk County, FL	40.3	2005	511	20,566
Augusta, GA	45.3	2004	198	8,967
Waynesville, NC	51.4	2004	55	2,850
McDowell Cty, NC	79.7	2004	44	3,500
* The official count was 205,504, but jurisdictions with 15% of the state human population did not report.				
SO. ATLANTIC (55%)	22.3			47,368
1,052,451				

(The regional and national totals appearing in bold are not tallies of the data used to produce them, but are rather estimates proportionately weighted to reflect demography. The percentage figure in parenthesis is the percentage of the human population encompassed within the shelter service areas from which the totals were derived.)

	Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed
Loudon Cty TN	18.9	2003	40	754
Nashville, TN	18.9	2004	511	9,647
Chattanooga	22.5	2004	307	6,918
Blount Cty, TN	22.6	2003	108	2,437
Knoxville	27.6	2004	393	10,848
Roane Cty, TN	32.1	2003	52	1,669
Anderson Cty, TN	32.3	2003	72	2,327
Spartanburg TN	32.8	2004	261	8,562
Union Cty, TN	42.8	2003	18	788
Lincoln County, KY	43.7	2003	24	1,045
Sevier Cty, TN	44.4	2003	74	3,275
Jefferson Cty TN	53.1	2003	45	2,390
APPALACHIA (15%)	26.6			12,915
344,488				
Fort Worth	19.6	2004	1,486	29,177
LaPlace, LA	20.8	2003	50	1,042
Houston	22.2	2004	3,596	80,000
Dallas/FtWorth	23.0	2002	3,439	79,207
Birmingham	23.8	2005	818	19,438
Lafayette, LA	28.0	2004	195	5,439
El Paso, TX	31.4	2004	700	22,000
Mobile	30.6	2004	400	12,243
Tuskaloosa, AL	31.2	2004	187	5,832
San Antonio	35.3	2003	1,418	50,000
San Marcos	43.9	2004	43	1,888
Shreveport/Caddo	48.0	2005	250	12,000
Amarillo	50.9	2002	174	8,859
Gulfpport	52.7	2004	190	10,000
Hattiesburg, MS	56.2	2002	73	4,100
Longview, TX	70.8	2005	114	8,070
GULF COAST (38%)	26.6			34,863
927,356				
Denver	5.8	2002	1,961	11,407
Salt Lake City	6.0	2005	1,016	6,094
Weld County, CO	8.5	2005	211	1,800
Larimer Count, CO	11.6	2005	267	3,093
Las Vegas area	14.5	2003	1,641	23,758
Billings	14.6	2004	133	1,941
UTAH	14.4	2005	2,352	33,854
Phoenix/Maricopa	16.0	2005	3,389	54,125
Payette, ID	16.6	2002	60	1,000
Albuquerque	26.9	2004	581	15,600
Flagstaff, AZ	30.7	2003	59	1,848
Santa Fe, NM	38.2	2005	130	5,000
Kingman area, AZ	39.5	2003	162	6,404
Navajo Nation	136.0	2003	46	6,952
WEST (62%)	15.1			17,721
266,848				

Animals killed YEAR 1,000s Animals

First regions with low-cost dog & cat sterilization are still making fastest progress

The U.S. regions where the first low-cost and free dog and cat sterilization programs started, between 30 and 50 years ago, still are making the fastest progress in reducing the numbers of dogs and cats killed in animal shelters.

The 13th annual ANIMAL PEOPLE projection of the U.S. shelter killing toll shows that the rate of killing per thousand humans appears to have fallen back to the low of 14.8 that was achieved in 2000-2001, after a steep rise in 2001-2002. Because the U.S. human population and the numbers of dogs and cats kept by humans have all increased, the current annual toll of about 4.38 million dogs and cats killed in shelters is still about 180,000 higher than the toll of five years ago.

Overall, U.S. shelters appear to have killed about .8 fewer animals per thousand humans in the past 12 months than in the 12 months preceding—but the northeast and west coast, where low-cost and free sterilization began, made faster gains than the U.S. as a whole. Appalachia, however, which a year ago had the highest regional toll per thousand humans, made progress at approximately three times the national rate.

The Gulf Coast region, West and Midwest may have slipped backward slightly, but the slippage in each case appears to be less than the possible margin of error in the projections. Hurricane Katrina was not a factor in the Gulf Coast data because most of the project base is from data collected before Katrina.

The growth of the Spanish-speaking population in the Southwest, often mentioned as a possible factor in shelter intake, is plainly not a factor, since southern California, with the largest and fastest-growing Spanish-speaking population, has shown the most improved numbers over the past five years, paced by Los Angeles and San Diego.

The major reason for relative stasis in Gulf Coast, West, and Midwest progress may simply be that—as affirmed by several recent veterinary practice surveys—these are the parts of the U.S. most afflicted by an increasingly acute global shortage of veterinarians.

U.S. shelter killing per thousand humans stood at 17.4 in 1996, according to the ANIMAL PEOPLE projections, which since 1996 have been based on data from all major shelters within defined human population units, such as cities, counties, regions, or states, collected during the three most recent fiscal years.

By 2001 the total number of animals killed in U.S. shelters projected to be a record low of 4.2 million—less than a fourth of the 1985 toll, estimated by an American Humane Association survey, and about a sixth of the toll circa 1970-1973, which was retrospectively estimated by ANIMAL PEOPLE from a representative sampling of old shelter reports.

The 2001 high-tech stock market slump and terrorist attacks brought a brief but catastrophic dip in charitable and governmental funding for dog and cat sterilization.

Shelter intakes and killing rose enough during the next fiscal year to erase five years of progress—but the increase was almost entirely attributable to an explosion in popularity of pit bull terriers, coinciding with resurgent dogfighting, an activity which in the early 1980s was believed to have been virtually eradicated from most of the U.S.

Pit bull terriers

Pit bull terriers had historically never made up more than about 1% of the U.S. dog population, according to ANIMAL PEOPLE counts of press mentions and listings of dogs offered for sale in newspaper classified ads, 1900-present, using <www.NewspaperArchive.com>. A 1993 ANIMAL PEOPLE survey found that pit bulls then made up about 5% of the U.S. shelter dog population. By 2004, however, pit bulls were up to 5% of the U.S. dog population, and 26% of the shelter dog population.

Police seizures of fighting dogs rose from circa 300 in 1998 to more than 700 in the first six months of 2002, and nearly as many in the first six months of 2005, but fell back to 307 in the first six months of 2006. Whether this indicates actual lasting gains against dogfighting will take more years of data to see.

Along with the rise of dogfighting came a

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	per 1,000 people	of people killed
Chicago	6.9	2005 2,869 19,706
Cincinnati	13.1	2002 835 10,951
MICHIGAN	13.3	2004 9,991 133,000
Tippecanoe Cty, IN	15.2	2003 155 2,360
St. Louis	15.6	2003 1,365 21,336
Butler County, OH	15.8	2002 835 5,329
Kansas City	16.6	2002 1,500 25,000
Springfield, MO	16.9	2002 594 9,689
Minneapolis	17.9	2002 1,115 20,000
Indianapolis	18.5	2005 783 14,444
Jefferson Cty, MO	18.9	2003 198 3,745
Winnebago Cty, IL	19.2	2004 284 5,449
Clermnt Cnty, OH	20.3	2002 182 3,700
Kansas City, KS	21.6	2004 158 3,412
Oklahoma City	22.2	2004 677 15,000
Madison/St Clair IL	24.5	2003 515 12,627
Warren County, OH	27.1	2002 169 4,572
Fort Wayne, IN	28.6	2004 340 9,724
Athens, OH	46.6	2004 64 3,000
Columbia, MO	50.4	2002 80 4,033
MIDWEST (36%)	14.4	63,810
919,086		
Mission Viejo, CA	1.0	2005 166 113
Santa Cruz Cty, CA	2.0	2005 251 5,000
San Francisco	2.5	2004 771 1,892
Los Angeles	3.9	2005 9,638 38,000
Snohomish Cty, WA	4.7	2005 639 3,000
Santa Barbara	5.0	2004 403 2,002
San Diego	5.9	2004 2,931 17,421
Portland/Multnomah	6.8	2004 686 4,714
SF Bay area	7.1	2003 7,039 50,000
Silicon Valley	8.5	2005 1,668 14,097
OREGON	9.3	2002 3,560 33,132
Eugene, OR	10.1	2005 336 3,378
WASHINGTON [prjtd]	11.1	2005 6,132 68,054
Sacramento	13.4	2002 1,269 17,000
Lodi, CA	13.9	2005 57 788
Clark County, WA	14.6	2003 361 5,283
Grants Pass, OR	17.8	2003 78 1,400
San Bernardino	18.5	2002 1,766 32,656
Riverside, CA	24.3	2002 1,636 39,687
Bakersfield, CA	24.7	2005 676 16,700
Victorville, CA	28.6	2002 300 8,598
Modesto	30.5	2004 489 14,903
Longview, WA	31.3	2002 80 2,500
Fresno, CA	41.3	2005 800 33,000
Visalia, CA	81.1	2002 100 8,100

PACIFIC (87%) 10.1 48,000
537,278
U.S. TOTAL 14.8 296,410
4,381,680

Feral cats

Neuter/return had apparently caught on well enough by 2001 that the feral cat population continued to drop, but at a slower rate than in the 1990s. This trend is continuing.

Evaluation of roadkill studies, shelter intake data, and feeder/rescuer surveys indicates that the U.S. feral cat population currently ranges between about six million in winter and 12 million at the peak of summer “kitten season,” for a year-round average of about nine million.

This is less than a fourth of the numbers projected by ANIMAL PEOPLE in 1992, just before neuter/return caught on in the U.S., and less than half of the total projected in 1954 by John Marbanks, who published the first serious U.S. dog and cat population studies in the long defunct American Humane Association magazine *National Humane Review*.

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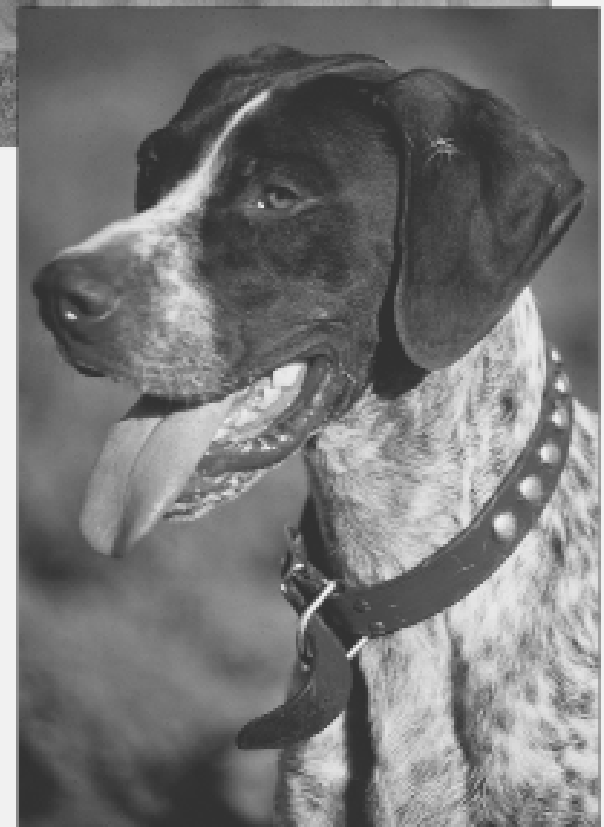
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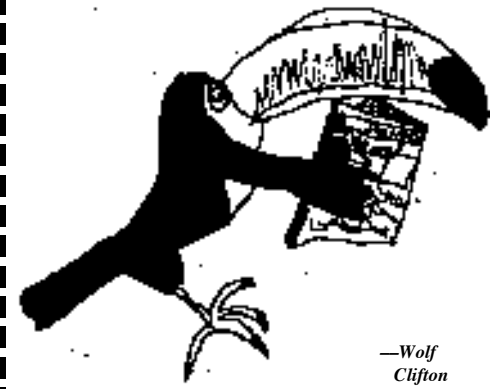
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—Wolf Clifton

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Christine's Ark: *the extraordinary story of Christine Townend and an Indian animal shelter* by John Little

Macmillan Australia (1 Market Street, Sydney, Australia; 61-613-9825-1059; fax 61-613-9825-1054; <www.panmacmillan.com.au>; <customer.service@macmillan.com.au>), 2006. 324 pages, paperback. \$32.95 Australian.

Until I started to cry, neither the Sikh driver, Mr. Singh, nor the unwanted sightseeing guide believed me when I said we wanted them to take us to an animal shelter on the outskirts of the ancient Indian city of Jaipur, instead of shopping for rugs.

Mr. Singh didn't really speak English, but the tour guide was fluent. Earlier that morning we had refused to ride an elephant to the top of the Amer Fort, and they reluctantly arranged for a jeep. At the temple atop the fort, we were deeply upset to learn that a goat was being sacrificed inside, and refused to enter. At the temple where pilgrims fed pigeons for good luck, we were pursued by a legless beggar on a roller cart. The only experience we had enjoyed that day was when a languor monkey jumped down from a parapet in front of my son Wolf, who was only seven then, in 1997, ripped a garland of marigolds off Wolf's neck, and quickly climbed back to the top of a parapet to eat the flowers. It was over in half a minute. First we shrieked, startled, and then began to laugh. The driver and guide were convinced we were crazy.

When I said we would skip the rest of the tour because we were expected at a place called Help in Suffering that took in sick animals, they didn't seem to comprehend. Instead, they took us to the shopping district to look for rugs. I wrote on a paper the address of the place with the phone number and said we wanted to go there. They talked it over in Hindi, and the next thing we knew we were at a manufacturer's outlet for stone carvings. That's when tears of frustration began flowing and eventually they realized I wasn't going to buy anything expensive. Losing interest in us, the guide had the driver drop him at a tourist bureau, where the baffled Mr. Singh phoned the shelter for directions.

Even with directions, the Help in Suffering sanctuary wasn't easy to find. We drove through the old walled "pink city" to a highway that cut through the typical urban sprawl of a populous Indian city, where temporary huts made of garbage bags sheltered street people on sidewalks that surrounded the walled yards of new middle class dwellings. Mr. Singh stopped several times to ask again for directions. The farther out of

town we got, the more likely were the people to know of the animal shelter.

Finally we made a turn off the highway onto a smaller road, and quickly saw a sign for the sanctuary. We drove through the open gate, which hung on whitewashed pillars. The car was surrounded by a pack of barking dogs and people who seemed to like them. At once I felt at home. Through the happy chaos emerged Christine Townend, the Australian managing trustee of Help in Suffering, and her husband Jeremy.

I had known of Christine by reputation for many years. She founded the Australian organization Animal Liberation, and wrote a book, *Pulling the Wool*, about the sheep industry, before taking over the management of the Help in Suffering sanctuary. The sanctuary was the second of three major Indian humane societies founded by the late Crystal Rogers (1906-1996). Under Christine's direction, Help In Suffering achieved global prominence by conducting a street-dog sterilization program sponsored by the World Society for the Protection of Animals, similar to the Animal Birth Control program pioneered by the Blue Cross of India in Chennai.

Christine was middle-aged and quietly beautiful. Jeremy seemed good-natured and strikingly nice, though "nice" is not usually something that strikes one at all.

We sat in the sanctuary courtyard and ate banana cake, surrounded by dogs rolling in the dust. In the distance was a river that had shrunk from the banks, and outside the walls of the shelter was visible a stone or concrete platform that turned out to be used for funeral cremations. After a relaxing visit came a tour of the sanctuary. Wolf had immediately liked Christine, and behaved as if she were an old friend. He took her hand and together they inspected dogs in cages and talked to horses and donkeys and cows.

I didn't want to leave the sanctuary ever, as it seemed an oasis amidst the hustle and hassles of India, but soon it was time to catch a train for Delhi to attend a conference sponsored by the Animal Welfare Board of India, a quasi-governmental body. Deciding to go also, at the last moment, Christine arranged to ride to Delhi with our driver, Mr. Singh,

whose home was in Delhi. Having only been able to cope with the reckless chaos of Indian highway driving by not looking at oncoming traffic, I wondered at the casual way at which Christine arranged for the ride. I found her composure at the prospect of the five or six hour drive into India's capital city quite remarkable. I was relieved and almost surprised to see Christine at the conference the next day, looking as calm as she had been at the sanctuary.

Thus began my friendship with Christine—poet, artist, and animal activist—whose life story is told by biographer John Little in *Christine's Ark: the extraordinary story of Christine Townend and an Indian animal shelter*. Little binds Christine's multi-faceted history into a coherent whole, along with the story of Jeremy, without whose support through four decades of marriage Christine would not have gone so far, neither in space nor in achievement.

After meeting in India, we stayed in touch through correspondence between Christine and Wolf. Christine would send him cards with pictures of birds, and Wolf would send a drawing in return. Our paths began crossing at international conferences, but it was through e-mail in recent years that I learned that we have more in common than our animal work. Like Christine, I knew I had a definite purpose in life from my earliest awareness in childhood. Once I began to realize it was to help animals, I did my best to tune it out, fearing the pain that comes with compassion for the suffering. Christine, on the other hand, jumped into her role once she saw it, but the realization that her life's work was for the animals came only after a search through various other causes, including aboriginal rights and environmentalism, left her unsatisfied.

Both of us began seeking the meaning of life in childhood, with explorations into various religions that seemed promising but always failed to convince in the end. Unlike me, however, Christine pursued spiritual knowledge with the same dogged determination she brings to her animal welfare efforts. Leaving their two young sons for Jeremy to tend, along with his law practice, Christine traveled to India looking for

(continued on page 21)

Wild Horses: *The world's last surviving herds* by Elwyn Hartley Edwards

Hylas Publishing (129 Main Street, Irvington, NY10533), 2006. 144 pages, hard cover. \$24.95.

Well-researched and beautifully presented, with inspiring photos of exquisite horses, this book presents a wealth of information about feral horses around the world.

Feral horses persist in places as remote as the Namib desert in Africa and as seemingly unlikely as the saltwater marshes of the

Camargue region in southern France.

Unfortunately, there are now no longer any true wild horses, except for Africa zebras and Asiatic wild asses, and their numbers too have declined because of hunting.

Page after page describes how various wild horse herds were hunted out of existence.

For example, "The Kirghiz people had known of the Asiatic wild horse for generations and, indeed, had hunted it almost to extinction by the 19th century." The tarpan was "intensively hunted and did not survive in any numbers into the last part of the 18th century."

The African quagga vanished, although back-breeding zebras for quagga traits may recover it. "Farmers just went on shooting them to provide meat for their workers without ever thinking that so numerous a species could ever be destroyed entirely," Edwards notes.

Hundreds of thousands of mustangs were slaughtered in the U.S. west, mainly for pet food.

There are now several dozen "managed herds" of feral horses around the world. Edwards describes these horses in great detail.

Unfortunately, the final paragraphs spoil the book for me. I

quote: "More humane and caring attitudes towards horses, whether wild or domestic, prevail in the modern world than in past centuries, and are of course to be welcomed. However, in human efforts to relate to an animal species, there is always the danger of indulging in the destructive practice of anthropomorphism. *The horse is not human. It does not have the human capacity for reason.* It is a creature of instincts acquired before recorded time and, while it deserves our respect, it is best viewed in that light. Nor, in respect of feral stock, is it wise to confuse conservation with preservation. The former is an exercise in practical management of the environment; the latter, an uninformed rejection of natural fact that is at once sterile and a recipe for

ecological disaster."

The term "reason," in academic behavioral research, describes not just the process of systematic thought, but a particular type of systematic thought, going beyond cause-and-effect use of logic to seek how a hypothesized cause creates an observed effect. Horses may not be capable of reason under that definition, although recent research indicates that many non-human species are.

Presented without explicit definition and qualification, however, this paragraph appears to exactly the insensitive and condescending attitude which has caused the horse extinctions that Edwards chronicles.

—Beverley Pervan
South Africa

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Simply Vegan: Quick Vegetarian Meals
by Debra Wasserman

Nutrition section by Reed Mangels, Ph.D., R.D.
(updated 4th edition)

The Vegetarian Resource Group (PO Box 1463, Baltimore, MD 21203), 2006. 222 pages, paperback. \$14.95

This excellent vegan cookbook was first published in 1991. The need for an updated 4th edition testifies to its popularity.

The first half of the book includes appetizing vegan recipes of all sorts: snacks, soups, side dishes, etc. The recipes are simple, making for easy cooking.

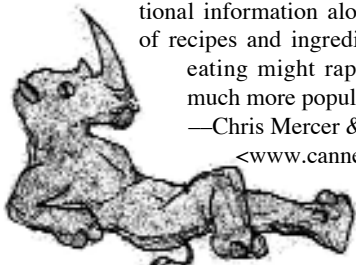
Perhaps to keep printing costs down, though, there are no photos of the dishes. This is a pity, because all cookbooks benefit from a visual representation of each dish. Often the picture catches attention first and is the inspiration to cook that dish.

The second half of the book discusses the nutritional value of vegan food, with emphasis on achieving a healthy diet. Recommended daily allowances for protein,

minerals, and vitamins are given, with helpful discussions of what food sources are needed to attain the RDA. The particular need for vegans to supplement their diets with vitamin B12 is stressed. The special requirements of pregnant and infant vegans are also analysed and some popular misconceptions debunked.

If more cookbooks included nutritional information along with lists of recipes and ingredients, vegan eating might rapidly become much more popular.

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



Rosalba (1991-2006) died of cancer on July 10, 2006. Born in inner Bridgeport near a Catholic school that was closing down, she appeared to be the last survivor of an early 1991 litter. Her mother, called Maybelline by the nuns, was trapped at the same time, pregnant. She gave birth to four kittens the next day. Rosalba shook as if she had palsy, and her eyes constantly blinked. She was the most pathetic cat I had seen. I thought our veterinarian would recommend euthanasia. I wanted to feed her and give her some comfort before she died, and I thought she needed a pretty name, because she looked so dreadful. Her fur was grey with dirt, but I could see she was white, and I named her Rosalba—"white rose" in Spanish—after a Mexican friend of mine. To my surprise her condition quickly improved with feeding. She was quite robust for a time. She had to have all her teeth taken out quite young, then she developed a chronic skin problem that lasted for most of her life, but—always a stoic—she seemed to enjoy her life.
—Kim Bartlett

Christine's Ark: the extraordinary story of Christine Townend (continued from 20)

answers in 1974. There she met a Buddhist nun who was to become her spiritual advisor for many years. On returning to Australia, Christine shaved her head, embarrassing the family, especially the children, who found their mother incomprehensible. Jeremy couldn't fathom her either, but kept hoping Christine would settle down, one episode after another, each taking her farther from his understanding.

A circuitous path with many "accidents" eventually led Christine to her ultimate spiritual guru, Vimala Thakar, whose biography, *The Hidden Master*, she wrote in 2002.

Concurrent with the spiritual quest has been Christine's work for animals, which began with founding the organization Animal Liberation in 1976 with Australian philosopher Peter Singer, whose book *Animal Liberation* (published earlier in 1976) gave impetus to the modern animal rights movement. Campaigns for chickens and sheep took Christine into factory farms and aboard the ships that transport live sheep for slaughter in the Middle East, a trade that continues today. Her fight against cruel practices of the Australian sheep industry made her controversial and brought her into conflict with her sister, who had married a sheep rancher.

Christine had seen how animals raised for food were made to live and how they died, always suffering. She thought she was prepared when asked to investigate the hidden beef industry of India. She wasn't. John Little writes of Christine's first trip to an Indian slaughterhouse in 1989:

"In Australia she had seen pigs slaughtered by sticking a knife in the heart; she had seen frightened cattle rolling their eyes as they were carried along a conveyor belt toward their destruction; she had seen sheep electrocuted between the ears in order to render them insensible to slaughter; she had visited ships where Australian sheep were packed three to a square metre to endure the three-week journey to the Middle East; she had seen hens crowded into battery cages, and pigs kept most of their lives behind iron bars. But now she began to understand the massive hidden killing which was happening all over the world. She had not thought until then about the significance to humanity of this calculated, callous war between two kingdoms of nature, with one the permanent victim and the other the eternal aggressor. The cattle, especially, touched her heart. The whipping, the shouting, the pulling and pushing toward the noise and smell of blood, the moans and grunts of

dying, bleeding, shattered, ripped creatures—all this they meekly endured with their great, confused, helpless, staring eyes. If they had fought or argued it might have been easier, but their trust and their misery at human betrayal seemed to render them immobile. They raised no protest, no questioning voice. And they almost seemed to redeem whatever was done to them by their soft meditative eyes that were the gentle eyes of herbivores who never killed, never warred, never tortured; who worked and served patiently and unquestioningly under the yoke that galled and marred. They were driven and whipped, always hungry, usually thirsty, always tired. Yet at the end of all this they were killed, without having been thanked once, without even one touch of love. She wondered if perhaps somewhere in a field, secretly, a peasant farmer had embraced those sweet-smelling necks for one last time. Perhaps once they had been loved, had been thanked, had known compassion. 'If I could have asked one thing it would have been that someone somewhere had loved them, that my own love could assuage a lifetime of human indifference. I loved them as deeply as it was possible for any person to love. They were my creatures, of me, my beloved animals, my God.'"

In describing her anguish, Christine spoke for all who suffer because of their empathy for animals.

Christine returned to Australia with a heavy heart and the dawning realization that she needed to be in India. A trip to Europe for meetings with animal advocates put Christine in touch with Crystal Rogers. Help in Suffering was then struggling under poor management. Christine was easily talked into going there to see if she could assist. Once there, she knew she had found her destiny, and decided she must continue her work in India even if it meant the end of her marriage. But as she prepared to announce to the long-suffering Jeremy her decision to live and work in India, Jeremy made his own decision to sacrifice his home and law practice and all that he held dear to be with her, in India. Christine flew to Australia to sell their house and put things into storage, and returned to Jaipur with Jeremy, who promptly put his considerable talents to good use at the sanctuary. It was 1992.

After starting the Animal Birth Control program in Jaipur, which eventually sterilized most of the dogs in the city and virtually eradicated rabies there, Christine and Jeremy saw the need for an ABC program in Darjeeling, in the foothills of

the Himalayas in northeast India, where they had ventured on a holiday. Christine secured the funding needed to build the Help In Suffering shelter and clinic now serving that region. Meanwhile, in 1998, she helped Pradeep Kumar Nath to begin an ABC program in Visakhapatnam, on the Bengal coast, under the auspices of the Visakha SPCA. This ended the previous municipal practice of electrocuting stray dogs and allowing the killers to sell their skins.

Many of the stories in *Christine's Ark* include mention of other people who are prominent in the animal welfare cause, not only in India but in Australia and Europe. However, some of the most touching tales that Little chooses to relate are about unknowns and poor people whose poignant struggles to save their own animals make *Christine's Ark* a story of compassion for people as well as animals. Case after case underscores the bond of interdependence that exists between humans and animals, whose ultimate natural expression is love.

While portions of *Christine's Ark* might bring the sensitive reader to tears, most of the stories are inspirational and uplifting and some are quite funny. There was a monkey at the Jaipur sanctuary who had recovered from injuries and needed to be released into safe habitat. One day Christine and her helper Daya were "driving past a temple in a nearby suburb when she had an idea. They stopped the car and approached the saddhu ['holy man'] sitting cross-legged under an old peepal tree. He agreed that they could leave the monkey there. The next day they brought the monkey to the temple and released him. He walked quietly to the saddhu and sat on his lap! They returned a few days later to see the saddhu sitting as usual under the tree. The monkey was nowhere in sight. They assumed that he must have fled. The saddhu smiled and quietly lifted his blanket to reveal the monkey asleep underneath. In the peace of the temple the little creature had found a safe refuge for life."

Help in Suffering was not to be the Townends' refuge for life. As they entered their sixties, Christine and Jeremy began to find India more arduous. Frequent bouts with diarrhea from unclean water and the extreme weather of the Rajasthan desert become less tolerable. Christine was badly mauled by a guard dog and required plastic surgery. Christine and Jeremy began to return to Australia more often, and a few years ago started to live in Australia again, with frequent visits to the shelters in both Jaipur and Darjeeling, with which they remain in daily e-mail contact. Christine has recently been painting pictures for an exhibition that benefits Help in Suffering.

Far from accepting retirement, Christine recently emailed, "I know I have more work yet to do of a more demanding nature." One can only marvel at her spirit, and hope for a sequel to *Christine's Ark*.
—Kim Bartlett

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Animal Stories by Christine Townend
c/o Help in Suffering, Maharani Farm, Durgapura,
Jaipur, Rajasthan 302018, India; 2006.
91 pages, paperback. \$20.00 U.S. includes postage.

Christine Townend in this collection of short stories, poems and paintings expresses her belief in the spiritual connection between human and non-human animals.

Her colorful stories draw on her experiences in giving care to chronically overworked and ill-fed beasts of burden, mainly elephants and donkeys, at the Help In Suffering animal hospital and sanctuary in Jaipur, India. Townend explains how she uses compassion to forge a bond with suffering animals. Each story describes a different relationship.

Townend's discoveries about the treatment of captive elephants will shock those who may still believe mahouts are animal lovers, who subdue elephants with kindness. The elephant safari business involves vicious domination of the animals through physical violence, beyond the sight of gullible tourists.
—Chris Mercer

OBITUARIES

Shannon Hartwick Moore, 36, of Metairie, Louisiana, committed suicide on May 30, 2006. A New Orleans certified public accountant, Moore was displaced herself by Hurricane Katrina in September 2005, but focused on animal rescue, volunteering with Alley Cat Allies, Animal Rescue New Orleans, and Kinship Circle, forming the organizations Supporters of Save Our Pets and Hay There to assist household pets and farm animals. Later she organized a "People & Pets March" in Baton Rouge in support of a bill to facilitate pet evacuation after disasters.

MEMORIALS



In memory of Bailey (3/29/90-6/22/06), my special friend, who showed me that the world can appear civilized and how to age with graceful dignity. Bailey saw a universe without nations and lived her long life with peaceful resolve. I'll miss Bailey always, especially that brown, bushy tail that always wagged a greeting. Bailey's longevity and good health were likely due to attitude, exercise and a plant-based diet.
—Priscilla Feral, *Friends of Animals*

In memory of Mysti, beloved canine companion of Michael and Janet Avenoso.
—Judy Meincke

In memory of each individual who make up the 23 million chickens killed every day in the U.S. for food. Your confined lives of fear and misery are not forgotten.
—Michael & Dianne Bahr

In memory of Mr. Bill, feline friend of many years to Carol & Don.
—Kathie Nelson

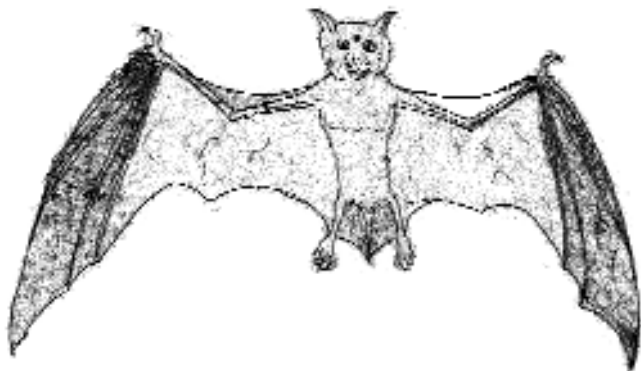
In honor of the two-year anniversary of the passing of the beloved Bonny Shah.
—Kim & Wolf

In memory of Purr Box (12/3/87), Prometheus (3/21/81), Friendl (10/30/87), Lizzie (5/8/84), Boy Cat (12/26/85), Miss Penrose (11/18/98), Duke (11/1/98), Purr Box, Jr. (5/1/04), Blackie (9/9/96), and Honey Boy (11/1/05).



Jim Brooks, 83, died on May 19 at his home near Juneau, Alaska. A high school dropout from Erie, Pennsylvania, Brooks drifted to Alaska, where he fished, trapped, and mushed dogs. A World War II bomber pilot, Brooks afterward enrolled in the just-formed Department of Wildlife Management at the University of Alaska. "He began the first scientific studies on walruses," recalled Craig Medred of the *Anchorage Daily News*, "but it was his work with seals and sea lions that generated serious change in how Alaskan wildlife was viewed." Former *Alaska* magazine editor Jim Rearden recalled that the Alaska Department of Fisheries killed seals "with rifles and shotguns, and at rookeries killed hundreds at a time with underwater blasts of dynamite. Brooks was put in charge of this program, which he despised. He managed to see it stopped." Added Medred, "Brooks later headed off a similar program to slaughter beluga whales," who were blamed for a crash in the Bristol Bay red salmon population. Explained Rearden, "Brooks spent the summer of 1955 in Bristol Bay collecting belugas to examine their stomach contents. He concluded that the impact of belugas on the salmon was insignificant. In later years, he expressed regret at having to kill several dozen of the gentle, harmless little whales," to prove the point. From 1959 until fired by then newly elected Governor Walter Hickel in 1966, Brooks served as first director of the Alaska Division of Game. He went on to document the destructive impact of oil field development at Prudhoe Bay—and won a commendation from Hickel, who had become U.S. Secretary of the Interior. Appointed Alaska Fish & Game Commissioner in 1972, "One of Brooks' first acts was to end uncontrolled aerial wolf hunting," wrote Medred. Brooks ended his career with the National Marine Fisheries Service from 1977 to 1991, trying to control overfishing along the Alaskan coast.

Maxine McCloskey, 78, died on April 16, 2006. As editor for the Federation of Western Outdoors Clubs, 1973-1975, McCloskey became "active very early on whale issues," memorialized Earth Island Institute, "helping Joan McIntyre set up Project Jonah (in 1975). McCloskey later joined with Ronn Storo-Patterson, Tom Johnson, and others to establish the Whale Center in Oakland, California, which she ran for many years in a former candy shop. The Whalebus started by the Whale Center to educate school children is a project now of the Marine Mammal Center in Marin County. McCloskey and the Whale Center were an active presence at International Whaling Commission meetings, helping to establish the international moratorium on commercial whaling approved in 1982. McCloskey also helped to establish the Point Reyes/Farallones National Marine Sanctuary off the coast of San Francisco," and in 1994 founded the High Seas Project for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. Added Tom Valtin of the Sierra Club, "Active in planning Sierra Club Wilderness Conferences and the Club centennial in 1992, McCloskey also promoted our oral history program. In 1995 she was awarded the William E. Colby Award, the highest award for service to the Club."



—Wolf Clifton

Raymond D. Giraud, 85, died on June 17 of cancer. A World War II veteran whose wife Lise was an Austrian refugee from the Nazis, Giraud taught French literature at Stanford University, 1958-1986, was an early opponent of the Vietnam War, and in 2000 represented the International Coalition of International Observers in Jeremie, Haiti, monitoring 36 election polling stations. Giraud became active on behalf of animals after learning of a psychology experiment in which young monkeys were caged beside a boa constrictor. "He challenged the experiments as not relevant to human beings and causing needless pain and suffering to the monkeys," recalled *San Francisco Chronicle* staff writer Jason B. Johnson. In 1983 Giraud became lead plaintiff in a lawsuit filed by the Animal Legal Defense Fund and the Peninsula Humane Society on behalf of a dog named Snowball. Publicized by Californians for Responsible Research, which became In Defense of Animals, the case became an antivivisection *cause célèbre*. Summarized New Zealand attorney Deidre Bourke at the 2003 National Animal Rights Conference in Wellington, "Snowball was found suffering from starvation, emaciation and infected wounds," at a Veteran's Administration hospital in Palo Alto, where he was used for surgical practice by Stanford University students. "The USDA confirmed the seriousness of the injuries but chose not lay charges. However, the case was dismissed," as the plaintiffs lacked "standing." The case helped to alert framers of intended animal protection legislation to the importance of including clauses enabling animal advocates to bring cases on behalf of animals who cannot represent themselves. Giraud subsequently served on the Palo Alto Humane Society board of directors, and was co-director of education for In Defense of Animals from 1990 until his death. The Marin County Humane Society honored Lise and Raymond Giraud in 1999 as Humanitarians of the Year. They were charter subscribers to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Julius Birdine, 26, of Chicago, was shot dead in his front yard on June 23 after refusing to allow his pit bull terrier to fight a dog brought by two men who had reportedly tried to involve Birdine in dogfighting before. Birdine's mother, Joyce Hunter, 43, told *Chicago Sun-Times* crime reporter Annie Sweeney that "Birdine's wife contacted the city to have the dog removed."



Patricia Guiver, 76, died on June 13, 2006 in Newport Beach, California, from complications of heart surgery. Born in Surrey, England, Guiver was a longtime Fleet Street journalist and U.S. correspondent for British women's magazines. She enjoyed late success with six novels about a pet detective named Delilah Doolittle. She also edited *Animal Connections: The Complete Directory of Pet & Wildlife Resources*, but may be best remembered as founder of the Orange County SPCA, co-founder of the Animal Assistance League of Orange County, and a longtime member of the Orange County Animal Shelter Advisory Board.

David Siddle, 78, cofounder of the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage in Zambia, died on June 30 after a long illness. Siddle and his wife, Sheilain in 1983 accepted a gravely ill chimpanzee from a game ranger and nursed the infant back to health. That led to the creation of the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage, now housing 112 chimps in free-range enclosures that cover more than 1,200 acres. "Siddle was a successful contractor and cattle rancher approaching retirement when the decision was made to convert much of the family farm into a chimp sanctuary," recalled Pan African Sanctuary Alliance secretariat Doug Cress. "The Siddles battled poachers, political upheaval, civil wars, and economic strife to ensure the welfare of orphaned chimps. Chimfunshi serves as a model for great ape sanctuaries across Africa." Chimfunshi was a charter member of the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance. In 2001, the Siddles were awarded Master and Mistress of the British Empire awards from Queen Elizabeth II for their commitment to wildlife." Sheila Siddle told their story in her autobiography, *In My Family Tree: A Life With Chimpanzees* (2001).

Arthur J. Haggerty, 74, died of cancer on July 3, 2006 in West Palm Beach, Florida. A decorated Korean War veteran and longtime U.S. Army scout dog training officer, Haggerty in 1961 founded Captain Haggerty's School for Dogs in New York City, attracting a celebrity clientele as well as police and military business. He later trained dogs for stage and screen, formed an animal talent agency, and played bit roles himself, beginning by chasing Burt Reynolds through Central Park in *Guiding Light* (1973). He wrote books including *Dog Tricks*, *How to Get Your Pet Into Show Business*, and *How to Teach Your Dog to Talk*.

Kelly Jo Chatfield Fay, 35, of Grand Junction, Colorado, died on June 17, 2006 from a pulmonary embolism. A supporter of the Roice-Hurst Humane Society in Clifton, Colorado, Fay "never met a stray animal she did not want to take home or find a home for," recalled Grand Junction *Free Press* community news editor Tracy Dvorak.

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