

Captive beluga whale. (Merritt Clifton)

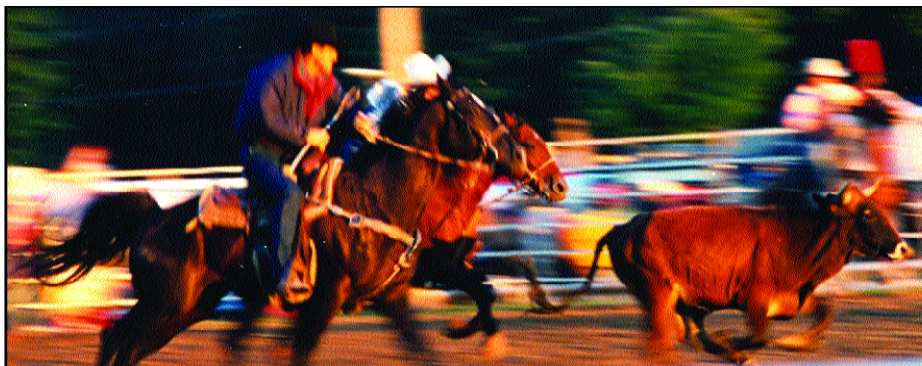
Georgia Aquarium applies to import 18 wild-caught belugas—who would be first to reach the U.S. in 20 years

ATLANTA—The Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta has applied for a federal permit to import 18 beluga whales from the Sea of Okhotsk in eastern Russia. They could be the first belugas to be captured in the wild and brought to the U.S. for exhibition since 1992, when the John G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago

imported four from the vicinity of Churchill, Manitoba, Canada.

Reported Bo Emerson of the Atlanta *Journal-Constitution*, “The Georgia Aquarium application is part of a five-year, multi-million-dollar conservation program to

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Steer roping. (Kim Bartlett)

Bell Canada not funding centennial Stampede rodeo

CALGARY, RENO—Bell Canada spokesperson Jacqueline Michelis on July 3, 2012 confirmed to Lauren Krugel of Canadian Press that the telecommunications company will not sponsor Calgary Stampede rodeo events. The 100th anniversary running of Calgary Stampede was to be held July 6-13, 2012.

“We have decided to focus on the entertainment part of the Stampede,” Michelis said. Bell Canada continued to sponsor non-rodeo Stampede events, including free live entertainment at the newly opened Bell Centennial Plaza on the Stampede grounds.

“Bell is still a valued sponsor here at the Stampede at the same level that they

were always at,” Stampede spokesperson Doug Fraser told Canadian Press.

But Vancouver Humane Society representative Peter Fricker claimed victory after a year-long campaign that he said had encouraged more than 1,200 people to send letters protesting Calgary Stampede sponsorship to Bell Canada president George Cope.

“We hope it means increasing corporate distaste for rodeo,” Fricker said.

The Vancouver Humane Society has appealed to Calgary mayor Naheed Nenshi to stop calf roping at the Stampede.

Responded Nenshi, “Although the mayor of Calgary has a seat on the board of the Calgary Stampede, the Calgary Stampede has ultimate authority over animal care at the Stampede rodeo.”

That rodeo is largely self-policing and not sensitive toward animal suffering is for anti-rodeo campaigners the crux of the issue. Fraser, for instance, contended to *Calgary Herald* reporter Deborah Tetley in May 2012 that selling about 20 old, injured, ill, and hard-to-handle rodeo horses per year to be slaughtered for meat constitutes giving them “a humane end of life.”

The Calgary Humane Society, which monitors the Stampede and is rarely critical of Stampede events, was appalled. “We adamantly oppose this practice and we are hoping the Stampede can consider other means,” Calgary Humane Society spokesperson

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

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Farm Bill stall delays Congressional action on horse slaughter, attending animal fights, & laying hen cage size

WASHINGTON D.C.—The odds may have lengthened just before the Fourth of July recess week against the final version of the 2012 Farm Bill including measures favored by animal advocates—but not for any reason having anything to do with laying hen cage sizes, horse slaughter, or cockfighting and dogfighting, among other topics addressed by proposed Farm Bill amendments.

The week previous to the Fourth of July recess, explained the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition blog “Path to the 2012 Farm Bill,” was “originally the week the House Agriculture Committee was going to debate and approve its version of the 2012

Farm Bill,” after the U.S. Senate passed its version of the Farm Bill on June 21, 2012, by a comfortable 64-35 margin.

The House process, however, was postponed by scheduling conflicts. Then, “Word began to informally filter out that leadership does not intend to bring the farm bill to the floor for a vote this summer.”

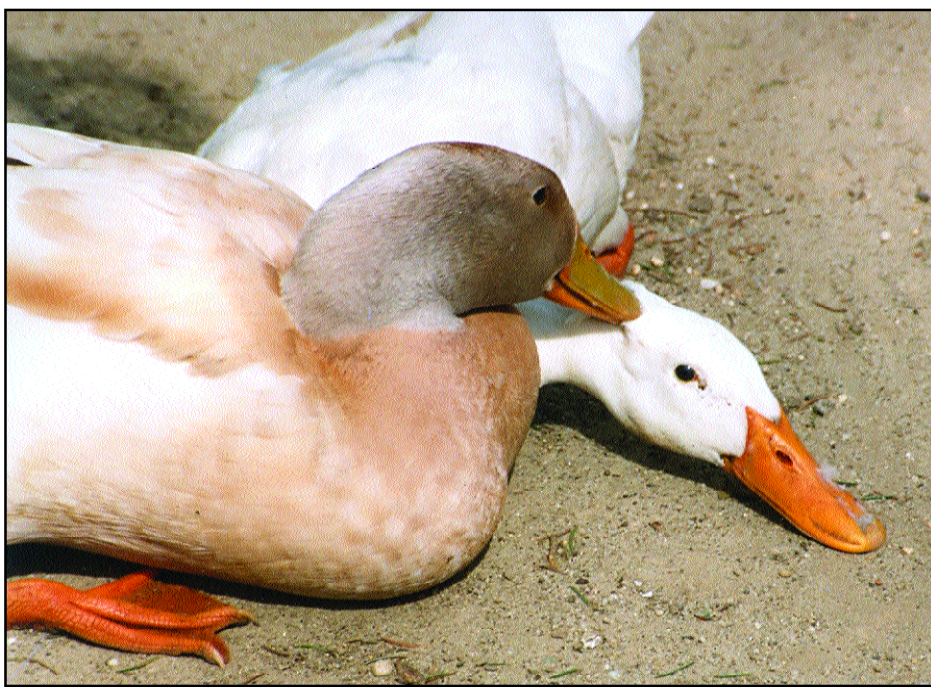
The bill approved by the Democratic majority in the Senate is apparently unacceptable to much of the Republican majority in the House of Representatives, due to conflicts over commodity subsidy programs and food stamp program funding.

The Farm Bill in most years is an omnibus of legislation attached to the annual funding appropriation for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The omnibus items are typically associated with USDA functions, including enforcing the federal Animal Welfare Act. The current USDA appropriation legislation expires on September 30, 2012. If an omnibus Farm Bill cannot be passed before September 30, Congress may vote to extend the present appropriation, either until a more comprehensive Farm Bill can be passed in the brief term-ending session following the November 2012 national election, or until a new Farm Bill can be passed by the new Congress that will take office in January 2013.

Either way, a short-term extension of the USDA appropriation is unlikely to include substantive amendments, including potentially controversial animal welfare measures.

The House Appropriations Committee had on June 19, 2012 approved by voice vote an amendment offered by Representative Jim Moran (D-Virginia) to rein-

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Domestic ducks. (Robert L. Harrison)

California foie gras ban takes effect

LOS ANGELES—A California law forbidding the sale of *foie gras* took effect on July 1, 2012, almost eight years after passage—and was challenged in court less than 24 hours later by plaintiffs including Hot’s Restaurant Group, the *foie gras* trade organization Association des Éleveurs de Canards et d’Oies du Québec, and Hudson Valley Foie Gras, the upstate New York firm that is the largest *foie gras* producer in North America.

The plaintiffs argue that the California law violates the Ninth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution by improperly regulating interstate commerce, and that it is not specific enough in defining *foie gras*.

Foie gras is a paste made from the fattened liver of a duck or goose who has been force-fed by having grain poured through a tube thrust down the bird’s throat, a process called gavage. Gavage is illegal in Israel, South Africa, and parts of Europe, but is legally protected as part of the “cultural heritage” of France and Hungary

California becomes the second jurisdiction in the U.S. to attempt to ban *foie gras*, prescribing a fine of up to \$1,000 per day for restaurants which continue to sell it.

Chicago adopted a foie gras ban in 2006, by a 48-1 vote of the city council, but repealed it by a 37-6 vote just two years later, at urging of Mayor Richard Daley. The one restaurant to be convicted of illegally selling *foie gras* while the Chicago ban was in effect was fined \$250 in February 2007.

U.S. District Judge Blanche M. Manning on June 12, 2007 upheld the constitutionality of the Chicago *foie gras* ban in a 26-page written opinion. However, Chicago restaurateurs usually evaded enforcement by serving *foie gras* as a “complimentary” addition to menu items such as toast or crackers priced at \$20. This meant that technically they were not selling *foie gras*.

Similar tactics were immediately evident at upscale French restaurants in California, observed Fred Swegles of the *Orange County Register*. “The day after California began banning *foie gras* in restaurants statewide, Antoine Price tossed a *foie gras* party Monday night at his San Clemente restaurant,” Swegles reported. “Price didn’t just include the banned dish in a gourmet \$150 meal with wine that he offered his guests

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Editorial feature

Agribusiness, green politics, & the art of compromise

KFC sells dead chickens from 17,000 sales outlets in 105 nations. Part of the \$66.5-billion-a-year PepsiCo. empire, KFC boasts revenue in the U.S. alone of \$4.6 billion. Founded by honorary Colonel Harlan Sanders in 1952 as Kentucky Fried Chicken, KFC would not appear to need much help defending itself in any defensible cause. Even a 10-year-old PETA “Kentucky Fried Cruelty” campaign, attacking abuses in the KFC supply chain that were captured on video camera, appears to have accomplished relatively little against KFC corporate intransigence. Nonetheless, the far-right advocacy front Consumers Alliance for Global Prosperity on June 11, 2012 appealed to supporters and media to “Help Fight The Attack On The Colonel!”

Two weeks earlier, on May 25, 2012, several Greenpeace activists hung a banner on the KFC corporate headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky, depicting a Sumatran tiger. Referring to alleged KFC use of packaging materials made from rainforest logging in Indonesia, the banner read, “KFC Stop Trashing My Home.”

Greenpeace simultaneously irritated the \$40-billion-a-year Brazilian multinational beefpacking firm JBS, owner of three U.S. subsidiaries including the former Swift beefpacking empire and the Pilgrim’s Pride turkey brand. Greenpeace on June 6, 2012 posted a web report which alleged that JBS knowingly bought cattle from illegally deforested areas of Brazil, including within indigenous territories and from farms that allegedly keep workers in conditions resembling slavery. Several European grocery chains responded by announcing that they would no longer buy meat from JBS. But Greenpeace acknowledged within days, under legal pressure from JBS, that the Greenpeace report included errors, among them misstating the dates when JBS did business with offending suppliers, confusing several JBS suppliers with other ranchers of similar name, and identifying as a JBS slaughterhouse a facility actually owned by another Brazilian multinational company, Marfrig.

The Greenpeace actions against two of the biggest companies in the meat business, worldwide, came less than a month after the American SPCA channeled \$151,100 to an organization called Farm Forward, to be used “to promote humane poultry welfare at the Good Shepherd Poultry Ranch in Lindsborg, Kansas.”

Just six weeks earlier the Wendy’s restaurant chain began buying chickens who were killed by decompression, a killing method that ended in U.S. animal shelters in 1985, because it was widely recognized as inhumane, despite having been promoted since 1950 by the American Humane Association. The AHA endorsed decompressing chickens in 2010. PETA, though promoting a different “controlled atmosphere” method of killing chickens, praised Wendy’s acceptance of decompression, if only because conventional poultry slaughter flunks practically every definition of “humane.”

All of this occurred parallel to almost a year of controversy over an agreement between the Humane Society of the U.S. and United Egg Producers to jointly lobby for a federal standard for caging laying hens. The proposed standard has been ratified by most U.S. national animal advocacy organizations, though it is adamantly opposed by others, including the Humane Farming Association and Friends of Animals. But the proposed standard itself, judging by calls and correspondence from ANIMAL PEOPLE readers, may be less controversial among animal advocates than the notion of making common cause with agribusiness—even though the beef, pork, and poultry slaughter industries are fighting the proposed HSUS/UEP standard for housing laying hens at every step, lest their own practices also become subjects of federal legislation.

On the one hand, it is usually necessary for political opponents to compromise and work together to win passage of laws. On the other, the process of compromise is inherently uncomfortable for activists. Yet, paradoxically, animal advocates who reject any notion of compromise with animal use industries often seek accommodation and alliance with mainstream environmentalists—even as those environmentalists pursue such inherently anti-animal projects as promotion of sport hunting and the annihilation of any species deemed “non-native,” by any means possible, in the futile hope of restoring an imagined pristine version of nature that supposedly existed at some point when the wind, waves, and migratory animals including humans did not constantly translocate species to new habitats.

Certainly mainstream environmental advocacy includes advocating for wildlife habitat and endangered species, and against the pollution and abuse of resources that are inherent

in factory farming. Especially when environmental organizations confront major animal use industries, activists may be tempted to believe that “the enemy of my enemies is my friend,” without looking at what else the environmental organizations are doing.

It is even possible to see the Greenpeace campaigns against KFC and JBS as harbingers of a return to founding principles, which included far more concern for animal suffering than Greenpeace has exhibited in the decades since the 1974 death of Quaker cofounder Irving Stowe. Stowe, a vegetarian who did not wear leather, would have been considered an animal rights advocate if the term “animal rights” had gained currency during his lifetime. Stowe and others formed Greenpeace in 1968 as the Don’t Make A Wave Committee, to oppose nuclear weapons testing in Alaska and the Pacific Ocean. Rex Wyler, in *Greenpeace: How A Group of Ecologists, Journalists, and Visionaries Changed the World* (2004) recalled that “Greenpeace America was established as an adjunct to Joan McIntyre’s Project Jonah,” an early whale-saving campaign whose theme was that whales are fellow sentient beings. Wyler also recollected that “Peter Hyde, president of the Animal Defense League of Canada, in November 1974 [successfully] proposed that the Greenpeace Foundation endorse an ‘Animal Bill of Rights,’ which included an end to trophy hunting and lab animal abuse.”

Greenpeace was thus positioned to emerge as the proto-global animal rights group, a direction unsuccessfully encouraged by cofounders Paul Watson and Patrick Moore. Watson founded the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society in 1977 after a bitter split with Greenpeace. Moore remained the most prominent voice within Greenpeace against the Atlantic Canada seal hunt, until the offshore hunt was suspended for 10 years beginning in 1984.

“I left Greenpeace at the end of 1985,” Moore recalled to ANIMAL PEOPLE in 2005. “I was always opposed to the seal hunt and remain opposed to the present hunt.” Moore has since 1985 defended the Pacific Northwest logging industry and promoted nuclear power, but he disavowed any involvement in the mid-1980s Greenpeace turn away from animal advocacy. “I went to the Northwest Territories to meet with Inuit leaders around 1984, to discuss the impact of our campaign on their subsistence hunt,” Moore acknowledged, but he attributed to others the Greenpeace decision to drop anti-fur campaigning.

Trapped in dilemma

“One of the most contentious campaigns in the history of Greenpeace,” wrote Michael Brown and John May in *The Greenpeace Story* (1989), “was the anti-fur campaign launched by Greenpeace U.K. in September 1984...The campaign was designed to highlight the cruelties of the leghold trap, and to dissuade potential consumers from wearing fur...The offices in Canada and Denmark had developed working relationships with the Inuit...After long deliberations, the Greenpeace International council voted to end the fur campaign.”

Within another 10 years Greenpeace observers at the International Whaling Commission annual meetings would be reminded by superiors that Greenpeace does not “in principle” oppose whaling and sealing. Though Greenpeace has continued to campaign against Japanese “research” whaling, and against many environmental impacts of animal use industries, Greenpeace post-1984 has not campaigned against cruelty to animals, or on behalf of animals for their own sake, as distinct from their perceived ecological value.

The Sierra Club national board of directors, on the other hand, on May 19, 2012 adopted a new “Policy on Trapping of Wildlife” which may be most remarkable, among the policy statements of environmental organizations, for incorporating the word “humane” without misusing it to rationalize inherently inhumane practices.

States the new Sierra Club policy, “Use of body-gripping devices—including leghold traps, snares, and Conibear traps—are indiscriminate to age, sex and species and typically result in injury, pain, suffering, and/or death of target and non-target animals. The Sierra Club considers body-gripping, restraining and killing traps and snares to be ecologically indiscriminate and unnecessarily inhumane and therefore opposes their use.”

Sierra Club founder John Muir detested trapping and sport hunting, but saw preserving fast-vanishing wilderness as a more urgent priority when he formed the club in 1892. Courting the political support of hunter/conservationists, Muir befriended in particular the naturalist John Burroughs. An early advocate of the use of hunting license fees to support habitat acquisition and wildlife management, Burroughs is perhaps best remembered today for accusing writers who argued for animal intelligence and human-like emotions of “nature-faking.” While this was clearly true of some of Burroughs’ targets, others’ observations were decades ahead of prevailing scientific belief. Burroughs introduced Muir to Theodore Roosevelt. An enthusiastic hunter, Roosevelt as U.S. president 1901-1908 was persuaded to designate 150 National Forests, five National Parks, and 18 National Monuments, together protecting 230 million acres of wildlife habitat—with the caveat that all but the five National Parks would remain forever open to hunting.

Boosted by Muir’s success, the Sierra Club grew into the largest nonprofit organization in the animals-and-habitat sector that still has a member-elected board. This allows for the possibility that evolving public attitudes toward animals may encourage further policy resolutions that recognize humane concerns—and come to more closely reflect Muir’s own beliefs, as distinct from the compromises that he accepted to achieve his immediate goals.

The Sierra Club adopted the new trapping policy about six months after former board chair Carl Pope on November 11, 2011 retired to a role as senior strategic advisor. A Sierra Club employee for nearly 40 years, Pope as executive director from 1992 to 2010 led the club into increasingly direct confrontation with factory farmers over water pollution and soil erosion, through lawsuits, lobbying, and public education. Under Pope the Sierra Club did not endorse vegetarianism or directly raise humane issues involved in factory farming, but did a great deal to raise public awareness of the environmental cost of meat-eating.

However, Pope actively sought alliances with hunters and trappers, in response to his recognition of “a conscious political strategy to separate rural hunters and fishers from urban environmentalists. It wasn’t about hunting and fishing. It was about politics,” he told *Washington Monthly* managing editor Christina Larson in April 2006.

David Brower, the first Sierra Club executive director, hired in 1952, appears to have had much the same view of blood sports as Muir. Without actually pandering to hunters, as Pope did, Brower pursued alliances with hunter/conservationist organizations throughout his tenure. Resigning in 1969, Brower founded Friends of the Earth, but left that organization in 1986 to form Earth Island Institute, an incubator for start-up charities promoting both environmental and animal causes. The Coyote Project, which advanced the Sierra Club anti-trapping policy, operates under Earth Island auspices.

The Sierra Club anti-trapping policy echoes the original mission statement of Defenders of Wildlife, founded on April 30, 1947 as Defenders of Furbearers. “The particular business and objects of the society are to promote, through education and research, the elimination of cruel traps and all other painful methods of capturing or killing furbearers everywhere, and the protection and conservation of such animals,” the Defenders certificate of incorporation states. The Defenders mission was expanded in 1956 by the addition of the phrase “and all other wildlife” in place of the word “everywhere.” In June 1959, however, apparently through a board-level *coup-d’etat* by hunter/conservationists, Defenders of Furbearers became Defenders of Wildlife, dropped opposition to “cruel traps and all other painful methods” of killing wildlife, and over the next several decades gradually compromised itself into endorsing leghold trapping for the purposes of capturing wolves for reintroduction into the Yellowstone National Park region and for controlling wolf predation on livestock.

Reality is that advocacy for the benefit of the animals has rarely won anything

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Agribusiness, green politics, & the art of compromise

(from page 3)

through alignment with environmentalism tainted by the hunter/conservationist outlook. This, in effect, is the whole of the environmental cause as represented by the biggest and most prominent environmental organizations. These organizations have evolved from an entirely different philosophical direction, not only indifferent to the well-being of individual animals but frequently opposed to the very idea that preventing animal suffering is a worthwhile goal.

Gamekeeping

The origins of hunter/conservationism may be traced to the Middle Ages, when serf-and-slaveholding feudal landlords spent their time riding after hounds. Killing livestock predators and crop-raiding wildlife kept the landlords and their hired huntsmen in the woods just beyond the cultivated fields, where they could also find and kill any serf or slave who sought to escape a life of bondage.

Feudal landlords who sought to keep others from hunting favored wildlife species led the late medieval movement toward fencing off the former “commons,” or grazing land and woodlot accessible to anyone, which lay between settled estates. After the commons became private property, however, it came to be taxed by increasingly strong regional and national governments, which depended less and less on the support of rural gentry. Under economic pressure, generations of rural gentry sold parts of their land, until many had barely enough left to hunt. As woodcutting, mining, milling, and urban expansion fragmented the habitat, the huntsmen evolved into gamekeepers, whose work came to focus upon breeding an abundance of preferred “game” species to replace animals who had been hunted out. Exterminating any other species whose presence interfered with the propagation of “game” was—and remains—central to the work of gamekeepers, whose occupation evolved into what is today called “wildlife management.”

“Conservation,” at the time the term and concept reached most of the world, specifically meant conservation of “game,” hunting land, and the hunting way of life. This was the goal, for example, of the New York State Association for the Preservation of Fish & Game, formed in 1841. A distant ancestor of the National Wildlife Federation, through a succession of mergers with other organizations of similar purpose, this association in 1881 hosted the massacre of 20,000 passenger pigeons—the last great flock netted in the wild—at a Coney Island fundraiser.

Concern for individual animal welfare among enlightened individuals and within major moral and ethical traditions may be traced back as far as written traditions exist, but the organizational antecedents of the humane movement as it exists today arose largely in opposition to the practices of blood sports, vivisection, and abuse of draft animals. The abolition of blood sports, vivisection, and flogging horses and oxen was pursued by many of the same people, at the same time, as the abolition of human slavery and serfdom, and cruel and unusual punishments. Often these causes were advanced under the same institutional umbrellas.

Awakening consideration

For William Wilburforce (1759-1833), who won the abolition of slavery in Britain in 1807 and cofounded the Royal SPCA in 1824, the causes of oppressed humans and abused animals were both part of the same effort to awaken moral consideration of others. The same could be said of American SPCA founder Henry Bergh (1813-1888), Massachusetts SPCA founder George Angell (1823-1909), Women’s Humane Society and American Anti-Vivisection Society founder Carolyn Earle White (1833-1916), and practically every other major figure in the 19th century humane movement, and could likewise be said of Henry Spira (1927-1998), who helped to lead the late 20th century revival of the humane movement impetus through the formation of the animal rights movement. Each had a distinguished record on behalf of human as well as animal rights and welfare.

Efforts to protect endangered species, though claimed today as a mainstream environmental and even hunter/conservationist cause, originated from within the humane movement, and were voiced parallel to concerns for livestock similar to the concerns of today. As the American Humane Association periodical *National Humane Review* recounted, “Interest at the 1883 convention in Washington D.C. centered on unnecessary and excessive branding of cattle and the cruelties of barbed wire...The wanton destruction of buffalo on the western plains was another indignation that caught the attention of the humanitarians in Washington. They urged Congress to pass a law which would keep the animals from becoming extinct. Delegates also asked the Federal Government to stamp all meat so that it would bear positive evidence of its condition when slaughtered. The members of AHA visited the White House where President [Chester A.] Arthur received every one of them.”

Theodore Roosevelt and George Bird Grinnell in 1887 cofounded the Boone & Crockett Club to regulate competitive trophy hunting—but the conservation goal was to conserve “game,” not wildlife *per se*. Eighteen years later, in 1905, Grinnell started the National Audubon Society to regulate competitive birding. Birding, until field guide author and illustrator Roger Tory Peterson popularized nonlethal verification of sightings with a camera during the 1930s, was done mainly with shotguns. Again the goal was to conserve “game.” The artist John Joseph Audubon, who had died 54 years earlier, was honored in the title of the organization as the shotgunner with the longest and best-verified “life list” of birds killed. The evolu-

tion of the National Audubon Society into a group promoting the conservation of all “native” birds required decades.

Meanwhile, catastrophic losses of wildlife to excessive hunting, trapping, fishing, and destruction of habitat brought the possibility that sport hunting might be banned altogether in some states. A series of bills seeking to halt hunting in New York state was thwarted through political dealing which in 1895 gave the American SPCA the New York City pound contract and gave the American Humane Association the state orphanage contract, distracting both organizations from further attention to wildlife.

Following Burroughs’ recommendation, New York then introduced the sale of hunting licenses to fund “game” restoration. After this approach succeeded, the Wilderness Society was founded in 1935 and the National Wildlife Federation in 1936, both to promote the New York model to other states.

Begun by hunting writer Jay “Ding” Darling as national umbrella for 48 state hunting clubs, NWF inspired the 1961 formation of the World Wildlife Fund by trophy hunter Sir Peter Scott and cronies including captive bird-shooters Prince Philip of Britain and Prince Bernhardt of The Netherlands, the whaler Aristotle Onassis, and then-National Rifle Association president C.R. “Pink” Gutermuth.

Simultaneously, trophy hunter Russell Train founded the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation, now called just the African Wildlife Foundation. A primary goal of both WWF and AWF was to promote funding of wildlife conservation internationally by sales of hunting permits. This, the founders hoped, would prevent newly independent former colonies of European nations from following India and Kenya in banning sport hunting (which was not finally achieved in either India or Kenya until 1977, although attempts began much earlier).

Ecological nativism

Hunter/conservationism is scarcely the only theme differentiating mainstream environmentalism from animal advocacy. Ecological nativism is another, also emerging from the hierarchies of feudalism. The science of species classification, called taxonomy, began with Carolus Linnaeus (1707-1778), who started from the medieval notion of “higher” and “lower” species, each with a specific place in a presumed natural order ordained by God. Though Linnaeus himself soon noticed problematic anomalies in this system, his model furnished “scientific” support to privileged people who imagined themselves to be near the pinnacles of creation. The Linnaean model was not upset when Charles Darwin several generations later outlined the precepts of evolution. Instead, the notion of “survival of the fittest” was incorporated into defense of the presumptive Linnaean hierarchy—and whatever the self-appointed “fittest” disliked, principally whatever challenged their dominion, was deemed unfit to be allowed to survive.

“Ecologism is a phenomenon of the despised ‘Northern White Empire,’” observed British social historian Anna Bramwell in her 1989 volume *Ecology In The 20th Century*. Tracing the intellectual origins of the environmental movement, Bramwell argued that the central themes of “green” politics fuse romanticism about bygone pastoral life with the anxieties of a privileged elite about the rising influence of underclasses, ethnic minorities, and immigrants.

Bramwell pointed out in passing the influence of one Jorian Jenks, who in the 1940s and 1950s helped articulate the views of nature now predominating among environmental policymakers, as editor of the journals *Rural*

Economy and *Mother Earth*, and as secretary to the Soil Association. Earlier, Jenks was agricultural expert for the British Union of Fascists.

Bramwell noted “a Boy Scout enthusiasm about the military attitude” that Jenks “adopted toward some problems.” For instance, Jenks wrote circa 1935 that the hypothetical fascist government he advocated would take “Effective steps...to cope with the host of rabbits, pigeons, rooks and other vermin who now levy a heavy toll on our fields. A corps of expert vermin-destroyers equipped with up-to-date apparatus will clear each district systematically.”

Such activity had centuries of precedent in the pursuits of the purported nobility. The U.S. government had already purged wolves from the Lower 48 states, and had embarked upon a similar persecution of coyotes, beginning in 1930.

What Jenks introduced was the now commonplace synthesis of traditional predator and “vermin”-killing with the intellectual pretense that it was restoring a supposed Garden of Eden, instead of just expediting a presumed Biblical injunction to subdue and dominate the earth.

Environmentalism may in time evolve beyond hunter/conservationism and ecological nativism to incorporate authentic deep concern for animal well-being. Campaigns against the environmental effects of factory farming and meat consumption, and the Sierra Club resolution against body-gripping traps, may mark the beginnings of philosophical change. But this is for now just a hope.

Hunters vs. farmers

Meanwhile, of note is that in contrast to hunting, fishing, and trapping, in which the goal is to enjoy killing animals, and in contrast to purges of “non-native” species, in which the goal is just to kill, the abuses and excesses of agribusiness are byproducts of economic competition.

While there is little consideration in agribusiness, as yet, for the welfare of living “production units,” neither are the animals caused to suffer for human recreation or the pursuit of abstract aesthetic objectives. Agribusiness organizations, including United Egg Producers, have no inherent objection to improving animal welfare, if making the improvements does not put them at an economic disadvantage.

Of course almost every form of animal agriculture ends with slaughter. And of course wildlife usually enjoys much more quality of life—and a longer life—than similar species raised for slaughter. Though agribusiness and animal advocates have a common interest in keeping farmed animals healthy, this scarcely suggests an alliance of purpose.

But neither does negotiating deals with agribusiness to better the lives of animals require bridging a philosophical gap wider than the notion of humans killing animals for fun, or merely because they may not have existed in a particular habitat circa 500 years ago.

Amelia Needs Heart Surgery



Amelia, a sweet young tabby cat, arrived at the Animal League as a result of our partnership with Cat's Cradle, a rescue group in Virginia. During a routine examination by our medical team, it was discovered that Amelia had a heart murmur. An echocardiogram uncovered something much worse: Amelia is suffering from patent ductus arteriosus, or PDA. In this congenital and dangerous heart condition, a major blood vessel that connects

the two main arteries of the body remains open, when it should have closed naturally during the first few days of life.

If left untreated, more than half of cats with PDA die before their first birthday. And for those who survive, the chances of developing heart failure or suffering irreversible damage to the heart muscle increase rapidly, almost always resulting in premature death.

The good news: When PDA is caught early and the opening is repaired, most cats live a normal life.

Amelia’s prognosis is very good—but only if she undergoes the intricate heart surgery that is the only cure for PDA.

Amelia is scheduled to receive her life-saving procedure soon—but it’s a costly operation that must be performed by a heart specialist. The ailing kitten is now in a loving foster home awaiting her surgery, but she needs your help.

Your dedicated support of the life-saving Help Me Heal Program allows us to give animals, like Amelia, the care they need to heal.

To ensure the continued care for Amelia and the many other animals in our Help Me Heal Program, please visit AnimalLeague.org/help-me-heal.

“North Shore Animal League America’s Help Me Heal Program Cares for Pets in Need!”

“We got HSUS to endorse these cages. And that’s priceless!”

- United Egg Producers



An “enriched” battery cage, according to HSUS and the egg industry.

A Cage Is A Cage – Stop The Rotten Egg Bill

The Humane Society of the United States is distributing two distinctly *different* lists of groups backing the Rotten Egg Bill (HR 3798).

One list is being distributed to members of Congress and shows the actual egg industry backers of HR 3798. It includes all of the egg companies listed below, along with other livestock industry supporters.

The other list is distributed to animal activists. That list *excludes* the names shown below. The fact that HSUS feels compelled to hide from activists the names of egg industry groups backing HR 3798 serves to showcase its glaring duplicity.

As does its invoking of the European Union (EU).

HSUS’s latest justification for supporting the United Egg Producers’ federal bill is to make specious comparisons to the EU. Don’t fall for it.

Among the many major differences: The EU’s directive on cages did *not* nullify any pre-existing laws against egg factory cages – nor did it revoke the voting rights of member states.

From the EU Directive on Cages:

“Member States *may*...maintain or apply within their territories **provisions for the protection of laying hens which are more stringent** than those envisaged by this Directive.”

The EU merely established a *floor*. That is, it established a *minimum standard* which explicitly allows better laws to be enacted by individual member states. That is the exact opposite of HR 3798.

The egg industry introduced HR 3798 with the openly stated intention of *preempting* existing anti-cage laws and *prohibiting* any and all future state laws regarding egg-factory cages!

From the Rotten Egg Bill (HR 3798):

“**Prohibition against additional or different requirements:** ...requirements...for egg-laying hens housed in commercial egg production **which are in addition to or different** than those made under this chapter **may NOT be imposed by any State or local jurisdiction.**” [emphasis added]

In stark contrast to the EU’s directive, HR 3798 establishes a *ceiling*. That is, it establishes an ironclad legal barrier which explicitly *prohibits* states from enacting *anything* better. Thereby, keeping hens suffering *in* cages – forever.

* * *

The position of the Humane Farming Association and other responsible activists and organizations is clear:

- Cruelty is cruelty.
- There is no such thing as an “enriched” battery cage.
- HSUS does not speak for the animal protection movement.
- Our state laws and voting rights must *not* be given away.

The Less You Know – The More They Like It

Eggribusiness Groups and Commercial Egg Companies Backing HR 3798 (partial listing):

• United Egg Producers • Association of California Egg Farmers • Colorado Egg Producers Association • Florida Poultry Federation, Inc. • Georgia Egg Association • Michigan Agri-Business Association • Michigan Allied Poultry Industries • New England Brown Egg Council • North Carolina Egg Association • Ohio Egg Processors Association • Dixie Egg • Warren Farms • Benton County Eggs • Cal-Maine Foods (Arkansas) • Hickman’s Egg Ranch • Chino Valley Egg Ranchers of CA • Demler Egg Ranch • Gemperle Enterprises • Harmony Egg Ranch • Hickman’s Family Farms of CA • Hidden Villa Ranch • Pine Hill Egg Ranch • J.S. West Milling Company • Valley Fresh Foods • C.B. Nichols Egg Ranch of CA • Colorado Egg • Morning Fresh Farms • Puglisi Egg Farm of Delaware • Cal-Maine Foods (Florida) • Dixie Egg • Hillandale, LLC • Tampa Farm Service • Cal-Maine Foods (Georgia) • Country Charm Eggs, LLC • Dixie Egg • LC Browns • L & R Farms • Lathem Farms • Rose Acre Farms (Georgia) • Ritewood, Inc. • Hy-Grade Egg Producers • Rose Acre Farms (Illinois) • Creighton Brothers • Midwest Poultry Services • Rose Acre Farms (Indiana) • Wabash Valley Produce • Center Fresh Farms • Centrum Valley Farms, LLP • Daybreak Foods • Hawkeye Pride Egg Farm • Hillandale – Iowa • Sioux County Egg Farm • Cal-Maine Foods (Kansas) • Cal-Maine Foods (Kentucky) • Cal-Maine Foods (Louisiana) • The Country Hen • Farm Crest Foods • Herbruck’s Poultry Ranch • Konos, Inc. • Sunrise Acres • Forsman Farms • Cal-Maine Foods (Mississippi) • Rose Acre Farms (Mississippi) • Lincoln County Egg Farm • Marshall Egg • Puglisi Egg Farm • Giroux Poultry Farm • Kreher’s Farm Fresh Eggs, LLC • Wayne County Eggs, LLC • Braswell Foods • GCB Foods, LLC • Rose Acre Farms (North Carolina) • Simpson’s Eggs • Cal-Maine Foods (Ohio) • Daybreak Foods • Hemmelgarn & Sons • Hertzfeld Poultry Farms • Midwest Poultry Services • Trillium Farm Holdings • Weaver Brothers • Willamette Egg Farms • Wilcox Farms • Valley Fresh Foods • R.W. Sauder, Inc. • Sperry Farms • Century Farms • Hillandale – Gettysburg, L.P. • Hillside Poultry Farms • LeValle Egg Farms • Powl Associates • Cal-Maine Foods (South Carolina) • Dakota Layers • National Foods Corp. • Cal-Maine Foods (Texas) • Feather Crest Farms • Maxim Egg Production

Help stop the outrageous bill that would keep hens forever *in* cages.
Please learn more by visiting: StopTheRottenEggBill.org

LETTERS

Watchdog Report

The CNN Special Investigations Unit on June 14, 2012 exposed how SPCA International took in \$27 million last year, but spent most of it on further fundraising. I checked my **ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on Animal Charities** and saw that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** exposed SPCA International back in 2009.

I never make a donation without checking my current **ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report**. I get it annually for \$25.00. Just because a charity uses the word “wildlife” or SPCA in their name doesn’t mean it is legitimate or does not allow killing the very animals they purport to save. Many friends of mine have contributed to such organizations and were amazed and furious when I showed them what they really do, as revealed in the *Watchdog Report*.

—Marilyn Weaver, executive director
League of Humane Voters-FL
<www.LOHV-FL.org>



Editor’s note:

The 2012 edition of the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** Watchdog Report on Animal Charities will be available in late summer.

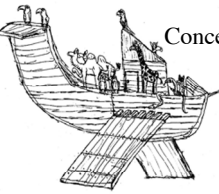
Humane Ed in Israel

Beginning in September 2012, 13 Arab schools in Israel will implement a series of lesson plans we designed especially for Arab students during a three-month pilot project. If these lesson plans are successful, as we anticipate, they will become a regular part of the curriculum, and will be introduced into many more Arab schools.

The Israeli ministry of education has also agreed to co-sponsor with us a conference for Jewish educators, at which we will present an extensive humane education curriculum we have been researching and writing for several years. Our goal is to get the ministry’s approval to integrate this curriculum into all Israeli schools. The more-than-100 lesson plans included in it are designed to fulfill the regular curriculum requirements for all subjects from elementary through high school. No extra class time is required to teach them.

This is a goal we have worked toward since our inception in 1984.

—Nina Natelson, director
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CORRECTIONS

The commentary “How Arizona ranchers won a partial exemption from cruelty laws,” by Debra J. White, in the June 2012 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, erroneously reported that the bill under discussion, Arizona HB 2780, “received an inadvertent boost from the Animal Defense League of Arizona, when in March 2012 ADLA confused this bill with another bill which would have created a statewide registry of convicted animal abusers. An ADLA posting mistakenly urging support of HB 2780 went viral through social networks before **ANIMAL PEOPLE** caught the error and alerted ADLA.” White misstated the ADLA role in the matter. HB 2780 actually received the inadvertent boost on March 2, 2012 from the Animal Legal Defense Fund, when an ALDF web posting urged support of an amendment to HB 2780, offered by Arizona legislator Steve Farley, which would have created a statewide registry of convicted animal abusers. The Farley amendment failed later on March 2, 2012. The ALDF posting was taken down that same day, at request of ADLA, but—unknown to ADLA and ALDF—third party postings soliciting support of HB 2780, and/or the Farley amendment to it, were still online on March 8, 2012, when **ANIMAL PEOPLE** noticed that some animal advocates were mistakenly urging passage of HB 2780 and began making inquiries as to why. Some of those third party postings were then taken down, but others remained online late in June 2012.

The May 2012 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** article “‘Bait dogs’ are docile victims to some pit bull advocates, ‘urban legend’ to others” mentioned as an example of dogs alleged to have been bait dogs by rescuers the “surviving pit bulls seized in a March 30, 2012 dogfighting raid in San Pablo, Laguna, the Philippines.” Though the mention of these dogs as “bait dogs” came from an e-mail headlined “Situation of Laguna pit bulls,” **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has learned that the e-mail author’s intended reference was to surviving pit bulls seized in a December 2, 2011 dogfighting raid in Indang, Cavite province, the Philippines. Some of the same people were arrested and some of the same dogs impounded in both raids, and after each raid many of the dogs were transferred to the same rescue organizations.

How to euthanize animals without sodium pentobarbital

Sodium pentobarbital is not readily available for euthanizing animals in nations with undeveloped veterinary systems. No purpose-manufactured agent may be available in some locations. However, injectable anesthesia is usually available. In these cases, any form of death can be acceptable euthanasia, once the animal has reached a surgical plane of anesthesia, so long as death is achieved within the effective

time of the anesthetic. Perhaps the most common methods in such situations involve the use of air embolus, exsanguination, gunshot, and injectable poisons such as bleach. When anesthesia is not available, gunshot should be considered the first alternative, provided that the projectile goes through the brain and enters the spinal cord. This is achieved by shooting through the axis of an X drawn between the ears and

eyes at a slight downward angle into the spinal cord. Exsanguination with a sharp knife or razor blade is the next best alternative, provided both arteries in the neck are severed in one quick clean cut with no sawing motion.

Common methods that are not acceptable include hot car exhaust, drowning, cervical dislocation, blunt force trauma, and any form of gunshot or cutting except as described. There are no humane poisons or kill traps.

It is important to remember that stress is a critical factor in euthanasia. If the animal suffers preventable stress, terror, or observes the deaths of other animals, the process is not humane.

This is by no means comprehensive. I fully support the American Veterinary Medical Association guidelines and recommendations of the Humane Society of the U.S. euthanasia guide, which is based on the AVMA guidelines. My advice is based on years of experience in a semi-developed country.

—John Peaveler
Managing Director

Kuwait Society for the Protection
of Animals & their Habitat
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European members are still trying to see how far they can stretch the envelope. In theory the border inspection posts should be policing the details, but they seldom do, simply because they do not know what to do with any loads of animals they turn around.

The initial responsibility lies with the ministry in the country of origin of the animals. They have to issue all of the approvals. The person who signs the route plan is held responsible for any shortcomings, and can be suspended as a livestock shipper. Until these sanctions are actually imposed, little improves.

—Tim Harris
Manoir Kanisha
Dorval, Quebec
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Livestock hauling rules in Europe

Concerning “Animals’ Angels of Germany finds EU livestock haulers come up short,” in the June 2012 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, the western European Union member states are on the whole more strict about the details of animal transport.

For farm animals, every company must have a transporters’ licence, commercial vehicles must carry an approval number, every driver must carry an authorization, every trip must have a route plan, and every load should be inspected and approved at loading.

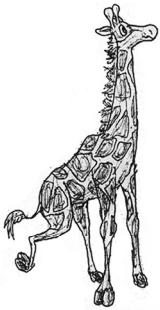
Drivers now have, in theory, the absolute authority to refuse to load any animals who are lame or over height for the vehicle, etc., but they seldom do, from fear for their jobs.

Transporters from the new eastern

Sacrifice in Kenya

Further to the June 2012 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial “Seeking an end to animal sacrifice,” Kenya on June 7, 2012 retired for the night to bizarre news aired on local TV stations about how an 8-month-old calf was buried alive in a village in our central province. The family that undertook this heinous act said it was forced to do this to fulfill the wishes of one of their dying kin, to avoid having a curse befall them. What followed was a most unspeakable cruelty toward the calf, who suffered an agonizing death by suffocation.

Following this tragic act, ANAW took action by mobilizing animal welfare stakeholders. Together, we strongly denounced this incident at a press conference. ANAW is pursuing court action against those who took part in the burial of the calf, as a lesson to other would-be perpetrators of cruelty and to ensure that a wrong precedent is not set. We are also calling upon the government to review the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act to ensure stiffer penalties are put in place for such actions.



—Josphat Ngonyo
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Sacrifice in India

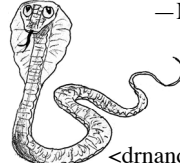
My experience, mentioned in the June 2012 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial “Seeking an end to animal sacrifice,” is that sacrifice as practiced in India is a fertility ritual. Blood is shed for an earth goddess, in the hope that this will persuade her to bring rain. Rain-fed lands like India constantly fear drought, a very real threat.

I feel that practitioners of animal sacrifice have to be given an alternative to justify their stopping sacrifice. About half a century ago, an elderly Brahmin gentleman, whose name I have never been able to find out, went around asking the practitioners of sacrifice to break pumpkins mixed with kumkumj (red powder worn on the forehead) instead of sacrificing animals.

That has become so popular that even we do it in the cities. Of course it is promoted by the farmers who sell the pumpkins. There is no doubt that the goat herders have a part to play in the continuation of the custom of sacrificing goats.

Unfortunately, Hinduism does not have a central church which can issue orders. Stopping sacrifice is a slow process because each village temple is independent. Each caste has its religious leaders, and lower down the socio-economic scale, where animal sacrifice is most often done, the only leaders are within the community.

—Nanditha Krishna, Ph.D.
Honorary Director
C.P. Ramaswami
Aiyar Foundation
Chennai, India
<drnandithakrishna@gmail.com>



Kosher slaughter

Regarding your terrific and fascinating June 2012 editorial on animal sacrifice, kosher slaughter is done by a *shochet*, defined by Wikipedia as “a religious Jew who is duly licensed and trained.” He—females do not perform kosher slaughter—need not be a rabbi, and almost never is.

Four decades ago I had the mind-scarring experience of observing multiple kosher slaughters in a commercial U.S. slaughterhouse. The cattle were shackled and hung by a hind leg without being first stunned, unlike the stunned cattle destined for the non-kosher market.

Hanging the conscious cattle was an especially cruel act. However, the shochet’s knife was so razor-sharp that the cattle neither moved nor vocalized when their throats were slit, as did occur when an incompletely stunned cow or steer was hanging upside down.

I know not what happens in abattoirs today.

—Bruce Max Feldman, DVM
Berkeley, California



Editor’s note:

The June 2012 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial “Seeking an end to animal sacrifice” mentioned that, “Though Judaism abandoned animal sacrifice after the destruction of the Jerusalem temple, kosher slaughter is still overseen by a rabbi.” Over time, the distance of oversight has increased, leading to recent efforts by rabbinical organizations to reinforce the maintenance of kosher standards.

Proposal for an Accord

Thanks for “Proposal for an Accord Between Animal Advocates and Biomedical Researchers,” in the April 2012 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Since I don’t belong to any groups and don’t see their publications, I wasn’t sure who might be working on this. Maybe with publication of this document, animal testing issues will re-emerge.



—Eileen Crossman
Cape May, New Jersey

Pepsi drops “Big Lick”

I would like to thank you all for the great article in your June 2012 edition titled “Pepsi drops the ‘Big Lick’.” I have shared this story with all my equine friends. I am an advocate for the “barefoot” Tennessee walking horse. It is good to see that people who sore their horses are receiving punishment. But there are many many more trainers within the Tennessee Walking Horse Celebration who need to receive their punishment, as did Jackie McConnell and his barn hands.



—Spencer Smith
Gay, Georgia
<smith_spencer@yahoo.com>

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

“I’m an alley cat ally.”
—Portia de Rossi

Hundreds of thousands of Americans provide care for stray and feral cats and advocate on their behalf. Learn more at www.alleycat.org.

Alley Cat Allies

Let us not call for donor support for small farmers by Erika Abrams, cofounder, Animal Aid

Like many and perhaps most grassroots animal advocates, I appreciate the tremendous work that the Humane Society of the U.S. and their global arm, Humane Society International, does for all animals, including cattle and chickens. I want to say at the outset that any of the following discussion that appears to be a “welfare versus rights” argument is not offered to enhance that sense of versus, because I don’t much believe in it. I see that HSUS/HSI, like other organizations campaigning on behalf of chickens, are helping to raise consciousness that people can make choices, with their pocket-books and what is served on their plates, that have a positive influence on the well-being of animals.

With this much said, I want to address some of the arguments that Humane Society International has advanced recently in campaigning on agricultural issues in the developing world. I would like the HSUS/HSI strategists—and those advancing similar arguments for the World Society for the Protection of Animals and other animal charities—to reconsider whether there is really any campaign value in promoting the economic development of rural poor through small-scale animal businesses as an argument against factory farming.

Said the HSI statement to which I am responding, *“To ensure long-term food security, particularly for vulnerable groups in the developing world, development finance and policies must favor small farmers who give proper care to their animals, act in accordance with the basic ethic of compassion towards animals under their control, and practice and promote more humane and environmentally sustainable agriculture.”*

I live in a small agricultural village near the city of Udaipur in Rajasthan. It is not possible to carry on the milk business here, or anywhere, without destroying the lives of cows and their offspring. HSI should know this. HSI provided fantastic support when the Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organizations ran its farmed animals workshops, helping to provide background data to illustrate that given the magnitude of human food needs, there is not enough grazing land to support the lives of bull calves, even if they were merely turned loose rather than being carved up for leather.

Dairy farmers do not usually let their cows

wander during the day, even here in India, whose wandering cattle are globally renowned. Only unproductive older, injured, or ill dairy cattle are turned loose to fend for themselves. Almost all productive cows are tethered or otherwise closely confined all day long. The reason we don’t see buffalo abandoned in the same manner as unproductive dairy cows is that buffalo are killed for meat and leather if they can’t produce the anticipated quantity of milk. No matter how they are kept or housed, they will be slaughtered if they do not produce. So I don’t see anything sustainable in the dairy industry for animals. I don’t see welfare that meets my standards of “good” for any of the animals kept for commercial purposes in this village of 1,000 farmers. Each family does bad. Some do worse than others, but the best is bad, especially for the bull calves.

The HSI statement continued, *“Hope for the future lies in positive examples of donor support for small-farmer led and animal welfare-friendly agriculture.”*

Donor support?! Am I reading this right? Let us not call for donor support for small farmers. Let us not perpetuate the myth that the small farmers run “welfare-friendly” agriculture. Let us not assume that we have a common understanding of the meaning of “welfare.” This word is often used by people who accept the idea that it is okay to eat meat and use animals. This is part of the Judeo-Christian-Indian religious legacy. Our cultures are filled with images of romantic herders of animals, from the happy flute-playing milk sucking gods of rural India to sacrificing priests and zealots, and mounted cowboys also colloquially known as “cow-punchers.”

Providing donor support to small farmers means providing donor support to the fellow next door who every season sells the male offspring of his four cows to the man who takes them to an auction yard where the calves are starved to death,

since they cannot be slaughtered by law and religious custom. Their hides are then re-fashioned into leather booties. This fact looms over every house here in Chota Hawala Village. This village is typical of cattle-raising villages throughout India.

The strategists at HSUS/HSI, WSPA, and elsewhere must be brought to realize that the economic development arguments about “backyard farms” only parcel out the cruelty associated with factory farming into smaller units.

Currently HSI and WSPA are promoting backyard poultry farming here in India, in the misguided belief that this might slow the growth of factory egg farming, which has already captured more than 90% of the fast-growing Indian market for eggs—as documented by Mia MacDonald & Sangamithra Iyer in their free downloadable report *Veg or Non-Veg? India at the Crossroads* (<www.brightergreen.org/files/india_bg_pp_2011.pdf>).

HSI and WSPA in their poultry campaigns could make a tremendous impact by continuing, as before the present promotion of small farmers, to limit their arguments to explaining the cruelty suffered by hens, chicks, and chickens; explaining the environmental ruin that comes from having unnaturally-bred birds; explaining the health disaster that occurs as result of keeping the sheer numbers of birds whom humans have bred and intensively housed; and explaining the negative health effects of consuming eggs and meat.

Encouraging the economic development of small farmers, which has no inherent relationship to improving animal welfare, could be left out completely. I would like to see this argument deleted from animal advocacy organizations’ campaign strategies. And I certainly don’t want to see HSUS/HSI, WSPA, or any other animal advocacy organizations using donations to support animal industries of any kind.

Events

July 27-30: HSUS Taking Action for Animals conf., Washington, DC. Info: <takingactionforanimals.org>.

Aug. 2-5: AR 2012 conf., Washington D.C. Info: <www.arconference.org>.

Aug. 3-7: AVMA conference., San Diego. Info: <www.avmaconvention.org>.

August 11: Kindred Spirits Animal Sanctuary art show fundraiser. Santa Fe, New Mexico. Information: 505-471-5366; <www.kindredspiritsnm.org>.

August 11: Farm Sanctuary County Hoe Down, Watkins Glen, New York. Info: <info@farmsanctuary.org>.

August 18-20: Vegan Festival 2012, Udupi, Karnataka, India. Info: <www.indianvegansociety.com>.

August 19: Walk to Save Lives, for Pasado’s Save Haven, Redmond, WA. Info: <www.pasadosafehaven.org>.

August 25-26: Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Conf., Orlando. Info: 352-294-4499; <jenatkins@ufl.edu>; <www.UF-ShelterMedicine.com>.

Sept. 4-8: Intl. Conf. on Dog Pop. Management, York, U.K. Info: <DPM2012@fera.gsi.gov.uk> or <<https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/dogs2012/index.cfm>>.

(continued on page 11)

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

Maddie’s® Matchmaker Adoption Event found homes for 2,600 pets in one weekend!

63 shelter and rescue organizations at 80 locations throughout the Bay Area’s Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Francisco Counties participated in the third annual Maddie’s® Matchmaker Adoption Event on June 9th and 10th.

Over 30% of the more than 2,600 dogs and cats adopted were senior and/or treatable pets!

There were many inspiring stories including Cuddles, a 10-year-old cat who was born without her hind legs. Her previous owners claimed she was too much trouble, but her new family only sees her sweet personality and desire to live, despite her limitations.



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Maddie’s® MatchMaker ADOPTION EVENT



To find out more, visit www.maddiesadoptathon.org

Georgia Aquarium applies to import 18 wild-caught belugas *(from page 1)*

improve the genetic diversity of captive belugas in the U.S.”

The belugas to be imported under the Georgia Aquarium permit, if the National Marine Fisheries Service issues the permit, would be distributed among several aquariums around the country.

Georgia Aquarium chief zoological officer William Hurley told Emerson that many of the 34 belugas in U.S. captivity are past prime breeding and calf-bearing age.

Opened in November 2005, the Georgia Aquarium already has four belugas—and has had three beluga deaths, one in 2007 from a bone disease, one in 2008 from an unidentified cause, and a calf born at the aquarium in May 2012, who survived just a few days.

“I’m on it!” responded Dolphin Project founder Ric O’Barry to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “We are working hard to organize huge opposition,” O’Barry said. “It’s such a bad idea that we think we can stop it dead in its tracks. The bastards are wrong and they know it.”

Population study

“The aquarium has spent about \$2 million on research missions [to the Sea of Okhotsk] over the last five years to do population counts and epidemiological studies,” Emerson wrote. Some of the research was done under the auspices of the Species Survival Commission, a project of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. The Species Survival Commission study was produced by a consortium including the Georgia Aquarium, Sea World Parks & Entertainment, the Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration, Kamogawa Sea World of Japan, and the Ocean Park Corporation of Hong Kong.

Four of the five partners already exhibited belugas. Ocean Park in 2005 announced plans to import six belugas from the Sea of Okhotsk in 2005, to stock a “Polar Adventure” attraction that debuted on July 13, 2012. The Species Survival Commission study was reportedly completed in July 2010, but the findings were not immediately released. The Hong Kong SPCA, Hong Kong Dolphin Conservation Society, Animals Asia

Foundation and Humane Society International meanwhile campaigned against the beluga acquisition.

Ocean Park chair Allan Zeman on August 29, 2011 announced that the belugas acquired for “Polar Adventure” would not be imported and exhibited after all. But those belugas, plus seven others, had already been captured in the Okhotsk Sea, and had reportedly been held for more than a year in anticipation of the transfer to Ocean Park.

What became of those 13 belugas is unclear. They may be among the 18 whom the George Aquarium proposes to import.

The focal concern of the Species Survival Commission was whether the Okhotsk Sea beluga population could withstand more captures for exhibition than are already occurring.

The researchers found that belugas were killed commercially on the Okhotsk Sea beginning in about 1917 in the Amur region, and in about 1925 in Sakhalinsky Bay.

“Hundreds to thousands of belugas were taken each year,” the Species Survival Commission report recounted, “with a break between 1918 and 1925. The reported catch reached a peak of more than 2,800 in 1933 and declined to hundreds per year thereafter. Large-scale commercial exploitation of belugas in the southern and western Sea of Okhotsk had ended by about 1963 because there were few left to catch.”

A 23-year respite followed, but “A beluga live-capture operation for oceanaria was initiated in the Sakhalin–Amur region by Nikolay Marchenko for the Pacific Scientific Research Fisheries Centre in Vladivostok) in 1986,” the Species Survival Commission researchers continued. Since 1992, when Canada stopped live-capturing and exporting belugas, Russia has been the sole regular supplier of belugas to the oceanarium industry,” selling an average of 20 belugas per year to buyers in Japan, Canada, and elsewhere.

“In 1999,” the Species Survival Commission report noted, “fisheries officials in Russia issued a permit for 200 belugas to be hunted in the Okhotsk Sea. Thirty-one were taken, and their meat was exported to Japan for human consumption, before the Russian authorities withdrew the hunting permit and the export permit.”

The Species Survival Commission considered the risk that increased captures might send the Okhotsk beluga population into a decline parallel to those afflicting the isolated beluga populations of the Cook Inlet in Alaska and the junction of the St. Lawrence and Saguenay rivers in Quebec. The Cook Inlet beluga population was believed to be about 1,300 in the late 1970s, but crashed for officially unknown reasons. Native hunters continued to be allowed to kill Cook Inlet belugas until 1995. The Cook Inlet belugas were listed as endangered in 2008. Just 340 were left in June 2010—and only 284 in June 2011.

The St. Lawrence/Saguenay beluga population has dwindled from circa 10,000 in 1885 to under 1,000 now, according to the Department of Fisheries & Oceans Canada.

The Arctic Circle beluga population, scattered among waters claimed by Russia,

the U.S., Canada, and Greenland is believed to be about 30,000.

Shedd captures

At least 29 organizations campaigned against the Shedd beluga captures. Even the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans questioned the initial Shedd strategy of trying to capture belugas in 1989, two years in advance of completion of the new oceanarium that was to house them, then keeping them until needed in a relatively small tank at the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium in Tacoma, Washington. That arrangement insured that the belugas would be available for the ribbon-cutting ceremony and the TV cameras, but doubled their transport and readjustment stress.

The Canadian Department of Fisheries & Oceans eventually limited the Shedd to capturing only two belugas in 1989. Those captures made the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium the focus of protests for three years, until the two belugas were moved to the Shedd. The Shedd then roused further outrage with the alleged rough captures of six more belugas who were chased to exhaustion and cornered with speedboats, then wrestled into submission as two different activist groups videotaped and tried to disrupt the procedures.

Two belugas, considered unhealthy, were released at the capture site. The remaining four were flown to Chicago on August 18, 1992—but on September 22, scarcely a month later, a pair died from overdoses of deworming medicine. The treatment was medically necessary, and at least one beluga among the four might have died without it.

However, a subsequent investigation by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration discovered that then-Shedd veterinarian Jeffrey Boehm, now heading the Marine Mammal Center in Sausalito, California, was not properly licensed in the state of Illinois. In December 1993, the Shedd paid a \$2,510 fine as part of a settlement agreement involving nonadmission of guilt.

Nine days later—while denying any direct connection between the events—then-Canadian fisheries minister John Crosbie cut off Shedd access to wild-caught belugas to replace those who died by announcing that his government would “no longer consider the live capture of belugas for export.”

Puiji, the longest survivor of the Shedd’s first two belugas, died on October 27, 2011. “The Shedd had planned that Puiji and Immiayuk would be the core of its beluga breeding plans,” recalled Chicago *Tribune* reporter William Mullen. “Just five months before her death in 1999, Immiayuk gave birth to a female, Kayavak. Puiji gave birth to a female, Bella, in 2006, and a male, Nunavik, in 2009. The Shedd now has six remaining belugas, three of them the calves of Puiji and Immiayuk.”

Another beluga, a male, was born at the Shedd in December 2009, but lived for only a few hours.

The Shedd in October 2011 returned a 25-year-old male beluga named Naluark to the Mystic Aquarium “as part of a new strategy to impregnate one of the aquarium’s two

30-year-old females, Kela and Naku,” reported Joe Wojtas of the *New London Day*. “Also in the aquarium’s Arctic Coast exhibit is Juno, an 8-year-old male on loan from Sea World.”

Breeding failures

Said Mystic Aquarium senior vice president of research and zoological operations Tracy Romano, “The thought is that having some male competition might help spur some breeding activity.” Neither of the Mystic Aquarium’s two female belugas, Kela and Naku, have borne calves. Naluark, who has sired three calves, was previously housed with Kela and Naku on breeding loan in 2001-2003, and in 2008-2009 was among nine Shedd belugas who were temporarily kept at the Mystic Aquarium while the Shedd facilities were renovated. The Mystic formerly had a second male beluga, Inuk, who died in February 2010 at age 28.

Belugas, among the most popular marine mammals in captivity, have not bred well in captivity. SeaWorld San Antonio, opened in 1988, has had the most success. Nineteen adult belugas kept there at various times, some on loan from other aquariums, have reportedly birthed 12 offspring.

The first captive-born baby beluga, Tuaq, was born to Kavna, who was pregnant when captured, at the Vancouver Aquarium in 1977. Tuaq died from a bacterial infection four months later. Her short life inspired the 1980 song “Baby Beluga” by the folksinger Raffi Cavoukian.

The Vancouver Aquarium tried for more than 30 years to breed belugas, without success. “Tiqa, born in June 2008, died on September 16, 2011,” recalled Lifeforce founder Peter Hamilton in an October 2011 letter to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “There have been three such beluga deaths in the past six years,” Hamilton continued. “Two were three years old; one was just a year old. Tiqa was the 37th known dolphin death at the Vancouver Aquarium. The aquarium breeding programs have failed. The only two male belugas have now been sent to Sea World for breeding,” Hamilton concluded.

With captive-bred baby belugas few and far between, and the application to import 18 adult belugas pending, “Marine mammal specialists from across the country descended on the Alaska SeaLife Center in Seward to help care for a baby beluga who became separated from his mother shortly after birth,” reported Mark Thiessen of Associated Press.

The Seward beluga was “believed to be the first baby beluga rescue in the U.S., at least since federal record keeping began in 1972,” Thiessen recounted. “Other attempts at rescue resulted in calf deaths, or in one case, the calf being returned to the pod” among whom the calf was born. Georgia Aquarium’s director of animal training Dennis Christen arrived in Seward within 29 hours after the baby beluga was picked up on June 18, 2012 near South Naknek, on Bristol Bay, Thiessen wrote. Representatives of the Shedd and SeaWorld in San Diego were also soon on hand. But despite all efforts made to save him, the Seward baby beluga died on the morning of July 9, 2012. —Merritt Clifton

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South Korea to resume “research whaling”

PANAMA CITY, Panama—South Korean whaling commissioner Joon-Suk Kang told the 64th annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission meeting on July 5, 2012 in Panama that South Korea will submit a plan to begin “research whaling” to the IWC scientific committee in 2013. The “research whaling” would target minke whales in coastal waters. Joon-Suk Kang said South Korean whalers had been told that they would be allowed to resume whaling after the coastal whale population recovered. Relying on non-lethal studies, Joon-Suk Kang contended “has delayed the proper assessment of the resources.”

The proposed South Korean resumption of whaling would resemble the Japanese “research whaling” program. Both South Korea and Japan responded to the 1986 IWC declaration of a global moratorium on commercial whaling by starting “research whaling” programs, but the South Korean program was suspended later in 1986, while the Japanese program has been repeatedly expanded.

Norway and Iceland have also broken the IWC moratorium to kill minke whales within coastal waters.

“South Korea’s plans come with the Japanese program under assault on the seas from anti-whaling activists, and in the International Court of Justice by Australia,” pointed out Andrew Darby of the *Sydney Morning Herald*. But, Darby pointed out, “Should South Korea take to coastal whaling, there is little prospect of direct action. Unlike in Antarctic waters, unfettered by normal coastal policing,” where the Japanese whaling fleet kills whales and has been confronted each winter since 2005 by the Sea Shepherd

Conservation Society, “South Korea has a coast guard with a tough 50-ship contingent.”

But the declaration of intent to resume whaling brought an anti-whaling demonstration in Seoul within hours.

“We’re concerned about South Korea’s announcement that it will begin a lethal scientific research whaling program,” U.S. State Department spokesperson Patrick Ventrell told Washington D.C. media, “and we plan to discuss this with the South Korean government.”

Said Australian prime minister Julia Gillard, “I am very disappointed. There is no excuse for scientific whaling. I have instructed our ambassador in Korea to raise this matter at the highest levels of the Korean government.”

South Korea developed a commercial whaling industry under Japanese occupation, 1910-1945, based at Ulsan, where a whaling museum opened in 2006, near several restaurants that serve whale meat. At peak the South Korean whaling industry killed about 1,000 whales per year, close to the self-assigned but unfilled Japanese “research whaling” quotas of recent years. Throughout the post-1986 commercial whaling moratorium, South Korean fishers who catch whales “accidentally” have been allowed to sell their meat. About 80 whales per year have reportedly been killed “accidentally,” their carcasses selling for as much as \$120,000 apiece.

On July 3, 2012 the IWC rejected a proposal by Argentina, Brazil, South Africa, and Uruguay, under consideration since 1998, to set the entire South Atlantic Ocean aside as a whale sanctuary. The proposal received support from the majority of the ballots cast, 38 to 21, with two abstentions, but did not

Taiji plans “swim with dolphins” park

TAIJI, Japan—Notorious for killing as many as 2,000 dolphins and small whales per winter, the coastal Japanese city of Taiji plans to make Moriura Bay, where the 2009 Oscar-winning documentary *The Cove* was clandestinely filmed, “a huge pool where people can swim and kayak among small whales and dolphins,” the *Daily Yomiuri* disclosed on May 1, 2012.

“Black whales and bottlenose dolphins caught near the town are to be released into the pool,” the *Daily Yomiuri* said. “The town will consider whether it is possible to raise large whales as well. The town intends to use the park for therapy and ecological research as part of efforts to make the whole town a museum that will allow people to learn about whales, including whale hunting.” The Taiji dolphin and whale killing would continue.

Responded Dolphin Project founder

and *Cove* star Ric O’Barry, who first visited Taiji in 1993 at invitation of the Elsa Nature Conservancy of Japan, “This sounds to me much like the failed Canadian schemes to attract tourists to cuddle seal pups just before they are clubbed. They can have an industry cuddling them or an industry killing them, but not both at once, and neither option is preferable to just leaving them alone.”

“The Taiji Whale Museum, run by the town of Taiji, helps to capture dolphins for the international dolphinarium trade,” O’Barry added. “While the dolphin hunters get around \$500 or so for a dead dolphin when sold on the market for meat, the Taiji Whale Museum will get more than \$150,000 for a trained live dolphin, so the museum actually subsidizes the hunts,” by purchasing dolphins for training and resale. The museum features what O’Barry believes is “the smallest dolphin tank in the world.”

receive the support of a majority of the 89 IWC member nations, many of which are small island nations whose membership has been sponsored by Japan or who joined the IWC coincidental with the receipt of Japanese economic aid. “Japan doesn’t want to give an inch on anything that may compromise their ability to roam the world doing whaling as they see fit,” said Jose Truda Palazzo of the Brazilian-based Cetacean Conservation Center.

But Gabon, a West African nation previously aligned with Japan, voted for the proposed sanctuary, a week after Gabonese President Ali Bongo signaled a break with “sustainable use” politics by burning the stockpiled ivory from about 850 elephants. Seized from poachers and traffickers, the ivory was

believed to be worth about \$10 million.

The IWC voted 34-25 against a request from Denmark for a quota of 1,300 whales to be killed by indigenous Greenlanders, but authorized new indigenous whaling quotas for Alaska, the Russian far northeast, and the Caribbean nation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. Native Alaskans will be allowed to kill up to 336 bowhead whales during the next five years, Russian Inuits and other indigenous peoples will be allowed to kill up to 744 gray whales, and residents of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines will be allowed to kill up to 24 humpback whales, despite lacking any evident tradition of whaling prior to European colonization in the 19th century.

More events

Sept. 6-7: Natl. Animal Control Assn. Disaster Training Academy, Louisville, KY. Info: 933-768-1319; <naca@nacanet.org>; <www.nacanet.org>.

Sept. 20-21: Michigan No Kill Conf., Lansing. Info: 877-387-7257; <conference@michiganpetfund.org>.

Sept. 22: Great Gorilla Run 2012, London, U.K. Info: <www.greatgorillas.org/london>.

Sept. 22-29: Strut Across America to benefit the Best Friends Animal Society. Info: <www.strutyourmutt.org>.

Sept. 27-29: ACES Intl. Conf., hosted by the Helen Woodward Animal Center, San Diego. Info: <animalcenter.org/ACESConference>.

Sept. 28: World Rabies Day. Info: <webmaster@worldrabiesday.org>.

Sept. 30: Celebrate Animals benefit for WellPet Humane, Dunwoody, GA. Info: 1-770-455-7077>.

Oct. 4: World Animal Day. Info: <info@worldanimal-day.org.uk>; <www.worldanimalday.org.uk>.

Oct. 7: Team AngelDogs Foundation Race for the Rescues, Pasadena. Info: 898-504-SPAY; <www.angel-dogsfoundation.org>.

Oct. 16: Natl. Feral Cat Day. Info: 202-207-1134; <fis-laeli@johnadams.com>; <www.alleycat.org/NFC>.

Oct. 16-18: Intl. Companion Animal Welf. Conf., Vravona, Greece. Info: <international@dogstrust.org.uk>.

October 16-18: No More Homeless Pets conf., Las Vegas. Info: 435-644-2001, x4478; <conferences@best-friends.org>.

November 16-18: India for Animals conf., Panjim, Goa. Info: <helen@fiapo.org>.

September 1-5, 2013: Pan-African Animal Welfare Assn. conference, Nairobi. Info: c/o <jos@anaw.org>.



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“Official” Indian human rabies death toll of 20,000 ignored government’s own data & appears to have been based on 101-year-old research

DELHI, CHENNAI—Collecting current data about disease incidence in India since 2003, the Indian Central Bureau of Health Intelligence has known for nearly 10 years that the oft-claimed Indian human rabies death toll of 20,000 per year is high by a factor of nearly 100.

Often cited by politicians and media, the 20,000 figure has repeatedly inflamed rabies panics, including street dog massacres and mob attacks on humane societies that participate in the federally sponsored Animal Birth Control program. Funded by the Animal Welfare Board of India since 2003, the ABC program seeks to replace lethal dog population control with sterilization.

The purported 20,000 human rabies deaths per year have also been used to rationalize spending upward of \$25 million U.S. (\$1.1 billion rupees) to provide free post-exposure vaccination to dog bite victims, instead of funding a much less costly national dog vaccination program which could eradicate canine rabies from India.

Dogs sterilized under ABC auspices must be vaccinated, but the ABC program does not fund later revaccination or vaccination of dogs who are not sterilized. Many Indian humane societies nonetheless vaccinate or revaccinate all dogs presented to them as a public service, as resources permit.

According to the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, rabies has killed an average of 238 Indians per year during the past nine years, within a range of 162 to 361. But apart from posting the data to a web site, the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence has done little to correct the 20,000 figure, which appears to have been projected from data collected 101 years ago, in 1911, but is claimed as current in publications of the World Health Organization, Alliance for Rabies Control, and other branches of the Indian government.

Ironically, the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence findings reinforce the thus far little noted finding of the 2003 WHO-sponsored National Multicentric Rabies Survey, led by M.K. Sudarshan. This survey found that human rabies appeared to be “endemic and stable” at 235 human deaths per year, based on data collected from hospital isolation units. “From 1985, India reported every year about 25,000 to 30,000 human rabies deaths,” Sudarshan wrote in a 2005 summary of the survey. “However, these figures were an estimate based on the projected statistics of isolation hospitals,” which proved to be much too high, and which at that time had not been traced to source.

Sudarshan in a June 18, 2012 e-mail affirmed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** his belief that the high “official figures coming from the Government of India are erroneous,” and that “a scientific reassessment of the burden of rabies in India” is overdue.

Providing the basis for such a scientific reassessment is what the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence has been quietly doing. The Central Bureau of Health Intelligence is an office within the Directorate General of Health Services, under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Since 2005, the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence has included current rabies statistics in *National Health Profile*, an online annual report. From 2005 through 2011, the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence found, India had 274, 361, 221,

244, 260, 162, and 223 human rabies deaths, respectively: an annual average of 249.

But the *National Health Profile* numbers won little notice until cited on April 29, 2012 in the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Indian parliament, by Indian health minister Gulam Nabi Azad. Unaware of the source of the information, longtime Blue Cross of India chief executive and Animal Welfare Board of India member Chinny Krishna summarized Gulam Nabi Azad’s remarks in an e-mail published as a letter-to-the-editor in the May 2012 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Krishna’s summary was then further distributed to more than 40,000 public health professionals worldwide by the International Society for Infectious Diseases’ Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases, and to more than 1,000 heads of Indian humane societies by the Federation of Indian Animal Welfare Organizations.

ANIMAL PEOPLE examined the matter further in the June 2012 front page article “New Indian data cuts worldwide human rabies death toll by 40%.” Abstracted by ProMed, the article brought responses which helped **ANIMAL PEOPLE** to find the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence information and publicize it to ProMed, FIAPO, and the Asian Animal Protection Network.

Human rabies deaths have at times been underreported in parts of India due to local political considerations and defects in public health data tracking systems. Both factors were involved when 15 rabies deaths were found to have gone unreported in Chennai suburbs during the first four months of 2011.

Rabies in humans is not “notifiable” in India, meaning that reporting deaths to the national epidemiological tracking system is not mandatory for all institutions. The *National Health Profile* “Health Status Indicators” tables open with a disclaimer acknowledging that “Since the reported data is by and large from government health facilities, it may have limitations in terms of its completeness as private medical and health care institutions still need to strengthen their reporting to their respective government health units.”

However, the possible omission of data from “private medical and health care institutions” means little as regards rabies, since the government clinics that provide free post-exposure rabies vaccination receive and treat most dogbite victims, and since active human rabies cases are handled almost exclusively by government hospitals.

Despite rare instances of officials suppressing awareness of rabies outbreaks, as exposed in Chennai in 2011, most rabies outbreaks in India receive intensive coverage from aggressively competing media. Speculation that the *National Health Profile* numbers might be low due to underreporting would appear to be negated by an **ANIMAL PEOPLE** search of 535 articles published by Indian mass media and medical journals, 2005-2012, which described 123, 73, 195, 29, 23, 103, and 69 human deaths for those years, respectively—an average of 65% fewer deaths than were recorded by the *National Health Profile*.

The articles reported rabies death totals for Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Manipur, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh states. If these totals were projected to the whole of India by comparing deaths to the human population, the number of rabies deaths per year for all of India would be 415.

The *National Health Profile*, the media search totals of human rabies deaths, and projections from reported complete state data are all so low as to call into question how the figure of 20,000 originated, along with a figure of 35,000 often cited by Indian mass media before the 20,000 number gained currency.

These claimed death tolls, especially when cited by WHO, are more remarkable in view that WHO on June 15, 1975 distributed a media release asserting that “Rabies is on the rise

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throughout the world with ever increasing danger to human life,” as indicated by 430 total human rabies deaths worldwide in 1973, “most of them in Latin America and Asia, especially Brazil and India.”

A review of rabies data conducted at a 2002 Association for Prevention and Control of Rabies in India conference in Bhubaneswar, a year before the National Multicentric Rabies Survey, lowered the then-Indian government estimate of human rabies deaths to 17,000 diagnosed cases plus 3,000 undiagnosed deaths per year, and projected the toll as 20,565 per year from 1992 through 2002.

The estimate of 20,565 rabies deaths per year has been attributed to British epidemiologist Katie Hampson, but Hampson herself has noted that “older published data was used,” expressing hope of obtaining “updated information.” Other reports based on the 2002 findings halved the projection of undiagnosed human deaths, to suggest a total of 18,500.

A 2005 WHO report appeared to reinforce the 2002 estimate with a projection of 19,700 human rabies deaths per year, based on the supposition that the human rabies death toll can be projected by estimating the dog population and making the rather shaky assumption that rabies occurs at a relatively constant rate among all free-roaming dogs.

Major Harvey

The mysterious original source of the claims that there were ever either circa 35,000 or 20,000 human rabies deaths per year in India may have been revealed by *The Statesman*, a leading Indian newspaper, on July 11, 2011. According to an article reprinted on that date from 100 years earlier, in July 1911 a Major Harvey who was the director of the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli reported that through “personal inquiries” he had learned “that out of 3,289 Indians bitten by rabid dogs or dogs suspected of being rabid, only 1,636 came for treatment.”

Harvey also projected that only three out of every 17 bites by a rabid dog actually transmitted rabies to the human victim.

Founded in 1904 by Sir David Semple, inventor of the Semple nerve tissue culture anti-rabies vaccine, the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli is now called the Central Research Institute. Harvey was Semple’s col-

league and successor William F. Harvey. His findings, as reported by *The Statesman*, appear to have been in re-circulation ever since, in three different garbled forms.

Harvey’s estimate that only about half of rabid dog bite victims seek post-exposure treatment has become an oft-repeated claim that only about half of all victims of bites by any dogs seek post-exposure rabies vaccination—and that therefore any numbers reported for human rabies deaths are low.

Harvey’s estimate that three out of 17 bites from a rabid dog transmit rabies appears to have been mingled with a guesstimate that about one dog bite in 10 is inflicted by a rabid dog. Multiplied by two million dog bites per year, another long-circulating guesstimate, this produces the figure of about 35,000 human rabies deaths per year.

Harvey’s total of “3,289 Indians bitten by rabid dogs or dogs suspected of being rabid,” multiplied by the five-fold increase in Indian human population between 1911 and 2002, plus the 3,000 deaths that the Association for Prevention and Control of Rabies in India suggested occur without diagnosis, comes to very nearly 20,565.

There are other possible reasons for the discrepancy between the claims of 35,000 and 20,000 human rabies deaths in India per year, and the much lower Central Bureau of Health Intelligence figures. Chinny Krishna has suggested to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and FIAPO that the post-2000 turn away from use of the Semple vaccine, which required multiple painful injections into the abdomen, has encouraged more dog bite victims to seek post-exposure anti-rabies vaccination.

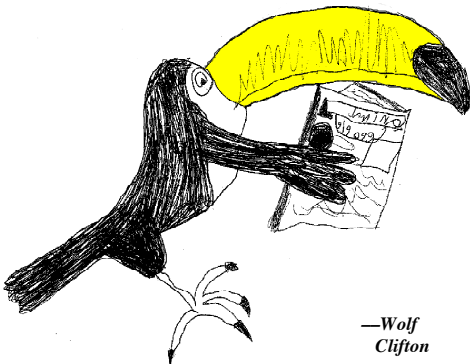
It is also likely that deaths from many other febrile diseases may have been misdiagnosed as rabies. Japanese encephalitis, for example, only recently recognized in India, can produce lookalike superficial symptoms, but according to the *National Health Profile* is now known to have killed between 600 and 1,600 Indians per year during the first decade of the 21st century. A persistent belief among many Indians that some people and animals recover from rabies adds to the likelihood that some “rabies” cases are misdiagnosed, and are reported without being confirmed by post-mortem brain tissue examination.

—Merritt Clifton



Indian street dog. (Kim Bartlett)

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Vier Pforten sees a new era for animals in Ukraine; locals are doubtful

KIEV—Spain took home the Euro 2012 football championship trophy, but the biggest winners, hopes Helmut Dungler, chief executive of the Austrian-based animal charity Vier Pforten, are more than 4,000 street dogs in Kiev, Lviv, Donetsk, and Zaporozhye whom Vier Pforten has sterilized, vaccinated, and treated for any evident illnesses or injuries, with the help of local organizations and volunteers. “Both our stray dog neutering program and our bear rescue project,” which recovered four bears from illegal private possession, “will continue,” Dungler pledged.

“Traditionally in Ukraine, preparation for large-scale cultural and sporting events is accompanied by massive destruction of animals. Tens of thousands of homeless animals were killed in the name of Euro 2012,” said Tamara Tarnovska, founder of the Kiev animal charity SOS Animals Ukraine.

Responding to international exposure mobilized by the British animal charity Naturewatch in response to the reported killings, Ukrainian environment minister Mykola Zlochevskiy in November 2011 pledged a moratorium on killing dogs. Following up, Dungler on February 4, 2012 signed an agreement with Zlochevskiy to do high-volume dog steriliza-

tion in the Euro 2012 host cities, if those cities would each individually agree to stop killing street dogs. Kiev, Lviv, Donetsk, and Zaporozhye signed contracts with Vier Pforten, modeled on contracts that Vier Pforten has used in Bulgaria, Croatia, and Romania for more than a decade, but Kharkov “wanted to alter the content of the agreement substantially,” Vier Pforten posted on June 19, 2012. “For Vier Pforten the changes meant that the project could not be implemented properly, and there was also no clear commitment by the authorities to stop the dog killing.”

Tarnovska was not surprised—and expects worse, she e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “Kiev officials are happy to watch the Vier Pforten veterinarians and rub their

hands,” Tarnovska asserted. “While foreigners do the work that the cities are supposed to do, Kiev officials trim the city budget and convince western Europe that they are solving the stray animal problem by humane methods. There is fresh confirmation of some cases of poisoning of animals after the sterilizations done by Vier Pforten,” Tarnovska alleged.

“The Kiev authorities do not respond to complaints about these cases of animals being poisoned after sterilization. It should be noted,” Tarnovska finished, “that the existence of homeless animals has for many years been feeding Ukrainian officials at various levels, because a lot of money from city budgets is allocated annually for so-called humane solutions. However, the funds are mainly

spent not on the problems of animals, but are instead divided among corrupt officials. There is little left for animals.”

As to what happened in Kharkov, Steps Centre chair Igor Parfenov told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “On June, 13 there was the opening of the first city shelter for homeless animals in Kharkov. The shelter was built with \$3.2 million of city money. Each year the shelter will get from the city \$750,000. The shelter adoption display area has space for 50 cats and 100 dogs, plus a quarantine area for 500 dogs. Dogs will be kept at the shelter for seven days, then be killed. The city expects to kill 400-500 dogs per month. By the end of the year the number will increase to 1,000 dogs per month.”

U.S. progress vs. shelter killing

The listed year is the year in which the findings were reported. Only the 1985 survey did not include data from within a three-year range.

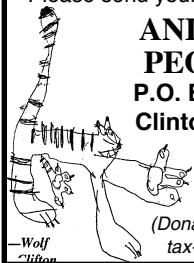
Year	Millions of dogs & cats killed	Killed per 1,000 humans
1950	2.0	13.5
1970	23.4	115.0
1985	17.8	74.8
1992	5.7	22.2
1994	5.4	20.5
1996	5.3	19.7
1997	4.9	18.0
1998	4.9	17.8
1999	4.5	16.6
2001	4.5	16.8
2002	4.4	15.7
2003	4.2	15.3
2004	4.5	14.8
2005	4.9	17.4
2006	4.4	14.8
2007	4.0	13.6
2008	4.2	13.8
2009	3.6	11.6
2010	3.4	11.2
2012	3.0	9.6



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Fewer animals killed—but pit bulls & Chihuahuas crowd shelters

Only three years after U.S. animal shelters killed fewer than four million dogs and cats for the first time in about half a century, the toll appears to have fallen below three million—just barely.

ANIMAL PEOPLE has produced estimates of U.S. shelter killing of dogs and cats annually since 1993, at first projected from whole-state surveys done by other organizations. Since 1997 we have combined recent whole-state data where available with data from the city and county level, wherever the local data includes all animal control shelters and other open admission shelters within a particular jurisdiction. Each **ANIMAL PEOPLE** annual estimate includes the most recent available data from the three preceding fiscal or calendar years.

Thus the 2012 projection includes data only from fiscal or calendar years ending in years 2010 or later, except in North Carolina, where a whole-state survey done in 2009 appears to be more representative than numbers received more recently from far fewer communities—notably, communities that are eager to show off their progress, in contrast to others which have not released new data. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has taken into account the newer North Carolina local data, where available, in doing our 2012 regional and national projection, but has kept within our projection base the 2009 data from communities not reporting since then

The 2012 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** projections are based on data from a geographically balanced selection of animal control jurisdictions serving 51% of the total U.S. human population. The projected toll of 2,988,566, just about evenly divided between cats and dogs, is so close to three million that the actual total of dogs and cats killed could still be slightly more than three million per year, if the actual toll from the remaining 49% of the U.S. is significantly more than we estimate. This, however, is unlikely, based on older data from many of the major jurisdictions not included in the 2012 projection.

Recent rapid progress in reducing shelter killing is evident in all parts of the U.S., including in New York City, whose shelters fifty years ago killed upward of a quarter of a million dogs and cats per year. The New York City toll began to drop after the first American SPCA sterilization clinic opened in 1968. New York City shelters killed only 16,489 dogs and cats in 2007, 2.0 animals per 1,000 human residents. Among major U.S. cities, only San Francisco killed fewer dogs and cats per 1,000 humans. That New York City could go lower seemed unlikely, and indeed, the New York City toll

rose to 18,703 in 2008. But the downward trend resumed in 2009. New York City has now cut shelter killing of dogs in half during the two-and-a-half-year tenure of current Center for Animal Care & Control director Julie Bank, to just 1.0 per 1,000 human residents, surpassing San Francisco, whose own numbers have continued to improve.

Much of the region from New York City northeast to the Canadian border could now be considered to be unofficially “no-kill,” with dogs and cats killed only for very serious health or behavioral reasons. Older whole-state counts indicate that Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont shelters have killed fewer than two dogs and cats per 1,000 people for five to 10 years now. Maine and Rhode Island shelters appear likely to be currently killing between two and three dogs and cats per 1,000 people.

Upstate New York, the western half of the Northeast region, shares more demographic characteristics with the Mid-Atlantic states than with New York City and most of New England. This shows in the shelter statistics.

Shelters in both the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions kill far more cats than dogs, as do the shelters in the West, and West Coast regions. This is the reverse of the trend in Appalachia, the Gulf Coast states, and the Midwest, where dogs are more often kept outdoors, more often roam at large, are less often sterilized, and birth more accidental litters. The norms of dog-keeping are similar in the South Atlantic region, but South Atlantic shelters kill more cats than dogs, apparently because more rapid progress has been made in sterilizing dogs.

The West Coast region appears to be killing more dogs and cats per 1,000 human residents for the first time than the inland West, especially the Rocky Mountains states. A closer look at the numbers shows that the “West Coast” jurisdictions killing significantly more dogs and cats than the regional average are all far inland, sharing more demographic characteristics with the rural inland Southwest than with either coastal cities or major inland cities such as Denver, Reno, Phoenix, and Las Vegas.

Like Appalachia, the Gulf Coast states, the South Atlantic region, and the Midwest, the inland portions of the “West Coast” region and the rural inland Southwest are culturally agrarian, and were slower to develop low-cost dog and cat sterilization programs.

The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** annual data compilations have shown since 1993 that accidental litters and mixed-breed

dogs other than pit bull variants are steadily diminishing components of the shelter killing toll. The typical shelter dog of the past decade-plus was bred deliberately, either to a purebred conformation standard; to produce a popular mix such as “Labradoodles” and “Cockapoos”; or to produce pit bulls.

Pit bulls, mostly bred and sold by noncommercial “backyard breeders,” as recently as 1993 constituted less than 1% of the U.S. dog population, as measured by retrospective surveys of newspaper classified ads offering dogs for sale. By 2003, however, pit bulls had increased about fivefold in popularity—and accounted for 23% of the dogs admitted to U.S. animal shelters, and 50% of the dogs killed in U.S. shelters.

ANIMAL PEOPLE now conducts separate annual surveys of dog breed popularity, common dog breeds in animal shelters, and the rate at which pit bulls are killed in shelters. Electronic surveys of online classified ads offering dogs for sale or adoption offer both a measurement of breed popularity, especially when averaged over several years, and an estimated birth rate for each breed. This in turn permits estimating the sterilization rate for each breed.

Single-day surveys of dogs actually in shelters on a randomly chosen date provide a snapshot of shelter admissions and holding patterns.

The pit bull death rate in shelters is derived both from shelter reports and from comparing the pit bull populations of open admission and selective admission shelters.

As of June 2012, 29% of the dogs at open admission shelters responding to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** survey questions were pit bulls. By contrast, only 11% of the dogs at selective admission shelters were pit bulls—and this includes the numbers at selective admission shelters specializing in pit bull placement. The open admission shelters had 79% of the total dog inventory, meaning that the pit bulls at selective admission shelters were only 2.3% of the total number of dogs.

If the dogs at selective admission shelters were mostly transferees from open admission shelters, and if 11% of the dogs rehomed by selective admission shelters are pit bulls, perhaps 11% of the dogs rehomed by open admission shelters are also pit bulls. Altogether, between transfers and adoptions, open admission shelters may avoid killing about 13.3% of their total pit bull intake—meaning that they kill 86.7%.

Of 11 major shelter systems providing actual pit bull killing data, the Los Angeles Department of Animal

(continued on page 13)

U.S. animal shelter toll appears to drop below three million

Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed
New York City	1.0	2011	8,175
Springfield, MA	1.9	2011	153
Buffalo/Erie County	3.8	2010	919
NORTHEAST (27%)	1.3	33,823	44,185
NEW JERSEY	3.8	2010	8,821
DELAWARE	5.4	2011	907
Philadelphia	7.0	2010	1,526
MIDATLANTIC (40%)	4.3	28,169	121,127
Broward County, FL	5.5	2011	1,748
Wake County, NC	7.3	2012	901
Palm Beach County	8.3	2011	1,320
VIRGINIA	8.9	2011	8,096
Atlanta metro area	9.2	2010	5,269
Jacksonville, FL	9.2	2011	864
Pasco County, FL	9.7	2011	465
Alachua County, FL	11.7	2010	247
Charlotte/Mecklnbrg.	11.8	2012	944
Tampa/Hillsborough	12.9	2012	1,229
Pinellas Cty, FL	12.0	2010	917
Orlando/Orange Cty.	15.3	2011	1,146
NORTH CAROLINA	19.9	2009	9,535
Clay County, FL	20.2	2010	187
Oconee County, SC	32.6	2011	74
SO. ATLANTIC (62%)	12.8	51,923	663,067
Louisville	6.3	2010	1,307
Russellville (AR)	10.2	2010	60
Memphis	18.0	2010	663
Knoxville	21.5	2011	432
Kanawha/Charleston	21.3	2010	304
APPALACHIA	13.2	15,566	203,005
Austin/Travis Cty.	4.6	2010	1,024
Houston	5.9	2011	3,822
Houston metro area	9.5	2011	5,946
San Antonio/Bexar	13.9	2010	1,330
New Orleans	15.0	2010	344
Dallas	18.8	2010	1,197
Fort Worth	22.4	2010	535
Birmingham	24.2	2010	658
Tuscaloosa	29.8	2010	195
El Paso	30.6	2011	800
Mobile	34.3	2010	195
Hattiesburg area	46.9	2010	149
Amarillo	54.5	2011	191
GULF COAST (31%)	15.7	38,031	597,087

Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed
Yavapai County	1.3	2012	154
Denver	2.1	2011	2,830
Reno/Washoe	3.5	2011	426
UTAH	10.6	2011	2,817
Phoenix/Maricopa	12.7	2010	3,817
NEVADA	13.9	2010	2,701
Las Vegas/Clark Cty	15.1	2010	1,951
Tucson	21.9	2011	990
Navajo Nation	33.3	2010	180
WEST (88%)	9.7	17,579	170,516
Dane County, WI	2.5	2010	488
MINNESOTA	5.7	2011	5,304
Chicago	6.5	2011	2,696
MICHIGAN	9.2	2011	10,080
Milwaukee County	6.9	2011	948
Cleveland	10.3	2011	397
Indianapolis	11.1	2010	903
Dayton/Montgomery	11.9	2011	535
Cincinnati	13.1	2011	802
Detroit metro area	15.1	2010	1,217
Fort Wayne/Allen Cty	27.3	2011	355
MIDWEST (32%)	8.8	67,158	587,599
Whidbey Island	0.8	2011	72
San Francisco	1.3	2010	815
Irvine, CA	1.4	2010	213
Seattle	3.1	2010	603
Orange County, CA	4.5	2010	3,010
Portland/Multnomah	5.1	2010	2,069
Los Angeles city	5.1	2010	3,796
San Diego city/county	6.0	2010	3,095
CALIFORNIA	12.1	2010	37,692
Kenai borough, AK	13.2	2011	55
Kern/Bakersfield	22.7	2010	824
Maui	33.4	2011	155
Fresno	33.4	2011	942
PACIFIC (98%)	10.9	54,366	591,040
U.S. TOTAL (51%)	9.7	308,330	2,989,508

(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.)

International data

The United Kingdom data below was collected by the ninth annual Dogs Trust survey of U.K. dog wardens, and does not include dogs who are killed after surrender to nonprofit humane societies—believed to be about half of the actual total of dogs killed by U.K. shelters. The data from Belgium, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, and Ukraine was collected in 2010 by the United Nations Food & Agricultural Organization. The remainder was collected by **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, in the same manner as the accompanying U.S. data. Only the Canadian and Japanese totals include cats, who are not commonly impounded in the other nations whose data is presented.

Many of the differences in the rates of animal control dog killing from nation to nation are attributable to differences in national ratios of dogs to humans.

Known dogs-to-people ratios in the listed nations include: Canada 1/10; Japan 1/13; Ukraine 1/15; United Kingdom 1/9. The FAO believes the global ratio to be 1/16.

Ratios of dogs killed for animal control to total dogs among the listed nations include: Canada 1/237; Japan 1/321; Ukraine 1/5; U.K. 1/1,060; U.S. 1/46.

Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed
Belgium	0.5	2008	10,414
Bulgaria	12.5	2007	7,200
Canada	4.2	2010	33,487
Hong Kong	1.8	2011	7,154
Ireland	1.6	2010	4,203
Japan	2.4	2009	129,357
Kyrgyzstan	1.8	2010	5,432
Pakistan	5.7	2010	175,578
Romania	8.1	2006	22,215
Taiwan	3.5	2011	23,071
Ukraine	13.2	2004	45,700
United Kingdom	0.1	2011	62,262

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Pit bulls & Chihuahuas crowd shelters *(from page 12)*

Regulation killed the smallest percentage: 53% of pit bull intake. Among the 10 other systems furnishing breed-specific killing totals, the pit bull toll ranged from 75% to 99%. The average among the 11 systems was 80%.

As of 2011, pit bulls accounted for 30% of the dogs admitted to U.S. animal shelters and 60% of the dogs killed. These numbers remain almost unchanged. Between July 2011 and July 2012, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found, pit bull admissions to U.S. shelters decreased as a percentage of incoming dogs by about three-tenths of 1%. Pit bulls continued to be about 60% of the dogs who were killed—and 29% of total shelter killing, counting both dogs and cats. The total number of pit bulls killed in U.S. animal shelters fell from 930,000 to 888,000, but that 5% drop was much less than the 16% reduction in shelter killing achieved for all other dogs and cats.

ANIMAL PEOPLE found a 13% decrease in the numbers of pit bulls offered for sale or adoption, but a 28% increase in the numbers of pit bulls offered for sale or adoption relative to other dogs. This paradox occurred because **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found 40% fewer dogs offered for sale or adoption in June 2012 than in June 2011. Among breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club, the offered numbers of dogs declined 57%. Most of the increases were in the range that might result from breeding fewer than 50 more dogs—the typical population of a mid-sized commercial breeding kennel.

The falling numbers of dogs offered for sale or adop-

tion may partially reflect lower shelter intake, in turn reducing the numbers of cast-off dogs accessible to rescues.

The biggest factor, however, appears to be the breeder response to new regulations now in effect in Missouri, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Texas. In each state the regulations in final form are much less stringent than animal advocates had hoped, but in each state breeders went out of business, suspended operation, or bred fewer dogs during several months of uncertainty as to what might be required.

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture executive deputy secretary Michael Pechert in May 2012 reported that, “We’ve gone from nearly 350 commercial dog breeding facilities to 52.” In Oklahoma, the Board of Commercial Pet Breeders in two years of existence licensed only 230 of the 1,900 dog breeders who were believed to have been operating in Oklahoma as of 2010. The board has now been merged into the state department of Agriculture, Food, & Forestry.

The apparent 40% reduction in dogs bred should logically translate into a continuing drop in the numbers of dogs impounded and killed by shelters—but maybe not right away, as illustrated by the Chihuahua paradox.

Since 1997, when the Taco Bell fast food chain first used Chihuahuas in popular television ads, through 2010, the U.S. Chihuahua population increased as rapidly as the pit bull population. By 2010, Chihuahuas accounted for 2.4% of the dogs offered for sale or adoption. Only large retrievers and pit

Dogs most often listed for sale or adoption

	2010	2011	2012	Avg.	Pp1tn.
Large retrievers	8.7%	5.2%	8.2%	7.4%	5.2 m.
Pit bull class	4.1%	3.3%	4.6%	4.0%	2.8 m.
Small terriers	2.2%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	1.5 m.
Poodles	1.4%	2.0%	2.8%	2.1%	1.5 m.
Setter class	1.0%	2.3%	2.3%	1.9%	1.3 m.
German shepherds	1.7%	1.4%	2.3%	1.8%	1.3 m.
Spaniels	1.2%	2.0%	2.0%	1.7%	1.2 m.
Beagles	1.2%	1.2%	2.3%	1.6%	1.1 m.
Chihuahuas	2.4%	0.7%	0.4%	1.2%	0.8 m.

bulls were bred in greater numbers. But overbreeding saturated the demand for Chihuahuas. The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** classified ad surveys suggest that only about 15% as many Chihuahuas were whelped in 2012 as two years earlier.

Especially in California and Arizona, however, shelters are receiving more Chihuahuas than ever. Nationally, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found that Chihuahuas were 18.5% of the June 2012 U.S. open admission shelter dog inventory—and 93% of the Chihuahuas were in California, including 47% of the dogs at the Peninsula Humane Society in San Mateo, 25% of the dogs in the Los Angeles County shelter system, 23% of the dogs in the Los Angeles city shelter system, and 21% of the dogs in custody of San Diego County Animal Services.

The present glut of Chihuahas in shelters would appear to be a delayed result of the breeding peak reached in 2010. Most of these dogs were sold into homes, as cute puppies, but were dumped after they matured into adults.

Feral cat neuter/return results appear to have plateaued

MOUNT RANIER, Maryland—Data gathered by Alley Cat Rescue from 120 feral cat neuter/return projects in 37 states affirms the longtime **ANIMAL PEOPLE** belief, based on estimated feral cat intake at animal shelters, that neuter/return is helping to hold the U.S. feral cat population at the present level, but is no longer achieving the steep drops in feral cat numbers that characterized the rise of neuter/return to widespread practice in the 1990s.

The data suggests that neuter/return projects will need more funding, more skilled cat-trappers, and more ability to work in hard-to-access habitat to further reduce the U.S. feral cat population, which for about 10 years has hovered at about 25% of the 1990 peak. Shelter intake data projects that there are currently about six million feral cats of breeding age in the U.S. each winter, with a summer high of about 12 million, including kittens who have survived past weaning.

The Alley Cat Rescue survey respondents represented about 17% of the 700 organizations now known to be doing neuter/return feral cat control. The respondent organizations had operated for an average of about 12 years, six months; the oldest 28% had operated for 16 years or longer, with 12%

having operated for at least 25 years, though not necessarily always doing neuter/return.

Cumulatively, the respondent organizations have sterilized and released about 618,000 feral cats. They currently sterilize and release about 45,500 feral cats per year.

Neuter/return feral cat control appears to have been practiced on a limited basis by private individuals for more than 50 years. Neuter/return feral cat control was introduced to Kenya and South Africa by the British-based Universities Federation for Animal Welfare in 1983-1984. A feral cat neuter/return project debuted at Stanford University, in Palo Alto, California, in 1988.

Neuter/return feral cat control gained momentum in the U.S. in 1990 with the formation of the neuter/return advocacy organization Alley Cat Allies by Becky Robinson, who still heads ACA, and Louise Holton, who had become aware of neuter/return in South Africa, and later left ACA to form Alley Cat Rescue.

Then-*Animals' Agenda* magazine editor Kim Bartlett and news editor Merritt Clifton in 1991-1992 conducted a neuter/return demonstration project at eight locations in northern Fairfield County, Connecticut. As well as seeking to reduce the feral cat population, the Connecticut project was meant to

prevent a regional raccoon rabies pandemic from spreading through feral cats to domestic pets. The positive outcome was amplified by Friends of Animals, the Tufts University Center for Animals & Public Policy, *Animals' Agenda*, and by **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, founded by Bartlett and Clifton after they left *Animals' Agenda* in mid-1992.

Among the first **ANIMAL PEOPLE** projects was a national survey of cat rescuers and feeders, funded by the Massachusetts SPCA. This survey found 249 people who as of mid-1992 were doing neuter/return—about 38% of the survey respondents. A 1995 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** follow-up survey found that the neuter/return practitioners had achieved an average decrease of 48% in kitten births in their target areas.

What such reductions meant to the feral cat death toll in animal shelters, as neuter/return spread, may have been shown most dramatically in data for the whole of Maryland. Data collected by then-Calvert Animal Rescue League executive director Phil Arkow showed that in 1992 Maryland shelters killed 85,600 homeless cats. Within five years the toll dropped to 58,000. By 2000 it was down to circa 30,000. In 2012 it may be as low as 10,000, but the conging reductions may be chiefly due to removals of cats and kittens from feral colonies to be socialized for adoption, rather than because of further declines in the birth rate.

The 2012 Alley Cat Rescue survey found a 52% average decrease in kitten births in neuter/return project target areas, barely more in the past 17 years than in the three years from 1992 to 1995. Since the projects surveyed by Alley Cat Rescue were of durations ranging from less than one year to more than 25 years, the average rate of decrease per year is unclear, but appears to be modest.

If a neuter/return project achieves sterilization of all female cats in a colony within a single breeding cycle, the kitten birth rate can drop to zero, and in the 1991-1992 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** project, which emphasized quick and total capture of all cats, usually did. But most neuter/return projects do not succeed in rapidly sterilizing every female cat in a colony. Fertile females also often immigrate into sterilized colonies, refilling habitat niches

Cat/dog shelter killing balance

NORTHEAST	28,278	15,907	64/36
MIDATLANTIC	93,268	27,859	77/23
S. ATLANTIC	391,209	271,857	59/41
APPALACHIA	83,232	119,773	41/59
GULF COAST	203,009	394,077	34/66
MIDWEST	246,791	340,807	42/58
WEST	102,309	68,206	60/40
PACIFIC	360,534	230,505	61/39
TOTAL	1,508,630	1,468,991	51/49

opened by attrition through mortality and removal of cats to be socialized for adoption.

Alley Cat Rescue found that 4% of the cats known to respondents in 2012 were under one year old, down by two-thirds from the 1992 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** finding. Alley Cat Rescue respondents reported that 79% of the cats in their colonies were mature adults under age 10, compared with 80% in the 1995 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** survey. The Alley Cat Rescue survey found that number of feral cats living to age 10 or longer is approximately equal to the reduction in kitten births.

The 2012 Alley Cat Rescue survey found that 55% of the reported colonies have fewer than 10 cats, while 34% have between 10 and 20 cats, and 11% are larger. The 1992 and 1995 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** surveys found fewer colonies with less than 10 cats, and only half as many with more than 20.

The 1992 and 1995 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** surveys found that of known feral cat mortality, 25% died from disease, 28% were roadkilled, 33% were victims of predation or violent abuse, and 14% were killed by animal shelters. The 2012 Alley Cat Rescue survey found that 30% of known feral cat mortality was due to disease and other “natural causes,” 22% were roadkilled, 23% were victims of predation or violent abuse, and 25% were killed by animal shelters.

“Sadly 36% [of respondents] said animal control agencies had trapped and killed whole colonies in their areas. As expected, 28% said cats moved back into the areas where they were all trapped and killed, most within two to three months,” said Alley Cat Rescue in a prepared statement.

Alley Cat Rescue reported that 96% of the surveyed projects provide rabies vaccinations to feral cats; 64% provide distemper vaccination; 12% provide feline leukemia vaccination; 62% deworm feral cats; and 64% provide flea treatment.

Lost & found pet recovery rate is unchanged in 20 years

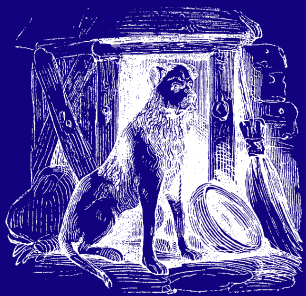
NEW YORK CITY—Americans are keeping 60% more cats and dogs than 20 years ago, but those cats and dogs are still lost and found at about the same rate—a finding which suggests that the advent of microchip identification has not appreciably increased the rate of recovery of lost pets. Rather, microchip identification might merely have augmented or supplanted the use of more traditional identification methods such as collars, dogtags, and tattoos among the pets of people who have always tried to identify their pets.

The comparative data on pet loss and recovery comes from an American SPCA random digit dial survey of more than 1,000 pet keepers, completed in early 2012 under supervision of ASPCA vice president of shelter research and development Emily Weiss, and a direct mail survey of 1,200 pet keepers conducted in 1991-1992 by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton, who was then news edi-

tor of the defunct *Animals' Agenda* magazine.

The Weiss survey found that 15% of pet keepers had lost a dog or a cat in the past five years, but that 85% of the lost dogs and cats were recovered. The data projects that 3.6% of lost pets were never accounted for, alive or dead. The Clifton survey found that 3.9% of lost pets were never accounted for, alive or dead. Both surveys found that cats were slightly more likely to disappear.

The Weiss survey found that 49% of dog keepers found their dog by searching the neighborhood, while 15% of the dogs were recovered because they had either an identification tag or a micro-chip. Lost cats returned home on their own 59% of the time. Thirty percent of lost cats were found by searching the neighborhood. Just 6% of lost dogs and 2% of lost cats were recovered from animal shelters. The Clifton survey did not ask about lost pet recovery methods.



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.

California attorney general investigates transitions at In Defense of Animals

SAN RAFAEL, California—Enduring a rocky transition from the leadership of founder Elliot M. Katz, DVM, In Defense of Animals has a new chief executive for at least the fourth time in three years.

“IDA has hired Joe Haptas,” board president Marilyn Kroplick, M.D. told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on July 6, 2012, confirming weeks of rumors. Kroplick, a Southern California child and geriatric psychiatrist, has headed the IDA board since late 2011.

Haptas, 44, has been involved both in animal advocacy and nonprofit management for most of his life.

“I’m a long time animal advocate, having worked a couple stints with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals,” Haptas posted to introduce his blog *Epicurean Vegetarian Reflections*, online since 2007, “along with previously being the director of both the Northwest Animal Right Network and the Margaret Kyros Foundation of Seattle. I’m also a co-founder of the Humane Research Council,” a Seattle-based organization formed in 2000 by longtime local activist Che Green.

“My last position,” Haptas continued, “was as director of outreach at the Marijuana Policy Project, where my work focused on lobbying doctors, legislators, and organizations to take more affirmative stands on medical marijuana. I am currently plotting the next step to world conquest,” Haptas jocularly concluded.

Katz, 78, who started In Defense of Animals in 1983, retired from active day-to-day management in 2009, but has remained involved in the organization as director emeritus. Former International Fund for Animal Welfare disaster relief coordinator Anand Ramanathan succeeded Katz as executive director, but lasted just a year. His successor, Scotlund Haisley, who had previously held leadership positions with Washington Animal

Rescue League, Peninsula Humane Society, New York City Center for Animal Care & Control, and PETA, lasted less than four months. Haisley went on to found an organization called Animal Rescue Corps.

The first two years of the post-Katz transition at IDA also saw the exits of senior staff members Suzanne Roy, now campaign director for the American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign, and Matt Rosell, now communications director for Animal Defenders International. In addition, Los Angeles animal rights attorney Terri Macellaro left the IDA board.

An extensive complaint sent to California attorney general Kamala D. Harris by former IDA board member Lori Hyland alleges that the next IDA executive director was to be 30-year animal welfare worker Neil Trent, chosen by the board in April 2011. Beginning as an inspector for Royal SPCA of Britain, Trent subsequently served with the World Society for the Protection of Animals, Humane Society International, the Marin County Humane Society in California, and the Longmont Humane Society in Colorado. Trent now heads the Animal Welfare League in Arlington, Virginia.

According to Hyland’s complaint, hiring Trent was repeatedly delayed and eventually scuttled by opposition from Katz and another now former board member, Michael Bailey. The interim executive director during this time was staff member Louise Franklin, but Hyland contends that Bailey assumed a senior management role despite allegations of sexual harassment brought against him by members of the IDA staff. The Hyland complaint includes a letter from one staff member asking the IDA board to act in response to her claim that she was sexually harassed, preliminary to the possibility of her filing a lawsuit.

The Hyland complaint also includes

a December 6, 2011 letter to the IDA board from Los Angeles attorney Craig Marcus, representing Hyland and another former IDA board member, Cliff Nichols, which demands that Hyland and Nichols be reinstated to the board, after they were voted off in November 2011. “IDA has an affirmative legal obligation to thoroughly investigate these allegations [of sexual harassment] and take all appropriate remedial action,” Marcus reminded. “Failure to do so exposes IDA to considerable potential liability. Prior to their wrongful termination, Mrs. Hyland and Mr. Nichols repeatedly urged IDA and the remaining directors to undertake this necessary investigation,” Marcus wrote.

The last pages of Hyland’s complaint include an e-mail from Kroplick to Bailey dated January 22, 2012, thanking Bailey for his services apparently by way of termination; an IDA board resolution dated January 23, 2012, removing Bailey from the board for a list of alleged inappropriate conduct, including reimbursement of legal costs in connection with the sexual harassment claims; and an e-mail from Kroplick to Hyland dated January 24, 2012, mentioning that the IDA employee who wrote to the board about Bailey was still working for IDA and “doing very well” with new responsibilities.

Removing Bailey from the board left Kroplick as temporarily the only IDA board member. Also on January 23, 2012 Kroplick, acting as the IDA board, dismissed three female employees due to “concern and a collection of evidence that lead the remaining board member to believe that there has been a misappropriation of funds of the nonprofit company.”

There were no other board members at the time because Virginia psychiatrist Murry Cohen, M.D., was voted off the board soon after Hyland and Nichols, days after Cohen brought to the notice of the board—at request

of a senior staff member—that IDA was mailing fundraising appeals for at least two campaigns that no longer existed, based on information that was more than 10 years old. “Now I have three jobs: psychiatrist, president of the IDA board, and shadow IDA executive director,” Cohen e-mailed to the other board members. “This is an emergency. Unless corrected, it could mean the end of IDA.”

Acting in response to the Hyland complaint, representatives of the California attorney general’s office visited the IDA offices on June 13, 2012 to collect relevant documents. “Attorney general’s office staff notified us by mail a couple of weeks ago that they wanted to inspect IDA’s records, campaign materials, etcetra,” Katz told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “The information needed to be available to them at our San Rafael office. They spent time in our office examining the records and documents they had requested. That is about it to date. I have stepped down from the presidency of IDA, as well as from the IDA board,” Katz added. “Since the attorney general’s investigation is a board matter, it was decided that I not be the point person for questions or concerns involving the attorney general’s investigation.”

Katz referred further questions to Kroplick, who declined to comment.

Much of the Hyland complaint pertains to financial issues, including investments in mortgages that allegedly led to significant losses. The two most recent IDA filings of IRS Form 990 show a combined total of \$364,472 in “bad debt expense,” declared as a program expense. But while the \$2.7 million that IDA raised in 2010 was less than in any year since 2002, coinciding with an operating loss of \$836,094, IDA raised \$4.3 million in 2011—a new high, topping the previous high of \$3.9 million raised in 2007.

—Merritt Clifton

Ringling wins right to proceed in racketeering case vs. ASPCA, AWI, HSUS, and Born Free USA

WASHINGTON D.C.—Rejecting motions seeking dismissal, U.S. District Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on July 9, 2012 issued a highly technical 87-page ruling that Feld Entertainment Inc., owner of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus, may pursue a lawsuit under the federal Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Organizations Act against the American SPCA, the Animal Welfare Institute, the Fund for Animals, the Humane Society of the U.S., and the Animal Protection Institute.

HSUS absorbed the Fund for Animals in 2005, and Born Free USA absorbed the Animal Protection Institute in 2007, while the original case giving rise to the RICO lawsuit was underway.

Summarized Sullivan, “This case arises out of a prior long-running litigation over whether Feld Entertainment Inc. violated the Endangered Species Act by its use of Asian elephants. That litigation was brought by [the defendant animal charities] and one individual plaintiff, Thomas Rider, who had worked with several of FEI’s elephants,” as a former Ringling employee, and was the star witness for the co-plaintiffs.

“After nine years of litigation and a six week non-jury trial,” Sullivan wrote, “the court concluded that Rider failed to prove that he had standing” to bring the case, and “found that

Rider was not credible with respect to his asserted emotional and aesthetic injuries that formed the basis for his claim to standing. The court further found that Rider was essentially a paid plaintiff and fact witness whose sole source of income throughout the litigation was provided by the animal advocacy organizations which had been his co-plaintiffs.”

Sullivan dismissed the original case on the last day of 2009. It was Sullivan’s seventh ruling in a major Endangered Species Act case since 2002, and was the first to go against plaintiff advocacy groups. Sullivan had previously ruled against speedboaters on behalf of Florida manatees, against snowmobilers on behalf of wildlife in Yellowstone National Park, and against the U.S. Navy on behalf of wildlife on Farallon de Medinilla, a remote Pacific island long used for bombing practice.

Feld filed the RICO case on February 16, 2010, alleging “abuse of process, malicious prosecution, conspiracy,” and other offenses, committed “in order to bring a philosophical debate into federal court to advance a radical ‘animal rights’ agenda and in order to garner publicity and raise money to support their various activities.”

Sullivan directed the defendants to file

their responses to the Feld RICO case by August 7, 2012.

“The judge did dismiss a few pieces of the circus’s case,” noted syndicated legal reporter Zoe Tillman. “Sullivan found that Feld Entertainment lacked standing to bring racketeering claims surrounding the animal rights groups’ legislative and ‘administrative advocacy’ activities. He also dismissed claims of direct liability under the federal racketeering law against two of the lawyers involved in the original litigation. Sullivan dismissed the claim for champerty, whereby someone agrees to support a lawsuit in exchange for a percentage of any money recovered. Sullivan found that the animal rights groups’ lawsuit was a claim for injunctive, not monetary, relief, and also that there was no evidence that a champerty claim could even be brought in Washington.”

Feld on February 10, 2012 filed a separate but similar motion seeking recovery of costs in connection with the original case. Not part of the July 9, 2012 ruling, this motion also remains before the U.S. District Court for the D.C. Circuit.

Rhode Island to give animals legal representation in cruelty & neglect cases

PROVIDENCE—Rhode Island Governor Lincoln Chafee on June 15, 2012 endorsed into law a bill that allows the director of the state Department of Environmental Management to designate a department veterinarian or a representative of the Rhode Island SPCA to act as an advocate for the animal victims in abuse and neglect cases. The advocate would be assigned to make recommendations on behalf of animal victims to any court in Rhode Island before which the custody or well-being of an animal is at issue. Introduced by state senator John J. Tassoni Jr. and state representative Peter John Petrarca, the new Rhode Island law is believed to be among the first of its kind in the world. Swiss voters in March 2007 rejected by a margin of more than 2-to-1 a ballot question seeking to establish a similar system.

Governor Chafee on June 21 signed into law a bill banning the use of veal crates and restricting the use of gestation stalls for pigs. Nine other states have similar legislation.

Bat World Sanctuary wins \$6.1 million libel judgment

FORT WORTH—Bat World Sanctuary, and Bat World founder and president Amanda Lollar of Mineral Wells, Texas, were on June 14, 2012 awarded \$6.1 million in damages by Tarrant County district Judge William Brigham, who found after a four-day trial that Los Angeles activist Mary Cummins had committed “intentional, malicious, and egregious” defamation against Lollar and had breached an internship contract she signed in 2010 with Bat World. The award was the highest known to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in a defamation case involving animal advocates.

Summarized Bat World in a prepared statement, “Mary Cummins was accepted for an internship at Bat World,” but “became dissatisfied with the program and left the internship early.” Cummins then posted what Bat World termed “horrific allegations of animal cruelty against Lollar on the Internet.” Cummins also filed complaints against Bat World with at least eight government agencies. “Every agency that investigated Bat World Sanctuary found Cummins’ complaints to be completely without merit,” said the Bat World statement.

Judge William Brigham ordered Cummins to pay \$3.0 million in compensatory damages and \$3.0

million in punitive damages, plus \$10,000 for the alleged breach of her contract with Bat World and \$176,700 in attorney’s fees.

Cummins stated in a prepared statement of response that she is contesting the verdict, requesting a new trial and appealing the decision, and pursuing a crossfiled libel and defamation complaint against Lollar and Bat World in Federal court in California. Lollar was represented in the case by Randy Turner of Fort Worth. Cummins represented herself, after attorney Neal Callaway withdrew from the case.

“Cummins has been involved in over 20 lawsuits and has been sued four times for defamation,” said the Bat World statement. Particulars of several previous cases are posted on Cummins’ web site. A lawsuit brought by Cummins against the Los Angeles Department of Animal Regulation was instrumental in the April 2009 resignation of then-general manager Ed Boks, the fourth person to head the department in seven years. Boks, who previously headed the Maricopa County Animal Control department in Phoenix and the New York City Center for Animal Care & Control, has since June 2010 headed the Yavapai Humane Society in Prescott, Arizona.

The 2011 ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on 174 Animal Charities

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will be published circa September 1, 2012.**

Eight years after passage, California *foie gras* ban takes effect *(from page 1)*

at Cafe Mimosa. He made *foie gras* the centerpiece of all six dinner dishes. It also was the dessert: foie gras wrapped in cotton candy on a stick.”

The message appeared to be partially directed at celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck, who in February 2012 asked other California chefs to respect the *foie gras* ban. “We chefs have the ability to create delicious and original dishes our customers will love without causing torment to animals,” wrote Puck, who has long used only eggs from free-range hens, and only pork from pigs raised without the use of gestation stalls.

“Some of those responsible for enforcing the California law have little interest in pursuing chefs who, say, offer *foie gras* free, perhaps in conjunction with pricey pieces of toast,” wrote Alison Vekshin for *Bloomberg News*,

“This is not a crime that would be investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department or likely any other municipal police department,” LAPD spokesperson Karen Rayner told Vekshin. San Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control deputy director Kathleen Brown “said her agency won’t issue citations to chefs who give away *foie gras* as a sample or as a bonus to a dish, or who prepare the meat brought in by customers who buy it outside California,” Vekshin wrote.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transexual Compassion founder Andrew Zollman asked fellow activists to demand that

San Francisco Animal Care and Control “honor the oaths they took as police officers to uphold our laws, and protect these horrifically abused animals instead of the few people who desire to continue to engage in the abuse.”

“We’re going to come down like a hammer on any chef or restaurant that wants to continue serving this very cruel product,” pledged Animal Protection & Rescue League cofounder Bryan Pease, of San Diego. “We’ll use every legal means available to shut that place down, including lawsuits, protests and boycotts,” Pease said.

The Animal Protection & Rescue League on May 9, 2012 joined the Animal Legal Defense Fund, Farm Sanctuary, and Compassion Over Killing in suing the USDA for allegedly “violating the federal Poultry Products Inspection Act by allowing adulterated poultry—in the form of *foie gras*—to be sold to consumers. Under the Poultry Products Inspection Act,” the coplaintiffs explained, “the USDA is responsible for condemning all poultry products that come from diseased birds. *Foie gras* consists of the pathologically diseased livers of ducks who are force-fed massive amounts of grain, inducing the disease of hepatic lipidosis, which causes their livers to swell to ten times their normal size.”

About 100 California chefs on July 1, 2012 petitioned the California legislature to keep *foie gras* legal. But

they failed to find a lawmaker willing to sponsor a bill to overturn the 2004 law. “I’m not going to allow an issue like that to preoccupy the Legislature,” Senate president *pro tem* Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento) told media.

“They’re saying it’s going to hurt their business,” said former Assembly member John Burton, who introduced the *foie gras* ban in 2004, “but we can remember that they said if people couldn’t smoke in restaurants and bars, they would go out of business then, too. If they think this practice is not a problem,” Burton added, “then let them all sit at a table and let someone cram food down their throats. I’d like to sit all 100 of them down and have dry oatmeal shoved down their throats over and over and over again.”

Guillermo Gonzalez, 60, whose Sonoma Artisan Foie Gras was the only foie gras producer in California, told Stacy Finz, Paolo Lucchesi, and Janelle Bitker of the *San Francisco Chronicle* that he had trucked the last of his product to 16 customers in San Francisco and closed his business.

“For the last few years, I have been exploring several states,” Gonzalez told the *Chronicle*, “including Nevada obviously,” because operating a *foie gras* farm in a nearby part of Nevada would allow Gonzalez to continue living in the Sacramento area. “But it’s not that easy starting over again after 26 years,” Gonzalez said.

Farm Bill stall delays legislation on animal issues *(from page 1)*

state a clause which forbids the use of federal funding to inspect meat from slaughtered horses. Without USDA inspection, meat may not be sold for human consumption.

The anti-horse slaughter inspection clause was included in USDA appropriation bills from 2005 through 2010, but was removed in 2011 by a joint House/Senate conference committee. The clause allowed U.S. horse slaughterhouses to pay the estimated \$5 million per year cost of USDA inspection themselves. The last three horse slaughterhouses in the U.S. did briefly pay for USDA inspections before closing in 2007.

Moran pointed out that the Appropriations Committee had cut funding for the USDA meat inspection program to \$9 million less than was appropriated in 2012. Moran argued that allowing USDA funding to be used to inspect horsemeat would amount to subsidizing horsemeat exports, at the expense of ensuring that meat sold in the U.S. is uncontaminated by potentially deadly pathogens.

The Senate version of the Farm Bill did not include any new animal welfare measures. “Unfortunately, Senate leaders did not allow either of the major animal welfare amendments to get a vote,” said Humane Society Legislative Fund president Mike Markarian. These amendments were introduced by Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-Connecticut), to make taking a child to a dogfight or cockfight a federal crime, and by Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-California) to set federal standards for housing laying hens.

Hen cages

“I hope to work with my colleagues, on both sides of the issue, to have this legislation considered at a later date. The future of the industry is dependent on it,” Feinstein said afterward, “and I am confident that we will be able to get there.” Feinstein noted that her amendment was “endorsed by the American Veterinary Medical Association, the Association of Avian Veterinarians, the American Association of Avian Pathologists, the Center for Food Safety, and the Center for Science in the Public Interest,” exempted producers who keep fewer than 3,000 hens, and over the 18-year proposed phase-in time would add only 1% to the price of eggs.

The Feinstein amendment, proposed on May 24, 2012, was an attempt to expedite passage of legislation introduced on January 23, 2012 by Representative Kurt Schrader. The Schrader bill, HR 3798, originated from an agreement reached in June 2011 between the Humane Society of the U.S. and United Egg Producers, a trade association representing the producers of about 88% of the 80 billion eggs sold in the U.S. each year.

Under the agreement, HSUS withdrew ballot initiative campaigns seeking laying hen standards in Washington and Oregon, in exchange for UEP collaboration in pursuit of a weaker federal standard which would govern the entire U.S. laying hen industry.

Structurally, HR 3798 would amend the Egg Products Inspection Act of 1970, last amended in 1998. Added would be requirements for egg labeling to accurately describe the conditions under which the eggs were produced, for “adequate environmental enrichments” in laying hen cages, and for a gradual phase-in of new space requirements of 124 square inches for white laying hens, and 144 square inches for brown laying hens, who are

somewhat larger.

To be fully implemented by 2029, the new space requirement would give each hen nearly twice as much room as now to move about, including the now precluded opportunity to stretch her wings.

The HSUS/UEP agreement was initially to be in effect for only one year, but now appears likely to be renewed until HR 3798 or a similar bill wins passage.

“Divide & conquer”

While the alliance of HSUS and UEP was surprising, after years of an adversarial relationship, “Opposition to the proposal also has brought together a surprising pairing—the Humane Farming Association and most of the nation’s leading beef and pork producers, who fear they will be the next target of legislation,” observed Associated Press farm writer Tracie Cone.

The “basic argument” for HR 3798, HFA executive director Brad Miller told Cone, is that “Since they can’t outlaw cages everywhere, let’s not outlaw them anywhere.”

A year of controversy over HR 3798 among animal advocates intensified on July 2, 2012 when GoVeganRadio.com host Bob Linden posted a petition at Change.org calling on the Farm Animal Reform Movement to disinvite HSUS factory farming campaign manager Paul Shapiro from the FARM-hosted AR 2012 conference, to be held August 2-5 in Washington D.C. Instead, Linden posted to Facebook on July 6, FARM founder Alex Hershaft disinvited Linden.

“A group called United Poultry Concerns also opposes this effort and others like it that could be seen as a partnership between activists and industry,” blogged Animal Agriculture Alliance communications director Sarah Hubbart on July 3, 2012. “So it seems that the vegan agenda is not quite as unified as it appears. Perhaps agriculture should take a page out of the activist’s play-book. How can we ‘divide and conquer’?”

Agribusiness is already pursuing a “divide and conquer” strategy against HR 3798, *Washington Post* writer Dan Eggen hinted on June 20, 2012. Unhappy with the deal between HSUS and UEP, Minnesota egg and pig producer Amon Baer formed Egg Farmers of America, represented by the same lobbying firm, the Russell Group of Arlington, “that represents the National Pork Producers Council, the International Dairy Foods Association, Hormel and many other large agribusiness interests, according to lobbying records,” Eggen wrote. “Baer’s group has paid Russell \$70,000 for lobbying since the fourth quarter of last year.”

But Russell lobbyist Tyson Redpath told Eggen that there is “absolutely no connection” between the Egg Farmers of America and Russell’s other agribusiness clients.

United Pork Producers Council spokesperson Dave Warner “said the council played no role in forming the egg farmers group,” Eggen added.

Feinstein denounced what she termed the “misconception that this [legislation] will set a precedent beyond egg producers, and impact other industries such as pork, beef or poultry” produced for slaughter.

“Regulations governing eggs date back 30 years and have had no effect on other industries to date,” Feinstein said. “For instance, the Food & Drug Administration has

on-farm enforcement authority for egg farms, but not for meat or poultry farms. This [legislation] will not change that. Furthermore,” Feinstein recalled, “the meat industry has insisted on preemption of state laws and emphasized the importance of national standards for decades. This legislation applies the same principle to the egg industry.”

Feinstein emphasized that better hen welfare should help the egg industry as well as the hens. “One survey from *Feedstuffs* magazine,” said Feinstein, “found that hen mortality in larger, enriched cages declined by 45% compared to conventional battery cages. The survey also found that the number and quality of eggs per hen improved, from an average of 399 eggs to 421 in enriched cages. The weight-per-case of eggs also increased, from 47.9 pounds to 49.4 pounds.”

European Union

Animal advocacy opposition to HR 3798 centers on whether the environmentally enriched colony cages that the bill prescribes really represent a significant advance for animal welfare. Comparisons are often made to experience in the European Union, where colony caging in lieu of battery caging has been required by law since January 1, 2012. But the cages required in the EU, though about half again larger than the battery cages they replace, provide about 20% less useable space per hen than HR 3798 would prescribe.

Despite a 12-year phase-in allowance since the EU law was adopted in 1999, compliance is spotty. The EU Commission on June 21, 2012 sent a “reasoned opinion” to ten member nations, putting them on notice that enforcement of sanctions for infringement of the battery cage ban may follow.

“The Commission welcomes the efforts made by the Member States which have complied with the rules,” the notice said. “However, full compliance by all Member States is essential to avoid market distortions and unfair competition.” The “reasoned opinion” followed the dispatch of inquiries about compliance sent on January 26, 2012 to Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, and Romania. All 13 nations were reported to be in violation of the battery cage ban. The “reasoned opinion” was not sent to Bulgaria, Latvia, and Romania, either because their egg producers are now in compliance or because they no longer sell eggs to other EU nations.

Lewis Panther of *The People* on May 27, 2012 questioned whether British egg producers are complying with the intent of the EU battery cage ban, even if they are technically in compliance. The EU regulations “say egg-producing hens must have room to perch, scratch, flap and nest,” Panther wrote, but “secretly filmed footage reveals [British hens] are battery-farmed in all but name.”

Said Hillside Animal Sanctuary founder Wendy Valentine, “It took years of campaigns by organizations like ours to get battery cages banned, but none of us imagined such a cruel system would be replaced by one that’s barely any better. Hens are still crammed into cages in huge windowless sheds where the only time they see the light of day is at the end of their productive life when they’re transported to the slaughterhouse.”

“The U.K. government has worked hard to push for barren battery cages to be

banned,” British agriculture minister Elliot Morley told Sean Poulter of the *Daily Mail* a week later, “but I am not convinced enriched cages have any real advantages over conventional barren cages. I want to hear people’s views on the subject to see if the U.K. should follow Germany and ban enriched cages too,” Morley said. Germany banned hen caging altogether in 2007. Morley announced that beak-trimming would be banned in Britain, a practice that producers consider essential if hens are to be caged in close quarters, whether in battery or colony cages.

“Concern about battery production has provoked a surge in sales of free-range eggs. Ten years ago, fewer than 5% of the 10 billion eggs we eat per year were free-range,” Poulter wrote, “but today the figure is 23%.”

Said Compassion In World Farming chief policy advisor Peter Stevenson, “The battery cage system is factory-farming at its worst. But ‘enriched’ cages offer no significant welfare improvement for hens.” Stevenson told Poulter that as many as 500,000 hens remained in old-style battery cages in Britain after the EU ban took effect. He suggested that possibly 46 million hens remain in battery cages elsewhere in Europe.

Paradoxically, CIWF chief executive Philip Lymbery on July 7, 2011 endorsed the HSUS/UEP agreement to seek legislation mandating colony caging in the U.S. that became HR 3798.

New Zealand

Debate parallel to the debate over HR 3798 has been underway in New Zealand for more than six years, beginning when a Parliamentary regulations review committee recommended in May 2006 that battery hen caging should be phased out.

In September 2007 the Wellington SPCA won a cruelty conviction against Trevor Soon Chin, director of the Wellington Egg Company, for violations of the New Zealand Animal Welfare Act, many of them associated with the living conditions in battery caging.

In October 2011 the New Zealand National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee proposed a ban on battery caging that would allow colony cages, with a phase-in time of 18 to 20 years, requested by the Egg Producers Federation. The proposed ban has not yet been legislatively enacted.

New Zealand SPCA chief executive Robyn Kippenberger told Radio New Zealand that she has seen EU-style colony cages in use in Germany, and “I couldn’t see there was any advantage to the birds.” The New Zealand SPCA, the Green Party of New Zealand, and the animal advocacy organization Save Animals From Experiments, formed in 1932 as the Auckland Branch of the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, argue for the complete prohibition of caged egg production.

Members of SAFE and the Coalition to End Factory Farming on June 25, 2012 blocked access to the Mainland Poultry complex in Waikouaiti, the largest caged egg production complex in New Zealand. “The action is being carried out to highlight the continued cruelty of cages,” SAFE campaign director Eliot Pryor told media, “and especially to stop the introduction of the proposed colony battery cage system. So-called enriched colony cages are not an acceptable alternative to the existing system, as the welfare benefits are so minimal,” Pryor said.

—Merritt Clifton

Bell Canada is not funding centennial Calgary Stampede rodeo (from page 1)

son Christy Thompson told Tetley, pointing out that several well-regarded equine rescue facilities operate in Alberta. “We are hoping to be able to work with them on this, instead of sending healthy horses to the slaughter-house,” Thompson said.

Among the more evident distinctions between rodeo and bullfighting, which share common origins, are that rodeo promoters pretend the animals they use are not often or deliberately injured.

But more than 16 years of undercover videography by the Chicago-based organization Showing Animals Respect & Kindness (SHARK) continues to expose that pretense. SHARK founder Steve Hindi first told ANIMAL PEOPLE in 1996 that members had never visited a rodeo where they failed to document unpunished abuses that were nominally against Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association rules. In July 2012, Hindi affirmed, this is still true.

Reno shocker

“SHARK exposed cruel electroshocking of horses at the 2011 Reno Rodeo, in Nevada,” Hindi blogged. “You might think that in 2012 they would have smartened up, but you’d be wrong. Again in 2012 a SHARK investigator filmed repeated shockings during every rodeo performance.”

Indeed, the frequency and intensity of the electroshocking appeared to have increased. The SHARK cameras at the Reno Rodeo in 2012, held June 14-23, showed not just one but two men appearing to shock many horses just as they left the holding chute—and none of the nine horses shown in more than 12 minutes of video posted to YouTube showed horses beginning to buck ahead of the apparent shocks. Each horse was videotaped for about 30 seconds before being released from a holding chute for bucking rides of up to eight seconds, if the rider remained mounted. After eight seconds, outriders restrain the performing horses and lead them from the arena.

One man stationed behind the holding chutes appeared to use a conventional electric cattle prod. The other appeared to have a larger device concealed in a glove with two finger tips missing, connected to a battery hidden under his shirt.

Shown the SHARK video, Reno Rodeo spokesperson Steve Schroeder

acknowledged to Reno Gazette-Journal writer Mark Robison that some of the bucking horses were shocked. “It is true, that guy is shocking horses, and we’re not okay with that,” Schroeder said of the more obvious of the two apparent shockers.

Schroeder told Robison that cowboys had been “messing with” the overhead cameras that were supposed to monitor the holding chute to ensure that horses were not abused, adding that the man who delivered the shocks worked “really hard to stay out of camera view.” The SHARK video, however, showed a videographer using what looked like a wide-angle lens, pointing the camera almost directly at the device concealed in the glove as it was applied to one of the horses.

Reported Robison, “Schroeder wouldn’t name the person [whom he admitted was shocking horses] but said, ‘He will no longer be invited to the Reno Rodeo and won’t be allowed on the grounds.’” Wrote Robison, “The shocker was identified as working for the livestock subcontractor Big Bend/Flying Five Rodeo Company. Schroeder expects that person and the subcontractor to be fined. The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association allows electric shocks, but the Reno Rodeo doesn’t want them, Schroeder said.”

Jerk-downs

SHARK also videotaped three instances of running calves being roped around their necks and flipping over backward. One injured calf was shown hobbling out of the arena, in view of spectators, but another appeared to suffer a broken neck. The contestant tied the calf’s legs anyway before outriders screened the calf from sight. Several cowboys then loaded the calf into a pickup truck, not especially gently.

The PRCA has repeatedly made a public point of announcing that “no jerk-down rules” have been introduced and will be enforced. The rodeo rules posted on the PRCA web site define a jerk-down as what happens “if a contestant jerks a calf over backwards in tie-down roping.”

But documented instances of a “no jerk-down rule” being enforced are few.

Both jerk-downs and electroshocking bucking animals have nominally been prohibited since 1959, seventeen years before “professional” was added to the name of the

Rodeo Cowboys Association, which was founded in 1936 as the Cowboys’ Turtle Association, and became the RCA in 1945. Recalled today as a reference to rodeo cowboys “sticking their necks out,” the word “turtle” may also refer to a then-common but now seldom-seen riding posture.

Under criticism for frequent injuries to animals, visible to viewers of the first televised rodeos, the RCA asked the American Humane Association to draft a set of humane rules for rodeo, and to enforce them by assigning inspectors to RCA-sanctioned rodeos, of which there were then fewer than two dozen per year. The AHA published the original 16 rules as a two-page spread in the July/August 1959 edition of their then-periodical The National Humane Review. Appended at the end was a qualifier that producing the rules in no way constituted an AHA endorsement of rodeo, and that the AHA could not endorse rodeo because rodeo is animal exploitation.

A 1967 summary of AHA enforcement efforts, by then-Peninsula Humane Society inspector George G. Hutto, asserted that cruelty at rodeos had been greatly reduced, but took note of several ongoing problems, and singled out the Cheyenne Frontier Days and Pendleton Roundup steer-tying and “wild horse races” for particular criticism. SHARK since 2007 has repeatedly documented similar alleged abuses at the Cheyenne Frontier Days and Pendleton Roundup rodeos.

Hutto died in 1985, at age 56. Several other humane officers inspected rodeos for the AHA before the AHA agreement with the RCA lapsed, apparently in 1971. The AHA in 1972 published a brochure explaining how to inspect rodeos, including the 1959 prefatory statement that the AHA could not approve of rodeo because it is animal exploitation. But the authority to enforce “humane rules” governing rodeo in the ensuing 40 years appears to have resided almost exclusively with the RCA/PRCA.

Horse-tripping

Most smaller rodeos are not PRCA-affiliated, and follow their own “humane rules,” if they have any.

In May 2012, at the non-PRCA Jordan Valley Big Loop Rodeo in southeastern Oregon, SHARK videotaped “horses crashing into the dirt, sometimes on their snouts and

heads,” recounted Richard Cockle of the Portland Oregonian, after the horses were felled by 100-foot ropes with 20-foot loops. Horse-tripping, also called horse-roping, is not a PRCA event, but is commonly practiced as part of charreada, or “Mexican-style” rodeo. But the Jordan Valley Big Loop Rodeo is not “Mexican-style,” either. It may have begun with Basque immigrants who also built a jai-alai fronton in downtown Jordan Valley in 1915. Recalled Cockle, “A bill to ban horse tripping in Oregon went nowhere last year after rodeo advocates convinced lawmakers that the practice doesn’t happen at the state’s big competitions. Critics also worried that the prohibition might lead people to go after calf and steer roping next.”

Like the Vancouver Humane Society, SHARK has had most success against rodeos with campaigns targeting sponsors. Ten motel chains, for instance, withdrew from sponsoring the National High School Finals Rodeo after SHARK targeted the parent company, Choice Hotels, in 2006-2007.

Most recently, SHARK spokesperson Stu Chaifetz recalled, “When SHARK discovered that GEICO insurance sponsored the PRCA and rodeos, we launched a major campaign against them, including launching a website and illustrations of what the GEICO gecko would look like if he was really at a rodeo. We are pleased to announce that GEICO is no longer listed as a rodeo sponsor on the PRCA website, and it appears that they are not supporting any rodeos this year.”

Animals Australia on June 28, 2012 announced a comparable success. “After receiving evidence from Animals Australia detailing the suffering and cruelty endured by animals at rodeo events, Kmart has announced it will end its sponsorship of the Mount Isa Rodeo, and will look at ensuring that no further activities like these are sponsored by the company,” Animals Australia e-mailed to ANIMAL PEOPLE.

“At the Mount Isa Rodeo,” Animals Australia said, “investigators have seen fireworks let off over the holding yards where horses were penned; calves being jerked backward and dragged by lassos around their necks; and traumatised horses rearing and scrambling in the chutes, desperately trying to escape, with others falling down in the chutes, having given up.” —Merritt Clifton

Bogotá bans arena bullfights, but participant bullfights continue in Colombian hinterlands

BOGOTA, Colombia—Bogotá mayor Gustavo Petro “has stated that he will end bullfighting after bullfight organizers Taurine Corporation refused to agree that animals would not be killed during the fights,” announced Animal Defenders International chief executive Jan Creamer on June 15, 2012.

“We are close to seeing an end to bullfighting in Bogotá, thanks to cultural and social change,” said ADI Colombian representative Eduardo Peña.

Added ADI spokesperson Matt Rossell, “It is envisaged that the Plaza La Santamaría, where bullfights are currently held, and the surrounding area will developed into a cultural hub.” The Petro adminis-

tration has already published a four-year plan for redeveloping Plaza La Santamaría.

Bogotá is the second major city in Colombia to abolish bullfighting. Zapatoca mayor Octavio Gutiérrez Rueda in January 2008 signed a declaration authored by Councillor Reynaldo Díaz Rueda proclaiming that both bullfighting and cockfighting are prohibited, and that the city bullring was henceforth to be used only for events “to celebrate life.” The declaration was issued a year after the last bullfight held in Zapatoca in January 2007.

Encouraged, Anael Virsan Chez Arias of San Antonio del Tequendama, Colombia, initiated an online petition asking Colombian

president Juan Manuel Santos to ban the notorious amateur public bullfights held in Sincelejo, the capital of Sucre province, and in surrounding villages. (The petition is posted at <www.change.org/petitions/salvemos-los-caballos-y-toros-masacrados-en-las-abominables-corralejas-no-son-cultura-son-tortura-y-muerte>.)

Recounted New York Times correspondent Simon Romero after witnessing a public bullfight in Sincelejo in January 2008, “Men arrived [at a medical station] with wounds out of a Hieronymus Bosch painting: intestines peeking out of a belly, bone protruding from a fractured shin, blood spurting from a gash in the buttocks. They were participants in the corraleja, a bullfighting ritual in northern Colombia pitting hundreds of amateur matadors, many in advanced stages of inebriation, against a 900-pound bull. Looked upon in other parts of Colombia as a bizarre and even grotesque spectacle, the corralejas are passionately defended by residents of the northern savannas. Dozens of towns hold such festivals. Deaths are not uncommon.”

At the six-day Sincelejo festival, Romero wrote, “Periodically, a bull was released into the crowd, a total of 40 bulls over the four hours” of the event each day. “The bulls were harassed by about two dozen horsemen carrying barbed sticks called banderillas, used to prod them into lunging madly into the throng. The bulls are not killed in the corralejas,” Romero said, “but if a bull is exhausted or, as often happens, tripped up by a rope held by the participants, the crowd swarms in, pelting him with rocks, kicking him, slapping him, spitting

on him, and pulling his tail. Observing this in the stands are cattlemen and others of the moneyed classes,” who toss money and liquor to the manteros.

The Sincelejo corralejas were suspended for more than 15 years, after the wooden bleachers collapsed in 1980, killing 222 spectators, but were revived by enthusiasts including attorney Inis Amador. “I recognize that one cannot avoid the comparison with the Roman Colosseum,” Amador told Romero.

Similar participant bullfights continue in other nations from Spain to India. Catalonia, the onetime hub of arena bullfighting in Spain, banned arena bullfights in 2010, but exempted participant events featuring toros embolados, who are released to race through the streets with flaming balls of wax or fireworks attached to or close to their horns. Such an event in the village of Navajas, population 730, ended in January 2012 when the bull fatally gored a 45-year-old man who had reportedly traveled from Alborai, 45 miles to the south, to take part.

The Madras High Court in January 2012 ruled that the Indian version of participant bullfighting, called jallikattu, is legal as a part of traditional Pongal harvest festivals. But the justices warned that they might change their minds, adding that “Pongal “is not a festival for human beings alone, but for four legged creatures as well. Hence sufficient care should be taken in conducting the event.”

New rules for jallikattu required, The Hindu reported, that “All bulls will be checked by veterinary officials. Certified bulls only will be allowed to take part. Administering steroids, applying

chilli powder, and smearing mud on the body of the animal is totally banned. Sharp horns of bulls should be covered with wooden shields. Only four persons will be allowed to overcome a bull. Special veterinary camps and general medical camps will be set up near the ground to treat injured animals and tamers.”

But the rules proved ineffective. ANIMAL PEOPLE received reports of at least three human deaths during jallikattu events during January 2012. Nor were the jal - likattu events held only in connection with Pongal. Forty-nine humans and an unknown number of bulls were injured on February 15, 2012 at Pugaiyilaipatti village, Tamil Nadu, during the St. Sebastiar Church festival.

Who is helping to fight bullfighters?

Why are none of the major international animal advocacy organizations currently campaigning against bullfighting?

This should be priority #1. Bullfighting is nothing more than a traditional spectacle of sadism. It keeps the floor of animal welfare at a low level. For example, how can one criticize brutal treatment of animals in slaughterhouses when bulls are allowed to be tortured to death in public? There is no place on earth where people have not seen pictures of bleeding bulls and “brave” matadors and cheering crowds, and such representations have a desensitizing effect on children everywhere. Bullfighters have tried to stage bullfights in such places as China, where there is no tradition of it, trying to whet the appetite for sadistic spectacles.

It used to be that Mexican

bullrings close to the U.S. border were only kept open by American tourists—usually going for just the first and only time, but this was enough to keep the corrida alive. Now there are fewer American tourists, so the fight to ban the corrida has a chance in Mexico City. This should be a campaign focus.

Bullfighting and corrida variants combine into a massive global issue spanning three continents with desensitizing effects on all continents. Addressing these events requires international awareness, coordination, and funding. These traditions will not just fade away when old aficionados die, because young people are constantly being initiated into the sadism.

Why is it left to underfunded organizations in Spain and Latin America to fight the corrida?

—Kim Bartlett, president ANIMAL PEOPLE

35 DOGS HAVE BEEN RESCUED & REHABBED FROM VICK'S FORMER HOUSE. KINDA FUN, EH?

Raith spent every moment in a basement until rescued by DDB

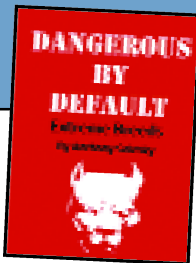


HELP US BUILD THE GOOD NEWZ REHAB CENTER FOR CHAINED AND PENNED DOGS

DogsDeserveBetter.org 1915 Moonlight Rd., Smithfield, VA 23430

Dangerous By Default: *Extreme Breeds* by Anthony Solesky

109 pages. Free download from: www.dogsbite.org/pdf/dangerous-by-default-by-anthony-solesky.pdf



Ruling in Tracey v. Solesky, the Maryland Court of Appeals on April 26, 2012 held that knowing a dog is a pit bull or pit bull cross is sufficient to establish landlord liability if a dog escapes from leased premises.

The court found, in effect, that the risk presented to the public by inadequately confined pit bulls is so extreme and so self-evident that a landlord should not rent to people who keep pit bulls if the premises cannot securely hold them.

The verdict was denounced by representatives of many leading animal advocacy organizations, partly because it might lead to the eviction of pit bulls from housing that does not meet the court's implied requirements for safe containment, including that the property must be fenced. The verdict also implies that to avoid potential liability in the event an adopted pitbull attacks someone, rescue agencies must ensure that the pit bulls are going to homes where they will not present foreseeable risk to the adopters' neighbors and their pets.

At least four legislators pledged to push bills to overturn the ruling, which introduced to Maryland a breed-limited version of the strict liability standard for dog attacks that already exists for keepers of all dogs in 35 other states.

As father of pit bull attack victim Dominic Solesky, *Dangerous By Default* author Tony Solesky—nobody really calls him Anthony—was star witness at an ensuing legislative hearing. Tony Solesky summarized the facts of the case. He also testified about how much of the humane community, hell-bent on saving dogs at any cost, is increasingly alienating the substantial part of the public—about two-thirds, according to most polls—who believe their right to safety supersedes anyone's right to keep a dog who may be inclined and able to dismember children, cats, horses, livestock, and other dogs.

Dangerous By Default articulates Solesky's experience and arguments in depth. As of April 28, 2007, he was a fairly ordinary "football father," who attended his sons' games and was restoring a used boat. The seizure of 66 pit bulls three days earlier from football star Michael Vick's premises in Surry County, Virginia, was still in the headlines. Dominic Solesky and three friends started a game of Nerf tag in their yards and the shared alley that linked them, unaware of two pit bulls who had been left in a portable pen across the alley.

First a pit bull leaped out of the pen to blindside and maul a 9-year-old boy named Scotty. "Fortunately, the dog owner saw the attack through his back door and came out and got the dog off of Scotty," Tony Solesky writes. "He put the dog back in the same enclosure with a female pit bull who had not attempted to escape. He took Scotty into his house, and threatened Scotty not to tell because he said they [law enforcement] could take his dogs away. He told Scotty to tell his parents he fell off a bike. He gave Scotty water and a sponge to wipe the blood away and then he led Scotty out of the front door of his house," not back to the alley and his friends, but to a busy traffic artery without a sidewalk.

"Panicked, Scotty made his way up that side of the street and home to his mother. He never was able to see or warn the other boys who were coming down the alley to his rescue," Solesky continues. The same dog then jumped back out of the pen to maul Dominic. Three of the boys' mothers heard the ensuing screaming and came to Dominic's aid, while the pit bull keeper fled with his dogs.

Dominic suffered "a bite to the face just missing his left eye that had torn away and left his cheek and the tip of his nose hanging," Tony Solesky recalls. "He had claw marks and puncture wounds, bites to the arms, chest and back. The flesh had been torn away from his upper left thigh and a life threatening tear to his femoral artery. He had various other scrapes, road rash, bruises, and contusions." Dominic Solesky spent 17 days in intensive care. He returned eventually to school and football, but some of the effects of his injuries are permanent.

Tony Solesky began to feel betrayed when the Baltimore public health director, whose department supervises animal control, responded to the attack with a statement that he was concerned that discussing breed-specific legislation might "unfairly stereotype certain breeds of dogs and breed owners."

"That is like saying you have concern about researching a helmet law for motorcyclists because a helmet law may unfairly stereotype certain types of vehicles and vehicle owners," writes Solesky. "It is obvious by this incident that some dogs cross the line of suitability as domestic pets. Any breed of

dog that is capable of exacting extreme harm while on the loose is an excessive pet and a dangerous breed.

"It is true that we would all be safer in our cars if drivers also wore helmets," Solesky continues, but points out that "a line of acceptable risk is established by the suitability of the passenger car to the task of transportation. A motorcycle exposes riders to extreme accident characteristics that do not exist with an automobile. Because accidents are part of the nature of transportation, a helmet must be worn by motorcyclists."

Solesky hopes to establish a similar standard for keeping dogs, regardless of temperament assessments or training. "Those are, as with driver education, the bare minimum standards demanded by common sense for any pet or breed brought into a community," Solesky argues. "Temperament and training do not eliminate the severity of an attack. They bring the bite potential for all breeds down to the acceptable risk level in a suitable pet.

"The majority of dog owners," Solesky holds, "are good dog owners primarily by choosing innocuous, more suitable breeds as pets. It is not by education or training," he believes, "but by default that most people are good pet owners. I come from a background and time, unfortunately, where most people were much worse dog owners but at the same time tended to own much more innocuous breeds. I don't know that I knew many kids, including my wife and myself, who hadn't been bitten by a dog. It was like falling off your bike, breaking a window, or denting a car playing street ball, even ending up in a scuffle. My wife fully expected to go down the alley and find a child crying while being consoled by an apologetic dog owner. Instead, she and other neighbors rushed headlong into what could have been a life-threatening situation for them as well...The common thread that all sides agree upon is that any dog can bite. From there we have the responsibility to determine when that common thread of reality crosses the line of acceptable risk."

Solesky acknowledges that the attacks on Dominic and Scotty involved multiple non-breed-specific risk factors. "Most dog attacks occur during spring and summer," Solesky recites. "Children between six and 14 years of age are the most likely to be attacked; the boys were 9 and 10. Boys are attacked more than girls. The attacking dog is more likely to be male. There is a higher likelihood of attack if the male has not been neutered; this dog was not neutered. It is more likely for

a male to attack if an unaltered female is in his company. The female was not spayed. There is an even higher likelihood of attack if the female has puppies. She did. Attack probability can be higher if the animal is not properly contained and can escape; the pen was only four-and-a-half feet high. In addition, the yard was not fenced. There is a higher likelihood of attack if the dog has not been shown signs of aggression. Neighbors at that end of the alley had already called animal control about these dogs." Notwithstanding all of those factors, Solesky points out that comparing what the average dog might do to what the attacking pit bull did is "the equivalent of comparing non-venomous and venomous snake bites."

Continues Solesky, "In my experience, dangerous breeds are every bit and completely as warm, loving, loyal, and affectionate as any other breed. My sister's bully Roxy and my neighbor's bully Sage, are two examples. My Brittany has jumped up and put more scratches on visitors than what these two dogs combined have done to fleas. Pit bulls and other dangerous breed mixes are, without doubt, as nice as any well raised, trained, cared for, and properly socialized dog. It is bite potential which alone establishes their questionable suitability." Solesky warns against "confusing their propensity to attack with the intensity of their attack."

Solesky, a onetime hunter who long ago gave up hunting in favor of golf, recognizes "the dilemma of the advocacy, defender, and rescue position. The strain to find homes and place rescued dogs is overwhelming. Further," he acknowledges, "if these dogs could only be placed in homes and environments that were mandated to meet the common sense safety recommendations of specific breed restrictions," as the Tracey v. Solesky verdict implies, "rescue groups would be drowned in a sea of dogs."

But Solesky rejects the position of "rescue extremists [who] have decided that, given the choice between not placing or placing a dog, [any violation of] covenants, codes, you, your family, and community safety is an acceptable risk.

"I have always loved and admired dogs," Solesky concludes. "They seem so eager and aspire to please... Paradoxically, many people are only too eager to have their pets treated as human citizens, while treating their fellow citizens like dogs."

—Merritt Clifton

MEMORIALS

In memory of Simon, 1998-2012. Born a street puppy in Taipei, Taiwan, Simon at age two months was hit by a taxi and suffered crushed hips. He was rushed to the nearby Yang-Ming Veterinary Hospital by the occupants of the cab. The Yang-Ming veterinarian told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in 2010 that Simon stood out for having an exceptional will to live and an apparent understanding that painful procedures were meant to help him. The veterinarian notified Mina Sharpe, founder of the now defunct Taipei Abandoned Animal Rescue Foundation, who arranged for Simon to be adopted by **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. After a 19-hour flight to Seattle, and repeated orthopedic surgeries, Simon became a calm presence in the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** headquarters. A cheerful ambassador for all street dogs, Simon ascended eventually to the status of top dog among the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** pack, despite restricted mobility and an unaggressive, unassuming nature. Subject of the September 1998 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial, Simon was model for many Wolf Clifton drawings used in **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.



Simon



In memory of Valerie Traina's Ricochet.
—Patrice Greanville



Shiloh

In memory of Shiloh: a gentle and loving pitbull mix. She was just six-years-old when she died. She had a perpetual smile on her face for anyone who was kind. She loved the winter, and would jump for snowflakes to catch them in her mouth. She brought joy to all the neighbors who would come to visit. Sadly, her death came far too soon. At least she can never be hurt again. Sleep well, beautiful girl.
—Lindy & Marvin

To Kim and Wolf, for their brave and beautiful Simon: Robinson Jeffers wrote, "You were never masters, but friends. I was your friend. I loved you well and was loved. Deep love endures to the end and far past the end. If this is my end, I am not lonely. I am not afraid. I am still yours." There are no words that could better describe the precious bond Simon had with you. He was the epitome of beauty, wisdom, courage, and loyalty. He will always be yours.
—Lindy & Marvin

In memory of Simon. In honor of his valiant and loving soul.
—Sylvia & Herb Forsmith

In memory of Hope.
—Nancy Campbell

In memory of dog Q-1, who went to Animal Heaven on 7/18/2006. I miss him so much. He was very special, and now Q-2 is also special.
—Hilde Wilson

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

Cattle gifts put habitat, humans, and animals at risk in southern India

KOCHI, Kerala, India—A livestock gift scheme meant to increase the incomes of 30 families living within the nominally protected Vazhachal Forest, within the Parambikulam Tiger Reserve buffer zone, is putting the forest, the families, and the donated cattle at risk, Wildlife Division of the Kerala Forest Research Institute chief E.A. Jayson told K.S. Sudhi of *The Hindu* in May 2012. "Though the tribal people are supposed to stall-feed the cattle, and pasturing cattle inside the forest reserve is banned under the Kerala Forest Act, the cattle are often let free to feed in the forest," wrote Sudhi.

Warned Jayson, "The presence of cattle can attract predators such as tigers, leopards, and wild dogs." Leopards have already taken some of the cattle, reported Sudhi, "though no instances of them attacking humans have occurred."

The cattle distribution is conducted by the Kerala State Tribal Development Department. Sudhi did not identify the charity donating the cattle. Commented former Indian minister for social welfare and animal protection Maneka Gandhi in 2006, "Charities woo the ethical shopper with promises of helping the poor in developing countries [but] it is madness to send goats, cows and chickens to areas where they will add to the problems of drought and desertification."

Chimps injure anthropology student at Jane Goodall Institute Chimpanzee Eden

JOHANNESBURG—U.S. anthropology student Andrew Oberle, 26, lost an ear, several fingers and toes and a testicle on June 28, 2012 after entering a restricted enclosure at Jane Goodall Institute Chimpanzee Eden, apparently to pick up a rock that he believed two chimps named Nikki and Amadeus might hurl at a group of about a dozen visitors. Placed in a medically induced coma due to blood loss, Oberle underwent six hours of surgery five days after the attack.

Eugene Cussons, manager of Chimpanzee Eden and a host of the Animal Planet program *Escape to Chimp Eden*, told media that Oberle went behind the first of two security fences, which he was not trained to

do, and that the chimps then reached under the second fence to grab his foot. The ensuing struggle damaged the fence, enabling the two chimps to escape and drag Oberle about 100 feet. Responding to an emergency call, Cussons and employee Phillip Cronje drove to the scene. Cussons left the car and fired two warning shots, but returned to the car when Nikki charged. When Nikki began trying to smash the windshield, Cussons shot him in the abdomen, then ran after him, pointing the gun at him, to ensure his retreat.

Cussons and Cronje stabilized Oberle's condition until paramedics arrived. Nikki was later taken to the Johannesburg Zoo for treatment. Amadeus was kept in a locked

enclosure with members of his family.

Chimpanzee Eden "currently keeps 33 chimps, which do not naturally occur in South Africa, in three large camps," wrote Johannes Myburgh of Agence France-Presse. "Seven were in the third camp for worst abused chimpanzees, where the attack happened. Amadeus was rescued from Angola when he was three. His parents were killed in the bush meat trade. Nikki came all the way from Liberia on the other side of the continent when he was four. He had been kept as a pet."

Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency conservation official Dries Pienaar told media that he found no negligence by Chimpanzee Eden, and said that Nikki and Amadeus had only defended their territory.

Oberle, a master's degree candidate at the University of Texas at San Antonio, was described as "a wonderful volunteer" by the San Antonio sanctuary Primarily Primates. He was reportedly on his second extended visit to Chimpanzee Eden. He had also done primate research at the St. Louis Zoo.

Oberle was attacked only two days after an adult male chimp killed a three-month-old baby chimp in front of her mother and visitors at the Los Angeles Zoo. The zoo claimed in a prepared statement that the baby chimpanzee had been gradually introduced to the other chimps in the habitat without any indica-

tions of problems, but Victoria Pipkin-Lane, executive director of the Los Angeles County Quality and Productivity Commission, wrote to Los Angeles mayor Antonio Villaraigosa that she saw a fight between two chimps three days earlier, one of whom appeared to be protecting the infant and her mother.

Goodall Institute facilities have been involved in previous chimp attacks. *Outside* magazine writer Elizabeth Royte and Gombe Stream National Park director of chimp research Shadrack Kamenya, writing for *Pan Africa News*, in late 2002 described a May 2002 incident in which a chimp named Frodo accosted the wife and 16-year-old niece of Gombe park attendant Moshi Sadique. The niece was carrying Sadique's 14-month-old daughter. Frodo tore the child away, beat her to death against a tree, disemboweled her, and was eating her brain by the time guards arrived. Similar incidents reportedly occurred at Gombe in 1984, 1987, and in the 1950s.

In 2003 two Goodall Institute chimps escaped from quarantine at the Entebbe Airport in Uganda. One of them "bit off the fingers and toes of his keeper," according to Gerald Tenywa of the *New Vision* newspaper in Kampala. At large for 12 days, the chimps were eventually shot by a posse of Uganda Wildlife Authority rangers, police, and private security guards.

OBITUARIES

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

Susan Davila, 58, former manager of the Wyoming County SPCA in Attica, New York, was found dead at her home in Attica on July 8, 2012. "We believe it was an overdose of her prescription medications, but the investigation is ongoing. We do not see any foul play at this time," Wyoming County District Attorney Donald O'Geen told Bennet J. Loudon of the Attica *Democrat & Chronicle*. Davila was charged with 20 counts of cruelty after 518 cats were removed from the Wyoming County SPCA shelter in February 2012 by the Erie County SPCA and New York state police. "Former board president Janet Foissett is charged with tampering with evidence," added Loudon. Between 40 and 50 cats were euthanized due to severe

health issues, Erie County SPCA spokesperson Gina Browning told Carolyn Thompson of Associated Press. Nearly two dozen organizations helped to find homes for the remaining cats, Browning said. A January 2011 newspaper notice seeking volunteers mentioned that the Wyoming County SPCA "has about 500 animals in its care and only a handful of people to help," Thompson reported.

Valerie Marie Roberts, 57, of Las Vegas, was killed on May 31, 2012 when she stopped to help an injured dog on Boulder Highway. Media reports indicate that Roberts tried to block oncoming traffic with her vehicle, with flashers on, but was in a different lane from her vehicle when hit.

Do Dogs Dream?

by Stanley Coren

W.W. Norton and Company (500 5th Ave., New York, NY 10110), 2012. 277 pages, hardcover. \$23.95.

The Left-Hander Syndrome: The Causes & Consequences of Left-Handedness (1993) established University of British Columbia psychology professor Stanley Coren as a best-selling author. Coren had a ready-made audience: about one person in 10 is left-handed. But nearly half of the people in the English-speaking world share their homes with dogs, the subject of eight of Coren's nine subsequent books, including his 2005 best-seller *The Intelligence of Dogs*.

Do Dogs Dream?, like most of Coren's other books about dogs, appears to be a compilation of Coren's columns and blog postings, produced at first for a defunct magazine issued by Rodale Press, and more recently for *Psychology Today*. Only three pages of *Do Dogs Dream?* actually address the title question. Far more of *Do Dogs Dream?* examines issues pertaining to dog perception, communication, and problem-solving.

Coren explains that most dogs have historically not responded to televised images, regardless of the subjects, because dogs have greater "flicker sensitivity" than humans. This means that while humans see pictures on a TV screen, dogs mostly see the blank space between signal receptions. However, the advent of high-definition television has reduced the blank space—and has begun to enable dogs to see TV.

Of the olfactory acuity of dogs, Coren writes that most can detect a chemical commonly found in human sweat so readily that a dog standing in the middle of Philadelphia could in theory simultaneously individually smell every one of the 1.5 million human residents.

Coren adds that dogs readily learn to sniff out cancer, with accuracy as great as that of advanced diagnostic equipment.

Delving into dog training, Coren explains that comforting a dog who has just

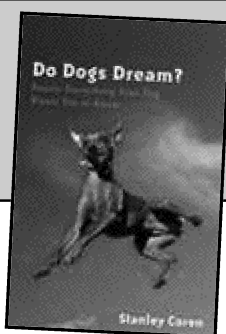
behaved in a fearful manner tends to reinforce phobic behavior.

Coren's few pages on dog attacks are unfortunately decades outdated, for example in asserting that humans are twice as likely to be struck by lightning as to be killed by dogs. In truth, as Center for the Human-Animal Bond director Alan Beck informed **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers in September 2009, the National Weather Service recorded 45 U.S. lightning strike deaths in 2007, 28 in 2008, and 27 in 2009, a three-year average of 33.3. Meanwhile, there were 33, 16, 31, and 46 dog attack fatalities, 2007-2010, for a four-year average of 32—and were 31 dog attack deaths in 2011. Since I informed Coren of Beck's findings on May 6, 2011, after Coren misinformed his *Psychology Today* readers, Coren had ample opportunity to correct his error.

In the same few pages Coren asserts that 53% of fatal dog attacks are provoked. This saw dates back more than 50 years, to an era when the U.S. averaged under one fatal attack per year.

Currently it is questionable that even 5% of fatal dog attacks are "provoked" by anything other than normal human behavior in the presence of dogs. Not one of the 22 U.S. dog attack fatalities thus far in 2012 was demonstrably provoked by anything more menacing to the dog than a baby attempting to stand up by clinging to a mastiff/Rhodesian ridgeback for support, exactly as the victim had often done before.

Reality is that many dogs today are far more powerful and far more reactive than the dogs of 50 years ago, and now often kill or disfigure people in situations which 50 years ago might have brought only some barking, a growl, or a nip. —Merritt Clifton



People & positions

Sonja Van Tichelen, a 20-year representative of **Eurogroup for Animals**, based in Brussels, on June 6, 2012 announced that she has "accepted the post of European Union director for the **International Fund for Animal Welfare**, starting on September 1." Joining Eurogroup as a campaign coordinator in 1992, Van Tichelen was promoted to deputy director in 1997. She became director in 2004. Wrote Van Tichelen in the April 2012 edition of the Eurogroup newsletter, "The EU published last February its new strategy to promote animal welfare. After a full year of evaluating the outcome of the EU animal welfare policy, the Commission has disappointed the animal welfare movement with an 'ultra-light' strategy, welcomed enthusiastically by the Farmers Union but far removed from what EU citizens expect. It is disappointing," Van Tichelen wrote, "that the focus of the strategy is on farm animal welfare, with the protection of wild animals and the high-profile issue of animal testing completely out of the picture. Although the [European] Parliament and the member states have asked for EU initiatives on cats and dogs, we will have to wait until 2014 for a study of the wel-

fare of dogs and cats involved in commercial practices. In essence," Van Tichelen finished, "this means that no new legislation is foreseen to improve animal welfare. This despite the fact that several categories of animals—cattle, fish, dogs and cats, sheep and goats—are left with no legal protection."

Jerry Buckley, 56, vice president of public affairs for 16 years at **Campbell's Soup** and also past chair of the **Campbell Soup Foundation**, was on June 5, 2012 named chief executive of the **Pennsylvania SPCA**. Buckley succeeds **Sue Cosby**, who left to head the **Philadelphia Animal Care & Control** department. Buckley, who retired from Campbell's Soup in 2011, is the fourth Pennsylvania SPCA chief executive since the 2007 retirement of **Erik Hendricks**, a PSPCA employee for 30 years who served as executive director for 28 years.

Pasado's Safe Haven, of Sultan, Washington, on June 11, 2012 announced the hiring of nonprofit consultant **Joan Eads** as interim executive director. Founded by former TV personality **Susan Michaels** in 1998, Pasado's has had several leadership changes since her forced exit in January 2010.

Awards & honors

GreenInterview.com host **Silver Donald Cameron**, 75, was on June 29, 2012 awarded the Order of Canada, for his career as journalist, writer, and community activist. Cameron in the April 2011 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and on his personal web site denounced the legal position of the Canada Revenue Agency that "an activity or purpose is only charitable when it provides a benefit to humans." Concluded Cameron, "The coyote, the cod and the chestnut have a right to live and flourish, and advocating on their behalf—with or without a benefit to humans—is a deeply moral activity and a legitimate charitable purpose."

Elizabeth Oliver, 72, who founded **Animal Refuge Kansai** in Osaka, Japan, in 1990, and **Will Travers**, 53, who in 1984 cofounded the **Born Free Foundation** with his parents, actors **Bill Travers** and **Virginia McKenna**, have received the Order of the British Empire. Previous OBE honorees include **Jean Gilchrist**, now in her 43rd year as director of the **Kenya SPCA** (2009); **International Primate Protection League** founder **Shirley McGreal** (2008);

International Animal Rescue cofounder **Alan Knight**, **David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust** founder **Daphne Sheldrick**, and the late **Stella Brewer Marsden**, founder of the **Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Association** sanctuary in Gambia (all 2006); **Care For The Wild** founder **Bill Jordan**, now heading the **Bill Jordan Wildlife Defence Fund** (2005); **Dogs Trust** chair **Clarissa Baldwin** (2003); and **Animals Asia Foundation** founder **Jill Robinson** (1998).

The **Los Angeles Department of Animal Services' Small Animal Rescue Team** has received the 2012 Higgins & Langley Memorial Awards in Swiftwater Rescue. The awards have been presented since 1993 by members of the Swiftwater Rescue Committee of the National Association for Search & Rescue in memory of writer and filmmaker Earl Higgins, who was killed in 1980 while rescuing a child from a flash flood along the Los Angeles River, and Jeffrey Langley, a Los Angeles County Fire Department paramedic who in 1993 fell from a helicopter while trying to retrieve a deceased hiker's remains.

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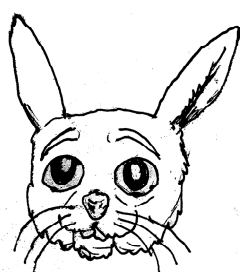
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At North Shore Animal League America, we make every effort to find the best home for all the animals in our care. Sadly, some of the dogs and cats that come to us have been abused or neglected, while others suffer chronic illnesses.

With the support of the dedicated people who donate to our Sponsorship Program, the Animal League staff is able to care for these precious animals. One of those animals was Sara, a young American Pit Bull Terrier mix found in March 2010 by a New York City Police Officer, who rescued the badly burned animal from the smoldering remains of a house fire.

After being brought to the safety of the Animal League, Sara underwent several surgeries and other procedures to help heal her burns. In addition, she was treated for pneumonia, which resulted from smoke inhalation.



For months, Sara received the critical care she needed. Her incredible will and determination kept her alive and in good spirits. This amazingly loyal dog wanted to survive – not only for herself, but to please her rescuers. 2010 proved to be the best year in Sara's life. First, since Sara was in our Sponsorship Program, she was placed in a loving

foster care home and continued to receive all the necessary medical treatments. As Sara continued to heal, we knew it was time to find her a permanent home. The family of another Police Officer adopted Sara. She is now a happy member of their family.

Though Sara recovered well from the trauma she suffered, she will always have special medical needs due to the effect of the smoke inhalation. However, as a Sponsor Pet, the Animal League will supply her with treatment for the rest of her life.

Sara is happy in her loving home and gets along with her two housemate cats. They share water bowls and toys—and they take turns on who gets the best spots for napping on the couch. She has become the unofficial greeter at the local dog park, being the first at the entrance welcoming every dog.

Sara is nothing short of a miracle. She is a truly loving dog that seems amazingly unscathed emotionally from her harrowing ordeal. The Animal League was able to find Sara a home where she gets all the love she deserves and, with the generous support of the animal lovers who donate to our Sponsor Program, we are able to provide her with the medical care she will need for the rest of her life.



Sara showing affection at our 2011 Lewyt Humane Awards Luncheon, after being adopted by her loving family late 2010.

To learn more about how you can help animals like Sara by supporting our Sponsorship Program, Visit AnimalLeague.org/sponsor, or Call Toll Free 1-877-BE-MY-PAL (1-877-236-9725)



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