

## Humane Society of the U.S. cuts deal with United Egg Producers to seek federal law

WASHINGTON D.C.—“For years we’ve been clashing with the United Egg Producers over the treatment of laying hens,” e-mailed Humane Society of the U.S. factory farming campaign manager Paul Shapiro from a July 7, 2011 press conference. “If someone had told me that we’d be doing a joint press conference with the UEP, I’d have thought they’d eaten some bad egg replacer. But indeed, that’s exactly what’s happening right now. We’re announcing that both the UEP and HSUS will endorse federal legislation intended to improve the treatment of the 280 million laying hens used in the U.S. each year.”



Hen living free at the Tibetan White Chicken Temple. (Kim Bartlett)

The proposed law that HSUS and UEP agreed to push, Shapiro summarized, would “require the nationwide elimination of barren battery cages,” in favor of “phased-in construction of new hen housing,” to “provide each hen nearly double the space they are currently provided,” with “environmental enrichments, such as perches, nesting boxes, and scratching areas, so that birds can engage in natural behaviors currently denied to them. The proposed law would also “mandate labeling on egg cartons to inform consumers of the method used to produce the eggs, such as eggs from caged hens or eggs from cage-free hens,” Shapiro said. The proposed law would further “prohibit forced molting through starvation—inflicted on tens of millions of hens each year, which involves withholding food from birds for up to two weeks to manipulate the laying cycle.”

Ammonia levels in hen houses would be limited. The sale of eggs and egg products by non-compliant farms would be banned from interstate commerce nationwide.

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## U.K. to ban wild animal acts from circuses

LONDON—The United Kingdom appears to be poised to join a growing number of nations which have banned wild animals from circuses.

Defying Prime Minister David Cameron, the U.K. House of Commons on June 23, 2011 unanimously endorsed a resolution stating that “This House directs the Government to use its powers under Section 12 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 to introduce a regulation banning the use of all wild animals in circuses, to take effect by 1 July 2012.”

Cameron, a Conservative, opposed the resolution, which was introduced by Conservative Member of Parliament Mark Pritchard. “Pritchard made a principled and passionate stand,” lauded Animal Aid. “Pritchard revealed that prior to the debate he had been contacted by Cameron’s office and offered incentives,” reportedly including a more influential Parliamentary portfolio, “if he didn’t call for a ban. When he refused,” Animal Aid continued, “he was told that unless he withdrew the motion, the Prime Minister would look upon it ‘very dimly indeed.’ Despite these threats, he stuck by his principles and secured an important victory for animal welfare.”

Affirmed London *Independent* con-



Circus tiger in travel cage. (Kim Bartlett)

sumer affairs correspondent Martin Hickman. “Conservative whips had warned they would impose the most serious parliamentary voting sanction, a three-line whip, to bring recalcitrant backbenchers to heel and get them to support the Government’s alternative proposal of a licensing system. Downing Street backed down,” Hickman said, “when it became apparent that it would lose.”

“If at the end of this debate the House were to approve this motion, then of course we will have to respect that,” pledged agriculture minister Jim Paice shortly before the vote.

Wrote Hickman, “The Government had initially planned to ban wild animals from circuses, but the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs was forced to do a U-turn, and instead proposed a licensing system, after Cameron, a keen hunter and shooter, blocked the move. Paice blamed a court challenge to a ban in Austria for the decision, but there was no court challenge. He was forced to admit during an emergency debate, called because of the misinformation, that he had misled the Commons. The Government’s subsequent claim that a ban could be challenged under the Human Rights Act or the EU Services Directive was challenged by lawyers and the

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# ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care

About Animals

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## Sketchy Government Accounting Office report tends to favor horse slaughter

WASHINGTON D.C.—The title of *Horse Welfare: Action Needed to Address Unintended Consequences from Cessation of Domestic Slaughter* hints at the conclusions and recommendations that the Government Accountability Office report offered to Congress on June 23, 2011.

But the GAO report includes numerous acknowledgements of a lack of data supporting the conclusions and recommendations. Failing to discover and use data collected by the humane community about trends in horse neglect and abandonment, including data collected by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and Pet-Abuse.com which is readily available online, the GAO authors relied heavily on unsubstantiated anecdotal claims by sources within the

horse and livestock industries, including 17 state veterinarians whose duties are primarily to facilitate horse and livestock commerce.

“Congress may wish to reconsider the annual restrictions first instituted in fiscal year 2006 on USDA’s use of appropriated funds to inspect horses in transit to, and at, domestic slaughtering facilities,” the GAO concluded. “Specifically, to allow USDA to better ensure horse welfare and identify potential violations of the Commercial Transportation of Equines to Slaughter regulation, Congress may wish to consider allowing USDA to again use appropriated funds to inspect U.S. horses being transported to slaughter. Also, Congress may wish to consider allowing USDA to again use appropriated funds to inspect horses at domestic slaughtering facilities, as authorized by the Federal Meat Inspection Act. Alternatively,” the GAO acknowledged, “Congress may wish to consider instituting an explicit ban on the domestic slaughter of horses and export of U.S. horses intended for slaughter in foreign countries.

“Since domestic horse slaughter ceased in 2007,” the GAO found, confirming reports by horse advocates, “U.S. horse exports for slaughter increased by 148% and 660% to Canada and Mexico, respectively. As a result, nearly the same number of U.S. horses were transported to Canada and Mexico for slaughter in 2010—nearly 138,000—as were slaughtered before domestic slaughter ceased. Available data show that horse prices declined since 2007,” the GAO said, “mainly for the lower-priced horses that are more likely to be bought for slaughter.

“Comprehensive, national data are lacking,” the GAO claimed, “but state, local government, and animal welfare organizations report a rise in investiga-

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Cattle arrive by truck to be shipped from Fremantle, Australia. (Animals’ Angels Australia)

## Australia halts “six month” suspension of live cattle exports to Indonesia after 30 days

CANBERRA—Australian agriculture minister Joe Ludwig on July 7, 2011 lifted a 38-day suspension of live cattle exports to 11 specific Indonesian slaughterhouses and a 30-day suspension of live cattle exports to anywhere in Indonesia without visibly and demonstrably accomplishing anything to improve animal welfare.

Ludwig on June 8, 2011 announced a six-month suspension of livestock exports to Indonesia, and a review of live exports to all overseas buyers, including those in the Middle East. Ludwig had suspended exports to the 11 specific slaughterhouses on June 1, 2011, hours after the Australian Broadcasting Corporation program *Four Corners* aired video documentation of alleged halal slaughtering procedures in Jakarta, Bogor, Bandar Lampung, and Medan which “crossed the boundaries of ignorance and cultural difference into the realm of sadistic brutality,” assessed Penelope Debelle of the *Adelaide Advertiser*.

Said Colorado State University slaughter expert Temple Grandin to the *Four Corners* team, “That violates every humane standard there is all around the world.” The video evidence was collected by Animals Australia campaign director Lyn White, a

former police officer, during March 2011.

As well as documenting extensive deliberately inflicted animal suffering, White documented routine and habitual violations of halal slaughter law, prescribed by the Q’ran. Halal slaughter done according to Islamic law is supposed to be done with a single cut, using an extremely sharp blade. Killing animals within sight of others is *haram*—forbidden—as is harming animals in any way before slaughter.

Ludwig promised that slaughterhouses receiving Australian livestock will now have to meet animal welfare guidelines, but such promises have repeatedly been issued before. They have not been enforced.

The closest Ludwig came to introducing an enforcement mechanism in ending the latest of many temporary suspensions of livestock exports to various nations was to state that now, “Supply chains will be verified by commercial independent auditors with the entire process to be independently audited on a regular basis. These audit reports will be made public

“The supply chain assurances mean,” Ludwig explained, “that the exporter is required to trace the animals from the

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Editorial feature

Who is speaking out for pigs & who is eating them

Mercy for Animals, having already produced more shocking undercover videos of mistreatment of animals on factory farms than all other U.S. animal advocacy organizations combined, on June 29, 2011 shocked television and web viewers yet again with footage from inside an Iowa Select Farms facility in Kamrar, Iowa.

Iowa Select Farms supplies Swift, one of the biggest names in meatpacking.

Recited Mercy for Animals publicist Gary Smith, “Abuses include workers cutting off piglets’ tails with dull clippers and castrating them by ripping out their testes with their bare hands—all without any anesthesia or follow up medical care; pigs suffering from large, open, pus-filled wounds and pressure sores; mother pigs—physically taxed from constant birthing—suffering from distended, inflamed, bleeding, and usually fatal uterine prolapses; thousands of pregnant pigs confined in metal crates so small that they could not turn around, fully extend their legs, or even lie down comfortably; and management training workers to throw piglets across the room—comparing it to a ‘roller coaster ride.’”

Added Smith, “Ironically, this investigation comes at a time when legislators in Iowa, the nation’s largest pork-producing state, are attempting to criminalize undercover investigations. While Florida, Minnesota, and New York have allowed their ‘ag gag’ bills to languish this session, Iowa continues to try to shield animal abusers from public scrutiny.”

Equally ironically, the “ag gag” legislation promoted by agribusiness in essence seeks to criminalize obtaining, distributing, and even possessing visual documentation of problems that agricultural trade journals have exposed and documented for decades, albeit almost entirely in abstruse tables of production statistics. Mercy for Animals and the dozens of other animal advocacy organizations which have produced undercover videos in recent years mostly learned what to videotape, and where, from the major media serving agribusiness itself. The issues exposed by Mercy for Animals et al are certainly much more vivid and disturbing to people of normal sensibility toward animal suffering than the numbers on economic losses due to bruised meat, for example, but all the videos really do is put faces on the data.

Advocates for farmed animals, veganism, vegetarianism, and a healthy environment often read more agricultural trade journals than most farmers—because that is where the information is. Though published to promote agribusiness, agricultural trade journals are typically invaluable sources of quantification and technical perspective about livestock and poultry mortality, afflictions such as chronic lameness and disease, and disease control measures, such as lacing feed with antibiotics. Agricultural trade journals also devote much page space to discussion of manure storage and disposal, air and water quality, and pesticide use to control the insects typically infesting livestock and poultry barns. These are all issues to which farmers must respond, for farming to be profitable, albeit that the most profitable approach is usually to respond as little as possible.

Of course few agricultural trade journals editorially recognize having anything in common with animal and environmental advocates, even though they are detailing and exposing the same problems. Most agricultural trade journals denounce animal and environmental advocacy as fervently as revivalist ministers rail against sin. Typically agricultural trade journals include many paens to maintaining and improving animal welfare and a clean environment—but assert that factory farming, not animal or environmental advocacy, is the way to do it, despite more than 50 years of mounting evidence that raising animals in intensive confinement only makes the animal welfare and environmental problems associated with agribusiness ever worse. Most agricultural trade journals are ultimately all about how to produce more meat, eggs, and milk from animals, at less cost. Most are funded chiefly by advertisers of the equipment, drugs, chemicals, and miscellaneous services that make factory farming possible. Even the few agricultural trade journals that focus on animal husbandry for high-end markets exist to promote growth within their sectors of agribusiness.

Wang Qian, of Chengdu, China, teaches at a local agricultural university and is editor of *Livestock & Poultry*, one of the leading Chinese agricultural trade journals. That he was invited to address the June 2011 Asia for Animals conference in Chengdu was a bit of a surprise, though the conference was held in his home city.

Wrote Wang Qian in the abstract he submitted to the Asia for Animals conference proceedings, “In Southern China the raising of pigs has increased from a farmer raising one or

two pigs to pig farming on a grand scale. However, the factory farming of pigs has led to an increase in their incidence of disease and death, which has deteriorated the level of animal welfare on pig farms. The way of feeding pigs on pig farms and using corn/bean pulp as daily food should be changed to improve the welfare of the pigs. Also, by promoting a healthy diet to reduce pork consumption, we can improve the lives of pigs on pig farms.”

There were hints in the abstract that Wang Qian had a unique perspective, considering his role, but he spoke toward the end of a long afternoon session which had already left much of the audience numb. So-Yeon Park of Coexistence of Animal Rights on Earth in the opening presentation aired video clandestinely obtained in December 2010 near her home in Pocheon, South Korea, near the North Korean border, showing pigs being buried alive by the truckload in a futile effort to contain foot-and-mouth disease.

In all, 3.5 million pigs were buried alive between October 2010 and April 2011. This atrocity resulted from the combination of overcrowded and filthy conditions on factory farms plus the longtime stubborn refusal of the South Korean government to vaccinate livestock against foot-and-mouth disease, since vaccinated livestock cannot be distinguished from livestock actually incubating infection and therefore may not be exported.

Summarized So-Yeon Park, “Animals roaming in nature do not usually get infected by a virus all at the same time,” and tend to develop herd immunity from experiencing individual low-level exposure. Intensive confinement farming, by contrast, results in hundreds or even tens of thousands of animals all becoming ill at once. “In the event of Nationally Notifiable Diseases, such as foot and mouth disease or avian influenza, Korea destroys infected livestock,” Park continued. “Cattle are destroyed by lethal injection since 2009, but 99% of pigs and 100% of birds are still buried alive. They choose to bury alive to save money and resources, but it takes an even longer time,” than lethally injecting the animals would take, Park said from her own observation, because pigs kept climbing out of the pits and trying to run away. Park described the suicides of some of the workers who performed the live burials, and said she found the scenes she videotaped so depressing that she wanted to jump into the pits herself, but she could not get close enough.

Killing was unnecessary

ANIMAL PEOPLE extensively reported about the live burials in January/February 2011, just as South Korean president Lee Myung-bak announced that his government would begin to “actively review the possibility of producing vaccines in Korea.”

Reported ProMed infectious diseases moderator Arnon Shimshony on April 21, 2011, “Since then, mass vaccinations have been carried out extensively throughout South Korea to protect all susceptible species. The vaccine was supplied from international banks and from European producers.”

On May 6, 2011 the journal *Science* published findings by Mark Woolhouse of the University of Edinburgh that most of the killing done to contain outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease is pointless to begin with. Summarized Agence France-Presse, “Researchers at Britain’s Pirbright Institute for Animal Health tried 28 times to infect healthy cows with foot-and-mouth disease by placing them next to infected cattle. But the disease was only transmitted eight times, researchers say, leading them to determine that cattle are not actually contagious until about half a day after the first clinical symptoms appear.” Concluded Woolhouse in a statement distributed by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the publisher of *Science*, “If affected cattle are detected and removed from the herd promptly, there may be no need for pre-emptive culling in the immediate area of an infected farm.”

Most of the six million British livestock who were killed during a 2001 outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease were killed out of ignorant panic, as were most of the 3.5 million pigs who were killed in South Korea, and most of the countless millions of other animals who have been killed during foot-and-mouth outbreaks worldwide, all because in the 114 years since foot-and-moth disease was first discovered to be of viral origin, no one had previously conducted a simple experiment to discover the etiology of transmission.

Back in South Korea, “The government is sluggishly recognizing the problem with their way of destroying livestock, and is at last considering different methods,” So-Yeon Park conceded. “However, they have no interest in improving existing animal husbandry practices,” she emphasized. Factory farming, to the South Korean government and agribusiness, is still the perceived way of the future, no matter what the cost to animals, the environment, and the psychological well-being of citizens.

Even had her presentation been less visually shocking and emotionally charged, So-Yeon Park might have been a difficult act to follow. Three times in eight months her dramatic initiatives on other animal advocacy fronts have drawn global media notice. So-Yeon Park has also attracted more favorable publicity within South Korea lately than the oligarchic South Korean media have ever extended to campaigners before her, including the sisters Sunnan and Kyenan Kum, founders in 1982 and 1997, respectively, of the Korean Animal Protection Society and International Aid to Korean Animals.

So-Yeon Park, 40, has steadily sharpened her media skills and political savvy since abandoning a stage and singing career in 2000 to promote animal rights. Founding the CARE shelter in 2004, So-Yeon Park waged a successful campaign for passage of a law against animal hoarding in 2005. She developed a depth of knowledge about South Korean agribusiness while monitoring response to the H5N1 avian influenza outbreak of 2006-2007. In 2008-2009 So-Yeon Park exposed poor conditions at government dog pounds throughout South Korea and won passage of national pound regulations. So-Yeon Park emerged as a media star in November 2010, venturing to Yeonpyong Island to rescue animals who were left behind when the residents fled North Korean shelling that killed two South Korean marines.

Sudden celebrity helped So-Yeon Park to expose the live pig burials more intensively than any animal welfare issue has ever before been exposed in South Korea. Her efforts may have been politically aided by circumstantial evidence that the South Korean foot-and-mouth disease outbreak apparently spread from North Korea, hitting first a pig farm near Pocheon.

But So-Yeon Park, disturbed though she was by the live pig burials, did not allow herself to become mired in any one issue or allow her greater message on behalf of animals to be subsumed by any other political agenda. In early June, only days before the Asia for Animals conference, So-Yeon Park and about 200 allies thoroughly upstaged a Fendi fur fashion show in Seoul with the most vigorous anti-fur rally even seen in South Korea, a hub of the global fur trade. A week after the Asia for Animals conference, the Korea Dog Farmers’ Association retreated from an announced plan to hold a dog meat festival at the Moran Traditional Market near Seoul, after So-Yeon Park and supporters pledged to disrupt it.

Walking quietly to the podium in Chengdu to discuss pig feeding regimens, after several other speakers had followed the dynamic So-Yeon Park, *Livestock & Poultry* editor Wang Qian opened his talk by describing the magnitude of the Chinese pig industry. Nearly 60% of the world’s pigs live and are slaughtered in China. The U.S. is second in world pig production, but China has sixteen times as many pigs on farms at any given time—and has comparably greater animal welfare and pollution problems.

Wang Qian discussed the suffering of pigs on factory farms. He mentioned the loss of dignity among both pigs and pig farmers that he perceives inherent in factory farming conditions. But, true to the outline of his speech, Wang Qian spoke most about how pigs are fed, as compared to how they ought to be fed to maintain good health. Wang Qian described disease outbreaks, such as foot-and-mouth and the mysterious blue ear disease that killed more than 20 million Chinese pigs in 2007. Proper nutrition and exercise, Wang Qian suggested,

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Published by Animal People, Inc.

President & Administrator:

Kim Bartlett – anpeople@whidbey.com

Editor: Merritt Clifton – anmlpepl@whidbey.com

Web producer: Patrice Greanville

Newswire monitor: Cathy Young Czapla

P.O. Box 960

Clinton, WA 98236-0960

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Telephone: 360-579-2505. Fax: 360-579-2575.

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# Who is speaking out for pigs & who is eating them *(from page 3)*

could enable pigs to better withstand infections that fell whole herds in close confinement.

Then Wang Qian questioned where the food and water might come from, if 650 million Chinese pigs per year are to be properly fed. He reviewed the problems of scale that agricultural economists have for decades predicted might eventually limit global meat production—and concluded that the limits have already been exceeded.

Rather than proposing technological fixes to enable animal agribusiness to continue expanding, Wang Qian suggested that the urgently needed technological fix is to downsize meat consumption. Humans should eat less meat, Wang Qian argued—much less. Wang Qian projected that China could most successfully address the animal welfare and environmental issues inherent in pig farming if the volume of Chinese pig production is reduced from about 650 million pigs per year to about 400 million, a drop of nearly 40%. Even at that, China would still produce ten times as many pigs as the U.S., and far more than any other nation.

Wang Qian contended that sharply curtailing pig production need not mean reducing farmers' incomes. Rather, Wang Qian asserted, as an industry insider, Chinese con-

sumers could be persuaded to pay 40% more for meat, if they could feel assured that pigs were raised and slaughtered without suffering and without environmental cost.

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** approached Wang Qian afterward to confirm that his arguments that people should eat less meat and that the Chinese pig industry should drastically downsize had been correctly translated. Yes, Wang Qian said. "Only in this way," Wang Qian struggled to say in English, "can we raise pigs with the respect and dignity they deserve."

Wang Qian's message was not entirely without precedent among Chinese pig industry leaders. Interest in improving pig welfare on farms and in slaughter has repeatedly surfaced in mainstream Chinese news media in recent years. The World Society for the Protection of Animals employs a fulltime humane slaughter trainer in China, JinJuan Sun, who told the Asia for Animals conference about his work.

Other international animal advocacy organizations with offices in China have addressed factory farming in various ways, among them ActAsia for Animals, the Animals Asia Foundation, Compassion In World Farming, Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare, and the Royal SPCA of Britain.

But none of the international groups stepped forward as Wang Qian did to say, "Eat less meat."

The pro-vegetarian and pro-vegan message at Asia for Animals 2011 was amplified by speakers from a variety of pro-vegetarian and vegan societies, chiefly headquartered in India and South Korea. The major international organizations were conspicuously quiet about the whole matter.

Amid hundreds of vegetarian and vegan delegates from more than 25 Asian nations, and others in Europe and North America, some representatives of the major international animal charities were observed eating pork sausages and bacon in the breakfast hall.

Several speakers from the floor expressed profound disappointment in this behavior at the closing session, among them Asian Animal Protection Network founder John Wedderburn, M.D.

That the pig eaters could even stomach pork sausage and bacon after So-Yeon Park's presentation was to say the least disturbing. Whatever rationales they might have offered were surely countered by Wang Qian, whose concluding hope was that the fast-growing animal welfare movement, in China and worldwide, might convince the world to eat less meat.

## LETTERS

### Rodenticide ban

New U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations went into effect June 1, 2011 that ban the sale of anticoagulant rodenticides, and all rodenticides that residential customers may buy in loose or pellet form.

There are both benefits and drawbacks to this ban. Rodenticides in pellet form are very easy for dogs and cats to simply pick up and eat. Selling poisons only in bait stations will make it more difficult for non-target animals to access the chemicals. However, an ambitious and determined dog will most likely still find a way to tear apart a bait station.

The potential drawbacks are significant as well. Regulating the use of anticoagulants will increase the use of chemicals such as bromethalin and cholecalciferol. Anti-coagulants have a Vitamin K antidote. After an

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animal ingests an anticoagulant, the animal can be brought to the vet and given the antidote. Usually the animal will recover. Bromethalin and cholecalciferol have no known antidote. Bromethalin causes neurological problems, and cats are particularly sensitive to it. Cholecalciferol is also extremely toxic to both dogs and cats.



—Mallory Kule  
Media Coordinator  
American SPCA  
520 8th Avenue  
New York, NY 10018  
Phone: 212-876-7700  
<MalloryK@aspc.org>  
<<http://www.aspc.org/>>

### Editor's note:

*Both cats and dogs are vulnerable to secondary poisoning from ingesting a poisoned rodent, as well as to poisoning from directly ingesting a rodenticide. As the mere presence of a cat or dog is often an effective deterrent to rodents, using rodenticides can actually increase the likelihood that a habitat with a convenient rodent food source will attract rodents. Since cats, dogs, and rodents have equal capacity for suffering,*

*ANIMAL PEOPLE does not condone poisoning rodents in the first place. The most humane way to prevent rodent infestation is to ensure that food is stored so that rodents cannot gain access to it, and that potential rodent entrances into a dwelling are securely blocked. Several contraceptives have been tested for potential use in rodent control. None are close to regulatory approval, but this approach may eventually emerge as a humane alternative to rodenticides.*

### Faithful Elephants

Concerning war and animals, discussed by Gopi Shankar in the June 2011 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** letters column, a book for children that has always touched me deeply is *Faithful Elephants*, by Yukio Tsuchiya, about how the Ueno Zoo in Tokyo decided in 1943 to kill all the animals to prevent escapes in case the zoo was bombed. All of the animals were killed, but the elephants were the hardest to kill. You will have to read the story for yourself. It is heartbreaking. A memorial to the elephants stands at this zoo.

We read this story one year to high school students in an English/reading class. I began but could not continue reading aloud. Another teacher had to read it. I was in tears the whole time—tears rolling down my face. My students were astonished at my emotions and of course the story itself. It is a tear jerker. It shows how innocent animals suffer and die from human ignorance!



—Brenda Fiorini  
Joyful Journey Books  
P.O. Box 216  
Rock Falls, IL 61071  
<[joyfuljourneybooks@yahoo.com](mailto:joyfuljourneybooks@yahoo.com)>  
<<http://joyfuljourneybooks.com/>>

### Editor's note:

*Published in 1951 as a true story, Faithful Elephants was exposed as in large part a fabrication by historian Frederick S. Litten in a September 2009 Asia Pacific Journal article entitled "Starving the Elephants—The Slaughter of Animals in Wartime Tokyo's Ueno Zoo." Wrote Litten, "The governor of Tokyo, Ôdachi Shigeo, decided in August 1943 to have the animals killed to use their death as propaganda, aimed at children. There was no immediate reason to kill the animals to keep humans safe. It was not even a precautionary measure. This also explains why the governor did not allow even some animals to be evacuated; they had to die to serve the purpose."*

### Koh Samui zoo

We have recently returned from a holiday on Koh Samui, Thailand, where a visit to the zoo was extremely stressful. The animals were visibly stressed, under pressure to perform crazy tricks, and appeared to be suffering from malnutrition. The fish tanks were dirty. The poor otter appeared to be visibly crying for help. The tigers looked as if they could and would consume the zoo owners. Is there anybody or any organization that could investigate the manhandling of animals in captivity on Koh Samui?



—Dalene Worrall  
Westcliff, Hermanus  
South Africa  
<[daleneworrall@gmail.com](mailto:daleneworrall@gmail.com)>

### More about it

I am aware of the Koh Samui zoo. We have complained about it several times. The Department of National Parks say they have received a Zoocheck report on several zoos in Thailand, including this one, that was done by the Animal Concerns Research and Education Society in Singapore and Love Wildlife in Thailand. However, the report is confidential, and the DNP hides behind it, saying the place is okay.

I will forward Dalene Worrall's concern in another official complaint letter.



—Edwin Wiek  
Secretary-general  
Wildlife Friends  
Foundation Thailand  
Survival Foundation  
108, Moo 6  
Tambon Thamairuak  
Amphoe Thayang  
76130 Petchaburi  
Thailand  
Phone: +6690600906  
<[edwin.wiek@wfft.org](mailto:edwin.wiek@wfft.org)>  
<[www.wfft.org](http://www.wfft.org)>

## Killing animals doesn't build empathy

An idea put forth by sectors of the animal welfare community is that killing one's own animals for food will somehow develop empathy in the killer. But is this so?

In the case of billionaire Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg, there is no evidence in his account of his latest "personal challenge" that killing animals himself began or ended in empathy for the animals he had previously "bonded with" only as meat. According to the story, Zuckerberg "evolved," from boiling a lobster to death to cutting the throats of a goat and a chicken. And so on from there. Of the lobster episode, Zuckerberg said, "The most interesting thing was how special it felt to eat it after having not eaten any seafood or meat in a while."

In other words, the "most interesting, special thing" for Zuckerberg, by his account, was not the lobster, or his relationship with the lobster as a fellow creature; it wasn't about expanded or deepened empathy at all. It was about his seafood experience, his meat experience and the thrill of eating an animal he had, just minutes before, intentionally tortured to death in boiling water.

(Don't plead that Zuckerberg didn't

know the lobster was sentient.)

So what does it mean to *bond* with an animal or anyone else one chooses to kill for pleasure? Bear in mind that rapists and serial murderers sadistically, ritualistically "bond" with their victims—they *know their victim's pain and they experience it vicariously as pleasure*. The fact is that bonding and "connecting" do not necessarily entail compassion, and violating another's body does not invariably lead to sympathy with the victim or with anyone else. Indeed, hurting others is a thrill for many people who lust for more of the delicious sensation.

We know this is true when it comes to humans intentionally hurting other humans, but when it comes to humans intentionally hurting animals, the rhetoric disconnects from reality as easily as the face disconnects from a small helpless body under the smack of a hatchet.



—Karen Davis, founder  
United Poultry Concerns  
PO Box 150  
Machipongo, VA 23405  
<[news@upc-online.org](mailto:news@upc-online.org)>  
<[www.upc-online.org](http://www.upc-online.org)>



## Help Ellie Heal

When the Animal League rescued Ellie, an adult Keeshond, she had severe injuries to her back and advanced infections in both her ears. It is likely she suffered severe trauma and was left to die.

During Ellie's initial examination by Animal League Veterinarians, she was minimally responsive and severely dehydrated. Ellie was unable to stand or walk and had a high temperature. Her fur was matted and bloody and her back appeared to be burned and severely infected. Even worse, Ellie's deep wounds were infested with maggots.

In addition to these injuries, Ellie also had severe ear infections in both ears, a deformity in one ear, and her X-rays revealed that she has spinal arthritis, which is likely to advance and require chronic pain medication in the future. It was clear that she had been lost and suffering for a while.

Ellie will need ongoing medical care, continued burn treatment and future ear surgeries.

To ensure the continued care for Ellie and the many other animals in our Help Me Heal Program, please visit [AnimalLeague.org/help-me-heal](http://AnimalLeague.org/help-me-heal)

"North Shore Animal League  
America's Help Me Heal Program  
Cares for Pets in Need!"

[AnimalLeague.org](http://AnimalLeague.org)



## TNR succeeds in Cook Islands

The Cook Islands are unique in the South Pacific in regard to the condition of their dog and cat populations. More than 15 years of veterinary care with emphasis on making spay/neuter available to every family and every cat and dog has made a significant difference. The Esther Honey Foundation has now treated more than 30,000 dogs and cats, and has desexed more than 12,000.

The situation is definitely not perfect yet, but compared to any other South Pacific island travel destination, if the tourists who write to us and participate in on-line travel forums are right, the Cook Islands animal population is noticeably healthier, fewer in number, better cared for, and perhaps as a result, much better natured than those in competing destinations.

Before the Esther Honey foundation came to the Cook Islands, we were advised that there were 6,000 dogs and 8,000 cats on Raratonga. In 2010, 26 Esther Honey Foundation volunteers spent 93 days going door to door island-wide counting all dogs, recording the number who were desexed, were intact, or were of indeterminate status. This census found that there are now 2,000 dogs on Raratonga, of whom 78% are desexed.

One of the most rewarding aspects, for me, is that we have been able to get to this point without killing healthy animals.

We now plan to reach a 70% steril-

ization rate on the outer islands where this has not yet been accomplished, having already sterilized more than 80% on Mangaia. We expect to reach at least 70% on Atiu this year. Our only obstacle there is overcoming the reluctance of the men who use dogs to hunt wild pigs. They fear that sterilization will make their dogs less successful hunters.

Thanks to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** for your guidance in achieving our goals for the dogs and the Cook Islands. We hope our results will encourage other nations in the region to begin their own 70% programs. If we had not been the only agency in the country providing full veterinary services, and providing a default shelter in addition to treating animals on outer islands, we could have achieved this goal in a fraction of the time.

An advantage of staying long enough to become a member of the community is that we have been able to demonstrate day in and day out for more than 15 years a different way of regarding and treating animals, contributing toward cultural change.

—Cathy Sue Ragan-Anunsen  
President & CEO  
The Esther Honey Foundation  
2010 Ash Lane SE  
Jefferson, OR 97352  
Phone: 541-327-1914  
<Frogfarm@aol.com>  
<www.estherhoney.org>



## TNR is starting in Cairo, Egypt

On June 13, 2011 a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Director of the Cairo Veterinary Service Department, Dr. Soad El Kholy, and the chairpersons of three of Egypt's most established animal welfare societies, to launch a pilot trap-neuter-release program to reduce the population of street dogs in the neighborhood of Medinat Nasr. The three societies participating in the project are the Egyptian Society of Animal Friends, the Society for the Protection of Animal Rights in Egypt, and the Egyptian Society for Mercy to Animals.

The goal of the pilot program is to test and develop a TNR program in this area that will become a model that can be replicated in other Cairo districts to reduce the population of street animals over time, and to provide a humane alternative to using mass poisoning and shooting to control the population of street animals. The pilot program will focus only on the dog population, with street cats to be added at a future stage.

Discussion of developing and launching a pilot TNR program in Cairo was initiated during a meeting between minister of agriculture Ayman Farid Abuhadid and representatives of the animal welfare societies in mid-April.

The Veterinary Services Department has agreed that no street dogs from the area where dogs are being operated on will be

killed, that local authorities and police will be informed of these terms.

Six government vets are to be trained in spay and neuter techniques. Veterinarians affiliated with the three participating societies and with the Egyptian Mau Rescue Organization will be donating their time to the project. ESAF will provide space for the surgeries and recoveries, along with other assistance and support, and the animal welfare societies will provide cages, surgical and medical equipment, vaccines and other resources to the project, as well as trained dogcatchers and veterinarians. All financial costs in the pilot phase will be underwritten by the animal welfare societies.

All parties will work together, in conjunction with other government ministries, to inform the public about the nature and goals of the project as a contribution to public health and animal welfare. In addition, the three local animal welfare societies will be launching a fund raising campaign to ensure the sustainability of the initiative.

—Ahmed El Sherbiny  
President



Egyptian Society of Animal Friends  
30 Korshed St. /Rd. 293  
New Maadi, Egypt  
Phone: 20-2-702-1142  
<asherbiny@infinity.com.eg>  
<www.animalfriends.info>

## Animal Shelter

Thanks for reviewing the 1984 book *Animal Shelter*, by Patricia Curtis, in the June 2011 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. I read Ms. Curtis's 1985 book *All Wild Creatures Welcome*, and was surprised at how progressive it was. Curtis was even talking about vegetarianism at a time when most major animal groups were still serving steak and chicken dinners. I'm looking forward to reading *Animal Shelter* as well.



—Lindsay Spaar  
Wheeling, West Virginia

## The author

I am pleased and gratified to have my book *Animal Shelter* revived and reviewed. I wanted it to make a contribution to the humane shelter movement, and I'm glad you think it did.

The book closely followed an article on animal shelters that I wrote for the September 1982 edition of *Smithsonian*. That brought a good response, I remember, including from a man who wanted to know if I could suggest several shelters that in my opinion deserved to be remembered in his and his wife's will. It was fun making some inquiries and doing some research and responding to him. I never directly contacted any of the shelters I recommended, so they never knew, and years later I heard that one struggling shelter was really thrilled when one day a big chunk of money just fell out of the sky for it to use.

The man even wrote to me again, later, after his wife had died, and said he was updating his own will, and did I feel that the first list of shelters was still worthy. I think I made few substitutions. I suppose by now those shelters have gotten a nice surprise.



—Patricia Curtis  
New York, New York

## TRIBUTES

In honor of animal-loving guitar masters Jeff Beck, Brian May, and Tom Scholz.  
—Brien Comerford



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## Animal experiments halted

The Himalayan Institute of Medical Sciences (HIMS), Dehradun, the largest in the state of Uttarakhand, India, has been directed to stop experimentation on animals after major anomalies were exposed in the methods of experiments and treatment of animals used, until further instructions are issued by the Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals under the Animal Welfare division of the federal Ministry of Environment & Forests.

Ministry animal welfare division director and CPCSEA member secretary Anjani Kumar issued this order on the findings of an inspection of the HIMS animal house facility conducted by People for Animals (Uttarakhand). PfA Uttarakhand has also been directed by the CPCSEA to take care of the HIMS animals as a stop-gap arrangement.



—Gauri Maulekhi  
Member Secretary  
People for Animals (Uttarakhand)  
D4 Chandralok, Rajpur Road  
Dehradun, India  
Phone: 91-972-000-7817  
<gmaulekhi@gmail.com>  
<www.pfauttarakhand.org>

## Taiwan bans leghold traps

A bill to amend Taiwan's animal protection law which "prohibits the sale, use, manufacture, display or import of all types of leg hold traps without permission from the central government" was passed on June 13, 2011 after three readings at the legislative Yuan. In aid of the campaign for passage, my letter published in the March 2011 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and your strong Editor's note in support of my letter were translated into Chinese and posted on the Life Conservationist Association website. PETA Asia gave us a lot of support to the very end. Now we want to make sure that the law is implemented.



—Mira Fong  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

## Pets in housing complexes

Depriving people of pets in housing complexes and retirement homes is deprivation of human rights, and could be solved through compulsory sterilization of all pets and keeping them safely in their people's units.



—Adele Joffe, Friends of the Cat  
5 Montrose Ave., Craighall Park  
Johannesburg, South Africa  
< www.friendsofthecat.co.za>

## Rescuing Zarine Patel's 153 dogs

What's been happening to Dr. Zarine Patel's dogs?

As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** reported in May 2011, Dr. Patel, 61, died of a heart attack on March 26 in Mumbai, India, reportedly leaving 135 dogs at her home in Pune.

We discovered there were really 153 dogs on site. We treated each one for mange and dewormed them. A kind businessman donated fencing and sent men to erect it. This means there are finally separate spaces for the five different packs to relax and play in.

Monsoon hit hard. Our volunteers got very wet during the first few showers, running to cover cages in plastic sheets to keep the dogs dry and constructing tents for the loose packs. ResQ desperately needs blankets, old beds and gunny bags to keep everyone warm throughout the monsoon.

When ResQ arrived, two dogs were pregnant and 15 puppies were born. Sarvodaya Sevabhavi Sanstha came from Bangalore and held a sterilization camp. We got 69 dogs neutered in two days. Now all of the dogs are neutered, vaccinated and ready to go to their new homes. 34 lucky dogs have found new homes so far, but we still have over a hundred to go! They are mostly adult Indian breeds, all loving and good-natured.



—Ayesha Ghandy  
Manager, Operations & Rescues  
ResQ Charitable Trust  
5, Vikas, Ashok Nagar  
Off Range Hills Road  
Pune, India 411007  
Phone: +91 9373888500  
<resqct@gmail.com>  
<http://resqcharitabletrust.blogspot.com>

## Nigeria SPCA is back up & running

Our refurbished Nigeria SPCA hospital and shelter were formally commissioned and presented to the public on June 22, 2011 by Dr. Deinde Shoga, district governor of the Rotary Club of Lagos. The Rotary Club of Palmgrove Estate in Lagos was among the supporters who helped in the rehabilitation.

The Nigeria SPCA was founded in 1947 as the Nigeria Federal Branch of the Royal SPCA of Great Britain. The hospital and shelter were built in 1959 by Trevor Scott, who later became the first director general of World Society for the Protection of Animals. Records at the society's office indicate that the Nigeria SPCA was the first branch of the RSPCA outside the British Isles. It was administered directly by RSPCA until 1963.

Unfortunately, after 2000 the organization nearly died. The hospital was in ruins, used by hooligans as a hideout. In 2005, I formed the Save Nigeria SPCA

Protect to seek help in restoring the organization and the facilities. WSPA manager for Africa Stephen Chacha visited Nigeria in 2007. With WSPA support, we began rebuilding and refurbishing the building in 2009. N.G. Patel, the president of Rotary Club of Palmgrove Estate, and Chief C. Dugad, the executive director of the Chandaria Foundation, are both patrons and supporters of the Nigeria Vegetarian Society, which I founded and still direct. We persuaded them to make their annual donations to the Nigeria Vegetarian Society to support the rehabilitation work at the Nigeria SPCA instead. This meant that the Nigeria Vegetarian Society may not receive funding from either organization for two years.

Today we have completely rehabilitated the shelter, the hospital building, and the entire complex. In addition, we were able to acquire adjacent land to expand the Nigeria SPCA structures. The organization had tried for more than 25 years in the past to acquire this property.

## Livestock produce the most methane gas

Some scientists agree that inaccurate information repeated often enough will convince you it is true. They also agree that some of the information given about global warming is misleading. I believe that a good example of this repeated inaccurate information is that global warming is caused by human-made carbon dioxide.

In 2004 the Environmental Protection Agency reported that methane gas is 20 times more effective in trapping heat in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide.

The EPA breakdown of kilotons of methane emissions in the U.S. for 2004 was as follows: urban landfills 6,709, natural gas systems 5,658, animal flatulence 5,363, coal mining 2,682, animal manure management 1,875, urban wastewater treatment 1,758, petroleum systems 1,222, and all others 1,245. [Total from livestock: 7,238.]



—James Roehrborn  
Alexandria, Minnesota  
<james.roehrborn@gmail.com>

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## Rinderpest, CAMPFIRE, & Kenya

The June 2011 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** reported that the cattle disease rinderpest, which once killed millions, and hit Kenya very hard, has been declared extinct by the World Organisation for Animal Health. We had heard about it, but were not too sure it was true. We can now rest knowing that rinderpest is really extinct.

The June 2011 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** also reported that "Seven years after USAid quit subsidizing the Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resources program to promote trophy hunting in Zimbabwe, some Zimbabwean sources are cautiously beginning to recognize that CAMPFIRE was a boondoggle which chiefly benefited insiders of President Robert Mugabe's 31-year authoritarian regime."

The article noted that CAMPFIRE "was engineered by Brian Child, originally from Zimbabwe, now an associate professor of geography at the University of Florida."

Brian Child tried to persuade Kenya to embrace CAMPFIRE, but Kenya did not adopt any of his strategies because we had received information that CAMPFIRE has failed to alleviate poverty. The huge revenues earned from hunting did not trickle down to communities.

Above all, we began doing work that directly helps animals, such as street dog vaccination, vaccination of pets, de-worming, sterilization, and humane education. We plan to hold the first-ever West Africa Animal Welfare Conference in Nigeria in 2012.

There is still lots to be done to bring the NSPCA back to life. For example, the clinic equipment is obsolete. It was last re-equipped in 1972, nearly 40 years ago, by the William Longman Trust of Great Britain. We also need laptop computers, office equipment, veterinary supplies, etc.

We wish to say a big thank-you to everyone who has helped. This includes those

In Kenya the World Wildlife Fund is spearheading the establishment of Community Based Natural Resource Management, using local strategies and solutions. The CBNRM model will be used in the newly established community conservancies in Maasai Mara.



—Steve Itela, President  
Youth for Conservation  
P.O. Box 27689, Nyayo Stadium  
Nairobi 00506, Kenya  
Phone: 254-733-617286  
<itela@youthforconservation.org>  
<www.youthforconservation.org>

## Speaking up for fish

Thank you, **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, for once again leading the animal rights movement, this time with your editorial on fish welfare. It is heartening that a major publication in the animal rights movement is talking about this enormous group of animals who have been



almost entirely ignored by almost every animal rights organization.

—John Arnold  
Farmington, Minnesota

who have helped to provide staff training, among them the Alice Morgan/Edith Wright Trust, Africa Network for Animal Welfare, Humane Society International, the Capital Humane Society in Lincoln, Nebraska, and the Gambia Horse & Donkey Trust.



—Emmanuel Eyoh  
Director, Nigeria SPCA  
Africa Regional Coordinator  
International Vegetarian Union  
PO Box 104  
11 Gray Street Lagos Onike  
Yaba, Nigeria.  
Phone: +234 - 8037226279  
<nigerianspca@yahoo.com>

## Starving Animals to Death Is this all a humane society like America can offer?

Many jurisdictions are fining caring people for feeding dumped cats who are no longer wanted.

Bans exist everywhere with some suggesting shooting cats and catching them with cruel leg-hold traps.

Please contact your local officials and tell them to use nonlethal TNR for feral cats.

And contact Alley Cat Rescue for help with trap-neuter-return programs.



By helping just one cat, you will save the lives of many.  
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## Sketchy GAO report on horse slaughter (from 1)

tions for horse neglect and more abandoned horses since 2007.” **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, however, has collected the particulars of horse impoundments in neglect and abandonment since inception. The peak number of horse impoundments was 2,375 in 1996. The totals were just under 1,350 in 2005 and 2006; rose to 1,890 in 2007, when the last U.S. horse slaughterhouses were shut in mid-year; then fell to 1,600 in 2008, 1,450 in 2009 and 1,270 in 2010.

“In interviewing the 17 state veterinarians,” the GAO said, “we asked whether the states had data for cases of horse abandonments, abuse, and neglect. Most veterinarians from these states said they do not routinely collect such data. Nearly all the state veterinarians, however, reported anecdotes indicating that abandonments and abuse or neglect have increased in recent years. For example, several state veterinarians, including those from California, Florida, and Texas, reported an increase in horses abandoned on private or state park land since 2007, although specific data quantifying those abandonments were not available.”

Apparently the state veterinarians took no notice of wildfires that swept horse country in all three states during the years in question, razing hundreds of miles of fencing and causing spooked horses to run for their lives. Southern California horse country was hit hard in three consecutive years, 2007-2009, with a record 63 major wildfires in 2009 alone.

The GAO presented actual statistics from only one state. “Colorado data showed that investigations for horse neglect and abuse increased more than 60% from 975 in 2005 to 1,588 in 2009,” the GAO said. But the GAO failed to note that in May 2007—at almost the same time as the closure of the last U.S. horse slaughterhouses—Colorado law began requiring veterinarians to report neglect and abuse. This preceded a 20% increase

in Colorado Bureau of Animal Protection investigations of all types.

The GAO report acknowledged indirectly that closing the U.S. horse slaughterhouses contributed to a drop in adoptions of wild horses and burros removed from the western range by the Bureau of Land Management. The BLM adoption program, established by the 1971 Wild and Free Ranging Horse and Burro Protection Act, has long been suspected of supplying wild equines to slaughter brokers, contrary to the intent of the law as it existed until a November 2005 amendment ordered the BLM to sell “without limitation” any “excess” wild equine who is more than 10 years of age, or who has been offered for adoption three times without a taker.

Contrary to the intent of the amendment, introduced by horse slaughter proponent and former U.S. Senator Conrad Burns, BLM horse adoptions have fallen from about 8,000 in 2005 to circa 3,000 in 2010.

“Some proponents of horse slaughter are using the GAO as a rallying cry to re-open equine abattoirs,” said Humane Legislative Fund president Mike Markarian. “But the GAO report is a lot more nuanced than the horse slaughter industry suggests, and provides some good insights into better policy solutions for horse welfare. And it confirms that shipping horses long distances in double-decker trailers and killing them for food exports isn’t good for the horses,” Markarian added.

“We never viewed the shutdown of the U.S. plants as the end of the process,” commented Humane Society of the U.S. president Wayne Pacelle. “We’ve known we must stop the export of live horses to our neighboring nations if we are going to shut down slaughter. We think the GAO report gives us powerful new ammunition to pass federal legislation to do that,” Pacelle concluded.

## What’s up at Memphis Animal Services?

I wonder if you are aware of the awful situation at Memphis Animal Services in Memphis, Tennessee? Things have not changed there much, if at all, since they were raided in 2009. Abuse, neglect, and cruelty are still the order of the day. The city officials continue to be stone-faced, and animal rescuers continue to be outraged.

It would be great if you would look into it. There is a Care2 petition to boycott Memphis until the shelter is completely overhauled. There is a rescue blog that has been almost exclusively devoted to Memphis Animal Services since the raid. British recording star Maria Daines, at my request, has produced a song about Memphis Animal Services entitled “Bad News Comin’ Outa Memphis.” This is an appalling excuse for a municipal pound!



—M. Washington  
Welcome Home Sanctuary  
868 Martindale Road  
Craryville, NY 12521

<<http://welcomehomesanctuaryinc.weebly.com>>

### Memphis findings:

The rates of shelter animal killing per 1,000 humans in Memphis and Knoxville, both in Tennessee, have gone rapidly backward in recent years, directly opposite to the progress accomplished in most of the rest of the U.S. (see page 14).

Memphis Animal Services and other agencies in Logan County together killed 15.3 dogs and cats per 1,000 human residents in 2005, but the toll rose to 17.1 in 2006. Then-Memphis Animal Services director Phil Snyder resigned in April 2007. Under Snyder’s successor, Ernest Alexander, the toll increased to 20.1 by 2008.

The 31% rise in the Memphis rate of shelter killing since the 2005 low appears to be exceeded only by the 43% rise in Knoxville since 2001—since the Humane Society of the Tennessee Valley returned the animal control sheltering contract to the city, to refocus on sterilizing animals, and the city embarked upon a high-profile plan to reduce killing by holding pit bull terriers longer in hopes of adopting them out.

While Knoxville does not publish breed-specific shelter data, the city appears to be killing more pit bulls now than ever, along with more of just about everything else.

In Memphis, the Ernest Alexander regime ended after an October 2009 investigation by the city shelter advisory board and a two-member team from the American SPCA discovered a 62% increase in the numbers of animals who died in their cages due to illness or injury since Snyder’s departure. At least three dogs allegedly starved to death. Alexander, former shelter supervisor Tina Quattlebaum, and former shelter veterinarian Angela Middleton were in February 2010 each indicted on six counts of cruelty. Animal control supervisor Ivan Russell resigned in May 2010, just ahead of an administrative hearing about his performance.

Under Alexander’s successor, Matt Pepper, adoptions have increased by about 30%, and shelter killing has reportedly decreased, but cage deaths have continued at the rate of about two per five days, and almost as many animals have reportedly been lost or stolen.

“We are concerned about reports indicating that things have gotten worse, not better,” In Defense of Animals posted circa July 1, 2011. “These reports include: webcams installed for ‘transparency’ indicate major issues concerning inhumane treatment of animals, including dogs lifted by catch-pole to an elevated cage and dogs dragged through shelter hallways by catch-pole; multiple animals in the euthanasia room watching euthanasia of other animals, a clear violation of American Veterinary Medical Association guidelines and generally accepted humane procedure; animal control officers not enforcing humane laws; no pre-euthanasia sedation given to the animals unless they are already agitated; and little or no staff accountability—no review process in place or in use.”

Earlier, in March 2011, Memphis Animal Services took an online bashing over webcam images which either showed workers using sticks to play with caged cats, or “poking” them, as critics claimed, and an image showing puppies being carried in a trash can. While these situations may have been misrepresented, Memphis mayor A.C. Wharton apologized for anything shown that was done improperly, and said that “Should we conclude that disciplinary action is needed, we will take the appropriate action.”

Under Wharton, the Memphis City Council in September 2010 enacted a differential licensing ordinance which imposes a licensing fee of \$200 for keeping an intact dog and mandates sterilization of dogs who have bitten someone or have been found twice running at large. Differential licensing ordinances tend to bring disappointing results, since the rate of licensing compliance in most cities runs under a third of the rate of sterilization even before the ordinances are passed. In addition, most backyard breeders expect to be paid more than \$200 for puppies, making the intact licensing fee more an inconvenience than a deterrent. However, the ordinance has been backed up by the introduction of dog and cat sterilizations for \$10, using vouchers provided through a partnership of Memphis Animal Services, the Mid-South Spay/Neuter Service and the PETCO Foundation.

Memphis Animal Services is to open a \$7.6 million new shelter later this year, with 546 holding kennels in place of 341 in the present shelter, built more than 40 years ago. But Pepper may have difficulty finding the budget to fully staff it.

Like many other cities around the U.S., Memphis is in deep financial trouble as result of repeatedly cutting property taxes, even as the cost of providing municipal services increased. In 2008 the Memphis City Council covered a property tax cut by slashing \$57 million from education.

Facing a potential deficit of \$70 million in the next fiscal year, the Memphis City Council on June 23, 2011 approved a 2012 city budget which eliminates 400 jobs, including 125 layoffs and the elimination of 275 positions that have been left unfilled in anticipation of cuts that earlier in the year appeared likely to cost 1,400 jobs. That would have been nearly 20% of total city staffing. Amid cuts of that magnitude, Memphis Animal Services is a low priority.

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## New South Korean animal welfare regs

**SEOUL**—The South Korean National Assembly on June 29, 2011 ratified into law the final draft of new national animal protection regulations proposed by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, to take effect on January 1, 2012.

“Those who commit cruelty to animals may face a jail term of up to one year, or a maximum fine of 10 million won (\$9,400),” reported Lee Sun-young of the *Korea Herald*. “Currently the heaviest penalty is a fine of five million won.”

The announcement came six days after the Korea Dog Farmers’ Association cancelled a dog meat festival which had been scheduled for July 1 at the Moran Traditional Market in Seongnam. The next-to-last stop on the Seoul subway line, the Moran Market has long been the largest dog meat market in South Korea.

“We couldn’t possibly go on with the plan, due to endless phone calls of complaint. Now there are few willing to rent us a place for the event,” complained Chung Cheong University professor Ann Yong-Geun to Park Ji-Hwan of Agence France-Presse. Ann Yong-Geun is a “nutritional advisor” to the Korea Dog Farmers’ Association.

Countered Park So-Youn, founder of Coexistence of Animal Rights on Earth, “This is making our country an international laughing stock, making the world mistakenly believe that all South Koreans eat dogs.”

The new South Korean law does not address eating dogs, but *Korea Herald* reporter Lee Sun-young credited “the persistent controversy over eating dog meat” with helping to bring the law into effect, along with two highly publicized cruelty cases in

which a dog and a cat were beaten to death. Though the perpetrators may not have intended to eat these animals, and though beating animals to death was already illegal, slow beatings were the traditional means of killing dogs for human consumption.

Major provisions of the new law, according to CARE spokesperson Ji Yun, begin with recognition of the “Five freedoms” recognized in British animal welfare regulations since 1993. These include freedom from thirst, hunger and malnutrition; freedom from discomfort, including adequate shelter and a comfortable resting area; freedom from pain, injury and disease; freedom to express normal behavior; and freedom from fear and distress.

“The central government shall establish and enforce a comprehensive animal welfare scheme every five years and local governments shall be willing to cooperate for the enforcement of the scheme,” Ji Yun continued. “Humane methods shall be employed for the transportation of animals. Animal protection committees shall be set up in animal shelters over a certain size set by the ministry. Animal shelters shall employ humane euthanasia. Animal testing shall be reviewed by ethics committees.”

In addition, an accreditation procedure is to be established for farms that meet Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries animal welfare standards.

Added Lee Sun-young, “The revised law will compel dog owners to register their dogs with local governments from 2013. The number of pets abandoned or lost on the street topped 100,000 last year, rising sharply from 25,000 in 2003, the ministry said.”

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# Pennsylvania Bureau of Dog Law shake-up worries anti-puppy mill campaigners

**HARRISBURG**—Jesse Smith, heading the Pennsylvania Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement since 2006, was on June 15, 2011 transferred to the Office of Chief Counsel, where she said she would be “putting together a USDA-sponsored agricultural mediation program.”

Replacing Smith, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture secretary George D. Greig announced, is Lynn Diehl. Greig introduced Diehl as “a lifelong animal lover with a magnitude of management skills.” Greig also announced that Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett is “transitioning the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement to the Dog Law Enforcement Office. The office will report directly to the department’s Executive Deputy Secretary Mike Pechart,” Greig said, “ensuring its functions are handled at the highest level.”

Amy Worden, covering dog law for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*’s Harrisburg Bureau, offered a different perspective. “Tom Corbett replaced the top ‘dog cop’ with a career banker who has no experience in animal welfare and tasked her with a top-down review,” Worden blogged. “The shakeup leaves a gap in institutional knowledge.” Further, Worden reported, “Pechart said other changes were in the works,

such as evaluating if there was still a need for the Dog Law Advisory Board and the all-vet Canine Health Board. The latter drafted temperature, ventilation, lighting, and other health standards for kennels.”

Corbett, elected in November 2010, in his previous post as Pennsylvania attorney general “vigorously prosecuted violations of Pennsylvania’s Puppy Lemon Law,” Greig said, “and negotiated the largest ever state consumer fraud settlement involving the sale of sick and defective dogs. Under the terms of their consent,” Greig said, “the owners of Puppy Love Kennel in Lancaster County paid more than \$50,000 in enhanced restitution to 171 consumers.”

Worden alleged that Corbett acted in the Puppy Love Kennel case, and other high-profile “puppy mill” cases, only “after prolonged efforts by activists and reporters to call attention to conditions.”

Then while running for governor, Corbett in September 2010 agreed to changes in dog breeding regulations adopted in 2008 which amounted to significantly weakening several provisions governing flooring and how often a dog may be bred. Animal advocates including Jenny Stephens of North Penn Puppy Mill Watch and Bill Smith of Main

Line Rescue denounced the changes as a return to the pre-2008 status quo.

Perhaps most controversial, explained *Lancaster Sunday News* editor Gil Smart, were “a provision that would permit pregnant or nursing dogs to be housed in cages with wire flooring, and another that would prevent some dogs from having unfettered access to an outdoor exercise area.”

The regulations were amended, Smart wrote, after many former breeders closed their businesses and “statewide, 81 of the 111 commercial kennels still in existence got waivers temporarily exempting them from having to comply with the dog law.”

“My concern is that we may be headed back to where we started, in the days when activists as well as dogs were kept in the dark,” New Jersey Consumers Against Pet Shop Abuse founder Libby Williams told Worden.

**Texas**

**Texas Governor Rick Perry** on June 17, 2011 signed into law a bill initiating state oversight of dog breeding kennels which keep 11 or more female breeding dogs and sell 20 or more dogs per year. The new law “requires that breeders be inspected and that

enclosures have adequate drainage, are made out of safe materials, and have adequate space for animals to comfortably stand, sit, turn around and lie down in a natural position,” summarized American SPCA spokesperson Rebecca McNeill. “Texas was one of the last states without a law concerning commercial breeding operations,” added ASPCA senior director of government relations Jill Buckley.

**Missouri**

**Missouri attorney general Chris Koster’s staff** on June 13, 2011 filed the first case to be brought under the new Missouri Canine Cruelty Prevention Act, adopted on April 27, 2011 in place of the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act that was approved by state voters in November 2010, and then dismantled by the state legislation on April 13, 2011. Charged was Linda Brisco, of Moser Kennel in Monett, Lawrence County.

Under a temporary restraining order, Brisco is prohibited from conducting further business in violation of the state Animal Care Facilities Act and the Canine Cruelty Prevention Act. “Koster wants a permanent order shutting Brisco’s kennel down and requiring Brisco to pay court costs and for past violations,” reported the *Springfield News-Leader*.

# UNESCO statement raises false hope of Serengeti highway cancellation

**NAIROBI, PARIS, DAR ES SALAAM, WASHINGTON D.C.**—The United Nations Educational & Scientific Organization on June 24, 2011 declared victory over the Tanzanian government plan to build a highway crossing Serengeti National Park, but apparently had not examined the details of the letter from Tanzanian Natural Resources and Tourism Minister Ezekiel Maige that prompted the celebration.

“The Serengeti road project has not been abandoned. We have just revised it. I don’t know where all this confusion comes from,” Maige told Reuters reporter Fumbuka Ng’wanakilala on July 1, 2011.

But by then the erroneous UNESCO statement had already been amplified around the world for a week, touching off premature celebrations by animal and environmental advocates. Ecological Internet of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, even issued a fundraising appeal crediting itself with “successfully leading” international opposition to the Serengeti highway. The appeal was dated June 23, 2011—one day before the UNESCO announcement, albeit one day after Maige actually wrote his letter.

“We expect many more victories of this sort over the coming years,” said Ecological Internet president Glen Barry.

Opened the June 24 UNESCO statement, “In an important decision taken at the current session of the World Heritage Committee at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, France, the United Republic of Tanzania has stated it will reconsider its North Road project.

The alternative,” said UNESCO, “is to maintain the 53-kilometer stretch of gravel road mainly for tourism and administrative purposes, as it is currently, with the Committee calling upon the international community to provide support for an alternative route, running south of Serengeti National Park and Ngorongoro Conservation area.”

Among the first public skeptics was Africa Network for Animal Welfare founder Josphat Ngonyo. “Our lawyer has advised that we should not celebrate until we obtain a court commitment that no development whatsoever or upgrade will be carried out on the road,” Ngonyo e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on June 24, soon after the UNESCO announcement was made.

WildlifeDirect executive director Paula Kahambu was also skeptical. Blogged Kahambu on July 7, 2011, “I was at the *National Geographic* offices in Washington D.C. when it was announced that the Tanzanian minister for tourism had issued a statement that the controversial Serengeti highway had been canned. A huge cheer went up. I couldn’t believe it. I was not convinced that the statement meant what everyone thought it did. Today the Tanzanian government is saying that the road will be built, but it just won’t be paved. The world has erupted in shock and horror. Why are we surprised? They have done this twice before.”

Luke Dollar of the *National Geographic* Big Cat Initiative acknowledged Kahambu’s doubts, deep in the June 24 *National Geographic News* Watch coverage.

“After a closer look at the official Tanzanian statement, it’s questions, not toasts, that are being raised, and conservationists are divided as to whether it means the highway is truly canceled,” blogged Ker Than for *National Geographic News* on June 28, 2011, as the reality of the matter emerged.

Said Serengeti Watch, a web site hosted by Earth Island Institute, “Unfortunately, some in the media have claimed a great victory for conservation. Those who have pushed for a commercial route through the Serengeti can claim victory as well. If their plans continue, they will get their road across the Serengeti. They will get improved connecting roads on either side of the park. They will get a bonus southern route around the Serengeti.

“The current Tanzanian government has been refused funds for the Serengeti highway by every major donor, government, and lending institution in the world,” Serengeti Watch continued. “Those who want a true commercial highway clearly cannot achieve it now. But they can make inroads and later connect the dots. In its recent letter to the World Heritage Committee,” Serengeti Watch pointed out, the government of Tanzania stated that the road through the Serengeti will not be paved, but will ‘remain gravel road.’ The truth, however, is more complicated. No gravel road exists across this 53-kilometer stretch. Much of this area is designated as a wilderness zone, with no public access.”

Wrote Ngonyo to the World Heritage Committee, “It was with relief and jubilation that ANAW initially received media reports that the Tanzanian government had agreed to abandon the Trans-Serengeti road project. We were, however, disap-

pointed to find out that far from promising to stop the construction of the road, the letter of the Tanzanian Minister for Natural Resources dated June 22, 2011 addressed to you actually affirms that ‘the proposed road will be constructed.’”

ANAW, pursuing a lawsuit against the Serengeti highway, “was in court on June 29, 2011,” Ngonyo wrote. “The Attorney General of Tanzania, who was represented in court, did not give any indication to us or to the court that the project had been shelved or reviewed in any way.”

But Kahambu acknowledged that she had rethought her own position.

“Conservationists, me included, have been focused only on the threat of this road to the Serengeti,” Kahambu posted, “and I don’t think we have tried hard enough to understand that the main purpose of the road was to develop two struggling isolated towns of Musoma and Mwanza on the eastern shores of Lake Victoria.”

The planned road “will enable them to become become major lake port cities connecting Tanzania to massive trading opportunities in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Congo,” Kahambu wrote. “As conservation groups, we have focused on the impact of the road on the wildebeest migration and loss of associated tourism benefits, but I’m not sure that anybody has calculated if that loss outweighs the economic imperative to diversify Tanzanian industry. In Kenya we have all seen how fickle tourism can be.”

Suggested Kahambu, “Why don’t we start supporting Tanzania in thinking creatively about building a road that serves both the wildlife and the development needs of Tanzania?”

—Merritt Clifton

# Jerusalem court did not order dog to be stoned

**JERUSALEM**— “There is no basis for stoning dogs or any other animal in the Jewish religion, not since the days of the Temple or Abraham,” decreed the Beth Din financial court in the Mea Shearim district of Jerusalem on June 3, 2011.

But that was far different from the story circulated worldwide two weeks later, which erroneously asserted that a Beth Din judge had ordered that a dog should be stoned, as the alleged reincarnation of a deceased lawyer who had been barred from the court 20 years earlier. The erroneous version was the most read story of June 17 on the BBC News web site, and was also distributed by hundreds of other news media, even though the original source had long since issued a retraction and apology for comments apparently meant as a parody of ultra-Orthodox behavior.

“On 3rd June 2011,” admitted The Israeli newspaper *Maariv*, “we published an item headlined ‘Meah Shearim: A Bet Din (religious court) instructed that a dog be stoned.’ In the article it was reported that a complaint was made to the police by the Israeli animal protection society against the Rabbinical Court for Monetary Matters in Jerusalem. The article brought a categorical denial of this accusation from the head of the court, Rabbi Yehoshua Levin. According to him, workers from the municipal authority collected the dog from the court. The headline of the article did not reflect the full story and we apologize to the court and its members for the distress caused.”

*Maariv*, a well-respected Hebrew daily, ranks fourth among Israeli newspapers in readership.

Continued the Beth Din statement, “The female dog found a seat in the corner of the court.

And the children were delighted by it; there were hundreds outside the court. They are used to seeing stray cats but most have never seen a dog before. The only action we took was to dial the number of the Jerusalem Municipality to get the people in charge to take it away.


“There was no talk of reincarnation, a lawyer has never been mentioned, either now or 20 years ago, and there was no stoning,” the Beth Din added. “Such inventions are a kind of blood libel, and we wonder why the inventor of the story did not continue to describe how we collected the blood of the dog to make our matzah.”

The dog was reportedly taken to a no-kill shelter operated by Let The Animals Live. The matter appeared to have ended—but then, summarized Christian Science Monitor reporter Eoin O’Carroll, “The BBC, along with Agence France Presse, *Time*, and a handful other news outlets got the story from Ynet, the website for *Yediot Ahronot*, Israel’s second-largest newspaper. Ynet didn’t do any original reporting. They got the story from *Behadrei Hadarim*, a small Hebrew-language news outlet for Israel’s ultra-Orthodox community.”


Reported T. Sevroai of *Virtual Jerusalem*, “One onlooker did state that when the dog refused to leave, a judge asked some kids to chase the dog away. The man confirmed that ‘They didn’t issue an official ruling.’ The man claims that some of the kids outside were asked to throw something at the dog to make it go away. While this is not an animal-activist’s dream, it is certainly not on the same level of the initial claim which portrayed the court members as demented, superstitious and vicious towards animals.”

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## United Kingdom to ban wild animal acts from circuses

(from page 1)

European Commission."

Environment secretary Caroline Spelman presented the licensing proposal in May 2011, citing the alleged Austrian court action, but the proposal was rejected by the British Veterinary Association, as well as by the Royal SPCA, Born Free Foundation, Captive Animals Protection Society, and other animal advocacy organizations.

More than 32,000 readers signed an *Independent* online petition in support of the circus animal ban, Hickman said.

"About 20 exotic animals, including tigers, zebras, camels and pythons, are still used by three circuses—the Great British Circus, Peter Jolly's Circus and Circus Mondao, all of which say they are well cared for," Hickman reported in May 2011.

Commented Animal Defenders International chief executive Jan Creamer, "Politicians have now sent a clear instruction to the Government and they should now proceed with a ban."

A May 2011 online poll done for ADI by the YouGov agency found 72% favor for banning wild animals from circuses, against opposition from only 8%. That was actually a decrease in support from a 2010 survey by the Department of Environment, Food

and Rural Affairs, which found 94.5% public support for such a ban.

Opposition to animal use in British circuses ignited in February 2009 when the Great British Circus introduced the first circus elephant act to be exhibited in the British Isles in more than 10 years. The issue heated up in April 2011 when Animal Defenders International released to the *Daily Mail* an undercover video of a worker beating, kicking, and jabbing an elephant named Anne at the Bobby Roberts Super Circus winter quarters. Anne had belonged to the Roberts Circus since 1957. Amid the ensuing media furor, Anne was transferred to an organization called Specialist Wildlife Services, and then retired to the Longleat Safari Park.

### Other nations

The British Parliamentary resolution passed about two months after the Greek government introduced a bill which would ban circus animal acts at the same time as introducing felony cruelty penalties.

"The Greek government has been debating the bill since 2009 after a circus trainer was shown on TV beating an elephant with a stick," reported *RIA Novosti*.

"Six countries—Austria, Croatia,

Israel, Bolivia, Costa Rica and Singapore—have already banned all wild animals in circuses. Partial bans are in place in the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Sweden and India," reported Hickman of *The Independent*.

Global momentum toward banning wildlife from circuses started on May 1, 2001 when the Supreme Court of India upheld former Indian national animal welfare minister Maneka Gandhi's contention that capturing bears, monkeys, lions, and tigers for exhibition was outlawed in India by the Wild Life Protection Act 1972.

More than 280 lions, 40 tigers, and scores of aging ex-performing bears were thereafter retired to six Central Zoo Authority-accredited Animal Rescue Centres, where they are living out their lives off exhibit. On November 9, 2009 the CZA decreed that elephants may no longer be exhibited by zoos and circuses, but this order has not been enforced, chiefly because there are few other places for captive elephants to go.

Bolivia banned animal circuses in July 2009, but did not provide for the animals who could no longer be exhibited. Animal Defenders International in June 2010 and February 2011 flew 28 former Bolivian circus lions to new homes at the Rocky Mountain

Wildlife Conservation Center in Keenesburg, Colorado, and at the Performing Animal Welfare sanctuary near Galt, California.

Peru, Brazil, Chile, and Colombia are also reportedly considering bans on wildlife use in circuses, based on model legislation drafted by Animal Defenders International and promoted in South America since circa 2007.

In China, the Ministry of Housing and Urban/Rural Development, responsible for zoo regulation, on October 26, 2010 "suggested" that zoos should stop staging circus-like trained animal acts, including feeding live prey to carnivores, because "These activities go against the public good." The "suggestion" was addressed to more than 700 Chinese animal exhibition facilities.

The U.S., Canada, Australia and New Zealand have no federal or state legislation prohibiting wild animal use in circuses, but local ordinances to similar effect have been enacted in many communities.

The last circus elephant performing in New Zealand was retired to the Franklin Zoo in Tukau in December 2009. The last circus elephant performing in Australia was retired to property owned by the Perry Brothers Circus in March 2011.

## Events

**July 30-31: No Kill Conf.**, Wash., D.C. Info: <[www.no-killadvocacycenter.org](http://www.no-killadvocacycenter.org)>.

**August 8-11: 5th Intl. Workshop on Assessment of Animal Welfare at the Farm & Group Level**, Univ. of Guelph, Ontario. Info: <[ccsaw@uoguelph.ca](mailto:ccsaw@uoguelph.ca)>.

**Sept. 12-15: Dogs Trust Intl. Training Program**, London. Info: <[davidnewall@dogs-trust.org.uk](mailto:davidnewall@dogs-trust.org.uk)>.

**Sept. 21-22: World Rabies Day International Webinar**. Info: <<http://webinar.world-rabiesday.org/html>>.

**Sept. 25: Puttin' On The Dog** fun dog show to benefit Adopt-A-Dog, Greenwich, Conn. Info: 203-629-9494; <[www.adoptadog.org](http://www.adoptadog.org)>.

**Sept. 26-30: Animal Nutrition Impact on Animal Welfare** expert meeting, Rome, Italy. Info: <[Danielia.Battaglia@fao.org](mailto:Danielia.Battaglia@fao.org)>.

**Sept. 28: World Rabies Day**. Info: <[www.world-rabiesday.org](http://www.world-rabiesday.org)>.

**Oct. 4: World Animal Day**. Info: <[info@worldanimal-day.org.uk](mailto:info@worldanimal-day.org.uk)>; <[www.world-animalday.org.uk](http://www.world-animalday.org.uk)>.

**Oct. 15: Deadline to enter films in STEPS Intl. Rights Film Festival**, hosted by CETA-Life in Kharkov, Ukraine. Info: <[cetalife.con.ua](mailto:cetalife.con.ua)>; <[www.cetalife.com.ua](http://www.cetalife.com.ua)>.

**Oct. 15: Adopt-A-Dog 30th Anniv. Gala**, Greenwich, Conn. Info: 203-629-9494; <[www.adoptadog.org](http://www.adoptadog.org)>.

(continued on page 10)

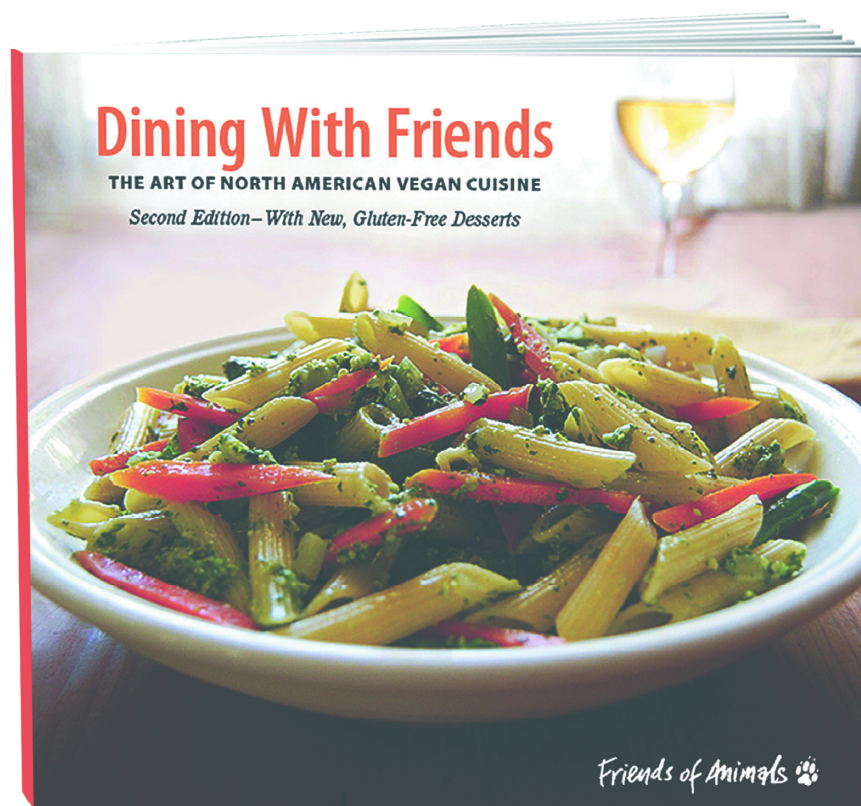
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## Most of the Chinese dog meat traffic is already illegal, lawyers contend

**BEIJING**—Most of the Chinese traffic in dogs for human consumption is already illegal, and therefore should be stopped immediately, without awaiting passage of a national humane law, attorneys Lu Xun, An Xiang, and Cai Chunhang told a two-hour press conference convened in Beijing on June 15, 2011 by the Shangshan Animal Foundation.

The lawyers joined China Veterinary Association Pet Clinic Branch vice president Liu Lang to discuss the implications for rabies control resulting from investigation of an incident on April 14, 2011, when Beijing activists intercepted and eventually rescued approximately 500 dogs from a truck transporting them from Henan province to dog meat restaurants in Jilin province.

The truck driver, Hao Xiaomao, was brother of Hao Xiaobing, the dog dealer who supplied the cargo. In business since 2006, Hao Xiaobing reportedly was paid \$1,200 to \$1,500 per load of dogs.

About 80% of the dogs who were seized came from random sources, the attorneys said. About 20% of the dogs were said to have been bred for human consumption on one farm. The rest were of unknown origin, but many had collars and some were purebreds. Investigators believe these dogs were stolen. Some were reportedly identified and reclaimed by their people.

All of the dogs, when the truck was intercepted after a 15-hour standoff between the drivers and about 100 activists who surrounded it on a Beijing expressway, had certification of rabies vaccination and of having completed post-vaccination quarantine, to ensure that they were not already rabid when vaccinated.

However, the certifications of vaccination and quarantine were issued on the same day, the attorneys demonstrated, projecting copies of the certificates on a pair of large screens to be read by the approximately 20 reporters and 50 animal advocates who formed the audience. The attorneys pointed out that the “veterinarian” who signed the papers turned out to be not a vet, and was not even qualified to take the examination required to legally issue a certificate of rabies vaccination.

The certification stated that the dogs had been vaccinated not only against rabies, but also against parainfluenza, adenovirus, distemper, and parvovirus. Many dogs, however, were ill with parvovirus and distemper.

Forty healthy dogs were checked for blood titres. None showed any evidence of having actually been vaccinated against anything. Thus there were no actual safeguards in effect against translocating rabies, the attorneys pointed out—just an unenforced paperwork requirement.

Failure to vaccinate was just the

beginning of the legal issues, according to the lawyers. Chinese law requires vaccination of any dogs moving interstate, but the Chinese Veterinary Medicine Administrative Regulations state that the use of the vaccine given to the dogs in animals intended for human consumption is illegal, attorney An Xiang told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** via translator Irene Zhang of Animal Rescue Beijing.

Chinese law requires that veterinary medicines must be registered for whatever purposes they are to be used. No vaccines are registered for use in dogs destined for human consumption, An Xiang said. No exemptions to the vaccination requirement and/or the vaccine registration requirement are granted to permit interstate movement of dogs who are to be eaten, An Xiang continued.

The three attorneys presented to the Beijing press conference a variety of statements from federal and provincial agencies to confirm that none of them authorize interstate movement of unvaccinated dogs. The attorneys concluded that Chinese rabies control law actually prohibits the entire interstate dog meat trade, which they identified as a probable major vector for translocation of rabies.

The convenors concluded the press conference by appealing for enforcement of the laws already on the books.

“There is no punishment for the dog dealer yet,” Irene Zhang told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

**PLE.** “The Shangshan Animal Foundation legal team sent a legal notice to the local Livestock Bureau in Yanshi City, Henan province, which issued the quarantine certificate, and is awaiting a response. If the bureau insists that their certificate is valid, the foundation might launch a lawsuit.”

Circumstantial evidence has long linked the dog meat traffic with the spread of rabies in China. A September 2009 Ministry of Health report found that rabies had killed about 2,400 people per year in China during the preceding five years.

“Most rabies deaths occurred in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and the provinces of Guizhou, Guangdong, Hunan, and Sichuan, accounting for 61% percent of the total, *China Daily* summarized. Contiguous to each other, the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and three of the named provinces together form the part of China which is most involved in the dog meat industry. Southern Sichuan borders on Guizhou and is involved in exporting dogs for slaughter.

The *China Daily* report noted that rabies infections “mostly occurred in rural areas among males,” who might be most likely to work among unvaccinated “meat dogs,” children under the age of 15, who are most likely to play with dogs, and “people over the age of 50,” the age bracket most likely to consume dog meat.

—Merritt Clifton

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### More events

(continued from page 9)

**Oct. 18-20: Intl. Companion Animal Welfare Conf.,** Riga, Latvia. Info: <Helen.Speake@dogstrust.org.uk>

**Oct. 21-23: No More Homeless Pets,** Las Vegas. Info: 435-644-2001 x 4478; <conferences@bestfriends.org> or <http://events.bestfriends.org/Upcoming/nmhp>.

**Sept. 24: DC VegFest,** cosponsored by Compassion Over Killing and the Vegetarian Society of DC, in Washington DC. Info: <www.DC-VegFest.com>.

**Oct. 30: Animal Rights Action Network “Have A Heart for Animals”** march & rally, Dublin, Ireland. Info: <aran-campaigns@eircom.net> or <www.Aran.ie>.

**Nov. 2011: FAO/WSPA consultation on Animals in Emergencies.** Info: <www.fao.org/ag/animalwelfare.html>.

**Nov. 21-23: 3rd Intl. Conference On Wildlife Rescue in East and Southeast Asia,** hosted by Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand at Kaengkrachan National Park, Thailand. Info: <edwin.wiek@wfft.org>; <www.wfft.org>.

**Dec. 2011, Jan. 2012: Vegan Camp,** Sthitaprajna Vegan Retreat, Karnataka, India. Info: <indianvegansociety@rediffmail.com>.



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### Humane Society of the U.S. cuts deal with United Egg Producers to seek law (from page 1)

Federal law may not restrict commercial activity occurring completely within a state, such as keeping hens in battery cages to produce eggs only for consumption within the state. But there are few if any egg producers whose output is not in some manner sold in interstate commerce, if only as ingredients in products such as cake mixes and noodles.

"Some provisions [of the proposed law] will be implemented nearly immediately after enactment," said Shapiro, "such as those relating to molting, ammonia, and euthanasia

[of 'spent' hens], and others after just a few years, including labeling and the requirement that all birds will have to have at least 67 square inches of space each," up from the present norm of 48 square inches each.

By 2029 the proposed law would require white laying hens to have 124 square inches of space apiece. Brown laying hens, who are larger, would get 144 square inches apiece. After 2011, UEP-certified egg producers will not be allowed to install new caging which cannot be modified to meet the

agreed standards. "The agreement does not ensure cage-free conditions," Shapiro acknowledged, "which would be preferable, but it is a remarkable step forward."

HSUS president Wayne Pacelle and Farm Sanctuary founder Gene Baur issued similar summaries of the HSUS/UEP agreement several hours later. Farm Sanctuary called the agreement "A groundbreaking move that should result in the greatest advancement for farmed animals in U.S. history."

Federal law normally pre-empts state

legislation where there is a conflict, but some federal laws, such as those governing automotive emissions, include exemptions allowing states to enforce higher standards than those that are federally prescribed.

"To protect Proposition Two, the landmark laying hen welfare initiative passed in California in 2008," Pacelle said, "California egg producers—with nearly 20 million laying hens—would be required to eliminate barren battery cages by 2015, the date

(continued on page 12)

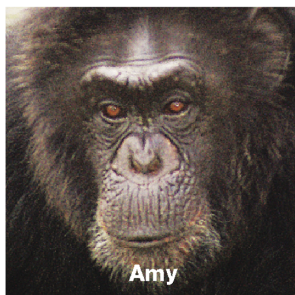
## Awards & honors

### Kenyan wins Natl. Geo. Award

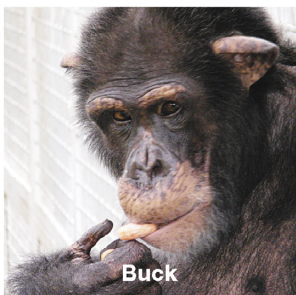
**NAIROBI**—Paula Kahumbu, executive director of the Kenya Land Conservation Trust and WildlifeDirect, was on June 17, 2011 named recipient of the \$25,000 National Geographic Annual Award. "Through WildlifeDirect," founded by Kahumbu's long-time mentor Richard Leakey, "she has created Africa's largest wildlife blogging platform," wrote Gatonye Gathura for *AllAfrica.com*. Kahumbu is author of four books for children, in collaboration with Isabella and Craig Hatkoff, describing the initial friendship and further adventures of a baby hippopotamus and a 120-year-old male giant tortoise. Translated into 27 languages, the books have sold more than a million copies. Owen, the hippo, was swept out to sea by the December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. Washed ashore and rescued by coastal fishers several days later, Owen was taken to the Haller wildlife park near Mombasa. Upon release, he ran to Mzee, the tortoise, and hid behind him. Not yet weaned, Owen ate what Mzee ate, and as tortoises eat much the same food as hippos, Owen survived and thrived.

### HSUS wins a 2nd Silver Telly

**WASHINGTON D.C.**—The Humane Society of the U.S. in June 2011 received a Silver Telly Award for excellence in television for the second consecutive month. The Telly Award program, founded in 1978, honored the HSUS video *Undercover at Smithfield* in June, after honoring the HSUS video *Stallone: The Face of Dogfighting* in May. *Undercover at Smithfield* is an exposé featuring the findings of an HSUS investigator who worked for a month in a Virginia farrowing barn operated by a Smithfield Foods subsidiary. *Stallone* is the biography of a fighting dog.



Amy



Buck



Chobe



Deeter



Grace



Harry



Hope



Jewel with Baby Grace



Mallory



Okko



Uriah



Wanda

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Humane Society of the U.S. cuts deal with United Egg Producers to seek federal law governing care of laying hens (from page 11)

Proposition Two goes into effect, and provide all hens with environmental enrichments, such as perches, nesting boxes, and scratching areas,” ahead of the national deadline. “This will apply to the sale of all eggs and egg products in California,” Pacelle added.

Proposition Two, reinforced in 2010 by a law requiring all eggs sold in California to meet the Proposition Two standards by 2015, required that laying hens be able to stand up, lie down, turn around, and fully extend their limbs. HSUS had interpreted this to mean that laying hens must be kept in cage-free environments. But the American Humane Association in June 2010 announced a deal with the egg producer J.S. West, of Modesto, California, which holds that Proposition Two allows the use of “enriched” cages like those that must be used in the European Union by 2012, in place of traditional battery caging. After J.S. West invested \$3.2 million in becoming the first major U.S. producer known to use “enriched” cages, the AHA authorized J.S. West to use the “American Humane Certified” logo. “There’s going to be a legal wrangle over this,” Pacelle predicted then to *New York Times* reporter Erik Eckholm.

“Talks between HSUS and UEP started after HSUS said it recognized that there were benefits to [caged] colonies [of multiple hens per cage], reversing a position that it only supported cage-free egg production systems,” wrote Rod Smith of the agribusiness trade journal *Feedstuffs*.

“Proposition Two was facing a court challenge and the outcome was uncertain on what the ballot language would mean in terms of space,” Pacelle told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “so we are pleased to reach some agreement with the egg industry and have the new space requirement and enrichments take place on a faster timeline than the rest of the country. The California sales ban on eggs that don’t meet these standards would also be implemented nationwide, and the labeling of egg cartons would allow consumers to reach for a higher animal welfare standard.”

The latter provision won praise from Compassion Over Killing, whose lawsuits obliged the UEP to phase out the use of egg cartons labeled “Animal Care Certified” by April 2006. When the cartons remained in use for two more years, CoK sued UEP again.

UEP and the American Humane Association meanwhile agreed in March 2008 to a reciprocal labeling scheme which allows producers who pass an American Humane

Certified audit and meet the UEP Certified Program guidelines to market eggs as both UEP Certified and American Humane Certified. CoK has subsequently “urged the Food and Drug Administration to pass a Truth in Egg-Labeling requirement to address the rampant use of false or exaggerated claims throughout the egg industry,” a CoK statement responding to the HSUS/UEP pact said.

“Part of the agreement involves the industry capitulating to federal rulemaking petitions filed earlier in the year by Compassion Over Killing and the Animal Legal Defense Fund that would have forced industry to tell consumers the truth about how hens who produce eggs live,” said ALDF. “If Congress moves quickly to pass the legislation” sought by HSUS and UEP, “we can avoid an expensive lawsuit,” ALDF added.

Industry response

The HSUS/UEP agreement drew a mixed response from agribusiness. The National Pork Producers Council argued that federal legislation governing living conditions for laying hens “would set a dangerous precedent for allowing the federal government to dictate how livestock and poultry producers raise and care for their animals.”

But Smith of *Feedstuffs* saw the deal more positively. “The concept is to have one national hen housing and space standard,” Smith wrote, “rather than a patchwork of state laws and regulations that would create ‘chaotic marketplace disruption,’” as a UEP statement put it, “in which a producer with customers in several states would need to find ways to meet conflicting and different standards.”

Further, Smith noted, “As part of the agreement, HSUS and UEP said they will not ‘initiate, fund or support’ any ballot initiatives or local or state legislation that would define hen space, and they will not ‘initiate, fund or support’ investigation of or litigation against each other or UEP members.”

Ballot initiatives

In compliance with the agreement, HSUS suspended efforts to place measures similar to California Proposition Two on the next Washington and Oregon state ballots.

Reports suggesting that the agreement would end undercover investigations of factory egg farms by animal advocates tended to overlook that most such investigations have been done by animal advocacy groups other than HSUS—especially Mercy for Animals,

which has done more undercover videography inside factory farms than all others combined.

An Oregon Humane Society media statement quoting executive director Sharon Harmon “applauded the withdrawal of the short-sighted cage-free ballot initiative to be placed before Oregon voters, and noted that a new Oregon law protecting egg-laying hens is now a model for proposed federal legislation,” which “would require egg producers to fully transition to enriched colony systems by 2029. Oregon’s law, in contrast, would be fully implemented by 2026,” the Oregon Humane Society statement continued, “a time frame that HSUS had criticized as being too slow.”

Added Harmon, “I am concerned that the proposed federal legislation might preempt state laws, as this means that fully implementing our new care standards could be delayed by three years if the law proposed by HSUS and the egg industry passes.”

Responded Pacelle, to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “The only reason that the Oregon Legislature took up the issue was the pressure HSUS applied. The proposed federal law is stronger and has a broader reach than the Oregon state law in a number of ways.”

For example, Pacelle said, “The Oregon law would require 116 square inches per bird, and nothing would be required until 2026. The federal bill would require 124 square inches per white bird, and 144 per brown bird, with a faster transition [than in Oregon] as the new requirements are phased in, with specific targets over a number of years until total 100% industry conversion. The Oregon law has major exemptions and loopholes for eggs used in French toast, noodles, egg nog, and other products, while the federal proposal would apply to the production and sale of all eggs and egg products.

“The federal proposal affects all 280 million laying hens in the [commercial] egg industry,” Pacelle continued, “including those in major egg production states like Iowa and Indiana where ballot initiatives are not allowed and state legislation was unlikely.”

Critics & skeptics

Charged Humane Farming Association founder Brad Miller, “This is a terrible, terrible deal for farm animals. Up until now, HSUS was condemning American Humane for being co-opted and going along with the industry on these exact issues. The central provision of this so-called agreement would not even go into effect for another 18 years, if ever. Of course, the industry gets what it wants right away. Immediately, the Washington and Oregon ballot measures are scrapped. Immediately, the industry gains positive publicity and avoids the negative publicity of a ballot measure media campaign. Immediately,” Miller anticipated, if the proposed federal bill is passed without specific exemptions for stronger state legislation, as in the case of California Proposition Two, “states would be explicitly prevented from outlawing cages—or doing anything to help laying hens beyond what the egg industry happily adopts on the federal level. This is a frontal assault on state anti-cruelty laws,” Miller said.

“Keep in mind,” Miller warned, “that once the federal legislative process is underway, there is no way of knowing—let alone controlling—what the final outcome will



be. What enforcement will there be? What criminal penalties will there be? Nobody knows. For decades,” Miller continued, “farm animals and humane organizations have been haunted by the fact that commercial slaughterhouses have been largely beyond the reach of state animal cruelty laws due to federal preemption. Now the industry is seeking to extend federal preemption into factory farms.”

United Poultry Concerns founder Karen Davis wondered what the HSUS/UEP-mandated “euthanasia” of “spent” hens might mean “in the context of agribusiness.”

Davis also acknowledged the concern of vegan self-described “abolitionists” that “any effort to reform agribusiness will placate the public with illusions of ‘humane’ treatment of farmed animals having no basis in the reality of actual production.

“An additional reasonable fear in this particular case,” Davis continued, “is that, should a federal law be enacted, it will be a diluted version of the initial proposals. Once the U.S. egg industry invests a projected \$4 billion dollars into converting to ‘enriched’ so-called ‘colony’ cages, that system will be firmly in place for the remainder of the 21st century, and probably far beyond.

“Acceptance of cages for laying hens [by animal advocates], however euphemistically ‘enriched,’ is a huge step backward,” Davis opined. “The only true way to animal welfare—to animals *faring well*,” Davis said, “lies in eliminating the demand for animal products in favor of vegan food.”

Commented Humane Farm Animal Care founder Adele Douglass, “I am really pleased that HSUS and UEP have come together and agreed upon the UEP’s industry standard for laying hens. That will end the wasteful time and expense of state ballot initiatives, in which the HSUS was fighting to have cage-free production, and the UEP was fighting for the ‘furnished cage.’ The time and money spent previously on these ballot initiatives—many millions of dollars—can now be spent by the industry in actually implementing the ‘furnished cage’ or ‘colony cage’ system, and that will benefit laying hens in cages.

“We at Humane Farm Animal Care will continue to only allow cage-free production,” Douglass said. “Consumers will continue to demand cage free production,” she predicted, “and eventually, we believe that all egg production will be cage-free.”

Said Compassion in World Farming chief executive Philip Lymbery, “We welcome the news. We believe all egg-laying hens should live cage-free lives,” Lymbery explained, but “This new development, whilst not going far enough, is a significant step in the right direction.” —Merritt Clifton

Enforcing the Indian ban on forced molts

**NEW DELHI**—The Indian office of Humane Society International on June 20, 2011 introduced a confidential e-mail address, <starvinghens@hsi.org>, for informants to use to report egg farms that starve hens to induce forced molts, a practice which metabolically simulates winter and causes the hens to produce more eggs when they are again fed, metabolically simulating spring.

“The program was launched after the Animal Welfare Board of India directed all poultry farms in the country to immediately discontinue starvation force molt regimes, stating that the practice is in violation of India’s Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act of 1960, and a punishable offence,” said HIS factory farming campaign manager N.G.

Jayasimha. “Once HSI receives a report about starvation molting on a particular farm,” Jayasimha pledged, “we will work with the state animal husbandry department, the local SPCA, the Animal Welfare Board of India, and the state animal welfare board to investigate.”

The agencies responsible for agricultural law enforcement in Maharashtra and Karnataka states had already issued orders enforcing the Animal Welfare Board of India edict against forced molts. Equivalent agencies in Nagaland and Chandigarh followed within the next two days, meaning four states had agreed to comply with the AWBI decree. India is comprised of 28 states and seven “union territories.”

Dogs Deserve Better founder’s marriage begins with groom in doghouse




**LEFT**—*Dogs Deserve Better* founder Tamara Ci Thayne and longtime anti-chaining campaign supporter Joe Horvath were married on June 20, 2011 on the Pennsylvania State Capitol steps in Harrisburg, concluding Thayne’s annual “chain-off” demonstration in pursuit of a state law prohibiting dog tethering as a primary means of confinement. Thayne, who has chained herself to doghouses in public places every summer since 2004, spent 52 days in 2010 chained in front of the Pennsylvania State Capitol. Thayne and Horvath were joined at the 2011 demo by about 75 other protesters, 25 of whom also spent the day chained to doghouses.

Following the wedding Thayne and Horvath “honeymooned” by relocating the *Dogs Deserve Better* headquarters from Tipton, Pennsylvania to the former site of of football player and convicted dogfighter Michael Vick’s *Bad Newz Kennels*, on Moonlight Road in rural Surrey County, Virginia. *Dogs Deserve Better* purchased the property in May 2011. The location—after extensive renovation—is to become a rehabilitation center for dogs rescued from longtime chaining.

**INSET**—Chained bride-and-groom onament from the Thayne/Horvath wedding cake. (Photos: Michelle Allman/Redheaded Ninja)

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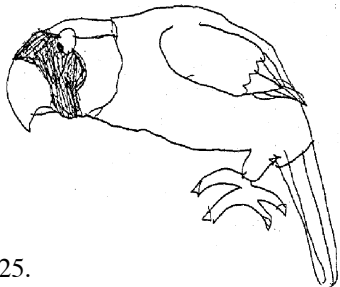
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## Australia halts “six month” ban on live cattle exports to Indonesia after 30 days *(from page 1)*

domestic supply chain into the feedlot, from the feedlot into the abattoir. Each abattoir will be independently audited.”

Exporters will now be required to collect and publish data pertaining to where animals were fattened, how they were transported, and where they were slaughtered.

Indonesian deputy agriculture minister Bayu Krishnamurti told Esther Samboh of the *Jakarta Post* that Indonesian slaughter standards are now compatible with those set by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). But while improved tracking procedures permit more effective disease control, as required by the OIE, and in theory might permit investigators to identify specific individual animals who have been victims of extreme cruelty, better tracking does nothing to prevent cruelty from occurring.

“This system the minister has put in place will still allow cattle to be slaughtered while fully conscious in Indonesian abattoirs,” White told ABC Radio.

Failure to require pre-stunning is “a really big flaw in the system,” Australian Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals chief executive Heather Neil told the

Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

White and Grandin were both especially critical of the Indonesian use of slaughtering equipment provided by Meat & Livestock Australia, an arm of the Australian government whose operations are funded by levies on livestock producers.

“We will improve all of our abattoirs,” Indonesian co-ordinating minister for the economy Hatta Rajas told a news conference attended by Australian foreign affairs minister Kevin Rudd. “We, of course, would welcome the use of new devices that meet the halal standard. This is what we emphasized” in discussions with Rudd, Rajas emphasized.

“This looks to me very much like back to self-regulation, with some assurances from industry they will meet standards,” Australian Green Party senator Rachel Siewert told Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

Stunning before slaughter “has to be a critical part of any new process in Indonesia,” Siewert said.

Green Party member of the Australian parliament Adam Bandt and independents Andrew Wilkie and Nick Xenophon pledged to introduce private member’s bills

seeking either to halt live exports or phase them out. But prime minister Julia Gillard indicated that she would not allow any of the bills to reach the floor for free votes following members’ own consciences.

### Economic leverage

Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono initially responded to the short-lived suspension of Australian cattle exports by ordering an investigation of slaughterhouses. “We have to highly respect animal welfare. The agriculture minister and health minister must visit the abattoirs,” Yudhoyono told a June 10, 2011 news conference.

Yudhoyono told the ministers “to act immediately to prevent a possible increase in meat price, as the mainly Muslim country will celebrate the holy month of Ramadan in July and the Eid al-Fitr holiday in August,” reported Agence France-Presse.

“We have to make a maximum effort to ensure our domestic meat supply,” Yudhoyono concluded, suggesting that the Australian action should encourage efforts to make Indonesia self-sufficient in meat production. Currently about 40% of the Indonesian

meat supply come as live shipments from Australia.

“Indonesian officials said the Australian cattle could be replaced with imports from other countries, such as Brazil and Canada,” wrote Samboh of the *Jakarta Post*. “The local cattle industry saw the ban as an opportunity to reduce Indonesia’s dependence on Australian imports, with the Central Statistics Agency showing current stocks of at least 14.5 million cattle for meat in Indonesia.”

But because comparable numbers of cattle were not immediately available, the Indonesian slaughter volume reportedly dropped by about 15%.

“We learned a good lesson: being largely dependent on an international trade carries huge risk for us,” Indonesian deputy agriculture minister Krishnamurti told Amy Coopes of Agence France-Presse.

Two days after Australian agriculture minister Ludwig reauthorized cattle exports to Indonesia, Krishnamurti issued import permits for 180,000 cattle from various sources, including Australia.

Australia is the world’s largest exporter of livestock. Sheep are shipped alive to Kuwait, Jordan, Bahrain, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Israel. Cattle are shipped alive to Malaysia, the Philippines, Jordan, Japan and Brunei, but Indonesia is by far the largest purchaser, buying about half a million Australian cattle per year. This accounts for about 60% of the Australian cattle export trade.

The temporary suspension of exports reportedly cost the Australian government more than \$30 million in compensation to live cattle exporters, while frustrated ranchers threatened to shoot their animals rather than continue to feed them when they could not be sold. “The episode has left Meat & Livestock Australia, which takes \$5 for each head of livestock to represent the industry’s interests and safeguard animal welfare overseas, embarrassed and exposed,” wrote Debelle of the *Advertiser*.

But as Debelle detailed, Animals Australia investigator Lyn White has several times previously produced videos that exposed similar abuses and produced similar government responses.

“In 2005,” Debelle recalled, White and a British colleague visited Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain on a 14-day investigation that documented appalling treatment of sheep,” and extensive abuse of cattle at the Bassateen slaughtering complex near Cairo, Egypt. “Australia had sent nearly a million cattle to Egypt to die in this way,” Debelle continued. “The footage of the sheep went to *60 Minutes* and the live trade with Egypt was suspended for most of 2006. When the sheep trade was reopened, White again was there, documenting sheep being trussed and carried on the roof racks of cars. The additional evidence stopped the trade,” again temporarily.

“Within 10 minutes in the Indonesian abattoir,” Debelle wrote, “White knew she had enough footage...What was particularly chilling was that she was able to film openly. It was a terrible sign that the workers felt there was nothing wrong with their conduct because it had tacit Australian approval.

“White did not go [directly] to Joe Ludwig,” Debelle explained, but immediately went public instead, because when White approached Ludwig in 2010 about “mistreatment of sheep in Kuwait, Ludwig turned the issue over to the industry and White is still awaiting a response. The problem, she says, is that animal welfare sits under the same minister as agriculture, whose primary stakeholders are the meat and livestock industry. The interests of animals will always come second.”

## Dutch bill to ban slaughter without pre-stunning clears lower house

**DEN HAAG**—A bill to require that all animals who are slaughtered for human consumption must be stunned before they are killed was on June 28, 2011 approved 116-30 by the lower house of the Dutch Parliament and passed to the Dutch senate.

The senate is not expected to act upon the bill before fall. The bill in effect bans traditional kosher and halal slaughter. Though some Judaic and Islamic religious authorities conditionally allow pre-stunning, most hold that pre-stunning is a violation of the requirements of Mosaic and Islamic religious law that animals be conscious when their throats are swiftly cut with a sharp blade.

About 25,000 animals per year are killed without pre-stunning in the Netherlands, according to the organization Halal Correct, which monitors compliance of slaughter with Islamic requirements. About one million Muslims living in the Netherlands and 40,000 to 50,000 Jews are believed to consume halal or kosher meat.

The bill to require pre-stunning was advanced by Geert Wilders, founder of the anti-immigration Freedom Party, and Marianne Thieme of the Party for the Animals. Both parties, with 24 and two seats

in the Dutch house of representatives, respectively, are part of the governing coalition. Wilders advocated the bill in 2007, a year after Thieme was first elected. Thieme introduced the bill in 2008.

The bill passed five days after Wilders was acquitted of charges of allegedly inciting ethnic hatred in articles published in both print and electronic media between 2006-2008 which reportedly called for a ban on the Quran, called Islam a fascist religion, and warned against an “Islamic tsunami” overtaking the Netherlands.

Judge Marcel van Oosten termed Wilders’ statements “gross and denigrating,” but ruled that they had not provoked violent incidents, and were therefore “acceptable within the context of public debate.”

### Other nations

New Zealand prohibited slaughter without prestunning in May 2011.

Australian Meat Industry Council chair Terry Nolan on June 26, 2011 joined the Royal SPCA in criticizing the failure of the Australian government to require that cattle exported to Indonesia and other Islamic nations must be pre-stunned. However,

Australia itself has at least 15 authorized halal and kosher slaughterhouses that do not pre-stun. Several ship frozen carcasses to Islamic customers, in competition with the live export trade. The Australian ritual slaughter industry, however, accounts for under 1% of the national slaughter volume.

In India, reported Chetan Chauhan and Zia Haq of the *Hindustan Times* on July 9, 2011, the federal environment ministry amended the pending draft Animal Welfare Act 2011 to avoid interpretation of the language to mean that it might prohibit halal, kosher, or jhatka slaughter. Jhatka, practiced by Sikhs and many meat-eating Hindus, requires that animals meant for human consumption must be killed by beheading.

Added to the draft Animal Welfare Act 2011 was a passage stating, “Nothing contained in this Act shall render it an offence to kill any animal in a manner required by the religion of any community.”

This provision, however, may be construed as open-ended approval of many other practices which are illegal in India but continue in the guise of religious rites, including cockfights held in temples and recreational hunting purporting to be sacrifice.

## Vegan glove makes majors

**COOPERSTOWN, N.Y.**—Pitcher Brian Gordon of the New York Yankees and the first non-leather baseball glove used in the major leagues debuted together on June 16, 2011. Gordon’s vegan glove was hand-crafted from nylon microfiber by Scott Carpenter, 30, of Cooperstown, New York, whose shop is near the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Ten ounces lighter than conventional leather baseball gloves, the vegan glove meets the strength and safety requirements of Major League Baseball Inc. Non-leather vinyl baseball and softball gloves were introduced for recreational play by several makers circa 1990, but have a notoriously short useful lifespan and are now sold only for use by children who are just beginning to play ball.

“The quality of synthetics back then was awful compared to now,” Carpenter told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “I believe the tipping point for synthetics in professional baseball gloves is now—it wasn’t plausible earlier.”

Several minor league pro players are also using Carpenter non-leather gloves.

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# 2011 U.S. shelter data update

The 18th annual **ANIMAL PEOPLE** analysis of U.S. shelter exit data has confirmed that the encouraging findings of the 17th analysis were no fluke: U.S. shelters are now killing fewer cats and dogs per 1,000 Americans than at any time since relevant data first was published, early in the 20th century. The total numbers of cats and dogs killed are the lowest in more than 50 years.

However, while the 2011 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** survey found that the cat toll fell by about 207,700 from the 2010 survey data, a 10% improvement, the dog toll increased by about 76,500.

## Pit bull terriers

The increase in dogs killed in shelters was entirely attributable to an increase of 120,000 in the number of pit bull terriers killed. The pit bull toll rose to 930,300, the highest number in three years, but still slightly below the average of the decade 2001-2010. This was 60% of the total number of dogs killed in U.S. shelters.

Though pit bulls appear to be currently the breed rehomed in the greatest numbers, the volume arriving at shelters is so high that intensive promotion by organizations including the Best Friends Animal Society, the American SPCA, the American Humane Association, and Maddie's Fund has only cut the rate at which pit bulls are killed in shelters from about 93% ten years ago to 89.5% now.

Breeds amounting to more than 1% of the U.S. dog population—percent & number			
Large retriever class	5.2%	3,744,000	
Pit bull class	3.3%	2,376,000	
Setter class	2.3%	1,656,000	
Small terriers	2.1%	1,512,000	
Poodles	2.0%	1,440,000	
Spaniels	2.0%	1,440,000	
German shepherds	1.4%	1,008,000	
Pointers	1.4%	1,008,000	
Beagles	1.2%	864,000	

Cat/Dog shelter killing balance			
REGION	Cats	Dogs	Ratio
Northeast	46,592	26,208	64/36
Mid-Atlantic	112,782	21,565	84/16
So. Atlantic	372,044	255,048	59/41
Appalachia	118,723	170,846	41/59
Gulf Coast	223,732	497,985	31/69
West/Rockies	212,381	141,587	60/40
Midwest	433,872	244,034	64/36
Pacific	334,249	193,238	63/37
<b>U.S.</b>	<b>1,865,375</b>	<b>1,550,511</b>	<b>55/45</b>

The Mid-Atlantic ratio has long skewed toward cats, more so in recent years. Cat impoundments in the Gulf Coast region have fallen as dog impoundments have increased.

Even the Los Angeles Department of Animal Services, which appears to rehome more pit bulls than any other agency in the U.S., kills about 40% of pit bull intake, and has reported increasing pit bull intake since 2008.

The major U.S. cities killing the fewest pit bulls—San Francisco, Denver, and Miami—all enforce breed-specific legislation. San Francisco requires pit bulls to be sterilized; Denver and Miami prohibit keeping pit bulls within city limits.

Cumulatively, San Francisco, Denver, and Miami kill about 40% fewer dogs of any breed than the U.S. national average.

Pit bulls are currently 3.3% of the U.S. dog population, according to the 2011 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** survey of classified ads offering dogs for sale, but now account for about 29% of dogs surrendered to shelters or impounded by animal control, up from 23% in 2003. While most pit bulls arriving at shelters are surrendered by their primary caretakers, who are typically the third primary caretaker each dog has had in about 18 months of life, pit bulls also account for about 22% of the dogs impounded in cases of individual abuse and neglect; 46% of the dogs impounded for injuring humans; 51% of the dogs impounded for attacking other animals; and virtually all of the dogs impounded in dogfighting cases.

Chihuahuas were the only other dog breed mentioned to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** by shelter directors as arriving in conspicuously

## Sixty years of U.S. progress against shelter killing

(The year stated from 1997 to present is the mid-year of a three-year survey interval.)

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
1997	4.9	21.1
1998	4.9	19.4
1999	4.5	16.6
2000	4.5	16.8
2001	4.4	15.7
2002	4.2	15.3
2003	4.5	14.8
2004	4.9	17.4
2005	4.4	14.8
2006	4.0	13.6
2007	4.2	13.8
2008	3.6	11.6
2009	3.4	11.3

# International animal control data

Much of the international animal control data offered below was collected by the United Nations Food & Agricultural Organization during an online expert consultation conducted in mid-2010. The United Kingdom data was collected by the eighth annual Dogs Trust survey of U.K. dog wardens, and does not include dogs who are killed after surrender to nonprofit humane societies—probably about half of the actual

Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed
Belgium	0.5	2008	10,414
Canada	4.2	2010	33,487
Ireland	1.6	2010	4,203
Japan	2.4	2009	129,357
Kyrgyzstan	1.8	2010	5,432
Nepal	10.9	2000	23,151
Pakistan	5.7	2010	175,578
Ukraine	13.2	2004	45,700
U.K.	0.1	2010	61,113

disproportionate numbers in 2010-2011—but were mentioned only in the U.S. Southwest, particularly southern California, where Chihuahua intake has risen since 1997.

## Feral cats

Conventional wisdom long has been that about 70% of the cats killed in shelters are feral, but National Pet Alliance founder Karen Johnson insisted as far back as 1994 that this could be true only if the overwhelming majority of unweaned kittens who are euthanized as unviable were believed to be from feral mothers. Johnson appears to have been right: neonatal kittens actually appear to account for more than half of the cats killed in shelters, while identifiable ferals—including feral kittens—are far fewer.

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** asked shelter directors more questions about cats in 2011 than in most previous years, discovering more changes in cat-handling procedures than we had imagined might have occurred. As of June 2011, 56% of the cats occupying shelter cage space were kittens, not surprising at the peak of “puppy and kitten season,” but of the cats known to have been feral before impoundment, only 14% were kittens.

This might have indicated impoundment of large numbers of adult feral cats, perhaps leaving feral litters orphaned, but such was not actually the case. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found that only 20% of limited admission shelters and 55% of open admission shelters acknowledged knowingly accepting feral cats, except in emergency cases. 45% of open admission shelters mentioned promoting

total of dogs killed by U.K. shelters. 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. Nepal officially no longer kills dogs for animal control purposes

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.

neuter/return as an alternative to accepting feral cats, usually working in partnership with local nonprofit neuter/return organizations. Even at open admission shelters that do not promote neuter/return, only 19% of the cats in custody were known to be feral. Overall, just 6% of the cats at open admission shelters and 8% of the cats at limited admission shelters were known ferals.

## Methodology

The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** estimates of shelter killing each year are based on reports from every shelter known to do more than incidental dog and cat killing within a specific jurisdiction—a city, a county, a multi-county metropolitan region, or a whole state. We include data from the three preceding fiscal years. Each year new data is added, and the oldest data is dropped. The data is regionally grouped and proportionally weighted to ensure the most accurate possible representation.

The data used to produce the 2011 estimates came from jurisdictions including 36% of the total human population of the U.S.. A considerable amount of information was incorporated this year which was originally collected and posted by the Asilomar Accords program of Maddie's Fund. Supplemental data is gathered through a single-day survey of animal shelter populations done usually in June; the survey of classified ads offering dogs for sale, covering 275,000 ads in 2011, electronically screened to eliminate duplicate listings; and a variety of other compilations of data from the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** news archives.  
—Merritt Clifton

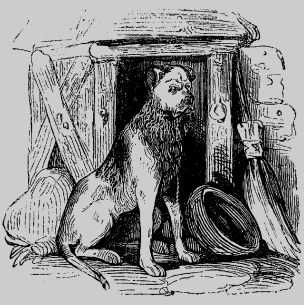
# Shelter killing falls to 3.4 million dogs & cats per year, with new lows in all regions

Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed
Brookhaven, NY	1.0	2009	500
Tompkins County, NY	1.3	2009	102
New York City	1.7	2009	8,300
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>1,325</b>
Buffalo/Erie	6.5	2009	919
<b>NORTHEAST (32%)</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>34,876</b>	<b>72,800</b>
New Castle/Sussex, DE	1.2	2009	727
Delaware County, PA	4.2	2009	558
<b>NEW JERSEY</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>8,866</b>
Huntingdon Cty, PA	5.0	2008	46
Philadelphia	10.5	2008	1,611
Cumberland Cnty, NJ	15.4	2009	158
<b>MID-ATLANTIC (42%)</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>28,770</b>	<b>134,264</b>
Broward County	7.3	2008	1,751
Dekalb County, GA	7.4	2009	737
Cobb County, GA	8.5	2009	698
Miami/Dade County	9.5	2009	2,297
Gwinnette Cty, GA	9.8	2009	776
Palm Beach County	10.8	2010	1,280
<b>VIRGINIA</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>7,883</b>
Jacksonville, FL	11.7	2010	808
Pinellas Cty, FL	12.0	2010	917
Manatee County, FL	13.6	2008	316
Alachua Cty, FL	14.4	2009	240
Tampa region	16.5	2009	1,205
St. Lucie Cty, FL	17.4	2008	278
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>9,535</b>
Clay County, FL	20.2	2010	187
Clayton County, GA	23.4	2009	272
Robeson Count, NC	34.6	2009	130
Macon, GA	46.0	2009	93
<b>SO. ATLANTIC (63%)</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>46,026</b>	<b>663,468</b>
Louisville	13.0	2008	722
Nashville	16.0	2009	626
Grant County, KY	19.9	2009	22
Memphis	20.0	2008	671
Kanawha/Charleston	21.3	2010	304
Loudon/Monroe, TN	70.1	2009	94
<b>APPALACHIA (16%)</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>15,453</b>	<b>289,569</b>

Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed
Plano, TX	5.3	2009	268
Richardson, TX	9.4	2009	102
Dallas	11.7	2008	2,346
Austin/Travis County	11.9	2008	921
Jefferson Parish	16.9	2008	456
San Antonio/Bexar	19.6	2008	1,329
Mobile	22.1	2009	406
Madison County	23.2	2009	335
Birmingham	24.2	2010	658
Garland, TX	25.0	2009	226
El Paso	25.5	2010	751
Caddo Parish	26.1	2009	253
Waco/McLennan County	27.0	2008	230
Brownsville	28.4	2009	176
Tuskaloosa, AL	31.1	2009	178
Baldwin County, AL	34.5	2009	174
Calhoun County, AL	35.9	2008	119
Mesquite, TX	41.6	2009	132
Hattiesburg area	46.9	2010	149
Amarillo	58.8	2009	187
Odessa/Ector Cty.	71.4	2008	132
<b>GULF COAST (24%)</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>37,426</b>	<b>721,717</b>
Vigo County, IN	1.2	2009	108
Parke-Vermillion, IN	1.5	2009	17
St. Charles Cty., MO	2.4	2009	349
Oakland County, MI	2.6	2009	1,202
Dane County, WI	3.8	2009	477
Duluth	4.0	2009	86
Livingston Cty, MI	5.9	2009	183
St. Louis	5.9	2009	356
Chicago	6.7	2008	2,851
Jefferson Cty., MO	8.5	2009	224
Dayton/Montgomery	10.1	2009	538
Kansas City, MO	10.9	2008	452
Quad Cities, IL-IA	12.7	2009	312
Calhoun County, MI	14.5	2008	136
Sangamon Cty, IL	14.7	2008	195
Detroit metro area	15.1	2010	1,217
Genesee County, MI	18.9	2009	424
Tulsa	18.9	2009	386
Ft. Wayne/Allen Cty.	29.3	2009	351
Shelby County, IN	29.4	2008	44
<b>MIDWEST (14%)</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>70,678</b>	<b>677,925</b>

Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed
Montrose, CO	2.5	2009	16
Reno/Washoe	3.5	2009	414
Quad/Yavapai, AZ	3.7	2011	146
Weld County, CO	6.2	2009	244
Denver metro area	6.9	2009	2,700
Montrose, CO	10.9	2008	16
<b>UTAH</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2,784</b>
Phoenix/Maricopa	13.9	2009	3,817
<b>NEVADA</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2,643</b>
Las Vegas/Clark Cty	14.4	2009	2,000
Tucson	25.3	2008	1,014
Mohave County, AZ	33.5	2009	200
Clovis, NM	48.9	2009	37
<b>WEST/ROCKIES (72%)</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>22,065</b>	<b>353,968</b>
San Francisco	1.3	2009	815
Washington Cty, OR	1.3	2009	537
Irvine, CA	1.4	2010	213
Sonoma County	1.5	2009	484
Berkeley	1.6	2009	113
Whidbey Island, WA	2.2	2009	60
Seattle	3.1	2010	603
Los Angeles city	5.1	2009	3,834
Santa Barbara Cty.	5.3	2008	405
San Diego city/county	5.8	2010	3,095
Portland/Multnomah	6.1	2009	2,049
Santa Clara County	6.8	2009	1,782
Contra Costa County	7.3	2008	1,049
Clallam County, WA	10.0	2009	71
Monterey County, CA	13.6	2008	415
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>36,757</b>
San Bernardino Cty	15.5	2009	2,061
Spokane	16.8	2008	463
Lodi	21.8	2008	62
Kern/Bakersfield	22.7	2010	824
Fresno	35.0	2009	942
<b>PACIFIC (81%)</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>49,880</b>	<b>522,264</b>
<b>U.S. TOTAL</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>308,144</b>	<b>3,483,184</b>

(The regional and national totals appearing in bold are proportionately weighted estimates. The figure in parenthesis is the percentage of the regional human population living within the shelter service areas from which the totals come.)



# 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.*

## Woburn Safari Park scandal flushes out “electronic reputation management”

**LONDON, SEATTLE**—Growing almost unnoticed amid the buzz of the Internet, Worldwide Web, Twitter, Facebook, and other social media, the electronic information management industry appears to have eclipsed the annual income of animal charities worldwide even before most pro-animal campaign strategists knew what it was.

Now electronic information management is running effective interference for animal advocacy targets, the *Times of London* recently discovered.

The story began with a hard-hitting June 2010 exposé series by *Times* reporter Daniel Foggo, detailing conditions at the Woburn Safari Park, in Bedfordshire. Owned

by the Duke of Bedford, the 40-year-old drive-through zoo attracts half a million visitors per year. Inspectors from the British Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs assailed the Woburn Safari for keeping lions in a “very crowded” night pen for 18 hours a day in winter, for painfully injuring sea lions’ eyes by keeping them in excessively chlorinated water, and for housing a bull elephant in an allegedly unsafe enclosure from which he had recently escaped.

The Foggo series briefly created an online sensation—and then disappeared.

Billy Kenber of the *Times* investigated. “A few weeks after the stories were published,” Kenber revealed on June 1, 2011,

“the park hired the services of Keith Griggs, 52, who runs ReputationManagement.me. *The Times* can disclose. On his website, Griggs described how he started working for ‘a wildlife park’ in July last year, when three of the first 10 search results for the park were news articles about the allegations. Within a week there were no longer any links to critical stories on the first page of results. A few months later there was only one negative report in the first five pages of search results.”

Griggs took the description of his work off of his web site after Kenber connected it to the Woburn Safari Park, but the park had already “admitted using the reputation management service, saying that it felt that the articles had ‘unfair and inaccurate’ information,” Kenber reported.

“The park has since opened a new lion house,” Kenber mentioned, before explaining what Griggs did.

### How it works

“Online ‘reputation management’ agencies promise to suppress negative search results by driving them down the rankings,” Kenber explained. “They typically use thousands of social networking profiles—set up using false names and operated using computer software to simulate the behaviour of a real person—to talk about and link to more positive results, pushing them above the negative stories.” The Google search engine, for instance, can be manipulated, Kenber continued, because even though it “uses a complicated algorithm taking into account dozens of criteria to rank results for a search term, one of the key factors is the number of links that a web page has from other websites.”

Thus bogus links can boost the visibility of puffery—or, conversely, of negative information, a reverse reputation management technique used by some political tacticians. “As more than 90% of users look only at the

first Google results page, and only a tiny fraction go beyond the third page, well-hidden results are seldom read,” wrote Kenber.

Confirmed DogsBite.org founder Colleen Lynn, a professional web site designer who has had occasion to investigate reputation management techniques, “There’s no way to remove things [from electronic media], so you have to push them down. You need the ‘select’ expensive plans to do these things successfully,” Lynn added. “Unless someone has \$30,000-plus to shell out annually, he/she won’t get the works. The high-end products,” used by major corporations and exceptionally affluent individuals, “cost dearly. It’s only recently that public relations firms have gotten in on the action,” Lynn said.

But some reputation management service providers have been soliciting clients from among targets of animal advocacy for several years. “Reputation management companies describe typical small-business as clients such as a pet store targeted by animal rights activists,” reported John Tozzi of *Bloomberg Business World* in April 2008, mentioning that two different firms cited animal rights activists as a concern.

Beyond Indigo Pets, a company offering “veterinary website design and marketing for animal care professionals,” lists “online reviews and reputation management” third among offered services.

How widespread the use of reputation management against animal advocacy campaigns might be is anyone’s guess. As of July 7, 2011, however, the first critical mention of the Woburn Safari Park that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found was on the fourth search page. The first mention of Foggo’s exposé was on the fifth search page. But a *Daily Telegraph* summary of the Kenber exposé of Woburn Safari Park employment of an electronic reputation manager popped up seventh on the first page.

## Connecticut Humane Society loses National Labor Relations Board case that led to president’s exit

**NEWINGTON, Connecticut**—National Labor Relations Board Administrative Law Judge Steven Fisher on June 6, 2011 ordered the Connecticut Humane Society to reinstate former employees Maureen Lord and Bridget Karchere.

Lord and Karchere were fired, Connecticut Humane Society counsel acknowledged in court filings, for their roles in organizing a December 2009 vote among Connecticut Humane staff as to whether they would like to unionize as a chapter of the International Association of Machinists. Eighteen of the 33 eligible voters favored unionization, but then-Connecticut Humane Society president Richard Johnston contended that Lord and Karchere should have been excluded from participation because they were part of management.

Fisher in an 87-page verdict rejected the argument that Lord and Karchere were management.

“The Connecticut Humane Society is now ordered by the National Labor

Relations Board to re-instate Karchere and Lord, pay back wages for the time out, and expunge any discipline regarding this incident from their permanent records,” said International Association of Machinists representative Everett Corey. “The employer must also post a notice to employees that the organization will cease and desist from coercively interrogating employees about organizing, creating the impression that workers’ organizing activities were under surveillance, threatening employees with job loss or discipline, and actually terminating workers for organizing,” Corey said.

Recalled the *Hartford Courant*, “The dismissals of Maureen Lord and Bridget Karchere ignited a tumultuous period for the 130-year-old Connecticut Humane Society. A group of former employees and animal advocates called the Coalition for Change, raised questions about animal care and the society’s management. The group also lobbied for the ouster of Richard Johnston,” who resigned in March 2010 after 20 years in office.

## Homes still needed for animals left by the dissolution of Wild Animal Orphanage

**SHREVEPORT, SAN ANTONIO**—Bob Barker, the retired longtime host of **The Price Is Right** television game show, has donated \$230,000 toward the cost of relocating five former laboratory chimpanzees who had been exposed to HIV infection from the bankrupt Wild Animal Orphanage sanctuary near San Antonio, Texas, to Chimp Haven, near Shreveport, Louisiana.

“A team from Chimp Haven will go to Texas in late July to do health and behavioral assessments on each of the chimpanzees in anticipation of a move to our facility in August,” Chimp Haven national advancement director Karen Allen told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. At Chimp Haven, Allen said, the chimps “will live in a social group in an outdoor habitat and get nutritious meals, full-time veterinary care, daily behavioral enrichment, and compassionate care. It is the least that we can do for them.”

\$170,000 of Barker’s donation will fund building the chimps’ new quarters. The remainder includes covering the cost of the chimps’ care during their first year at Chimp Haven.

Many other animals left in limbo by the legal dissolution of Wild Animal Orphanage more than 10 months ago still have no new homes, Goba Federation of Animal Sanctuaries executive director Patty Finch confirmed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on July 6, 2011. Finch has been closely monitoring the situation, trying to help Wild Animal Orphanage attorney William R. Davis to find animal placements.

Two hundred ninety seven animals remained on the two Wild Animal Orphanage premises on August 31, 2010, when directors

Suzanne Straw, Michelle Cryer, and Chris Smith on August 31, 2010 unanimously voted to dissolve the 17-year-old sanctuary, one of the largest in the world, after two changes of management in less than a year. Founders Carol and Ron Asvestas were ousted in an October 2009 board *coup d’etat* led by their daughter Nicole Garcia, amid financial stress following years of allegations of mismanagement made to news media and the Texas Office of Attorney General by former volunteers and donors. Clashing with several of the then-board members over tactics and priorities, Garcia was terminated on April 30, 2010. Wild Animal Orphanage was next managed temporarily by volunteer Jamie Cryer, husband of board member Michelle Cryer.

The Texas Office of Attorney General, USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, and International Fund for Animal Welfare agreed in September 2010 to supervise the transfer of the animals and liquidation of Wild Animal Orphanage to pay outstanding creditors. The animals were to have been relocated within 60 days.

“Eleven chimps went to Save the Chimps, with no endowment [for their upkeep]. The baboon is going to the Born Free Primate Sanctuary,” Finch told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “I think one of the tigers has been placed,” Finch added.

“There are some facilities thinking about the monkeys and tigers, but A-list spots seem pretty full. Even a promised endowment based on the anticipated selling price of the Wild Animal Orphanage land may not help. Ultimately Wild Animal Orphanage needs the court’s permission for any transfers they propose,”

Finch noted. This inhibits quick transfers, but helps to keep animals away from unsatisfactory destinations. “The tigers are a real challenge,” Finch said. “Two tigers have medical issues and are old, and will probably need to be euthanized for humane reasons before summer’s end. I think a very reputable sanctuary is taking the macaques, but details are still being worked out. There is a party offering to take the wolf dogs, which will give them acreage. I’m also going to contact the caregivers about their plans for the feral cats at WAO. They should not be forgotten,” Finch added.

Several proposals have been floated which would turn over the Wild Animal Orphanage animals and assets to other nonprofit organizations, but “We could find no existing sanctuary or nonprofit which wished to take on the financial responsibility for taking over Wild Animal Orphanage in this economy, plus funds would have to have been raised to pay off some of the creditors,” Finch said.

Carol and Ron Asvestas filed a claim as creditors which, if successful, would have returned the seven-acre original Wild Animal Orphanage location to them. However, though they were acknowledged as creditors owed a lesser amount, their claim for the land was dismissed by the bankruptcy court, Finch said.

### Kerwin plan failed

The most ambitious plan for the former Wild Animal Orphanage, advanced in December 2010 by Primates Incorporated founder Amy Kerwin, would have transferred the remaining assets of the sanctuary to Primates Incorporated,

which would have continued to operate it as a sanctuary.

A former laboratory monkey caretaker, recently employed in financial services, Kerwin had sought since 2003 to raise funds to start a retirement home for former lab primates. Among the 160 animals left on site in December 2010 were 121 macaques from former lab colonies, plus the chimps who are now going to Chimp Haven.

Kerwin hoped to relocate from Wisconsin to San Antonio to personally supervise operations. But the Kerwin plan was rejected by the Texas Office of Attorney General.

“We obviously didn’t have a track record to show that we had operated a sanctuary before, because we were a start-up. I don’t think that sat well with others involved in the planning,” Kerwin told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

### Clock is running

Time may be running out for finding arrangements satisfactory to all parties. “IFAW funding has made it possible for Wild Animal Orphanage to stay afloat for almost a year now,” Finch said, “but they started a new fiscal year on July 1, and there are no funds for continuing to support the operations at WAO. WAO has some bequests, that I think the Office of Attorney General may let them access to keep the place afloat. They still manage to get some donations. I don’t think it will be a problem,” Finch hoped. “But they can’t go on much longer, as the bankruptcy court wants this wrapped up. I believe the court will be setting a final deadline for end of September.

“As I understand it,” Finch continued, the property is up

for sale. I imagine the proceeds will go toward paying those with preferred creditor status, for example the IRS for worker’s compensation, and back wages owed to current employees. But [the anticipated sale price] is not likely to be enough to even cover what is due the IRS. I believe early in July some creditors will be petitioning the bankruptcy court to take back equipment,” Finch added, “which I would guess would make it more difficult for the animals to be cared for.”

The Texas Office of Attorney General has not allowed the use of bequests to Wild Animal Orphanage to pay off creditors, which could have permitted a more lucrative return from the sale of the land.

—Merritt Clifton

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Watch out for copyright infringement lawsuits, warn web rights experts

LAS VEGAS—Humane societies, pro-animal bloggers, and even individual Facebook users are at risk of lawsuit for alleged copyright violation if they post articles or images from copyrighted media, warns Colleen Lynn of Dogsbite.org.

A professional web designer who closely monitors copyright issues, Lynn predicts that infringement lawsuits may be filed by animal use industry front groups using a legal model developed by a Las Vegas entity called Righthaven LLC.

Formed by attorney Stephen Gibson, Righthaven LLC reportedly searches the web for unauthorized postings of articles and images originally published by the *Las Vegas Review Journal* and *Denver Post*, buys the copyrights of those it finds, and files suit against the web site owners for copyright infringement. The same approach could in theory be used by any legally incorporated entity which could purchase copyrights from the original holders.

“From the get-go, Righthaven hits copyright violators with lawsuits seeking \$75,000 in damages and forfeiture of their website domain names,” reported Steve Green of the *Las Vegas Sun* in a series of more than two dozen exposés and follow-ups about Righthaven tactics.

As of mid-June 2011, Righthaven “has filed 274 infringement lawsuits since March 2010,” Green wrote. A web site called Righthaven-Lawsuits.com published an “educated guessestimate” that at least 35 cases had seen settled as of September 30, 2010 at an average cost to the defendants of about \$4,000.

Since September 2010, according to Green, the State Bar of Nevada has been “looking into multiple grievances involving Righthaven and CEO Steven Gibson. “While disciplinary action by the State Bar is not inevitable,” Green continued, “the chances of that happening may have increased on June 14 when Roger Hunt, chief U.S. District Court judge for

Nevada, issued an order dismissing a Righthaven copyright infringement lawsuit against the Democratic Underground over a *Las Vegas Review Journal* story.”

Wrote Hunt in his dismissal order, “The court believes that Righthaven has made multiple inaccurate and likely dishonest statements to the court.” In particular, Hunt said, the Righthaven claim to control *Review-Journal* copyrights “is flagrantly false—to the point that the claim is disingenuous, if not outright deceitful.”

A series of other actions are pending against Righthaven and the owners of the *Las Vegas Review Journal* and *Denver Post*, including a class action counterclaim brought in Denver by defendants in infringement cases who paid Righthaven to settle the cases in the belief—mistaken, ruled Hunt—that Righthaven had legal standing to bring the cases.

But even if Gibson is disciplined, all the Righthaven cases are dismissed, and Righthaven itself is dissolved, cautions Lynn, “U.S. copyright law does allow for such lawsuits. A new Righthaven is coming,” Lynn predicts, “and animal welfare web sites will be targets. One of the early Righthaven victims was a poet named Allegra Wong,” Lynn notes, “who published a noncommercial website about cats.”

Wong, of Boston, “published City Felines Blog, written from the point of view of a cat,” reported Green. When sued, “Wong responded to the lawsuit by telling the court in a letter: ‘City Felines Blog is an online diary, a chronology of my thoughts about felines and about the sacredness of all creatures.’ Her apparent offense, she told the court, was posting on her blog a *Review-Journal* story about a fire at a nature sanctuary. ‘Full credit and a link were given to the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*,’ she wrote in the letter.”

However, merely crediting the source of a copyrighted article posted without permission, and offering a link to the

source, may not be sufficient to establish that the posting is “Fair use” as defined by U.S. copyright law.

Wong’s blog appears to be no longer online. Her case is apparently still pending.

Lynn has distributed to other animal advocacy web site owners and bloggers a primer on not getting sued for copyright violation authored by Michael Nystrom, who operates a web site promoting the ideas of libertarian Republican presidential candidate Ron Paul. Nystrom was sued by Righthaven.

“Register your site with the U.S. Copyright Office and put a Digital Milennial Copyright Act disclaimer on the site,” advises Nystrom. “You may think that your web site is protected by a blanket ‘safe harbor’ status under the Act. It isn’t. In order to qualify for ‘safe harbor’ protection, you must designate an agent to deal with copyright complaints and register your site with the copyright office. It costs \$105 to register one site, and another \$30 to add up to 10 more.

“Additionally, you need to have a DMCA disclaimer on your site, clearly stating that you comply with the DMCA and outlining the procedures on how to file a complaint and who to send it to,” Nystrom says. “All indications point to Righthaven being simply an initial proof of concept for the copyright-suit-for-profit business model. The definition of internet copyright infringement remains murky, but in the realm of law, it is often the party with greater resources that prevails. No doubt others are eyeing the lucrative ‘business model’ of squeezing money out of people.

“Be aware,” Nystrom adds, “that the above steps should protect you from copyrighted content that others have posted on your site. It does not give you license to post copyright-protected content. It is imperative that you understand copyright. Be sure that you only post content that you have permission to use, or that you own yourself.”

The Dolphin in the Mirror by Diana Reiss

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (215 Park Ave. S., New York, NY 10003), 2011. 265 pages, hardcover. \$27.00.



Diana Reiss, Ph.D., shares her extensive experience with dolphin intelligence in her first book, *The Dolphin in the Mirror*. A Hunter College professor of psychology, and director of dolphin research at the National Aquarium in Baltimore, Reiss has studied dolphins on the West Coast, in Europe, and in various other places while earning her advanced degrees.

An early chapter introduces the reader to dolphins in Greek and Roman mythology. The dolphins of classical myth were often consorts of gods, and helpful to humans as well. The Maori, the first human inhabitants of New Zealand, also have extensive mythological acquaintance with dolphins. To the Maori, says Reiss, “Dolphins are a source of spiritual guidance and a font of wisdom in difficult times.”

Reiss’s hands-on experience started in the late 1970s in the Florida Keys at a place called Little Torch Key. After a month she picked up specific dolphin vocalizations. She left with more questions, but started on her career in dolphin research. Her study of dolphin communications later took her to the Animal Acoustics Laboratory in France.

Dolphins are notoriously adept at mimicking sounds. At several oceanariums captive dolphins have amused themselves by imitating fire alarms, to the consternation of staff. During an experiment Reiss conducted at Marine World, dolphins “learned the rub sound, the ring sound, and the disk and float sounds that we later added,” she recalls, “each one after fewer and fewer exposures.”

What these sounds represent to dolphin, Reiss says, is unknown. Dolphins lack hands. Instead they steer with dorsal and pectoral fins to “touch, stroke, rub, caress, slap, carry and interact with other dolphins.”

When Reiss held up a mirror in front of a pair of dolphins they reacted as if their reflections were other dolphins. “While staring at themselves, they circled and cocked their heads, rocked their bodies back and forth, and opened and closed their mouths,” Reiss writes.

Dolphins are lovable. The popular television series, *Flipper*, featuring a dolphin in a leading role, aired for just three seasons, 1964-1967, yet remains among the best-remembered programs ever. Audiences at the three Sea World marine parks are captivated by dolphin antics. Swim-with-dolphins attractions have proliferated worldwide.

But dolphins have enemies, including those who capture them for entertainment use. The Academy Award-winning film *The Cove*, for which Reiss was scientific advisor, depicts the cruel Taiji dolphin hunts. Most of the dolphins who are trapped in the Taiji cove are butchered, but the money driving the killing comes from the sale of selected specimens to exhibitors.

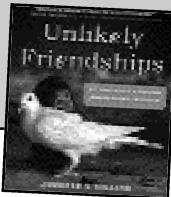
Reiss is a gifted researcher and an impressive advocate for dolphins. But *The Dolphin in the Mirror* is unfortunately congested with details that sidetrack the reader. Details of every study could probably be left out and replaced with graphs or charts that summarize the results.

Photos of the dolphins whom Reiss studied might help. I grew up in New York City and rarely saw dolphins. I now live in Phoenix, far from any ocean. I’d have enjoyed a few color photos of the dolphins Reiss speaks so eloquently about.

—Debra J. White

If you know someone else who might like to read ANIMAL PEOPLE, please ask us to send a free sample.

Unlikely Friendships by Jennifer S. Holland  
Workman Publishing (225 Varick St., 9th floor, New York, NY 10014), 2011. 210 pages, paperback. \$13.95.



Exceptional color pictures of animals posing together sell *Unlikely Friendships*. The individual stories are even more captivating. One of the best known involves Koko, who was taught American Sign Language by Gorilla Foundation founder Penny Patterson. For years Patterson also read stories about cats and kittens to Koko.

Asked what she wanted for her birthday one year, Koko “drew two fingers across her cheek like whiskers.” When Koko was not satisfied with a plush cat, Patterson gave her the pick of an abandoned litter.

“She treated Ball (the kitten) as other gorillas treated their babies,” Holland recounts, “carrying him tucked in her thigh, trying to nurse him, tickling and scratching him, even playing dress-up with napkins over his body and head.” Their endearing relationship was cut short when Ball escaped from the gorilla enclosure and a car ran him over.

News of the incident reached *National Geographic*. When asked about

Ball, Koko signed, “Cry, sad, frown.” Koko soon bonded with two new kittens, Lipstick and Smoky. A giant among animals, Koko is pictured tenderly caressing the tiny furballs as if they are newborns.

The owl and the spaniel story is just as sweet. Sharon Bindon, director of a bird conservation center in Cornwall, England, received an owl for rehabilitation who was too young to keep in the center’s aviary. When Bindon brought the bird indoors, her English spaniel Sophi jumped up to investigate. English spaniels are natural hunters skilled at flushing out and retrieving birds, but Sophi surprisingly began licking Bramble. The tiny bird flapped and danced in front of Sophi and searched for her when she was not around. At night, Sophi and Bramble snuggled together on the carpet. As Bramble grew and gained weight, she moved from the house to the aviary, but every now and then she continued to swoop down to visit Sophi and enjoy a round of canine slobber.

Holland also includes the story

of a dog named Joker who turned up at a popular beach resort in Eliat, Israel. Bottle-nosed dolphins are kept in a sea pen there, creating a tourist attraction. Joker seemed more at home at the resort than with his people. One day Joker jumped in for a swim. The dolphins seemed to welcome their canine friend. Joker’s people eventually let him move into the aquatic facility, where he seems content. A picture of Joker swimming with dolphins is priceless.

Rapidly expanding scientific recognition of interspecies animal friendships interfaces with growing recognition of animal play. Interspecies friendships not long ago were mostly regarded as extensions of maternal instincts, or as hunting partnerships of convenience, as when coyotes pair with badgers or wolves with ravens to flush out prey. It is increasingly evident, however, that many animals of differing species keep company simply because they have fun together.

—Debra J. White

HUMANE EDUCATION CLASSIC:  
Ordeal of the Animals  
by Mel Morse

Prentice-Hall Inc., 1968. 212 pages, hardcover.



Wrote Humane Society of the U.S. senior policy advisor Bernard Unti to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in June 2011, “Mel Morse, the HSUS president in the years 1968-1970, wrote a book in 1968 entitled *Ordeal of the Animals*. It is a nice period piece,” Unti assessed, “a snapshot of how the landscape looked right about that time. It was a composite work,” Unti said, “drawing on material drafted by core staff members like Patrick Parkes,” who were not credited.

Morse, 1905-1986, was for nearly 50 years among the most influential people in humane work, taking time out to train dogs for the U.S. military during World War II.

Postwar, Morse helped then-American Humane Association president Richard C. Craven to establish humane supervision of Hollywood screen sets. Later, as director of the AHA Rocky Mountains office, Morse helped the AHA to relocate from Albany, New York, to Denver.

Leaving the AHA to head the Marin County Humane Society in 1957, Morse in 1958 introduced the use of a computer to track dog licensing. This appears to have been the first use of a computer in humane work.

Attentive to suffering inflicted on any species, as *Ordeal of the Animals* demonstrates with recitations of horror stories about the mistreatment of almost every sort of animal, Morse in 1962 authored Marin Humane Society policies in opposition to wearing furs and the use of leghold traps, and in 1964 won passage of the first California county bylaw prohibiting the sale of pound animals for laboratory use.

This was five years before Morse alleged to the *Pacific Sun*, without offering supporting evidence, that the hippie movement was “associated” with dog and cat theft for sale to labs. Hippies were culpable for quite a lot in Marin County at the time, but pet theft for sale to labs was not among

the documented hippie offenses.

Morse also led the Marin Humane Society in actively opposing seal-clubbing and bullfighting, and in encouraging appreciation of wild pumas and coyotes, who were persecuted by local sheep ranchers. *Ordeal of the Animals* includes a three-page impassioned defense of coyotes.

In addition, Morse encouraged Marin Humane to open one of the first low-cost sterilization clinics in California, though it debuted after his departure to briefly head HSUS.

Following his HSUS stint, Morse in 1972 helped Helen Whittier Woodward to found the San Dieguito Animal Care & Education Center in Rancho Sante Fe, California. Woodward died in 1983, at age 79, before construction of the complex was completed. Morse renamed the complex the Helen Woodward Animal Center in 1986, shortly before his own death.

Home of the internationally promoted Home 4 the Holidays adoption program, the recently rebuilt Helen Woodward Animal Center is today the teaching and training institution that Morse and Woodward envisioned but did not live long enough to accomplish.

Had *Ordeal of the Animals* been less a snapshot of animal issues as they stood in the mid-1960s, and more autobiographical, it would better speak to the present—not that it didn’t have considerable influence and prescience in shaping the evolution of animal issues. Though largely forgotten, *Ordeal of the Animals* appears to have been the most widely distributed book about animal advocacy published in the 15 years previous to *Man Kind?*, the 1974 best seller by Cleveland Amory that helped to spark the animal rights movement. Surprisingly directly ancestral to *Man Kind?*, *Ordeal of the Animals* covered much of the same material, structured in much the same way, even making similar use of sardonic wit.

Amory, however, had the advantage of timing, both in relating anecdotes and in publishing after the Vietnam War, when young activists were ready to move on to other issues. A longtime gossip columnist, Amory also understood how to lampoon the rich and powerful by name, in depth and detail. Morse—and his HSUS ghostwriters—by contrast often avoided naming names.

—Merritt Clifton

## Rescue Pup

by Brenda Fiorini

Joyful Journey Books  
(P.O. Box 216, Rock Falls, IL 61071), 2011.  
32 pages, paperback, illust., \$7.95.



Stranded by his people, Buddy sits and waits for their return. He doesn't know yet that they are not coming back. Gnawing hunger leads him to break through a screen door. Like most stray dogs and cats, he confronts hardships such as unfriendly people and road hazards, and lack of food. Eventually a car stops. The driver takes Buddy to the local shelter where he finds comfort. A family adopts Buddy and his story ends happily.

That's not the case for all abandoned dogs and cats, especially since the 2008 mortgage meltdown. Many are rescued, but others scratch out a bleak existence surviving on garbage, enduring blistering summers and frigid winters without protection from the elements. Dozens are known to have starved, locked in houses or left chained in yards by people whose homes have been repossessed.

*Rescue Pup* imparts values such as responsibility, caring, and that pets are part of the family. The art sags in a few places because it's too dark. On one page I could hardly see Buddy's expression. And where are the page numbers? Many children learn numbers from turning the pages of a favorite book.

*Rescue Pup* sales benefit the Happy Tails Animal Shelter in Rock Falls, Illinois. The real Buddy was never adopted. He lived at the shelter, where he was doted on and cared for by staff and volunteers, until he died in 2010.

—Debra J. White

## Chutki's Experiences

by A. Shamalatha Rao

22 pages, paperback. \$4.49,  
P.O. Box 5145, Pleasanton, CA 94566  
or c/o <shamalatharao@yahoo.com>

Shamalatha Rao writes in the voice of Chutki, an Indian street dog, to teach children about pet overpopulation and cruelty to animals. Stray dogs compete for scraps with impoverished people in the teeming slums of Mumbai and the surrounding countryside.

As Chutki observes to another stray dog, "We sleep in gutters, run from stick throwers, and are always hungry." Chutki also observes and comments on the plight of wildlife struggling to survive in diminishing habitat, a chained monkey who is forced to perform silly acts for a street vendor, and an overloaded cart-pulling bullock who is beaten by his driver.

Structured to be performed as a classroom drama, to help educate audiences including parents as well as the actors and their classmates, *Chutki's Experiences* was within a few weeks of publication already in widespread use by Indian humane education programs, which have lacked literature that young readers could recognize as describing their own time and place.

Indian street dogs, like Chutki, share with Indian human citizens a rapidly changing environment where bullock carts

## Animal Rights: What Everyone Needs to Know

by Paul Waldau

Oxford University Press (198 Madison Ave.,  
New York, NY 10016), 2010.  
224 pages, paperback. \$16.95.



My practice, in reviewing works of philosophy, is to save them for long flights to far-away places, when I will have the rare luxury of being able to read for hours without interruption. Then I write about what I remember well enough to be still thinking about it a week or two later.

What I remember most of *Animal Rights: What Everyone Needs to Know*, by Paul Waldau, is the response of two other prominent authors of books about animal rights, in separate conversations, when I mentioned having read it on my way to the Asia for Animals conference.

Each remarked that while many interesting books have appeared that apply animal rights theory in various ways to specific issues, from animal control to zoological conservation, neither could recall having seen a work about animal rights theory itself that really added much to the discussions by Peter Singer in *Animal Liberation* (1975) and Tom Regan in *The Case for Animal Rights* (1984). Each asked if Waldau offered anything new.

In fairness, "new" is a relative concept. In 1975, as a graduate student, I organized an evening of discussion at a professor's house about several recently published philosophical works, including *Animal Liberation* and a tome or two on libertarian economic theory. The host somehow linked, compared, & contrasted the various ideas in the books,

and over a couple of beers all of the ideas seemed bright, new, and exciting.

If I happened to be a university student today, encountering similar intellectual discussion of animal issues for the first time in *Animal Rights: What Everyone Needs to Know*, I might have a similar response. But perhaps I would also have to have been asleep for 40 years to be a university student who had not before read discussions of animal rights theory, if only as slogans on t-shirts.

*Animal Rights: What Everyone Needs to Know* is a reasonably thorough and readable primer about ideas which by now probably don't need to be introduced with a primer.

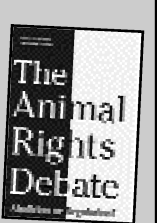
*The Animal Rights Debate*, by Gary Francione and Robert Garner, starts from the premise that "Most people accept that animals are at least partial members of the moral community," and proceeds to point/counterpoint between Francione and Garner about how best to advance that acceptance from an animal welfare perspective to recognition of animal rights. This requires Francione and Garner to each define how they perceive animal rights as differing from animal welfare. They differ in aspects of definition, each tending to set the other up as a "straw man."

Francione, a longtime vehement "abolitionist," argues chiefly from positions of legalistic logic. Francione likes, particu-

## The Animal Rights Debate

by Gary L. Francione  
& Robert Garner

Columbia University Press, (61 West 62nd St.,  
New York, NY 10023), 2010.  
272 pages, hardback, \$24.50.



larly, to take claims for the value of incremental reform to extremes of interpretation.

Garner, however, remains resolutely pragmatic, focused on what can be done here-and-now. To Garner, Francione is a "fundamentalist," whose case is akin to the Marxist contention that reforming capitalism only delays the advent of a Communist revolution.

"Fifty years or so ago, vegetarianism was an alien concept for most," Garner reminds. "Now it is commonplace. This transformation, one can strongly speculate, has been at least partly the product of animal welfare-based campaigns, highlighting for example the evils of factory farming and the need to reform it. The only reason promoting veganism is now a more credible goal," Garner contends, "is exactly because of the work put in by the whole animal protection movement in the past, including those who have adopted an animal welfarist strategy."

Much of the Francione/Garner debate is at cross-purposes. Garner appears to have a better understanding, by far, of how public opinion, consumer preference, and political momentum shift; but often tactically pragmatic approaches to instituting change are most effective when more challenging and radical proposals help to build awareness that present conditions are intolerable.

—Merritt Clifton

## The Dog Next Door & Other Stories of the Dogs We Love

Edited by Callie Smith Grant

Revell (P.O. Box 6287, Grand Rapids, MI 49516), 2011.  
221 pages, paperback. \$12.99.



*The Dog Next Door & Other Stories of the Dogs We Love* resembles *Dogs & the Women Who Love Them*, published in November 2010 by New World Library, presenting similar tales of hope, friendship and loyalty. Each writer shares a unique perspective on why humans love dogs.

Among the more memorable stories is that of an Afghan hound who is dumped because he needs too much grooming. Chained outside in frigid winters, the dog was a matted mess covered with grit, grime, and mud, rescuer Sherri Gallagher found after a four hour drive—but he was wagging his tail. Gallagher took him home.

Volunteering as Methodist missionaries, Roberta Hupprich and her husband land in Zimbabwe, a nation afflicted with social, political, and economic unrest. Urged to acquire a guard dog, the Hupprich adopted a German shepherd named Rex who lost a leg to

a car accident. After protecting the Hupprichs from a home invader, Rex returned with them to the U.S. and settled into retirement.

"No, we do not need a dog," Dorothy Snyder told her daughter, an animal shelter volunteer. But her daughter brought home a "sickly scrawny female puppy" named Skippy, intended to be company for Dorothy Snyder's husband, who had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. A viral infection sent Skippy to the veterinarian's office for a few days. In her absence, Mr. Snyder repeatedly remembered and asked about Skippy. "The routine established with this canine companion added a dimension to my husband's confused existence that neither I nor our children could accomplish," Dorothy Snyder writes. "I still do not especially like dogs," she admits. "But then Skippy was not just a dog. She became a member of our family."

—Debra J. White

## The Natural Vet's Guide to Preventing & Treating Arthritis in Dogs & Cats

by Shawn Messonnier, DVM

New World Library (14 Pameron Way), Novato, CA 94949, 2011.  
218 pages, paperback. \$14.95.



I can relate to *The Natural Vet's Guide to Preventing and Treating Arthritis in Dogs and Cats*, by holistic veterinarian Shawn Messonnier—I'm arthritic myself.

Messonnier begins with causes and symptoms of arthritis, describing treatments that readers can decipher without having a dictionary handy. Summaries follow the end of each chapter. Messonnier discusses at length the use of steroids and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) to address arthritis. The most commonly prescribed NSAID for pets is Rimadyl. Either the steroidal or the non-steroidal approach can help, but each has side effects.

If an old dog or cat shows signs of lameness, arthritis comes to mind, but Messonnier suggests other diseases may be the cause, such as cancer, soft tissue illness, or dislocations. Radiographs, more commonly known as X-rays, will confirm a diagnosis.

Messonnier explains what to expect from the vet when given an arthritis diagnosis and what alternative treatments are available, such as joint manipulation, nutritional supplements, and massage. As a holistic practitioner, Messonnier relies more on alternative treatments than traditional medicine.

Messonnier discusses some common sense approaches to pet health such as practicing weight control and ensuring that animals get plenty of exercise. That's good advice for pet owners even for those without arthritic dogs and cats. A section that rails against food additives, colors, dyes, and fillers may be scientifically accurate, but Messonnier's recommendations are not practical for all pet keepers. Natural pet foods are costlier than standard brands, and are not within everyone's budget. Some "natural" pet products have also been implicated in outbreaks of bacterial and fungal disease that the conventional pet food manufacturing process could have prevented. Traditional pet food manufacturers are catching up to the best of the "natural" pet food industry by introducing more nutritious dog and cat foods.

While Messonnier promotes holistic veterinary medicine, readers should be aware that this approach is still largely self-defined, self-taught, and lightly regulated. Almost any vet can claim to be "holistic." Merely making the claim and eschewing conventional treatments does not mean a vet actually has unique expertise. Check credentials, ask questions, and be careful.

—Debra J. White

## Training Your Dog the Humane Way

by Alana Stevenson

New World Library (14 Pameron Way, Novato, CA 94949), 2011.  
194 pages paperback. \$15.95.



*Training Your Dog the Humane Way*, by Alana Stevenson, squeezes into a crowded market of training manuals, but stands out for emphasizing non-violent methods. Stevenson doesn't believe in the use of shock collars, or the spiked collars often seen on bully breeds.

Contrary to common training advice to demonstrate dominance over dogs, Stevenson points out that slamming a puppy to the ground, for example, for soiling in the house does not speed up housebreaking. Use of force may break a puppy's leg, or make the puppy fearful of people, and may induce submissive urination—part of the very problem that the exercise of "dominance" is nominally intended to prevent.

Stevenson begins with a summary of canine behavior which owners often fail to appreciate. Dogs are social creatures who crave human companionship. They live in the present, so beating a dog at 5 p.m. for chewing the couch at 9 a.m. is not only cruel but counter-productive, especially after the dog has just greeted his person's return with great enthusiasm. The dog's memory may not stretch

back to the offense.

Stevenson encourages passive training, which is waiting for a desired behavior, such as sitting down on command, and then reinforcing it through praise or snacks. Dogs work for human praise and snacks. Punishment such as locking the dog in the yard or physical abuse does not shape behavior. Rather, it creates timid dogs who may turn into fear biters.

All dogs benefit from behavior training. For adopted dogs, this might be brushing up on skills already acquired, or partially acquired, but not recently reinforced in a positive way. Stevenson's book has tips from basic commands all the way up to advanced training. Some people are satisfied if a dog is house-trained and responds to simple commands such as "sit," "stay," and "come." Others may pursue animal assisted therapy or canine sports which require more complex training. Stevenson also discusses introducing the increasingly popular "drop it" command, coping with thunderstorms, leash walking, and introducing dogs to cats.

—Debra J. White

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*

**Peter Falk**, 82, died on June 23, 2011. Born in New York City, Falk was introduced to acting at age 12 by Camp High Point counselor Ross Martin, who also went on to Hollywood success. After World War II duty in the U.S. Merchant Marine, and a six-month stint as a railroad worker in Yugoslavia, Falk earned a Master of Public Administration degree and became a management analyst with the Connecticut State Budget Bureau in Hartford. After hours he acted at a local community theatre and took acting classes. Falk was nearly 30 before acting professionally, and his first professional stage appearance was in a play that closed after just one performance, but within the year he landed his first Broadway role, and by 1958 was getting small film parts. His 1960 performance in *Murder, Inc.* won an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actor. Falk rose to stardom playing a variety of roles, but is best remembered for playing the detective Columbo in made-for-TV films produced between 1968 and 2003, and in the 1971-1978 television series *Columbo*. “Falk generously donated his time to help animals by supporting In Defense of Animals’ Guardian Campaign, to convince people that the word ‘guardian’ is a more appropriate word than ‘owner’ to describe our relationship with animals,” recalled In Defense of Animals founder Elliot Katz. “In IDA’s 30-second ‘Be A Guardian: Adopt and Save A Life’ public service announcement,” Katz contined, “Falk and his wife Shera Danese appear with world-renowned primatologist Jane Goodall, and actors Wendie Malick and Kristen Bell. They urge people to save animal lives by adopting from shelters, and to always act as guardians of animals, not owners. Falk and his late wife were passionate about rescuing dogs,” Katz said, “and lived with rescued shelter dogs.”

**Anne Fitzgerald**, a cofounder of the Cork Animal Care Society in October 2000, died on June 20, 2011 in Cork, Ireland. “There was never a time,” recalled Animal Rights Action Network founder John Carmody, of Limerick, “when she would not go out of her way to attend our demonstrations, regardless where they were held. I have many fond memories of Anne,” including “speaking for many an hour on the phone almost every week. Anne’s life was completely focused around saving the lives of cats and kittens,” Carmody said, “and educating about the importance of spaying and neutering.”

Death of Leona Helmsley’s dog “Trouble” is disclosed

**NEW YORK CITY**—Trouble, 12, the Maltese dog to whom hotel heiress Leona Helmsley left \$12 million in 2007, died in December 2010, “following a series of health setbacks that left her blind and infirm,” Joanna Malloy and Barbara Ross of the *New York Daily News* revealed on June 9, 2011. Trouble’s death was not disclosed while litigation continued over the Helmsley estate. Helmsley reportedly left most of her estate, estimated at \$5 to \$8 billion, to help dog charities, but Manhattan Surrogate’s Court Judge Troy K. Webber in February 2009 reduced the sum left to Trouble to \$2 million, and ruled that the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust could fund any charitable projects it wishes. The Humane Society of the U.S., Maddie’s Fund, and the American SPCA in August 2009 asked the Manhattan Surrogate Court to overturn the Webber ruling. The ASPCA had received \$100,000 of the first \$450 million the trust distributed, while no other animal welfare charity had received anything. The Manhattan Surrogate Court ruled in May 2011 that the plaintiffs had no standing to bring the case.

**Jane Dollar**, 99, died on June 13, 2011. Dollar in 1982 founded Pet Partners of Victor Valley, a cat-and-dog sterilization program funded by a thrift store, and remained actively involved with it to the end of her life. Earlier, *Victorville Daily Press* staff writer Natasha Lindstrom wrote in 2008, Dollar “served First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt as aide-de-camp, and served injured soldiers in World War II and the Korean War as a registered nurse.” Dollar was active in many other organizations, including board service for the Victor Valley Animal Protective League.

**Bill Haast**, 100, died on June 15, 2011, at his home in Punta Gorda, Florida. Born in Paterson, New Jersey, Haast began catching snakes at age seven, and began keeping venomous snakes at age 12. He admitted to the *Miami Herald* in 1984 that he found the deaths of the mice he fed the snakes “intriguing.” Recalled *New York Times* obituarist Douglas Martin, “Dropping out of school at 16, he joined a roadside snake show that made its way to Florida in the late 1920s. The snake attraction soon failed, so Haast went to work for a bootlegger. The bootlegger was arrested, and Haast found his way to an airline mechanics school. Finding a job as a flight engineer with Pan American World Airways, he began traveling around the world. That gave him a chance to use his toolbox to smuggle snakes.” Haast opened the Miami Serpentarium in 1947, a tourist attraction which “attracted 50,000 tourists a year for four decades,” Martin wrote. From that, Haast spun off Miami Serpentarium Laboratories, a leading producer of antivenins. “Haast was bitten at least 173 times by poisonous snakes, about 20 times almost fatally,” Martin reported. Haast attributed his survival and general good health to “injecting himself every day for more than 60 years with a mix of venoms from 32 snake species.” However, the Food & Drug Administration in 1980 banned a snake venom product that Haast marketed as a treatment for multiple sclerosis and arthritis.

**Penny Murphy**, 62, died on May 17, 2011 in Denver, Colorado. Born Penny Herrman, “She wanted to be a vet,” her daughter Michelle Murphy of Aurora told Virginia Culver of the *Denver Post*. Instead, Penny Murphy became a wildlife rehabilitator, founding the nonprofit Urban Wildlife Rescue service with her husband Jack Murphy. Urban Wildlife Rescue has answered calls about “nuisance” and injured wildlife since 1994.

MEMORIALS

In loving memory of Jayne Gordon.  
—Dana Forbes



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 98236-0960

A Bond Unique:

Thoughts and stories about people and the dogs they love Edited by Reg Green

Iroquois County Animal Rescue (100 NW Lincoln, Iroquois, IL 60945), 2010. 60 pages, illustrated, paperback. \$25.00

I never tire of reading books about dogs and their owners. This one is as uplifting as any other book I have reviewed for ANIMAL PEOPLE.

A *Bond Unique* editor Reg Green is now a local TV personality, known for profiling dogs who are available for adoption with WCIA/WCFN meteorologist Jennifer Ketchmark, but his involvement in animal rescue is relatively recent. A few years ago Green was a recently retired Chicago high school football coach, who conceptualized A *Bond Unique* as an investigation of the relationships between dogs and humans before realizing it could be used to help promote Iroquois County Animal Rescue.

Green began his research by simply approaching people who were walking their dogs at roadside rest stops and asking them to tell their dogs’ stories. Thus not every dog profiled in A *Bond Unique* is a rescue case. Some came from breeders, including a few bought on line or in pet stores. All are loved and pampered. But the rescue dogs’ stories tend to be more interesting.

Logan and Pepper are former shelter dogs who now live the good life with Thomas

Call and his wife in Savoy, Illinois. “I had knee surgery a couple of years ago,” says Call. “My dogs never left my side.”

Joan Beyer of Oakwood, Illinois, acquired a dog by accident. “My neighbor found her and didn’t want the dog, so we said we’d take her,” Beyer explains. Her dog Bonnie is now spoiled with several dog beds, lots of snacks, and plenty of love.

Rascal probably scraped by in the hills of eastern Kentucky, where he was found and rescued. Now the mixed breed snacks on pieces of hot dogs and sleeps indoors in Loda, Illinois with Norma McGuire.

In addition to short stories about dogs and their owners, A *Bond Unique* includes clever canine cartoons and sayings such as, “A dog fills an empty spot in your heart that you never knew was there.”

All sales benefit Iroquois County Animal Rescue, 100 NW Lincoln, Iroquois, IL 60945. Formed as a fostering network in response to massive flooding that displaced domestic pets in Watseka, Illinois in 2008, Iroquois County Animal Rescue opened a cat shelter in 2010 and plans to add a dog shelter soon. —Debra J. White

New legislation in Hawaii, Nevada, & Texas

**Hawaii Governor Neil Abercrombie** on June 22, 2011 signed into law a bill which criminalizes attending or betting on a dogfight, and increases the penalties for owning or training fighting dogs, or equipping, arranging, or sponsoring dog fights.

**Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval** on June 10, 2011 endorsed into law a bill establishing felony cruelty penalties. The bill, SB 223, was promoted as Cooney’s Law, in memory of a female pit bull terrier/beagle mix who was adopted from the SPCA of Northern Nevada by transient Raymond Rios, 46. She was gutted with a box cutter, ostensibly to remove a mouse from her belly, and was returned to the shelter dead.

**Sam Mazzola**, 49, was found dead from suspected “positional aspxia,” lying face down on his waterbed in Columbia Township, Lorain County, Ohio. Mazzola circa 1986 started a traveling barroom bear wrestling act. The act briefly disappeared after Mazzola was sent to Ohio state prison in 1990 for alleged cocaine trafficking. Between 1994 and 1998 the act was closed or prohibited by authorities in Ohio, Michigan, New York, Ontario, and Manitoba. In 2008 the USDA took away Mazzola’s exhibitor license and fined him \$14,000 for allegedly not permitting inspections and threatening officials. In September 2009 Mazzola “pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court to two federal criminal charges of exhibiting and selling exotic animals without a license. He was sentenced to three years probation and ordered to do community service,” reported Amanda Garrett of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*. On August 20, 2010 one of Mazzola’s nine bears killed Brent Kandra, 24, a six-year employee at Mazzola’s 17-acre compound. The bear was reportedly not one used in the wrestling shows. “Family members at the scene told Fox 8 News that Mazzola had contingency plans to place his animals at farms and shelters in the event that he died,” said Fox 8 reporter Lindsay Buckingham. “At the time of his death, Mazzola housed bears, tigers, hybrid wolves and several cats and dogs on his property.”

**Daniel Hamilton**, 21, a senior at the Perdue University College of Agriculture, died from heat stroke on June 6, 2011 during a volunteer stint with the Blue Iguana Recovery Program on Grand Cayman Island.

**Texas Governor Rick Perry** has signed into law six pro-animal bills. HB 1043 extends felony provisions for cockfighting to cover owning or training a gamecock, possession or sale of cockfighting paraphernalia, attending a cockfight, and allowing one’s property to be used for cockfighting. HR 1451 regulates dog breeding. SB 273 requires that pets be included in protective orders. HB 916 regulates animal care during cruelty trials and appeals, and requires that people who are convicted be billed for the cost of animal care. HB 1103 allows judges to order people convicted of cruelty or neglect to attend animal care courses. HR 131 makes October “Adopt a Shelter Pet Month.”

**Edward Gardner**, 38, of Naperville, Illinois, was killed by an airport limousine on May 30, 2011 while trying to shoo a family of ducklings off the roadway near the O’Hare Oasis at Schiller Park. Gardner apparently did not use his vehicle to block oncoming traffic.

**Travis Bradley**, 36, a four-year animal control officer in Boonville, Missouri, died on May 21, 2011 of a seizure suffered in his sleep. The city of Boonville plans to rename a newly opened off-leash dog park in his honor, the *Boonville Daily News* reported.

**Sujata Gogoi**, 47, died on June 15, 2011 in Guwahati, India. The wife of Assam State Zoo veterinarian Bijoy Gogoi, Sujata Gogoi had served successfully as foster mother for barking deer, jungle cats, civets, leopards, and a female stump-tailed macaque who was only four days old when the macaque’s mother died.

**Rachel Markham**, 33, daughter of Joplin Humane Society executive director Karen Aquino, was among at least 142 people who were killed by the May 22, 2011 Joplin tornado, the deadliest to hit the U.S. in at least 30 years. Markham was five months pregnant. Aquino remained on the job to help more than 900 animals who were displaced or injured. The American SPCA granted \$100,000 to the Joplin Humane Society in Markham’s memory. Altogether, the ASPCA contributed funding to aid more than 6,600 animals who received humane society assistance after more than 400 tornadoes hit 21 states in April and May 2011, the ASPCA reported.

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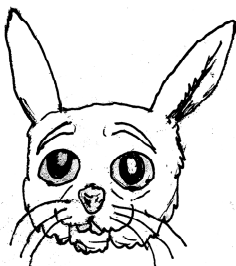
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