

U.S. to phase out animal testing

BETHESDA, Maryland—Animal testing to meet U.S. federal regulatory requirements is officially on the way out at last.

"The Environmental Protection Agency, the National Toxicology Program and the National Institutes of Health have signed a memorandum of understanding to begin developing the new methods," reported Elizabeth Weise of *USA Today* on February 14, 2008, scooping most other media by about 24 hours. "The collaboration is described in a paper in the February 15 edition of the journal *Science*."

"We propose a shift from primarily *in vivo* animal studies to *in vitro* assays, *in vivo* assays with lower organisms, and computational modeling for toxicity assessments," wrote National Humane Genome Research Institute

director Francis S. Collins, EPA research and development director George M. Gray, and National Toxicology Program associate director John R. Bucher.

"Historically toxicity has always been determined by injecting chemicals into laboratory animals, watching to see if the animals get sick, and then looking at their tissues under the microscope," Collins explained to reporters at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Boston. "Although that approach has given us valuable information, it is clearly quite expensive, it is time-consuming, it uses animals in large numbers, and it doesn't always predict which chemicals will be harmful to humans."

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Guinea pigs. (Kim Bartlett)



The Japanese patrol vessel *Fukuyoshi Maru*, seen from a Zodiac piloted by Sea Shepherd. (Chantal Henderson/Sea Shepherd Conservation Society)

HOBART, TOKYO—Sea Shepherd Conservation Society captain Paul Watson on March 2, 2008 reported that the crew of the Sea Shepherd vessel *Steve Irwin* had pitched two dozen bottles of rancid butter onto deck of the Japanese whaling factory ship *Nisshin Maru* in Porpoise Bay, off Antarctica.

The stink bomb attack came toward the end of a winter-long campaign

that saw Sea Shepherds, joined at times by Greenpeace and the Australian coast guard, stalking the *Nisshin Maru* since the *Steve Irwin* sailed from Melbourne on December 5, 2007. The *Nisshin Maru*, four whale-catching vessels, and the supply ship *Oriental Bluebird* spent most of the winter trying to elude observation, rather than killing whales. The Japanese coast guard vessel *Fukuyoshi Maru* #68 had shadowed the *Steve Irwin* since January 15, but was ultimately not able to keep the Sea Shepherds away from the *Nisshin Maru*.

Watson believed the whalers would return to Japan with less than half of their self-assigned quota of 935 minke whales and 50 fin whales. The Japanese Institute for Cetacean Research had also planned to kill up to 50 endangered humpback whales, but dropped this idea due to global opposition.

"Leap year gave us an extra day this month," Watson e-mailed at the end of February 2008, "but despite that, we made it to the end of February without any whales being killed for the last six days."

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

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Baseball greats caught at

SANTO DOMINGO, D.R.—Pedro Martinez, a three-time Cy Young Award winner as the best pitcher in his league, and Juan Marichal, the first Latin American player elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame, are at the center of a controversy bringing

cockfighting in the Dominican Republic under probably more scrutiny and criticism than at any point since it was introduced by Spanish sailors nearly 500 years ago.

"Martinez and Marichal were shown in a video posted this week on YouTube releasing roosters just before they engaged in a fight at the Coliseo Gallistico de Santo Domingo, in the country's capital," summarized Jorge L. Ortiz of *USA Today* on February 7, 2008.

Organized animal advocacy has little presence in the Dominican Republic, but American denunciations of Martinez and Marichal were soon quoted by Dominican media that closely follow the deeds of 99 current Dominican major leaguers—more than 10% of the major league work force.

"Whether they play football or baseball, athletes know that animal fighting is a barbaric practice to be avoided at all costs," said Humane Society of the U.S. president Wayne Pacelle, a former high school catcher whose father was a long-

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Gamecock. (Carroll Cox)

Animal advocates work to bring

NAIROBI—"The situation in Kenya is calm, Youth for Conservation president Steve Itela told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on January 28, 2008, "especially in areas where violence was high such as Kibera and Mathare, but tension continues with ethnic groups still fighting in Nakuru, Naivasha, and Nyahururu. We are hopeful that violence will not spread to other areas. I have not heard gun shots for two weeks now."

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A mother dog and pups treated by ANAW and the Kenya SPCA. (Jospat Ngonyo)



Slaughterhouse cruelty leads to biggest beef recall in U.S. ever

CHINO, Calif.; WASHINGTON D.C.—Animal advocates are hoping that the biggest meat recall in U.S. history will finally bring enforcement of federal slaughter standards, 50 years after Congress passed the Humane Slaughter Act, 30 years after making compliance "mandatory"—on paper.

Responding to videotape produced by an undercover investigator for the Humane Society of the U.S., the USDA on February 3, 2008 withdrew inspection of the Hallmark/Westland Meat Company in Chino, California, forcing the slaughterhouse to close.

The video showed downed cows being forced to their feet to walk to slaughter by means including electroshock, tail-yanking, kicking, lifting them with a forklift, and ramming them with the forklift tines.

"Because the cattle [slaughtered at Hallmark/Westland] did not receive complete and proper inspection, the Food Safety Inspection Service has determined them to be unfit for human food and the company is conducting a recall," U.S. Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer announced on February 17.

The beef was recalled not because of the cruelty of the Hallmark/Westland employees' actions, but because USDA regulations require that non-ambulatory cattle either not be slaughtered for human consumption or be individually inspected before slaughter to ensure that they are not suffering from ailments—such as "mad cow disease"—which may be passed to humans who eat them.

The recall included the remains of all cattle slaughtered at Hallmark/Westland since February 1, 2006—143 million pounds of beef, including about 50 million pounds that were supplied to school lunch programs, more than 20 million pounds of which were already consumed.

The USDA honored Hallmark/Westland as the federal school lunch program "Supplier of the Year" for 2004-2005. It was one of just 23 boneless beef suppliers, among about 900 in the U.S., that was approved to supply federal programs.

The Hallmark/Westland recall also involved products marketed by General Mills

(continued on page 12)

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Editorial feature

The late Tom Lantos: a Wilburforce for our time

Outspokenly critical of the policies of U.S. President George W. Bush, the late House Foreign Affairs Committee chair Tom Lantos was nonetheless praised by Bush after his February 11, 2008 death from esophageal cancer as “a man of character and a champion of human rights. As the only Holocaust survivor to serve in Congress,” Bush added, “Tom was a living reminder that we must never turn a blind eye to the suffering of the innocent at the hands of evil men.”

Bush, like most other Washington D.C. eulogists and obituarists for national news media, omitted that the “suffering of the innocent” of deep concern to Lantos included the suffering of animals, and that Lantos championed animal rights as well as human rights for most of the 27 years he served in the House of Representatives.

Born on February 1, 1928 to Jewish parents in Budapest, Hungary, Lantos was 16 when the Nazis occupied the city in 1944. He fought with the underground, was captured, escaped from a forced labor camp but was recaptured and severely beaten, and promptly escaped again. Lantos’ second escape attempt brought him under the protection of Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish diplomat who used his authority to issue visas to help thousands of Hungarian Jews to escape abroad, but disappeared soon after World War II and is believed to have died in Russian custody.

Lantos emigrated to the U.S. in 1947, on a scholarship to attend the University of Washington in Seattle. His childhood sweetheart Annette and her mother had escaped from Hungary to Portugal, with a Portuguese passport produced with Wallenberg’s help. Lantos married Annette in 1950, brought her to the U.S., and for 30 years raised a family with her and taught economics at San Francisco State University.

Human rights activism inspired Lantos, a Democrat, to seek election to Congress in 1980. His first legislation was a bill to make Wallenberg an honorary U.S. citizen, if Wallenberg had somehow survived, in the hope that the citizenship designation might shake loose information about what had become of him.

Lantos founded the Congressional Human Rights Caucus in 1983, at the beginning of his second of 14 terms. Annette Lantos two years later founded the Committee of 21, which won the release of 21 prisoners of conscience from the Soviet Union.

Neither Lantos was to that point deeply involved in animal advocacy, but when Annette learned that dogs were cruelly captured and killed for human consumption in the Philippines, she took the opportunity to raise the matter to then-Philippine rulers Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos. “They said they were working to bring about laws to prohibit these practices in Manila, but that it would be almost impossible to control in the outlying districts,” Annette recalled in 1991 to *Animals’ Agenda* writer Phil Maggiti. “Starting with that little success, I became very committed to doing whatever I could to alleviate the plight of animals.

“I had long realized that animals are not always treated properly,” Annette Lantos continued, “but with that realization came an effort to protect myself from the painful reality of animal suffering.”

Tom Lantos sponsored the House version of a bill to ban leghold trapping in the 99th Congress, began often co-sponsoring pro-animal legislation, and in 1986 first tried to organize the Congressional Friends of Animals caucus. It finally came together with the help of Christopher Shays (R-Connecticut) in 1991.

“When we came to Washington D.C. in 1981, some of our best friends in Congress would bark or meow when anyone brought up the subject of animal rights,” Lantos told Maggiti. “But they’re not barking or meowing now. This is a serious issue, one that people are beginning to perceive as lying at the very roots of the kind of world we are creating.”

Tom Lantos had earned 100% on every Humane Society of the U.S. *Humane Scorecard* since the publication started in 1993.

Though increasingly well respected in Congress, Lantos had relatively little seniority during his first six terms, and was then part of the minority party after the Republicans took control of the House in 1994.

Frustrated in most attempts to introduce pro-animal legislation during the 1990s, Tom and Annette Lantos helped to restore the prestige of the Washington Humane Society in 1996, after WHS received much bad publicity during a troubled 1995, by allowing their

bichon frise mix Gigi to serve as “honorary chairdog” of the WHS “Bark Ball.”

Two years later, Lantos’ senior aide Geraldine O’Connor filed a lawsuit that helped to bring about reform and eventual administrative stability at the Peninsula Humane Society.

In both situations Lantos showed that he understood the importance of encouraging progressive trends in humane work, and was unafraid to risk his political reputation by standing alongside people he believed were trying to take their organizations in the right direction.

Lantos again showed his awareness of basic humane issues when in October 2004 he opened an exhibit promoting animal adoptions at the San Mateo County History Museum. His appearance ensured that the event received news coverage and was treated as important.

Meanwhile, Lantos had learned how to get things done with quiet words to the right people, as in October 1998, when he prevailed upon then-Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt to order a 30-day moratorium on implementing a USDA Wildlife Services plan to trap and kill feral cats, skunks, raccoons, and foxes who were accused of killing endangered shorebirds in the Redwood Shores area of Redwood City.

This scarcely ended the issue, but helped to generate the dialog among partisans of the birds and the cats that in 2004 occasioned the formation of Project Bay Cat. Organized by Homeless Cat Network “cat manager” Cimeron Morrissey, Sequoia Audubon Society conservation committee chair Robin Winslow Smith, and Foster City management analyst Andra Lorenz, Project Bay Cat sterilized 77% of the cats living along the ecologically sensitive Bay Trail within a year, reduced the cat population near the trail by 35%, and became a nationally acclaimed model for cooperation among birders and cat defenders.

Lantos also used quiet words as “an advisory board member of Concern for Helping Animals in Israel for over two decades, along with his wife Annette,” recalled CHAI founder Nina Natelson. “When CHAI sought to send an animal ambulance to a shelter in Israel, the finance ministry demanded taxes and customs duties equaling the price of the vehicle. When appeals to officials and demonstrations went unheard, Tom Lantos sent a letter to every member of the Knesset,” the Israeli parliament, “and at last the ambulance was allowed in duty and tax free.”

In another incident, Natelson remembered, “Although one city planner set aside land for an animal shelter, the mayor would not allow the land to be used for that purpose.” Annette Lantos intervened, and “That afternoon, a delegation from the Mayor’s office appeared on the shelter’s doorstep to let them know they could start building.

“When CHAI sought to sponsor a conference on the link between violence toward people and toward animals, and the importance of humane education in reducing violence,” Natelson added, “Tom Lantos contacted the Minister of Education on our behalf. The Ministry agreed to co-sponsor the conference with us, and sent out a letter and a poster about the event to school principals, encouraging them to send educators to it, and offering credit to teachers who attended, which translated into a salary increase for them. The well-attended event received much media coverage and resulted in the Knesset Education Committee deciding that humane education must be introduced into the school system.”

Recognizing “The Link”

Recognizing the importance of educating fellow members of Congress as well as the public about the sociological significance of cruelty toward animals, Lantos and 20 other Representatives on May 25, 2000 introduced House Concurrent Resolution 338, urging “greater attention to identifying and treating individuals who are guilty of violence against animals, because of the link between abuse of animals and violence against humans.”

The resolution also asked federal agencies “to further investigate the link between cruelty toward animals and violence against humans.”

Though not carrying actual legislative weight, House Concurrent Resolution 338 may have marked a political turning point. Since then, Congressional actions harmful to animals have chiefly advanced by stealth. Pro-animal legislation has won increasingly prompt and prominent support, on topics including cockfighting and horse slaughter, which formerly were staunchly defended by senior members of key committees.

Also in 2000, Lantos made his first attempt to pass the the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to regulate interstate commerce in exotic and dangerous cats. Promoted by actress and Shambala Preserve sanctuary operator Tippi Hedren, the Captive Wildlife Safety Act became law in December 2003.

Nine months into 2005, Lantos’ major pro-animal achievement for the year appeared to have been blocking repeated attempts by then-House Resources Committee chair Richard Pombo to open the Farallon Islands National Wildlife Refuge to public visits, at possible risk to one of the largest seabird breeding colonies on the West Coast.

Three weeks after Hurricane Katrina, however, Lantos and Congressional Friends of Animals co-chair Christopher Shays introduced legislation, now in effect, to require the Federal Emergency Management Agency to withhold grant funding from communities that fail to develop pet evacuation and transport standards. More regional and state animal disaster relief plans have been developed in the two and a half years since than were produced in all the preceding years since then-Humane Society of Missouri chief executive Eric Hansen began trying to advance animal disaster relief planning in February 1937.

Lantos in 2007 was among three members of Congress who wrote to National Football League commissioner Roger Goodell urging league action against the involvement of players in dogfighting, soon after the arrest of Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick on dogfighting-related charges. Lantos and Representative Chris Smith (R-New Jersey) also wrote to Chinese ambassador Zhou Wenzhong, urging China to accept offers of help from the Humane Society of the U.S. and other organizations to help introduce kinder and more effective methods of animal control. “The focus of any new policy should be on rabies vaccination, pet neutering, and pet guardian education, not a historically ineffective limitation on the number of dogs per household,” Lantos and Smith recommended.

Lantos’ last piece of pro-animal legislation was a July 30, 2007 resolution against the annual Atlantic Canadian seal hunt, co-authored by Shays and unanimously passed by the House of Representatives. “This deeply inhumane practice is far beneath the dignity of the people of Canada,” said Lantos. “There is no real good reason to let this needless slaughter continue, and every reason to put it to a stop. We call on the Canadian government to suspend the hunt in the waters off the east coast of Canada now and forever.”

“At every turn,” recalled Humane Society of the U.S. senior vice president for legislation Mike Markarian, “Tom Lantos insisted that animal protection was not only a just cause but urgent. Lantos will posthumously receive the Joseph Wood Krutch Medal, the highest honor awarded by HSUS. Annette and Gigi undoubtedly will share that honor.”

In terms of background and influence on animal advocacy, Lantos might be mentioned with fellow Holocaust survivor Alex Hershaft, who founded the Farm Animal Reform Movement and encouraged the formation of many other leading organizations in the early 1980s, and with Henry Spira, who survived Krystalnacht in 1938. Lantos likewise came to animal advocacy through human rights activism.

But another apt comparison might be with a politician of a far distant time and place whose concern was also for all who suffered: William Wilberforce, the 19th century British lawmaker who was instrumental in abolishing slavery and passing the first British humane law, and was remembered in the 2007 film *Amazing Grace*.

Lantos was a fabulous model of how people should care about animal rights as well as human rights, and of how people who have been persecuted themselves may become more sensitive to the plight of others, including animals.

SEARCHABLE ARCHIVES: www.animalpeoplenews.org

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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First cruelty conviction in Cairo

In November 2007 some people here in Cairo complained that a bad smell was coming from a neighbouring flat. The police were called, and when the flat was opened, it was found to contain many dead and dying animals.

The Egyptian Society of Animal Friends rescued several birds and dogs, plus a female monkey and her baby, but the baby died that evening. A male monkey had already died.

ESAF filed a complaint accusing the flat owner of neglect and willful cruelty. The case was presented to the court by the district attorney under the agriculture law as neglecting to report sick animals.

Based on our memo of prosecution, the judge decided to apply the Article 357 of the penal law to the case: "Any individual who wilfully kills or poisons without purport a tame animal not mentioned in Article 355, or does the animal any major harm, shall be punished by a jail sentence that does not

exceed six months or by a fine that will not exceed 200 Egyptian pounds."

The flat owner was sentenced under the penal law code to serve two consecutive 48-hour jail sentences. If the judge had applied the agriculture law, she would have been fined only 10 Egyptian pounds.

Of course she will appeal the sentence, but we have a strong hope that the appeal court will uphold the sentence.

It may not seem like a harsh sentence, but it is the first cruelty to animals case brought to court locally to succeed. A media campaign regarding the sentence, to raise public awareness, has already been organized.



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Luminaries

In 2007 we lost two giants—J.R. Hyland and Hans Reusch. Hyland dedicated her book *God's Covenant With Animals* to Reusch. As consulting editor of *Humane Religion*, I had the joy of working closely with Hyland. Far more than a brilliant scholar, she was a true spiritual luminary. The words of Hyland and Reusch continue to pierce the darkness.

—Chris Chapin
Hollywood,
Florida



Mileage deduction for charity work

Many **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers are now doing their taxes, so this might be a good time to start a campaign to convince legislators to increase the tax deduction for miles driven in support of charitable work. If every reader were to contact his or her U.S. Senator and Representative, something good might happen.

The 2007 rate is 14 cents per mile, while the mileage rates allowed for medical reasons or moving are 19 cents per mile, and the business rate is 50.5 cents per mile. I think the 2008 rates have been set at 14, 20, and 58 cents per mile. Important to note is that only charity



Giant Beanstalk

Rock musician Xie Zheng is launching a ten-concert tour of China to raise awareness about animal rights issues. His first concert will be in Beijing on March 8, 2008, at the 13 Club in Wudaokou.

His band, Giant Beanstalk, is amazing, as are the other bands who will be playing that night, each of which is comprised of at least a few vegetarians.

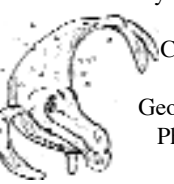
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mileage is set by statute, which is why no increase has been made in many years.

Considering the value and necessity of charity work, as well as the positive economic impact of charity work on government costs, an increase in tax-deductible mileage rates for charity are long overdue.

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Adding fur farm ban to Irish humane law update

We are hoping that a new Irish animal welfare bill will be enacted into law in late 2008 or early 2009, updating legislation adopted in 1911.

We are also hoping to abolish fur farming in Ireland. Our effort began in 2003, when Compassion in World Farming Ireland and Respect for Animals released video footage of an undercover investigation of the five remaining Irish fur farms, one of which raises both foxes and mink. The Irish SPCA also backed their campaign.

In 2005 a CIWF bill to ban fur farming in Ireland was defeated in Parliament, 67 votes to 50. Since then CIWF Ireland and Respect for Animals have been doing fantastic work, lobbying and getting people to write to the agri-

culture minister in support of such a ban. Last year the Irish Green Party became a part of the government. They have stated their complete opposition to fur farming in Ireland. Currently they are working with the Animal Rights Action Network and CIWF Ireland to try to have the fur farming ban included in the upcoming animal welfare bill.

This is the same strategy successfully pursued in Croatia, where fur farming will become illegal in 2010.

We launched our campaign with an early February protest outside the Department of Agriculture in Dublin, at which up to 60 ARAN members held placards and a 5-meter banner sponsored by PETA Europe, reading "Ban Fur Farming in Ireland Now!" The protest generated tons of coverage across the country that day on radio stations, and there was also great coverage the next day in newspapers.

We need **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers to write on behalf of their organizations to urge Irish minister for agriculture Mary Coughlan to ban fur farming in Ireland without delay. Her present position, stated in October 2007, is that "Any market opportunities resulting from a ban here would be immediately exploited by producers elsewhere. Thus, a unilateral ban here would not make any contribution to overall

animal welfare." Her address is: Minister Mary Coughlan, Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, Agriculture House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2, Ireland. Her fax is +353-1-6072843. E-mails should be sent c/o <Martina.Kearney@agriculture.gov.ie>, or <Minister@agriculture.gov.ie>.

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Editor's note:

Campaigns directed at closing laboratories in nations with strong laboratory animal welfare laws have had the net effect of causing companies to outsource their product testing and animal-based research to economically disadvantaged nations where laboratories are barely regulated at all. The outcome is more animal use rather than less, in worse conditions. However, fur farming is not a closely regulated industry anywhere, fur production everywhere is driven by global retail sales volume, and stopping fur production in any one nation is correspondingly less likely to lead to either a disproportionate increase elsewhere, or a net increase in animal suffering. The outcome is likely to be to concentrate world fur production in a relatively few nations where it is politically and economically well-defended; but even in fortified isolation, fur farming could not survive a decisive and lasting consumer turn away from fur.

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Reporting deaths of note

Am I missing something here or what? I read every edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** cover to cover, including the obituaries. I appreciate the information about the passing of special animals and animal people, who have contributed to the welfare, rights, education and protection of the voiceless species who share our planet.

My question is why was Samuel Leonard, a longtime animal researcher and supporter of animal research, included in this section of people who really care about animals? His discovery of the effects of estrogen on

birth control was the basis for the billion dollar pregnant mare's urine industry. This industry impregnates thousands of horses every year, who are confined to their stalls for seven months of their 11-month pregnancies, and are given limited amounts of water to increase the concentration of their urine. The foals are often sold to slaughter, if not used to replace older PMU-producing mares, who typically last only five or six years.

Leonard's demise is certainly no loss to animals and those who care about them.

—Judy Youngman
Larkspur, California



Editor's note:

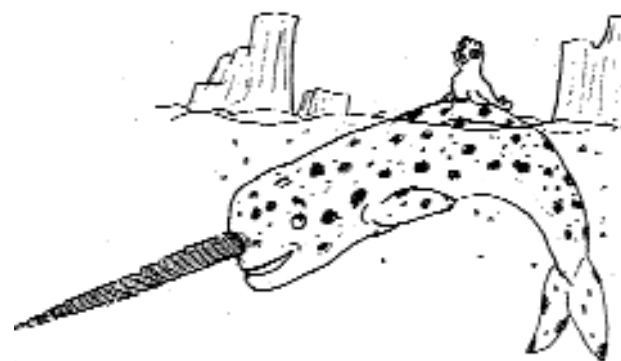
The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** obituary section reports deaths of note to the humane community. The deaths of alleged arch-villains are often of at least as much news interest as the deaths of saints, while weighing souls goes beyond the usual role of news media.

Samuel Leonard was an especially ambiguous figure. On the one hand his work created the PMU industry. On the other, he discovered the first method of achieving non-surgical contraception to control populations of dogs, cats, and wildlife. His work more than 70 years ago was the precursor to advances achieved since 1959 by Wolfgang Joechle, in particular, and other leading hormonal contraceptive researchers.

As hormonal contraceptives have proved to have serious limitations in animal population control, the momentum in contra-

ceptive research and development has shifted in recent years to immunocontraceptives and chemosterilants. The Alliance for Contraception in Cats & Dogs tracks and encourages progress, c/o 14245 N.W. Belle Court, Portland, OR 97229; <joyce@acc-d.org>; <www.acc-d.org>.

ANIMAL PEOPLE first brought the PMU industry to the attention of our readers on page 1 of our April 1993 edition, reporting on the findings of Tom Hughes of the Canadian Farm Animal Concerns Trust. This was about six months before any U.S. animal advocacy organization re-addressed PMU, decades after the industry was initially exposed, only to be forgotten after the center of production shifted west from Quebec, Ontario, and upstate New York to Alberta, Saskatchewan, and the Dakotas.



A promise made to Peruvian animals

ANIMAL PEOPLE in your July/August 2005 edition published a letter that I sent you after returning from Peru in 2005, along with an editor's note summarizing a plan for advancing humane work in Peru that you prepared in 1999.

I still have haunting memories of the extremely poor conditions for animals at Macchu Picchu and in the surrounding areas. There are no words to accurately describe the gratitude of a starving dog being fed. I promised the dogs of Macchu

Picchu that I would get assistance for them after returning to the U.S. I must know if any progress has been made since our 2005 correspondence. The plan you described sounded very workable to me.

If nothing has been done, I would like to humbly ask for a dedicated group to respond to the cries of the dogs and other animals in Peru.

—Yvonne Dufrene
Luling, Louisiana



Editor's note:

The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** plan called for operating a mobile clinic that would traverse the road from Cuzco to Macchu Picchu, funded by kiosks at the Cuzco airport and railway station. This has not yet been done, nine years after we shared the plan and a draft budget with the global humane community.

However, the growing Peruvian humane community began outreach into the Andes in a noteworthy way following the earthquake of August 15, 2007. Three missions from Unidos por los Animales of Lima treated more than 3,000 ani-

mals. The Peruvian Association for the Protection of Animals, Amazon CARES, Huaw Huaw, Amigos de los Animales, Grupo Caridad, and the Asociacion Defensora de la Fauna y Flora horse and donkey care project at Huancavelica also responded. Their efforts were assisted by the Best Friends Animal Society, the Canadian Animal Assistance Team, and the World Society for the Protection of Animals. Best Friends funded an eight-week veterinary mission to the earthquake zone that could become a model for further efforts in Peru.



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Ohio Pork Producers Take A Stand on Animal Cruelty

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

Most disturbing of the cruelty documented at Wiles Farm was its practice of killing sick and injured pigs by fastening a chain around their nocks and then attaching the chain to a front end loader. The loader would be lifted as the pigs struggled and slowly strangled to death over a period of up to five minutes. The Wiles Farm owner actually admitted to hanging pigs in this way for 40 years, stating, "We hang our sows like they do people in Utah"

Misleading the Public

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

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

Well, that certainly sounded good.

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

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

The Best Testimony Money Could Buy



Wiles Farm's "expert" testified that the slow hanging of disabled pigs should not be considered cruelty.

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

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

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

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

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

Action Requested:

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

Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine
Iowa Department of Agriculture
Wallace Building
502 East 9th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
e-mail: ginny.eason@idals.state.ia.us

Prosecutor Frank Forchione: Doing the right thing.



Canton Special Prosecutor Frank Forchione filed animal cruelty charges due to the overwhelming evidence of abuse at Wiles Farm. Forchione pursued this important case despite political roadblocks and open hostility from the Wayne County prosecutor's office and other county officials. We would like to thank Prosecutor Forchione for successfully securing an animal cruelty conviction in the face of such significant obstacles

Whalers spend the Antarctic winter running &

We are chasing the Japanese in circles and there does not seem to be any rhyme or reason to what they are doing. They are wasting fuel and not catching any whales.”

But perhaps the Japanese fleet had more interest in just being there than in actually killing whales.

“Red ink runs like blood in the ledgers of the whalers,” observed *Sydney Morning Herald* reporter Andrew Darby. “In the two remaining legal commercial whaling countries, Iceland last year shut down the business for lack of whale meat buyers and Norway closed the season with a minke whale quota half met,” although the Norwegian self-designated whaling quota for 2008 remains at the 2007 level of 1,052 whales.

Asahi Shimbun reporter Kenji Oyama explained to Japanese readers who have historically seen little criticism of whaling that the major Japanese fishing conglomerates abandoned the whaling industry in 2006. The collectively operated whaling fleet was transferred to the Institute of Cetacean Research, a government agency which receives an annual subsidy of about a billion yen. In fiscal 2006 the ICN also received a billion yen loan from the Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation, a government agency, and has had trouble making the payments.

“Yet the ICR commissioned a new multibillion-yen catcher ship for the present season, the third in a decade,” noted Darby.

Joji Morashita, the Japanese fisheries agency’s chief negotiator on whaling, “said that if the principle of treating wildlife as a sustainable resource was compromised, it would infringe Japan’s right to exploit other fish and animal products,” summarized Darby. “Or as the business daily *Shukan Toyo Keizai* was told, ‘If we give an inch on whaling, we will also have to back down on tuna,’” another issue involving depleted species.

“The *Nisshin Maru* is 21 years old, has caught fire twice, has killed three seamen in work accidents, and does not have the capacity to haul up the bigger whales, or store the whole season’s catch,” Darby continued. “Within the next few years the fisheries agency will have to decide whether to build a costly replacement.”

Surveying 2,082 Japanese citizens, the *Asahi Shimbun* reported 65% support whaling, and that 56% approve of eating whale meat, including nearly 80% of men older than 40. However, 58% of Japanese women in their twenties oppose eating whales. Japanese whale meat consumption has fallen to 30 grams per person per year, less than an eighth of the volume of 25 years ago.

An Internet survey done by the Nippon Research Centre for Greenpeace International found that 31% of the 1,051 respondents favor whaling, down 4% from 2006. About 25% opposed whaling, with 44% undecided. Only 5% acknowledged eating whale meat as often as “sometimes.”

Eighty-five percent were unaware that Japan hunts whales within the Southern Ocean Sanctuary designated by the International Whaling Commission.

“Last month the Institute for

Cetacean Research dumped 10 tons of unsold whale meat into a primary school lunch program,” charged Watson, “trying to get children to develop a taste for whale flesh and blubber despite the high mercury content in it. Yokohama children have not eaten whale meat as part of school lunches in 26 years. The ICR still has over 3,000 tons of unsold whale meat left from last year’s hunt.”

Japanese International Whaling Commission delegation chair Yoshimasa Hayashi told media that Japan would seriously consider ending high seas whaling if allowed to expand coastal whaling. “There is a chance of an agreement,” Hayashi said. “It will depend largely on U.S. leadership to bridge the differences at the IWC.”

Said Watson, “Although we would welcome an end to whaling in the Southern Ocean, we are opposed to killing whales anywhere, by anyone, for any reason.”

Confrontations

The Sea Shepherd pursuit of the *Nisshin Maru* was interrupted in early February by a refueling stop at Melbourne. Sixteen volunteer crew members left the *Steve Irwin* of February 2, after two months at sea, replaced by 19 others. Eleven of the original crew remained aboard for the second voyage, commenced on Valentine’s Day.

As the *Steve Irwin* ran low on fuel toward the end of the first voyage, crew members Benjamin Potts, 28, of Australia, and Giles Lane, 35, of Britain, on January 15 boarded the whale-catcher *Yushin Maru #2* with a letter asking the captain to stop whaling. Held aboard the *Yushin Maru* for three days, initially tied to a radar mast, Potts and Lane were eventually transferred to the Australian Customs patrol vessel *Oceanic Viking* and returned to the *Steve Irwin*.

The *Steve Irwin* then approached another Japanese ship closely enough to throw stink bombs on the deck.

“Pottsy and Giles weren’t just sitting on their behinds on the *Yushin Maru #2*,” Watson later told the *Melbourne Age*. “We have a transmitter aboard the ship,” Watson said, with a battery good for a year, “and the whalers are not going to find it.”

The Japanese whaling factory ship *Nisshin Maru* had meanwhile fled into the southern Indian Ocean, trying to escape the Greenpeace vessel *Esperanza*, but turned back to refuel the *Yushin Maru #2* and deployed water cannon against Greenpeace campaigners who approached in speedboats.

While Japanese diplomats demanded that Australia prosecute the Sea Shepherds, Australian foreign minister Stephen Smith held talks in Tokyo just as Japan was reported to have resumed killing whales in the Antarctic Ocean following a two-week halt under pressure from environmental protesters.

“Australia very strongly believes that Japan should cease whaling in the Southern Ocean. We are giving careful consideration to the possibility of taking international legal action in respect of this matter,” Smith said.

Australian prime minister Kevin Rudd, inaugurated in December 2007, in

January 2008 sent the *Oceanic Viking* on a seven-week mission to gather evidence, after dispatching an A-319 surveillance plane to help the *Oceanic Viking* find the Japanese whaling fleet.

The high seas confrontations somewhat upstaged a January 15 Australian Federal Court verdict that the ICR had violated Australian law by killing whales in the Australian Whale Sanctuary. Ruling in response to a lawsuit brought by Humane Society International, the global arm of the Humane Society of the U.S., the court ordered the ICR to halt further whaling.

But the Australian government initially refused to release any of the evidence gathered by the *Oceanic Viking* and two A-319 flights, sought by HSI for use in seeking enforcement orders. On February 7, however, the Australian government released both video and still photographs showing “whales being pursued, then shot with harpoons tipped with explosives, thrashing about in bloodied Antarctic waters before being winched aboard the *Yushin Maru #2*,” and “a mother whale and calf bleeding and slung lifeless in the slipway of a Japanese whaling vessel,” in the words of London *Times* writer Paul Larter.

An ICR statement denied that the whales shown were a mother and calf. “It is highly likely a mother and calf,” responded Southern Cross University Whale Research Centre director Peter Harrison. “They were caught together.” The smaller of the two, Harrison noted, was “a very young whale, and it is highly unlikely that she would be associated with anyone other than her mother.”

The Rudd government “is considering using its evidence in either the International Court of Justice in The Hague or the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea,” reported Shingo Ito of Agence France-Presse.

“The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea could be called upon to issue an injunction to stop the Japanese whalers in as little as 14 days,” said International Fund for Animal Welfare representative Tim Stephens.

“The graphic images on our television screens bring home the reality of whale

hunting. This shows that more than ever the European Union needs to be united in opposing whaling,” said EU environment commissioner Stavros Dimas.

The Greenpeace vessel *Esperanza* remained at sea pursuing the whalers while the *Steve Irwin* refueled, and returned to Australia one day after the *Steve Irwin* set forth again—an apparent coincidence, as 30 years of hostility between Watson and Greenpeace appeared to be undiminished. A Greenpeace cofounder, Watson founded the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society in 1977, after Greenpeace rejected confrontational tactics against whalers and sealers, and eventually withdrew categorical opposition to all whaling and sealing.

The *Oceanic Viking* returned to port on February 28. As well as gathering evidence against Japanese whaling inside the Southern Oceans Whale Sanctuary, the *Oceanic Viking* is believed to have documented maritime poaching by two ships from other nations.

While seeking the Japanese whalers in January, the Sea Shepherds reported finding a Namibian-flagged vessel, the *Antaltes Reefer*, illegally netting toothfish. “The vessel refused to give a fishing permit number and threatened the *Steve Irwin* by reporting that it was armed,” said a Sea Shepherd press release. “Captain Paul Watson relayed the information to the *Oceanic Viking*.”

Korean whaling

Illegal whaling by South Koreans was exposed in mid-January, when South Korean police seized more than 50 metric tons of frozen minke whale meat from two warehouses in the southeastern port of Ulsan.

“Some 70 people including fishermen, distributors and operators of 46 whale meat restaurants have been brought in for questioning,” reported Agence France-Presse.

Explained Agence France-Presse, “Whale meat can be legally sold in South Korea if the animals were caught by accident in fishing nets. Fishers report accidentally snaring some 200 whales every year,” but activists believe up to twice that many are actually caught.

Pew Charitable Trust symposium favors

TOKYO—Chairing a “Whale Symposium” sponsored by the environmentally oriented Pew Charitable Trusts, former Samoan ambassador to the United Nations and International Criminal Court judge Tuiloma Neroni Slade on February 20, 2008 said, according to the Pew web site, that “the most promising compromise” to resolve conflict with Japan over the 22-year-old International Whaling Commission moratorium on commercial whaling “would be a combination of actions which would recognize potentially

legitimate claims by coastal whaling communities; suspend scientific whaling in its current form and respect sanctuaries; and define a finite number of whales that can be taken by all of the world’s nations.”

Responded Dolphin Project founder Ric O’Barry, “Here I am in Taiji working in dangerous conditions to stop coastal whaling and these clowns are promoting it!”

Slade spoke three weeks after fishers killed seven dolphins at Naga Bay, Okinawa. Okinawans had not hunted whales since 1990.

Atlantic Canada sealing starts off

The 2008 Atlantic Canadian sealing season started with a mid-February cull on Hay Island, off Nova Scotia, demanded by fishers who blame seals for the failure of cod to recover despite 16 years of fishing limits.

“Nova Scotia already has a yearly quota of 12,000 grey seals, but in recent years hunters have rarely taken more than a few hundred annually,” reported John Lewandowski of Canadian Press.

Acknowledging that the primary purpose of the Hay Island cull was to try to stimulate commercial sealing, Nova Scotia fisheries minister Ron Chisholm authorized participants to kill up to 2,500 seals. They actually killed about half that many.

The main part of the seal hunt is due to open in late March.

The European Food Safety Authority in December 2007 published a report on the Atlantic Canada seal hunt that essentially agrees with the view of animal advocates that sealing is inherently inhumane. The European Parliament has favored banning imports of seal pelts and products, but the European Union commissioned another report by a Danish consultant that is expected to oppose a ban.

Belgium unilaterally banned imports of Canadian seal products in April 2007. Canada contends in a protest to the World Trade Organization that the ban violates international trade rules.



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What empty cages and night killing mean at animal

LOS ANGELES, NEW YORK CITY—Why do animal control shelters claim they lack space to hold dogs and cats longer before killing them, yet have empty kennels and cages when rescuers visit?

Why are animals killed at night, if not to conceal the numbers being killed?

The Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care & Control and the New York City Center for Animal Care & Control are each killing fewer dogs and cats per 1,000 human residents than ever before in their histories—under seven in Los Angeles, under three in New York. Each city is well below the current national average of 12.5.

Yet both agencies, and many others, are under more activist scrutiny now than 30 years ago, when U.S. shelters killed six times more animals—and even as they rehome more animals through partnerships with rescuers than ever before.

Rescuer complaints reaching **ANIMAL PEOPLE** from Los Angeles and New York in February 2008, only days apart, detailed issues which may include instances of animal control personnel failing to observe good shelter practice. The complaints focused, however, like many others received from other cities in recent years, on finding empty cages and kennels on morning visits, after animals were killed the night before.

The common element may be simply that agencies have insufficiently explained to rescuers how shelter space is allocated.

An animal control shelter must maintain open kennels at all times for immediate impoundment of dogs arriving due to emergency, including situations in which multiple dogs arrive at once. Examples include cases in which a person or animal has been attacked by a pack; a suspected rabies case that may have exposed other animals to infection; the discovery of starving animals in a home where someone living alone has died; traffic accidents involving people traveling with multiple pets; and unexpectedly finding aggressive dogs at the scene of an arrest.

The trick, for animal control shelter

management, is to have adequate capacity to handle whatever crisis comes. This is often complicated because many animal control shelters are too small for their communities.

Even if a shelter today serves exactly the same human population that it did 50 years ago, 50-year-old shelters were often built for agencies that did not yet handle cats.

Shelters built 42 years ago predate the five-day holding period recommended by federal Animal Welfare Act. Though not binding on shelters that do not sell animals to laboratories, the five-day hold has been the U.S. norm since 1966.

Shelters built as recently as 20 years ago were often built without isolation and quarantine areas, because prevailing belief—now known to be incorrect—was that most animals would be killed before they could infect others with any diseases they carried.

Even shelters built only 10 years ago are often just half the size that would today be considered ideal, now that animals who are believed to have good adoption prospects are typically kept for 10 days to two weeks.

If an animal control shelter serves a city of one million people, who keep 200,000 dogs, with an impoundment rate of about one dog in 20 per year, all close to the current U.S. norms, the shelter would take in about 10,000 dogs each year, or 27.4 per day, normally fluctuating from about nine on a slow day up to as many as 80 on days when multiple or really big emergencies occur.

Having emergency capacity at all times equal to the slow day intake is usually considered minimal. At the start of each day it is also necessary to have space available equal to the anticipated normal intake.

Animal control directors usually estimate “normal” traffic from a crude average of comparable dates. “Normal” traffic in summer is often twice the average volume in mid-winter. Usually more dogs arrive early in the week, because more dogs are lost or dumped on weekends. “Normal” for a shelter with average daily dog intake of 27.4 might be 40 on Monday, but only 20 on Thursday.

Cat intake tends to be heaviest on weekends, when more people surrender cats to shelters or deliver trapped feral cats.

Shelter space is usually allocated based on “cage days.” A “cage day” is a day on which a cage or kennel is occupied. If a shelter impounds 10,000 dogs per year, who are held an average of five days before disposition, the agency needs kennel space enough to provide 50,000 cage days. This would require about 150 kennels, including minimal excess capacity for emergencies.

The same ratios would apply to average annual impoundment of 10,000 cats.

Opening enough space each night to house the anticipated intake the next day is standard procedure for two reasons. One is that if a shelter is obliged to kill animals, the job tends to be less stressful for both the animals and the staff if done during the quiet hours. The other is that killing animals at the same time as processing new arrivals is practically a prescription for confusion, escalating the chance that cage cards will be mixed up and the wrong animals will be killed by mistake.

Shelter staff typically hope to partner with angelic rescuers who each evening will take out whatever the necessary number of dogs and cats for fostering and adoption, so that no animals need be killed.

Reality is that animal control agencies today kill an average of 34.25 dogs and as many as 40 cats per day per million human residents of their service areas—and this is the lowest rate of killing recorded in 55 years.

About half of the dogs killed will be pit bull terriers and close mixes who have bitten someone or have flunked temperament screening. Nearly 25% of the dogs arriving at animal control shelters these days are pit bull terriers and their close mixes, of unknown origin, as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** confirmed with a 62-shelter survey in January 2008.

Triage procedures have changed immensely from 15 years ago and longer, when most shelters did little more than checking the dates on cage cards. Suspected dangerous dogs back then were killed on receipt,

unless quarantined for observation of possible rabies symptoms after biting someone. Shelters usually did triage just once per day.

Now many shelters do formal temperament assessment of dogs, usually a day after the dogs arrive, to give them “settling down” time, and in effect have multiple triages. First comes the temperament screening. Then, after the requisite holding time expires, rescuers take the dogs and cats they want. After that, the shelter staff may do further triage as anticipated space need indicates.

Preparing for weekends is especially difficult. Shelters often try to have the largest possible abundance of adoptable animals on hand to adopt out over the weekend. But weekends also bring heavy drop-off traffic, and then comes the Monday influx of animals found at large. Therefore, to go into a weekend with full kennels and cages is to gamble that adoptions will be high.

In 1993, when **ANIMAL PEOPLE** first surveyed the U.S. shelter dog population, about 25% were purebreds. The balance were mixed breeds, with large dark dogs predominant. If an animal control agency offered 140 dogs for adoption on a Saturday morning, among them would have been 35 purebreds and 105 mixed breeds. In a city of one million people, these 140 dogs would have been approximately equal to three days’ intake.

The typical breakdown today still includes 25% purebreds, plus 25% pit bulls. Large dark dogs are still predominant among the mixed breed remainder.

Of 140 dogs on hand on a Friday night, 35 are purebreds, 35 are pit bulls, and 70 are mixed breeds, equal to about five or six days’ intake at the present intake rate.

If the most dangerous two dozen pit bulls are culled before the shelter opens to the public, only 116 dogs may be offered for adoption—but because shelters are receiving just a fraction as many animals, and are rehoming far more, with much rescuer help, the total number of dogs killed is much less than back when all the cages were full.

—Merritt Clifton

time baseball and football coach in New Haven, Connecticut.

“Animal fighting has no place whatsoever among those who presume to be role models for youngsters,” Pacelle continued, “not in this country and not elsewhere. Pedro Martinez and Juan Marichal exhibited appallingly bad judgment in participating in a staged animal fight. It doesn’t excuse the behavior to find a legal haven for this reprehensible and inhumane conduct. It’s animal cruelty, no matter where it occurs.

“Michael Vick,” the former Atlanta Falcons quarterback now serving a 23-month federal prison sentence in connection with dogfighting, “brought home the lesson when his career was ruined,” Pacelle said. “There is no moral distinction between dogfighting and cockfighting,” Pacelle asserted. “Both involve animal torture for the titillation of spectators who enjoy violence and bloodletting.

“HSUS calls upon the New York Mets to take appropriate action to distance themselves from Martinez’s behavior. Major League Baseball should join us in condemning Martinez and Marichal for their shameful example. Cockfighting has been banned in all 50 states,” Pacelle reminded, “and it is a federal felony to transport cockfighting weapons or birds across state lines or international borders for the purpose of fighting.”

Wrote PETA assistant director Dan Shannon to Major League Baseball commissioner Bud Selig, “It seems that education on the importance of treating animals humanely is in order for Major League Baseball.” Shannon recommended that all major league players and nonplaying personnel should be required to take the day-long PETA course, “Developing Empathy for Animals,” that Vick took on September 18, 2007 while awaiting sentencing.

No major league action

Major League Baseball routinely suspends players who are charged with crimes, but took no action against Martinez and Marichal because their participation in the Dominican cockfight was not illegal.

“We don’t condone any kind of animal cruelty, but we’re not going to comment on any individuals at this time,” Major League Baseball spokesperson Rich Levin told Mike Fitzpatrick of Associated Press.

Both Martinez and Marichal sought immediately to distance themselves from the implication of the video that they were cockfighting contestants, if not entirely from cockfighting. Neither apologized for his participation.

“I understand that people are upset, but this is part of our Dominican culture and is legal in the Dominican Republic,” said Martinez in a statement distributed by his present team, the New York Mets. “I was invited by my idol Juan Marichal to attend the event as a spectator, not as a participant.”

Echoed the Mets on their own behalf, in a statement probably inciting more animal advocates than were mollified, “We do not condone any behavior that involves cruelty to animals. We understand, however, that in many other countries activities such as bullfighting and cockfighting are both legal and part of the culture.”

“Somebody puts something that happened two years ago on the Internet, and now everybody’s acting like Pedro’s a major cockfighting fan, which he’s not,” added Martinez’s agent, Fernando Cuza.

“Marichal said he and Martinez were invited because of their celebrity, and neither one owned the roosters they released,” reported Ortiz.

“We agreed to release them, and that’s all that happened,” Marichal asserted. “I have great respect for the animal-protection society and for animals, and I didn’t do anything inappropriate.”

Marichal told Ortiz that he is a cockfighting fan, but said that Martinez is not. “But he was invited that day, just like I was,” Marichal acknowledged. “It was a world championship,” attracting cockfighters from 20 nations, “that was celebrated in our country,” said Marichal.

Katie Thomas of *The New York Times* found reason

Cockfighting remains implicated in spread of

SAN JUAN, BHUBANESWAR—Avian influenza may bring the demise of cockfighting faster than animal advocacy in cockfighting strongholds from Puerto Rico to rural Orissa state, India—but only if governments hold cockfighters to the same restrictions as other poultry farmers.

More than 100 New Year’s Day 2008 cockfights were cancelled in Puerto Rico after bird imports were suspended due to an outbreak of the avian flu H5N2 in the Dominican Republic. H5N2 is a milder cousin of H5N1, which has killed more than 225 people worldwide since 2003.

The rapid spread of H5N1 through Southeast Asia, especially Thailand, was linked to the traffic in gamecocks, which remains a major suspected H5N1 vector, along with traffic in falcons, but commerce in live poultry for human consumption became the most often implicated source of H5N1 after the disease hit commercial poultry flocks.

Puerto Rican agriculture minister Gabriel Figueroa halted bird imports from all nations, not just the Dominican Republic, because of the possibility that the Dominican outbreak originated elsewhere.

“The matches were already organized, and people had already requested their visas and made hotel reservations,” Puerto Rican government cockfighting director Carlos Quinones complained to Laura N. Perez Sanchez of Associated Press.

Puerto Rican cockfighting involves about 50,000 human participants, 100,000 cockfights, and attendance of 1.25 million spectators per year, according to Quinones’ office, which puts the economic value of cockfighting to Puerto Rico at \$400 million per year.

The numbers are questionable, projecting average

to doubt Martinez’s and Marichal’s stories. “The manager of a cockfighting club in Martínez’s neighborhood said that Martínez was a regular there,” reported Thomas on February 13, 2008 “and that he had also been a guest at the Club Gallistico de San Martín. Martínez visited the Manoguayabo arena two weeks ago, said the manager, Raul Mendes Vargas.

“Marichal also raises fighting roosters, several cockfighting enthusiasts said. Marichal oversaw cockfighting when he served as his country’s minister of sports in the 1990s,” Thomas noted. His tenure included a national scandal over alleged improper deals involving sports equipment.

“It is no secret to anybody that Marichal likes cockfighting,” Club Gallistico de San Martín manager José Delio Jiménez told Thomas.

“He’s a professional cockfighter,” elaborated Manoguayabo galleria visitor Ramón Dario Campusano. “A professional baseball player, and a professional cockfighter.”

Thomas found other prominent Dominican ballplayers are involved in cockfighting. For example, “Chicago Cubs third baseman Aramis Ramírez is pictured in a recent issue of a Dominican cockfighting magazine, *En La Traba*, with several roosters that he raises for fighting,” Thomas wrote.

Reporting to spring training in Mesa, Arizona on February 19, Ramírez declared that he would not discuss cockfighting with U.S. reporters.

Martinez grew up in Manoguayabo, a poor district, and is often praised for continuing to live there, remembering his roots. “Dominicans call the Manoguayabo cockfighting arena the *bajo mundo*, the underworld,” wrote Michelle Wucker in *Why the Cocks Fight: Dominicans, Haitians, and the Struggle for Hispaniola* (1999). “The term does not mean ‘clandestine,’ since fights are legal here. It means ‘lower class.’ Money, politics, and power are reserved for the sparkling Alberto Bonetti Burgos Cockfighting Coliseum, closer to town...The legendary San Francisco Giants pitcher Juan Marichal fights his roosters at the coliseum.”

Marichal first became embroiled in controversy at the very start of his baseball career, when then-Dominican dictator Fernando Trujillo drafted him into the Dominican Air Force before he was old enough to enlist. Trujillo was then alleged to have covertly sold Marichal’s contract to the Giants, long before a legal enlistee would have been eligible for discharge.

Marichal in 1965 clubbed Dodgers’ catcher John Roseboro with a bat during the heat of the pennant race. Suspended for nine days, Marichal missed two pitching turns. The Giants lost both games and finished two games behind the Dodgers. Recollections of the incident apparently delayed Marichal’s election to the Hall of Fame for two years, until Roseboro actively campaigned for him.

One star quit cockfighting

Marichal was not then known as a cockfighter. But his longtime teammate and mentor Felipe Alou, now 73, was a cockfighter in his early teens, following his father’s example, and by his early thirties seemed to regret his participation.

Felipe Alou, the second-ever Dominican-born major leaguer, was in his third year with the Giants when Marichal joined the team in mid-1960. Alou’s younger brother Matty was added to the roster late in the season. Matty Alou would win the National League batting title in 1966, but “could have ended his baseball career before he started,” after a hard fall from a mango tree, Felipe recalled to co-author Herm Weiskopf in his 1967 autobiography *My Life & Baseball*.

“We had no money, and this was all right with the doctor,” Felipe Alou continued. “The prize of our small barnyard was a fighting cock named La Ley, The Law. He wasn’t much to look at, but he had earned some money for us, and had never been defeated in 10 fights. The doctor wanted him. There was no way out. It took a long time for us to walk back home to get La Ley, but it took much longer to walk back to the doctor’s little office with La Ley’s inquisitive head poking out from under my shirt.

expenditure of \$320 per person per cockfight seen. Cockfighting is nonetheless so politically entrenched that the Puerto Rican legislature responded to the U.S. abolition of legal cockfighting by passing a bill defining the opportunity to participate in cockfights as a “cultural right.”

In Orissa, meanwhile, and other Indian enclaves of cockfighting, participants elude prosecution by staging fights in temples under the pretext of sacrifice. Political cover tends to come from local district committees of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party—which is ironically also the party of People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi.

Mrs. Gandhi served five years as the first Indian minister for animal welfare when the BJP controlled the Indian parliament early in the current decade, but eventually lost her ministry due to pressure from a coalition of biomedical researchers and practitioners of animal sacrifice.

A January 2008 outbreak of H5N1 in West Bengal near the Orissa border was declared contained in early February, after about 3.4 million chickens and domestic ducks were culled, but the cull was subverted by villagers who bootlegged so many birds to market before they could be killed that the price of poultry fell by half.

Another 2.1 million chickens were believed to be at risk in Orissa, Assam, Bihar, and Jharkhand states, but Orissa balked at ordering a cull, after Veterinary Officers Training Institute officer-in-charge Ramakanta Mohapatra reported that the 900,000 chickens said to be at risk in Orissa included 10,000 to 12,000 gamecocks.

Orissa minister for fisheries and animal resource development Golak Bihari Naik told *The Hindu* that the gamecocks are the “life and pride” of rural tribal families.

“At that time in our country,” Felipe Alou explained, “almost everyone kept roosters, or wished they could. I had a rooster of my own...He won two matches,” but “was run over by a pickup truck. Instead of a funeral, he was given a roasting and served for dinner...I took one look at the remains of my once-proud, once-honored rooster, began to cry, and left the table without eating.”

Felipe Alou broke into professional baseball in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and played for Phoenix before joining the Giants. Cockfighting was still legal and openly practiced in both places, as in the Dominican Republic, but Felipe Alou never returned to it. “There’s no place for cockfighting in the States,” Felipe Alou concluded, 40 years before cockfighting was actually abolished by law in all states.

As to how long it may be before there is no place for cockfighting in the Dominican Republic, a hint at the pace of evolving attitudes may be found in the biography of early-20th century slugger John “Buck” Freeman, of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, a longtime umpire after his playing days.

“He spent much of his time cockfighting, and became well known as a breeder of fighting birds, keeping a flock of more than 100 gamecocks in his barn,” recalled Eric Enders in the 2006 Society for American Baseball Research anthology *Deadball Stars of the American League*. “Even a 1937 police raid on a cockfight at Freeman’s home did not deter him. ‘I’d walk 20 miles to see a good cockfight,’ he once said.”

To be caught at a cockfight today would end an umpire’s career—albeit for participating in an illegal activity and consorting with gamblers, not for involvement in cruelty *per se*. Umpires have been banned for life for crimes as seemingly trivial as shoplifting baseball cards, and are discouraged from attending horse races and greyhound races because of their association with gambling, but there is no prohibition against umpires participating in legal pursuits that harm animals, such as hunting and fishing.

On the other hand, umpiring and hunting appear to attract conspicuously different personalities. As far back as 1969, when 56% of the players on big league rosters identified themselves to the annual *Baseball Register* as hunters, only four of the 51 major league umpires said they hunted—about 8%, half of the norm for men of their generation.

Only one 1969 major leaguer, Dominican relief pitcher Pedro Borbon, listed cockfighting as a hobby. Borbon lasted 12 years in the big leagues, but may be best remembered as the oldest of the strikebreakers who played exhibition games toward the end of the big league players’ strike of 1994-1995.

Videos & paraphernalia

The video showing Martinez and Marichal at the cockfight was taken off YouTube within hours, as a “terms of service” violation of a YouTube policy against posting offensive material which has also been invoked against SHARK videos of rodeo cowboys electrically shocking bulls and horses.

YouTube might have been concerned about possibly being charged with violating a 1999 U.S. federal law against creating, selling, or possessing photos, videos, or other images that show animals being intentionally injured or killed. Passed in response to pornographic videos depicting small animals being crushed by women and transvestites wearing spike heels, the law has been used to convict distributors of videos of cockfights and dogfights.

The law exempts depictions of animal cruelty that have “serious religious, political, scientific, educational, journalistic, historical or artistic value,” to avoid infringing on First Amendment rights of expression.

But the law is under constitutional challenge from Jason Atkins, 35, of Advanced Consulting & Marketing Inc. in Hollywood, Florida. Atkins contends in a lawsuit filed in July 2007 in Miami federal court that he should be allowed to webcast cockfights held legally in Puerto Rico at his web site ToughSportsLive.com.

Also pending is an appeal on constitutional grounds of the 2004 conviction of dogfight video distributor Robert J. Stevens, filed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in Philadelphia.

HSUS meanwhile contends in a case filed in February 2007 that Amazon.com is breaking the law by selling videos of dogfighting and cockfighting, and cockfighting periodicals. “The company is so determined to continue selling these materials that it filed a motion against HSUS in federal court, essentially asking that federal and state laws to protect animals be gutted,” charged HSUS president Pacelle in an August 2007 press release.

—Merritt Clifton





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Another bloody winter for the hungry Yellowstone National Park bison herd

WEST YELLOWSTONE—Bison defenders fear that the winter of 2007/2008 will become one of the bloodiest in decades of trying to protect Yellowstone National Park bison who stray into Montana, seeking forage.

"With heavy snow falling, and the end of winter weather possibly months away, the death toll this year is fast approaching the 1,016 bison killed during the winter of 2004/2005," Associated Press writer Matthew Brown observed on February 26, 2008.

Nathan James Drake, 26, briefly delayed the massacre by camping on a platform above the Horse Butte bison trap. Arrested late on February 26, he was released on \$5,000 bail, "reportedly the highest yet for bison-related direct action," said the Buffalo Field Campaign.

Personnel from Yellowstone and the Montana Department of Livestock had sent 575 bison to slaughter, as of March 3, with another 100 reportedly awaiting transport.

"None of the bison have been tested or will be tested for exposure to brucellosis, the supposed reason" for the captures and killing, objected the Buffalo Field Campaign.

"More than 2,500 bison have been killed or otherwise removed from the wild population since 2000," the Buffalo Field Campaign added, "under actions carried out under the Interagency Bison Management Plan, as well as by state and treaty hunts. While the official reason for the slaughter is to prevent the spread of brucellosis from wild bison to cattle, no such transmission has ever been documented."

Montana has been federally listed as a brucellosis-free state since 1985, meaning that ranchers avoid the cost of having to test cattle for the disease before selling them to other states or to slaughter. Brucellosis is

endemic among Yellowstone-region bison and elk—but seven cattle found to have brucellosis in May 2007, on a ranch near Bridger, apparently were infected by other cattle.

"Because there are no cattle on any part of the Horse Butte Peninsula," where the bison are captured, "at any time of the year," said the Buffalo Field Campaign, "transmission [from bison to cattle] is impossible, and Montana's intolerance for bison in the area is unjustifiable."

Cattle were formerly pastured on the Horse Butte Peninsula, but "a change of land ownership means there now will be no cattle there year-round," explained Bozeman *Daily Chronicle* staff writer Scott McMillion.

Montana Department of Livestock executive officer Christian Mackay said bison entering Montana would be killed anyway, lest some cross the frozen surface of Hebgen Lake to enter areas where cattle are pastured. "We want to avoid the situation we were in last

year," Mackay told McMillion, "having large numbers calving on private property."

Bison who leave Yellowstone are not being tested, McMillion wrote, because "The lease on a brucellosis quarantine facility at Corwin Springs has expired. The expired lease was signed by the former property owner, Welch Brogan, who has since died."

The 400-acre former elk ranch is now owned by one Hunter Brink.

"Over the past two winters, calves with no signs of exposure to brucellosis have been held there and tested repeatedly for antibodies to the disease," McMillion recounted. "After they reached breeding age, they were taken to a separate leased property a few miles north for the second phase of the program," which involved checking for evidence of maternal transmission.

"Adult animals aren't tested for the disease this early in the winter," McMillion continued. "They're shipped quickly to

slaughter because Yellowstone officials say they have no place to keep them until spring.

"The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks is looking for ways to expand the number of state-licensed bison hunters in the future when large numbers of bison are outside Yellowstone," McMillion noted. Montana hunters shot 63 bison in early 2008. Members of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai tribes killed 39. Members of the Nez Perce tribe shot 54, and claimed an 1855 treaty right to kill up to 110.

Wyoming hunters shot 266 bison south of Yellowstone in fall 2007, 222 of them within the National Elk Refuge, which lies between Yellowstone and Jackson. Most of the rest were killed in the Bridger-Teton National Forest and on private property.

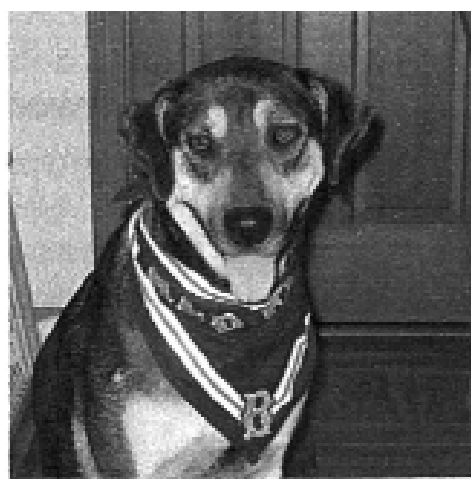
The joint management plan calls for maintaining the Yellowstone bison herd at not fewer than 3,000—but at the beginning of this winter the herd numbered more than 4,700.

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Events

March 20: Great American Meatout. Info: FARM, 301-530-1737; 1-800-MEAT-OUT; <www.MeatOut.org>.

April 1: Florida Animal Friend S/N grant application deadline. Info: <www.floridaanimalfriend.org>.

April 5: American Anti-Vivisection Society 125th anniversary dinner. Info: <anniversary@-aavs.org>; <www.aavs.org/-antivivisection>.

April 21-24: Caribbean Animal Welfare Conf., Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Info: 603-225-3918; <aostberg@pegasus-foundation.org>.

April 26: Petfest 2008,

(continued on page 11)

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Shocked, shocked by

TUCSON, DENVER, LAS VEGAS—Exposing three major rodeos in as many months for electro-shocking so-called bucking horses, SHARK founder Steve Hindi and investigators Janet Enoch and Mike Kobliska are wondering just what it will take to persuade prosecutors to put their videotaped evidence in front of a jury.

To Hindi, the SHARK videos unequivocally demonstrate intentional cruelty. Time and again rodeo stock contractors furtively press a black two-pronged device against the flank, rump, or sometimes the face of a horse, and the horse bolts, then erupts into spasmodic jumping.

Thousands of YouTube viewers and increasing numbers of journalists are convinced from the videos that the horses are in pain. But since the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association fined a Cheyenne Frontier Days stock contractor \$500 in 2006 for repeatedly shocking bulls, neither the PRCA nor local prosecutors are doing much about electroshocking.

Kobliska identified apparent frequent facial shocking at the National Rodeo Finals in Las Vegas in mid-December 2007. Videotaping four performances, SHARK noticed that "Other people behind the chutes gave way when the shocker showed up. The judges watched as the horses were shocked. At least one horse who received the treatment,

High Life Gal, came crashing down on the arena floor and had to be stretchered out."

Hindi said he recognized the alleged shocker as Charles Soileau, the saddle bronc riding event representative for the PRCA.

Unable to obtain a cruelty prosecution in Las Vegas, SHARK tried next at the National Western rodeo in Denver in January. There, "The prod was misused even according to the PRCA standard," Hindi charged. "One horse that was shocked was down in a chute. According to its own rules, the PRCA's remedy for that scenario is to open the chute gate and release the horse."

The SHARK video taken at the National Western rodeo "showed men leaning into the chutes and touching a prod to several horses' necks and hips," recounted Ann Schrader of *The Denver Post*. "The horses then bolted and bucked out of the chute, and the men pocketed the prods. Most prods produce a 4,500-volt shock," Schrader observed. "The marketing director of Miller Manufacturing, which makes one of the devices, told *The Denver Post* that the devices are not intended to be used on horses at rodeos."

Denver animal control chief Doug Kelley and Colorado state veterinarian John Maulsby refused to pursue cruelty charges against National Western participants.

Schrader learned that "Officials investigating a claim that some National



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Western rodeo saddle broncs were inappropriately jolted with an electric prod did not contact the manufacturer before deciding not to seek charges."

By then Hindi was already en route to Tucson for the Fiesta de los Vaqueros Rodeo, held annually since 1925.

"The Tucson rodeo staff were very secretive about using the shock prod," said Hindi. "These guys know they are doing wrong."

Reported Dale Quinn of the *Arizona Daily Star*, affirming the content of SHARK videos posted to YouTube, "Men can be seen pressing a black hand-held device against horses' flanks once riders are on top of the horses and the stall gates swing open. The men then appear to try to hide the device as they step back from the stall."

Tucson Rodeo general manager Gary Williams told Quinn that the purpose of the

shocking is to get the horses to leave the chute and enter the rodeo arena before they start bucking. Rodeo defenders in Las Vegas and Denver claimed that only "known chute-stallers" were shocked, which had occasioned Hindi to ask why "known chute-stallers" are used in a rodeo in the first place.

Williams identified the men shown in SHARK's Tucson video as employees of the Tucson Rodeo stock contractor, Beutler & Son Rodeo Co., of Elk City, Oklahoma.

"A complaint requesting a criminal investigation leading to charges against those responsible has been filed with the Arizona Department of Agriculture Animal Services Division," SHARK announced on February 25, 2008. "A DVD [of the SHARK video] will be provided to aid in the investigation."

Arizona Department of Agriculture animal services division spokesperson Ed Hermes confirmed to Quinn that an investigation had begun, but said that agriculture department staff at the rodeo did not see any animal abuse, and noted that the Beutler & Son crew had probably already left the state.

While electro-shocking horses and bulls during bucking events is the most ubiquitous abuse SHARK has documented, finding it at approximately 40 rodeos so far, Hindi believes the most serious rodeo cruelty occurs in "steer roping, also known as steer busting and steer tripping," now often held separately from other rodeo competitions.

The 2007 National Finals Steer Roping competition in Hobbs, New Mexico "resulted in injuries to seven animals," Hindi e-mailed. "Five steers had to be sledged out, another was injured but was able to limp out, and a horse was injured. But as bad as the rodeo finals were for the animals, the aftermath was even more bleak," as injured steers were pushed into a livestock trailer "and left to die," Hindi said. Keeping the trailer under observation for several hours produced no evidence that the steers received prompt veterinary attention, Hindi said.

While lawmakers and enforcers so far seem unwilling to address mainstream rodeo, the board of commissioners in Lyon County, Nevada on February 13, 2008 prohibited horse tripping, a staple of *charreada* or Mexican-style rodeo. Lyon County refused to ban steer-tailing, however, despite pleas from former humane investigator Tom Blomquist of Silver Springs and wild horse advocate Willis Lamm of Stagecoach.

The Omaha City Council on December 18, 2007 voted unanimously to ban both horse-tripping and steer-tailing.

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Bringing peace to Kenya

The worst of the post-election mayhem was over, but the struggle for the Kenyan animal protection community was just beginning. From trying to stay alive themselves, Kenyan animal advocates transitioned rapidly to trying to help keep lost, abandoned, injured, and frightened animals from suffering further as result of the national plunge into chaos after the disputed outcome of the December 27, 2007 voting.

"We have been busy in collaboration with the Department of Veterinary Services and the Kenya SPCA," reported African Network for Animal Welfare founder Josphat Ngonyo, "implementing emergency response to help animals in the clash-torn areas in the Rift Valley. If we can vaccinate the animals against rabies and neuter them to control their population, then the government will not bait and kill them using strychnine.

"If we can implement our proposal to control rabies and dog and cat population through anti-rabies vaccination and spay/neuter in a pilot area of Nairobi and environs," Ngonyo continued, describing a project closer to home, "then the government will stop the baiting completely, and allow us to replicate this program in other parts of the country.

"We hope to go back to the violence affected areas to vaccinate against rabies and sterilize dogs and cats for six days beginning on March 4," Ngonyo added. "We are targeting eight camps for internally displaced persons. Each camp has an estimated 80 to 100 animals to sterilize. We are keeping our fingers crossed that we can raise the funds to do

it. The government is offering to donate veterinarians."

The Africa Network for Animal Welfare, Kenya SPCA, and Department of Veterinary Services veterinarians Dr. David Korir and Dr. Florence Mukoma treated 160 dogs, 10 cats, and numerous donkeys, cows, sheep, and goats at five camps for internally displaced persons from February 21 through February 24.

"Large numbers of people in the camps wanted us to kill all the dogs, arguing that they were a burden due to the food shortage. We had to conduct humane education to make them understand that animals too have a right to life, and are important to human beings," Ngonyo recounted. "We tried unsuccessfully to save a donkey who had been knocked down by a car and suffered severe injuries.

"Many dogs and donkeys were abandoned after the skirmishes," Ngonyo said. "This has led to injuries both to the animals and humans. Communities who were not evicted from their homes complained of stray dogs killing their sheep. This led to the mass killing of dogs in one area.

"Animal health services in the affected districts have been seriously hampered," Ngonyo continued. "Most of the personnel who deliver livestock health services and artificial insemination in the affected districts have been displaced," and all the stores selling animal care products were looted. Many were then burned down.

Cattle theft among rival tribes is both



Sheep and herders at an internally displaced persons camp. (Josphat Ngonyo)

traditional and a frequent source of violence in some rural parts of Kenya. Ngonyo noted that the collapse of government security "has resulted in rampant livestock theft even in the displaced persons camps."

Also, Ngonyo observed an "upsurge of tick borne disease due to lack of access to dipping facilities," coupled with refugees lacking "financial resources to acquire acaricides or even access to stores with acaricides. There is an urgent need for internally displaced persons to be provided with drugs, vaccines and acaricides," Ngonyo emphasized. "Direct support to the farmers with food and drugs will greatly assist them to maintain their animals as they await resettlement."

Even before calm fully returned to Kenya, Youth for Conservation helped to mobilize a February 3 animal census at Nairobi National Park, and an elephant count at Tsavo National Park, reported MaryAnne Wambua, editor of the YfC newsletter *Ngwesi*.

"Despite the current political stalemate," Wambua told *ANIMAL PEOPLE*, "YfC is carrying out our mandate to ensure that our wildlife are preserved. During such times of crisis and uncertainty, biodiversity has taken a back seat in our nation's order of priorities, but with the youth rallying behind us, we will ensure that nothing is taken for granted."



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April 26-28: Texas Federation of Humane Societies conf., Dallas. Info: <txfederation@austin.rr.com>.

May 12-15: Ingestion of Spent Lead Ammunition: Implications for Wildlife & Humans, Boise, Idaho. Info: <tpf@peregrinefund.org>, or <www.peregrinefund.org>.

May 14-17: HSUS Animal Care Expo, Orlando. Info: 1-800-248-EXPO; <www.animalsheltering.org/exo>.

May 21-28: International Meeting About Animal Rights, Canary Islands. Info: <Magaly.Miranda@lacadecanarias.es>.

June 5-7: Natl. Animal Control Association conference, Spokane. Info: <naca@nacanet.org>; <www.nacanet.org>.

June 6-8: Compassionate Action for Animals conf., Minneapolis. Info: <gil@explorevet.org>; <www.tlov.org>.

July 9-11: 6th Intl. Symposium on Canine & Feline Reproduction, Vienna, Austria. Info: <joyce@acc-d.org>.

August 14-18: Animal Rights 2008 conf., Alexandria, Va. Info: <1-888-FARM-USA>; <www.arconference.org>.

TRIBUTES

In honor of Cesar Chavez.
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In honor of Genesis 1:29
and Isaiah 11:9.
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Inc., Nestle Prepared Foods Co., and Hormel, under the Farmer John's label.

Hallmark/Westland general manager Anthony Magidow said the recall would probably put the slaughterhouse permanently out of business. The Hallmark/Westland recall was more than four times the size of the previous record beef recall of 35 million pounds, which put Thorn Apple Groves Inc. of Forrest City, Arkansas, out of business in 1999.

The Thorn Apple Groves recall was due to bacterial contamination, as were a series of recalls from another major school lunch program supplier, Supreme Beef Processors Inc. of Dallas, also in 1999.

Like Thorn Apple Groves, Supreme Beef Processors Inc. closed, but the National Meat Association used the Supreme Beef closure as a test case that in 2001 overturned the USDA use of salmonella as an indicator for the potential presence of more deadly forms of bacteria.

The Hallmark/Westland recall came two days after San Bernardino County District Attorney Michael Ramos filed criminal charges against former Hallmark/Westland supervisor Daniel Ugarte Navarro, 49, who had worked for 30 years at the slaughterhouse under a succession of owners, and employee Rafael Sanchez Herrera, 34.

"Navarro told Chino police that a former owner, Donny Hallmark, instructed

him to use techniques such as forcing animals up with the forklift or holding water hoses to the nostrils of cattle," wrote Richard Brooks of the *Riverside Press-Enterprise*.

Fingerprints identified Sanchez as an illegal alien with outstanding warrants against him in two unrelated drug cases, under two other names.

The HSUS undercover investigator told reporters for the *Los Angeles Times* and *Sacramento Bee* that he gave Hallmark/Westland his real name and Social Security number and was quickly hired, apparently with no background checks. The job paid \$8.00 an hour for 12-hour days of hard labor. A vegan, he ate soy burgers and fake deli meat in his car during brief lunch breaks, trying to avoid becoming conspicuous.

Almost immediately, the investigator said, he saw routine use of illegal procedures, including electroshocking and tail-yanking to try to make downed cattle walk to slaughter. He described seeing two workers kill one cow where she fell, then drag her with a chain into the slaughter box on her knees.

The investigator used tiny video cameras worn under his shirt, with an hour of recording capability per day. He wore out three cameras during the surveillance.

The USDA inspectors who are supposed to enforce the Humane Slaughter Act and meat safety rules against slaughtering

downed animals were never present when the abuse took place, the HSUS investigator said.

USDA spokesperson Laura Reiser told media that the Westland/Hallmark slaughterhouse had five USDA inspectors present per working day, including three slaughter line inspectors, a veterinarian, and a roving inspector.

Livestock handling expert and slaughterhouse designer Temple Grandin told Leslie Berkman of the *Riverside Press-Enterprise* that the abuses at Hallmark/Westland were "some of the worst stuff I have seen—a horrible cruelty issue," and expressed skepticism, from having visited Hallmark/Westland twice herself, that the management and USDA personnel could not have known about the use of the forklift.

"I can tell you I know others around the country were not trying to get cows up with a forklift," Grandin told Berkman. "This is totally bad and unusual."

National Joint Council of Food Inspection Locals chair Stan Painter told Associated Press writer Gillian Flaccus on February 29 that the USDA had placed a veterinarian and a floor inspector who had worked at Hallmark/Westland on paid administrative leave.

Painter said a local union representative told him earlier that a third inspector was also placed on leave, but he could not confirm



Holstein dairy calf. (Kim Bartlett)

it with the agency," wrote Flaccus. The USDA refused to comment.

"The USDA inspection squad has been trimmed by both political parties since the 1970s, plummeting to about 7,800 from 12,000 in 1978," wrote *Diet for a Dead Planet: Big Business & the Coming Food Crisis* author Christopher D. Cook in a commentary published by the

Los Angeles Times. "Unannounced inspections have diminished to roughly 15,000 annually, from more than 22,000," coinciding with "soaring rates of salmonella, E. coli, and other bacterial contamination since the 1970s," Cook added.

At that, the USDA acknowledges having about 500 unfilled positions for inspectors.

"I would say we have an adequate number of inspectors," Food Safety Inspection Service administrator Alfred Almanza testified to the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture on February 28.

But Roger Viadero, the USDA inspector general from 1994 to 2001, told reporters that the agency needs at least 10,000 inspectors.

Apart from the issue of adequate inspection is the issue of whether non-ambulatory cattle should be slaughtered at all.

Traditionally, dairy farmers only sell cattle to slaughter when they begin to break down from the stress of bearing calves every year to keep their milk flowing. Many already have difficulty standing for long intervals even before they spend hours or days being trucked to slaughter, typically arriving dehydrated and weakened.

The dairy industry
(continued on page 13)

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Slaughterhouse cruelty leads to big beef recall (from page

try has vehemently opposed legislation that might prevent farmers from loading spent cows to be trucked to slaughter. The alternative would be killing the cows on the farm, meaning that their remains could not be sold for human consumption. Instead, rendering companies might pay a minimal amount for the carcasses—or might charge a fee to remove them, depending on the distance they would have to be hauled and the state of the market for rendered byproducts, used mainly as animal feed and fertilizer.

Slaughtering downed cattle began to become a concern of public health officials as recognition developed, beginning in Britain in 1986, that mad cow disease might be transmitted from animal to animal through the consumption of the remains of infected animals. Ten years later, in 1996, came evidence that a form of mad cow disease had passed from beef to humans.

The U.S. organization Farm Sanctuary debuted in 1986 by rescuing a downed sheep from a stockyard “downer” pile, and has made campaigning against the slaughter of “downers” a focal campaign ever since. However, the first Farm Sanctuary legislative success, in California in 1994, resulted in a law that the rival Humane Farming Association warned would prove unenforceable, and in fact it was not enforced at Westland/Hallmark despite several enforcement opportunities.

In particular, the Inland Valley Humane Society & SPCA, of Pomona,

reportedly investigated “downer” cases at Hallmark at least three times in the 1990s. As well as unsuccessfully seeking action at the state level, the Inland Valley Humane Society & SPCA shared its findings with the USDA, which failed to act.

The USDA did, however, cite Hallmark/Westland in 2005 for overuse of electric prods—and then dismantled the regulation that might have prevented the abuses that the HSUS undercover investigator documented.

“After a mad-cow scare in 2003,” explained *Los Angeles Times* staff writer Nicole Gaouette, “the USDA banned downer cows from the food system. But at the same time, it created a regulation allowing any cow that fell in the slaughterhouse to proceed to the kill box if a veterinarian inspected the animal and concluded that she fell because of injury, not illness.”

HSUS on February 27 sued the USDA for allowing this exemption to the rule against slaughtering downers, which the lawsuit contends was improperly adopted and provides farmers with a financial incentive to sell unhealthy cattle to be slaughtered.

The HSUS lawsuit points out that a 2006 audit by the USDA inspector general found that of 29 non-ambulatory cows killed at 12 slaughterhouses during a 9-month interval, 20 exhibited no evidence of an incapacitating



Downer at Hallmark/Westland (HSUS)

injury. This implies that they were suffering instead from undiagnosed diseases.

“We do not believe this is a food safety issue,” testified agriculture secretary Schafer on February 28, despite the recall and the HSUS lawsuit, but Schafer announced that the USDA would conduct more random inspections of slaughterhouses, and would pay more attention to those like Hallmark/Westland that handle former dairy cattle.

Even as Schafer addressed Congress, Canada confirmed having discovered a case of mad-cow disease, the 12th known in Canada, this one in a six-year-old Alberta dairy cow, born about five years after both Canada and the U.S. in 1997 banned feeding cattle “milk replacers” and other substances containing recycled cattle remains.

The discovery came three months after the U.S. lifted most of the restrictions on imports of Canadian beef and live cattle that were imposed after the first Canadian mad cow disease case was detected in 2003.

USDA spokespersons asserted that because most of the meat from downed cattle slaughtered at Westland/Hallmark had already



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been eaten without anyone becoming ill, the health risk from it was minimal.

Responded Jack Woodall, assistant editor of the International Society for Infectious Diseases’ electronic bulletin board ProMed, “Since the human form of BSE has an incubation period of years, this statement is meaningless.”

Schafer assailed HSUS for allegedly contributing to the circumstances leading to the beef recall by delaying the release of the undercover video.

“I am sorry that Secretary Schafer doesn’t understand that while we launched the investigation four months ago, it was completed some time later,” responded HSUS president Wayne Pacelle. When the research was

completed, the results organized, and all of the hidden camera video reviewed, we turned over the information to the San Bernardino district attorney’s office. We turned the materials over to local authorities because the laws of California were breached. Frankly, we did not turn to the USDA first because the agency has a history of canoodling with the industries it regulates.”

Representative Rosa L. DeLauro (D-Connecticut) said she would hold hearings in March 2008 on a proposal to separate food safety inspection from USDA jurisdiction.

“Food safety ought to be of a high enough priority in this nation that we have a single agency that deals with it, and not an agency that is responsible for promoting a product, selling a product, and then as an afterthought dealing with how our food supply is safe,” said DeLauro.

Speculating that the HSUS undercover video might prove pivotal in advancing some sort of legislative or regulatory reform, Associated Press writer Frederic J. Frommer recalled the undercover film of hog slaughter made by Arthur P. Redman of Seattle, aired at a 1957 congressional hearing, which helped Senator Hubert Humphrey (D-Minnesota) to win passage of the Humane Slaughter Act, three years after he introduced the first draft version.

“We are morally compelled, here in this hour, to try to imagine—to try to feel in our own nerves—the totality of the suffering of 100 million tortured animals,” said Humphrey. “The issue before us today is pain, agony and cruelty.”



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Heparin crisis rekindles concern about disease from pig transplants

DEERFIELD, Ill.; CHANGZHOU, China.—Concern about the possibility of pig diseases crossing into humans through medical procedures using pig byproducts rose worldwide after the drug maker Baxter International on February 25, 2008 suspended sales of the blood-thinning product heparin.

Baxter International, of Deerfield, Illinois, reportedly distributes more than a million doses of heparin annually, amounting to about half of the U.S. supply.

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration linked four human deaths and as many as 400 complications of illnesses to bad reactions to heparin in the weeks preceding the recall.

"Investigators are trying to determine whether the raw material for the drug, made from pig intestines, became contaminated on the journey that begins in the slaughterhouses of China," reported David Barboza and Walt Bogdanich of the *New York Times*.

Baxter International buys crude heparin for processing into the pharmaceutical product from Scientific Protein Laboratories, a U.S. firm that obtains the material from a subsidiary, Changzhou SPL, located in

Changzhou, China. On February 16, 2008, Bogdanich and Jake Hooker of the *New York Times* revealed that Changzhou SPL was not inspected as a pharmaceutical maker by either Chinese regulators or the FDA. Instead, like the Chinese source of pet food contaminated by the coal byproduct melamine that may have caused thousands of animal deaths worldwide during the winter of 2006-2007, Changzhou SPL was known to the Chinese government as a maker of industrial chemicals.

"One of the wholesalers named by Scientific Protein Laboratories, Ruihua Biochemical in Hangzhou, said it provided a mix of crude heparin that it manufactured and some that it bought 'from small factories nearby in several villages,'" Barboza and Bogdanich revealed on February 28, 2008.

"Some experts say as much as 70 percent of China's crude heparin—for domestic use and for export—comes from small factories in poor villages," Barboza and Bogdanich continued.

Citing "interviews with dozens of heparin producers and traders in several Chinese provinces," Barboza and Bogdanich

explained that "The Chinese heparin market has become increasingly unsettled...After an outbreak of blue ear pig disease swept through 25 of China's 31 provinces and regions last year, prices soared."

The blue ear epidemic, Shandong University School of Medicine heparin expert Cui Huifei told the *New York Times*, "made biotech companies inevitably purchase from the family-style plants, for cheaper prices."

The risk of pig diseases crossing into humans via medical procedures has concerned public health officials for decades, but heparin had not been seen as a likely vector. First isolated from canine liver cells in 1916, heparin debuted as a pharmaceutical product in 1933, and was first marketed in 1937.

Pharmaceutical heparin was initially extracted from the remains of slaughtered cattle, but most heparin today is derived from the small intestinal submucosa of pigs—the same source as SIS, a patching material first used in the U.S. in 1988. In February 2000 the FDA approved SIS for treatment of almost any sort of soft-tissue wound—even eye injuries and some types of stomach ulcer.

Other pharmaceutical products made from pig tissues are also now widely used, stimulating research into genetically modifying pigs to produce ready-to-transplant replacements for human organs. The pork production conglomerates Hormel and Smithfield have reportedly invested millions of dollars in the effort, with partners including Baxter Healthcare and the Mayo Clinic.

But in August 2000 the Roslin Institute of Scotland and Geron Bio-Med of California dropped efforts to produce transplantable organs for humans in pigs, citing concern about the risk of accidentally transmitting pig endogenous retroviruses into humans. Called PERVs for short, pig endogenous retroviruses do not harm pigs, and may not harm people, but British virologist Robin A. Weiss demonstrated in 1997 that cross-species infection can occur.

Because PERV invades cells in much the same manner as HIV, integrating itself into the genetic program of the host, the Roslin Institute and Geron Bio-Med preferred to avoid the potential liability if a PERV strain ever attacks humans.



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U.S. to phase out animal testing (from page 1)

Besides, Collins added, “We are not rats and we are not even other primates.”

Collins emphasized doing cellular level research, because “After all, ultimately what you are looking for is, does this compound do damage to cells? Can we, instead of looking at a whole animal, look at cells from different organs?”

“We believe this is the beginning of the end for animal testing,” Humane Society of the U.S. director of animal research issues Marty Stephens told Weise. “We think the process will take about 10 years.”

Though a landmark in the often glacial pace of regulatory evolution, the EPA/NTP/NIH memo of understanding only brings the U.S. government to the same position accepted by Procter & Gamble, the largest U.S. consumer chemical maker, in a 1984 agreement with the late Henry Spira, founder of Animal Rights International. Since then P&G has spent more than \$200 million to develop and win regulatory approval for more than 50 alternatives to animal tests.

The EPA, NTP, and NIH revealed their memo of understanding nine days after the National Toxicology Program Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (NICETAM) and the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) published a five-year plan for helping U.S. government agencies to phase out animal testing.

NICETAM and ICCVAM were created by Congress in increments as a gradual endorsement of the “Three R’s” principle of pursuing reduction, refinement, and replacement of animal use in biomedical research, outlined by William Russell and Rex Burch in *The Principles of Humane Experimental Technique* (1959). The “Three R’s” were incorporated as a recommendation in the enforcement regulations for amendments to the federal Animal Welfare Act adopted in 1985.

The U.S. National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act of 1993 directed the NIH to support research to reduce, refine, or replace animal use. The ICCVAM Authorization Act of 2002 then formed ICCVAM to expedite the process.

Fifteen agencies participate in ICCVAM, including the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the USDA, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, the Department of Health & Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, the Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry, the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health, the Food & Drug Administration, the National Institutes of Health, the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, the National Library of Medicine, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Labor, the Occupational Safety & Health Administration, the Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

“Priorities are test methods that may involve significant pain and distress, use large numbers of animals, and have the potential to provide improved prediction of adverse health or environmental effects,” NICETAM director William S. Stokes and ICCVAM chair Marilyn Wind wrote in a joint preface to the five-year plan.

Eyes, biologics, & skin

“Evaluation of alternative methods for eye safety testing is one of ICCVAM’s four highest priorities because it is required by multiple agencies, as one of the four most commonly required product safety tests,” the five-year plan explains. “Two critically important goals are replacement of the rabbit eye test and implementation of procedures to avoid pain and distress where animals must still be used. NICEATM and ICCVAM recently evaluated and recommended two *in vitro* test methods,” the five-year plan says, “that do not use animals. In collaboration with the European Centre for the Validation of Alternative Methods, NICEATM and ICCVAM will evaluate the use of these and other *in vitro* test methods.”

Alternative biologics test methods are under development, according to the five-year plan, “that target reduction and replacement of animal testing with *in vitro* test methods, as well as refinement of animal testing through modifications to the current animal tests.”

“Evaluation and development of alternatives for dermal (skin) safety testing is also one of ICCVAM’s four highest priorities,” the five-year plan continues, “because rabbits used in tests to identify dermal hazards can experience significant pain and distress. *In vitro* alternatives have been developed, and several of these test methods have been recommended and accepted for regulatory use as screening methods.

“NICEATM and ICCVAM will evaluate alternative dermal irritation test methods for their usefulness and limitations in U.S. regulatory testing,” the five-year plan pledges. “NICEATM and ICCVAM will also evaluate non-animal methods and approaches for determining the skin irritation potential of antimicrobial cleaning products.”

Toxicity testing

Acute toxicity testing, traditionally based on the LD-50 and LD-10 tests, causing the deaths of half of the test subjects, “is the most commonly conducted product safety test worldwide,” says the five-year-plan. “ICCVAM evaluated and recommended an alternative animal test method,” called the up-and-down procedure, “that has now been accepted by regulatory agencies as a replacement for the traditional acute oral toxicity test. This can reduce the use of animals for this purpose by up to 70%. NICEATM and ICCVAM were also involved in the development of international guidance for humane endpoints that can be used as criteria to euthanize animals rather than allowing them to die during the study.

“The ultimate goal is to find ways to conduct acute oral toxicity testing without animals,” states the five-year plan. In support of this goal, ICCVAM evaluated and recommended

two cell culture test methods that, while not sufficiently accurate to replace animals, can be used to estimate the starting doses for animal studies, and thereby further reduce the number of animals needed for each test.”

Immunotoxicity testing presently relies upon skin sensitization tests. “The Murine Local Lymph Node Assay reduces the number of animals needed, reduces the time required for testing, and can substantially reduce or minimize the pain and distress associated with traditional testing,” says the five-year plan. “The Local Lymph Node Assay was the first alternative test method evaluated and recommended by ICCVAM, and has been accepted by regulatory agencies. NICEATM and ICCVAM will evaluate whether the Local Lymph Node Assay can be used as a stand-alone method, and will also evaluate modifications that may further reduce the number of animals used.”

Hormones & fever

“Laws passed in 1996 mandate the development of screening for endocrine disruptors,” explains the five-year plan. “Programs are being developed throughout the world to screen for chemicals that might interfere with the endocrine systems of humans or wildlife. These programs could result in the use of large numbers of animals if valid alternatives are not identified. NICEATM and ICCVAM recently reviewed a number of *in vitro* tests designed to detect chemicals that might act as, or interfere with, male and/or female hormones. Based on this review, ICCVAM provided recommendations for future test method development and validation that are being implemented by the EPA.”

In addition, the five-year plan says, NICEATM will lead a joint effort with the European Centre for the Validation of Alternative Methods and the Japanese Center for the Validation of Alternative Methods “to evaluate the usefulness and limitations of an *in vitro* test method to identify estrogen-like chemicals that does not require the use of animals.”

Pyrogen testing, to identify substances that could cause fever, is chiefly under the purview of the Food & Drug Administration. Although other agencies are seldom involved, pyrogen testing is an ICCVAM priority because it involves large numbers of animals.

“Alternative pyrogenicity test methods,” using cultured human blood cells, “take advantage of the role of these cells in the fever response,” summarizes the five-year-plan. “ICCVAM recently evaluated five such *in vitro* test methods proposed as potential replacements for the current rabbit test. ICCVAM will issue recommendations on the current usefulness of these test methods.”

Reproduction & cancer

Seeking to reduce animal use in reproductive and developmental toxicity testing, ICCVAM recently evaluated the usefulness and limitations of a test called the Frog Embryo Teratogenesis Assay-Xenopus. Although this test “was not considered sufficiently reproducible for regulatory use,” the five-year plan reported, “ICCVAM endorsed the recommendations of an independent expert peer review panel that further studies should be conducted to improve performance.”

“Two-year studies approximating lifetime exposure in rats and mice remain the primary method by which chemicals are tested for their potential to cause cancer and chronic disease in humans,” the five-year plan explains. “The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the FDA are involved in the research and development of alternative models that could reduce the number of animals used and shorten the duration of these tests,” says the five-year plan, but this “will likely take longer” than a five-year time frame.

“Federal regulatory agencies also typically require the use of tests that evaluate genetic toxicity, the ability of chemical or physical agents to damage the DNA and/or chromosomes of cells,” notes the five-year plan. “Genetic toxicity can potentially contribute to the cancer-causing or developmental toxicity potential of a chemical. Although genetic toxicity testing is not currently considered a substitute for carcinogenicity testing, the FDA is studying the usefulness and limitations of various human primary cells and cell lines” for this purpose.

High Throughput

The National Toxicology Program “is working to identify and develop rapid biochemical or cell-based tests that can be used to screen large numbers of substances for their potential biological activity,” the five-year plan summarizes. This approach is called “high throughput screening.”

High throughput screening is believed to have much potential for reducing or replacing animal tests. The leading high throughput screening method uses roundworms in place of more neurologically developed species.

“Because the genes involved in many biological processes, for example, the stress response, have remained essentially unchanged throughout evolution,” explains the five-year plan, “responses elicited in roundworms may be applicable to understanding similar processes in higher organisms, including humans. NICEATM and ICCVAM will evaluate the validation status of future tests with this model system that have utility for regulatory testing.”

ICCVAM is also monitoring a collaboration between the EPA and European agencies “to develop assays to evaluate various toxicity endpoints in fish and amphibians,” which might be used in high throughput screening.

NIH Chemical Genomics Center director Christopher Austin described to Weise of *USA Today* a high throughput test “done in a 3-by-5-inch glass tray with 1,536 tiny wells, each a fraction of a millimeter across. A few hundred human cells grown in a test tube go into each well,” Weise wrote. “The testing machine drips a different chemical into each well. After



Lab mice. (Kim Bartlett)

some time has passed, the machine shines a laser through each well to see how many cells remain. A computer analyzes the toxicity of each compound based on how the cells react.”

National Institutes of Health director Elias Zernouni indicated to Weise that this relatively quick and simple test might replace animal-based methods that have rigorously tested only about 2,500 potentially toxic compounds in 30 years.

National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences head Samuel Wilson told Reuters that automated laboratories can now use non-animal methods to test 100,000 compounds at up to 15 different concentrations in only two days.

But a complicating factor, warned National Human Genome Research Institute director Collins, is that “We need to exactly figure out what the correlations will be between animal testing and this high-throughput approach.”

“We cannot abandon animal testing overnight,” cautioned Zerhouni.

Computer models

Increased use of computerized modeling is among the approaches to reducing animal testing most often recommended by animal advocates—but usually the models are based on information gathered in real-life experiments.

“Using data generated from high throughput bioassays that measure interactions with proteins or genes,” the five-year plan mentions, “the EPA is developing computer models for prioritizing chemicals for toxicology testing.”

National Center for Computational Toxicology director Robert Kavlock told Weise of *USA Today* that the EPA program is currently looking at about 300 chemical substances.

Also, the Department of Energy “is developing computer models” to “help estimate the minimum number of animals that are needed in experiments dealing with low-dose radiation exposure,” says the five-year plan. These models “may also help make decisions regarding the possible use of *in vitro* models instead of live animals.”

Biomarkers & Nanomaterials

The National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences and the FDA “are evaluating biomarkers that could be used in current toxicology tests to predict damage to a specific organ. Such biomarkers may be used as the basis for early humane euthanasia to reduce or relieve the pain and distress experienced by animals with tumors or chronic disease,” suggests the five-year plan. Identifying the biomarkers “will also support the development of predictive *in vitro* screening tests.”

The rapid development of nanotechnology is of growing concern among toxicologists, the five-year plan notes, defining nanotechnology as “the control of matter at dimensions of roughly 1 to 100 nanometers,” explaining that “a sheet of paper is about 100,000 nanometers thick.”

Nanotechnology “is being applied in many fields in the physical and biological sciences. Because hazards associated with these types of materials have yet to be characterized,” the five-year plan says, “the applicability of current toxicity tests to nanomaterials will have to be evaluated. The number of tests needed to characterize potential hazards of nanomaterials could be very large, as could the number of animals required for such testing. NICEATM and ICCVAM will work with regulators and stakeholders to identify tests that might be useful,” the five-year plan promises, within the context of trying to reduce, refine, and replace animal use. —Merritt Clifton

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U.S. Supreme Court upholds breed-specific legislation

WASHINGTON D.C.—The U.S. Supreme Court on February 19, 2008 upheld the constitutionality of breed-specific dog regulation by refusing to hear an appeal of Toledo vs. Tellings, a challenge to the Toledo ordinance limiting possession of pit bull terriers to one per person, and requiring that pit bulls be muzzled when off their home property.

The Ohio Supreme Court ruled in favor of Toledo in August 2007. The Ohio Supreme Court verdict followed other court decisions upholding breed-specific legislation in Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, New Mexico, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin.

The Ohio Supreme Court rejected plaintiff Paul Tellings' claim that he was denied due legal process because Tellings was notified about the requirements of the Toledo bylaw, and did receive the chance to be heard when he contested the charges brought against him for violating the bylaw.

The Ohio Supreme Court found that Toledo has legitimate reason to try to protect humans from attacks by pit bulls, because pit bulls, compared to other breeds, "cause a disproportionate amount of danger to people."

The Arkansas Supreme Court upheld breed-specific legislation on similar grounds in Holt vs. Mamuelle (1991). An entity called Responsible Owners of Arkansas Dogs in December 2007 filed a case against the pit bull ordinances in effect in the cities of Jacksonville, Lonokey, North Little Rock and Beebe, citing claims parallel to those of Tellings' attempt to overturn the Toledo ordinance.

Pit bulls were banned in Aurora, Colorado in November 2005, after the Colorado Supreme Court overturned an act of the state legislature that prohibited cities from passing breed-specific bylaws. The Colorado verdict reinstated a 20-

year-old Denver ordinance, after a 13-month suspension, and encouraged other cities to emulate the Denver ordinance. A summary of the results of the Aurora pit bull ban, presented to the city council in January 2008, found that alleged violations dropped from 238 in 2006 to 137 in 2007; impoundments of pit bulls fell from 758 to 269; and the number of pit bulls killed by animal control fell from 635 to 173.

Pet food contamination

Hartz Mountain Inc. on February 11, 2008 named American SPCA Poison Control Center director Steven R. Hansen "2007 Veterinarian of the Year" for his response to the March 2007 international recall of pet food that was contaminated with the coal byproduct melamine by the Chinese makers of wheat glutens used as an ingredient. Adding melamine produced a chemical reaction that caused tests to indicate that the glutens contained more protein than they did—and killed 1,950 cats and 2,200 dogs, according to complaints reaching the U.S. Food & Drug Administration.

The U.S. attorney's office in Kansas City on February 6, 2008 issued 52 felony indictments in the case against Xuzhou Anying Biologic Technology Development Co., of Jiangsu Province, China, and Suzhou Textiles, Silk, Light Industrial Products Arts & Crafts I/E Co., of Suzhou, China, for introducing adulterated and misbranded food into interstate commerce. ChemNutra Inc. of Las Vegas and ChemNutra owners Sally Quing Miller and Stephen S. Miller were hit with misdemeanor versions of the charges, plus a felony count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud.

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Chimp Haven ordered to return chimps to

SAN ANTONIO—Bexar County Judge Michael Peden on February 15, 2008 ordered Chimp Haven, of Keithville, Louisiana, to return to Primarily Primates seven chimpanzees who were transferred to Chimp Haven in November 2006, while Primarily Primates was temporarily in court-appointed receivership.

The chimps are the survivors of a colony of nine formerly kept by Ohio State University researcher Sally Boysen, who were retired by OSU to Primarily Primates in February 2006, with an endowment for their housing and upkeep. Boysen and PETA opposed the arrangement.

Two chimps died from pre-existing heart conditions soon after arrival at Primarily Primates.

PETA subsequently funded an unsuccessful lawsuit that sought to move the survivors to Chimp Haven, and forwarded allegations from two former Primarily Primates employees—both fired for cause—to the Texas Office of Attorney General, leading to the court-appointed receivership. The receivership temporarily blocked a merger of Primarily Primates with Friends of Animals.

The Texas Office of Attorney General dropped the case and ended the receivership on May 1, 2007, allowing Friends of Animals to assume the management of Primarily Primates. A PETA appeal was rejected in January 2008.

Judges overturn Bush sonar waiver

LOS ANGELES, HONOLULU—U.S. President George W. Bush on January 15, 2008 exempted the U.S. Navy from a preliminary injunction creating a 12-nautical-mile no-sonar off Southern California, meant to protect marine mammals, but the Navy is not "exempted from compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act," U.S. District Judge Florence-Marie Cooper ruled on February 4 in Los Angeles.

Three days later, on February 7, U.S. Magistrate Elizabeth Laporte of San Francisco found that the Navy failed to take adequate precautions to protect marine mammals before using low-frequency sonar in submarine detection exercises. Laporte directed the Navy to establish sonar-free zones around eight locations worldwide that attract sound-sensitive species.

A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals then ruled on February 29 in Los Angeles that the Navy must observe Cooper's February 4 ruling.

PEOPLE & PROJECTS

Prince Charles of Britain "has shown his distaste for the cruelty involved in making *foie gras* by banning it from his residences," reported Valerie Elliot of the London Times on February 28, 2008. "He instructed chefs several months ago that they were no longer to buy or serve the pâté," wrote Elliot. "He has also said that he will review the royal warrant given to a shop near his Highgrove home which sells it. His views," surprising in view of Prince Charles' lifelong participation in captive bird shooting and fox hunting, "were disclosed in a letter to Joyce Moss, an activist with Vegetarian International Voice for Animals," Elliot said.

The Royal SPCA of Great Britain on February 20, 2008 named as new chief executive 28-year RSPCA employee Mark Watts. Watts succeeds Jackie Ballard, a former Member of Parliament who served five years before leaving in mid-2007 to head the Royal National Institute for the Deaf. Ballard succeeded Peter Davies, who became director general of the World Society for the Protection of Animals.

Bob Barker, 84, who retired in 2007 after 50 years hosting TV game shows including *The Price Is Right*, on February 6, 2008 donated \$1 million to his alma mater, Drury University, to fund an animal ethics program. Barker has also funded pro-animal programs at Harvard, Columbia, Northwestern, Duke, Stanford, Georgetown, and UCLA.

Mauled tiger rescuer gets a job offer

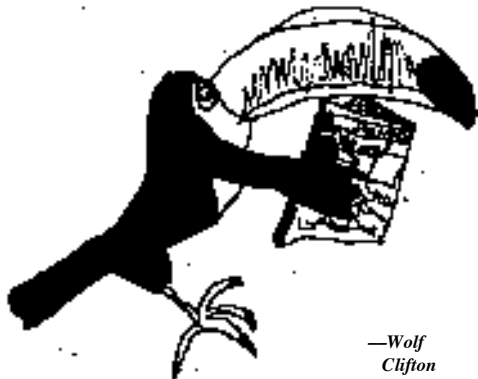
KOLKATA—The Compassionate Crusaders Trust has offered a job to Ashutosh Dhali, 45, of Deulbari, West Bengal, who was severely mauled on February 18, 2008 while checking to see if forest guards had properly tranquilized a female tiger who had been treed by a rock-throwing mob.

"Forest guards encircled the tree with a net," the Times of India reported, "but the locals set the tree on fire," causing the tiger to flee.

Said Dhali, "With my neighbours Lalit Naskar and Gobindo Saradas, I gingerly approached the palm tree on which the tigress had perched. She was not moving, so we thought the tranquilizer had taken effect. We tied a rope around her legs and pulled her down. The moment she touched the ground, she stood up with a blood-curdling roar and leapt at us." After Dhali was injured, the mob reportedly also stoned and injured five forest guards.

"Asutosh Dhali risked his life to save a tigress. Praising him is not enough. We want to do something that will be meaningful to him and his family," said Compassionate Crusaders Trust founder Debasis Chakrabarty.

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—Wolf Clifton

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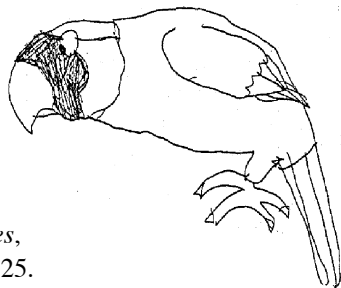
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British reporter uncovers another greyhound scandal; dog racing in U.S. may be near finish

LONDON—The Royal Veterinary College pays the Greyhound Clinic in Essex £10 per dog to kill healthy racing greyhounds and supply body parts to the college, revealed



Racing greyhounds. (Kim Bartlett)

Daniel Foggo of the London *Times* on March 2, 2008.

The fee paid by the RVC is in addition to the £30 per dog that the Greyhound Clinic charges dog owners, Foggo wrote. “The RVC, the oldest and largest veterinary college in Britain, admitted that it had similar agreements with other clinics,” added Foggo.

Spokespersons for the National Greyhound Racing Club, Royal SPCA, and Greyhounds U.K. expressed shock.

Foggo exposed the RVC scheme by posing as a greyhound owner with dogs to dispose of. Foggo used a similar ruse in 2006 to expose the *modus operandis* of one David Smith, of Seaham, County Durham, who had allegedly killed as many as 10,000 racing greyhounds, and the Leigh Animal Sanctuary

in Greater Manchester, where “an employee called David accepted £70 in cash to kill two young greyhounds,” no questions asked. The sanctuary began refusing to accept greyhounds on the day Foggo’s article about it appeared.

The two remaining greyhound tracks in Massachusetts will be obliged to end live racing by January 1, 2010 if voters approve a referendum placed on the November 2008 state ballot by the Committee to Protect Dogs, a coalition including Grey2K USA, the Humane Society of the U.S., and the Massachusetts SPCA. A similar proposal lost by 2% of the vote in 2000. A broader measure that also included provisions to protect police and service dogs and strengthen the Massachusetts ban on dogfighting was barred

from the 2006 ballot by the state Supreme Judicial Court, which held that it addressed too many subjects.

The Corpus Christi Greyhound Race Track is closed for 2008, after losing \$3.8 million a year in recent seasons, building a debt of \$35.5 million. Built in 1989, the track may reopen in 2009, general manager Rick Pimental told Dan Kelley of the Corpus Christi *Caller-Times*. The Wichita Greyhound Park in Kansas and the Tampa Greyhound Track also closed after the 2007 season, leaving fewer than 35 greyhound tracks still operating in the U.S., 13 of them in Florida. The Florida betting handle dropped to \$188.5 million in 2007, less than 20% of the volume of 20 years ago, when more than 50 greyhound tracks were in business nationwide.

HOLIDAYSBURG, Pa.— Blair County Court Judge Elizabeth Doyle on February 22, 2008 sentenced Dogs Deserve Better founder Tammy Grimes to do 300 hours of community service, in a capacity helping humans rather than animals, and to spend a year on probation, for removing an elderly and apparently painfully dying dog from the yard of Steve and Lori Arnold of East Freedom, Pennsylvania in September 2006.

Grimes was unsuccessful in attempting to bring a cruelty prosecution against the Arnolds, after the Central Pennsylvania SPCA and Blair County district attorney Richard Consiglio refused to press the case. Grimes was convicted of theft and receiving stolen property in December 2007.

Judge Doyle ordered Grimes to remove all references to Steven and Lori Arnold and pictures of the dog from the Dogs Deserve Better web site and any other places she posted it. Doyle also directed Grimes to cease selling merchandise bearing images of the dog, and to pay the \$1,700 cost of her trial, plus supervisory and community service fees

of \$1,500. Her total financial penalty, if paid, would be \$3,878.99.

“We will be appealing most if not all of the sentencing as soon as possible,” Grimes posted to the Dogs Deserve Better web site. “The saddest thing is that they actually seem to believe that taking Doogie,” as she called the now deceased dog, “was a publicity stunt and that ‘the dog was just old.’ The district attorney was seriously ticked off that the Arnolds received Valentines and a brochure this Valentine’s Day,” as part of Dogs Deserve Better’s annual Valentine’s Day awareness campaign against keeping dogs chained. “Yet at trial he insisted Dogs Deserve Better should try to educate them,” Grimes recalled.

Ten days before the sentencing Grimes declared herself “morally and ethically unable and unwilling to pay any fine that goes to pay the salaries of those who use power wrongly,” and requested jail time instead of community service, probation, and fines.

“As founder and director of Dogs Deserve Better,” Grimes said, “I do community service virtually every day of my life. I

was performing community service the day I picked an aged and dying dog out of the mud and got him the veterinary care he was entitled to by law.

“It is incumbent upon Blair County voters,” Grimes asserted, “to remove from office anyone who by their actions or inactions condones animal cruelty and abuse, and punishes those who seek to help these animals. This includes Judge Elizabeth Doyle and district attorney Richard Consiglio.”

Grimes objected that “Video evidence of the dog struggling to get up and after-photos and video of the dog walking,” posted to YouTube and the Dogs Deserve Better web site, “were suppressed from the jury.”

Grimes further objected that the jury was not informed about “jury nullification,” and therefore “knew not that they were free to exercise their own judgment based on their consciences,” and “were therefore railroaded into a conviction by the actions of Consiglio and Doyle.”

Grimes had based her defense strategy on the hope of winning “jury nullification.”

Jury nullification, according to University of Missouri at Kansas City constitutional law professor Doug Linder, “occurs when a jury returns a verdict of ‘Not Guilty’ despite its belief that the defendant is guilty of the violation charged. The jury in effect nullifies a law that it believes is either immoral or wrongly applied to the defendant. Once a jury returns a verdict of ‘Not Guilty,’ that verdict cannot be questioned by any court and the ‘double jeopardy’ clause of the Constitution prohibits a retrial on the same charge.”

Seeking jury nullification was a common defense strategy in the 19th century, Linder notes, especially by juries in northern states hearing prosecutions of people who helped runaway slaves. In 1895, however, the U. S. Supreme Court voted 7 to 2 that trial judges are not under any obligation to inform juries of their ability to nullify a prosecution by refusing to convict based on evidence.

In the 20th century jury nullification was used most prominently, Linder recalls, in “some notorious cases in which all-white Southern juries in the 1950s and 1960s refused to convict white supremacists for killing blacks or civil rights workers despite overwhelming evidence of their guilt.”

Subsequently, Linder summarizes, “In most jurisdictions, judges instruct jurors that it is their duty to apply the law as it is given to them, whether they agree with the law or not. Most judges also will prohibit attorneys from using their closing arguments to directly appeal to jurors to nullify the law.”

In a similar case of much lower profile, a jury in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, in January 2007 refused to convict Alabamians Defending Animal Rights founder Amy Giblin of third-degree theft of property—but the major evidence was plaintiff Kirkey Wade’s recollection of overhearing a telephone call.

“Giblin said she was disturbed to drive by Wade’s home and see his schnauzer tied up in the yard outside with no food or water,” summarized *Tuscaloosa News* staff writer Jason Smith. “Giblin said Wade told her that the animal smelled too bad to keep inside, so she paid nearly \$400 to have the dog groomed and treated for a testicle infection caused by matted hair. Wade testified in court that a few days after Giblin returned the dog to him, neighbor Tabitha Johnson asked him if she could take the dog back to the veterinarian for a check up. Wade said he agreed, and the dog was returned to him shortly afterward,” but then disappeared.

Wade contended that he knew Giblin took the dog because Johnson’s husband called Giblin in his presence to tell her that Wade wouldn’t press charges if she returned the dog. Wade testified that he overheard Giblin say she had adopted the dog out to someone in Greensboro.

“Right to rescue” cases in Michigan, Texas, and

The nationally publicized prosecution and sentencing of Dogs Deserve Better founder Tammy Grimes was only the most prominent of several similar cases attracting significant regional attention at almost the same time.

“Two dogs chained for five frigid weeks outside an abandoned home in Eaton County [Michigan] are now in compassionate hands at the Capital Area Humane Society,” reported John Schneider of the *Lansing State Journal* on February 23, 2008. “After arguing with concerned neighbors for more than a month that he had no legal right to intervene, Eaton County Animal Control Director Larry Green seized the dogs Friday morning and delivered them to the humane society.

“Green had been telling residents urging him to act on behalf of the abandoned animals—and who, out of pity, had been giving them food and water—that as long as they were being fed and watered, Animal Control couldn’t use ‘neglect’ as grounds for intervention,” Schneider recounted.

The situation developed, Schneider explained on page one 24 hours earlier, when an elderly woman was removed from her condemned and dilapidated home, which had no electricity and no running water.

Alerted to the animals’ plight by neighbor Tamara Curtis, Schneider wrote that “The dogs remained chained to posts in the backyard, where they stand in the snow and stare into space, like starving deer waiting to die. Frequently tangled chains make it impossible for the dogs to crawl into a makeshift shelter. The cats, looking more like roadkill

than living creatures, roam the rural neighborhood, foraging in trash bins.”

Summarized Schneider afterward, “Citizens outraged by the animal neglect launched a firestorm of protest, jamming the phones and e-mail boxes of the agencies involved, as well as the *State Journal’s*.”

Said Green, “The prosecutor told me to remove them, and that he’d have the paperwork [for a warrant] done by the time I got back.”

Other Michigan animal control and humane officers disagreed about the extent of their authority to impound animals in such situations. The Michigan Humane Society has impounded animals under similar circumstances for approximately 130 years.

Grace Saenz-Lopez, the ex-mayor of Alice, Texas, by all accounts did not bother with legalities in a case of alleged rescue theft for which she now faces felony charges of evidence tampering and concealing evidence. “I didn’t steal the dog. I did not return him to save his life,” Saenz-Lopez on Valentine’s Day 2008 told the audience of NBC’s Today show.

“The dispute began in July,” summarized Associated Press, “when Rudy Gutierrez and Shelly Cavazos, asked Saenz-Lopez, their next door neighbor, to take care of their dog Puddles while they were on vacation. When they called to check on him, Saenz-Lopez told them Puddles had died and was buried in her yard. Three months later, a relative of the neighbors saw the pet at a dog groomer. When Saenz-Lopez refused to return the dog, the family filed a criminal

complaint and a civil lawsuit against her.

“Saenz-Lopez later reported the dog missing, only to have Puddles turn up at the home of the mayor’s twin sister. Saenz-Lopez resigned as mayor on February 1, 2008, after a recall petition was circulated in the South Texas town of fewer than 20,000 residents.”

A pending Ontario case testing the limits of the ability of animal cruelty investigators’ authority to seize animals appeared to turn in favor of Toronto Humane Society investigator Tre Smith in December 2007, after the Ontario SPCA allowed Smith to resume doing cruelty law enforcement.

Smith, 36, on July 31, 2007 broke the window of an SUV to rescue a Rottweiler he believed was in imminent danger from overheating. “As Smith tried to rehydrate the canine,” recounted *Toronto Star* staff reporter Michele Henry, he was accosted by car owner Paul Soderholm. “While each tells a different versions of the events that ensued,” Henry wrote, “it is indisputable that Smith handcuffed Soderholm to his vehicle,” and called police to pick Soderholm up, before rushing the dog to a veterinary hospital. “When Smith left,” Henry added, “two bystanders beat up Soderholm.”

Soderholm was charged with cruelty, and his assailants were charged with assault, reported Timothy Appleby of the *Toronto Globe & Mail*.

Ontario SPCA chief inspector Hugh Coghill told Theresa Boyle of the *Toronto Star* that none of the other 170 humane agencies in the province allow their inspectors to use handcuffs.

Could the Giza Zoo become a rescue center?

CAIRO—Little changed in 117 years, the Giza Zoo is either the best of zoos or the worst of zoos, according to many noisy authorities, and may actually be a bit of both.

The animal collection is distinctly idiosyncratic and of little value from a conservation perspective, since most of the examples of rare species represent inbred genetic lines.

Yet the zoo does include enough lions, elephants, hippos, zebras, giraffes, and monkeys to satisfy most visitors. The animal care attracts far more complaints than the variety.

Much ridiculed by non-Egyptians, the exhibits of Rottweilers, Dobermans, German shepherds, and other dog breeds are of interest, albeit apparently declining, in a society where keeping pet dogs is still rare, cold climate breeds are seldom seen, and most dogs are rat-catchers and scavengers.

People, many of them elderly, who might never keep a dog from fear of landlord hostility or social ostracism come to feed and pet the zoo dogs. Most of the Giza Zoo is a gathering place for teenagers, but the quiet corner housing the dogs, ducks, and geese is something of a senior center.

The Giza Zoo is among the more enduring works of Khedive Ismail, who at age 33 in 1863 inherited the governance of Egypt as senior representative of the Turkish-based Ottoman Empire. Khedive Ismail in 1869 opened the Suez Canal, 10 years after a French corporation began digging it, and in 1875 turned the canal over to the British government, who held it until 1956.

Eventually alienating both France and Britain, Khedive Ismail was removed from office by the Ottomans in 1879. He went on to seek Egyptian independence from the Ottomans, fought the slave trade in Sudan, and opened the Giza Zoo on March 1, 1891, as his last major action in public life. He died four years later.

Eiffel bridge

Khedive Ismail copied the Giza Zoo style from Europe. He accentuated the European influence with an iron suspension bridge from which pedestrians could view animals from above, built by French engineer Alexandre Gustave Eiffel, who had erected the Eiffel Tower in Paris in 1889.

The bridge may have been the first elevated viewing platform at any zoo, and was only one of many innovations.

Beyond the bandstand and wrought iron railings, the Giza Zoo was like none in Europe. The curving landscaped paths and the long lakes in the middle resembled the grounds of a sultan's palace—and indeed, the zoo was adapted from the gardens of a summer palace that King Farouk's family continued to use for more than 50 years after the zoo debuted.

The animal accommodations were exceptionally spacious by European standards, featuring semi-natural habitat, an approach still seldom seen in Europe and only widely attempted in the U.S. toward the end of the 20th century.

The animal collection, emphasizing native Egyptian species both then and now, multiplied up to a claimed peak of 20,000 specimens, representing 400 species—of whom many appear to have been migratory birds, not permanent residents, who make the zoo a resting point and feeding station on their way between Europe, Central Asia, and Africa.

The resident bird numbers are now diminished, following a February 2006 outbreak of the avian influenza H5N1. After H5N1 was identified in six of 83 birds found dead on the grounds, the Giza Zoo veterinarians killed another 563 birds to try to eradicate H5N1 from the collection.

Zoos featuring live animals long competed for attendance in the U.S. and Europe with museums of taxidermically mounted specimens, which could be visited comfortably in all weather, and offered models who held still in dramatic poses at a time when visitors more often brought sketchbooks than cameras. Khedive Ismail's successors in 1906 linked the zoo and museum concepts by opening a three-hall museum of natural history, making use of the remains of dead zoo specimens.

Later the Farouk family stables and steeds were recycled into a pony-ride and carriage concession.

By the mid-20th century the Giza Zoo was widely acclaimed as one of the best in the world. But like much of the rest of Egypt, the zoo has had a hard time adapting to the pace of growth and change, as the human populations of Egypt and Cairo have increased 350% in 60 years.

"During my six years in Cairo, 1979-1986," recalls animal advocate Rosemary Tylka, who now lives in France, "I

lived on Sharia Radwan ibn Tabib," a street facing the zoo, "and had the pleasure of having the monkey island right outside my window. I woke to hear the elephants greeting the new day. Many times I found that my cats Ousama and Emira Nasr had made their way to the monkey cage by jumping on a tree and leaping in among the monkeys, and I had to walk to the entrance and back to the monkey island to retrieve them.

"The zoo was a fading glory architecturally, and there was some unnecessary prodding of the animals to amuse the crowds," Tylka remembers, "but from my perch, the animals I could see were pretty well balanced. Those I met personally, due to my constantly climbing up and down ladders to catch my cats, were more amused than suffering. One monkey looked at me as if I were crazy, asking me why I went through all that trouble to rescue a stupid cat. Another monkey once offered me half of his apple."

Monkeys watch soccer

As the visitor traffic increased, descriptions of the conditions became more critical.

Wrote William F. Schmidt for *The New York Times* in March 1991, "One hundred years after its founding, Cairo's tired old zoo endures as a victim of its own popular success, a place that draws such large and unruly crowds that the zookeepers must sometimes hide the animals. The zoo is one of Cairo's last urban refuges," Schmidt explained, "a green if somewhat tattered oasis sprawling over 81 acres of shaggy grass, palm groves, and banyan trees. During its centennial season, like other years, the zoo expects to draw more than six million visitors. The Bronx Zoo, by comparison, draws only about 2.5 million visitors annually, and is twice as big.

"While some visitors come to look at the animals," Schmidt assessed, in a description that could have been written yesterday, "most seem to regard the zoo more as a sprawling park and picnic area, an open-air preserve of lagoons and looping walkways that just happens to also be the home of Nadia the elephant, Saeed the hippopotamus, and Aziz the sea lion."

Although the zoo entrance fee has increased tenfold since 1991, it is still only the equivalent of about 25¢ U.S.

As when Schmidt wrote, teens fill the Giza Zoo, visiting, listening to music, and making discreet use of the chance to meet, in an otherwise closely chaperoned society.

There is little privacy. Nothing goes on that hundreds of others cannot observe. By American or European standards, the atmosphere is chaste and sedate—except for the rowdy sidewalk soccer games played mostly in front of the monkey cages.

Three games were going on at once when **ANIMAL PEOPLE** visited in December 2007. Spectators stood on three sides of each game, with the monkey cages forming the fourth boundary. Most of the monkeys were enthusiastic observers, whose behavior suggested that at least some of them understand the significance of goals, saves, and stealing the ball—or at least enjoy cheering when the humans do. They seemed unperturbed when errant kicks bounced balls off their grillwork, but disappointed when the games broke up at closing time.

The Giza Zoo appears to be much the same now as when Tylka and Schmidt were familiar with it, during the tenure of director Mohammed Hussein Amer. The regime of his successor Moustafa Awad, 1995-2003, drew much harsher notices. Appointed by then-minister of agriculture and land reclamation Youssef Wally, Awad brought to the job little relevant background and a tendency toward self-promotion.

An obsequious account of Awad's deeds by Hoda Nassef of the *Egyptian Mail*, published in December 2002, asserted that as result of Awad's work, "One day will not be enough to visit the zoo. It needs really a seven-day visit to see all...The beauty of the garden extends on into the night," Nassef enthused. "After the gates are closed, after dark, strings of beautiful multi-coloured beaded lights adorn the trees in forms of waterfalls, and soft hidden spotlights of different hues are placed around and throughout the zoo grounds."

Besides hanging Christmas tree lights, Awad according to Nassef resolved drainage problems that caused backwash from the Nile River to clog the zoo canals with debris, resulting in stagnation and sporadic stench—but the problem again made headlines in 2006. Awad purportedly eliminated an accumulation of garbage on the zoo grounds, also again noted in

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2006; expanded the space available to the lions, apparently by reopening access to the field of high grass behind their night cages that the original design suggests they were meant to have all along; added educational facilities and a playground donated by Egyptian first lady Suzanne Mubarak in 1997; and got as far as building the foundation for an animal hospital.

Awad also enlarged the taxidermy collection.

Toward the end of Awad's directorship, controversy arose over the longtime zoo practice of accepting donations of lame or injured working animals for slaughter to feed the lions and other carnivores. The "donations" reputedly came mainly from police, who impounded the animals of semi-literate peasants who ventured into parts of Cairo where animal-drawn vehicles are banned to help reduce traffic congestion. So many arrived at times that some waited weeks to be killed, allegedly with inadequate care. This was described as keeping the animals in quarantine to ensure their health before slaughter.

An "R. Chandler, tourist 2002-2003," in January 2003 posted an extensive rebuttal of Awad's claims, as amplified by Nassef. The only education going on at the Giza Zoo, Chandler asserted, was in "stabbing, poking, starving, abusing and killing captive animals for *baksheesh*." The buildings for stuffed specimens were enlarged, Chandler alleged, because so many live animals were dying of abuse and neglect.

Wrote visitor Maya Fawzy to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and the World Society for the Protection of Animals in August 2002, "I think there were around 20 foxes in one tiny cage, suffering from overcrowding, heat and dehydration. The lions were so hungry, thirsty and sick that they could not move. The elephants were dirty and dehydrating and all they were given was dirty hay, which they kept throwing over their backs to cool off. The hippos could hardly be seen, as their water was extremely dirty. There was a polar bear in a cage alone with a small pond to swim in and a shower of water, which in the Cairo heat is not enough. The grizzly bears were in a cage with not much space to move around. Most of the monkeys were caged with hardly anything to climb on."

Similar criticisms were amplified by Born Free Foundation founder Virginia McKenna and Julie Wartenberg, then representing the International Fund for Animal Welfare, now the founder of Animal Care in Egypt.

Wartenberg remembers that her involvement with the Cairo Zoo first sparked her interest in working in Egypt.

WSPA fixed feral cats

WSPA had already tried to help. "WSPA became involved with the Giza Zoo back in 2000," recalls WSPA North African representative Nick De Souza. "The management requested assistance to control the feral cat population. The zoo has a large number of vets, so I introduced them to mass sterilization and held a training course for the younger vets. WSPA provided sufficient material, drugs and equipment to theoretically sterilize 1,000 cats. The idea was to keep the project going for a few years. Monitoring the project was left to the zoo management. The vets rapidly used up the ketamine on other species," but told then-WSPA international projects director John Walsh that they had sterilized 500 cats.

"WSPA did not revisit the zoo for about a year after the cat project," De Souza told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, "but when I went back, there seemed to be fewer cats and definitely fewer kittens. The problem is there was no true survey carried out pre-intervention. Even more worrying is that it is not clear how the reduction, if it occurred, was achieved."

Counting cats while observing other aspects of the zoo, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** estimated the current population as comparable to that of the surrounding residential neighborhoods: up to 120 cats per square kilometer.

(continued on page 19)

Updates from Iraq, Afghanistan, Palestine, & Bangladesh

A female suicide bomber killed 69 people and wounded 140 at the al-Ghazl pet market in Baghdad on February 1, 2008—the fifth attack on the market since June 2006. Half an hour later, a second female suicide bomber killed 29 people and wounded 67 at the New Baghdad pet market. Four of the al-Ghazl attacks appear to have been the work of al-Qaida. A November 2007 attack was attributed to Shiites, who feigned an al-Qaida attack to increase public support for Shiite militias.

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Assadullah Khalid, governor of Kandahar, Afghanistan, attributed to the Taliban a February 17, 2008 bombing that killed at least 80 spectators at a dogfight and wounded 90 more. The Taliban suppressed dogfighting, but it has regained popularity since the U.S. ended Taliban rule in late 2001.

"Jewish settlers and Israeli and Palestinian activists have joined forces" to try to prevent Israel from building a barrier that will separate wildlife from water, Associated Press writer Laurie Copans reported on March 2, 2008. "In the Wadi Fukin area of the central West Bank," Copans wrote, "the Israeli-Palestinian branch of Friends of the Earth has persuaded Israel's Supreme Court to halt work on the barrier, arguing that natural springs would be destroyed." The campaign is supported on the

Palestinian side by the Palestine Wildlife Society.

"A five-member team of media persons from Kerala on a recent visit noticed the absence of stray dogs in Aizawl," in Mizoram state, India, *The Hindu* reported on December 19, 2007, noting that dogs are eaten in Mizoram. On January 13, 2008, the *Daily Telegraph* reported, "a rampaging army of rats" had produced "fear of famine" in Mizoram. Stimulating the rats was a once-in-50-years bamboo forest flowering. The lack of dogs was by February 8 felt in nearby parts of Bangladesh, as well, where rats "destroyed the crops of tens of thousands of people" said BBC News correspondent Mark Dummett. Dogs are rarely eaten in Bangladesh, but are persecuted as allegedly unclean, and may be covertly exported for consumption.

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South Africa may resume culling elephants by May

JOHANNESBURG—South Africa could resume culling elephants as early as May 1, 2008, ending a 13-year moratorium, environment minister Marthinus Van Schalkwyk announced on February 25.

Van Schalkwyk said his department had “taken steps to ensure that this will be the option of last resort, acceptable only under strict conditions.”

Offering a concession to animal advocates, Van Schalkwyk added that capturing wild elephants for commercial purposes would be forbidden effective on May 1.

The South African elephant population has increased from about 8,000 in 1995 to 18,000 today, Van Schalkwyk said.

“The issue of population management has been devilishly complex. We would like to think that we have come up with a framework that is acceptable to the majority of South Africans,” Van Schalkwyk added.

“There is no estimate” of the numbers of elephants to be killed, environment ministry spokesperson Riaan Aucamp told Fran Blandy of *Agence France-Presse*. “Everything will depend on the management plan of each park,” Aucamp insisted.

“In 2005, the government recommended the cull of 5,000 elephants, which would have been the largest slaughter anywhere, causing a storm of protest and a rethink,” recalled Xan Rice of *The Guardian*.

Van Schalkwyk himself called estimates that between 2,000 and 10,000 elephants would be culled “hugely inflated.”

The resumption of elephant culling came as South Africa prepared to sell a large inventory of ivory stockpiled from past culls, natural deaths, and seizures from poachers.

“China, one of the world’s largest traders in illegal ivory, is vying to buy up South Africa’s massive elephant ivory stock which has built up as result of the worldwide ban” on ivory trafficking, reported Sheree Béga of the *Cape Argus* on March 1.

“Conservation authorities must first decide whether China is a suitable destination for the ivory, the national Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism said this week,” continued Béga.

South Africa in June 2007 received permission from the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species to sell ivory to Japan. The Japanese purchase is reportedly to include 40 tons of ivory from Kruger National Park, where 16,210 elephants were culled from 1966 to 1994.

South African Department of Environmental Affairs spokesperson Mava Scott told Béga that, “The products from elephants who might be culled will be stockpiled,” but added that, “A nine-year ban on ivory trading will begin once the ivory sales approved in 2002 and 2007 have taken place.”

Animal Rights Africa trustee Steve Smit alleged that Van Schalkwyk had essentially proposed “to undermine the entire international ivory ban to make money.”

Culling would replenish the South African ivory inventory, and the existence of the ivory would increase pressure to cash it in, while marketing ivory in any manner “stimulates demand and the incentive to cull,” Smit charged.

“Elephants are being commodified into goods and chattel,” said an Animal Rights Africa media statement, promising to respond to culling with “international tourist boycotts, public protests, and legal challenges.”

“The big problem,” assessed Steve Connor, science editor of *The Independent*, “is that elephants in Africa can no longer roam freely. In the past, as the population of a herd increased, it would migrate to less populated region, thus allowing the grazed and degraded habitat it left behind to recover. However, there would have been some sort of natural culling process as well. Major droughts, for instance, would have occurred every couple of decades and would have killed off many elephants. Whatever the arguments against the cull, not least the cruelty involved,” Connor wrote, “death by drought is a long, drawn-out process, and much less humane than culling.”

But Earth Organization founder Lawrence Anthony called the proposed culling “unwarranted, as there is no scientific evidence to demonstrate that the animals are affecting biodiversity in the Kruger National Park.” Anthony told the South African Press Association that the scientific advisory board of the Earth Organisation has evidence that there is no factually established carrying capacity for elephants, damage to flora is inflicted chiefly by lone bulls living outside of matriarchal herds, and that many tree species depend on elephant activity to facilitate regeneration. Anthony said that plants in general recover from elephant damage within five years, and that more lasting damage is done by impala.

The previous South African culling method involved herding elephants together by helicopter, darting them with the tranquilizer Scoline, and then dispatching them with gunshots to the head. Van Schalkwyk is believed to favor sharpshooting, which would eliminate

the herding aspect.

“In no way do we condone culling as an option. If it is to be, then it really must be with only the most careful management,” Christina Pretorius of the International Fund for Animal Welfare told Celean Jacobson of Associated Press.

“We are not pleased with the thought of culling elephants, but we do recognise culling as a management tool,” World Wildlife Fund representative Rob Little told *Agence France-Presse*. “WWF does not advocate culling as the preferred population management alternative,” Little added, “but recognises that government managers may deem it necessary after consideration of all other options has been exhausted.”

“In all likelihood a few of our neighbouring elephant range states are watching South Africa to get guidance,” Little noted.

“It’s not something anybody welcomes at all, but we also have to look at the broader conservation management issues,” WWF global species director Susan Lieberman told Robyn Dixon of the *Los Angeles Times*. “The option of doing nothing does not exist.”

Zimbabwe

Parks and Wildlife Management Authority of Zimbabwe director general Morris Mtsambiwa used similar rhetoric in a January 4, 2008 announcement that his agency will produce biltong [dried meat] from elephants for retail sale as part of a “sustainable use” scheme. Mtsambiwa said the Parks and Wildlife Management Authority would “apply to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism for a quota of elephants to slaughter every year, after which it would build some abattoirs,” reported the government-controlled *Harare Herald*.

“Currently the country slaughters at least 500 elephants every year, with the meat distributed to communities living adjacent to the game parks,” the *Herald* said.

Zimbabwe claims to have more than 100,000 elephants, and estimates there are about 400,000 elephants in the whole of southern Africa—100,000 more than the South African projection. Botswana is believed to have the most elephants, about 165,000 at present, more than 25% of the total wild African elephant population.



African elephant herd. (Elissa Free)

Could the 117-year-old Giza Zoo become a rescue center? (continued from page 18)

“Re the zoo itself,” De Souza remembers, “when WSPA first became involved the management was very anti-foreign involvement. After agriculture minister Youseff Wally was sacked, Moustafa Awad also got the boot and since then the attitude has been a lot more cooperative.”

“The position of director has changed a couple of times in the last few years,” De Souza said, “but each time I engage in dialogue with the zoo management their main question is can I help them regain membership in recognized zoological societies. As WSPA has an anti-zoo policy, it is very difficult for me to help them with this. I do however believe that linking Cairo with one of the good zoological societies would be the best way forward for improving animal welfare.”

Keepers work for tips

Before that can happen, the Giza Zoo must become able to meet accreditation standards. That will require a complete change of the zoo modus operandi, beginning with learning to raise the funds needed to pay the staff enough to abolish the custom of keepers working for tips. This practice tends to erode the credibility of the keepers on every other subject.

E-mailed Laine Strutton of San Diego on January 15, 2008, to Society for Protecting Animal Rights in Egypt founder Amina Abaza, “I was not mentally prepared to see the lions in cramped cement cells with little room to move...clearly underfed and a few were emaciated. I was disturbed to see their handlers prodding them with sticks to make them roar for children. I was told by Egyptians that they are kept underfed so that they don’t fight back against their handlers, and that their handlers actually eat most of the meat that is supposed to go to the lions. Some are kept inside where they get no sunlight. Their cells smell of fecal matter and appear to never be cleaned.”

“Unfortunately,” Strutton added, “I did not see the conditions until after I had paid for a photo with a baby cub. Three cubs are kept hidden away indoors in a cement cell and tourists pay to have their picture taken with them. Does anyone in Egypt even know these cubs exist?”

Agreed Emad Shenouda, “I’m an Egyptian who lives in Cairo, a father of two children. It is not a zoo, it is an animal torture camp, managed by a group of ignorant animal guards, who know nothing than of taking tips from parents so that children can feed the animals.” Shenouda said he had seen lions being prodded with an iron bar.

“I recently visited the Cairo zoo and saw how confined the lions are,” affirmed another American, Joyce Iskander. “When I was taken to see the lion cubs,” for a tip, “I was shocked at the way these little babies were treated, at only 4 or 5 months old. They are kept in a very small wooden box with no light, tightly confined, and only dragged out to be held

by other people or to be fed.”

Some of the frequent criticisms could be debated. Many visitors, for example, fail to notice the guillotine doors that are used to rotate compatible groups of lions from the night house where they are fed to the exercise yard, where the lions on furlough tend to be almost invisible amid the tall grass.

U.S. and European zoo-goers seldom see lions on exhibit who are as old as some of the Giza Zoo collection appear to be; are used to seeing lions who have bulked up against much colder climates than they occupy in nature; and are often unaware that lions in nature tend to make a kill, gorge on meat while it lasts, and then go several days without killing and eating again. Not eating every day is normal for lions.

But so long as the keepers work for tips, the abuses associated with tip-collecting will continue, and the keepers will have correspondingly little credibility when they assert that other perceived abuses are not always what they seem.

“When I was an Egyptian Society of Animal Friends board member, they always assured us these practices would stop. We gave the zookeepers lectures and incentives, but nothing ever changes,” fumes Cairo activist Susie Nassar.

SPARE founder Amina Abaza expresses similar frustration. “Not less than 10 articles in the first pages of the national newspapers in 2007 attacked the zoo after scandals happened there,” recalls Abaza. “All the pressure, press articles, and scandals had no effect.”

But Egyptian Society of Animal Friends president Ahmed El Sherbiny takes a more optimistic view. ESAF initiated a series of three-day training programs for the Giza Zoo staff in early 2007, El Sherbiny recounts. Each day-long session was attended by about 20 of the 60 keepers, while the other 40 remained at their posts. Each session was repeated three times so that the whole staff could benefit.

El Sherbiny told *ANIMAL PEOPLE* that the keepers seemed quite eager to learn, but that the basic problem remains that they are paid just a fraction of a living wage. They therefore have to work for tips.

“Due to ESAF’s recommendations,” El Sherbiny said, “the zoo entrance fees have been raised from 25 piasters to one Egyptian pound. This alone is a huge achievement.”

Also, “A monkey enclosure has been enlarged and designed to contain a large tree, which supplies a suitable structure for the monkeys to climb.”

But El Sherbiny acknowledged considerable inertia. “Many of our recommendations have not been given consideration,” he said. “We are strongly suggesting privatizing the zoo in order for the necessary improvement to be made.”

Removing the zoo from governmental management, El Sherbiny believes, will result in direction by experienced

personnel, rather than political appointees, and will enable the zoo to raise the funds needed to operate acceptably.

Egyptian Association for Environment and Community Services founder Suhaila El Sawy has argued that the zoo should establish a trust fund to finance improvements, including removing a karaoke concession, Awad’s Christmas tree lights, and other attractions that interfere with the purposes of operating a zoo and botanical garden.

El Sawy also favors confining food consumption to a single picnic area, “causing less noise and clutter and making the place overall cleaner because it is easier to tidy and scrub one big allocated area than the entire zoo,” she told freelance writer Shaimaa Fayed in 2006.

Animal Welfare Awareness Research Group of Egypt coordinator Dina Zulficar recently proposed that Egyptian animal advocates should organize an annual fundraising event, “from which the annual income would be directed to revitalizing the zoo, including zoo employees conditions.”

Redefining mission

Somewhere along the way the Giza Zoo mission may need to be redefined. The Giza Zoo has survived as the popular cultural institution that Khedive Ismail envisioned, albeit drifting from the educational focus he intended. But the Giza Zoo has never managed to successfully emulate the European and American zoo focus on endangered species conservation, despite some success at captive breeding to replenish its own collection and facilitate trading animals with other zoos.

To try to win back major zoo association accreditation might result in having to replace most of the present animal collection with scarcer specimens and animals of more genetically diverse lineage.

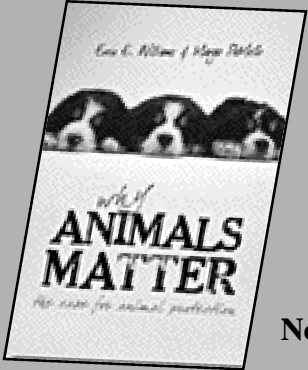
Instead, the Giza Zoo might most easily evolve into a wildlife rescue center similar to the growing network of rescue centers operating on the premises of major Indian zoos under the umbrella of the Indian Central Zoo Authority, profiled in the April 2007 edition of *ANIMAL PEOPLE*.

A step in that direction came in August 2007, when the Giza Zoo accepted 265 baby crocodiles who were confiscated at the Cairo international airport from a Saudi man who claimed to be a collector for a “scientific institute.”

Trafficers moving animals from Africa to Europe and Asia have made Cairo a frequent waystation in recent years. As interdiction of the traffic becomes more successful, there will be increasing need for a wildlife rescue center capable of taking in almost any species on short notice.

That could be the Giza Zoo, perhaps with volunteer help recruited from among the many young visitors.

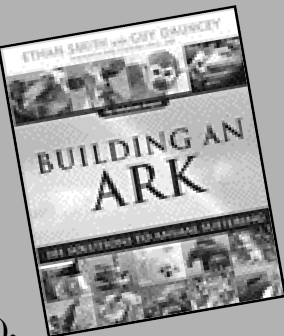
—Merritt Clifton



Animals Matter: *the case for animal protection*
by Erin E. Williams & Margo DeMello
Promytheus Books (59 John Glenn Drive, Amherst, NY 14228), 2007.
420 pages, paperback. \$20.00.

Building An Ark: *101 solutions to animal suffering*
by Ethan Smith with Guy Dauncey
New Society Publishers (P.O. Box 189, Gabriola Island, British Columbia V0R 1X0, Canada),
2007. 270 pages, paperback, \$24.95.

I Care About Animals by Belton P. Mouras • A.S. Barnes & Co., 1977. 254 pages, paperback. Out of print.



Written as introductions to animal advocacy, *Animals Matter* and *Building An Ark* will not contain much news for **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers; but they may be timely, useful, and appropriate gifts for young friends who care about animals, and would like to become more involved on their behalf. Either would be suitable for people from high school age to recent university graduates.

Both address potential activists who prefer to become well-informed before reacting, who think about tactics and try to be effective. Unlike several superficially similar handbooks which are published as recruiting tools for national animal advocacy organizations, *Animals Matter* and *Building An Ark* are both essentially nonpartisan, somewhat of a surprise in view that *Animals Matter* co-authors Erin Williams and Margo DeMello are employees, respectively, of the Humane Society of the U.S. and the House Rabbit Society.

Though similar in content and purpose, *Animals Matter* and *Building An Ark* are structured quite differently, with a different emphasis.

Animals Matter is written in conventional chapters, presenting the issues in seven topical clusters. People who like to sit down and read a book will tend to favor *Animals Matter*, if not overwhelmed by the content. Much more of *Animals Matter* is about problems than about solutions, not because the authors are deliberately negative but because the problems tend to be much more complex than such possible responses as not eating meat, not wearing fur, and sterilizing pets.

Building An Ark is solution-oriented. Issues are outlined relatively briefly, with more emphasis on conservation and endangered species than in *Animals Matter*, and possible responses are presented at greater length, albeit still in short formats. *Building An Ark* has the look and feel of a series of web pages, meant for one-at-a-time reading, not necessarily in sequential order.

Unfortunately, while the factual content of *Animals Matter* appears to be as sound and up-to-date as one could expect from a book, *Building An Ark* includes significant errors, including an assertion that the number of dogs and cats killed each year in U.S. shelters is nearly three times higher than the actuality, which is quite bad enough.

Building An Ark, produced in Canada by Canadian authors, includes a note on the back of the title page that “New Society Publishers acknowledges the support of the Government of Canada through the Book Publishing Industry Development Program for our publishing activities.”

Though other branches of the Canadian government continue to defend and promote sealing and the fur trade, there are clearly internal differences of opinion.

Veteran activists, and probably most observers over the age of 30, might describe both *Animals Matter* and *Building An Ark* as “animal rights” literature. The authors of both volumes are certainly familiar with the metaphor and philosophy of “animal rights,” and the approaches that both volumes emphasize are consistent with the mainstream of “animal

rights” philosophical theory. Yet the phrase “animal rights” is not used prominently in *Animals Matter*, and appears only twice in *Building An Ark*.

Perhaps this is simply to ease entry into school libraries. Alternatively, one might view both books as essentially “post-animal rights,” in that the authors waste little time and ink arguing that animals should be recognized as sentient beings, deserving kind treatment. Instead, taking the agreement of readers about this point as a given, they rapidly move from abstract theory into practical response.

Paradoxically, this was also the approach of perhaps the very first handbook for animal rights activists that actually used the term “animal rights.” *I Care About Animals*, by Belton P. Mouras, appeared in 1977, just one year after the late Henry Spira’s successful demonstrations against cat experiments performed at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City signaled the rise of animal rights activism as a new chapter in animal advocacy.

Mouras took note of the then young animal rights movement, succinctly explained the differences between “animal rights” and “animal welfare,” and seemed to take as a given that authentic animal advocates would welcome the advent of “animal rights” advocacy, as a more dynamic descendant of the “humane” and “animal welfare” causes.

Mouras acknowledged that some aspects of “animal rights” would challenge conventional and complacent “humane” and “animal welfare” thinking, but believed that accepting and responding positively to the challenge would help to demonstrate sincerity to the public.

Mouras, now 84, was the son of a disabled sharecropper from the Louisiana bayou country. As a boy he successfully raised raccoons who had been orphaned by fur trappers and coonhunters. In his teens, he built a local ice cream sales empire, and tried to advance the ideas that later built the Dairy Queen chain, but lacked the capital and credit needed to put them into effect.

Enlisting in the U.S. Army two years before the U.S. entered World War II, Mouras rose to the rank of master sergeant, retired after 20 years in 1960, and found his real calling as national director of livestock programs for the then young Humane Society of the U.S.

Starting with admittedly almost no relevant knowledge whatever, Mouras rapidly absorbed everything he could learn about every phase of humane work, bringing to it the perspective of an experienced outsider, and an entrepreneurial spirit that both rapidly increased the revenue of every organization he worked with, and attracted considerable suspicion from observers on all sides of the issues.

Splitting with HSUS after the death of founder Fred Myers, Mouras in 1968 started the Animal Protection Institute with \$5,000 borrowed from International Society for Animal Rights founder Helen Jones. API under Mouras pioneered direct mail fundraising, made aggressive use of newspaper ads to boost campaigns and attract new donors, and weathered law-

suits from HSUS and several other established organizations.

An internal *coup d’etat* eventually ousted Mouras and effectively disabled API, which recently merged into Born Free USA after 20-odd relatively undistinguished years under other leaders. Mouras went on to found United Animal Nations and the annual Summit for the Animals conference of animal advocacy group leaders. He was also instrumental in the growth of Primarily Primates.

I Care About Animals mixed scraps of autobiography with summaries of major animal issues as Mouras perceived them 30 years ago, some overview of animal advocacy history, and a great deal of tactical advice, split into three categories: strategic advice about organizational relationships, technical advice about building organizations and running campaigns, and general advice about persuading the public.

Mouras also included profiles of three of his favorite allies: the late actress Kim Novak, the late Velma “Wild Horse Annie” Johnson, and the candy heiress Helen Brach, who bankrolled many of Mouras’ campaigns, but disappeared shortly before *I Care About Animals* went to press.

Mouras discussed Brach’s disappearance, wondering if she might have been murdered by representatives of animal use industries, but did not anticipate that the perpetrators would more than 20 years later turn out to be a ring who killed expensive race horses and show horses to collect insurance money.

There was at the time still hope that Brach had for some reason vanished of her own volition. Mouras wrote of her as if still alive, and made no mention of her estate, which was meant to benefit animals but because of a badly written will ended up benefiting many other causes that seem to have been of little interest to Brach during her life.

I Care About Animals outlined most of the methods that the animal rights movement has used ever since, often with diminishing returns as the times have changed. The only major amendments in animal advocacy tactics since Mouras wrote have involved the use of technology such as videography and online communications that in 1977 barely existed.

Mouras spotlighted issues that are all still with us, including sealing, whaling, the fur trade, dog and cat overpopulation, wild horse removal from federal lands, and laboratory use of animals. Williams and DeMello cover almost all of the same topics, and Smith and Dauncey cover most. In each case, though the issues remain, their shapes have evolved, and in only one instance, the ongoing Atlantic Canadian seal hunt, has the situation become demonstrably worse instead of better. In that instance, the seal hunt was suspended for 10 years, 1984-1993, before being revived and made bigger than before.

Despite some setbacks on almost every front, organized animal advocacy has clearly had a positive impact, and most negatives—such as that more animals than ever are being used in U.S. labs—can be countered with context. For instance, that the numbers of animals used in labs have increased because the volume of scientific research now being done is as much as 100 times greater than 30 years ago, offsetting the drastic reduction in typical numbers of animals used per experiment.

The most remarkable aspect of *I Care About Animals*, in hindsight, is that Mouras presciently anticipated the institutional direction of the animals’ cause.

Mouras detailed a growth-by-division phase in which new organizations would split off and grow from the trunks of those already in existence. After that, Mouras expected an epoch in which founders of strong personality would often speak of working together, while usually failing even to collaborate on projects of mutual concern. During this phase, Mouras anticipated, leaders would test a variety of different issues, ideas, and approaches, each attracting some public support, thereby building the cause. Only after that, after the retirement of the most fractious founders, and after many years of donor migration to the most successful groups, did Mouras expect the merger phase now underway, in which organizations of converging perspective would combine strengths.

Ironically, Mouras seems to have later ignored much of his own advice. Mouras began United Animal Nations and the Summit for the Animals as efforts to achieve the movement unity that in 1977 he saw as unlikely and unnecessary until collaborations and mergers became inevitable. —Merritt Clifton

Dog Detectives: *Train Your Dog to Find Lost Pets* by Kat Albrecht
Dogwise Publishing (701-B Poplar, Wenatchee, WA 98807), 2008.
245 pages, \$19.95.



Former police detective Kat Albrecht initially trained sniffing dogs to assist in tracking suspects, finding lost people, and finding cadavers. In 1997 Albrecht discovered that her dogs could also help to find lost pets. After an occupationally related disability prematurely ended Albrecht’s police career, she became a fulltime pet detective. Of her first 99 searches, 68 discovered the missing animal or the fate of the animal.

Eventually Albrecht founded an organization called *Missing Pet Partnership* to promote and teach the use of dogs to find lost pets, following the “Missing Animal Response” techniques she has developed. Her initial template was the protocol for training the Search And Rescue dogs deployed to find missing persons. Albrecht then adapted the SAR approach to the peculiarities of finding lost animals, whose behavior varies considerably from human behavior.

Albrecht trains dogs according to three protocols: Cat Detection, Trailing, and Dual Purpose. These use two different approaches, the area search and tracking.

Area searches are typically used either to find an animal who was last seen near home and is probably still nearby, or to find an animal who has been tracked to a specific location such as a park or warehouse, after which the tracking dog can no longer isolate the scent. Area searches are the primary method used to find cats.

Tracking is used to find animals who are believed to have taken a specific direction, for example a dog who panicked during a fireworks display.

Relatively few dogs who excel at area-searching are

also good tracking dogs. Most MAR dog handlers will need to train different dogs in order to be able to do both kinds of work—and both are often required as part of a single animal recovery. Some dogs can be trained to do both jobs, but Albrecht tends to discourage the idea of trying to produce Dual Purpose dogs unless the dogs themselves demonstrate dual aptitude, partly because different kinds of training tend to produce dogs who may be respectable generalists, but are not as good at either area searching or tracking as specialists.

A dedicated handler could produce skilled MAR dogs just by following Albrecht’s directions—but Albrecht’s methods are also quite rigorous, and require frequent practice. Training and using MAR dogs is not work done casually. Neither is any dog suited to MAR training, though Albrecht notes that dogs of the right personality come in range of breeds and sizes.

Albrecht would like every community to have a trained MAR dog team on call. How many MAR dogs any given community could support is open to question, since MAR work is not lucrative, if compensated at all. However, almost every shelter director and animal control officer encounters frequent situations in which a MAR team could help. —Merritt Clifton

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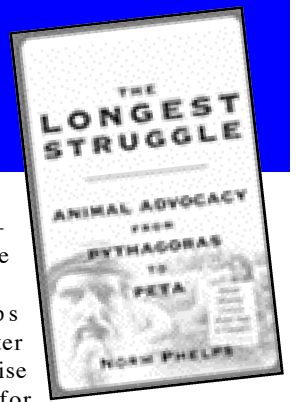
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The Longest Struggle: *Animal Advocacy from Pythagoras to PETA*

by Norm Phelps

Lantern Books (1 Union Square West, Suite 201, New York, NY 10003), 2007. 367 pages, paperback. \$20.00.



If anyone wrote a history of animal advocacy before Noah built the ark, it missed the boat. Histories of animal advocacy have mostly missed the boat ever since.

Many have been plagued by the usual vexations of historians: lost sources, missing pieces of contextual understanding, and partisan ax-grinding, sometimes by the authors, more often by surviving sources who take the opportunity to posture over the achievements and failures of the deceased.

A complicating factor, not afflicting most histories, is that the subjects of animal advocacy not only cannot speak for themselves here and now, but never could and never did. Some narratives survive even from slaves and victims of genocide, but there are no clandestinely scribbled memoirs to be found from the Little Brown Dog, the Silver Spring monkeys, or any Atlantic Canadian harp seals.

The frustrating aspect of *The Longest Struggle* is that Norm Phelps covers so much, so well, that the errors and omissions are especially glaring—and, one suspects, could have been corrected with some well-informed proofreading.

To Phelps' credit, he acknowledges and adequately covers the influence on animal advocacy of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism, which have been glaringly overlooked in most previous histories of animal advocacy—at least in the west. Unfortunately, after summarizing these sources of ideas, Pythagoreanism, and the major pro-animal teachings originating out of Judaism, Phelps leaps 1,200 years, from Jesus to St. Francis, in a mere two pages, with only one passing mention of Islam, none of Mohammed, and none of the Cathari.

This matters, because while Christianity did little to suppress blood sport between the epoch in which Christians were fed to lions and the rise of Oliver Cromwell, Islam discouraged cruel spectacles. While much of Europe tormented captive wildlife as public sport, Islam harbored the invention of zoos as educational institutions, within which the animals were supposed to be treated well.

The Cathari even more directly influenced the west, as the first people who brought ideas from Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism to Europe. Arriving by trade routes in the wake of the early Crusades, the Cathari were educated merchants, probably descended from the Thari people of Pakistan and Rajasthan. Like the Bishnoi, who still dwell in Rajasthan, they were strict vegetarians.

The less educated gypsies, who

were teamsters, animal exhibitors, and meat-eaters, appear to have traveled with the Cathari, perhaps as servants. The language of those gypsies who reached Ireland, called Shelta-thari, was in the 19th century recognized as a Thari dialect.

The Cathari had long since been exterminated by the Inquisition, after their teachings caught on so well in much of Europe, including southern France, as to challenge the dominion of the Roman Catholic Church. Though what little survives of Cathari belief was filtered through the perceptions of their persecutors, traces of ideas can be discerned that resembled modern Jainism.

Especially of note is that St. Francis and several other saints who were contemporaries of the Cathari seem to have appropriated the most popular of their beliefs, including the idea of being kind to animals, without the culturally problematic moral opposition to meat-eating and defiance of Roman authority. Though the Cathari were centuries ahead of their time, and St. Francis may not have been the unequivocal animal advocate that history remembers, as Phelps discusses, the Cathari influence appears to live on in the image of St. Francis and the work of generations of pro-animal Franciscans.

Most of *The Longest Struggle* concerns the past 200 years, and especially the most recent 50 years, in keeping with Phelps' thesis that animal advocacy really only began to shift from an "animal welfare" to an "animal rights" focus in recent times. Ironically, this thesis might have been strengthened by paying more attention to the evolution of the American Humane Association, which Phelps portrays as the primary bastion of "welfarism."

Both "rights" and "welfare" factions were active within the AHA from the founding meeting. Internal splits over "rights" vs. "welfare" issues produced the American Anti-Vivisection Society (1883) and the Humane Society of the U.S. (1954). A perennial problem was—and is—that the AHA has always tried to maintain positions on animal issues that harmonize with their positions on child protection, the dominant AHA mission during the first half of the 20th century.

For example, the AHA leaders felt that they could not endorse vegetarianism because they believed that the orphans in their care needed meat. The leaders acknowledged that adults could live well and long without it.

The AHA stalwartly opposed sport hunting, including in a position statement issued soon after the U.S. entered World War

II, but dropped this position postwar, as it phased out operating orphanages. The idea was to seek a political alliance with hunter/conservationists on behalf of protecting wildlife, but the alliance never materialized.

Asked to endorse the surgical procedures for sterilizing dogs and cats, while battling eugenicists who favored forcibly sterilizing the poor, the AHA at first respectfully declined; a decade later denounced dog and cat sterilization as "vivisection," though the AHA was not formally opposed to animal experiments; and held that position for 50 years, apparently forgetting why it was taken.

Overlooking the internally conflicted history of the AHA leads Phelps to other noteworthy omissions. One is that the origin of well-funded opposition to animal advocacy began long before he supposes, with the formation of some still extant pro-hunting advocacy groups in the mid-19th century, the American Farm Bureau Federation in 1919, and the National Society for Medical Research in 1945, ancestral to the National Association for Biomedical Research, founded in 1979.

The nucleus of the organized opposition to animal rights was accordingly well-funded and well-connected, warning the animal use industries against threats that had yet to materialize, long before the animal rights movement existed.

Another omission is that there was sporadic humane opposition to the Atlantic Canadian seal hunt—and to a similar hunt formerly held in the Prilifof islands off Alaska—for at least 70 years before the International Fund for Animal Welfare made Atlantic Canadian sealing an enduring public issue. Opposing sealing helped to rally the animal rights movement, but this was a case of new activists revitalizing an old cause.

At that, IFAW gets just one mention, and the Animal Welfare Institute none, though both were instrumental in developing the tactics that built the animal rights movement. Friends of Animals gets one mention. The founder of the once influential National Alliance for Animal Legislation is not mentioned; her successor, under whom it imploded, is credited with her work.

Most egregiously, Phelps writes of Best Friends Animal Society cofounder Michael Mountain, "Had he been born 20 years earlier, Michael Mountain might have been a hippie in Haight-Ashbury." Now 60, Mountain was a hippie in Haight-Ashbury, though he spent much more time elsewhere. Even then, Mountain and several other

cofounders were building the network that became Best Friends.

Phelps does much better in tracing the rise of the Fund for Animals and PETA, and the evolution of HSUS. Phelps recognizes the enduring influence of Henry Spira, who died in 1998 but whose strategic views and emphasis on not eating animals are more widely appreciated now than ever in his lifetime.

Phelps' overview is plausible, though his statistics on animal shelter killing are 15 years out of date and—like others who fail to correct for inflation—he appears to be unaware that in inflation-adjusted dollars, the U.S. retail fur trade has never recovered from the sales collapse of 20 years ago.

There are other ways to assess the longterm trends, especially if one gets the numbers right, but Phelps' conclusion seems right on the mark: "Today's activists do not expect us to win overnight, and perhaps not even in their lifetimes. But they do expect us to win...A generation of activists has come of age who did not experience the disillusionment that their elders lived through. When they came into the movement—for the most part, within the past dozen years—it had become obvious that animal rights was a marathon, not a sprint, and so they took up activism with no illusions about how hard or how long the struggle would be.

"Because of this, they measure success by a different yardstick than the activists of the eighties. Instead of disappointment because they cannot get everything they want, they feel a sense of accomplishment at every gain...Insisting on all or nothing...is isolating and alienating, and creates a siege mentality in which we begin to see our own fecklessness as a sign of intellectual and moral superiority. This in turn leads to a kind of fundamentalism, a holier-than-thou mindset that pursues strategies designed to preserve our own moral purity and intellectual rigor rather than to relieve the suffering of animals."

Phelps wrote *The Longest Struggle* to help empower new generations of activists, not to carve a stele in stone for all time. It is the most thorough history of animal advocacy published to date, and when a more comprehensive history is produced, *The Longest Struggle* will be the one by which it is measured.

—Merritt Clifton

OBITUARIES

Tom Lantos, 80, died on February 11, 2008. A longtime animal advocate, Lantos chaired the Foreign Affairs Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. For details of his life and deeds, see the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial for March 2008, *Tom Lantos: a Wilburforce for our time*.

Fred Bergendorff, 63, died on January 27, 2008 in Brea, California, after a four-month struggle with a neurological illness. A longtime marketing director for radio KNX in Los Angeles, "Bergendorff created the TV show *Pet Place* in the early 1990s," recalled <www.thepetplace.org>, "first on the cable system in Long Beach and then on KDOC-TV, where it continues today with new host Mickey Laszlo. A radio version began in 2006 on KGIL. It continues with Marie Hulett as host." *Pet Place* showcases shelter animals available for adoption. Both versions are produced by Gary Lyan.

Galyani Vadhana, 84, Princess of Narathiwat, Thailand, elder sister of Thai king Bhumibol Adulyadej, died on January 2, 2008. Born in England, Princess Galyani studied in Switzerland, then returned to Thailand as a professor of French language, history and literature at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. Princess Galyani in 2002 became royal patron of the National Elephant Institute in Lampang, and adopted three elephants, Phang Phra Thida Juthanant, 14, Phang Wanalee, 10, and Phang Aleena, four, who shared her birthday. "With the Princess' support," recalled Lampai Intathep of the *Bangkok Post*, "the National Elephant Institute established Thailand's first elephant hospital, which provides free medical treatment for sick and injured jumbos," as well as operating a breeding program, and in April 2007 introduced "elephant therapy" to assist autistic children.

Janez Drnovsek, 57, the vegan former president of Slovenia, died on February 23, 2008 at his home in Ljubljana. As prime minister of Slovenia, 1991-2002, Drnovsek led an almost bloodless transition to national independence after the breakup of Yugoslavia, avoiding the warfare that engulfed Bosnia, Croatia, Kosovo, and Serbia. Developing cancer in 1999, Drnovsek became a vegan in his quest for a cure. He found that giving up meat soon increased his sensitivity toward animals. "If a person's conscience is highly developed, that person will not kill or be cruel to animals," Drnovsek told Damjan Likar of the Slovenian Society for the Rights & Liberation of Animals in December 2005. "Hunting, which is by definition chasing and killing animals, is of course, completely unethical," Drnovsek added. Of animal testing, Drnovsek said, "You have to ask yourself would you like it if you were the subject of such testing. During World War II my father was an inmate at the Dachau concentration camp, where he was subjected to medical experiments. He didn't like it one bit. Some people would say it is necessary for the progress of science, but I am sure that in most cases alternative methods can be used." Of Christmas feasts, Drnovsek said "Jesus would turn in his grave if he knew that mass slaughter of animals is carried out every year in his name. It is very difficult to imagine that he would accept millions of living creatures being killed in his honor." Reminded Drnovsek in April 2007, in one of his last public statements, "The Easter Holidays are near. Let's spend them in peace and good company. You can renounce the ham. Chocolate eggs should be sufficient for an Easter atmosphere."

(continued on page 22)

U.S. cockfighting busts reveal Philippine connection

HONOLULU—Alleged cockfighter Joseph Marty Toralba, 39, on February 21, 2008 became one of the first persons indicted under the May 2007 U.S. federal Animal Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act, prosecutor Ed Kubo told reporters. The act added felony provisions to existing federal law against transporting animals for fighting or animal fighting paraphernalia across state or U.S. national boundaries.

U.S. Customs agents at the Honolulu airport on February 2, 2008 found 263 cockfighting gaffs in boxes imported from the Philippines that Toralba said held gas stoves, prosecutor Ed Kubo alleged. Toralba, of Colfax, Louisiana, keeps 650 gamecocks and breeding hens, Kuba noted.

Toralba was arrested four months after the San Diego County Department of Animal Services seized 4,500 gamecocks from a ranch near San Ysidro, California, less than a mile from the Mexican border, that allegedly supplied fighting birds to Hawaii and the Philippines, at prices of up to \$1,000 for an egg and \$2,000 for a hatched gamecock.

"The federal law does not apply to raising and training the birds, so the estimated 50 people arrested in the San Ysidro raid are being charged under California law, which makes raising the birds or staging the fights a misdemeanor

with a maximum sentence of a year in jail and a \$5,000 fine," wrote David Hasemyer of the *San Diego Union Tribune*.

The 4,500 birds were killed on the property, which is within the region where approximately three million poultry died or were culled in 2002 as result of an exotic Newcastle disease outbreak that apparently originated among gamecocks.

British Columbia SPCA spokesperson Eileen Drever questioned the B.C. laws pertaining to cockfighting on February 29, 2008, after 17 SPCA staff spent half a day killing 1,270 gamecocks seized two days earlier from three sites near Cloverdale, in the Fraser Valley. Drever hoped that as many as 30 people would be charged, as result of a two-year investigation, but the Royal Canadian Mounted Police had charged only one 58-year-old man by the end of the week. He was released on his own recognizance.

The maximum penalty for cockfighting in British Columbia is six months in jail and a \$2,000 fine.

The alleged Cloverdale cockfighting venues were in a poultry production hub where more than 17 million birds were killed in 2004 due to an outbreak of the avian flu H7N3. Highly contagious among birds, H7N3 rarely passes to humans, but mildly infected two B.C. poultry workers.

Along with almost every article from back editions, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** web site offers translations of key items into French & Spanish ... Lewyt Award-winning heroic & compassionate animal stories...vet info links... downloadable handbooks... fund-raising how-to... our guide to estate planning... bios and photos of the people behind **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

OBITUARIES (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21)

Dale Hylton, 77, died on February 1, 2008 in Decatur, Illinois, shortly after relocating from Canby, Oregon. Hired in 1964 as first assistant to Frank McMahon, the first investigator for the Humane Society of the U.S., Hylton left a job in electric lighting sales to shed light on the traffic in dogs and cats to laboratories. His work led to the introduction of kennel licensing in Pennsylvania and contributed to the passage of the federal Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966, which in 1971 was amended into the present Animal Welfare Act. Later in 1966, recounted HSUS historian Bernard Unti, a dog dealer who had been convicted of cruelty as result of

Hylton's findings "filed charges against Hylton under an obscure 1894 statute originally intended to prevent strikebreakers from misrepresenting their identities. The offense carried a maximum penalty of \$1,000 and one year in jail. Although HSUS was prepared to defend him, Hylton pleaded guilty to save costs, in a country courthouse packed with dog dealers, some of whom made little effort to conceal the firearms they were carrying. After HSUS agreed to pay Hylton's fine of \$250 plus \$160 in court costs), the judge quickly ordered him and his supporting witnesses into private chambers, where he showed them an outside exit and told them to leave town immediately." Hylton next investigated rodeo abuse, but was frustrated by defendants fleeing the jurisdictions where he filed complaints. "Cowboys seem to be very brave when it comes to jerking an animal around on the end of a rope, but not when it comes to facing a magistrate," Hylton observed. Hylton later served as interim director of the HSUS office in New Jersey, then was founding director of the National Humane Education Center, built and operated by HSUS at Waterford, Virginia, on property acquired by Edith Goode, founder of the Edith J. Goode Residuary Trust for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. With Phyllis Wright, then heading Washington Animal Rescue League and later head of companion animal programs at HSUS until her death in 1992, Hylton campaigned to replace electrocution, decompression, and gassing of homeless animals with sodium pentobarbital injections. Hylton told Unti that a gas chamber and decompression chamber installed at the National Humane Education Center were never used. The center handled animal control for Loudoun County, Virginia, and was turned over to county operation in the mid-1970s. Working with children's book author Jean McClure Kelty and Unexpected Wildlife Refuge founder Hope Sawyer Buyukmihci, Hylton attempted to incorporate the programs of the Kindness Club into HSUS. Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson credits the work of the Kindness Club and founder Aida Fleming, of New Brunswick, as important influences in his early life. While the Kindness Club eventually continued as an independent project, current HSUS West Coast regional director Eric Sakach became involved in humane work as a member during Hylton's tenure. The newsletters Hylton and colleagues created to address students of different age levels evolved into *HSUS Kind News*, distributed by subscription to classrooms throughout the U.S. Hylton, Wright, Franz Dantler, Pat Parkes, and HSUS board member Anna Fesmire went on to form the HSUS shelter accreditation program. Hylton retired in 1998.

Jelica Mrkusic died on January 20, 2008, in Belgrade, Serbia. "She fought selflessly for many years against cruelty to animals, was influential in introducing laws to protect domestic animals as well as pets, and was a founder of the monthly newsletter of the Belgrade SPCA," recalled her daughter, Marjanka Mrkusic Brown.

Molly Keane, 42, of Berkeley, California, drowned on February 16, 2008, at Gualala Point Regional Park in an unsuccessful effort to rescue her dog from a riptide. The dog also drowned.



Stella Brewer with chimp Zwockle.

Stella Brewer Marsden, 56, died on January 31, 2007. Born in the Seychelles, where her father Edward Brewer was a forest officer, she moved with her family to Gambia in 1957, then was educated at boarding school in Wales. Returning to Gambia, Stella Brewer in 1968 took over the care of an orphaned chimpanzee named William. More orphaned chimps soon followed. Founding the Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Trust in 1969, she initially kept the chimps at the Abuko Nature Reserve. Following a 1973 internship with Jane Goodall at her Gombe Stream research center in Tanzania, Stella Brewer in 1974 tried to reintroduce some of her chimps to the wild at Niokolo Koba National Park in Senegal. "Much of the time she was alone, and occasionally during the wet season, when streams became impassable torrents, she was cut off for weeks. It was an adventurous time: treed by buffalo, chased and stung by African bees, stalked by lions," recalls the Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Trust web site. "The move to Niokolo Koba was financed by the advance from the publishers of her book, *The Forest Dwellers* (1978). The book was on the (London) *Times*' best seller list for several weeks and was translated into 16 languages. Subsequent royalties sustained the project for some time," the web site adds. "The late Hugo van Lawick filmed and produced a documentary, *Stella and the Chimps of Mt. Asserik*," based on the book. After the reintroduction failed, Stella Brewer in 1979 settled at the present Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Trust location in the River Gambia National Park. The sanctuary now houses 86 chimps, including 19 of the original population, under direction of David Marsden, Stella Brewer's husband since 1977. The sanctuary also operates a village clinic and a school for 300 local children. Her sister, Heather Armstrong, formed the Gambia Horse and Donkey Trust in 2002. Both sisters, and Marsden, have contributed letters and guest columns to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Stan Walker, 86, died at home on January 1, 2008 in Reno, Nevada, leaving \$5 million to the SPCA of Northern Nevada and about \$1 million to the Nevada Humane Society. Both bequests will fund improvements in facilities, said SPCA of Northern Nevada executive director Tom Jacobs and Nevada Humane Society executive director Bonney Brown. Born in San Mateo, California, Walker signed in 1941 with the San Francisco Seals professional baseball team, and played on option for Salt Lake City, Merced, and El Paso. World War II duty with the U.S. Navy in the South Pacific interrupted Walker's baseball ambitions, but he returned to pro ball with Jackson, Natchez and Thibodaux in 1947 and 1949 before starting a long career with United Parcel Service.

ANIMAL OBITs

Indy, a cattle dog belonging to Evan Levine, 17, of Flint Township, Michigan, suffocated on February 3, 2008 when caught in a Conibear trap that was illegally set in the garden of the Temple Beth El synagogue, despite Evan's father Pete Levine's efforts to force the trap open.

Trucker, 3, a Labrador/pit bull terrier mix kept by Holly Grant of Anchorage, Alaska, suffocated in January 2008 in a Conibear trap set beside Powerline Pass Trail, despite Grant's efforts to free him.

Cupcake, a border collie belonging to Filip Panusz of Missoula, Montana, suffocated in March 2007 in a Conibear trap set near the Valley of the Moon trailhead. Panusz had adopted Cupcake from the Deer Lodge Humane Society four months earlier.

Zephyr, a pit bull mix belonging to Gail Murphy of Sag Harbor, New York, suffocated in December 2005 in a Conibear trap set alongside a hiking trail in Southampton Town's Long Pond greenbelt. Murphy was unable to free him. She had adopted Zephyr in 2004, after he was evacuated from the hurricane-damaged Humane Society of the Grand Bahamas to the Brookhaven Animal Shelter.

Conibear and leghold traps, almost impossible to open by prying against their jaws, can be opened relatively easily by simultaneously depressing the levers, tabs, or "ears" on either side of their jaws.

Markus Groh, 49, an Austrian attorney, was killed by a shark on February 24, 2008 while diving off Great Isaac Cay in the Bahamas with other members of an Austrian tour group. The group reached the Bahamas aboard the *Shear Water*, owned and operated by Abernethy's Scuba Adventures in Riviera Beach. "Jim Abernethy's peers had warned him that his practice of taking divers to open waters, dumping chum to bait the beasts and then sending in divers without a steel cage would prove deadly some day," reported *Miami Herald* investigative team Adam H. Beasley, Alison Hollenbeck, Susan Cocking, and Evan S. Benn. "Abernethy's company has been cautioned by the Bahamas Diving Association to use more care," the *Herald* team continued. "The diving association, of which Abernethy is not a member, sent Scuba Adventures and other dive operators a 'cease-and-desist' letter last year, urging that cageless dives be done only around safer shark varieties such as Caribbean reef sharks, nurse sharks, black-tip sharks and silky sharks. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission banned shark-feeding dives in 2001." George Burgess, director of the International Shark Attack File at the University of Florida, told the *Herald* that Groh was the first known fatality associated with shark-watching. A different Markus Groh, a musician in New York City, has performed in benefits for shark conservation.

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MEMORIALS

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—April Ponemon at Reliable Pet Care

In memory of the brave and long-suffering horse Barbaro—raced too early and died too soon. Sending you happy trails in acres of clover.
—Judy Youngman

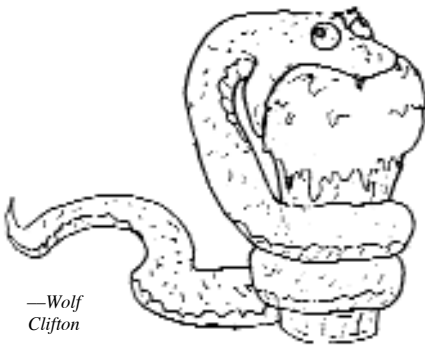
In memory of Phoebe, a special and beautiful Great Dane.
—Shari Thompson

In memory of Moses, the BaaHaus donkey, who died of heart failure. He was a great, great guy and would approve this gesture of sending a donation in his memory to help the donkeys and ponies of India.
—Glenda Pearson, on behalf of BaaHaus Animal Rescue

In memory of Maggie, the beloved little poodle of Marjorie Murray & Larry Schaleger.
—Karen Raasch

In memory of Orange, our beloved feral-turned-family cat, who died on October 28, 2007. Orange was proclaimed a local hero in February of 2007 when he alerted us to a nearby car crash in the early morning hours. We are grieving deeply.
—Bonnie Hoag & Geoff Overton, Dionondehowa Wildlife Sanctuary

In memory of Purr Box (12/3/87), Prometheus (3/21/81), Friendl (10/30/87), Lizzie (5/8/84), Boy Cat (12/26/85), Miss Penrose (11/18/98), Duke (11/1/98), Purr Box, Jr. (5/1/04), Mylady (8/1/06), Muffin (1/2/08), Blackie (9/9/96), and Honey Boy (11/1/05).



—Wolf Clifton

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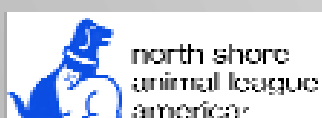
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