

# The dog on the burning deck inspires the world

**HONOLULU, SEOUL, TAIPEI, BANGKOK**—Rescuing just one little two-year-old Taiwanese female mixed-breed terrier named Hokget from the burned-out drifting hulk of the Indonesian fuel tanker *Insiko 1907* cost the Hawaii Humane Society, Humane Society of the U.S., private donors, and the



Rebecca Rhodes, DVM, with Hokget. (Carroll Cox)

U.S. Coast Guard as much as \$185,000, spokespersons acknowledged after the seagoing tugboat *American Quest* brought her into Honolulu.

That was almost twice as much as the additional \$100,000 cost of towing the *Insiko 1907* back to Hawaii to prevent an environmentally catastrophic oil spill, and was more than twice the total investment by all U.S. organizations combined last year on other campaigns to help Asian dogs.

International Aid for Korean Animals, the largest organization focused on dog-and-cat eating, raised \$115,498 in fiscal 2001 from a combination of U.S. and European sources. Other groups working to reform the treatment of dogs in China, Taiwan, Thailand, and the Philippines raised much less, as major U.S. charities showed continuing deep reluctance to help fund campaigns within Asia—especially after the post-September 11 fundraising slump.

The International Fund for Animal Welfare, the most active U.S.-based funder of Asian projects, declined to help underwrite a second Asia for Animals conference, despite the huge success of the first conference, which attracted approximately 275 delegates from 20 nations to Manila in May 2001.

But the Hawaii Humane Society and HSUS were virtually assured, well before Hokget reached dry land, that their investment would be recovered, and then some, from sympathetic donors who followed her saga nightly on television. The Hawaii Humane Society had reportedly received \$45,000 by the time Hokget landed, including \$5,000 from Regina

**INDIA TO INAUGURATE  
ANIMAL WELFARE  
UNIVERSITY (PAGE 15)**

Kawanakoa, who also spent \$15,000 on unsuccessful searches for the *Insiko 1907* aboard a private jet.

The story began with a March 13 engine room fire aboard the *Insiko 1907* that killed crew member Gi Hui Nian, burned out the entire superstructure, and left the ship adrift, without power and without communications, for 18 days. Alerted by a flare and a signal fire that the desperate crew lit on deck, the Norwegian Cruise Line vessel *Norwegian Star* intercepted the *Insiko 1907* on April 2, taking off the 11 survivors.

"It looked like a ghost ship," said Judy Matheny, of Bixby, Oklahoma, who thought she heard faint barking.

The captain of the *Norwegian Star* told the passengers over the intercom that a dog had been left aboard because of the 120-day Hawaiian quarantine requirement, Judy and her husband Mason Matheny told Associated Press later.

When the *Norwegian Star* dropped the rescued crew members off in Maui, Mason Matheny asked a reporter to inquire if anything could be done for the dog.

"I didn't think anything else about it," said Mason Matheny, an oil field chemical worker by trade. "I just got back on the cruise ship and continued to enjoy my vacation."

But Mason Matheny's question aired on a televised newscast. *Insiko 1907* captain Chung Chin Po explained that the dog was his, that he was "very concerned" about leaving her, and missed her.

Her name was mistranslated as "Forgea," a word in Mandarin Chinese that means the same thing as Hokget in (continued on page 17)

## ANIMAL

*News For People Who*



## PEOPLE

*Care About Animals*

June 2002

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### Will wild orca capture and Makah whaling resume on Puget Sound?

**SEATTLE, SHIMONSEKI**—Decisions announced on May 24, 2002 by the National Marine Fisheries Service in Washington D.C. and the International Whaling Commission in Shimonoseki, Japan, hint that the next big battles over both whale captivity and whale-hunting might be fought on Puget Sound, Washington state.

But again, maybe not, as the issues of captivity and "cultural subsistence" whaling that sparked high-profile protest in the mid-1990s have all but dropped from public view.

NMFS authorized capture of a young female orca called A-73. She will be the first orca captured in U.S. waters since six were caught in Budd Inlet, just below the Washington state capitol building in Olympia, on March 8, 1976.

Those were the last orcas captured by oceanarium supplier Don Goldsberry, whose seven-year series of roundups of orcas for sale were finally stopped by Washington state legislation introduced on March 9, 1976.

A-73, by contrast, will be captured in hopes of returning her to her pod in the Johnstone Strait, off Vancouver Island, British Columbia, to eventually reproduce and help conserve the declining Pacific Northwest orca population.

Half the world away, a few hours later, the IWC agreed to allow the Makah tribe of Neah Bay, Washington, to kill up to 20 grey whales over the next four years, and to allow the Caribbean nation of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to kill four whales per year, twice as many as the former quota.

The IWC voted 30-14 on May 23 and 32-11 on May 24, however, to deny indigenous subsistence whaling permits to the Alaskan Eskimo tribes and the Russian Chukchi, who initially sought a five-year combined total quota of 580 bowhead whales.

In recent years the Eskimo and Chukchi have usually obtained combined quotas, since they are related people who hunt the same whale populations, and have then apportioned the exact numbers among themselves.

When the combined quota request was rejected, the Russian and American delegations separately requested quotas of up to 120 whales per year for the Chukchi and 55 total over five years for the Eskimos. That too was denied.

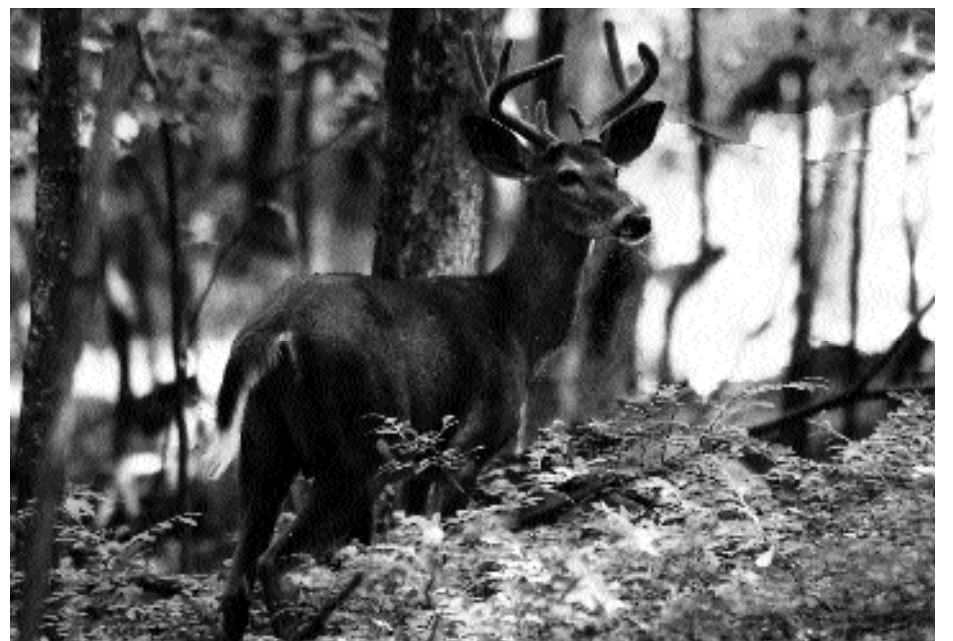
"Despite the actions taken by the IWC," said Congressional Representative Don Young (R-Alaska), "the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission will continue their harvest under domestic regulations until this can be corrected by the IWC."

The Chukchi are considered likely to continue whaling as well.

The U.S. is expected to petition the IWC for a re-vote, either by mail or at a special meeting to be convened later this year.

Unlike the Makah, who killed their only whale in 74 years during May 1999, the Eskimo bands who live along the Beaufort and Bering Sea are still heavy whale-eaters, and depend upon hunting of various kinds for most of their diet. The Chukchi reputedly kill whales mainly to feed foxes on fur farms.

(continued on page 18)



Whitetailed deer. (Carroll Cox)

### Fewer hunters, more brain disease

**ANNAPOLIS, DENVER, HARRISBURG, MADISON, WASHINGTON D.C.**—Maryland Governor Parris Glendening on May 15 vetoed a bill which would have increased the state deer hunting season from 13 days to at least 21 days, including the first Sunday of the season.

Vetoing a bill overwhelmingly favored by the hunting lobby was political suicide not long ago, especially in a southern state, and even in the name of keeping the sanctity of the Sabbath.

Glendening, 59, is a bit different. He has not eaten red meat or poultry since 1999, a daring dietary choice in a state in which the poultry industry accounts for 40% of all farm income, hatching and killing more than 300 million chickens per year.

But Glendening was watching the polls. On that very day in neighboring West Virginia, which a generation ago had one of the highest rates of hunting participation per capita in the whole U.S., a referendum to allow Sunday hunting was crushed in all 35 counties. In no county did more than 43% of the voters favor Sunday hunting. The strength of fundamentalist religion in West Virginia had something to do with it—but most other so-called "Bible Belt" states allow

Sunday hunting.

A few days later the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service disclosed that the number of active hunters in the U.S. has fallen by 7% since 1996, and 22% since 1985. Shooting "small game," the traditional pursuit of young hunters, is down 22% since 1996.

"Hunters now make up only 4.6% of the U.S. population, compared to 31% who are wildlife watchers," said Fund for Animals executive vice president Michael Markarian.

Added Fund national director Heidi Prescott, "The end of hunting is no more than a generation away."

Yet deer have never been more abundant, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service introduction of nonmigratory giant Canada geese throughout the nation during the 1950s through the mid-1980s was so successful that most states which have giant Canada geese are now hiring USDA Wildlife Services to exterminate some of them.

Traditional wildlife management was public gamekeeping. The goal was to keep targets plentiful. It was a resounding success—except that the public stopped wanting more deer, geese, and other species to

(continued on page 9)

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Henry suffered  
so much  
pain  
for so long



March, 2002

Dear Partner,

Poor Henry . . .  
. . . I was putting out fresh cans of dog food for the mom and seven puppies I told you about last month . . . Elizabeth's family.  
I'd just finished when this black dog hopped out of the woods on three legs. His fourth leg looked like it had two balloons stuck to it. He was in severe pain. So much that he just sniffed the food I put out and instead, he drank a bunch of water to cool his fever.  
When I went near him to see if I could help him, he stumbled off into the woods again.  
After I saved Elizabeth and her family, I kept returning to this site every day, feeding fresh cans of dog food, hoping to see the injured black dog again.  
But there was no sign of him. Except that I could tell that one dog was eating at a different time than all the others using this same feeding station.

So I began making notes of the different times every day when this single dog was eating. And I hoped that it was the injured black dog.

Then the other day, as I began opening cans of dog food in the woods, out limped this black dog . . . alone. He WAS the dog who was not able to keep up with the others, the one who had to stay behind.

When I saw him, I was thrilled! After trying to find him for over a month, not knowing if he was alive or dead, I could have jumped for

joy! And now that Elizabeth was over two months old, I knew her face well . . . this black dog had to be her father . . . so I named him Henry!

Now Henry was putting some weight on this leg, and the swellings were smaller, but he was limping painfully . . . and he wouldn't come near me.

I set up my trap . . . Henry ignored it. All I could do was wait.  
After a while, Henry lay down in the weeds. Boy, was I surprised! He looked tired, and like he'd given up. So I crawled over to him slowly, telling him how he was going to have a good life now, that the years of bad stuff were behind him now.

But when I reached him and tried to pet him, the right side of his face lifted up and down, and he bared his teeth a little, as sort of a warning. Next thing I know I threw my jacket over his head and scooped him up. I don't know which of us was more surprised!

At our hospital I got the rest of Henry's story . . .  
. . . he had suffered a lot. First, he survived distemper which left him with a facial spasm. That day in the field, he wasn't baring his teeth at me, he was just so afraid I would hurt him, his spasm got worse.

Henry's leg had been broken in two places. Those balloons I saw were the compound fractures with his bones sticking out. Henry's pain was excruciating . . . and he suffered alone. Imagine how alone.

But thanks to people like you, who help me save these innocent animals who are abandoned in the wilderness . . . I was able to rescue poor Henry before something even worse happened to him.

Henry slept for days. He was exhausted. And he's so happy that his suffering is finally over, that he sleeps with his legs in the air now. It just that melts my heart that we were able to do this for Henry.

For the animals,

Leo Grillo, founder

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



Editorial

Direct mail pros promise easy cash but seldom deliver

At the recent No More Homeless Pets conference in Chicago, I was honored to be seated on a panel with the founders of five humane organizations which rose in 10 years or less from "stone soup" origins, with a few friends pitching in whatever they could to get started, to annual budgets of half a million dollars or more. None of the founders had significant previous fundraising experience. All of them entered the humane field through their personal interest and involvement in hands-on volunteer care. Four of the five eventually became paid professionals because, as their organizations grew, there was no one better qualified to assume the fulltime leadership roles.

Each founder briefly recounted the learning-by-doing phase of getting started, of which the most important part proved to be developing the ability to raise funds sufficient to fulfill program hopes and dreams.

Michael Mountain and Julie Castle of the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary described their early years of tabling in front of supermarkets to make the first mortgage payments on their ever-growing facility in the Utah desert. They raised \$13 million last year, and are now leading a multi-million-dollar coalition backed by Maddie’s Fund that seeks to end animal control killing of dogs and cats throughout the state of Utah, but Mountain and Castle remembered times less than 12 years ago when they struggled to raise \$13 among them for a tank of gas to get to the nearest town where they could set up their table, after exhausting their budget on emergency veterinary care for dogs or cats found by the roadside.

Bonney Brown, who became outreach coordinator for Best Friends after building the Neponset Valley Humane Society into a Massachusetts regional institution, recalled the frustration and disappointment of trying to raise money in the perpetual shadow of the 140-year-old Massachusetts SPCA, the richest humane society in the U.S.

Even though the Neponset Valley Humane Society programs and policies were quite different from those of the MSPCA, Brown could not establish the difference in the minds of donors and win significant support until she started an annual benefit dog-walk—inspired by finding out what happened when she walked a dog on a leash one day while carrying a collection can. The dog-walk was visibly different, attractive to television, and soon drew thousands of participants. Brown built it into the biggest benefit dog-walk in the Northeast, teaching herself the art of fundraising through special events so well that she came to be needed more as a teacher of others than in her original role as humane society director.

Becky Robinson, cofounder of Alley Cat Allies, described having had no sense of competence at organization-building or much of anything else, and no interest in starting an organization, until the work more-or-less found her, after her friend Louise Holton showed her an alley in Washington D.C. that was full of hungry homeless cats. Initially, Holton built and represented Alley Cat Allies, but as Holton already worked fulltime for another animal advocacy group, Robinson found herself obliged to learn fundraising and other essential skills as the need arose. Several times she nearly quit in frustration. Then one day Robinson found herself explaining to someone with an even younger organization how to do some of the things that had most bewildered her. She realized that she knew more than she thought she did, and that Alley Cat Allies had already survived somehow for six or seven years. Robinson admitted that she sometimes still has the sensation of being high in the air without wings, afraid to look down, but with a budget of \$1.6 million last year, Alley Cat Allies has become the biggest cat advocacy group in the U.S., with the widest range of programs and the most paid staff.

Paula Fasseas, vice chair of the Metropolitan Bank Group in Chicago, but new to humane work just five years ago, described using her banking background to start the fast-growing Pets Are Worth Saving sterilization clinic and adoption center. Fasseas charted the addresses from which the city animal control shelter received dogs and cats, compared them to the addresses of veterinary clinics, recognized that one Metro Bank branch was located almost in the center of the low-income areas producing the most surplus puppies and kittens and having the least veterinary access, and opened PAWS-Chicago in vacant parts of the same building. Big donors including the Fasseas family and a PETsMART grant got PAWS-Chicago started, but small donors from the mostly Hispanic community are instrumental in building momentum toward the PAWS-Chicago goal of achieving a no-kill city. To promote a public sense of investment in the effort, PAWS-Chicago spends nearly 25% of its annual budget on community events, including special thank-yous for local support. Small donations collected at the events almost meet the costs—and bring a big payoff in further response. Chicago shelters killed 9,463 fewer dogs and cats in 2001 than in 1997. The number of dogs and cats killed per 1,000 Chicago residents fell 22%, from 15.2 to 11.8.

After these successful organization-builders testified, someone rose from the floor to tout the purported quick, easy way to economic success. She had been called by a wonderful professional fundraiser, she said, who had offered a way for her organization to raise the money it needed without anyone having to spend time on anything other than the hands-on

animal care they were already doing. This fundraiser, she said, would provide the initial cost of starting a direct mail campaign, and would take care of everything else associated with fundraising and even accounting. The fundraiser would assemble the mailing pieces, do the printing, receive the money, handle the banking, and even complete the IRS Form 990 at the end of each fiscal year. All her group had to do was sign the paperwork, and the fundraiser would take care of paying himself from the proceeds.

Five fellow panelists all either shoved microphones in front of me, as the watchdog among the speakers, or pointed toward the microphone.

"When a fundraiser approaches you with any kind of a deal like that, or anything else that sounds too good to be true and is not going to require you to pay cash up front and keep track of the money," I explained, "you should put one hand over your wallet, one hand over your butt, and walk away sideways. You might just as well sell your soul to the devil as sign a contract with that outfit," I said as the other panelists nodded, "because you will owe your soul to the company store within a very short time, and your organization may never see more than a tiny fraction of any of the money that the mailings pull in."

And then I outlined what is wrong with get-rich-quick direct mail schemes.

The hustle—and what to do instead

Direct mail professionals typically do nothing significant to expand the donor base for animal protection. Rather, they redirect a small portion of the existing donor base to their clients, at huge cost relative to the funds they influence. They thereby bleed money out of the work of the cause and into high-volume direct mailing instead, from which they profit.

Typically, what such a fundraiser will do is approach a young and naive charity and offer to undertake the risk of doing a direct mail campaign by "loaning" the expenses of the campaign to the charity at a high rate of interest. 20% would not be unusual. All of the work connected with the campaign, including the mailing list rentals and printing, is typically run through firms owned by the fundraiser, and each firm of course takes a profit margin.

The mailing uses recycled lists of donors to other charities of similar purpose, so right from the beginning the campaign has no likelihood of bringing new money into the cause. All it can possibly do is encourage existing donors—whose capacity to give is finite, and usually is at or near the limit—to give more to this charity instead of that one.

The typical rate of response to the mailing is about 1%. That is enough to pay the cost of doing the mailing, plus the fundraiser's commission, but there is usually very little left over for the charity. No matter, the charity is told: the first mailing was just to develop the list. The list of established donors will pay more on second and third try. However, while this may be true, the list also steadily shrinks, as people move, die, or simply stop giving, so further list-building is always necessary, and all the while the interest on the borrowed money is compounding, so that the charity never gets far ahead, if indeed it gets ahead at all.

Even after five years of mailing, the fundraiser will often still be getting 75% or more of all the funds raised. Yet the ceiling for fundraising and administrative expense by a reputable charity, set by the Wise Giving Alliance (formed by merger of the National Charities Information Bureau and Council of Better Business Bureaus Philanthropic Advisory Service), is only 35%.

To get around that problem, fundraisers often try to claim some or all of their direct mailing expense as "program service," in the name of public education. The IRS tolerates that kind of game-playing, but the Wise Giving Alliance does not accept it, and ANIMAL PEOPLE does not either. If the mailing would not have been done without the expectation that funds would return from it, it is a fundraising appeal, and the costs should be counted as such.

We cannot overemphasize that virtually all of the money raised by professional direct mail fundraisers comes out of the existing donor pool.

For example, suppose a donor is added to a rental mailing list by a charity that sells lists of donor names (a common practice), after several years of dividing annual contributions of \$1,000 among 10 charities, with each charity typically spending \$10 to raise the \$100 that the donor sends. High-volume direct mailings will typically redivide the \$1,000 among 40 charities, at \$25 apiece. Between the expense of introducing new charities to the list and the added cost to the existing charities of continuing to compete for donors, the average cost of bringing in the \$25 will rise to \$20. Thus the net gain for charitable work will decline from \$900 to \$200, even as the share of the donor's \$1,000 spent on fundraising rises from \$100 to \$800—and yes, these are reasonably typical real-life numbers.

The only charities that do better by contracting with a high-volume direct mailer on speculation are the few that bring to the deal a large mailing list of their own donors—who are immediately solicited not only on behalf of the charity that brings them, but also on behalf of all the other charities of related purpose that that fundraiser represents.

Martine Colette, of Wildlife Waystation, thereby believes she got a much better deal from the direct mail fundraiser Bruce Eberle than most of his other clients. Colette told ANIMAL PEOPLE that Eberle is taking only 31% from his mailings done in the name of the Waystation. Yet the Waystation donor pool is being milked all the while on purported behalf of Eberle's other animal protection clients, from whom Eberle is taking 75%-85%, according to recent IRS Form 990 filings. This erodes the value and productivity of the Waystation list.

Further, while Colette thinks she has netted about \$500,000 from mailings by Eberle, after nearly two years, ANIMAL PEOPLE is aware that one of her former high donors was so offended by the Eberle mailings that she wrote the Waystation out of her estate.

Charities typically sell the names of donors to list brokers only after discovering that they have reached the limit of how much the donors will give, and that their average donation is declining, or the donors have stopped giving altogether. Declining or stopped donations signal that the ability of the donors to give is already being cut more ways than they can sustain. Selling the names then becomes more profitable than sending further solicitations.

If an animal charity needs to raise funds to support its work, in short, it should learn how to do the work itself, in an ethical, reputable, accountable, and reasonably productive manner. There is no great secret about successful fundraising, and there are many sources of information about how to do it.

Most dogs can teach the basics: define a need, find potentially sympathetic people, and express the need until they respond.

Not everyone will respond, or will always respond positively. Still, even street dogs, in the harshest and most hostile environments, somehow learn to find enough charity to eke out survival, and very few animal protection fundraisers will ever have to work under as bleak and desperate circumstances as a street dog. If street dogs could survive as many centuries as they have, a worthwhile charitable organization can raise the wherewithal to help them, or to carry out whatever other animal protection projects it has in mind.

An animal charity should not seek miracles, or fall for get-rich-quick schemes. The founders should expect to spend at least 10 years building organizational accomplishments, reputation, and knowhow before entering a significant growth phase.

The people from Best Friends, Alley Cat Allies, and other organizations represented in the panel discussion all had to learn just as much and work just as hard and long to be successful as anyone else must—and may have had to work longer and harder, as groundbreakers for then-new and controversial ideas, such as no-kill sheltering and neuter/return of feral cats.

But any animal charity can learn, as they did, to build success one brick at a time, placing each brick firmly, on the level, to achieve a secure and lasting structure.

—Merritt Clifton

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LETTERS

Huntingdon

Great article on Huntingdon in your May edition! Nice to see someone asking hard questions.  
—Matthew Ball  
Vegan Outreach  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
<vegan@salsgiver.com>

French

The French option on your web site is great! Thank you!  
—Rudy Grodowski  
Bernardsville, N.J.

CENTER FOR ALTERNATIVES TO ANIMAL TESTING STUDIES

I am writing on behalf of the Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing in regards to your May article “Rats, mice, birds amendment, Jesse Helms & Johns Hopkins.”  
In the sixth paragraph, you wrote, “As home of the Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing, Johns Hopkins was supposed to have already been maintaining exemplary animal care standards.”  
According to whom? CAAT was established to promote the development and use of alternative methods. We promote those methods within Johns Hopkins as well as to the rest of the world. We have no authority, however, to enforce animal welfare standards or even to require the use of alternative methods. We are an academic, science-based center—not a governing body like the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.  
In the ninth paragraph, you misquoted an article from the *Baltimore Sun* as follows: “In 20 years, CAAT has made more than 200 awards totaling \$4.5 million...” (but) “It has opposed tighter federal regulation of laboratory rodents as too costly.”  
In fact, the *Baltimore Sun* noted that Johns Hopkins University—not CAAT—has opposed federal regulation of rodents. CAAT Director and Hopkins Professor Alan M. Goldberg has stated publicly—and repeatedly—that he sees no valid scientific reason for the exclusion of rats, mice, and birds from the Animal Welfare Act. Dr. Goldberg and other CAAT staff have

Fighting ALEC

You reported in your April edition that the American Legislative Exchange Council membership includes “at least 20 corporations and trade associations having histories of frequent conflict with animal advocates,” and that it “also helps to push so-called ‘hunter bills of rights.’”  
Corporate members of ALEC, you wrote, “are able to rapidly adapt single pieces of pre-drafted legislation for introduction in their own states, and simultaneously push the same agenda in statehouses across the nation,” while “multiple introductions fragment the ability of national animal groups to respond,” because they are “poorly organized at the state level.”  
As founder and co-director of the National Institute for Animal Advocacy (NIFAA), whose first professional political training workshop will be held in October, and as founder and lobbyist for Animal Advocacy Connecticut, I plead for animal advocates to wake up to the alarm that has been ringing for a decade. Animal advocates in every state must begin to build grassroots political machines—voting blocks—at the state level, and raise money to hire committed full-time activist organizers and lobbyists.  
Even without ALEC it is horrifying that the animal rights community does not conceptualize, establish and financially support professional state political lobbying organizations.  
Remaining outsiders means we must continue to settle for the occasional peanut along with many defeats, while anti-animal legislation and anti-animal public policy continue to dominate.  
This is true not because we do not have public support; it is true because we have failed to face the fact that to have serious impact in the legislative and policy arena, we must function as players in that arena.  
National advocacy organizations have neither the will nor vision to function as true lobbying presences. Further, because they are charities, they cannot legally do political organization, without which lobbying efforts are like trying to walk on one hand.  
The National Institute for Animal Advocacy’s debut political training workshop will be held October 19-21 in Madison, Connecticut. Seasoned and successful political organizers from other issue groups and top political aides will instruct you in how to think politically and how to establish your own voting block and political lobbying organization.  
This will be a professional-level crash course. I beg **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers to attend.

—Julie Lewin  
P.O. Box 475  
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<jlewin@igc.org>

“WHERE THERE IS MEAT, I DON’T EAT.”

Prayer

The letter from Patty Finch in your May edition, “Where there is meat, I don’t eat,” is a very special tribute to farmed animals. If humanity is ever going to rise to a higher level, it has to do with the whole animal kingdom. After turning vegan at age 50, and realizing I had been responsible for around 50 animal deaths per year, I composed a prayer to say for each one. I say it a few times a day.  
—Duncan Myers  
Vegetarian Society  
of West Michigan  
P.O. Box 485  
Grand Haven, MI 49417

—Wolf  
Clifton

Not eating

I was moved by Patty Finch’s letter in the May 2002 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Her message is “Where there is meat, I don’t eat.” This is her way of acknowledging the tremendous pain and suffering that animals go through for meat to be on the table. As a new vegan, I often find that I end up not eating, or eating very little, in the presence of meat. Patty helped me realize what I really feel inside, like mourning, in the presence of meat. I also feel this way about dairy and other animal products encountered in clothing, medications, and so forth. I feel

outrage when I see animal products used for decoration, such as cosmetics and furs. It is uplifting to know that others feel strongly too.  
I don’t know if I have the courage to talk about this with my in-laws, colleagues, and meat-eating friends. They all know I am vegan and see that I eat very little of what they serve. Perhaps if I continue to read such supportive, courageous statements as Patty’s, I too will learn to enjoy myself and my friends without eating when animal products are served.  
I welcome suggestions.  
—Marianne Pearlman  
Columbia, Maryland  
<mariannepearlman@comcast.net>

Soy and rice milk in schools

The Special Nutrition Program, part of the Food & Nutrition Service, under the USDA, is now taking comments about adding soy and rice milk alternatives to public school food programs.  
If we don’t accomplish this now, it might be years before we get another chance. We are so close that it would be a shame to let it slip through our fingers.  
Contact: Peter Murano,

Associate Deputy Administrator, Special Nutrition Program, USDA Food and Nutrition Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 628, Alexandria, VA 22302; telephone 703-305-2052 (ask for Carlyn Fiel); fax 703-305-2782.  
I will be happy to answer any questions.  
—Mary Max  
New York, N.Y.  
Phone: 212-595-2532  
<mrsmax@earthlink.net>

Where did all the coyotes go?

I was shocked, yet pleased to see “Where did all the coyotes go?” in the May 2002 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Wildlife Orphanage has been receiving complaints about Guardian Pest Control for four years. The statements of the owner about the disposal of “nuisance” animals are contradictory and involve an apparent violation of public trust.  
To date, Guardian Pest Control has failed to comply with the written requests of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to resubmit the 2001 annual report, which as previously filed failed to include all of the information required by law. Guardian has recently hired an attorney who, according to the Indiana Public Access Counselor, has approached her for information about exempting his client from the law. He has agreed to provide the required data to the IDNR, but does not want it to be publicly accessible.

In your article, the question is raised as to whether or not Guardian furnishes the unaccounted-for coyotes to “chase pens.”  
This is an angle I did not previously think of, but nothing would surprise me.  
—Laura M. Nirenberg  
Executive Director  
Wildlife Orphanage  
4988 W. 150 North  
LaPorte, IN 46350  
Phone: 219-362-6999  
<mailto:laura@netnitco.net>  
  
*Data gathered by North Dakota humane investigator Sheila Bichler and special agents of the USDA and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service indicates that midwestern trappers are among the major suppliers of coyotes and foxes to chase pens located mainly in Oklahoma and the rural South. Much of the traffic violates both the federal Lacey Act and the legislation of various states. At least 20 traffickers in coyotes and foxes for chase pens have been convicted of related offenses since 1995, and in February 2002 the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources charged 21 people with alleged illegal possession of coyotes and foxes. The sources of the animals are official unknown.*

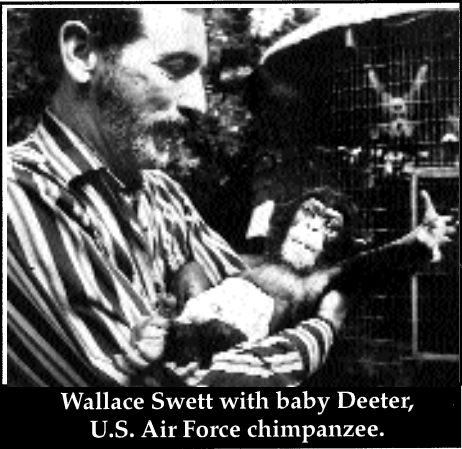
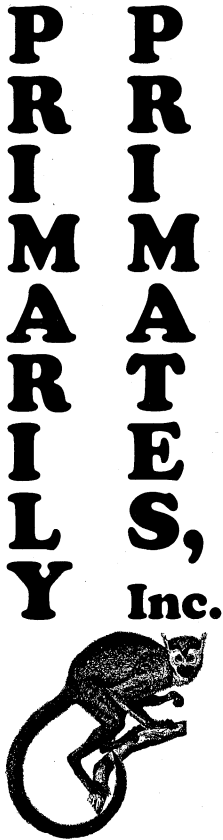
made this same statement on the record before the National Academy of Sciences, as well as at numerous other scientific meetings. Also, members of the CAAT Advisory Board issued a statement in December 2001 in support of the inclusion of rats, mice, and birds under the AWA.  
In the last paragraph, you stated that CAAT’s refinement studies are “involving subjecting mice and rats to pain to see what happens, and killing them afterward to study their tissues.”  
The four projects funded by CAAT do not simply “subject mice and rats to pain to see what happens.” One study by Hal Markowitz and Clifford Roberts involves no pain at all. It is a study of the effects of enrichment on mice. One by Alicia Z. Karas is a study of post-surgery pain management on rodents that attempts to determine the best combination of approaches for minimizing pain in mice. When possible, Karas is using mice who are already scheduled for surgery under another protocol. When she cannot do so, she takes great efforts to minimize her numbers. The third study, by Bert van Zutphen and Vera Baumans, is looking at noninvasive approaches to stress and pain management—an important and promising area for reducing both, given recent advances in technology. The fourth study, by Norman C. Peterson, does require the infliction of pain, but pain equivalent to a needle stick. It also involves a small number of mice. Yes, their tissues will be studied in an attempt to identify biomarkers that would allow scientists to develop better tools for the identification and assessment of pain in mice.  
All four of these projects, in addition to being reviewed by the CAAT Advisory Board, were submitted for review at their host institutions, to ensure that these investigators met accepted standards for animal welfare.

—Lisa Libowitz  
Director of Communications  
The Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing  
111 Market Place, Suite 840  
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<http://caat.jhsph.edu>

The Editor responds:

CAAT has represented many times since 1981 that it exists at Johns Hopkins in exemplification and reflection of the standards, ideals, and policies of the institution. That CAAT favored coverage of rats, mice, and birds by the Animal Welfare Act, independent of the position of Johns Hopkins University, or had any official positions differing from those of Johns Hopkins, was never previously brought to our attention by anyone.  
Two sentences were transposed in the quotation from the *Baltimore Sun*. This was a typographical error, for which we apologize.  
After receiving the CAAT complaint above, we eventually found at web sites—after much searching—two statements by Alan M. Goldberg supporting coverage of rats, mice, and birds by the Animal Welfare Act, made in February 1998 and December 2001.  
Our source of the information about the nature of the current CAAT-funded studies was Lisa Livovitz’s own press release of December 10, 2001, which overwhelmingly emphasized that they are primarily studies of pain. Her headline mentioned “pain, distress.” The phrase “pain and distress,” or mention just of pain, recurred in the first six paragraphs plus four others. Only the 15th and 16th paragraphs mentioned stress apart from a reference to pain. The word “enrichment” appeared just twice, both times in the 13th paragraph.  
Livovitz’s summary of the Peterson project, given first, explained how mice will be killed for tissue study. Her summary of the Karas project described invasive ovarian surgery. It made no mention either that these mice “are already scheduled for surgery under another protocol” or that “When she cannot do so, she takes great efforts to minimize her numbers.”  
Livovitz’s summary of the Zutphen and Baumans project specified that “post-mortem measurements at the end of the experiment” are part of the protocol, after the mice have been subjected to stress at differing levels for an unspecified length of time.

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Running loose in a cemetery....  
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Wallace Swett with baby Deeter, U.S. Air Force chimpanzee.  
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HFA

MORE LETTERS

Anti-poaching

Youth for Conservation, with support from the International Fund for Animal Welfare, Ker and Downey Safaris, the Anne Kent Taylor Foundation, the Bill Woodley Mount Kenya Trust, Helaine Lerner, Inge Buchard, and Judith Rudnai, has since January 2002 conducted five two-week desnaring sweeps and done community conservation education in and around Mount Kenya National Park, Nairobi National Park, and the Masai Mara National Reserve.

The sweeps yielded a total of 541 snares, saving many animals from a cruel and agonizing death.

The Mount Kenya team discovered a highly lethal kind of trap that we had not seen before. Several poisoned metal spikes were fixed to a heavy piece of wood and placed slightly buried and well-camouflaged in a path used mainly by elephants. The poison is believed to be deadly enough to drop an elephant in 30 minutes.

In the same area, the team found a poached elephant carcass with tusks hacked off, apparently dead about four days. This was immediately reported to the authorities, and was extremely alarming and disturbing, after the poaching of 10 elephants and four rhinos in Tsavo National Park at Easter, and the poaching of seven other elephants in Samburu National Park later in April.

It is suspected that ivory dealers are gathering stockpiles in hope that the global ban on ivory trafficking may be lifted at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species meeting in Chile this November.

Another of our teams found poachers in Masai Mara with a freshly speared impala. The poachers fled.

Declining numbers of snares found in some revisited hotspots show that our sweeps and community conservation education efforts are succeeding.

We promote beekeeping and neem tree planting as income-generating sustainable alternatives to the bushmeat trade.

We welcome donations and sponsorships to help us continue our mission.

—Josphat Ngonyo  
Founder/Director  
Youth for Conservation  
P.O. Box 27689  
Nyayo Stadium 00506  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel/Fax: 254 -2-606479

Full shelters

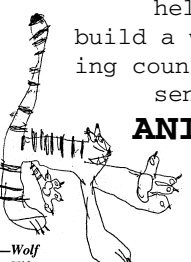
If everything is going so well in the fight against pet overpopulation, then how is it that every shelter is still overcrowded? By now there should be noticeable improvement.

—Elizabeth Kantanen  
Chicago, Illinois

U.S. animal shelters were (and are) typically built to hold as many dogs and cats as they expect to receive in one week. After that, if the animals have not been rehomed, the traditional strategy is that they must be killed to make room for more. In practice, as the numbers of homeless dogs and cats soared during the 1950s and 1960s, shelters typically became so overcrowded that the average holding period for dogs often dropped to three days, and for cats, overnight. Now, because the numbers of animals entering shelters have declined by about 75% in the past 30 years while the numbers rehomed have more than doubled, the typical holding period is back up to about a week to 10 days in most of the U.S., and two weeks in some places.

Please make the most generous gift you can to help ANIMAL PEOPLE shine the bright light on cruelty and chic-anery! Your generous gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, \$500 or more helps to build a world where caring counts. Please send your check to:

**ANIMAL PEOPLE**  
POB 960  
Clinton, WA 98236  
(Donations are



—Wolf Clifton

The B.C. dog-chaining case

Yes, the British Columbia SPCA seized a neglected Rottweiler named Scarlet in Victoria in a prominent case pertaining to prolonged dog-chaining, as you reported in April, but until the Animal Advocates Society of B.C. told the BC/SPCA’s CEO, president, and director of field operations to bloody well do something about her, the BC/SPCA had ignored her, as it has ignored thousands of other neglected dogs for the last five decades. By the end of that day the BC/SPCA had seized Scarlet.

Scarlet then had to be saved a second time—from the BC/SPCA, when it started dropping hints about her “aggressiveness” and unsuitability for rehoming.

What of the much bally-hooed prosecution of Scarlet’s owner?

After three months, all the BC/SPCA says is that the prosecutor is still considering the charges.

We think that Scarlet was milked for all she was worth, and that the BC/SPCA has only led the way down a dead end, as always.

Where is Scarlet now? The SPCA claims she is in a foster home being rehabilitated. It is unlikely that any of us will ever know if one day she is secretly put down.

—Judy Stone, President  
Animal Advocates Society of B.C.  
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West Vancouver, B.C.  
V7Y 1Y7 Canada  
Phone: 604-984-8826  
Fax: 604-926-0887  
<animaladvocates@telus.net>  
<www.animaladvocates.com>

Texas Snow Monkey Sanctuary

Concerning your April 2002 article “Animal Protection Institute fires snow monkey sanctuary founder,” about the March 5 firing of Texas Snow Monkey Sanctuary director Lou Griffin, I worked as an intern at the sanctuary from January 2002 until early March. I left earlier than was expected due to irreconcilable conflicts about animal care with site manager Tom Quinn. Before my departure, I called API executive director Alan Berger to discuss my reasons for leaving and my concern about the future welfare of the animals at the sanctuary, since the one and only person who could adequately take care of the animals had been ousted. I was assured that matters were under control.

Since then, I have learned from people on site that there are several issues that compromise the health and well-being of the animals.

For example, one of our daily duties was to medicate sick animals. If no one now on staff knows the tattooing system, used since the troop was in Japan decades ago, then how can the animals be identified and medicated? The staff members who knew the tattooing system and were responsible for administering medicine have been gone for three months. In my observation, the site manager could not recognize by name nor read the tattoo numbers of 85% of the animals we saw—and he is the most experienced person there!

The sanctuary is currently staffed with two high school graduates, one occasional volunteer who is completely untrained and inexperienced in any aspect of primate behavior, and API regional representative Don Barnes, who as Primarily Primates president Wally Swett told API president Gary Pike, “cannot tell one species of primate from another.”

Also of concern to me is that API reneged in early May on an agreement made in September 2001 to take 14 socially-housed vervets from Harvard University. The Texas Snow Monkey Sanctuary has never before refused to take in a former lab animal. This was a grave disservice to the animals who were to be rescued, and an extreme disservice to the vervets already at the sanctuary, as they are all former pets and lab animals who lacked exposure to a functioning social group. The Harvard group could have taught the other vervets the appropriate communal behavior.

Surely the Harvard vervets were not declined due to lack of space, as the vervets currently at the

Texas Snow Monkey Sanctuary do not even begin to crowd their 5-acre enclosure. And it certainly can’t be due to lack of funds, as API raised \$3.8 million in fiscal 2001, against a budget of \$2.2 million.

I understand from an on-site source that no one has been inside the baboon enclosure since I left. Nor have the caged baboons been exercised or even prepped to join the free-ranging baboons. No baboon releases have taken place, although the risky estrus season has come and gone. One particular group of monkeys, who arrived in March 2001, has now been caged for over one year. The same animals who were singly housed in quarantine/rehab cages when I left are still in the same cages, and are still kept alone.

The dogs who roamed the grounds during Lou Griffin’s time and helped to keep monkeys inside the electrified fence are now kept in pens. The site manager estimates, since he is unable to identify individuals, that 30 to 60 animals are now outside the fences. These escapees are sometimes found at neighboring houses or ranches and along roadsides.

Animals will die if things don’t change.

—Alicia Ivory  
Detroit, Michigan

Editor’s Note:

Animal Protection Institute executive director Alan Berger told ANIMAL PEOPLE that the vervet colony formerly studied by Harvard psychology researcher Marc Hauser was declined because the agreement between Hauser and Griffin had not been approved by the API board of directors. It is rare that shelter and sanctuary admission decisions require board approval. Unless special facilities must be added, admission decisions are usually made by the executive director or another senior officer.

Most of Alicia Ivory’s allegations about the current conditions at the Texas Snow Monkey Sanctuary had reached ANIMAL PEOPLE earlier from other sources.

Asked to respond, Berger stated, “I will be visiting the sanctuary the weekend of May 31st,” just after our press date. “I try to schedule four to five trips each year,” Berger added. “Sometimes they coincide with specific events at the sanctuary, such as this time. I have overall responsibility for the sanctuary. I take that role very seriously and manage accordingly.”

Shortsightedness

Great May editorial! I hope people pay attention—“rescuing” animals by purchase from breeders, dealers, stores and auctions is so shortsighted.

Several years ago the late American SPCA president Roger Caras was guest speaker at McGill’s Moot Court. At that time he was all puffed up about an agreement he had undertaken with the greyhound racing people to rescue greyhounds. The greyhounds they rescued were a drop in the bucket but everyone thought he was marvellous and that the industry was trying to be humane. Of course I had to embarrass him (and the host) by drawing attention to the futility of it all, and to the fact that he had just effectively eliminated himself as an anti dog racing advocate.

—Anne Streeter  
Montreal, Quebec



The Animal Rescue Coalition, of Sarasota, Florida, launched this mobile dog and cat sterilization unit in January 2002, sponsored by PETsSMART Charities, Comcast Cable, and Gold Coast Eagle Distributing/Budweiser. Results achieved by mobile sterilization units vary widely—but their high visibility is often a magnet to donors, as well as helping to promote pet sterilization.

When mobile units work, and when they do not

WESTBROOK, Connecticut; ST. LOUIS, Missouri—Mobile neutering project results could scarcely contrast more than those of the TEAM Mobile Feline Unit and a similar unit recently deployed in St. Louis.

Sponsored since 1997 by the Vernon A. Tait All-Animal Adoption, Preservation, & Rescue Fund, TEAM in May 2002 announced completion of more than 50,000 cat sterilizations, at the rate of about 12,000 surgeries per year.

Founded by John Caltibiano, DVM, TEAM roams throughout Connecticut and has ventured into upstate New York, sterilizing cats (male or female), vaccinating them against rabies, distemper, and respiratory infection, trimming their nails, and treating them for ear mites if necessary, all for the single price of \$49.

Caltibiano and TEAM coordinator Donna Sicuranza emphasize preparation and publicity, coordinated by local humane organizations, animal control units, civic groups, and sometimes private practice veterinarians, to ensure that they receive enough cats to make each stop productive.

Since October 2001, TEAM has offered a rebate of \$19 per feral cat brought to the mobile unit, to encourage feral cat trapping before clinic dates. The rebate program has now resulted in surgeries on approximately 500 cats.

In St. Louis, however, early results from the first three months of use of a donated mobile unit were so poor that the St. Louis Health Department gave up on it after sterilizing just 252 animals in a trial run that reportedly cost \$88,000.

The St. Louis mobile project was begun by Salomon Smith Barney investment firm senior vice president Richard G. Camp, 59, in memory of Rodney McCallister, a 10-year-old who was killed by a pack of free-roaming pit bull terriers in March 2001. An anonymous donor put up \$50,000, the Anheuser-Busch Foundation gave an equal amount, and another \$50,000 was raised by Carol House Furniture, the Martiz Group, John and Carol Epstein, and the St. Louis Metropolitan Animal Responsibility Team.

Program manager Rich Stevenson hoped that the St. Louis mobile unit would sterilize 200 animals per month, at \$25 apiece, including rabies vaccination, licensing, and microchipping.

When the goal was not even approached, program veterinarian Philip Wagenknecht blamed the failure on community opposition to pet sterilization—but St. Louis activists told ANIMAL PEOPLE that the real problem was that the mobile outreach effort was never promoted as vigorously or prominently as beer or furniture, and little groundwork was done in the neighborhoods that were supposed to be served.

Wagenknecht and the city health department next tried a shuttle bus project, to ferry animals from outlying low-income areas to the St. Louis Pet Clinic. The shuttle bus approach tends to be more economically efficient in metropolitan areas than mobile units, which are more practical in rural and semi-rural regions.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch columnist Sarah Casey Newman told ANIMAL PEOPLE in April that the shuttle bus seemed to be more successful, but other St. Louis sources indicated that inadequate promotion and neighborhood groundwork were still a problem.

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# Maneka Gandhi faces showdown with idols of science & reli-

**NEW DELHI—**“I am again, in a battle for my life!” Indian minister of state for animal welfare Maneka Gandhi e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on May 24.

“We raided the premier AIDs research lab in India last week and found a chamber of horrors, rescued the animals, and took them away. We found starving monkeys with no fingers and teeth, bleeding from their bottoms, with maggots in any food they had. Now Health Minister C.P. Thakur and many scientists and journalists are denouncing me all over the place,” Mrs. Gandhi elaborated.

“In this country, as in all the Third World,” Mrs. Gandhi added, “‘research’ and ‘scientist’ are divine words. The fact that we have never filed a patent on any medicine, depending only on making cheaper versions of foreign medicines, is now all my fault, since I have purportedly stopped ‘research.’

“There is a cabinet reshuffle coming up, and this is perfectly timed for that,” Mrs. Gandhi noted, contemplating the possibility that she might be politically sacrificed—in part because of her open opposition to animal sacrifice in the name of religion, as well as in the name of science.

Most Hindu religious scholars agree that animal sacrifice “is forbidden in the Hindu scriptures for the modern age,” as Brahmin teacher Vasu Murti explained in a recent Internet denunciation of the practice. Yet sacrifices are still routinely performed by members of the relatively large and influential Kali cult, and by scattered rural communities.

“My next big battle, if I survive this one,” Mrs. Gandhi pledged, “is to get animal sacrifices stopped all over India. Hindus alone hold more than 50,000 sacrificial events per year, and at each of them hundreds of animals are killed. If we can stop this, we can fairly criticise and restrain the Muslim slaughter of animals at the Feast of Atonement,” the celebration of which often touches off riots in India, when rumors circulate that cows have been killed.

## Horses

Mrs. Gandhi lost a round against animal sacrifice on March 29, asserted Azizur Rahman, Calcutta correspondent for the *South China Morning Post* and the *Washington Times*, in their editions of April 15. In a report replete with details apparently obtained only second or third hand, Rahman asserted that 10 horses were sacrificed 16 days earlier at a remote village in Orissa state.

Rahman alleged that Orissa chief minister Naveen Paitnak allowed the horse sacrifice to occur because his political party, Biju Janata Dal, “is a member of the ruling coalition in New Delhi, led by the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party.”

But as the May edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** pointed out while quoting Rahman, Mrs. Gandhi, elected as an independent, is also a member of the ruling coalition.

“There was no sacrifice,” Mrs. Gandhi told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “Naveen Paitnak intervened, the district magistrate took quick action, and the horses were taken away. Some were singed by standing too close to the fire,” in which Rahman had said their blood was sprinkled, “but all of them are all right now. This is a case of story building on story,” explained Mrs. Gandhi, who is herself a former newspaper reporter, “because each paper was pinching from the other. The original report,” Mrs. Gandhi said, “was filed by a Calcutta newspaper, and everyone took liberally from it.”

Mrs. Gandhi faxed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** the April 17 report of Naveen Patnaik that “No such sacrifice has taken place,” and an account by Kendrapara district collector K.C. Mohanty of what did occur.

“The Dasaswamedha Yagna,” as the event was called, “was organized by Girisyrya Sai Baba and Mata Swadi Pragnya Saraswati of Podana village,” Mohanty wrote. “This kind of religious ritual is a common social feature in Orissa. It is a fact that 10 beach horses were hired and displayed as a ritual during the Yagna. I discussed this matter with Nirmala Ku Ratha, one of the organizers, and some of the local people. The suspicion that these animals were brought for sacrifice is not at all the fact. After the Yagna, the owner of the animals took them back. All of the animals were returned safely, and there were no casualties nor any sacrifice whatever.”

Rahman quoted Hindu priest Bishwanath Acharya as stating that, “The horses were only burned a bit. Considering the immense luck the sacrifice will bring to all of

us, we should not complain over such trifles.”

This statement apparently involved a mistranslation of a word meaning “ritual” as a word meaning “sacrifice.”

Rahman also quoted World Hindu Council leader Maharshi Girisurya Swami as saying that, “Some anti-Hindu elements tried their best to stop this whole ritual, but the god was on our side.”

“The ritual went on,” said Mrs. Gandhi, “but without the horses.”

## Antivenin

Horses may be at greater risk in connection with the resumed manufacture of snake antivenin at the Bengal Chemical complex in Calcutta. Authorization to start the process by injecting venom into 20 horses was issued in late May by the federal health department, three months after the facility was closed by order of the Supreme Court of India.

Horses, because of their great body mass, have a far higher tolerance than humans for absorbing snake venom into their blood-streams, where the venom is neutralized by the production of antibodies. Blood drawn from a horse who has had a venom injection is used to make antivenin for the emergency treatment of human snakebite victims.

Horses who are healthy, fed and exercised properly, not overdosed, and not overbled may produce antivenin serum for many years without suffering serious effects.

The Supreme Court of India closed the Bengal Chemical facility and seven others in February 2002, on recommendation of a six-member investigative committee, which found violations of horse care requirements so severe as to jeopardize the quality of the antivenin produced.

“We found that of 85 horses owned by Bengal Chemical, 21 were not even fit for drawing blood. Some had difficulty standing,” Compassionate Crusaders Trust founder Debasis Chakrabarty told Kaushik Ghosh of *The Statesman*.

Compassionate Crusaders took custody of the sick and injured horses, and was directed by the federal Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals to continue to monitor the conditons at Bengal Chemical.

## Power struggle

The resumption of antivenin production after animal welfare and sanitation standards were met was anticipated by the Supreme Court order, and by Mrs. Gandhi in seeking it, but was nonetheless portrayed by some opposition newspapers as a defeat for Mrs. Gandhi in the increasingly heated national battle over laboratory supervision.

The Indian biomedical research industry was supervised until February 1996 by the national Institutional Animal Ethics Committee, appointed by the health minister. The director-general of the IAEC traditionally also chaired the CPCSEA, appointed by the Animal Welfare Board of India.

In February 1996, however, Mrs. Gandhi became chair of the CPCSEA, and began claiming independent regulatory authority. Experiments approved by the IAEC no longer win automatic CPCSEA approval.

The *Times of India*, aligned with the opposition Congress Party, in March 2002 amplified the complaints of researchers.

“Pharmaceutical companies have started looking for a more conducive environment in neighboring countries, say ministry sources. Federal health and family welfare minister C.P. Thakur says he says already mentioned the matter to the Prime Minister and will be taking it up at a formal meeting soon,” the *Times of India* said.

Elaborated *Times of India* reporters Roli Srivastava and Manjari Mahajan, a few days later, “Research on monkeys at the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Delhi, and the National Centre for Laboratory Animal Sciences in Hyderabad was stopped by the CPCSEA. The Institute for Research in Reproduction, in Mumbai, has been waiting for CPCSEA clearance for its projects on large animals for the past three years. The LV Prasad Eye Institute in Hyderabad has stopped all experiments on the eyes of animals.”

Mrs. Gandhi responded that the CPCSEA had never stopped any scientific project, but “questioned the wasteful expenditure done on duplicative and irrelevant research, and for grants that are being misused in the name of science.”

Mrs. Gandhi said that 590 laborato-

ries had rectified deficiencies in animal care during her tenure as CPCSEA chair.

“Badly kept animals means invalid research, which is a waste of India’s money and bad for human health,” she emphasized.

## Power off?

The debate escalated further after Mrs. Gandhi on May 11 ordered the National Institute of Virology in Pune to halt animal experiments, one day after CPSEA member and PETA/India representative Anuradha Sawhney discovered during a surprise inspection that 37 monkeys appeared to be kept in darkness, in cages too small for them. The monkeys suffered from skin diseases and hair loss, and displayed stereotypical behavior, Sawhney reported. Birds also suffered from skin diseases, sheep had overgrown hooves and nasal discharge, the facilities were filthy, and there was no veterinarian on duty, Sawhney said. Her videotaped findings were later confirmed by an inspection by delegates from the Bombay Veterinary College.

NIV director A.C. Mishra said that this was all “a temporary situation,” exacerbated by a power blackout while “all electrical connections were being transferred to a newly built facility” for the monkeys.

Housing 1,725 animals in all, NIV in July 2001 flunked an inspection by CPCSEA consultant Syed Qadri.

Fumed Mrs. Gandhi, “The authorities do not have a single health record, history of medical treatment, or even experimental history of many of the animals. What experiments were they doing? The NIV is supposed to be finding cures for HIV, hepatitis A, and influenza. However, the money given to the institute for these experiments has been completely misused and has disappeared.”

## Meat & leather

Concluded Mrs. Gandhi, “Each battle starts with me being completely panic-stricken, as I look at the forces ranged against me, and yet each battle is won and I am still standing, looking older, fatter and more tired. This one frightens me more than most,” she admitted. “The last one was waged only only

by businessmen. Now I am fighting businessmen posing as scientists.”

But her recent record against big business has been rather successful, with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals again backing up the boycott of Indian leather long sought by Indian humane organizations, after a year-long hiatus. Leather is believed to be the most lucrative product of the largely illegal Indian slaughter industry.

Pressured by PETA, Daimler Chrysler—the third-largest carmaker in the world—announced on May 21 that it will no longer use Indian leather, including in Mercedes-Benz models manufactured in India.

Other firms to drop Indian leather under threat of PETA boycott include Adidas-Salomon, Marks & Spencer, GAP, J. Crew, Clarks, Gucci, Nike, Reebok, Florsheim, Kenneth Cole, Foresta Internacional, Spiegel, Eddie Bauer, and Harley Davidson.

The Daimler Chrysler announcement came one day after a Mumbai demonstration against a federal Planning Commission advisory board recommendation that the Indian slaughter industry should be expanded.

According to the *Times of India*, the advisory board proposed lifting the national ban on beef exports, removing restrictions on buffalo slaughter, allowing bullocks to be killed at any age, weakening the federal Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, opening more authorized slaughterhouses, moving jurisdiction over slaughterhouse zoning from the local level to the state level, and forming a national Meat Board, with a mandate to double Indian per capita meat consumption.

Participating in the protest were People for Animals chapters from as far away as Bangalore, Beauty Without Cruelty-India, the Theosophical Society of India, the Bombay SPCA & Dinshaw Petit Hospital for Animals, the Mata Rukminidevi Ashram, the Viniyog Parivar Trust, and PETA-India.

Among them, they represented the spectrum of Indian advocacy organizations: the young and secular, those founded during the British occupation, and those rooted in traditional Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain teachings. —M.C.

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**KABUL, CAIRO, BAGHDAD, JAKARTA, KUALA LUMPUR**—Watching news video clips about the Kabul Zoo relief effort last winter, zoogoers and animal lovers throughout the Islamic world noted the conditions with increasing embarrassment.

As battle-weary as the Kabul Zoo animals were, and as urgently as Donatello the bear with the infected nose and Marjan the now deceased lion needed help, their quality of life looked good in contrast to the conditions at some zoos in other Islamic nations.

The result was an outburst of spring exposes of substandard zoos, reinforcing critical reports by the World Society for the Protection of Animals, the Born Free Foundation, and the International Fund for Animal Welfare—and by local animal advocates who have often complained for decades.

Whether improvements will follow remains to be seen. But there is rising awareness that Islamic-run zoos were considered the best in the world for more than 400 years.

“In the 16th century,” explained zoo historian and designer David Hancocks in his 2001 book *A Different Nature*, “the Mogul emperor Akbar the Great established zoos in various Indian cities which far surpassed in quality and size anything in Europe. Unlike the cramped European menageries, Akbar’s zoos provided spacious enclosures and cages, built in large reserves. Each had a resident doctor, and Akbar encouraged careful study of animals. His zoos were open to the public. At the entrance to each he posted a message: “Meet your brothers. Take them to your hearts, and respect them.”

The Giza Zoo in Cairo, Egypt, opened in 1891, and the Kabul Zoo, opened in 1971, were designed with Akbar’s ideas in mind. The Kabul Zoo was later severely damaged by 20 years of armed conflict. The Giza Zoo has been hurt chiefly by “lack of vision,” Cairo resident and London Zoological Society fellow Richard Hoath recently told Jasper Mortimer of Associated Press. Founding director Stanley Flower of Britain developed the Giza Zoo in the former royal gardens. Stocked with animals from the royal collection, it “was a leader in the development of innovative enclosure design,” according to the *Encyclopedia of the World’s Zoos*.

But the admission fee was never increased from the current equivalent of about three cents. By 1991, the Giza Zoo drew more than six million visitors per year, twice as many as the Bronx Zoo, to view 20,000 animals of 350 species. Yet it barely acquired a refrigerated pond for two polar bears and an education center before reaching its centennial. *New York Times* correspondent William E.

Schmidt described an orangutan hiding from peanut-throwing visitors, children climbing over barriers to reach into cages, and keepers soliciting bribes for the chance to hold a lion cub, pet a tiger, or feed a hippopotamus.

Current director Moustafa Awad, hired in 1996, made some improvements. But five years after the Born Free Foundation and IFAW issued their first public criticisms of the animal care, Mortimer found, the problems Schmidt described are essentially unchanged.

Wrote Mortimer, “A clue to what the animals think comes from a lioness pacing at the back of her cage. Her tiny cub is crying weakly from a dark cell and trying to wriggle through an iron gate. The keeper says he can let the cub join her mother to suckle only twice a day, because he has no chicken wire to stop the cub from squeezing between the bars of the cage. But, a short walk away, chicken wire lines the cage of two pumas. The lioness licks rainwater from the cracked concrete floor because there is no water in her basin. The keeper says he will not give her water until she has eaten, lest she might vomit. British vet John Knight, who has studied the Giza Zoo, says there is no reason to deprive her.”

Mortimer described elephants kept shackled to the same locations all day every day, where keepers allow visitors to feed them treats for tips, and “oryx and Barbary sheep who walk like big-footed circus clowns, their overgrown hooves curling up like Turkish slippers. Awad said,” wrote Mortimer, that “the zoo is short of the anesthesia needed to sedate the animals while their hooves are trimmed.”

Baghdad

Entry to the 11-acre Baghdad Zoo, founded in 1973, costs only the equivalent of 2.5 cents. “With Iraq under United Nations sanctions since 1990 after invading Kuwait,” Ezzedin Said wrote for Agence France Presse in May, “the zoo is not only short of proper food, but also of vaccines and medicines.”

The collection includes six lions, two tigers, six monkeys, mountain goats, camels, birds of prey, ponies, and pigs.

“We started breeding pigs in 1996 to feed the cats when the price of donkeys soared, director Adel Salman Mussa said. He complained that the zoo could not afford to feed the cats beef, but donkeys and pigs are more closely related than cattle to the zebras and warthogs whom lions hunt in the wild.

Indonesia

A report on the 10 most prominent Indonesian zoos, released in March 2002 by

WSPA and the Indonesian group Animal Conservation for Life, found that 99% of the enclosures “failed to accommodate the basic biological and behavioral needs of the animals”; 68% were left filthy for prolonged intervals; and “around half” of the animals were not given adequate water.

Eight of the 10 zoos offered trained animal shows, “with orangutans, bears, and otters beaten and starved to make them perform,” most allowed visitors to give the animals inappropriate treats, and about half of the animals displayed stereotypical behavior.

All 10 zoos visited belong to the South East Asian Zoos Association, formed to “develop and maintain high standards of animal displays and welfare.”

Commented Zoocheck Canada founder and WSPA representative Rob Laidlaw to BBC environment correspondent Alex Kirby, “Indonesia is home to some of the worst zoos in the world today,” among which Laidlaw and the other report authors singled out the Perancak Tourist Park in Bali as the worst, “beyond rehabilitation” and in need of immediate closure.

Animal Conservation for Life member Purwo Kuncoro told Claire Harvey of the *Jakarta Post* that many of the Perancak Tourist Park animals “have been so badly neglected that many cannot be saved. They would have to be euthanized.”

Harvey affirmed the conditions for herself in an April visit with Purwo and fellow Animal Conservation for Life member Wita Wahyudi. Harvey described a starving boar, a cassowary in a cage too small for her, and crociles who were apparently fed on dog meat. The zoo managers and Indonesian forestry department, which has regulatory authority over wildlife, claimed to have no contact information for owner Murah Hardono.

“While funding is certainly a problem in many Indonesian zoos,” said Laidlaw in a written statement, “I do not believe it is a primary cause of the grossly substandard conditions we encountered. Building new exhibits and restructuring entire zoos can be expensive, but tremendous improvements in animal husbandry, housing, and welfare can still be achieved when resources are lacking. This is often accomplished through low-tech enclosure modifications, changes to husbandry protocols, and changes to zoo management policies and procedures.”

Laidlaw went on to give numerous specific examples of improvements that could be made without spending any money at all.

Many Indonesian zookeepers illegally sell animals to supplement their wages, WSPA and Animal Conservation for Life

accused. The inspectors said they were offered chances to buy a bear cub, several African lions, and a tiger skin.

“One zookeeper told the police he had sold animals to a number of influential people including the governor of Jakarta, who immediately denied the allegation,” wrote Rita A. Widiadana of the *Jakarta Post*.

“It is very hard to fight against the illegal trade, since it is reported to involve generals, prominent businessmen, and high-ranking officials,” Purwo told Widiadana.

Nigeria/Malay link

Even as she spoke, the International Primate Protection League fingered an alleged fly-by-night firm called Jubreel B. Odukoya & Associates, “located in Penang, Malaysia, headed by a Nigerian national” for soliciting purchasers for four infant gorillas, at \$1.6 million; four baby chimpanzees at \$50,000 each; and four baby mandrills at \$125,000 each.

“All of these species are fully protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species,” IPPL founder Shirley McGreal noted.

In January 2001, soon after Odukoya faxed out his price list, the Taiping Zoo in northern Perak state, Malaysia, acquired four baby gorillas from Nigeria. Taiping Zoo director Kevin Lazarus told Agence France-Presse that the gorillas were obtained in trade for tigers, sun bears, and other species native to Malaysia, who are to be sent to a Nigerian zoo believed to be the newly founded zoo in Abuja, the Nigerian capital city since 1991.

“It is our understanding that the export of the animals is supposed to have involved the new Abuja zoo, with claims of captive birth at this facility possibly having been made,” McGreal said. “The Abuja zoo has no gorillas, and therefore, no gorilla births. This kind of transaction, involving wild-caught gorillas procured by the shooting of their mothers and protective adults in their group is what CITES was designed to prevent,” McGreal charged.

Lazarus insisted that there was no wrong-doing.

In Sumpitan, Malaysia, investors meanwhile proceeded with plans to open a deer park which will sell venison to the public and lease fawns “to selected young entrepreneurs to enable them to dabble in the exotic meat trade,” reported Raslan Baharom of the *Malaysia Star*.

Mazwin Nik Anis and Lam Li of the same paper followed the search for a seven-year-old panther, transferred from the

Pentobarbital in food kills tiger

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand; CHARLESTON, S.C.**—The New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture in mid-May 2002 made permanent the December 2001 suspension of the Dog’s Delight Ltd. operating permit, for allowing pentabarbitalone from the carcasses of dogs and cats killed by lethal injection to contaminate food that the company donated to the Wellington Zoo.

In October 2002 the tainted food killed a 13-year-old tiger named Jambi. It was the first case of which **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has record of an animal who was verifiably killed by barbituate residues in a commercial pet food.

Slightly more common are cases in which birds of prey die from ingesting the carcasses of pets who were not rendered. In late April 2000, for example, South Carolina Center for Birds of Prey director Jim Elliot told Associated Press writer Bruce Smith that the center had treated 10 bald eagles in three years who ingested pentobarbital after eating improperly buried dog and cat remains at a nearby landfill. Six other eagles may have been affected, Elliot said. Five of the 16 eagles died, nine were treated successfully, and two are still at the center.

Similar cases were confirmed in April and May 2000, involving one bald eagle found dead in Wisconsin and three who were treated by the Alaska Raptor Center in Sitka.

The Dog’s Delight closure coincided with a KING-TV/Seattle expose of the inclusion of rendered remains of dogs and cats in the “tankage,” the boiled-down bulk protein used to make some pet foods.

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** has on file

copies of many similar exposes published and broadcast during the past 24 years.

Since at least 1978, animal advocates have sporadically objected to the use of rendering to dispose of dog and cat carcasses from shelters and veterinary clinics. Shelter directors and veterinarians have responded by pointing out the rising cost of otherwise disposing of carcasses killed by lethal injection. High temperature incineration and burial in a lined landfill are the other methods allowed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

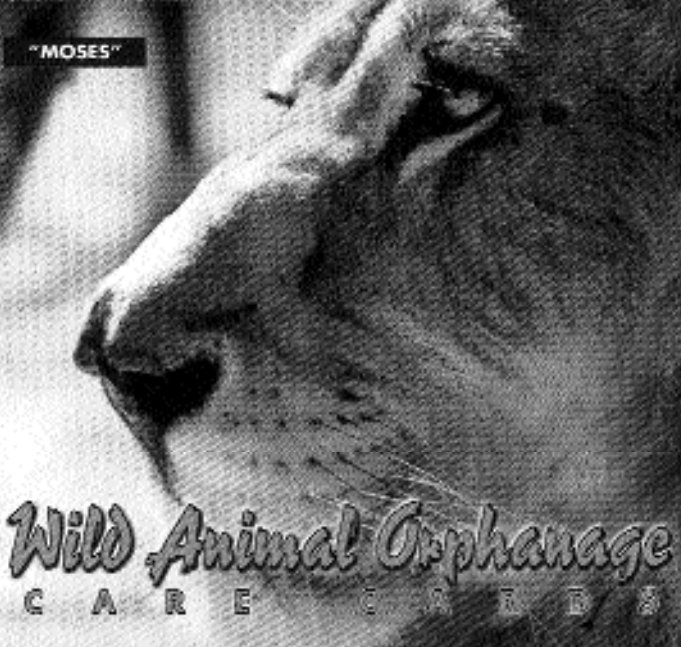
If the remains of animals killed with barbituates are not cooked at a high enough temperature to break down the barbituate compounds, the remains are considered hazardous waste.

Opponents of rendering and critics of commercial pet foods have often argued that tankage including the rendered remains of dogs and cats could harm pets. Renderers have responded by stopping carcass pickups at animal shelters: Ralston-Purina in the mid-1980s, Wayne By-Products in 1988, Valley Proteins in 2000, and Millstandt Rendering in 2001.

Even if all 4.6 million dogs and cats killed in U.S. animal shelters last year were killed by lethal injection and were rendered into pet food, dog and cat content would make up less than .001% of tankage volume, and the pentaphenobarbital content would be less than a thousandth of that.

Also rendered into tankage last year were the remains of as many as 10 billion chickens, geese, ducks, and turkeys, 40 million cattle, 113 million pigs, and four million sheep.

Moses arrived severely malnourished, dehydrated, and covered with sores. He was owned by a private collector. No federal laws protect these animals when they are kept as pets.



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# FEWER HUNTERS, BUT MORE BRAIN DISEASE, AS CWD SPREADS *(from page 1)*

shoot as long as 20 years ago, while the Michigan Department of Natural Resources was still hosting seminars for other wildlife agencies on how to raise a "hunnable surplus" of deer by boosting summer deer populations to 33% above the winter carrying capacity.

For more than a generation, wildlife managers ignored eroding interest in hunting, predicting a resurgence when the sons of the Baby Boomers came of age. But now the grandsons of many Boomers are old enough to hunt, with no resurgence in sight.

To keep the Boomers hunting as they aged and got tired of hiking with heavy firearms, and in hopes of attracting young hunters by offering easier targets, many state agencies encouraged the growth of game farming and "canned hunts," in which the prey are confined within fences. Now that strategy too has backfired. The spread of "canned hunts," and translocations of deer and elk to stock them, brought the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease, a mysterious brain ailment of elk and deer that appears to be closely related to the sheep disease scrapie and Mad Cow Disease, devastating the British beef industry since 1986 and now found throughout Europe (except Sweden) and Japan.

Like Mad Cow Disease, CWD is believed to become the invariably fatal new variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (nvCJD) in humans. But CWD was first identified in penned deer and elk in 1966, 20 years before the first identification of Mad Cow Disease, and may have been infecting animals—and people—for that much longer. Before turning up in Wisconsin, CWD was identified in

Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas, Nebraska, Montana, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and the prairie provinces of Canada.

Only the province of Alberta resisted the establishment of "canned hunts" and resultant risk of infection.

"States may have been too interested politically in the game farm industry," observed Representative Jay Inslee (D-Washington) at a May 16 Congressional hearing on CWD and what to do about it.

CWD is believed to have been in Wisconsin, the easternmost state where it has been confirmed, for at least four years; maybe longer. *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* staff reporter John Fauber disclosed on April 29 that Minneapolis computer engineer Kevin Boss developed an apparent case of nvCJD back in 1994, at age 39—"and he regularly consumed venison, including from Wisconsin," Fauber wrote. Boss died two years later.

"In October 2001," Fauber continued, "a study in the journal *Archives of Neurology* reported on the cases of three relatively young individuals who contracted CJD and also had been deer hunters, or had regularly eaten venison. The three, who were from Maine, Oklahoma, and Utah, all were under age 30, and came down with the disease between 1997 and 2000."

The odds of either a British beef-eater or an American hunter getting nvCJD are quite low. Only 120 cases of nvCJD have been identified, globally, since 1996, when the relationship with Mad Cow Disease was first established. The chances of deer or elk getting CWD are also low: among the 160,000

rancher elk in the U.S., only 259 have been diagnosed with the disease in the past 30 months. Still, because the consequences of infection are so grim, the risk appears to be scaring many hunters out of the woods.

Surveying 405 Wisconsin deer hunters, the St. Norbert College Survey Center in Hayward, Wisconsin, recently learned that because CWD has been identified in 18 deer in the state since fall 2001, 36% of the hunters say they may not hunt deer this fall. Another 6% are uncertain if they will. Thus Wisconsin deer hunting participation could fall by 248,000, in a state that sold 688,540 deer licences during 2001.

If hunting practices including translocating deer and elk from state to state and do-it-yourself field butchery helped to spread CWD, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources theorized in April, perhaps the damage could be undone by enlisting hunters to fight the disease by killing all the deer in the areas where afflicted animals were found. And maybe it could all look like a good deed if the meat of deer who look healthy was given to food charities.

Six hundred hunters volunteered to kill deer for the Wisconsin CWD identification program—but when asked to kill as many as 15,000 deer instead of just a few hundred, many balked. Landowners who lease hunting rights organized to oppose the plan as Citizens Against Irrational Deer Slaughter.

Similar resistance has emerged in Pennsylvania, where on April 29 the state senate Game and Fish Committee voted 10-1 for a bill to eliminate state game commission over-

sight of deer and elk farming. The industry would instead be overseen by the state department of agriculture.

The Hunger Task Force, of Milwaukee, balked when the Wisconsin DNR admitted it could not certify the safety of donated venison this year. The DNR-coordinated Wisconsin Deer Donation Program and the Hunt for the Hungry program, however, are still taking venison.

The chances of ever eradicating CWD from the wild are slim. Even 16 years of killing every cow in Britain who might have been exposed to either Mad Cow Disease or scrapie has not eliminated Mad Cow Disease, and that was logistically much easier than exterminating wildlife distributed over regions that are many times bigger than Britain.

But the National Park Service has already committed \$1.2 million to attempted CWD eradication at Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado, and Wind Cave National Park, South Dakota.

That is just to start. Since CWD was first identified in Canadian elk, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency has killed more than 8,000 animals at cost of \$30 million. Colorado officials killed 10,000 deer just in 2001. The total U.S. Interior Department budget request for fighting CWD is \$14.1 million, and the USDA wants \$14.9 million.

Hunters like to claim that they deserve special privileges because their license fees pay the cost of wildlife management. That they will pay the full cost of cleaning up the CWD mess, however, seems doubtful—even though they made it. —M.C.

## Events

Hear ANIMAL PEOPLE discuss news for people who care about animals with "Dr. Dog" Dennis Fetko, DVM, on KFMB, worldwide web radio, at <www.wsradio.ws>.

**June 5-7:** *Southeast Animal Control Association* conference, Columbus, Ga. Info: <http://-cares.colstate.edu>.

**June 13-15:** *National Animal Control Association* conference, Kansas City, Mo. Info: 1-800-828-6474.

**June 15:** *Pedaling for Paws*, to benefit the Merrimack River Feline Rescue Soc., Newburyport, Mass. Info: <www.mrfers.org>.

**June 27-29:** *New Mexico Animal Control Assn.* conf., Albuquerque. Information: <NMACA@msn.com>.

**June 28-July 3:** *Animal Rights 2002* conf., McLean, Virginia. Info: <www.animalrights2002.org>.

**July 8-14:** *World Vegetarian Congress*, Edinburgh, Scotland, hosted by Veg. Soc. of the U.K. Info: 44-161-925-2000; <www.veg-soc.org/-congress>.

**July 13:** *Natl. March & Rally Against Factory Farming*, London, U.K. Info: <www.viva.org.uk>.

**July 15-19:** *Humane Education Graduate Course*, Center for Compassionate Living, Surry, Maine. Info: <iihe@compassionateliving.org> or 207-667-1025.

**August 2-4:** *Intl. Humane Education Symposium*, Surry, Maine. Info: 207-667-1025; <iihe@compassionateliving.org>.

**August 3-17:** *Vegan Camp*, Cumbria, U.K. Info: <www.vegancamp.org>.

**August 8-9:** *Louisiana Animal Control Assn.* conf., Baton Rouge. Info: David Marcantel, 337-439-8879; <dmarcantel@cnpj.net>.

**August 8-11:** *Compassion-Fest 2002*, Cincinnati and Las Vegas. Info: <www.-compassion-fest.org>.

**August 22-25:** *Conf. on Homeless Animal Management and Policy*, Reno. Info: <www.CHAMPconference.org>; 516-883-7767; fax 516-944-5035.

(continued on page 11)



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**Library and Resources** In-depth reports such as *Canned Hunts: Unfair at Any Price* and *Crossing the Line: When Hunters Trespass on Private Property*. Fund Fact Sheets on everything ranging from entertainment to agriculture, state agencies to student activism, and solving common problems with urban wildlife.

**Humane Education** Free publications for teachers, as well as curriculum units on hunting, circuses, companion animals, and much more. Kids can order free comic books and coloring books on animal protection issues, and can enter The Fund for Animals' annual essay contest.

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# Saskatoon gopher derby may go into the hole

**SASKATOON, Saslatchewan**—Started on April 1, the Ken Turcot Memorial Gopher Derby was touted by Saskatoon Wildlife Federation business manager Len Jabush as perhaps the biggest killing contest in Canadian history.

Jabush told Karen Morrison of *The Western Producer* that he distributed 10,000 entry forms, expecting 2,000 contestants to pay \$20 each to have their “gopher” tails counted, and was “scrambling” to print more. He did not say, “April fool!”

As the June 1 entry deadline approached, Jabush had 188 entries, wrote Darren Bernhad of the *Saskatoon StarPhoenix*. Two entrants, Kelly Stevens and Wes Popescul, had killed 3,700 of the 4,020 “gophers” whose tails had been submitted for counting. Popescul admitted to spending as much as \$800 on a special rifle, ammunition, and gasoline to try to win some of the \$20,000 in prize money that Jabush said would be raised from the \$20-per-person entry fees, half of which went into the jackpot.

The “gophers” were actually Richardson’s ground squirrels and blackfooted prairie dogs.

The National Wildlife Federation, a federation of state hunting clubs founded in 1936, has raised funds since March 1988 in the name of protecting blackfooted prairie dogs as a threatened species. The Canadian Wildlife Federation, founded in 1962, is officially independent but shares many programs and membership services with NWF. The Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation is a chapter of the CWF, and the Saskatoon Wildlife Federation is an affiliate of the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation.

But neither NWF, CWF, nor the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation said much when asked for

comment by Sinikka Crosland, R.N., of the Canadian Health Action Professionals’ Committee for Compassionate Living, Andrea Lococo of the Fund for Animals, and **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Sandy Baumgartner of CWF admitted to Crosland, however, that “The views expressed by many Canadians and CWF supporters about the Saskatoon gopher derby raises issues that are not covered within our existing policy.”

Despite the failure of the Gopher Derby to attract high participation and kill tens of thousands of Richardson’s ground squirrels and blackfooted prairie dogs, Alberta environment minister Mike Cardinal reportedly told David Sands of the *Edmonton Sun* that he would welcome an expansion of the killing contest into Alberta.

The furor just north of the border prompted Rachael Hanel of *The Free Press of Mankato* to discover that many North Dakota communities still pay bounties of \$1.00 to \$2.00 per “gopher” killed.

Blue Earth County paid out the most last year: \$295 for dead Richardson’s ground squirrels and blackfooted prairie dogs, plus \$1,495 for beavers trapped in county ditches.

“It is appalling to me that in this day and age this sort of thing still goes on,” said Minnesota Humane Society executive director Erin Jordahl.

Saskatchewan SPCA executive director Frances Wach, however, reportedly told *Western Producer* reporter Morrison that her organization “accepts pest control as a part of agricultural practice, provided it is done humanely.” Wach did not respond to a March 25 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** inquiry as to whether Morrison quoted her accurately.

## ANIMAL PEOPLE

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Mrs. Herbert Abbott, Richard Abbott, Alley Animals, Animal Assistance League, Animal Lovers Society/Lynn Rasmussen, Florence Arday, Mike Arms/Helen Woodward Animal Center, Lana Bajsel, Gini Barrett, Kelly Beard-Tittone, Louis Bertrand, Dr. LeClair Bissell, Joel & Mary Bonham, Elizabeth Booth, Francis Bourdon, Joann Bray, Marcy Britton, Shirley & Irwin Brown, Jacqueline & James Bulmer, Patricia Cade, Martha Callan, Grace Calloway, Michelle Cassella, Lana Chadwick, Gale Cohen-DeMarco, Brien Comerford, Concern for Helping Animals in Israel/CHAI, William Condon, Grover Chapman, Lorraine Collins, Darline Coon, Delilah Cooper, Maryeileen Corcoran, Dave & Susana Crow, Helen Curtis, Diane Davison, Carolyn DiCecca, Judith Ditfurth, Patricia Dixon, Carol Dupuis, B.B. Eilers/Animals' Crusaders, Mark Eisner, Johanna Elias, Judith Embry, Claudine Erlandson, La Rue Ewers, Linda Federman, Gary Fenstamaker, Russell Field, Dorothy Finger, Tenya & Edward Fitz, Anne Flynn, Fay Forman, David & Carol Foster, Jacquelin Fox, Bill Francis, Leah Frankel, Marion Friedman, Mildred Funk, Virginia Gillas, Karen Glover, Florrie Goldman, Edith J. Goode Residuary Trust for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Jean Goodman, Shirley Goril, Andrea Graffeuilh, Gloria Gray, Greyhound Friends for Life/Nora Star, Marilyn Grindley, Odette Grosz, Dr. Patrick Hackett, Benny Hall, Anja Hammersmith, Josephine Harchick, Robert Harrison, Erika Hartman, Roz Hendrickson, Virginia Hillger, Jane Hlavacek, Beverly Hoover-Dean, Lydia Horton, Sherry Hotham, Jack Hubball, Delores & Robert Hughes, Humane Society of Charlotte, David Johnson, Gayle Koan, Barry Kotler, Mary Kramer, Arthur Krueding, Charles LaBlanc, Kitty Langdon, Carmen Lasar, Carol Ann Lawson, Mona Lefebvre, Daniel & Carol Lefkowitz, Deanne Levitt, Russell Lewis, Irving Lillien, Susan Lobonc, Nancy Locke, Deb Logan/Bellingham-Whatcom Humane Society, Mr. & Mrs. Adolfo Lopez, Laurel Lyall, Laurra Maddock, Pat Maio, Ruth Manning, Frances Martin, Virginia McCauley, Judy & Roger McClain, Del McGiveney, Paula McKenna, Karen McNeil, Maria Mendez, Nazen Merjian, Lola Merritt, Khursh Mian, Ms. Elsie Mitchell, Susann Molnar, Claudine Molson-Sellers, Bettie Montague, Ms. G. Moore, Robert Morey, Richard Morse, Duncan Myers/Vegetarian Society of W. Michigan, Cindy New, Sarah Newman, Noah's Friends Unlimited/Sally Holladay, Irene Paddock, Bill Palmer, G.F. Paskusz, Natalie Pawlow, Bertha Petelis, PETsMART Charities, Jamaka Petzak, Damon Phillips, Elaine Phillips, Carla Pickett, Dr. Charlotte Pipes, Marie-Louise Poisson, Leslie Fay Pomerantz, Rose Radula, Diane Randolph, Olga Reese, Mr. & Mrs. William Reis, Ruth Elfstrom Riggles, Pat Rogers, Kathy Ruopp, Ann Sadowski, Jim & Judy Sale, Melissa Samet, Sharon Sargent, Maria Scaltrito, Robert Schmidt, Heather Schofield, The Shahs/Maharani, Lois Shandling, Magda Simopoulos, Virginia Smiley, Lindy & Marvin Sobel, Jimmie Sober, Violet Soo-Hoo, S.P. Steinberg, Susan Stevenson, Cathy Strah, Laura Stuart, Shirley Swain, Stephen Tanner, Kenneth Tenny, Liana Thanou, Theosophical Order of Service Animal Welfare Dept., Charles Thomas, Presley & Hilma Thompson, Ralph Turner, LTC Lindarae Hope Tyler, Susan van Asch van Wyck, Susan Waalkes, Grace Ward, Penelope White, John Wilkalis,

# On the animal news beat

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** has received messages from several different Ohio activists and organizations crediting **WOIO-Channel 19** television reporter **Scott Taylor**, of Cleveland, and **Carolyn Lyders** of **WBNS-Channel 10** in Columbus, with helping to expose and halt animal control dog shooting and gassing with vehicular exhaust in several rural counties. Taylor was praised especially for his reporting about Vinton and Morgan counties, which alerted other people who were in a position to help. Wrote **Michael Sangiacomo** of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, “**Jeff Driggs** shot 600 dogs to death in Morgan County last year. The dog warden did nothing about it. That’s because Jeff Driggs is the dog warden.” Appalled, Cleveland **Animal Protective League** president **Jeff Kocian** told the Morgan County commissioners that APL would take all their strays. Making their first Morgan County dog pickup on May 16, Kocian and APL deputy director **Matt Granito** came away hopeful that most of the dogs can be rehomed in Cleveland. In December 1996, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** noted that “The neighborhood surrounding the Animal Protective League and Cuyahoga County animal control shelter is so overrun with stray cats that the situation recently made the cover of the ‘B’ section of the Sunday *Plain Dealer*.” A neuter/return program funded by the **Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust** has now brought the cat problem in hand, reported **Fran Henry** of the *Plain Dealer* on May 2.

The October 2001 *Indianapolis Star* series “Destined to Die,” by **Bill Theobald** and **Bonnie Harris**, exposing a lack of leadership by the Humane Society of Indianapolis and Indianapolis animal control department in responding to pet overpopulation, has received a Sigma Delta Chi Award for Excellence in Journalism award from the **Society of Professional Journalists**. The series earlier won the George Polk Journalism Award for metropolitan reporting. Theobald and Harris were also guests of honor at the recent “No More Homeless Pets” conference hosted by **Best Friends** in Chicago. Publication of “Destined to Die” immediately preceded a continuing steep decline in Indianapolis shelter intakes and killing, formation of the animal rescue coalition Indy Pets Alive, increasing use of the FACE low-cost pet sterilization clinic in downtown Indianapolis, and changes of management at both the humane society and the animal control department.

**Responding to a request from local activist Wendy Irvine**, with endorsements from the **Sacramento SPCA**, local animal control agencies, and the **Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights**, the *Sacramento Bee* on April 24 ceased accepting classified ads that offer pets “free to a good home.” With an average daily paid readership of 290,000, the *Bee* is the 32nd most read newspaper in the U.S., and may be the largest paper that ever routinely carried paid free-to-good-home ads to begin refusing them.



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## New web site reviews 77 animal-related organizations

**MAHWAH, N.J.**—The online philanthropic evaluation service Charity Navigator debuted on April 15 at <[www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org)>, offering statistical assessments of 77 U.S.-based animal-related charities, among 1,100 charities reviewed in all.

Founded by John P. Dugan, described by Bruce Mohl of the *Boston Globe* as “a New Jersey businessman who became wealthy running a pharmaceutical sales company,” Charity Navigator is managed day-to-day by executive director Trent Stamp and deputy director Kyle Wade.

Charity Navigator aspires, their web site claims, to “revolutionize the charitable marketplace” by demanding from “our country’s largest non-profit organizations the same level of accountability as [is expected from] publicly traded for-profit companies.

“Today, we look only at the financial aspects of an organization,” Charity Navigator acknowledged. This is partly due to our insistence on only reviewing quantifiable and reliable data, and partly due to the fact that the 990 is the only piece of publicly accessible information available.”

In fact, the most recent IRS Form 990 filing from virtually any U.S. charity is now accessible online at <[www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org)>, which posts the filings in Adobe

Acrobat format under contract to the IRS.

The statistical evaluation done by Charity Navigator involves only assessments of the data as given by the charities, with no attempt made either to determine whether the data is accurate, or to reappraise the data using a uniform accounting standard so that all charities are compared on an equal footing.

Thus Charity Navigator furnishes less reliable information than the Wise Giving Alliance and the American Institute of Philanthropy, which do similar evaluations across the spectrum of charities, and also examine audited financial statements.

The annual fall **ANIMAL PEOPLE** “Who gets the money?” feature goes beyond that level to look as well at executive salaries and other economic accountability issues. The annual spring **ANIMAL PEOPLE** *Watchdog Report on 101 Animal Protection Charities*, published as a separate handbook at \$20/copy, also reviews the programs and policies of organizations to ensure that they accurately represent themselves to donors. Neither the Wise Giving Alliance, American Institute of Philanthropy, nor Charity Navigator looks at the accuracy of program-and-policy representations, as yet.

“With time, industry acceptance, and demand from the giving public,” Charity Navigator said, “we hope to also

focus on the output side of a charity. We will be able to determine not only how much of a charity’s funding goes to program expenses, but how effective the charity is at maximizing what they do. Today, we can tell you how much of The Ocean Conservancy’s budget goes to cleaning up the ocean. Tomorrow, we hope to tell you how clean they got the ocean.”

Exactly how this might be done, Dugan, Stamp, and Wade have yet to say.

The Wise Giving Alliance, American Institute of Philanthropy, and Charity Navigator differ from **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in rating charities, based on their opinions of economic performance. Charity Navigator, for instance, assigns stars to charities, as a reviewer of restaurants or hotels would.

Aware of broad philosophical differences among animal protection donors about what charities should do and how they should operate, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** tries to provide a factual and contextual basis for making choices, while leaving the actual choosing up to each individual reader.

By contrast, Charity Navigator appears to presume that charities should build their assets in much the same manner as for-profit companies—but many animal protection donors prefer that funds be spent to prevent or alleviate animal suffering now, not be hoarded in an investment account.

## BUYING TIME

**BLOOMINGTON, Indiana**—A recent study of a week of television broadcasting on affiliates of seven national networks, done by Indiana University researchers with Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation support, affirms the view several times expressed in **ANIMAL PEOPLE** by “Neutress of the Night” Kat Chaplin, of Roanoke, Texas, that animal advocacy groups are making a big mistake if they rely on public service announcements instead of paid advertising to spread their message on the airwaves.

The study found that TV stations donate less than half of 1% of their total air time to non-profit groups. Only 9% of the donated time is during the most-watched evening hours, while 43% is during the least-watched midnight-to-six a.m. slot.

Animal issues were not among the top 10 topics addressed in donated air time, and were not mentioned among the 12 causes cited as most deserving of donated air time by station managers. Environmental issues were addressed in only 4% of all donated air time, and were cited as a priority by just 10% of the station managers.

The top priority issues for station managers were “family/children/teenagers,” cited by 57%; “community issues,” cited by 40%; and “health,” cited by 37%. Many animal issues can be raised in those contexts.

But 35% of the station managers said that a nonprofit organization that buys some air time is more likely to also get donated time, if unsold commercial time is available.

### Events (from page 9)

**September 19:** *Connecticut Animal Control Officers Assn.* conf., Cromwell. Info: 860-423-7195.

**September 19-22:** *National Humane Conf.*, Denver. Info: American Humane Assn., 1-800-227-4645.

**Sept. 21:** *75th anniversary*, Humane Society of Baltimore County, Reisterstown, Md. Info: 410-833-2387.

**Sept. 23-28:** *Intl. Orca Symposium*, Chizli, France. Info: <[www.cebc.cnrs.fr](http://www.cebc.cnrs.fr)>.

**September 26-28:** *Pacific Northwest Animal Care & Control Conf.*, Seattle. Info: Paul Delgado, 425-745-6175; <[paul@city-ofmillcreek.com](mailto:paul@city-ofmillcreek.com)>.

**Sept. 27-28:** *Critteraid Conf.*, Penticon, British Columbia, Canada. Info: <[catbuddy@quadrant.net](mailto:catbuddy@quadrant.net)>.

**October 3-6:** *Southern Regional Leadership Conf.*, New Orleans. Info: Spay/USA, 1-800-248-SPAY, or <[www.spayusa.org](http://www.spayusa.org)>.

**Oct. 4-6:** *The Culture of Whales*, American Cetacean Society conf., Seattle. Info: <[www.acsonline.org](http://www.acsonline.org)>.

**October 16-18:** *North Carolina Animal Rabies Control Assn.* conf., Boon. Info: <[www.ncarca.com](http://www.ncarca.com)>.

**October 18-21:** *National Institute for Animal Advocacy* political training course. Info: 203-453-6590; <[jlewin@igc.org](mailto:jlewin@igc.org)>.

**October 23-25:** *Virginia Animal Control Assn.* conf., Virginia Beach. Info: Mark Kumpf, 757-441-5503; <[Mark.kumpf@norfolk.gov](mailto:Mark.kumpf@norfolk.gov)>.

**October 25-27:** *No More Homeless Pets* conference, Atlanta. Info: Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 435-644-2001, x129; <[info@best-friends.org](mailto:info@best-friends.org)>.

**Nov. 11-13:** *Texas Animal Control Association* conf., Abilene. Info: <[laural@ci.brownsville.tx.us](mailto:laural@ci.brownsville.tx.us)>.

**November 13-15:** *International Companion Animal Welfare Conference*, Prague, Czech Republic. Info: <[www.icawc.org](http://www.icawc.org)>.

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

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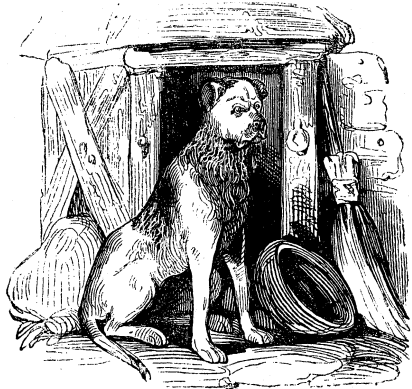
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# The Watchdog

*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.*

## Friends of Animals board chair resigns over anti-chaining bill veto

HARTFORD—Connecticut state representative **Kenneth Bernhard** (R-Westport) has resigned his longtime position as **Friends of Animals** board chair, in protest against the role of FoA president **Priscilla Feral** in persuading **Governor John G. Rowland**, a fellow Republican, to veto what would have been the first state law to explicitly limit the number of hours per day that dogs could be chained, caged, or kenneled.

Drafted by **Animal Advocacy Connecticut** founder **Julie Lewin**, the anti-chaining bill was approved 124-17 in the state house and 30-6 in the state senate. Lawmakers backed the bill partly out of sympathy for dogs chained outdoors alone in all kinds of weather, and partly due to increasing recognition that prolonged chaining, caging, or kenneling tends to make dogs more territorial and reactive, resulting in more frequent bites and more serious bites than if the dogs have the option of moving away from a threat or challenge.

The bill sought to avoid enforcement problems resulting from humane officers mak-

ing judgement calls by spelling out statutory limits: a dog could not be confined for longer than 15 consecutive hours, or more than 22 hours out of 24; a chain could not be less than five times the length of the dog; a chain could not weigh more than 10% as much as the dog; and dogs other than northern breeds could not be left outside for longer than half an hour in temperatures below 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

This is the same approach taken to regulatory topics such as speed limits, stop signs, and wearing seat belts. Rather than leaving "dangerous driving" up to police to define, laws define prohibited conduct, and state specific penalties for each violation.

The bill was vehemently opposed as allegedly over-restrictive by the **Connecticut Dog Federation**, representing dog breeders; pack hunters; owners of guard dogs; libertarians, who oppose all new regulation; the *Hartford Courant* newspaper—and FoA, which attacked it in a series of e-mail alerts for including exemptions for pet stores, greyhound tracks, and animal shelters.

"I admire their aspirations for an animal utopia," Bernhard told Associated Press, "but it is not going to happen in our lifetime. Unfortunately, FoA has become a roadblock to improving the standard of care for animals."

Bernhard said that including the exemptions was necessary for the bill to pass.

The Connecticut legislature will have a chance to override Rowland's veto in a session starting on June 24, but is not expected to take the anti-chaining bill up again.

### Other states

**Vermont state senator Vincent Illuzzi** (R-Essex/Orleans) pushed a bill to establish a felony cruelty penalty for animal torture and neglect throughout the spring that eventually cleared the senate, while the house passed a bill by representative **Duncan Kilmartin** (R-Newport) that limited the subject to deliberate acts.

The Illuzzi bill included some provisions about prolonged confinement similar to those of the Connecticut anti-chaining bill.

Illuzzi represents a rural district and has enjoyed strong support from farmers throughout his career, but his version of the bill was bitterly opposed by rural legislators who insisted that provisions written to deal with animal hoarders might be used against farmers—including a requirement that people convicted of hoarding animals and juveniles convicted of violent crimes against animals must obtain psychiatric evaluation and mental health treatment. Representative **Ruth Towne** (R-Berlin) eventually killed efforts to reconcile the Illuzzi bill and the Kilmartin bill in the house/senate reconciliation committee—meaning that both bills were scrapped.

Recent successful pro-animal legislation included:

- **Arizona governor Jane Hull** on April 30 signed a bill creating a legal defense for dogs who bite a person after being provoked. The standard for "provocation" is behavior that a "reasonable person" would recognize as likely to bring on an attack.

- **Florida Governor Jeb Bush**, signing his second pro-animal bill in under two weeks, authorized legislation that makes "pet trusts" set up to look after the animals of deceased persons legal and binding. Bush ear-

- **Kansas Governor Bill Graves**, a month after signing a bill to raise the penalties for harming search-and-rescue dogs, signed a bill that makes cockfighting punishable by up to a year in jail plus a fine of \$10,000.

- **Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating** on May 7 signed his second anti-pollution bill in three weeks. This bill too will tend to curb the growth of factory farming, and will help protect wildlife habitat.

### Bestiality & porn

Awaiting only gubernatorial signatures are anti-bestiality bills passed by the Illinois and Missouri legislatures, and an Illinois bill which would outlaw the for-profit production, sale, or distribution of videotapes depicting cruelty to animals.

The latter bill escaped being grafted to a bill introduced into the Illinois senate by Mary K. O'Brien (D-Coal City) but killed in committee, which would have made it "a crime to be on a farm (or other 'animal facility') and photograph or videotape pigs or any other animals without the consent of the owner if one's intent is to damage the enterprise," according to a *Chicago Tribune* summary.

A similar bill was introduced in Missouri by representative Ken Logan (R-Halfway), on behalf of dog breeder Brenda Kemp. The Missouri bill—which observers say is almost certainly unconstitutional—was approved by the state house on March 15 as part of an omnibus farm bill.

The Missouri and Illinois anti-bestiality bills and the Illinois bill banning made-for-profit videos of cruelty were inspired by local incidents, but they may get a boost from publicity about the May 27 sentencing of British "crush video" makers Craig Chapman, 27, Christine Besford, 26, Sarah Goode, 22, and Tharaza Smallwood, 22, whose videos of small animals being stomped by women and transvestites in high heels were sold in the U.S. along with the videos of convicted American producers Thomas Capriola, of Long Island, and Gary Thomason and Diana Aileen Chaffin, of southern California.

Judge Granville Styler gave Chapman two years in jail, and gave the three women four months each. All were also fined and banned for life from keeping pets.

## Rats, mice, birds, dogs and bears all lose in weakened U.S. Farm Bill

WASHINGTON D.C.—U.S. President **George W. Bush** on May 13 signed a Farm Bill that *The New York Times* editorially called "a regrettable reversion to some of the worst policies of the past."

*The New York Times* referred in specific to "a \$50 billion increase in subsidies to big producers of row crops such as feed corn over the next 10 years—a 50% jump over present levels and a complete reversal of promising attempts to wean farmers off all subsidies." The chief effect of the higher row crop subsidies will be to continue artificially suppressing the cost of feeding poultry, hogs, and cattle in intensive confinement.

*The New York Times* analysis might equally well have applied to the last-minute inclusion in the Farm Bill of an amendment by **Senator Jesse Helms** (R-N.C.) which makes permanent the exclusion of rats, mice, and birds—more than 90% of all animals used in U.S. laboratories—from the definition of "animal" used in the enforcement regulations of the federal Animal Welfare Act. Never discussed in either the Senate or the House, the Helms amendment was included in the final draft of the Farm Bill by the joint House/Senate bill reconciliation committee.

About 30 million rats and mice are bred for lab use in the U.S. each year, says the **National Association for Biomedical Research**, which sought the Helms amendment. About 170 million rats and mice, NABR claims, are fed to pet reptiles.

The USDA excluded rats, mice, and birds from the Animal Welfare Act enforcement regulations in 1970. After many previous efforts failed, an **American Anti-Vivisection Society** subsidiary called the **Alternatives Research & Development Foundation** won judicial rulings that in October 2000 caused the USDA to agree to rewrite the regulations to protect rats, mice, and birds. But Congressional budget actions repeatedly delayed any actual rewriting.

Among four pro-animal bills incorporated into the separate House and Senate versions of the Farm Bill, only a stronger edition of a 1976 ban on interstate transportation of fighting cocks survived the bill reconciliation process. Cockfighting has persisted in many of the 47 states where it is illegal because cock breeders claim to be raising birds for sale to Louisiana, Oklahoma, and New Mexico, which still permit cockfights.

"They want to try to refine us, but America was built on coarseness. That's the glue that holds America together," protested cockfighter **Paul Hulin**, 60, of New Iberia, Louisiana, in remarks to **Associated Press**.

A proposed federal "downer" bill was cut back to require only a study into the problems associated with non-ambulatory livestock arriving at slaughterhouses. Language attempting to strengthen regulation of puppy mills and prohibit the export of bear parts was excised from the Farm Bill entirely, by demand of dog breeders and hunters.

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## Wrestling with WWF

LONDON—Outweighed by the World Wildlife Fund in two British trademark court decisions, the World Wrestling Federation on May 7 reintroduced itself as World Wrestling Entertainment, leaving the other WWF to wrestle with itself, after WWF-Japan representative Shigeki Komori reportedly told news media on the eve of the International Whaling Commission meeting (*see page one*) that if various conditions were met, "we can no longer deny the logic that regulated commercial whaling can resume."

"WWF does not support commercial whaling in any circumstances. We will sort out our office in Japan if they are saying anything different," said WWF endangered species program director Susan Lieberman.

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



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**OTTAWA**—Canadian Alliance leader John Reynolds gloated on April 30 that the third attempt of the Liberal government to pass a national endangered species act appeared to be dead. The current Parliament is to adjourn on June 21. Liberal house leader Ralph Goodale—insisting that the currently introduced Species-at-Risk Act will “get to the finish line by mid-June”—had by May 28 made no new move to push it. The Liberals are strongest in Quebec and Atlantic Canada; the Canadian Alliance dominates the west.

Liberal Rural Caucus chair Murray Calder, aligning himself with the Canadian Alliance, meanwhile appeared to have doomed the first major update to Canadian

national anti-cruelty legislation since 1895 by demanding that the words “without lawful excuse” be inserted in a manner that would exempt any offense which the perpetrator claimed to have done for a legal purpose. Pushed since 1998 by former Justice Minister Anne McLellan, who reintroduced it in 2000, the update lost momentum when in January 2002 McLellan was shifted to become Health Minister. First-time cabinet member Martin Cauchon took the Justice portfolio.

The Progressive-Conservative government of Ontario in late May resumed efforts to pass Bill 135, the “Heritage Hunting & Fishing Act,” which would redefine hunting as a right in Ontario rather than a conditional

privilege. “Chris Hodgson, avid hunter and Municipal Affairs Minister, tried to ram Bill 135 through in late December 2001 without debate,” said Aviva Patel, Ph.D., policy analyst for the Sierra Club Eastern Canada chapter Forest & Wildlife Campaign. Patel pointed out that only 3% of Ontarians hunt. International Fund for Animal Welfare representative Rob Sinclair released survey findings that while about half of Ontarians are “generally supportive of hunting,” 81% believe hunted animals should have a fair chance of escape, 84% believe conservation should take precedence in setting hunting policy, and 86% “consider humane treatment of those hunted to be very important.”

## Alternatives to sterilization surgery still delayed

**ATLANTA**—“A commercialized alternative to surgical castration or ovariectomy for either dogs or cats” may still be 10 years away, AlcheraBio senior partner Linda Rhodes, DVM, told the 2002 International Symposium on Nonsurgical Methods for Pet Population Control, held April 19-21 in Atlanta.

Rhodes’ prediction came as a let-down after the optimism of many of the same speakers two years earlier.

At the Spay/USA symposium on immunocontraceptives and chemosterilants, held in July 2000 at Bentley College in Waltham, Massachusetts, at least two researchers hoped that their products could clear the regulatory hurdles and be on the market by now. In Atlanta, however, neither those researchers nor any others ventured even a hypothetical timetable for bringing any contraceptive or sterilant drug or antigen for animals into commercial production.

Despite 30 years of increasingly successful product development, Rhodes explained, meeting the regulatory requirements of the U.S., European Union, and other nations for product safety and efficacy are just the beginning of the process of introducing a new pharmaceutical.

“For a company to decide to move a product forward,” Rhodes said, “a technically feasible, stable formulation must be developed

and large-scale manufacturing must be possible. Formulations used for research rarely are suitable for full-scale development. The final formulation needs to be reasonably stable—that is, the active drug or antigen has to remain intact over a reasonable shelf life,” and “must be cheap enough to enable profit.”

Beyond that, Rhodes continued, “The regulatory path must be clear and relatively low-risk. The cost of development must be reasonable. The market must be clearly defined. Money must be available to take the project through to completion and to support initial marketing. Finally, a company or a group of investors must be willing to risk the long and costly development process.”

All of those obstacles combined to block the anticipated U.S. release of a canine contraceptive drug called mibolerone, which from 1975 until 1985 the Upjohn Company and Carnation Company repeatedly announced would soon be available.

Mibolerone has been used in the U.S. by prescription to suppress estrus in racing greyhounds, sled dogs, some show dogs, and zoo animals, and is widely used by prescription in northern Europe, but has not been marketed to U.S. humane groups or the general public because it is chemically similar to RU-486, the active ingredient of the so-called “abortion pill.” The U.S. Food and Drug Administration finally authorized the manufac-

ture and marketing of RU-486 in September 2000, after years of debate, but Upjohn and Carnation have not yet moved to make mibolerone more widely available.

As mibolerone is only a short-term contraceptive, administered by feeding, it would be most useful in temporarily limiting street dog reproduction while humane organizations capture the dogs a few at a time for surgical sterilization. That scenario occurs chiefly in the underdeveloped world, where the profit potential is least, the chance of misuse to induce human abortion is greatest, and U.S. drug patents are often not respected by local makers of generic copies. [More about mibolerone is posted at <[www.animalpeople-news.org/ru4861100.html](http://www.animalpeople-news.org/ru4861100.html)>.]

“The perfect nonsurgical sterilization method for companion animals would cause permanent loss of fertility, cause permanent loss of sexual behavior, be effective in both dogs and cats, be effective in both males and females, be given in a single delivery, be inexpensive, and be safe both to targeted animals and to humans inadvertently exposed,” summarized Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation consultant Ted Mashima, DVM—but no known method meets all of these criteria, and pursuit of “perfection” may distract researchers from pursuing methods which could immediately help to prevent surplus dog and cat births.

Data presented by Min Wong, M.D., of the Center for Reproductive Science and Technology at the University of Missouri–Columbia indicated that testicular injections of the chemosterilant drug Neutrosol are approximately 99% effective in suppressing sperm production by male dogs. Neutrosol does not influence dog behavior, nor does it prevent females from conceiving litters, or offer the level of “perfection” that pet-keepers might demand, but it does offer a way to inhibit street dog reproduction which has already showed promise in field tests in Mexico. Like mibolerone, it could be used to buy time while surgical sterilization is pursued as the preferred longterm method.

### Cat problem

There is as yet no effective time-buying alternative to surgery for limiting the reproduction of feral cats. Cats and rodents have proved able to thwart the chemosterilant and immunocontraceptive strategies than have worked in most other mammals. The potential value of a way to delay the first pregnancy of feral cats, however, was implied in statistics collected by Julie Levy, DVM, and fellow participants in her Operation Catnip feral cat sterilization projects in Florida and South Carolina—which confirmed data collected by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and Arnold Brown, DVM, during a 1991-1992 feral cat sterilization project in Connecticut.

The gist is that feral cat mothers produce an average of 5.4 kittens in their lives: 3.6 kittens per litter on average—and only about half of the cats who produce one litter live long enough to produce another. The mortality rate among feral cats is so high that if their first pregnancy came at age two instead of age one, total births would fall by two-thirds. Even if delaying the first pregnancy tended to increase longevity so that half again as many female cats reached age two, the total number of births would fall by half. That would drop feral cat fecundity to the replacement level—but

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because only about half of all feral kittens survive to weaning, and only half of those reach maturity, reducing feral cat births to the replacement level would bring a drastic decrease in the reproducing population.

Animal shelter intake data indicates that the U.S. feral cat population may be down by half since 1990, partly because of reduced recruitment from the pet cat population.

John New Jr., DVM, of the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Tennessee, presented findings by the American Pet Product Manufacturers Association indicating that the percentage of cat owners who keep their cats indoors by day is going up about half a point per year, and is approaching two-thirds. The percentage keeping their cats in by night is going up by a full percentage point per year, and has probably reached 75%. New also presented National Council on Pet Population Study findings which indicate that the potential breeding populations of owned pets in the U.S. include up to 21 million dogs and 14 million cats.

Other studies indicate that the U.S. dog population has reproduced at approximately the replacement level since the mid-1980s, holding relatively steady at 54 million to 60 million. The rate of sterilization has held steady as well, according to American Veterinary Medical Association data, at about 8% of all veterinary visits.

During the same years, the U.S. owned cat population has grown from about 56 million to as high as 70 million, paralleling the growth in numbers of petkeeping households. The percentage of dogkeeping households has actually decreased somewhat, while the percentage of catkeeping households has steadily climbed for 20 years.

The rate of cat sterilization, according to the AVMA, has increased from 14% of veterinary visits in 1987 to 21.4% in 1996. The owned cat population has reproduced at about 75% of replacement, with adoptions of feral or stray cats accounting for the remainder of cat acquisition.

### Wildlife applications

The development of immunocontraceptive vaccines for wildlife has rapidly advanced in recent years, reported Kathleen A. Fagerstone and Lowell A. Miller of the USDA/Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Research Center in Fort Collins, Colorado. Two annual doses of an immunocontraceptive vaccine for deer brought an 89% reduction in fawning during those years, a 74% reduction over five years, and a 72% reduction over seven years, even though no further vaccinations were done after the first two years, Fagerstone and Miller said.

The political obstacles to controlling deer populations with an immunocontraceptive will be immense, due to the strength of hunting lobby demands for abundant targets, but the technology—still being improved and field-tested—seems almost ready for use.

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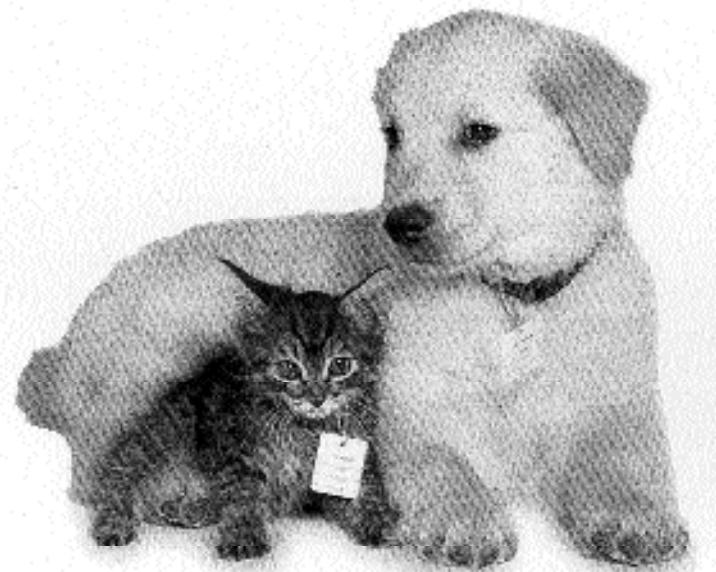
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## National Animal Welfare University of India to debut in

**FARIDABAD, India**—If Indian minister of state for animal welfare Maneka Gandhi could soar with the birds above her home in Delhi, she could see her dream of a lifetime rising in nearby Faridabad—"Almost a suburb now," Mrs. Gandhi told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, "but technically in Haryana state," while Delhi is in Uttar Pradesh.

It is the eight-acre campus of the newly founded National Institute of Animal Welfare. "It is 40% built and will be ready by August or so," ready to accept up to 200 students in residence, Mrs. Gandhi promised. The 200 enrollees will be the first class to pursue a four-year B.A. degree in animal welfare.

"We are also going to have concurrent diploma courses of one or two years' duration for veterinarians, zoo technicians and others who need specific job-oriented training," Mrs. Gandhi said. "The university also envisions an outreach education program, and a continuing education program for professionals. There will subsequently be post-graduate courses leading to masters and Ph.D. degrees.

"The Institute is starting under the Ministry for Animal Welfare," Mrs. Gandhi explained, "but as soon as we get going we will try to make it autonomous. As soon as this happens, we will get university status. I wanted to give up my political career and become the dean," she laughed, "but as I do not have even a B.A., I cannot be anything!"

Mrs. Gandhi did attend university, but left her studies to marry Sanjay Gandhi, son of the late prime minister Indira Gandhi. She planned to go back to get her degree later. Widowed at age 21, however, and estranged from the Gandhi family, she was instead obliged to focus on earning a living and raising her now adult son. The experience increased both her appreciation of education and of the obstacles that young Indians—especially women—have in getting the education they need to pursue the careers of their choice.

"I hope the institute will start work by September. I hope I last until then," Mrs. Gandhi said, "because if it succeeds, India will produce a million Maneka Gandhis."

The four-year B.A. program is meant to qualify graduates to manage the increasingly ambitious projects funded and supervised by the Animal Welfare Board of India.

There is an obvious need. The Animal Birth Control program pioneered since 1964 in Chennai by the Blue Cross of India is now national policy. The national system of *gaushala* and *pinjarapole* cow shelters, informally in existence for about 3,000 years, is at last being dragged into compliance with uniform animal welfare standards. The Central Zoo Authority has partnered with the Animal Welfare Board to close substandard wildlife exhibition sites and confiscate animals from illegal traveling shows, while trying to improve the quality of care at established zoos.

The nonprofit animal welfare sector also has a growing need for qualified help. People for Animals, founded by Mrs. Gandhi in 1984, has expanded to include active chapters with fulltime staff in almost every major city in India. The Blue Cross of India, Bombay SPCA, Help In Suffering, and even some relatively new groups like the Compassionate Crusaders Trust of Calcutta now run networks of animal hospitals, shelters, and sanctuaries that often handle more species in a day than most U.S. shelters see in a year.

Yet before the formation of the National Institute of Animal Welfare, no institution in India taught animal welfare administration, cruelty investigation, zoo management, or wildlife medicine. Oriented toward agriculture and public health, just a handful of Indian veterinary schools teach the surgical techniques used to sterilize dogs and cats. Few teach equine care. Veterinary technicians—the few there are—are mostly informally trained on the job, without certification.

Mrs. Gandhi intends to fill the voids in a hurry. "The moment the National Institute of Animal Welfare gets going," she explains, "I will make it mandatory for zoos, shelters, laboratories, and so forth to only hire animal care people with equivalent diplomas."

This will increase the NIAW enrollment, but Mrs. Gandhi has no intention of

establishing a monopoly. Instead, she wants the NIAW to pioneer programs that will be offered at other institutions throughout India.

"The University Grants Commission, which rules all the universities, says that if we can flesh out proper courses, they will put them into all the universities in the country," Mrs. Gandhi said. A precedent is that, "All the 112 Indian law universities now teach animal welfare law as an independent subject."

Because the need is big, NIAW is starting big. "We have funding from the government to hire 11 teachers. The department of animal welfare at Nottingham Trent University in England, which also gives a B.A., has three teachers," Mrs. Gandhi noted.

The few undergraduate animal welfare programs in the U.S. have no fulltime faculty. The leading U.S. post-graduate animal welfare program, at the Tufts University Center for Animals and Public Policy, has just one fulltime faculty member.

However, the U.S. programs are all within universities that offer a variety of applicable courses under other departments.

As the NIAW will be a self-contained campus, it will offer relatively little opportunity for students to include courses from elsewhere within their training, at least while in residence. Transfer students may apply credit from relevant courses taken elsewhere toward their degree—but most of the NIAW courses have never before been offered in India, and some have apparently never been taught anywhere.

### Needs teachers

"We have the course skeletons worked out," Mrs. Gandhi said. "I do not know who will teach them, as there is not a single qualified person in India for most of them. Many blocks of related courses could be taught by one person. I need qualified people to come for a year to India. We will pay them at Indian rates and house them. We are looking for 10 people including a top-class vet."

"Since the payment may not be acceptable," Mrs. Gandhi added, "I am look-

ing for a foundation to give grants to bring some teachers out. This does not have to be an animal welfare foundation. It could be an educational foundation or poverty relief foundation. I am willing to make a proposal which will show how essential this is," to create jobs for intelligent young people from the rural districts where poverty is most persistent.

In her former role as minister of state for social welfare and empowerment, Mrs. Gandhi emphasized the relationship between animal well-being and the economic health of rural communities. Examples include cattle and work animals losing productivity through poor care; rat plagues following purges of street dogs meant to prevent rabies; and crop losses resulting from incursions by monkeys, deer, and antelope, after purges of predators.

As well as needing faculty, NIAW needs books.

"We have no books or syllabuses containing the subject matter that should be taught for each course," Mrs. Gandhi told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, requesting help in obtaining donations of current materials suitable for university-level teaching.

"We need books for the library," she continued. "I would like to have 1,000 books on each subject connected even slightly to animal welfare. This would include veterinary medicine of any kind; animal welfare philosophy; architecture for animal housing at any kind of facility, even slaughterhouses [which NIAW graduates might be hired to inspect and regulate]; alternatives to animal testing; organic farming; specialized books on animals, fish, and birds; books on alternative animal healing; and books on international animal law and public policy."

And NIAW needs computers, Mrs. Gandhi concluded—which for reasons of logistics and compatibility should be purchased in India.

[Contact the National Institute of Animal Welfare c/o People for Animals, 14 Ashoka Road, New Delhi 110001, India; 91-11-335-5883; fax 91-11-335-4321; e-mail <[gandhim@alpha.nic.in](mailto:gandhim@alpha.nic.in)>.]

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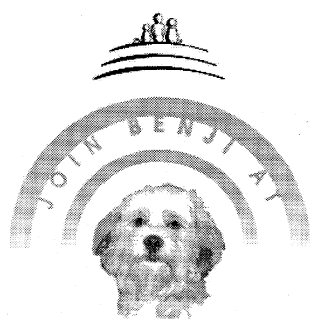
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# GREYHOUND ABUSE

**COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa; EAGLE CREEK, Oregon; LILLIAN, Alabama**—Three greyhound racing scandals broke in different parts of the U.S. within just three days preceding the Memorial Day weekend, and all three seemed to confirm the darkest allegations of anti-greyhound racing protesters about how the dogs are trained and culled.

“Investigative reports released by the Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission show that Victor ‘Jay’ Rangel, 33, of Council Bluffs, was accused by witnesses of using a whip on the greyhound Primco Glasco, and striking the dog with his hand,” William Petroski of the *Des Moines Register* reported on May 20. “One witness said Rangel grabbed the dog by the collar, pulling him four feet into the air, and then threw the dog into his cage and struck the cage twice with his closed fist,” Petroski continued, adding, “The racing commission fined Rangel \$500. He has since had his state racing license revoked in a separate proceeding. He allegedly submitted a false license application four years ago.”

Owned by Haynes Kennel operator Jason Haynes, of Bluffs Run, Primco Glaxco was judged by an Iowa state veterinarian to be “in excellent condition with a friendly demeanor,” but soon afterward suffered a career-ending injury.

On May 21, Stuart Tomlinson of the *Portland Oregonian* revealed that the Oregon Racing Commission in April “revoked Ronald M. Floyd’s license to run

a greyhound farm for at least one year, after he refused to allow investigators to search his property. The search request came after investigators discovered a dead rabbit in the driveway of Floyd’s property on February 12. A veterinarian determined that the rabbit was a ‘canine’ kill and that it might have died as it was being used as a live lure.”

Noted Tomlinson, “In December 1999, the commission revoked Floyd’s training license for two years and fined him \$3,000 after six dogs died from heat and lack of water in a rental truck and trailer as he drove from Oregon to Florida” to participate in racing.

The worst came last, as Alabama officials charged Robert L. Rhodes, 68, with felony animal cruelty. Rhodes allegedly shot as many as 3,000 “retired” racing greyhounds for various trainers at the Pensacola Greyhound Track, where he was formerly a security guard.

Rhodes “told law enforcement officials and local reporters that he had killed the dogs for \$10 each, and that he had been doing it his entire adult life, beginning with his first job out of high school as a young man in Black Hills South Dakota,” wrote David Halbfinger of *The New York Times*.

Rhodes insisted that he always shot dogs in the brain, “but district attorney David Whetstone said three of the four dogs his investigators dug up had been shot in the mouth or the neck,” Halbfinger added.

## German “animal rights” proposal

Associated Press erroneously reported on May 17 that “Germany has become the first European Union country to guarantee animal rights in its constitution—a move that could curtail experimentation by the cosmetics and pharmaceutical industries.”

The inaccurate report was amplified by other media and hailed by animal advocates, as pollsters and talk show hosts asked, “Has Germany gone too far?”

Actually, only the lower house of the German legislature approved a constitutional amendment which would add the words “and animals” to a phrase which would then read, “The state takes responsibility for protecting the natural foundations of life and animals in the interest of future generations.”

The wording appears oriented toward protecting biodiversity, not individual animals, and stipulates that the reason for protection is future human interests.

Approved 543-19 with 15 abstentions, the proposed amendment evolved out of a decade of discussion and debate that originated with a much broader proposal. It must clear the upper house of the legislature too before becoming law.

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## Good dogs, bad dogs, and a dog who was framed for murder

**SAN FRANCISCO**—California public agencies in early May 2002 continued a recent trend of favoring good dogs’ right to live in public housing and emphasizing the culpability of owners for bad dog behavior—especially owners who could be expected to know better than to allow it.

The California Fair Employment and Housing Commission assessed penalties of \$18,000 against the Auburn Woods I Homeowners’ Association for allegedly discriminating against former tenants Ed and Jayne Elebiari by barring their dog Pookie, who was adopted from a shelter in 1999 and helped them cope with severe depression.

Ed Elebiari was disabled by head injuries suffered in a 1992 automobile accident, and is entitled to keep a companion animal under federal law, the commission found.

The Elebiaris housed Pookie temporarily with a friend and in 2000 relocated to Hugo, Oklahoma. As Pookie had bonded with the friend, they left him in his new home and adopted a similar dog, Pookie II, in Hugo.

### Felonious failure

Veterinary technician Jillian Michelle Figueroa and John James Rogers III, of Pollock Pines, California, were meanwhile charged on May 3 with felonious failure to control a pit bull terrier who severely mauled Brian Keates, 11, on April 20, after Keates walked to their door to ask Figueroa to look at his own sick dog. Police said they filed the felony complaint after interviewing more than 25 witnesses about past incidents involving the pit bull, which brought “numerous” calls to Amador County Animal Control.

Charging and sentencing in dog attack cases have both become markedly stiffer since the March 21 second degree murder conviction of San Francisco attorney and former Presa Canario owner Marjorie Knoller, 46, for the January 2001 fatal mauling of neighbor Diane Whipple. Knoller and her husband Robert Noel, 60, also an attorney, were additionally convicted of manslaughter and keeping a dangerous animal.

On April 12 Knoller and Noel won the right to request a new trial and deferred sentencing, on

appeal. Knoller filed a formal request for retrial on May 22.

### Other states

In Peru, Indiana, Miami Superior Court Judge Dan Banina on May 6 sentenced Brad Williamson to serve three years in state prison, three years of home detention, and four years on probation for failing to prevent his pit bull terrier from severely mauling his nine-week-old son Alex in April 2000.

The 10-year cumulative sentence is among the longest yet given for a nonfatal dog attack.

Ten witnesses testified that Williamson has not consumed alcohol since the attack, which occurred while he was allegedly asleep in a drunken stupor.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation on May 21 charged Tim Dickinson, 39, of St. Peters, Pennsylvania, with reckless conduct for allowing his girlfriend’s son, 3, to wander close to a chained Rottweiler at a family gathering in Lincolnton, Georgia. The child was severely injured when seized by the dog and dragged by the head.

Yvette Dynes, 27, of Sparks, Nevada, was charged on May 22 with five counts of child neglect, 12 days after a pit bull terrier mauled her five-year-old daughter. The 5-year-old and a 7-year-old were removed from Dynes’ custody. Dynes was also charged with failing to register with police, as a convicted felon, and on May 17 was arrested on three old outstanding warrants.

### Elsewhere

In Canada, Saskatoon Justice of the Peace Susan James on May 10 set aside the fine of \$300 recommended by city bylaw enforcement prosecutor Debbie Patterson, and instead fined dog owner Solomon Igor \$3,000 (Canadian) for allowing his three Rottweilers to escape from his yard on April 17. The Rottweilers

severely mauled a dog named Georgia, and bit both her person, Tracy Hahn, and Hahn’s sister, Christine Wilmut, as they tried to save Georgia. Hahn is reportedly now pursuing a civil suit against Igor, who consented to having his dogs killed.

Magistrate Margaret Harding of the Dandenong Magistrates Court in Australia on May 20 fined Sean George Handley \$5,600 (Austalian) in costs and penalties for allowing his two award-winning Rottweiler show dogs to escape from his yard to severely maul Abdallah Afra, 69, in November 2001. Harding also ordered that the dogs be killed. Neighbors testified that two planks were missing from Handley’s fence and a back gate was “always” left open.

Responding to the April 21 fatal mauling of a seven-year-old boy by a pit bull terrier, Romanian prime minister Adrian Nastase issued an emergency decree banning pit bulls and several other dog breeds of dangerous reputation.

The decree meant relatively little, however, as Bucharest mayor Trian Basescu and the mayors of several other major Romanian cities have already been pursuing efforts to exterminate all free-roaming dogs for more than a year. Bucharest killed 60,000 dogs between April 2001 and April 2002, freelance correspondent and animal welfare volunteer Chuck Todaro told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. The indiscriminate killing—including of thousands of dogs who were previously sterilized by animal welfare organizations—has come under sustained international criticism.

### Mercy

But an alleged killer dog found mercy in Trinity, Alabama.

Bryan Thomas Jones, 25, claimed on February 20 that his parents’ dog dragged Preston Cooper, 4, from his bed to a concrete floor

## Cat show breeder Rexelle convicted

**Prominent show cat breeder Debra Rexelle**, 50, was on May 17 convicted of four felonies and four misdemeanors pertaining to the alleged gross neglect of 212 cats found at her rented home near Modesto, California, in August 2000. She was acquitted of nine other charges, including a felony count relating to the discovery of about 50 dead cats at the same site.

Rexelle was fined for keeping more than 50 cats on the property without the correct license in 1993, but claimed to have passed an inspection by local animal control officers in February 2000.

**Cat Fanciers Association** board member **Joan Miller** and show judge **Lindajeane Grillo** were called by the defense. Each testified

that Rexelle took exemplary care of the cats they saw, but they acknowledged having never visited Rexelle at her home. Defense attorney **Lisa Fitzgerald Wagner** argued that Rexelle was framed by jealous rivals. Rexelle claimed the dead cats were left to rot in order to salvage their skeletons for scientific study.

“Rexelle was immediately suspended from all CFA activities and registration services as soon as the CFA board was made aware of the raid and impoundment, and on preliminary investigation by the CFA Animal Welfare Committee,” Miller told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “At a CFA board of directors hearing she was permanently suspended from all CFA services and activities for life, commencing on February 4, 2001.”

## Puppy mill cases, Texas and Florida

**Sixty surviving dogs**, among 75 seized in January from breeder **Inocente Dominguez Morales** of Harlingen, Texas, were to be auctioned on May 25, “as ordered by Cameron County **Justice of the Peace David A. Wise**, much to the dismay of the **Harlingen Humane Society**,” said **South Texas Animal Sanctuary** president **Bob Sobel**. “The ruling to sell the abused animals and award half the proceeds to the abuser is a blemish on the enforcement of anti-cruelty laws,” Sobel continued. “There was no penalty, no fine, no admonition to compel future observance.” Wise invoked an old law which pertained originally to the sale of strayed cattle. The Wise verdict did not apply to about 25 dogs held by the South Texas Animal Sanctuary in a related case, seized a day after the Harlingen raid from the **Puppies “R” Us** franchise owned by **Patrick Scott Kingsbury** in Weslaco, Hidalgo County.

**A fire at a puppy breeding kennel** owned by **David and Colleen Krug**, of Valrico, Florida, killed 24 silky terriers, Shih Tzus, and Chinese crested hairless dogs on May 9, 15 days after a fire killed 48 Chihuahuas at a breeding kennel owned by **Colleen Freeman**, 64, of Lakeland. Colleen Krug and her sister **Rebecca Williams** rescued 22 puppies from the fire, but lost several of their older prize-winning show dogs. Twenty-two dogs also survived the Lakeland fire, but Freeman—who claimed to have exhibited dogs in the past—was jailed in lieu of \$70,000 bail (later reduced to \$20,000) after firefighters “found the dogs in narrow 12-inch-high plastic cages that had been stacked on top of one another,” and “had a layering of feces up to eight inches thick in some cages, covered with paper,” reported **John Chambliss** of *The Lakeland Ledger*.

## More bites

and then jumped up and down on him, causing fatal injuries.

Jones was reportedly the boyfriend of Cooper’s mother, Elizabeth Gurliaccio, 26. Her mother, Donna Gurliaccio, had reported her suspicion that Cooper was the victim of beatings back in 2001, and asserted immediately that the boy had been beaten to death.

Trinity police chief Chris McLemore noted that “There weren’t any bite marks like a dog would leave” on Cooper’s body.

Patrolman Donny Terry thought it was odd that the dog “appeared timid, cowered down, with his head bowed.”

The Trinity town council kept the dog at the Osborne Animal Clinic in Decatur until early May, sent him home after a grand jury indicted Jones for killing Cooper, and paid the \$879 boarding fee.

**Norman Schachter**, 50, on May 19 drew 15 years in prison and accomplice **Derrick Moultrie**, 34, drew 10 years, for trying to hire undercover police officers to beat up author **Shaun Considine**, 65, after trying to frame Considine for possessing illegal drugs and child pornography. Considine’s “only offense was to be virtually devoured by Mr. Schachter’s dogs” in Central Park in 1998, **New York State Supreme Court Justice William Wetzel** said. Considine then sued Schachter and his wife **Debbie Gamiel**, 45. Gamiel pleaded guilty in July 2001 to a misdemeanor charge for allowing the three-dog attack to occur, and was sentenced to probation.

Tucson attorney **William Ricker** in August 2001 asked **Pima County Animal Control** for the contact information of everyone who recently suffered a bite, apparently hoping to solicit lawsuits. Deputy county attorney **Sean Holquin** in December 2001 told Ricker that the names would be released but not the contact info, to avoid an “unwarranted invasion of privacy” which “would have a chilling effect on future bite reports.” Ricker on April 29 sued to try to force release of the contact info. Pima County Animal Control records circa 3,000 bites per year. About half involve children.

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# The dog on the burning deck (from page

Hokkien, the Taiwanese dialect: “happiness, good fortune, blessing—all that is good,” said Chung Chin Po, gently correcting reporters, some of whom had asserted that the word meant “lucky dog.”

Internet activists and callers to talk programs demanded to know why Hokget had not been rescued. A Norwegian Cruise Line spokesperson claimed erroneously that the crew of the *Norwegian Star* had not known she was aboard.

As public interest built, the Hawaii Humane Society secured a pledge of financial help from the ever-media-savvy HSUS and chartered the *American Quest* for a five-day search-and-rescue mission, costing more than \$9,000 per day. American Marine Salvage Inc., the owner of the *American Quest*, donated another \$20,000 worth of searching time.

But the *Insiko 1907*, believed to have been drifting 230 miles south of Hawaii, could not be found. Concluding that the ship and dog must have sunk, the *American Quest* returned to port. Cynics jeered the effort as a publicity stunt.

On April 9, however, an American fishing vessel spotted the *Insiko 1907* by radar, now 400 miles southwest of O’ahu. Prevailing currents seemed likely to smash the wreck—still carrying 60,000 gallons of fuel oil—into the coral reefs of Johnston Atoll, critical habitat for several endangered species.

But 11 days of stormy weather passed and two aerial searches failed before a U.S. Coast Guard C-130 relocated the *Insiko 1907* on April 20. The air crew saw Hokget. Making the lowest pass they could, they threw her their lunches.

This time the Coast Guard hired the *American Quest*, to save Johnston Atoll. Saving Hokget was an unofficial part of the mission. In the interim, before the *American Quest* finally caught up with the *Insiko 1907* on April 26, two fishing vessels made unsuccessful attempts to rescue Hokget which reportedly cost their owners as much as \$100,000 in lost fishing time. There was a premature claim that Hokget had been rescued, then a report that she fought off her would-be rescuers in defense of the tanker, the only home she had ever known.

“Hokget was only two weeks old when she was given to me,” said Chung Chin Po. “I bottle-fed and raised her aboard the *Insiko 1907*. I was her family, resulting in a unique and special bond. To watch this white furry bundle of mischievous, playful, loving and friendly energy scampering all over the ship brought joy to all. It gets very lonely at sea, and Hokget was a precious and happy diversion, providing great companionship to the entire crew.”

As the *American Quest* approached, HSUS flew staff animal capture expert Dave Pauli to Hawaii, from Billings, Montana, in case he was needed.

Before Pauli landed, however, *American Quest* diving salvage supervisor Brian Murray, 37, found Hokget hiding among old tires piled in the front section of the tanker. “We knew she was in there,” Murray told Will Hoover of the *Honolulu Advertiser*. “We were trying to make her feel more comfortable with our presence. But it was really hot,” in excess of 120 degrees Fahrenheit. “Eventually,” Murray finished, “we just had to get her out of there. I grabbed her by the scruff of the neck. She was okay after that.”

*American Quest* cook Palalika Cunningham, 33, made a pet of Hokget all the way back to Hawaii. There, at a brief press conference, Iams gave her a lifetime supply of pet food. Then Kauai Humane Society director Rebecca Rhodes, DVM, took Hokget into custody to serve the 120-day quarantine. After the 120 days, Hokget is to be adopted by Michael Kuo, a longtime friend of Chung Chin Po, who pledged to keep her until Chung Chin Po can return to Hawaii to claim her.

## Praised in Taipei

Unlike the millions of Asian dogs who are torture-killed each year for human consumption, and the millions more who are poisoned, bludgeoned, or simply starved in purges of street dogs, Hokget could be saved. Her story inspired donors not just because it included an exceptionally brave, tenacious, and telegenic little dog, but because it included hope that something could be done for her.

Some Asian media criticized as misplaced the American fixation on saving just one dog, at seemingly any cost, with countless humans in poor nations in urgent need of food, medicine, education, and jobs. But others found no fault with the outpouring of support.

*Hit by a Taipei taxi in 1998, as a young street pup, Simon was rescued by Taiwan’s Abandoned Animal Rescue Foundation founder Mina Sharpe and was adopted by ANIMAL PEOPLE. His broken pelvis required extensive surgery, but he has not let a lasting limp inhibit his joy in life.*



humans isn’t convincing either. The argument presumes that human lives have more value, when animals are often much more likeable than some human beings.

“In comparison to the Americans,” the *Taipei Times* editors scolded, “the people of Taiwan should bow in shame about the way dogs are treated here. The number of stray dogs has reached alarming proportions. Reportedly, many are discarded because either they are too sick or are born as a result of pregnancies unwanted by their owners. These problems could easily be resolved by regular inoculations and neutering of dogs. Worse, some people in Taiwan still engage in the practice of *feng sheng*—setting animals free for religious reasons. While they may think they are doing a good deed, in fact they are guaranteeing these animals a miserable life and usually an early and very unpleasant death. Taiwan does not have a culture of adopting stray dogs, so most strays rounded up by government agencies are killed, often in a very gruesome manner.

“Of course, in comparison with the other side of the Taiwan Strait,” the *Taipei Times* noted, “dogs here are virtually in paradise. The practice of dog-eating is a lot more prevalent in China, where the police are reportedly conducting yet another major crackdown on unlicensed dogs. Among the first to be killed were 7,100 dogs rounded up in Shanghai.

“Does this mean the people in Taiwan have any reasons to feel comfortable?” the *Taipei Times* concluded. “Of course not. China is notorious for barbarism to both animals and humans. Taiwan must do a lot better than that.”

## Pro-dog, not anti-Asian

For that endorsement of humane values alone, the Hokget rescue could be considered worth the money. Few other U.S.-funded campaigns with an Asian focus have as quickly drawn support from major newspapers—but the Hokget effort was somewhat uniquely directed at achieving a positive goal. It was clearly pro-dog, not anti-Asian.

By contrast, the boycotts of Japan, Korea, Taiwan, China, and other nations called by various groups to protest whaling, dog-and-cat-eating, cruel zoos, and inhumane animal control practices are widely seen as anti-Asian because they hit whole nations, not just the relative handful of mostly older and affluent male citizens who make most of the decisions, collect most of the profits from cruelty, and are the major eaters of whale meat, dog meat, and wildlife.

As the Hokget rescue proceeded, anti-Asian overtones were alleged in connection with the anti-whaling and anti-dog-and-cat-eating campaigns waged to coincide with the mid-May meeting of the International Whaling Commission in Shimomaki, Japan, and the World Cup soccer tournament, which began play in Japan and South Korea on May 31. (See also the page one article “Will wild orca capture and Makah whaling resume on Puget Sound?”)

More than 700 Japanese right-wingers marched in Shimomaki on May 19 to protest alleged western racism. Their presence overshadowed the signatures of 1,500 students from eight leading Beijing universities on petitions against whaling, circulated by the China office of IFAW.

IFAW also asked the members of the British soccer team to sign a pledge to refuse whale meat that was reportedly to be offered to them at the Japanese events. PETA won petition signatures from British team members Michael Owen, Jamie Redknapp, and Emile Huskey against Korean dog-and-cat-eating. Viva! urged Owen and British captain David Beckham to discard their kangaroo leather soccer boots, in protest against Australia raising the kangaroo culling quota this year to 6.9 million. But the Australian angle did not get much attention, if any, in Japanese and South Korean news media.

Of greater concern was the announcement of the 150-member National Dog Meat Restaurants Association that soccer fans would be offered free cups of dog meat stew outside the World Cup tournament stadiums, two of which—including the tournament home field for the Costa Rican national team—are within sight of the notorious Moran Market in Sungnam, Korea, just south of Seoul.

Extensively photographed by ANIMAL PEOPLE publisher Kim Bartlett in May 2001, the Moran Market is the largest dog-and-cat-meat sales site in Korea. Costa Rica is among the most animal-friendly nations of Latin America. As Costa Rican soccer fans, animal advocates, and news media discovered the confluence, Korean officials tried a whitewash.

“In February 2002,” wrote International Aid for Korean Animals founder Kyenan Kum, “the South Korean government publicly announced a major crackdown on dog slaughtering at the Moran Market. In mid-March, however, I was disappointed to find no change.”

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation program *Foreign Correspondent* premiered new video of the Moran Market on May 8. It looked no different from a year earlier. Similar footage soon aired in Italy, South Africa, and other nations, each time sparking protest, including a 40-picket demonstration outside the South Korean embassy in Pretoria, South Africa, on May 10, reportedly led by Lillian Steeg of the World Animal Watch Task Team.

# Koreans kill pigs in rage and a panic

**SEOUL**—Former South Korean commandos outraged by the April 21 visit of Japanese prime minister Junichiro Koizumi to a Tokyo shrine honoring 14 war criminals, among other World War II dead, on April 23 “hacked to death a squealing pig daubed with the name ‘Koizumi,’” Reuters and Agence France Presse reported. The men intended to kill the pig at the Japanese embassy, but were stopped by riot police, so stabbed the pig repeatedly inside a van.

“They then shoved the still shrieking animal into the road some 200 meters away from the Japanese embassy,” Reuters said. “The riot police struggled to stuff the badly bleeding pig into a sack. The pig soon fell silent and died.”

The killing was a reminder of the bitterness toward Japan that lingers among Koreans who remember the brutality of Japanese occupation, 1905-1945—and was a harbinger of the massacre of more than 110,000 pigs in the Anesong district, 50 miles south of Seoul, in response to a hoof-and-mouth disease outbreak that apparently started on April 27 but was not reported by the farmer until May 2.

Reuters on May 5 published a photograph of four farm workers kicking and pulling piglets out of a truck into a trench where they were reportedly buried alive.

South Korean officials urged hasty killing not only from fear of losing the nation’s most lucrative branch of agribusiness, but also because the bacteria that causes hoof-and-mouth could easily be transported throughout the world on the shoes and clothing of World Cup soccer fans.

“The World Cup preparations were already dogged by sluggish ticket sales and strike threats,” said Reuters, making no mention of the boycott called by animal advocates to protest against dog-and-cat-eating, which in many nations drew as much media attention as the World Cup itself.

By May 20, hoof-and-mouth had infected some cattle as well as pigs, had reportedly spread into Jinchon and Yongin counties, and had reached the edge of a six-mile-wide quarantine zone that was intended to keep the disease out of the cities of Suwon and Seoul, which were both to host World Cup soccer matches.

“The outbreak threatened to destroy an industry that was previously hit by hoof-and-mouth only two years ago, when more than 2,000 animals were killed,” Don Kirk of *The New York Times* wrote. “Pork exports, mostly to Japan, earned \$339 million that year, but dropped precipitously after Japan banned Korean pork. Japan did not lift the ban” until only a few days before the current outbreak began.

As Steeg and friends marched, National Dog Meat Restaurants Association president Park Sung-soo told media he had cancelled the plan to pass out dog meat stew samples.

“We will not go against the government’s wishes,” Park Sung-soo said.

But three weeks later, Park Sung-soo told *Guardian* correspondent Vivek Chaudhary that the dog meat stew samples would be distributed as originally announced.

After the month-long duration of the World Cup tournament, the dog-and-cat-meat dealers hope for a quick return to business-as-usual. The global media spotlight and international animal advocacy group attention, they expect, will refocus on other issues until 2008, when Beijing will host the Summer Olympic Games. Pro-dog meat politicians have already made clear that they intend to again pursue legislation that would erase the unenforced 1991 ban on the sale of “unsightly” foods. The ban is more an embarrassment to dog-and-cat-meat dealers than an actual obstacle to selling the carcasses of tortured dogs and a broth made by boiling cats alive.

International Aid for Korean Animals, the Korean Animal Protection Society, Voice 4 Animals, and the Anti-Dog Meat Headquarters, leading the indigenous Korean struggle against dog-and-cat-eating, will be left as before, to try to support their organizations and campaigns as best they can.

What the Korean groups need are their own Hokget stories, with the hope of happy endings, to stir Koreans as Hokget stirred Americans and many Taiwanese. —M.C.

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## Korean Health



Every year in Korea, countless cats are boiled alive and over a million dogs are killed to make “health” food. To help end these atrocities, please contact:

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**Korea Animal Protection Society**  
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Oakland, CA 94620



# Will whale wars return to Puget Sound? *(from page 1)*

The IWC rejection of authorization for Eskimo and Chukchi whaling came after the membership refused to grant indigenous subsistence whaling quotas of 50 whales each to four Japanese coastal towns which have never before held subsistence whaling quotas.

The Japanese delegation came into the 54th annual meeting of the IWC hoping that hosting the meeting in Shimonseki, the historical home of the Japanese whaling fleet, would coincide with lifting the international moratorium on commercial whaling which has been in effect since 1986. Japan did not actually comply with the ban until 1988—and even then continued to kill minke whales in the name of doing scientific research.

The self-assigned Japanese “research whaling” quota for 2002 includes 440 minke whales to be killed within the boundaries of the Southern Oceans Whale Sanctuary declared by the IWC in 1994, plus 100 minkes, 50 Bryde’s whales, 50 sei whales, and 10 giant sperm whales to be killed in the North Pacific: 550 whales in all.

New IWC members Benin, Cape Verde, Gabon, Palau, and Mongolia were expected to vote with Japan, along with Iceland.

Benin and Gabon are among 10 small African and Caribbean nations which among them divide about \$78.1 million in Japanese “fisheries aid” per year.

Iceland withdrew from the IWC in 1992 rather than comply with the whaling moratorium, but sought to rejoin on condition of being allowed to claim an exemption, similar to the reservation that Norway has maintained for coastal whaling while remaining an IWC member all along.

Norway resumed whaling in 1993, and has set a 2002 quota for itself of 674 minkes. Norway also intends to kill 60 Atlantic whitesided and white-beaked dolphins, to study the relationship between their population and the decline of fish stocks.

New IWC members opposed to whaling included Portugal and San Marino, but the anti-whaling side lost Costa Rica, Kenya, and Senegal because of unpaid dues, and Panama reportedly switched to the pro-whaling side.

## Japan loses at IWC

Nonetheless, Iceland was excluded from voting, 25-20. The Japanese proposal to end the moratorium on commercial whaling was defeated, 25-16.

Australia and New Zealand failed for the third time to win the 75% majority needed to create a proposed South Pacific whale sanctuary, but did poll 60%, at 24-16.

Coinciding with the IWC meeting, Mexico, French Polynesia, and Papua New Guinea each declared their national waters to be whale sanctuaries.

The only apparent gain for the pro-whalers came when the IWC membership fee structure was amended to a formula which links dues to the wealth of nations, instead of setting them at a uniform level. This amendment will permit more small nations to join—but more anti-whaling nations could join or rejoin, too.

Frustrated throughout the meeting, the Japanese and allied delegations retaliated against the Eskimo and Chukchi by taking the same side as many anti-whaling delegations which have sought to restrain subsistence whaling for decades.

“The IWC voted to ban Eskimo whaling in 1977,” remembered *Anchorage Daily News* reporter Tom Kizzia. “Concerns were raised about low population estimates,

increasing subsistence effort [made possible by power boats and firearms], and reports of high numbers of struck and lost whales.”

The Jimmy Carter administration negotiated IWC permission for the Eskimos to kill 12 whales per year.

Subsequent U.S. delegations to the IWC won higher quotas by arguing that the western Actic bowhead whale population has increased from as few as 2,000 to perhaps 10,000—although the bowhead population in the eastern part of the Canadian Arctic is now down to just a few hundred. Several bowheads killed in recent years in the eastern Arctic have turned out to be among the oldest mammals on record, of any species, while juveniles seem to be almost absent.

## Makah may not hunt

The Makah, with apparent Japanese encouragement, began seeking to resume whaling in 1995, as soon as Pacific grey whales were taken off the U.S. endangered species list. The Makah right to kill whales was stipulated in the 1855 Treaty of Neah Bay, which brought the tribe into the U.S., but members had last killed a whale in 1928, and had hunted whales only sporadically for several decades.

The Japanese whaling industry saw the Makah revival of whaling as an important precedent for their own bid to resume coastal whaling, after a long lapse, likewise in the name of cultural tradition. The depth of the Japanese coastal whaling tradition has been contested, however, with some authorities arguing that it only started in earnest at about the same time that the Makah quit, after having hunted grey whales for centuries.

On May 17, in Tacoma, Washington, U.S. District Judge Franklin Burgess reaffirmed the Makah right to kill whales, after briefly suspending the authorization to hunt granted by NMFS while reviewing a Fund for Animals petition that sought to stop the hunt.

The latest of several similar Burgess rulings came the same day that the NMFS National Marine Mammal Laboratory at Sand Point, Washington, disclosed that the Eastern Pacific grey whale population has plummeted from a recent high of 26,700 during the winter of 1997-1998, to approximately 17,414, within a range between 14,322 and 21,174. Despite the imprecision of the count, which reflects the difficulty of accurately censusing any marine species, the current total is almost certainly the lowest of the past 20 years.

Responsible for monitoring grey whale calving off the coast of California and Mexico, NMFS biologist Wayne Perryman of the Southwest Fisheries Science Center in La Jolla, California, said that recorded birthings fell from 1,388 in 1998 to 427 in 1999 and 280 in each of the past two years. Perryman speculated that the poor reproduction reflected food scarcity at the northern end of the grey whale range. He blamed heavy ice packs in Alaskan waters—but grey whales are bottom feeders, who depend heavily on mollusks, and the real problem may be damage to the sea bed caused by dragnet fishing.

Whether the Makah will actually try to kill any whales this year—or ever again—remains unclear. There is talk of whaling in Neah Bay. At least three families have reportedly expressed interest in forming whaling crews, and two of them are said to have begun actively training.

“But even as the greys meander in near-shore waters,” *Seattle Times* staff reporter Linda V. Mapes wrote in April, “no whaling permits have been issued this year. New Makah council leaders have slashed fund-

ing for whaling, arguing that other needs are more pressing. The U.S. government,” after putting \$360,000 into the first Makah whale hunt, “says it has no plans to help pay for another hunt. The Makah Whaling Commission office is shuttered, with a budget of zero.”

The flotilla led by the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society that tried to keep the Makah from killing a whale from late 1996 until mid-1999 is even less in evidence. At the height of the anti-Makah whaling campaign, the Sea Shepherds moved their headquarters from Santa Monica, California, to Friday Harbor on San Juan Island in Puget Sound. They returned to Santa Monica more than a year ago, however, and during the past two years have been active mainly against shark poachers and other illegal fishers in the waters surrounding the Galapagos Islands and Cocos Island, off Ecuador and Costa Rica.

## Hot Cocos campaign

The Cocos Island campaign became legally and politically messy on April 22 after the Sea Shepherd vessel *Farley Mowat* (formerly the *Ocean Warrior*) intercepted the Guatemalan fishing boat *Varadero I* with 28 miles of baited longlines in nominally protected Guatemalan waters.

Claiming to have been instructed by Guatemalan environmental authorities to escort the much smaller *Varadero I* to San Jose, Guatemala, the Sea Shepherds spent six hours hauling in the longlines, and took the *Varadero I* in tow, but released it after rough weather made the towing dangerous. The *Varadero I* attempted an escape.

The Sea Shepherds “deployed water hoses in the direction of the fishing vessel and fired one flare into the air,” a Sea Shepherd press release stated. “The captain of the *Varadero I* steered into the side of the *Ocean Warrior* and the two vessels collided.”

A still photo by Sea Shepherd crew member Isobel Alexander, posted at the Sea Shepherd web site, was inconclusive, however, and the reputation that captain Paul Watson has cultivated over the years for ramming illegal whaling and fishing vessels—even selling baseball caps with the Sea Shepherd logo and the motto “Ram speed!”—worked against him.

The *Varadero I* returned to San Jose alone, apparently asking by radio for help from the Guatemalan navy. The Sea Shepherds changed course to put in at Puntarenas, Costa Rica.

“Upon arrival in Puntarenas it was reported that the crew of the *Varadero I* complained that they were attacked violently with guns and explosives,” the Sea Shepherds said. “This is untrue. The Sea Shepherds did not use any guns or explosives at any time.”

Posting a bond of \$850 pending any filing of actual charges, the *Farley Mowat* returned to Cocos Island to participate in a litter clean-up and negotiate a contract to do anti-poaching patrols that the Sea Shepherds said was offered by Costa Rican officials on April 30. As of May 23, it still was not signed.

“Captain Watson reported Taiwanese fishers illegally laying over 20 miles of longline around Cocos Island,” and “said there are hundreds of illegal fishing boats destroying the wildlife and ecosystems” of the island, wrote Sea Shepherd press officer Lori Pye. “The crew was prohibited from directly intervening,” Pye added, by “corruption in the judicial system, with four different prosecutors and three different judges interfering with the original decision to dismiss all charges against Paul Watson and the Sea Shepherds after viewing video of the *Varadero I* incident.”

## Capturing A-73

The Sea Shepherds have rarely involved themselves in cetacean captivity issues. The Progressive Animal Welfare Society and some of the smaller organizations involved in protesting against Makah whaling have histories of actively protesting against captivity, but if any intend to try to block the capture of A-73, they have not yet said so.

Orphaned in late 2001 by the death of her mother, A-45, A-73 was apparently left behind by the A-pod, whose summer waters are the Johnstone Strait, off Vancouver Island, British Columbia. She appeared by herself in mid-January in the ferry lane between Vashon Island and Seattle, toward the southern end of the sound, and has remained close to the ferry boats ever since, sometimes also approaching small craft and rubbing against floating logs, as if seeking surrogates for her missing family.

A-73 has the internal parasites com-



*Keiko. (Kim Bartlett)*

mon to her species, a skin disease called “killer whale pox,” not considered serious, and a breath odor called ketosis, which can indicate starvation, diabetes, or other metabolic problems—but blood tests indicate that none of those conditions are causing the ketosis, and she seems healthier, overall, than anyone imagined a lone young orca could be.

The capture strategy will be to enclose A-73 somehow in a sea pen, more accurately diagnose her ailments, treat them, transport her to the Johnstone Strait, and release her to join the A-pod when they next return to the vicinity, probably in mid-July.

Whether A-pod will accept A-73 back among them is anyone’s guess. No one has ever returned an orca to her pod before after a prolonged separation. Goldsberry released some of the orcas he captured at Penn Cove, Whidbey Island, during his roundups in the early 1970s, but the uncaptured remnants of their pods had remained within earshot of the captives in the Saratoga Passage.

## Keiko & Lolita

The much publicized attempt to return to the wild the orca Keiko, star of the 1993 film *Free Willy!*, has so far cost between \$15 million and \$23 million, a variety of sources estimate. Captured at about age two, and now 24 to 25 years old, near the upper end of the normal male orca lifespan, Keiko still is not successfully feeding himself, has apparently not socialized or communicated with the wild orcas he has encountered in two years of supervised open-ocean swims, and except for free swimming time, will probably spend the rest of his days in the sea pen at Klettsvik, Iceland, where he has resided since September 1998.

Cell telephone system entrepreneur Craig McCaw reportedly put \$10 million into the *Free Willy!* effort between 1993 and 2001, but withdrew after the value of his holdings in XO Communications dropped from \$5.3 billion to \$3.2 million between March 2000 and March 2002, the *Seattle Times* reported. This forced Ocean Futures, formerly called the Free Willy/Keiko Foundation, to cut the annual rehabilitation-and-release project budget from \$1.8 million to \$500,000—meaning no more following Keiko and wild orcas aboard a comfortable 100-foot yacht, and no more use of a leased helicopter. Earth Island Institute initially sponsored the effort to return Keiko to the wild, but spun off the Free Willy/Keiko Foundation as a separate entity in 1994.

“As it searches for ways to keep the multi-million-dollar project afloat, Ocean Futures has put the Humane Society of the U.S. at the top of its dance card. In addition, Ocean Futures has talked to another longtime supporter, Craig McCaw’s ex-wife Wendy,” Katy Muldoon of the *Portland Oregonian* reported on May 23. Muldoon has followed the story more closely, for longer, than any other reporter.

When *Free Willy!* boosted Keiko into prominence, the orcas considered the best candidates for release were the last of those captured by Goldsberry on Puget Sound, named Corky, Yaka, and Lolita, because their pods were known and they seemed to respond to recorded sounds from relatives. The three *Free Willy!* movies were set on Puget Sound, in fact, with scenic shots of Whidbey Island, because the story line was inspired by the campaigns waged on behalf of Corky, Yaka, and Lolita.

Only Lolita is still alive. Netted at Penn Cove in 1970, at about age 6, she was sold to the Miami Se aquarium. When Lolita arrived in Miami, her tank was the second-largest ever built. Today it is among the oldest and smallest tanks still used to hold an orca.

The increasingly evident obsolescence *(continued on page 18)*



*Swim-with-dolphins attraction at SeaWorld San Diego. (Kim Bartlett)*

# Will whale wars return to Puget Sound? (from page 17)

of the Seaquarium gave momentum to the “Free Lolita!” campaign waged by Dolphin Freedom Foundation, Animal Rights Foundation of Florida, Orca Conservancy, and other groups, but as the *Free Willy!* project failed, interest in freeing Lolita faded.

In August 2001 the Seaquarium announced that it had obtained the permits needed to build a \$17.5 million four-pool complex for Lolita, five times as large as her present tank. The Seaquarium management claims the project is on schedule; “Free Lolita!” crusaders say it is invisible. Either way, if the complex is built, other whales are likely to occupy it. In theory Lolita could live to age 50 or beyond, but she has already lived longer than any other whale in captivity.

## Vancouver Aquarium

Experience with A-73, rather than with Keiko and Lolita, will influence future decision-making about L-98, a lone young male orca who somehow separated from the San Juan Islands pod and has lived since fall 2001 along the west wide of Vancouver Island.

Before the separations of A-73 and L-98, observations of juvenile orcas living alone were few and mostly unconfirmed.

Despite the stated intent of NMFS, the Canadian Department of Oceans and Fisheries, and the Vancouver Aquarium, who will form the nucleus of the capture-and-transport team, there is a chance that A-73 may end up in an oceanarium if she cannot be reunited with her pod successfully.

Vancouver Aquarium director Jon Nightingale was vocal throughout May about the slow pace of the NMFS decision-making.

“Since March 1, NMFS has been hemming and hawing,” Nightingale charged on May 15 to Keith Fraser of the *Vancouver Province*. Nightingale said that the Vancouver Aquarium does not have the several hundred thousand dollars that he estimated the capture would cost, and added that the delay had “pretty well killed off the fundraising option. When it was fresh in people’s minds and was novel,” he continued, “there would have been an outpouring of public support. Now that it has gone on for so long, I don’t expect you’d be able to raise any significant amount of money from the general public.”

The plan for capture and attempted

reintroduction was endorsed by longtime captivity opponents Paul Spong and Helena Symonds of OrcaLab, who suggested that A-73 should be held to await the A-pod in a small isolated bay near the OrcaLab headquarters on Hanson Island.

The views of other captivity critics are less certain—even though Nightingale denied that the Vancouver Aquarium would keep A-73 if she remains in permanent care.

A plan for bringing A-73 back to the Johnstone Strait was advanced in March by Peter Hamilton of the British Columbia activist group Lifeorce, backed by Vancouver park commission member Roslyn Cassells. But the Hamilton plan made no mention of the Vancouver Aquarium, and expressed doubt that A-73 needs rescuing.

Prefaced Cassells, distributing the Hamilton plan via Internet, “With public opinion turning against the captivity industry, institutions such as the Vancouver Aquarium and Seaworld are greenwashing their planned capture” of A-73, which she hinted might actually be for exhibit or sale.

The idea of capturing A-73 for return to Canadian waters coincided with the application of SeaWorld San Diego for a NMFS permit to import the Vancouver Aquarium beluga Imaq, who was captured near Churchill, Manitoba, in 1980.

Charged Annalise Sorg of the Coalition For No Whales In Captivity, “For decades the Vancouver Aquarium has laundered wild-caught whales into the U.S., where restrictions stop SeaWorld from capturing wild marine mammals.”

Sorg cited the April 1997 transfer to SeaWorld of a male beluga named Nanuq, and the 2001 transfer of the female orca Bjossa. Nanuq was moved, however, and Imaq is to be moved, in keeping with mating protocols formed by the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks & Aquariums in September 1996. Bjossa was moved after her longtime companion Finna died in October 1997, and—despite a multi-year search—the Vancouver Aquarium was unable to find another captive orca companion for her.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans recommended in 1992 and 1999, said Sorg, that the Vancouver Aquarium “should stop breeding and importing whales and dol-

phins because their facilities do not meet minimum standards.”

The Vancouver Parks Board has repeatedly blocked Vancouver Aquarium expansion requests, and has attempted to prevent the aquarium from obtaining whales and dolphins to replace those who have died or been transferred. However, in July 2001 the Vancouver Aquarium acquired a dolphin from Osaka, Japan, who according to Sorg may have been captured in a “drive fishery,” in which dolphins are chased into shallow water to be massacred.

## Six Flags gets an orca

The Vancouver Aquarium might have been able to obtain additional orcas if it had been able to pay the price—as Six Flags Worlds of Adventure is now doing.

Six Flags bought the former SeaWorld site at Aurora, Ohio, in January 2001, without the three resident orcas, who were moved to other SeaWorld locations. After operating without orcas for a year, during which the park was often “nearly empty” according to Karen Farkas of the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*, Six Flags won NMFS permission to import Shouka, an 8-year-old female from Marineland Antibes in France, and Kshament, a 10-year-old male from Acuario Mundo Marino in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on long-term breeding loans.

Shouka arrived on May 20, 2002, but Argentina has not yet issued a permit required by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species for the transfer of Kshament. Acuario Mundo Marino claims Kshament was rescued as a stranding victim in 1992. Opponents of the transfer reportedly contend that he was driven ashore.

“We are worried that an illegal trade in ‘rescued’ marine mammals may be starting in our country,” wrote Wild Earth Foundation of Argentina president Gabriela Marina Bellazzi to the National Marine Fisheries Service and several U.S. activist groups and newspapers. NMFS approved the import on May 17, but Farkas hinted that the approval might be challenged in court by the Humane Society of the U.S. and Earth Island Institute.

## Ric O’Barry

Dolphin Project founder Ric O’Barry, who began his cetacean freedom efforts with an unsuccessful attempt to release a dolphin from a laboratory in the Bahamas on Earth Day 1970, is still as active as ever.

Now a fulltime employee of the World Society for the Protection of Animals, O’Barry in August 2001 released back to the wild two bottlenose dolphins who had been rescued from a traveling show in Guatemala.

The German Dolphin Conservation Society and German Association of Scuba Divers meanwhile persuaded Egyptian authorities to block the proposed acquisition of two bottlenose dolphins from the Black Sea for a shallow dolphinarium/amphitheatre at the Sindbad Beach Resort in Hurghada—a project O’Barry had criticized.

In November 2001, O’Barry was refused entry into Antigua, on alleged grounds of “national security,” when he tried to draw attention to the opening of a reportedly very small facility called Dolphin Fantaseas.

“Dolphin Fantaseas owns a tank in Anguilla which until recently housed six wild-caught Cuban dolphins. Three of those dolphins were flown to this new site in Antigua,” Canadian cetacean freedom advocate Gwen McKenna told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, after a visit to Antigua to see what was what.

Although Dolphin Fantaseas had imported Cuban dolphins, McKenna added, the Antiguan government authorized one John Mezzanotte “to capture up to 12 dolphins annually from Antiguan waters for export.” This raised suspicions that O’Barry and McKenna took to the U.S. Treasury Department, alleging that American dolphin swim promoters in Anguilla and Antigua may be violating the U.S. embargo on trade with Cuba.

“There is an open investigation,” U.S. Customs Service special agent Robert Fernandez confirmed in February to Charles D. Sherman of the *Miami Herald*. “If there is a U.S. citizen, U.S. resident, or U.S. entity involved [in buying Cuban dolphins], it would be a violation.”

Continued Sherman, “The Cuban Minister of Science and Technology and its National Aquarium in Havana, where Che Guevara’s 38-year-old daughter Celia is the chief marine mammal veterinarian, have captured a lucrative market for the animals, not



Ric O’Barry (left) and volunteers release an ex-show dolphin in 1993. (WSPA photo)

only in the Caribbean for also in Europe. The official figures reported by Havana show 82 dolphin sales in the last five years, making Cuba the world’s leading exporter.”

## Dolphins or bust

The U.S. marine mammal exhibition industry continued a long contraction phase in August 2001 when the 15-year-old Aquaticus exhibit at the Oklahoma City Zoo closed, after experiencing four dolphin deaths in three years because of bacterial contamination that the zoo was unable to eliminate.

But the contraction phase may be close to reversing, as in September 2001, after eight years of deliberation, the Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi announced that it will build a \$14 million dolphinarium, to open in 2003.

Aquarium managers have discovered during the past decade that even though captive whales and dolphins are a magnet for protest, trying to operate without them can be a prescription for collapse, exemplified by the woes of Colorado’s Ocean Journey.

In 1992-1993, as Ocean Journey was still in planning, the then nearly penniless group Animal Rights Mobilization traded use of an 18,000-name mailing list for advertising space in **ANIMAL PEOPLE** to promote “No Dolphins In Denver,” a campaign to persuade Ocean Journey that it should never exhibit any cetacean species. The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** ads were all the publicity anywhere that ARM could procure, but Ocean Journey took the pledge. The star attractions when Ocean Journey opened in June 1999 were a Bali mynah, 10 sharks, three Sumatran tigers, two sea otters, and three river otters.

First-year Ocean Journey attendance fell short of expectations, and then fell by more than half. Defaulting on debts of \$63 million in June 2001, Ocean Journey announced in March 2002 that it would close permanently on April 2. Staff began seeking alternative placement of 8,000 fish, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and birds, representing about 500 species.

At the last minute a Chapter 11 bankruptcy, \$1 million offered on a matching basis by Advance Geophysical software company cofounder Barbara Bridges, and \$500,000 given by the family of Ocean Journey diver Bruce Kelley kept the doors open, but the longterm survival and viability of the facility is still far from assured.

Marineland of Florida by contrast made a rousing comeback from the possible brink of demolition.

Built in 1937 as an underwater film studio, and opened to the public in 1940, Marineland of Florida is regarded as the first modern oceanarium. Allowed to deteriorate through several changes of ownership during the 1990s, Marineland of Florida went bankrupt in April 1998 with debts of \$9.7 million, and almost went under for keeps after temporarily closing to visitors in November 1998.

But it still had 18 bottlenose dolphins. Nine were sold to SeaWorld at Orlando for \$1.25 million as part of a \$2.6 million bankruptcy settlement, and were transferred in March 2001. The rest were acquired by an investment group called Marine Park of Flagler. Reopened in March 1999, after beginning ongoing renovations and improvements, Marineland of Florida is reportedly now attracting more people than at any time since before the first *Free Willy!* film was made, and has had three recent dolphin births as result of a captive breeding program begun in March 2001.

A decade ago, captive dolphins were in oversupply, but no dolphins have been captured for exhibition in U.S. waters since 1990, while attrition and the growth of swim-with-dolphins facilities have markedly increased demand.

—M.C.



Atlantic Canadian harp seal. (IFAW photo)

## Canadians may kill most seals since 1951

OTTAWA—Admitting that Atlantic Canadian sealers had already killed 295,000 harp seals this spring when the original 2002 quota was 275,000 and the “total allowable catch” was only 257,000, the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans on May 2 raised the quota to 320,000 and extended the sealing season to May 15.

Then on May 15 the DFO further extended the season, to the end of May.

The “total allowable catch” is the number of seals who can be killed without causing a population decline. It is likely that the Atlantic Canada seal population will now crash, as ice failed to form or melted early in much of the Gulf of St. Lawrence this year, almost wiping out the whelping season west of Newfoundland.

“In conservation terms, the clocks have just been rolled back to the 1960s, when the seal population was reduced by as much as two thirds,” International Fund for Animal Welfare campaigns manager David Loan said.

Wrote Kate Jaimet of *The Ottawa Citizen*, “Early in the season, blustery weather prevented small boats from hunting the seals. Thinking the small boats would have to forgo the hunt, the fisheries authori-

ties decided to allocate almost all of the quota to larger boats. But later in the season the weather became calmer, and the small fishers wanted to make up for their lost opportunity. With seal pelts selling for \$75,” six times higher than in 2000, reportedly due to strong European demand, “it was impossible for DFO officials to refuse.”

It was also politically untenable for the ruling Liberal Party, since the heavily overfished Atlantic Canadian cod stocks are still not commercially viable, more than 10 years after an emergency shutdown of the fishery in March 1992. Hearings have established that the DFO consistently overestimated the cod stocks, from the beginning of fisheries regulation until the fish almost disappeared in the late 1980s—but as usual, the Canadian Fisheries Resource Conservation Council in an April 17 report blamed the continuing scarcity of cod on the seals.

Atlantic Canadian sealers landed as many as 740,000 pelts in peak years during the 19th century, averaging more than 400,000 from 1811 to 1862. The average toll from 1950 to 1959 was 312,000, dropping to 180,000 in the 1970s. The toll this year may be the highest since 1951, when 430,000 pelts were landed.

# Animal advocate charged with Dutch assassination

**AMSTERDAM**—Volkert Van der Graaf, 32, among the most prominent animal rights activists in The Netherlands, was charged on May 8 with killing populist prime ministerial candidate Pim Fortuyn, 54, two days earlier, with five close-range gunshots to the head and body, as Fortuyn left a radio station where he had just done an interview.

Van der Graaf was cofounder of Milieu Offensief, known for use of aggressive legal tactics to fight against all forms of factory farming.

Wrote Stephanie van den Berg of Agence France-Presse, “It was thought to have been the first political assassination in The Netherlands since the 17th century. Fortuyn, elegant, bald-headed, and openly gay, won wide support with his fiery calls to end immigration in a country where one of every eight people—two million out of 16 million—are not of Dutch origin,” and the most common name of male infants in 2001 was reportedly Muhammed.

Fifteen to twenty thousand people marched in mourning for Fortuyn in Rotterdam, his home city. A former sociology professor, Fortuyn had founded his own political party, called simply Ljist Pim Fortuyn, meaning “list of candidates endorsed by Pim Fortuyn.” The new party won more than a third of the seats on the Rotterdam city council in March 2002, and was expected to contend for position as the third largest delegation to the Dutch parliament in the May 15 national election. Instead, Ljist Pim Fortuyn came in second, despite lacking a designated leader, taking 26 of the 150 seats. That was two more seats than were won by the Labor Party, headed by incumbent prime minister Wim Kok, 62, and enough to give Ljist Pim Fortuyn considerable bargaining power in a coalition government which will probably be formed by Christian Democrat leader Jan Peter Balkenende, 46, most noted thus far for his resemblance to the fictional character Harry Potter.

## Silver bullets

Van der Graaf was apparently apprehended almost immediately, but Dutch authorities did not officially confirm his identity until he was formally charged with murdering Fortuyn and possessing an illegal firearm. The Dutch newspaper *De Vokskrant* named Van der Graaf as the suspect in custody on May 7. Van der Graaf was arraigned after a search of his home found silver-tipped bullets that matched the bullets used to kill Fortuyn.

The unique ammunition caused investigators to reopen files on the December 1996 murder of Chris Van de Werken, 43, an alderman and town environmental officer in Nunspeet, 40 miles east of Amsterdam. Passers-by heard gunshots, rushed to the scene, and found Van de Werken lying dead on a wooded bicycle path near his home, where he had gone to jog. An inquest into the shooting ended in April 1997 without identifying a suspect, but Van de Werken was known to have clashed with Van der Graaf.

Van der Graaf reportedly lived for about a year before his arrest in Hardewijk, 30 miles east of Amsterdam, eight miles from the Van de Werken murder scene, in a district described by Andrew Osborn and Ian Black of the British newspaper *The Guardian* as the Dutch “Bible belt.”

Hardewijk mayor Johan de Groot told Martin Fletcher of the *London Times* that the assassination was a “total surprise” to Van der Graaf’s wife Petra, who left the communi-

ty with their infant on the advice of the town council. Reports differed as to whether the infant was a son or a daughter whom Van der Graaf called “Moppie.”

Neither Van der Graaf nor his mother Anneke Van der Graaf spoke to reporters.

Their silence left the motive for allegedly killing Fortuyn a bit of a mystery.

“We don’t have a very developed policy on animal rights. We were busy developing it,” Ljist Pim Fortuyn representative Joost Eerdmans told *The Guardian*, adding “Pim had two dogs. They were his life, since he did not have a partner. He loved animals. There is no mistake about that.”

“Pim Fortuyn had reasonable views on the bio-industry,” the animal advocacy group Pigs In Need said in a prepared statement. “Fortuyn believed that new agricultural policy needed to be animal-friendly.”

According to Pigs In Need, Fortuyn wrote in a recent book, “Animal welfare must be a priority and we need to switch to less industrial production methods.”

But Fortuyn reportedly told the Dutch “green” group Milieu Defensie (Environmental Defense) in late 2001 that, “The whole environmental policy in The Netherlands lacks substance. I’m sick to death of your environmental movement.”

*NRC-Handelsblad*, called “the *Washington Post* of Holland” by World Animal Net cofounder Wim de Kok (who is not to be confused with the defeated prime minister Wim Kok) on May 8 reported that “Fortuyn recently declared on the TV program *Business Class With Harry Mens* that he would take a proposed ban on fur farming off the table if he was in charge, according to Bont Voor Dieren (Fur For Animals). Bont Voor Dieren fears that 200,000 mink will become the victims of fur farm expansion.”

Repeatedly raised in the Dutch parliament since 1995, the fur farm ban was approved 76-70 on July 1, 1999, but was opposed by then-agriculture minister L.J. Brinkhorst, and has yet to be implemented.

“With a new government, and with the current events in mind, I doubt whether the fur farming ban is ever going to happen,” Wim de Kok told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

## Backlash

Now living in the U.S. but originally from The Netherlands, de Kok was among the leaders of Bont Voor Dieren during the 1980s. He kept close contact with Dutch animal advocates while representing the World Society for the Protection of Animals during the early 1990s. Through World Animal Net, de Kok often amplifies Dutch animal protection news to the global animal advocacy community.

“Milieu Offensief has been one of the most successful organizations fighting against factory farming in the Netherlands,” de Kok said. Fur farms were a major target.

“Under the Dutch legal system,” de Kok continued, “any citizen can claim standing to pursue a lawsuit under environmental protection laws. When towns do not follow proper procedures for granting permits for new or expanding farms, any citizen can appeal. This is a massive job, but Van der Graaf’s organization specialized in this, and won 75% of the thousands of cases they fought. Van der Graaf was an expert in legal tactics, and would say, ‘I am successful because local authorities do not do their homework.’

“If only for that reason, Van der Graaf’s act is regrettable,” said de Kok, who

has been quietly critical of violent actions throughout his involvement in animal advocacy. “The assassination delivers a serious blow to the credibility of the environmental and animal protection movements in the Netherlands. The country is in shock.

“Obviously an act of violence like this must be strongly condemned,” de Kok emphasized. “Animal protection and environmental nonprofit organizations are scrambling to distance themselves from Van der Graaf as far as possible. Our enemies will use this incident anyway for many years to come.”

Confirmed *New York Times* correspondent Marlise Simons, “The news prompted an outpouring of furious e-mails and telephone threats against other environmental groups, whose members fear that a broader hate campaign may be building up.”

Added *NRC-Handelsblad*, “The visitor count at the Milieu Offensief web site, <www.vmow.demon.nl>, usually gets five to ten visitors a day, but after Van der Graaf was named, it got 54,961.”

Yet it was Bont Voor Dieren, at <www.bontvoordieren.nl>, that reportedly got the most flames, because, said *NRC-Handelsblad*, it had posted an article calling for unspecified “action” against Fortuyn, with an illustration showing the back of his bald head and the caption, “More hair than brains.”

The article and illustration were removed, however, within hours.

## The suspect

The British group Animal Freedom meanwhile posted a transcript of a two-year-old telephone interview with Van Der Graaf to < www.animalfreedom.org/english/reaction/volkert.html>. A brief preface explained that Van der Graaf “is not, and was not, a member of Animal Freedom.”

Said Van der Graaf, “Even in elementary school I was interested in animals, the environment and nature. I was a member of the World Wildlife Fund Rangers. We did things like picking up garbage in the dunes. I used to fish with my brother, who was two years older. I used to get a kick out of catching fish. My brother put the worms on the hook. I did think it was mean to the worms and the fish. It just wasn’t right, but apparently everyone thought it was normal. In high school my feeling that something was not right increased. People think it normal that you eat animals, and that you let fish suffocate in nets when you catch them. But inside me arose a sense of justice. Such things should not be happening in a civilized country, I thought.”

But Van der Graaf apparently never opposed all killing—which put him somewhat at odds with other Dutch activists, whose views he found paradoxical and hypocritical.

“When I was 15,” Van der Graaf explained in the Animal Freedom interview, “I worked at a bird shelter in Zeeland. Only 2% of the birds who were brought in covered in oil survived. I wanted to prevent suffering, and I didn’t agree with the suffering of the birds that died slowly from the oil in their intestines. At that place it was a taboo to end that life. The others thought you simply had no right to end it. At the same time they put out mouse traps to kill the mice that were stealing the bird food. I left that place. I didn’t want to be inconsistent any longer.”

The second son of a schoolteacher in Middelburg, Zeeland, Van der Graaf was “passionately interested in biology,” said classmates interviewed by the *London Times*,

and “founded the Zeeland Animal Liberation Front, which daubed slogans on the facades of restaurants with frogs’ legs on the menu.”

“At one point I wanted to stop eating meat,” Van der Graaf told Animal Freedom, “but my parents wouldn’t let me because [they said] you had to eat meat. Only after I started studying in Wageningen [living away from home in a university town] I gave it up. Questions remained: is leather okay, is milk okay, are eco-eggs okay?

“Then I became a vegan. It took some effort,” Van der Graaf said, “but once you are one, it becomes normal fast.

“During my studies I involved myself in the use of laboratory animals,” Van der Graaf recalled. “I joined a regional anti-vivisection federation,” and became “a member of the Inter University Consultation Committee on Animal Use. We tried to reduce the number of laboratory animals used in education. We fought for the right to refuse to dissect animals in our studies,” surveyed and publicized the uses of animals in different courses and subject areas, “and tried to support other students who opposed animal experiments. We didn’t want to impose a standard,” Van der Graaf insisted. “Students could make up their own minds based on our descriptions of animal tests and the procedure that they could follow to be exempted from dissection. We asked them: do you want to cut into a dead piglet or into sharks that were caught as by-catch during herring fishery?”

Van der Graaf cofounded Milieu Offensief in Wageningen in 1992.

“Now I’m involved in the environment as well as animal welfare,” Van der Graaf told Animal Freedom. “Whatever your motives are for working here, you work together toward the same result: stopping the expansion of factory farming. The result is less pollution of the environment and less animal suffering. Through legal procedures we fight permits for factory farms and fur farms, using the law as our tool.”

The Milieu Offensief web site claimed that more than 2,000 legal actions it initiated had prevented several million animals from being bred and raised in inhumane conditions, prevented nitrate pollution of groundwater, and saved energy.

Milieu Offensief attorney Roger Vleugels told *New York Times* correspondent Marlise Simons that the organization was active in approximately 120 municipalities, mostly targeting breeders of pigs, chickens, calves, and mink.

Added Vleugels in a televised interview, “I don’t know Volkert Van der Graaf as someone who would use violence.”

“We won a lot,” Van der Graaf boasted to Animal Freedom, “but now we are going to apply ourselves more to the heavy offenders of environmental degradation and animal suffering.

“My actions don’t come so much from love for animals,” Van der Graaf stated. “I just have a basic standard: what happens to animals in factory farming is not right. For the rest I just act rationally. I don’t have to be a friend of animals to protect animals.

“Many animal protectors act from the assumption that nature is good,” Van der Graaf concluded, “but every dark side of humans can also be found in nature. Protecting animals is civilizing people, as they say.”

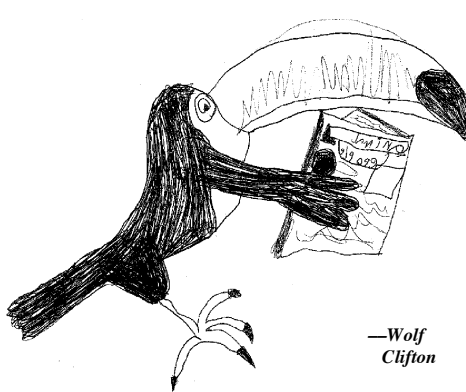
What Van der Graaf did not say, or even hint at, is how killing people might coincide with his beliefs and strategy. —M.C.

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“Be kind to your webfooted friends,” and other true stories about children helping animals

“Adrian Crawford, 14, and Adam Lankford, 13,” of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, “were walking home in the rain after buying Crawford’s mom last-minute flowers on Mother’s Day,” Associated Press reported, “when they saw an agitated duck and heard chirping. They realized her babies were trapped in a storm sewer and tried to lift the manhole cover. It was too heavy, so they flagged down police officer Gregg Fritz to help. The three pried off the lid, and then the boys took turns lying on the ground, reaching down into the sewer to scoop up the ducklings while the other boy held his ankles.” Said Fritz, “It’s raining. They’re shivering. But they saved those ducks. They made a decision to make a difference, and they stayed there.” Added Crawford’s mother, Kathy Bergant, “He gave me the best Mother’s Day present ever when he saved those ducks,” who were later released at a public park by Officer Fritz and the Milwaukee County Humane Society.

AFA-Bulgaria in April honored dog care volunteer Alexandra Svetoslavova Mitseva, 8, of Sofia, as “Best Little Friend of the Animals” for 2001. She received a horse sculpture created and donated by Velemir Vele. Honored with her were fellow young volunteers Kristian Anguelov and Svetoslava Filipova Cholakova. All three children received gifts from Dogs Home Battersea, with messages of appreciation from the Royal SPCA and ANIMAL PEOPLE.

The third grade students of Katy Des Chenes at the CDS School in Escazu, Costa Rica, in May raised \$200 to help the McKee Project sterilize street dogs and feral cats. “I came home depressed,” wrote McKee Project founder Christine Crawford, “as we had absolutely no money to continue. What a wonderful surprise your gift was! This donation will ensure that three more veterinarians are trained to do sterilization surgery, and will sterilize 17-20 animals at the same time.”

Language arts and technology teacher Bev Defnall, of Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School in Denver, recently helped her sixth grade students to raise \$2,600 for the Creative Acres sanctuary in nearby Brighton. A planned field trip to the sanctuary was cancelled when buses could not be arranged, but on May 20 Creative Acres founder Maxine Mager alleviated the students’ disappointment by bringing to the school a selection of Creative Acres’ most pettable kittens, ferrets, dogs, rabbits, and hens. Creative Acres also takes in horses, goats, sheep, pigs, goats, and emus, but taking them to the school proved as impossible to accomplish as finding buses on short notice for the 100 children.

The Coalition of Louisiana Animal Advocates and Humane Heart on May 20 presented a prize of \$100 to Lindsey Stein, a student at Cabrini High School in New Orleans, as winner of their “Year of the Humane Child” essay contest.

Fifth grader Nicole Halpin, 10, of Jackson, Wyoming, daughter of Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation board member Mike Halpin, found a dead trumpeter swan near a power line corridor parallel to Wyoming route 89/191 when she was 8, and raised \$12,000 during the next two years toward having the lines buried. The Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation raised another \$148,000, the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation donated \$60,000, Lower Valley Energy contributed \$40,000 worth of labor, the National Elk Refuge gave \$10,000, and beginning in November 2001, the job was accomplished.

Kristine Thompson of Oklahoma and Anthony Trovato of Pennsylvania were recently named winners of a nationwide student art and essay contest held by United Animal Nations in honor of 21 former Air Force research chimpanzees who were retired in 2001 to the Center for Captive Chimpanzee Care sanctuary in Florida.

Next of Kin: A Compassionate, Interdisciplinary Science Curriculum (Phase 1- Grades 6-9) by Rachel Fouts-Carrico, co-produced by the New England Anti-Vivisection Society and Friends of Washoe (order from NEAVS, 333 Washington St., Suite 850, Boston, MA 02108), 2002. \$75 plus \$8.00 for shipping and handling.

The *Next of Kin* curriculum introduces many concepts from the 1997 book *Next of Kin: What Chimpanzees Have Taught Me about Who We Are*, by Roger Fouts and Stephen Tukul Mills, republished in 1998 with the more successful alternate subtitle *Conversations with Chimpanzees*.

*Next of Kin* curriculum author Rachel Fouts-Carrico holds a master’s degree in educational supervision and curriculum development, and is the daughter of Roger and Deborah Fouts, who were among the pioneers of introducing human language to chimpanzees. Roger and Deborah Fouts founded Friends of Washoe in 1981 to ensure that the chimpanzees they worked with would not be used in more invasive forms of research after their federal funding ended. They named the organization after Washoe, their first and best-known pupil.

The curriculum consists of 322 pages in a three-ring binder, accompanied by a CD which can be used to preview the curriculum, or to enhance it, for instance by showing QuickTime video clips of Washoe and other chimpanzees.

This first version of the curriculum targets middle school. The next version will be for grades K-5, followed by a version for grades 10-12.

Thirty lessons

Thirty lesson plans are included, split into five sets. “Our Fellow Animals” discusses scientific classification, the percentages of genetic relationship shared among various species, and characteristics held in common by both chimpanzees and humans.

“Free-Living Chimpanzees” explores the cultures of different groups of chimpanzees, describes the gestures and behaviors that chimpanzees use to communicate, and discusses the endangered status of wild chimpanzees.

“Captive Chimpanzees” considers the use of chimpanzees in laboratories, zoos, and sanctuaries. The section on lab use describes the living conditions of animals in biomedical research, the role of the Animal Welfare Act, the experiences of lab chimps, and includes activities to develop students’ empathy for their plight. The section about zoos discusses evaluating chimpanzee exhibits and the various limitations and stresses upon captive chimpanzee behavior. The section about sanctuaries includes an interview with a chimpanzee sanctuary caregiver, plus further discussion of how to recognize and build a chimpanzee-centered captive habitat.

The “Chimpanzee and Human Communication Institute” lessons present excerpts from the Roger Fouts book *Next of Kin*. Questions are raised about cross-fostering, chimpanzee language studies, Washoe’s use of sign language, and how scientists throughout history have promoted or challenged the idea that only humans are capable of rational thought. Each CHCI chimp is introduced as an individual, and students are asked to learn to recognize them in photos. There is also discussion of the importance of environmental enrichment for captive chimps, how enrichment methods are classified, and what students can send to CHCI to help with enrichment.

The last set of lessons, “A Humane Community,” presents alternatives to dissection and animal testing, discusses opposition to laboratory use of animals from a variety of perspectives, describes how scientists can learn from animals without harming them, explores the relationship between human-to-human violence and human-to-animal violence,

facilitates research of possible humane careers, and encourages antivivisection activism.

A great strength of this curriculum is that it recommends techniques other than the standard lecture/reading-and-discussion format. For example, in one lesson students make chains of cards listing characteristics that belong solely to chimps, solely to humans, or are shared by both. In another lesson, students pantomime chimp behaviors that others on their team must correctly identify. After learning about the individual chimps at CHCI, the students play chimpanzee dominoes, with different photos of the same chimpanzee (unlabeled) constituting a match.

As is typical for new curriculums, there are bugs to work out. In one lesson, the answer key indicates that only humans, not chimps, can “communicate vocally.” This lesson is on the New England Anti-Vivisection Society web site as a sample, and has been corrected there to read “speak verbally.”

In another lesson, “How They Live”, students are divided into groups to read different selections of information, but some of the group numbers are missing on the reading material, so that it is not easily apparent where one selection ends and another begins. Some of the reading selections appear to be significantly longer than others, which creates a classroom management problem, as some groups will finish and have nothing to do while the other groups are still reading.

The concept load in this lesson and some others is perhaps too demanding for the targeted age range.

The lessons on alternatives to dissection will need constant updating. For instance, there are some great alternative activities (better termed replacement activities) that are web-based, which are not mentioned in the lesson.

Provocative content

The greatest difficulty, however, is with some of the content. For example, in the “Captive Chimpanzees” and “A Humane Community” sections, teachers (and administrators and school boards) will be leery of the controversy inherent in some of these lessons. It is difficult to picture a public school teacher actually having their students produce a play on vivisection, or asking students to set written goals to help animals in biomedical research.

In a lesson titled “Research Flip-Flopped,” students write a report explaining one way animals are used for human health, diet, or entertainment and then the teacher has the students “replace the term ‘human’ with the name of your animal and replace the name of your animal with ‘human.’”

This might strike some students as more funny than eye-opening...but these are all examples of lessons that might be difficult to defend if a parent objected to them as one-sided or as lessons with a so-called “fringe” agenda.

Some of the reading assignments present ethical opinions as fact and this is also difficult for a teacher to defend, no matter how noble the opinion. It is not far-fetched to picture parents who are doctors or nurses objecting to some of the lessons on biomedical research, for example, though certainly others in the medical field might applaud.

At the other end of the spectrum, some activists will object to the section on CHCI, in particular, as it does not address the ethical questions about knowledge gained from captive chimps, even in an “enriched environment,” and research which is today non-invasive and “on the chimpanzees’ terms.”

The background information for teachers refers to CHCI as a sanctuary as well as a research facility, and states, “Even as we watch these chimpanzees run and play and sign with their companions, we must not forget that other chimpanzees are not so fortunate.”

This is true, but it also true that there are some chimpanzees who are much more fortunate.

One of the readings for students presents info on past studies on chimps’ language abilities without any discussion of the ethics involved, even when mentioning families who raised chimpanzees in their homes.

One assignment reads: “You have applied for a grant to conduct a study teaching chimpanzees sign language. Write a letter to the organization that is considering granting you the money explaining why teaching sign language to a chimpanzee is possible.” This paradoxically casts students in the role of a researcher utilizing captive chimpanzees, without questioning

the ethics involved.

Nor are students asked to explain anything to the granting organization about the environment in which the chimpanzees will be kept. This is a glaring disconnect with the objectives of other sections of the curriculum.

The curriculum, however, does not have to be used in entirety, as each lesson can stand alone.

Standards

It is refreshing to see a humane education curriculum that is not masquerading as addressing objectives it does not really address. However, to be used with any frequency, the lessons need to be linked to meeting national educational standards—and ideally should be linked as well to meeting state and local standards. Many principals require lesson plans to stipulate the standards they are supposed to help students meet.

The *Next of Kin* curriculum could be applied toward meeting the national science standards for grades 5-8 in five of seven subject areas: Science as Inquiry, Life Science, Science and Technology, Personal and Social Perspectives, and History and Nature of Science.

But the curriculum does not include any mention of these standards.

If you are considering donating a copy to your local district, at total cost of \$83.00, you will want to take steps to increase the likelihood that at least some of it will be used. Try to meet with some supportive teachers in your area and ask them to list the standards that are addressed by each lesson that is selected as appropriate and worthwhile, and then make that information readily available to other teachers.

Perhaps the future editions of the curriculum can explain the application of *Next of Kin* to meeting the national standards for grades 6-8 and grade 9.

There is another big barrier to the use of this curriculum. Science is one of the areas in which teachers are under great pressure and are easily tempted to allow the standardized tests to dictate what is taught. There never seems to be enough time to teach science, and *Next of Kin* will be seen as “extra” and “optional,” and perhaps even “time-consuming.”

Most teachers choosing to add “extra, optional and time consuming” science lessons will be looking for inquiry lessons, or hand-on experiments, or perhaps use of real time data or worldwide collaborative projects from the Internet, such as the Dr. Splatt roadkill monitoring project, which over the past decade has assembled an impressive collection of student-gathered real-life data on how roads affect wildlife.

These are options that teachers who are “into” science are either seeking or already know about and are likely to choose first.

Unless a teacher personally cares about the plight of chimpanzees, this curriculum will sit on a shelf. Chimps are highly appealing to students and teachers alike, and one activist in a community could do a lot to help get this curriculum into circulation...but it may be necessary to edit or toss a few of the lessons first.

—Patty Finch

[Finch, a former classroom teacher and later director of the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education, is now a teacher trainer for the Maricopa Community Colleges in greater Phoenix, Arizona, focusing on inner city educators, through a U.S. Dept. of Education grant.]



Chimp used in traveling photo concession. (Kim Bartlett)



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ANIMAL OBITS

**Seattle Slew**, 28, who won the horseracing Triple Crown in 1977 and was the last living horse to have won all three events, died on May 7 at the Hill 'n' Dale Farm near Lexington, Kentucky, 25 years to the day after he won the Kentucky Derby in the first leg of his rush to fame. "We have a black Labrador, eight months old, named Chet, after my father," owner Mickey Taylor told *The New York Times*. "Chet went into his stall, and Slew licked Chet's face, and Chet licked Slew's face. Then Slew looked up at me and said, 'Get on with your life. I have to go.'"

**Lefty**, 10, the injured Muscovy duck who inspired the 1993 children's book *Lefty's Place* and educational video *Lefty's World* by Lewis G. Nierman, died recently at the home he shared in Florida with Nierman and April Poneman.


**Jimmy**, 8, a German shepherd search-and-rescue dog who worked at the World Trade Center site with his handler David Vitalli of Newburgh, New York, until he fell seriously ill, died on May 18.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Bruce Merritt.  
—Mrs. Lola Merritt

In memory of Mrs. Reginald C. Watson.  
—Odette Grosz

In memory of my precious Chihuahua, Yoda.  
—Erika Hartman



In memory of Oscar.  
—Virginia Gillas

In memory of Gene & Boo Boo.  
—Florrie Goldman

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

HUMAN OBITUARIES

**Stephen J. Gould**, 60, died on May 20 from abdominal mesothelioma at his home in Manhattan. Intensely interested in paleontology from age 5, when he first visited the American Museum of Natural History, Gould met Niles Eldridge in the mid-1960s, when both were graduate students in paleontology at Columbia University. Together they developed the punctuated equilibrium theory of evolution, continuing to work together long after Gould earned his Ph.D. in 1967 and moved on to teach at Harvard for the remainder of his life. Gould and Eldridge, now staff paleontologist for the American Museum of Natural History, jointly published the punctuated equilibrium theory in 1972. Gould went on to become one of the most successful popularizers of scientific concepts ever, writing on topics ranging from baseball to classical music, and occasionally scoffing at the animal rights movement on behalf of fellow scientists, but always returned to fossils, his first interest. Harvard University Press in March 2002 published his 1,433-page *Structure of Evolutionary Theory*, which he called the summation of his life's work.

**Bill Peet**, 87, died on May 11 at his home in Studio City, California. Joining Disney Studios in 1937, at age 22, Peet initially helped to animate Donald Duck cartoons; based the character sketches for the baby elephant hero of *Dumbo* (1941) on his infant son Bill Jr.; planned the Br'er Rabbit sequences in *Song of the South* (1946); and developed the battle among the mice Jaq and Gus and the cat Lucifer in *Cinderella* (1950). His first screenplay was *101 Dalmatians* (1961), the success of which coincided with an economic collapse in the fur industry. Each re-release and sequel has preceded at least a significant fur sales slump. Despite a stormy relationship with Walt Disney, upon whom Peet based the character of Merlin in *The Sword In The Stone* (1963), Peet remained with Walt Disney Inc. until 1967, when he completed the character sketches for *The Jungle Book* shortly before Disney died. Peet debuted as an author of children's books featuring animal characters in 1959, with *Hubert's Hair-Raising Adventure* (1959), about a lion who loses his mane. His most successful of 35 titles was *Chester the Worldly Pig* (1978).

**Peter Hoffman**, 80, died on March 19 in Chennai, India. Recalled the Animal Welfare Board of India newsletter, "Hoffman was a close associate of Rukmini Devi Arundale, founding chair of AWBI. An American by birth, he adopted India as his country. He was a staunch vegetarian and animal welfarist. He is survived by his wife Sarada, son Krishna, and daughter Geetha."

**Norma Ann Henry**, 62, died from an apparent heart attack in April at her private animal shelter in Escondido, California, leaving 38 cats and eight dogs. Representatives of the Rancho Coastal Humane Society in Encinitas and the Feral Cat Coalition told Brian E. Clark of the *San Diego Union-Tribune* that they expect to be able to place all of the animals in new homes.

**William Emeral Deters**, whose age was variously listed as 63, 69, 70, and 72, his Thai housekeeper **Ratchanee Sonkhamleu**, 26, her three-year-old daughter **Athitaya**, Hmong worker **Laeng sae Yang**, and a Thai worker known only as **Subin** were massacred on May 10 at the Highland Farm and Wildlife Refuge in Phop Phra, Tak, Thailand, near the Burmese border. Police charged former employee Maung Htwe, 19, with the murders, and charged his brother Than Saw Htaik, 23, as an accomplice, along with their friends Ma Kyi, Thein Zaw, and Soe Moe. Maung Htwe, a Burmese citizen, worked for three years at the refuge, police said, but was fired in February after becoming a drug addict. He allegedly broke into Deters' quarters to steal firearms, but was caught in the act and shot all the witnesses he knew were present, but overlooked Dutch visitor Abraham Wilhelm Everardus Osterloh, 24, who hid in the bathroom and then called police. Maung Htwe will reportedly face the death penalty. Deters, who rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, left the military to become general manager of the Lockheed Co. computer department. Becoming a Buddhist, Deters married Poranee Chotiros, 54, and relocated to her native Thailand in 1990. Their plan was to live quietly in retirement, but their home became a gibbon sanctuary in 1991 after Poranee saw a young gibbon who was suffering from a bullet wound and bought him from the Hmong hunters who shot him. The sanctuary currently houses 36 gibbons, 11 of them disabled, plus many other primates, dogs, peacocks, rabbits, turkeys, geese, and exotic birds of various species, wrote Supamart Kasem of the *Bangkok Post*. Poranee told Kasem that she intends to continue to operate the sanctuary.

**Shane Acton**, a 12-year friend of Zancudo Asociacion Para Proteger Animales founder Katherine Gibson, died from lung cancer in March at her home in Zancudo, Costa Rica, which doubles as the ZAPPA office and dog-and-cat sterilization clinic. "He found watching the mini-clinics at my house almost as interesting as football, so when he died," Gibson wrote, "he had me sell his sailboat," to use the proceeds to further benefit animals.

**Patricia Trotta**, 59, who lived in a rusting Quonset hut in Marshfield, Massachusetts, with rescued animals including dogs, cats, sheep, and a pony, died in October 2001, leaving an estate worth more than \$100,000 to the Marshfield animal shelter.

**Dale Hyldahl**, 69, an assistant dolphin trainer for three years at Marineland of Florida during the late 1950s, died on April 20 in Arlington, Washington.

**Roseanne Cory**, 37, of Quakertown, Pennsylvania, drowned on May 5 in the Schuylkill River, after jumping out of a boat to try to save her dog, Lucy, who survived. She and her companion George Lester Beckelheimer had recently lost two other dogs—one to an accident, one to theft.

**Elissa Angell** died on January 22 in Denver, remembered by the *Humane Activist* newsletter of the Humane Society of the U.S. as co-organizer with her husband Robert of the 1996 ballot initiative that "amended the Colorado constitution to ban the use of steel-jaw leghold traps and other inhumane traps." A retired librarian and schoolteacher, Mrs. Angell personally gathered 3,500 of the 100,000 signatures needed to put the initiative on the ballot. "The Angells were also centrally involved with the successful 1992 statewide ballot initiative to restrict black bear hunting," the *Humane Activist* said.

**Agatha Abruzzo**, 81, former president of the Gloucester County SPCA, died in January at her home and animal shelter in Woolwich, New Jersey, which until her death "was believed to be run by the Gloucester County SPCA," wrote *Philadelphia Inquirer* reporter Sara Isadora Mancuso. "Abruzzo never received SPCA funds to care for the animals," Mancuso was told by New Jersey SPCA president Charlie Gerofsky. Instead, "She often dipped into her own pockets to pay for vet care and food, and received donations, but never legally incorporated during the 30 years that the Gloucester County SPCA operated under a state SPCA charter." In recent years Abruzzo suffered from a heart condition, and the animal care and sanitation seriously deteriorated. A new Gloucester County SPCA incorporated in March 2002, headed by Geralynn Castano.

**Hans Fischinger**, 70, died on December 25, 2001, in Nice, France, after an eight-year battle with cancer. Born in Austria, Fischinger worked in hotel management and traveled extensively from 1948 until 1989. He became an ardent antivivisectionist in 1975 after seeing a television report about dogs being delivered to a laboratory. He became a vegetarian in 1981, and became a fulltime animal advocate in 1989, best remembered for his work on behalf of kangaroos and his criticisms of anti-animal teachings within Catholicism. He is survived by wife and fellow activist Manette Fischinger.

—Wolf Clifton

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