



Palomino mustang at BLM holding facility near Pyramid Lake, Nevada. (Kim Bartlett)

## Why did BLM reject Madeline Pickens' Nevada wild horse sanctuary proposal?

**PHOENIX**—A two-day Bureau of Land Management consultation meeting on wild horse and burro management strategy, to be held on March 10-11, 2011 in Phoenix, Arizona, is likely to focus on why the BLM on January 21 rejected a proposal from philanthropist Madeline Pickens to accommodate 1,000 wild horses on 18,000 acres of Nevada

ranch land she purchased in 2010—and then began removing about 2,000 wild horses from nearby public land.

“The Elko County ranches, which Pickens renamed the Mustang Monument preserve, come with grazing rights on roughly 564,000 acres of public land,” noted Martin

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# ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

March 2011  
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## Japan suspends Antarctic whaling

**TOKYO**—“It’s official. The Japanese whaling fleet has called it quits in the Southern Ocean, at least for this season,” the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society cautiously acknowledged on February 17, 2011, a week after the whalers suspended operations in Antarctic waters on February 10, and two days after global media declared the Sea Shepherds the winners after seven winters of stalking the whalers through the ice fields.

Sea Shepherd founder Paul Watson feared a trick on February 16, after the suspension of whaling made headlines worldwide, when the whaling factory ship *Nisshin Maru* changed course and appeared to be heading back into the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary.

“The turnabout could mean one of two things,” blogged Watson from the bridge

of the *Steve Irwin*, the flagship of a Sea Shepherd fleet also including the *Bob Barker* and the high-speed *Gojira*. “First,” Watson said, “they may be on a great circle route back to Japan. Second, they may be returning to the Ross Sea, where the three Japanese harpoon vessels may be waiting to continue their slaughter.”

The turnabout came less than 24 hours after Japan Fisheries Agency spokesperson Tatsuya Nakaoku told Reuters that, “Putting safety as a priority, the fleet has halted scientific whaling for now. We are currently considering what to do.”

Watson was immediately wary. “If that’s true, it demonstrates that our tactics and strategies have been successful,” Watson told Agence France-Presse by satellite. “I don’t think they’ve gotten more than 30 whales,” Watson guessed. The four-ship Japanese whaling fleet, down from seven ships in 2010, had a self-assigned quota of up to 945 whales. Japanese sources later reported that the whalers had killed about 20% of the quota—about 190 whales.

Though jubilant at the whalers’ retreat this winter, Watson remained aware that Japanese “research whaling” may not yet be finished. “I think it is premature to see this as a victory,” Watson posted to Sea Shepherd supporters. “There has been no mention of how long this suspension will be. It could be permanent, or for this season only, or it could be for a matter of weeks or even days,” he reminded celebrants. “What we know is that the whalers will not be killing any whales for the next few weeks—not because of any suspension, but because it is physically impossible for them to do so.”

The suspension of whaling came about 24 hours after *Bob Barker* captain Alex Cornelissen positioned his vessel between the *Nisshin Maru* and the three

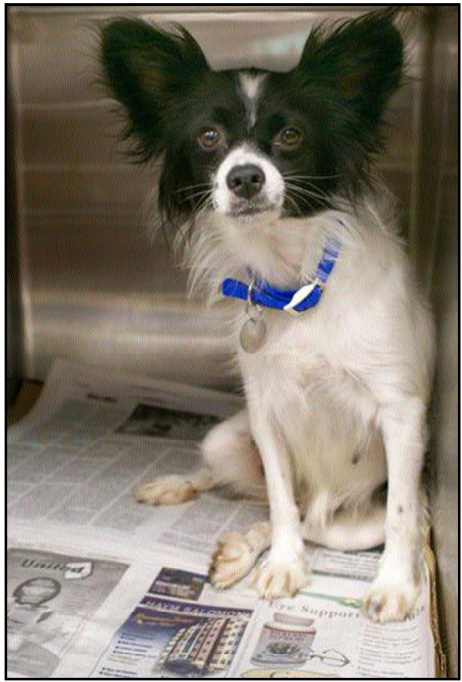
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## Meat biz barks for puppy mills

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.**—Rural Missouri lawmakers backed by agribusiness hope to overturn the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act, approved by almost a million voters in November 2010—52% of the electorate—as Proposition B on the state ballot.

Leading the lobbying effort against the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act is Missourians for Animal Care, a coalition including the Missouri Agribusiness Association, Missouri Cattlemen’s Association, Missouri Corn Growers Association, Missouri Dairy Association, Missouri Egg Producers, Missouri Equine Council, Missouri Farm Bureau, Missouri Federation of Animal Owners, Missouri Livestock Marketing Association, Missouri Pet Breeders Association, Missouri Pork Association, Missouri Soybean Association, the Poultry Federation, the Professional Pet Association, and two financial institutions.

The debate has national import, partly because of the extent to which Missouri dog breeders have been able to recruit support from the major branches of animal agriculture. Bills similar to the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act are under consideration in several other states, including Nebraska and West Virginia. Local ordinances meant to curb backyard breeding have recently passed in several states without strong puppy mill



Rescued puppy mill pup. (North Shore Animal League America)

legislation, with other ordinance proposals pending. Most notably, though, Missouri breeders are believed to produce about a third of all puppies sold in U.S. pet stores, nationwide. More than 1,400 dog breeders are registered with the Missouri Department of Agriculture and/or hold USDA permits to sell dogs interstate. Perhaps as many breeders operate in Missouri without permits.

The Missouri senate agriculture committee on January 27, 2011 ratified a bill that would erase the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act limit of 50 dogs per breeder, and would give licensed breeders up to six months to correct violations without being charged with a misdemeanor offense. This in effect would allow breeders to raise a litter in violation of the standards, sell the litter, and then be technically in compliance with the act again until the birth of another litter—at which point they would get another six-month grace period.

Missouri state senator Mike Parson (R-Bolivar) is pushing complete repeal of the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act. Parson contends that “The wording of the voter-passed law is so vague that it could be extend-

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Egyptian Society of Animal Friends treating camels at Nazlet El Seman. (Dina Zulfikar)

## Camels, horses & change in Egypt

**CAIRO**—The conflict of old and new in Tahrir Square, Cairo, was perhaps most starkly illustrated by the February 2, 2011 charge of 18 whip-wielding men on horseback and two on camels against the tens of thousands of people demanding the resignation of then-Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak. The demonstrators had occupied the square since January 25.

Mubarak left on February 11, ending a 30-year dictatorial regime, but on February 2 the outcome of the protests was still in doubt. “In Dokki, in western Cairo,” reported *Al Jazeera*, “thousands of Mubarak supporters gathered in Lebanon Square, chanting ‘He won’t go,’ in reference to Mubarak, as they watched camel riders and horse-cart drivers parade in circles.”

By afternoon, “The largest phalanx of pro-government forces gathered next to the Egyptian Museum, and thousands surged toward the army tanks blocking the road into Tahrir. The camel and horse riders from Dokki galloped through the crowd, as others launched a barrage of rocks toward the protesters inside Tahrir,” *Al Jazeera* said.

“At least six riders were dragged from their beasts, beaten with sticks by the protesters and taken away with blood streaming down their faces,” *Al Jazeera* continued. “One of them was dragged away unconscious, with large blood stains on the ground at the site of the clash.”

Photos and video of the charge were e-mailed around the world within minutes, including a sequence of a camel stumbling over a photographer and falling to the pavement. Fighting continued off and on for days. Gasoline bombs and sporadic bursts of live gunfire from Mubarak supporters injured far more people—and hurt some of the horses and camels, said unconfirmed reports. Yet the failure of the horse and camel charge appeared to be pivotal, emblematic of an antiquated authoritarian system that had run out of tricks to keep control.

“Using animals in their bloody work—what do animals have to do with this? And the animals got injured and burnt! Horses were horrifically injured,” e-mailed Egyptian Society for Mercy to Animals

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Editorial feature

# How to move the earth to help farmed animals

“Give me a lever and a place to stand,” the ancient Greek mathematician Archimedes reputedly said, “and I shall move the earth.”

His premise affords a metaphor for how animal advocates sometimes manage to motivate animal use industries to change—and an explanation of why some seemingly promising efforts fail.

As large and influential as some of the biggest animal advocacy organizations appear to be from within the cause, the budgets and assets of the entire cause, worldwide, are still substantially less than those of supermarkets in any major U.S. metropolitan area. Graphing the economic magnitude of animal advocacy compared to that of agribusiness is much like trying to graph the size of the earth in proportion to the rest of the solar system.

Yet animal advocates time and again do influence animal use industries, including aspects of agribusiness, by finding a good lever and a strategic place to stand. The lever needs to be an issue so compelling that mainstream public opinion is motivated to help press it. The place to stand needs to be widely recognized as an ethical position. The fulcrum that gives the lever force must be a practical and plausible alternative, such as a different product or a less abusive practice. The larger and more resistant the institution or industry is to change, the greater the swing in public opinion must be to compel change. Achieving large swings in public opinion requires presenting a clear difference between what is to be changed and the more humane alternative.

Translating metaphor into real-life example, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in November/December 2010 described the debut of Global Animal Partnership, an outgrowth of an earlier animal product certification program developed by Whole Foods Markets. In our January/February 2011 edition, GAP executive director Miyun Park and the founders of three earlier animal product certification programs squared off in debate. There were actually only two other participants in the debate, Animal Welfare Institute director Cathy Liss and Humane Farm Animal Care founder Adele Douglass, but Douglass earlier founded the American Humane Certified program run by the American Humane Association. Douglass left the AHA three years later when she felt it had been co-opted by increased agribusiness influence on the AHA board of directors—a trend **ANIMAL PEOPLE** warned against in our May 2000 editorial, “Got sacred cows?”

Altogether, there are now at least 26 animal product certification programs operating in the U.S., and several more abroad. Most are under the direction of the particular branches of agribusiness that they serve. Within the U.S., only the GAP, AWI, HFAC, and AHA programs are operated by organizations which claim independence from agribusiness. There are major structural differences among them. Perhaps most notably, the Animal Welfare Approved program begun by AWI admits only family-owned farms. The GAP program uses a controversial five-step evaluation system, rather than the pass/fail approach of the others. There are also significant differences among the animal welfare standards advocated by GAP, AWI, HFAC, and the AHA.

Because industries under pressure to change usually seek to avoid changing, the leverage actually applied by industry-controlled animal product certification programs is practically invisible, if it exists at all.

How much leverage is exercised by the certification programs operated by humane organizations is largely determined by their own strategic positioning. To be positively influential, each must find what the directors believe to be the appropriate balance of considerations, and then attract enough public support to encourage producers of animal products to change their methods and join the programs. A program that stands too close to agribusiness may attract considerable industry participation, yet have no real influence. A program that attempts to apply leverage from a fulcrum that is too far removed from most of the industry may never generate the force needed to move the greater mass.

A convenient example of flunking the “physical science” of animal welfare advocacy comes, amid the U.S. debate, from the Animal Welfare Board of India.

AWBI under the current chair, retired General Rammehar Kharb, has become perhaps more effective than ever before, promulgating and enforcing standards for operating animal birth control programs, moving aggressively to eradicate rabies, and disbaring corrupt

member societies. Kharb in January 2011 received one of the first lifetime achievement awards presented by the Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organizations, founded with his encouragement in 2007 as an independent umbrella through which, among other functions, animal welfare societies may lobby and monitor the performance of the AWBI.

But someone at the AWBI goofed big-time in securing sponsorships for the newspaper ads promoting Animal Welfare Fortnight 2011. This annual event is the Indian equivalent of Be Kind to Animals Week, promoted by the AHA each year since 1915.

While practically everyone who is anyone within AWBI was preoccupied with the first-ever FIAPO conference, at least 11 leading Indian newspapers published an Animal Welfare Fortnight ad prominently bearing the name and web address of the Council for Leather Exports.

To understand the magnitude of this mistake requires understanding that slaughtering cattle is illegal in most of India, and is rarely done in licensed, regulated, and inspected slaughterhouses. Devout Hindus are only allowed to wear or use leather from cattle who have died naturally. Elsewhere in the world, the most valuable part of a cattle carcass, by far, is beef. The hide value is relatively slight. But because selling beef is prohibited in much of India, and is culturally discouraged even where it is legal, the hide value of cattle in India is often greater than the meat value. Dairy farmers consequently often sell unwanted cattle (mainly old cows and young males) to drovers who may truck them the length of India to slaughter, with few if any provisions for the animals’ welfare; or they may simply starve cattle to death, forgoing the minimal meat value to sell the hides.

Unfortunately, the practice of deliberately allowing cattle to die “naturally” by starvation are also common among the frequently corrupt operators of cattle shelters, called *gaushalas* and *pinjarapoles*.

The abuses within the Indian leather trade have been extensively documented, time and again, for at least 80 years. The AWBI itself was formed in part to address these abuses. The Council for Leather Exports was created as a voice for the Indian leather industry in response to appeals issued by Indian animal welfare organizations and a PETA-led global boycott of Indian leather goods.

Responded AWBI spokesperson Anjali Sharma, as dismay over the ads erupted from FIAPO members, “So AWBI allowed the Council for Leather Exports to fund the campaign—why not? Let some of their money be put to good use. I am told that the endeavor is going to get the Council for Leather Exports to endorse better policies, procedures, etc. At least that will be a beginning.”

Countered Poorva Josphipura of PETA-India, “We attempted to work with the CLE for many years. Our experience with the CLE is that they are eager to give the misleading impression that they have a genuine interest in improving animal welfare. It is our guess that the CLE may be showing the AWBI advertisement to potential buyers of leather from India to make it seem like they are doing their bit to help animals, while animals used for leather continue to be transported by vehicles so overcrowded their bones often snap, and continue to be killed with dull knives, typically in full view of one another. By the CLE joining with AWBI in putting out an advertisement, the general public may get the incorrect idea that the treatment of animals by the Indian leather industry has AWBI’s full seal of approval, which could lead to people buying [more] leather.”

Asked Mini Vasudevan of the Humane Animal Society in Coimbatore, “Would AWBI also accept if slaughterhouses and illegal pet shop owners asked to fund a campaign?”

Echoed Bangalore activist Gopi Shankar, “If a major poultry producer came forward to donate toward running ad campaigns without moving a finger to alleviate the suffering of chickens, would we accept that sort of blood money? Instead of sponsoring ads,” Shankar suggested, “CLE should at least take some small incremental steps toward reforming the cruel practices of the leather industry.”

Almost unanimously the first concern of critics of the CLE sponsorship was that it would in effect cut off humane leverage against the cattle breeding, sale, transport, slaughter, and leather industries, by wrongly conveying to the public the message that the AWBI and CLE had reconciled their differences, and now stand together.

## Backsliding since 1935

The back cover of the January 1935 edition of the *National Humane Review*, published by the American Humane Association, editorially warned against factory egg farms, then just beginning to gain significant market share. *The National Humane Review* identified “high-pressure production of eggs as detrimental,” noted “high mortality among laying hens attributed to burning up vitality in artificially forced production,” mentioned the ill effects of “electric lights to make a longer working day in the chicken coop,” denounced the view that “the hen is a machine in which raw material is regularly converted into finished products,” and lamented the outcome that “Overtrained, overfed hens do their level best to deliver the goods, and then collapse.” The word “overtrained” was apparently used in the sense that is applied to “training” a bonzai tree.

More than half of the American Humane Certified producers as of July 2010 produced eggs. But long recognition of the relevant animal welfare issues has not caused the AHA to leverage better conditions for laying hens. Indeed United Poultry Concerns founder Karen Davis in July 2010 denounced the AHA as “a bogus animal welfare group that fronts for agribusiness,” for routinely taking positions which appear to ignore many of the points that it recognized 75 years earlier.

For example, California voters in November 2008 approved Proposition Two, an initiative requiring that by 2015 whole eggs sold within the state must come from hens who are able to stand up, turn around, and fully extend their limbs. To most animal advocates, this means birds who are cage-free, though it is possible for birds to be physically comfortable in spacious cages with perches and nest boxes. But in June 2010 the AHA authorized the egg producer J.S. West, of Modesto, California, to use the American Humane Certified logo, after West replaced conventional battery caging with “enriched” cages like those that must be used in the European Union by 2012. In effect, the AHA agreed with West that Proposition Two allows laying hens to be caged, if the hens get the equivalent of one and a half sheets of paper to stand on apiece, instead of less than one.

With the AHA reading of Proposition Two expected to land in court, Humane Society of the U.S. factory farming campaign senior director Paul Shapiro and Farm Sanctuary founder Gene Baur on January 18, 2011 introduced an initiative petition seeking to pass a similar ballot measure in Washington state.

Attempting to counter the initiative effort, six pro-agribusiness Washington state senators on February 4, 2011 introduced SB 4487, a bill which would require that “Any new cage system installed between January 1, 2012, and July 1, 2018, must have achieved American Humane Association approval as an enriched colony housing system under the approval guidelines in existence on January 1, 2011, or be capable of modification to achieve such approval.”

In other words, the AHA name is invoked in support of a proposal which would require only that new egg barns must have cage shelving which, if holding conventional battery cages, could hold “enriched” cages instead.

The AHA began visibly fronting for the conventional egg industry in March 2008, two years after the industry organization United Egg Producers was to have quit using an “Animal Care Certified” label on egg boxes that the U.S. Federal Trade Commission held was

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# How to move the earth to help farm animals (from page 3)

misleading. The FTC ruled in response to complaints brought by Compassion Over Killing, cofounded by Shapiro and Miyun Park, now with GAP.

The AHA and United Egg Producers agreed, according to a jointly issued press release, that "an egg farmer who passes the American Humane Certified audit, pays the fees and is a member in good standing with the UEP Certified Program and meets the UEP guidelines on 100% of their egg production, can then use the UEP Certified logo and market those eggs as UEP Certified in addition to marketing them as American Humane Certified, using the American Humane Certified logo." A charitable interpretation of the deal would be that the AHA partnered with United Egg Producers to gain positioning through which to improve egg industry standards.

In effect, though, the AHA gave cover to United Egg Producers: instead of the industry program being discredited, the UEP and American Humane Certified logos began appearing side by side, creating the impression of equivalency and blurring whatever distinction might be made between what the two organizations stand for.

Along the way, the AHA in September 2010 approved killing chickens by decompression.

"Decompression is unacceptable for euthanasia," according to the American Veterinary Medical Association Guidelines on Euthanasia. Introduced by the AHA to kill dogs and cats in 1950, decompression has not been used in the U.S. to kill shelter animals since 1985, is banned for use on dogs and cats in 24 states, and is banned for use in killing any animals in 12 states.

The AHA, alone among recognized humane societies, also participated in the January 2010 "Summit for the

horse" in Las Vegas, convened by ranchers whose interests include clearing horses from the western range, resuming horse slaughter to export meat for human consumption, and selling wild horses to slaughter.

Current AHA chief executive Robin Ganzert took office in August 2010 with a statement distancing the AHA from "extreme ideas purported by those who argue that...people have no right to raise animals for food." But there is no longer distance enough between AHA positions and those of some of the most reactionary elements in agribusiness for **ANIMAL PEOPLE** to perceive the AHA as seeking to leverage any positive change on behalf of farm animals.

## GAP & leverage

The risk of standing too close to agribusiness to effectively leverage change was apparent from the beginning of GAP, founded by Whole Foods Markets empire builder John Mackey. Aware that the role of a retail meat marketer as incubator for GAP might compromise perceptions of GAP, Mackey recruited an all-star cast of animal welfare advocates to serve on the GAP board, balanced by an almost equal number of people associated with Whole Foods and Whole Foods suppliers. Mackey hired Miyun Park to preside over the public debut of the organization, and even retired as chair of the Whole Foods board of directors.

None of this, however, quelled criticisms that the GAP five-step accreditation system serves the interests of agribusiness by setting the standards for accreditation at the lowest steps so low that almost any producer meeting the requirements of the industry certification systems can gain the

GAP imprimatur. Once admitted to the GAP program at Step One or Step Two, no mechanism requires producers to make improvements to rise to the levels of animal welfare required by HFAC's Certified Humane and AWI's Animal Welfare Approved labeling programs.

In theory, GAP enables consumers to vote for higher animal welfare by paying higher prices for animal products certified at the higher steps. In practice—with the notoriously pricey Whole Foods chain offering a possible exception—consumers tend to buy whatever costs least within the range of comparable products, and that would include products labeled "humane." This suggests that producers who enter the GAP program at Step One or Step Two may find the most incentive to stay where they are.

GAP is still in an early phase, and in response to criticism to the original set of standards has promised a major revision at an unspecified date. A February 1, 2011 relaunch of the GAP web site meanwhile cited participation by 1,191 animal producers, more than participate in any of the other non-industry programs. GAP's own statistics demonstrated that their participating producers are clustered overwhelmingly at the lower end of the GAP standards. 81% of the meat chicken producers and 85% of the pig producers are at GAP steps one and two. Including beef cattle producers, 72% of all GAP-certified producers are at the lowest steps—and these appear to be those who raise the most animals.

If GAP is to become meaningful for farm animal welfare, it needs to demonstrate that it stands apart enough from agribusiness to leverage real improvement. Just slapping a seal of approval on practices that differ little from the agribusiness status quo does not meet the test of moving the earth.

## LETTERS

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

## Decompression—now the AHA-approved way to kill chickens

Just a quick note to let you know I'm reading some of the literature on decompression of poultry, as endorsed in September 2010 by the American Humane Association.

It seems from what I've read that the main case Yvonne Vizzier-Thaxton *et al* are making for the Low Atmospheric Pressure System's "humaneness" to chickens is the rate of decompression. If the rate is slowed down to what they are using in the experiments, the

time it takes for the birds to go limp and appear insensible is said to be about four minutes. This includes a "death struggle." A view through an infrared monitor shows birds "dis-oriented and flapping their wings" against the walls of their crates—but Vizzier-Thaxton *et al* claim it doesn't cause pain or serious discomfort to the birds. "Very rapid systems result in pain and distress caused by expansion of gas trapped in body cavities," they say, versus "using controlled slow decompression which allows the body of the bird to adjust to changes in pressure and thus lose consciousness with minimal discomfort."

They also focus on lack of signs of deep breathing and other respiratory responses to CO2 exposure to suggest that therefore the birds are not suffering very much in the oxy-

gen removal system.

They don't give any attention to the effect of lowered pressure on the eardrums, which I imagine would be absolute torture for the birds. Chickens have very sensitive hearing and there is also the American Veterinary Medical Association's point that among mammals, at least, younger animals are much harder to render unconscious using decompression than older ones, so what does this say about subjecting 5-6 week old chickens to the Low Atmospheric Pressure System?

—Karen Davis, founder  
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## The AHA at horse slaughter summit

The January/February edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** reported about the Summit for the Horse, held in Las Vegas during the first week of January 2011 by proponents of horse slaughter for human consumption and of slaughtering wild horses. "The lone speaker from a prominent humane organization was Tim Amlaw, director of the American Humane Certified program of the American Humane Association, which certifies livestock production methods...Amlaw, assessed Suzanne Roy of Wild Horse Preservation, 'delivered essentially a sales pitch about what the AHA certification program could do for the horsemeat industry, tout-ing what it had done previously for other meat industries'."

We asked AHA president Robin Ganzert to respond to Roy's summary, and to explain how the AHA reconciles Amlaw's statements with the AHA position statement on wild horses, which "opposes attempts to weaken the Wild Horse & Burro Act," passed in 1971 to discourage the sale of wild horses to slaughter.

Thirty-one days after the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** inquiry, the AHA replied:

In response to your inquiry of January 7, the following statement is sent on behalf of Robin R. Ganzert, Ph.D., American Humane Association's president and CEO. Thank you for your interest in American Humane Association.

American Humane Association participated in the Summit of the Horse conference to listen and learn about the issues surrounding unwanted horses in this country.

We are studying the various proposals and want to ensure that there is a voice at the table representing the interests of animals and recognizing the vital importance of the

human-animal bond.

The issue of how to most humanely address unwanted and potentially abandoned horses is a complex and emotionally wrenching one that doesn't lend itself to easy answers. The national dialogue regarding this issue needs to be honest, thorough and evidence-based. We believe in working to establish humane, stringent and scientifically based animal welfare standards that are affirmed by our Scientific Advisory Committee, which includes internationally renowned animal welfare expert Temple Grandin, who also spoke at the conference. We also believe in the use of independent, multi-tiered monitoring practices to ensure that those standards of treatment, housing and management are maintained at all times.

Above all, American Humane Association believes that, in all human-animal interactions, a fundamental principle of human compassion should be upheld: *That all animals should be treated humanely throughout their lives.*

In regard to your question about statements made at the Summit of the Horse by Tim Amlaw, our Vice President, Farm Animal Program, nothing he said conflicted with American Humane Association's stated position on wild horses and burros. One statement he made was, "The most important thing — whatever the solutions — we have to focus on the animal. That's our role, and it has been for 133 years."

Ensuring the humane treatment of animals is clearly consistent with our stated positions and our mission.

—Steve Nayowith  
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## Tom Scholz of Boston

Tom Scholz is the talented leader, guitarist and keyboard player for the renowned American rock band Boston. Scholz is a longtime ethical vegan and philanthropist who has contributed more than \$3 million to animal rights groups, homeless shelters, and charities for children. The notes inside Boston's Greatest Hits Album and three of their other cassettes encourage people to embrace a cruelty-free lifestyle. Scholz's song "Corporate America" denounces factory farms and the destruction of the planet perpetrated by powerful inhumane corporations.

—Brien Comerford  
Glenview, Illinois



## Please Help Me Heal My name is Jake.



I'm a 2-year-old Norwalk Terrier mix. I recently became a member of North Shore Animal League America's Help Me Heal Program, which saved my life. I suffered some intense trauma. I was found injured and alone. It is very likely that I was hit by a car and left to fend for myself for several days.

When the Animal League rescued me, they had me examined by their veterinarians. They saw that my pelvis was fractured in two places and my bladder was herniated. I was experiencing severe discomfort, which was causing me to limp and made it almost impossible for me to get around. These fractures and my herniated bladder required immediate emergency surgery.

The Animal League acted quickly and helped me get the operation I needed. Because my right rear limb, where my surgery took place, needs time to heal, I'm going to have a long recovery process ahead of me.

Thanks to many caring people, including you, I'm alive today. Your generous support of the Help Me Heal Program ensures that sick or injured animals like me get the care we need and a second chance at life.

To help continue the care for Jake and help other animals in our Help Me Heal Program, visit [www.AnimalLeague.org/help-me-heal](http://www.AnimalLeague.org/help-me-heal)

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





## Llamas rescued

The Camelid Rescue Coalition, comprised of Northeast Llama Rescue, Southeast Llama Rescue, Southwest Llama Rescue, the Llama Association of North America's Llama Lifeline Committee and several other llama associations, is thrilled to announce that all llamas have been evacuated from the Montana Large Animal Sanctuary.

Of the 506 llamas who were held in triage at the sanctuary in preparation for transport, 495 are now receiving the best of care at foster facilities throughout the country.

Four llamas were euthanized on site when it was determined that their conditions were not improving and that they would not survive transport. Three llamas died in transit or shortly thereafter, and five others died prior to transport due to their extremely compromised states.

The CRC wishes to extend our gratitude to the kind persons caring for the 495 llamas in foster facilities, located in California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, and Washington State.

We are also pleased to announce that one of our member organizations, Southeast Llama Rescue, is the recipient of a \$20,000 grant from the ASPCA. The grant will help to defray some of the \$50,000-plus spent by SELR and the CRC on initial transportation costs. Donations are still needed to help us provide hay and supplies for the hundreds of llamas now in foster care, and to assist with future transport of llamas to their adoptive homes.



—L'illette Vasquez  
Rocky Mountain  
Llama Association  
on behalf of  
Camelid Rescue Coalition  
c/o Southeast Llama Rescue  
678 Mill Creek Road  
Luray, VA 22835  
<www.SoutheastLlamaRescue.org>

## Anti-sealing in Quebec

We supposedly live in a democracy, but in Canada it is perilous, nay impossible, to oppose the commercial seal hunt. Insults, threats and heinous propaganda rain down on all those who oppose it. There are many low blows, including backstabbing.

It's impossible to give one's opinion, utter a comment, quote scientific sources or present videos exposing the cruelty of this hunt. When it comes from those against the hunt, it's characterized as disinformation, demagogic and emotional cries of Brigitte Bardot sentimentalists, and ploys to raise funds. Even worse, those who dare raise their voices for the survival of seals are labeled "dangerous animalists," and terrorists working for powerful organizations that make money off the backs of poor seal hunters.

Senator Céline Hervieux-Payette, in a recent communiqué about China agreeing to sell commercial seal products, again attacked, as has been her habit for several years, the "vegetarian extremist." She said, "The federal government defends Canadian sealers who have been victims of the cynical European boycott and callous campaigns from animalist pressure groups."

—Marjolaine Jolicoeur, AHIMSA  
(Association Humanitaire  
d'Information et de  
Mobilisation pour la  
Survie des Animaux)  
7 Lacs, Ste-Rita, Quebec  
Canada, G0L 4G0  
<ahimsa@distributel.net>  
<www.ass-ahimsa.net>



## Anti-sealing in India

Thanks for your January/February cover articles "Oslo Fashion Week bans fur from catwalk" and "Chinese activists object to Canadian deal to sell seal meat & oil to China." I have been involved for years now in the campaign to stop the Canadians from killing baby seals and reading these help me to continue.



—Prem Krishnan  
Chennai, India  
<prem.krishnan@hotmail.com>

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IT'S YOUR FIGHT, YOUR REWARD

## Training curriculum needed for animal control personnel

We on the front lines of animal rescue/welfare are over-extended like never before. We have worked for decades and still often have unqualified and non-progressive Bubbas running animal control departments and obstructing our efforts.

Our humane leaders have supported

### Recalling better days

Thanks for the unfortunate news about the collapse of the Montana Large Animal Sanctuary. Scanning your January/February 2011 edition, I was shocked to see the headline "Montana Large Animal Sanctuary becomes largest-ever sanctuary failure," and saddened to learn the bad news, both for the animals and cofounders Brian and Kathryn Warrington. In 2000, we were married there, after your recommendation, with Wendy (mule deer), Teddy Roosevelt (elk), and Dolly (llama) as witnesses. Clearly your early suggestions regarding their limited funding sources were spot on.

Reading the obituaries in this edition brought to mind a true friend of animals, Dr. Thomas Van Cise, who died suddenly on December 30, 2010, leaving a huge hole in both the veterinary field and the holistic medicine field. We attended his funeral on January 7, 2011 and were surrounded by people who were truly touched by a great man who not only saved "unsavable" animal lives, but did the same for humans. He also taught a style of Aikido he established, based on mind, body, and spirit.



—Jackie & Tim Martin  
Corona, California  
<WMPR@earthlink.net>

the education of veterinarians to do juvenile sterilization surgeries and operate high volume sterilization clinics. They have supported the coalitions to bring animal control agencies along, but the taxpayer-supported agencies often continue to pursue retrograde policies.

For instance, Seminole county—one of the richest and most educated in Florida—recently hired an animal control director who wants a leash law for cats and opposes neuter/return. In Putnam County, animal control obtained a new ordinance that says if you feed an animal you are the owner. This clearly opens the door to prosecute neuter/return practitioners.

Space Coast Felines has worked tirelessly for decades to have a successful neuter/return program in Brevard County, but their program is also now threatened by new

county legislation.

In the Florida Keys the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission are now pursuing extermination of the same neuter/return colony where cats were killed in large numbers in 2003.

My wish is that the national animal advocacy organization should create a humane animal control curriculum for animal control officers. Then, with the help of the national organizations, we can seek legislation to require that those in charge of animal control agencies must have taken these courses and passed the exams.

—Bonnie Carolin  
Angel Paws Animal Fund  
Putnam, Florida  
<Katnip364@aol.com>



### Editor's note:

The good news is that the curriculum exists. The National Animal Control Association, formed in 1978, has held annual training conferences since 1980, published the first comprehensive training manual for animal control officers in 1989, and published an updated edition in 2001. The NACA training academy debuted in 1992.

The NACA curriculum differs from the curriculums offered by national humane society training conferences chiefly in recognizing that the first responsibility of an animal control officer is protecting the public from animals, whereas the first responsibility of a humane officer is protecting animals from the public. In addition, while most humane officers are employed by nonprofit humane societies, most animal control officers are public

employees. Usually animal control officers have somewhat more law enforcement authority than humane officers, but not always; usually they work under narrower constraints.

The Humane Society of the U.S. published Animal Control Management: A Guide for Local Governments, by Geoffrey L. Handy, in 2003, and also offers an animal control curriculum through the subsidiary Humane University.

The bad news is that while these curriculums exist and are well-regarded by animal control professionals, neither NACA nor Humane University accreditation is required anywhere to become an animal control officer, or even an animal control director. Indeed, many graduates of the NACA and Humane University programs attend at their own expense, on their vacation time.

## Protect Farm Animals



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THE HUMANE FARMING ASSOCIATION

Campaign Against Factory Farming

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## More letters

### Black day in Ireland

February 15, 2011 was a black day indeed for those of us who campaigned for 20 years against the barbaric Ward Union deer hunt, which was finally banned last June. The Fine Gael Party manifesto, published today, states that if elected they will "reverse the ban on stag hunting."

Elsewhere in their manifesto they say they will "update existing animal welfare rules which are outdated and need to be reformed." They are off to a bad start by threatening to repeal an act which has banned gratuitous cruelty to vulnerable animals, which for over 150 years were hounded by dogs for "sport."

This would be a callous and despicable move by Fine Gael if they attain power, as seems likely, and we have no doubt that the majority of people in this country would find this utterly abhorrent.

—Aideen Yourell

Irish Council  
Against Blood Sports  
PO Box 88, Mullingar  
County Westmeath, Ireland  
Phone: 086-2636265  
<aideen@banbloodsports.com>  
<www.banbloodsports.com>



### Cockfighting compared to agribusiness

Re "Judges allow cockfights in violation of Indian law," in the January/February edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, I think there are far more serious welfare issues facing chickens than a few odd cockfights held in some selected areas of rural India.

For example, *Open Magazine* revealed recently, "Each day, across India, millions of male chicks are put to death in ways that would be unimaginable to most. In many instances, the rejected chicks are simply thrown live into incinerators. In other cases, they are shoved live into gunny bags that are dunked into barrels of poisonous chemicals."

I think killing male chicks in such a gruesome manner is much much more barbaric than cockfights. It does not create as much

I would like to report the growing practice of catching homeless dogs with steel jaw leghold traps in Taiwan. The situation needs concerted international intervention. Dog and cats caught by these traps often die slowly and painfully from dehydration and starvation. Those who are rescued often must have injured legs amputated. Taiwan has become a land of three-legged dogs and cats.

Recent news reports document that steel jaw leghold traps have been found near schools, in markets, resorts, urban streets, and residential areas, along mountain trails, and in Yang Ming Shan National Park. Among the recent incidents, three dogs were injured in February 2011 by leghold traps set near the Taiwan National University.

Indiscriminate use of leghold traps has also injured Formosan black bears and the small native cats called leopard cats, among other rare and endangered Taiwanese wildlife. Public protest against the use of steel jaw leghold traps began in 2008. Pressured by animal welfare groups, the government in 2009 increased the penalty for illegal trapping. The Council of Agriculture has set up a hotline for people to report illegal use of metal traps and has funded humane education. At the present time, the Council of Agriculture is printing brochures and posters as well as sponsoring public events.

### Leghold trapping used to kill dogs in Taiwan

In 2009 the Taipei city government and Life Conservation Association co-produced a video called *The Unlawful Use of Leg Hold Traps*. In April 2010 it was broadcast in rapid transit stations of northern Taiwan and on public channels. The government and the Hardware Association agreed that permits and registration are now required to purchase leghold traps. In addition, stores must educate buyers about the danger of using the traps. But this is not enough to stop the crisis. Taiwan has homeless animals all over the island, and it is almost impossible to trace the trappers.

Through international campaigns, including your in-depth reporting, the Taiwan government finally passed an animal protection law back in 1998. I hope **ANIMAL PEOPLE** will help now to expose the leghold trapping issue. Letters of protest against the use of leghold traps may be sent to the Taiwan Council of Agriculture, 37 Nanhai Road, Taipei, Taiwan 10014, Republic of China, or by e-mail to <coa@mail.coa.gov.tw>.

—Mira Fong  
Santa Fe, New Mexico  
<www.moondesert.com>



#### Editor's note:

*In January 2010 I saw for myself the evidence of illegal but extensive leghold trap - ping to catch dogs, cats, and wildlife in the mountains surrounding Taipei. From 1977 to 1989, as volunteer assistant to a Quebec deputy game warden, I patrolled about 50 miles per week of prime furbearer habitat on foot throughout each winter, detecting and removing traps and snares from posted land. In this capacity, seeing more of trapping than most trappers, I saw that leghold trapping and snaring are cruelties which are actually understated by much anti-trapping and anti-fur literature. Currently there appears to be more leghold trapping in Taiwan than in Quebec back then, at the height of trapped fur prices. The trapping in Taiwan is done out of a superstitious and irrational fear and hatred of animals among a tiny but aggressive and influential minority of the human population. Though the trapping is rationalized in the name of protecting agriculture, much goes on far from any crops, and many of the trappers, when identified, have no involvement in farming.*

furor, because it is hidden, but the intensity of cruelty is definitely higher. I can safely bet that more male chickens are killed each day by the egg industry than the sum total of all birds killed in cockfights in the last 20 years.

I am not saying that we should actively encourage cock fights, but cockfighting may be an inevitable byproduct, in some parts of India, of encouraging free range egg farming, which unfortunately is dying out in much of the world. Cockfighting is cruelty, especially when done with attached blades as is the norm, but by giving undue focus to it, we may miss the woods for the trees.

—Avin Deen  
Bangalore, India  
<avinvasion@yahoo.com>



*dog feistiness, but would grow up to be too small to pull carts, too big to hunt rats...Cockfighting continues as a virtual shadow of the poultry industry. Pinpointing the locations of cockfighting arrests around the U.S. produces a de facto map of factory chicken farming." Cockfighting thrives, worldwide, as an adjunct to commercial egg production. Where cockfighting has historically been culturally tolerated, for example in Arkansas, Missouri, and North Carolina, factory-style poultry farming and high-volume chick liquidation tends to become established and tolerated as well. Where cruelty to animals is accepted as a public recreation, one should not be surprised that it becomes a way of life & business.*

#### Editor's note:

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** has often pointed out the cruelty of egg industry procedures for "sexing" chickens, in most depth and detail in a March 2004 feature entitled "How the U.S. kills sick & 'spent' chickens." By far the most common method in the U.S. is live maceration. But as the March 2009 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial "No more treating sentient lives as trash" pointed out, "Cockfighting, bullfighting, and dogfighting each originated through the quest to find profitable uses for lives that would otherwise be snuffed out and discarded: birds who would never lay eggs, cattle who would never give milk, and barge-born mongrel pups who might combine big-dog stamina with small-

### New Malaysian wildlife law is just a start

Further to "New Malaysian Wildlife Conservation Act including anti-cruelty language comes into effect," in the January/February 2011 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, Sahabat Alam Malaysia is relieved to learn that the Malaysian wildlife department, Perhilitan, will improve security at all entry and exit points into the country.

SAM welcomes the strengthened Wildlife Protection Act. Under the old law most wildlife crime cases ended in acquittal.

Wildlife smuggling should be treated like narcotics crime, with punishment based on the quantity of seized materials.

Though tigers are protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, tiger numbers are falling alarmingly. Efforts to save this magnificent animal have unfortunately not yet reversed the decline in tiger populations. The actions taken remain insufficient and marred by bureaucratic procrastination. There needs to be stronger effort to patrol forest reserves, protect tiger prey, and remove snares and poachers.

CITES depends on member states to provide data and enforcement. Yet many CITES parties fail to systematically monitor and report wildlife trade. Most CITES-listed species occur in countries where governance is often weak and corruption high. Poor data collection also lead to massive underreporting of the animal and plant trade.

Another contributing factor to the

rapid growth of illegal trade in wildlife is fast, convenient, anonymous wildlife trading on the Internet. Countries who are parties to CITES should review their domestic laws to ensure that offering animals and animal products of CITES-listed species for sale on the Internet is treated as an offense against the CITES-implementing legislation.

Also of other serious concern is that the pet trade mostly operates without regulation. Asian countries have become hubs for dealers engaged in sale and purchase of birds and turtles, while deterrents are not forthcoming. People do not realise the kind of money involved in wildlife trafficking. Networks of professional criminals are organized to kill and ship wildlife on a massive scale.

The increasingly organized and sophisticated nature of wildlife crime requires the close collaboration of wildlife departments with forestry departments, customs agencies, and police. Internationally, a culture of cooperation and criminal intelligence-sharing is needed to stop trafficking in endangered species, with Interpol playing a lead role.

—S.M. Mohd Idris  
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258 Air Itam Road  
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<sam\_inquiry@yahoo.com>  
<www.foe-malaysia.org>



### 3,208 greyhounds injured at just one track

For years, Grey2K USA has tried to obtain greyhound injury reports from the Tri-State Racetrack in Cross Lanes, West Virginia. During that time, we have been repeatedly denied injury data from state officials. Until now.

According to newly-obtained state records, at least 3,208 greyhound injuries have been reported at this track since 2005. Nearly 200 dogs have died. Further, it's likely that the actual number of injuries is even higher, as the state still refuses to produce several months of records.

#### Editor's note:

*There are two greyhound tracks in West Virginia. The other, the Wheeling Island Hotel-Casino-Racetrack, spent \$400,000 on purported track improvements in August and September 2010, after the average number of dog injuries increased from 19 per month in 2009 to more than 27 per month through July 2010, but Billy Wolfe of the Charleston Daily Mail reported on December 3, 2010 that*

## Campaign for Democracy within the Royal SPCA

Animal Concern incorporates the Scottish Anti-Vivisection Society, which has been campaigning for animals since 1876. We have had several policy disagreements over the years with the Royal SPCA, which covers England and Wales and is not to be confused with the Scottish SPCA, with whom we have also had our share of similar run-ins.

For nearly three years now we have been trying unsuccessfully to get the RSPCA to stop endorsing seal-shooting salmon farmers through the RSPCA Freedom Foods scheme. We have also been trying to get the RSPCA to insist on installation of closed circuit television cameras throughout the Freedom Foods system to help ensure that the highest welfare standards are adhered to.

Some of our supporters are also supporters of the RSPCA and SSPCA. Some have asked if they should stop giving money to these organisations. Our reply has been that if you give money to such an organization, which is governed by representatives elected by membership, it is important to do so by way of a membership fee and not just a donation. As a member you have a right to question the way an organization is run, and have a chance to change and improve the policy of the organization.

If you are a member of the RSPCA, or donate to it, I recommend that you contact the Campaign for Democracy within the RSPCA. This is a group of RSPCA members who are trying to contact the 500 members they need to call an emergency governance meeting to try to make the RSPCA more accountable and responsive.

To find out more about this, please e-mail to <Joseph.Piccioni@btinternet.com>.

—John F. Robins

Campaigns Consultant  
Animal Concern  
P.O. Box 5178  
Dumbarton  
Scotland G82 5YJ  
<animals@jfrobbins.force9.co.uk>  
<www.animalconcern.com>



This is a staggering and sad example of the cruelty of greyhound racing. While we have documented severe injury problems at other dog tracks, this is the most severe injury problem we have discovered to date.

—Christine A. Dorchak, Esq., president,

—Carey M. Theil, executive director

Grey2K USA  
P.O. Box 440142  
Somerville, MA 02144  
Phone: 866-2GREY2K  
<www.Grey2Kusa.org>

### Help dogs in Sri Lanka

In the backdrop of a no-kill policy and a half-hearted national spay program, the Sri Lanka health ministry wants to set up district dog shelters.

Holding dogs in shelters that are likely to offer zero care is as bad as killing dogs, or worse. People will not have their dogs spayed at all if these shelters are set up as they will have ready-made places to dump dogs.

Instead of making the national dog sterilization program cost-efficient and sustainable, the present program has been allowed to run for three years, covering a few areas in a few provinces, prone to much malpractice as there is no monitoring and the vets are paid piecemeal.

Could **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers please write to the Health Minister in support of a results-oriented nationwide sterilization program, as opposed to nationwide animal shelters? His address is: Hon. Maithripala Sirisena, M.P., Minister of Health, Suwasiripaya, 385 Rev. Baddegama Wimalawansa Thero Mawatha, Colombo 10, Sri Lanka.

—Champa Fernando  
Secretary, KACPAW  
191 Trinco Street, Kandy, Sri Lanka  
<champakandy@yahoo.co.in>



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## Mercy for Animals exposes cruelty at a Texas factory catfish farm

**DALLAS**—Probably more fish consumers were puzzled—at first—than shocked on January 19, 2011 when Mercy for Animals released undercover video of alleged criminal animal abuse at Catfish Corner, in eastern Dallas County. “I don’t get too many calls about inhumaneness to fish,” Dallas fish market owner Rex Bellomy told Ken Kalthoff of NBCDFW.com.

Founded in 1968, Catfish Corner is among the oldest active fish farms in the U.S.—“a place where families bring their kids, often to fish for the first time. Others stop by and pick a catfish out of a tank for dinner. They can have their fish cleaned and take them home to eat,” described *Dallas Morning News* staff writer Melissa Repko.

“They kill the fish nationwide the same way. I don’t know what the deal is,” Catfish Corner owner Bill Benson told Repko.

Agreed Texas Parks & Wildlife warden Garry Collins, “99.9% of the commercial places do that.” But that was Mercy for Animals’ point: the Catfish Corner practices are routine and rarely questioned, not only nationwide but worldwide. They have not withstood previous humane scrutiny because there has never been any.

Mercy For Animals exposed “Workers using pliers to pull the skin off of live fish, dozens of fish crammed into buckets and baskets, gasping for oxygen, skinned fish still moving and gasping on the cutting table, fish flailing and struggling to escape the workers’ knives, live fish sliced and split in half,” and “workers tearing the heads off of live fish,” summarized the MFA media release sent out with the video clips.

Mercy for Animals director of investigations Daniel Hauff on December 6, 2010 asked the Dallas County district attorney’s office to prosecute Benson. When, expectedly, no prosecution followed, Hauff released the video to media with an appeal for amendments to the Texas state cruelty law to protect fish. The Mercy for Animals position was supported by statements from veteri-

narian Lee Schrader and Jonathan Balcombe, author of *Second Nature: The Inner Lives of Animals*.

Within hours links to some of the Mercy for Animals clips were offered by MSNBC, Change.org, and *The Huffington Post*, and had gone viral on YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter. The video clips generated the most public discussion to date—in the U.S. or anywhere—of cruelty in fish farming, which now produces nearly half of all the fish who are eaten worldwide.

Along the way Mercy for Animals expanded awareness that fish feel pain, and not only when hooked.

U.S. fish farms reportedly kill about 8.4 billion fish per year now, a number rivaling the volume of poultry slaughter. About 80% catfish, with trout and salmon the next most often farmed species. *State of the World’s Fisheries & Aquaculture*, published in Rome, Italy on January 31, 2011 by the United Nations Food & Agricultural Organization, found that “The contribution of fish to global diets has reached a record of about 17 kilograms (34 pounds) per person on average...due mainly to the ever-growing production of aquaculture,” which is expected to soon produce more fish than wild stocks.

“The overall percentage of overexploited, depleted or recovering fish stocks in the world’s oceans has not dropped,” the FAO found, “and is estimated to be slightly higher than in 2006. About 32% of world fish stocks are estimated to be overexploited, depleted or recovering and need to be urgently rebuilt,” the FAO noted.

University of British Columbia researcher Dirk Zeller a week later alleged in the journal *Polar Biology* that the FAO numbers actually understate the extent of fisheries depletion. According to Zeller, U.S., Canadian, and Russian vessels caught 75 times more fish in Arctic waters than they admitted between 1950 and 2006. Under-reporting “has given us a false sense of comfort that the Arctic is still a pristine frontier when it comes to fisheries,” Zeller wrote.

## National Free Feral Cat Spay Day

April 27, 2011

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## Dogs Deserve Better takes option to buy Michael Vick’s Bad Newz Kennels property

**TIPTON, Pennsylvania**—The anti-dog chaining organization Dogs Deserve Better has an option to purchase on football player and convicted dogfighter Michael Vick’s former home on Moonlight Road in rural Surrey County, Virginia.

The 15-acre estate housed Bad Newz Kennels, Vick’s dogfighting operation. The 4,600-square-foot house where dogs were fought remains on the property, but the Bad Newz Kennels doghouses, training facilities, and fencing have been removed.

Dogs Deserve Better has operated for nine years from founder Tamara Ci Thayne’s home in Tipton, Pennsylvania, but needs more space for dog housing and training. Members annually take in between 400 and 600 formerly chained dogs, Dogs Deserve Better capital campaigns chair Monica Severy told *Virginian-Pilot* reporter Linda McNatt. “We bring the dogs inside with a family,” Severy said. “They are all house trained, and are in a loving environment,” in preparation for adoption. We do have dogs in the program who were used for fighting,” Severy added. “The dogs will live in the house,” Severy anticipated, “and we’ll use it for training and for meetings. There will be

somebody there all the time, living there,” beginning with Thayne, who would relocate.

Dogs Deserve Better has 45 days from taking out the option to purchase to complete the financial arrangements. The asking price is \$595,000, Severy said.

“We don’t want to take a mortgage if we don’t have to,” Thayne told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “We would much prefer to raise the money. We have already raised \$71,500,” Thayne said, which “may be enough to secure a loan, so we will just keep plugging along and see what happens. Then we still have to undertake a capitol campaign for the dog facilities. We will foster dogs in the office while we fundraise for that. We had just started to get serious and build a team to fundraise, and this sort of dropped into our laps,” Thayne added, “but we decided to go for it. We feel it’s turning a negative into a positive.”

Law enforcement impounded 51 pit bull terriers from Bad Newz Kennels in April 2007. Four were euthanized. The Best Friends Animal Society eventually adopted out about two-thirds of the rest. Fourteen remain at the Best Friends sanctuary in Kanab, Utah.

Photo credit: Troy Snow

## Meat biz barks for puppy mills—against voters’ wishes

(from page 1)

ed to cows, horses, sheep and all other livestock crucial to Missouri’s trade and economy,” summarized *Columbia Missourian* reporter Audrey Moon after a January 2011 legislative hearing. “Although Proposition B was described as a bill dealing with dog breeders,” Moon explained, “it includes a definition of a pet that covers any ‘domesticated animal normally maintained in or near the household of the owner.’”

Responded Humane Society of Missouri president Kathy Warnick, “Proposition B applies to dogs and puppies. There is no other reference to any other species.”

“The purpose of these groups is to keep us from eating any meat,” retorted Missouri house representative Ed Schieffer (D-Troy). “We have to be very cognizant,” Schieffer insisted, “that there is an agenda here beyond Proposition B.”

Missouri house representative Stanley Cox (R-Sedalia) has proposed retitling the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act, to become the Dog Breeders Cruelty Prevention Act—to make the law easier to amend.

Missouri house majority whip Jason Smith (R-Salem) has contended that the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act should only be enforced in the 11 counties, of 114, where the majority of voters favored it. But Humane Society Legislative Fund president Mike Markarian pointed out that the 11 counties that passed Proposition B are home to more voters, by far, than all of the other 103 counties combined.

“Back in December 2010, when the election was weeks old,” Markarian recalled, “Senator Bill Stouffer told the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, ‘If you look at the Proposition B votes, if every legislator votes the way their district voted, it will repeal easily.’ And Senator Mike Parson said, ‘If the legislators vote their districts, we will be able to do that.’ But they apparently forgot to check the votes. Proposition B was favored in 18 of the 34 Missouri senate districts, and 88 of the 163 house districts.” Noted Markarian, “State representative Sally Faith (R-St. Charles) cosponsored two repeal bills, even though more than 65% of the voters in her district supported Proposition B. She changed her mind, after hearing from her district, and said she will now oppose the repeal efforts.”

### Poll favors regulation

A law similar to the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act is soon to take effect in Oklahoma, requiring dog and cat breeders with more than 10 breeding females to be licensed and inspected by a fee-funded state Board of Commercial Pet Breeders. Opponents of puppy mill legislation have hoped to gain momentum from the anti-regulatory fervor generated by the Tea Party movement, but a SoonerPoll.com telephone sur-

vey of 520 likely Oklahoma voters conducted for the *Tulsa World* during the first week of January 2011 found that more than 70% agree that large pet breeding operations should be regulated, while fewer than 15% oppose regulating them, reported *World* staff writer Randy Krehbiel.

“Support for the [Oklahoma] bill was fairly uniform across the political spectrum. City dwellers were only slightly more in favor of it than those in rural areas,” Krehbiel found. People who keep dogs, 57% of the respondents, “were somewhat more supportive of regulation,” Krehbiel added.

Among the most commonly voiced reasons to oppose puppy mill regulation is the purported cost to taxpayers, but Indiana has discovered that enforcing tax evasion laws against puppy mill operators is in itself effective on behalf of the dogs, Maureen Hayden recently reported for the *Anderson Herald Bulletin*. “Andrew Swain, now head of the Indiana Attorney General’s Revenue Division, [several years ago] came up with the idea of using the tax evasion laws to shut down unlicensed commercial dog-breeding operations that put profits before animal welfare,” Hayden wrote. “He had discovered that the suspected puppy mill operators dealt in cash-and-carry transactions on which they failed to pay income and sales taxes.”

“They’re scam artists,” agreed Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller.

Three Indiana tax evasion cases filed in 2009 and 2010 brought the impoundment of more than 420 dogs.

### Out of business

As debate over the Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act reignited, dog breeder Jeff Fortin of Beaver Creek Kennels in Oberlin, Kansas surrendered his USDA breeding permit. Fortin in December 2010 killed 1,200 dogs due to a distemper outbreak. “At one point, Fortin had three pet stores in Colorado. Only one remains open. Fortin-linked stores in Greeley and Longmont were closed in 2008,” recalled Jessica Fender of the *Denver Post*. Fortin was charged with 34 counts of suspected cruelty for conditions found at the Longmont store. “He denies responsibility for any mistreatment,” Fender wrote, noting that “He was fined \$8,795 in February 2006 for facility violations and was issued a warning letter last March for facility violations and denying access to inspectors.”

Fortin may have briefly surpassed David Yoder, 45, of the former Black Diamond Acres kennel in Seneca County, New York, as the breeder most reviled by online activists. Yoder in September 2010 surrendered his USDA permit after pleading guilty to gassing 74 dogs with car exhaust. He was fined \$505 for the gassings in Romulus Town Court, reported

Ernst Lamothe Jr. of the Rochester *Democrat & Chronicle*.

“The USDA report indicates the Yoder kennel was riddled with canine brucellosis for over a year and in July the situation deteriorated to the point where Mr. Yoder made the decision to depopulate the kennel of all dogs as he was advised to do by the USDA and his veterinarian,” Seneca County Sheriff Jack S. Stenberg told Lamothe.

### Biden’s breeder

But both Fortin and Yoder were upstaged when *Philadelphia Inquirer* staff writers Amy Worden and Kathleen Brady Shea disclosed on January 12, 2011 that the Pennsylvania Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement had on November 19, 2010 revoked the license of Linda Brown, of Jolindy’s Shepherds in Spring City.

“A hearing on the revocation is set for May 24,” wrote Worden and Brady. “Until then, Brown can sell her remaining dogs, but may not breed or acquire new ones. She had 70 when her kennel was last inspected. If the revocation is finalized, she may keep no more than 25.”

Brown, 65, became briefly the most famous dog breeder in the U.S., after selling a dog to then newly elected U.S. vice president Joe Biden on December 6, 2008. Brown has blamed her subsequent legal issues on the scrutiny that the Biden sale attracted. Only four days after Biden took the dog, the Maryland Department of Agriculture cited Brown for allegedly failing to keep records and provide adequate proof of vaccinations. Brown was subsequently acquitted of alleged dog law violations in January and March 2009, and in June 2010.

Brown had been in trouble before. “According to minutes from the American Kennel Club’s April 2006 meeting,” Shea of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* reported, “the AKC’s management disciplinary committee suspended Brown from all AKC privileges for one year and imposed a \$1,000 fine for submitting or caused to be submitted three litter registration applications that she knew, should have known, or had a duty to know contained false certifications as to the sire and/or dam.”

On February 10, 2011 acting Pennsylvania attorney general Bill Ryan charged former Nacoma Kennel owner Costanzo “Gus” Cerino with not only allegedly misrepresenting AKC pedigrees, but also allegedly falsely advertising that Nacoma Kennel is “PA Preferred, Registered Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement,” the Bureau of Consumer Protection lawsuit stated. The case charges that Cerino sold malnourished dogs who suffered from mange, pneumonia, parasites, and respiratory infections, summarized Tim Darragh of the *Allentown Morning Call*.



# LGBT Compassion files new challenge to San Francisco live markets

**SAN FRANCISCO**—Flaring again, the 142-year-old conflict between the San Francisco humane community and the mostly ethnic Asian owners and customers of live markets has morphed into a clash between the city’s two most prominent minority cultures. About 45% of the San Francisco population are of Asian descent, according to recent polling; 14.5% declare themselves to be lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender.

LGBT Compassion founder Andrew Zollman, 43, and fellow live market protester Alex Felsing, 25, contend in a recently filed three-part lawsuit that live poultry seller Raymond Young, his employees, and the Heart of the City farmers’ market in U.N. Plaza have violated their right to free speech; that the City of San Francisco has failed to enforce applicable health laws against the live marketers; and that the city has also improperly excluded poultry from the scope of humane law enforcement. Alleged a media statement describing the Zollman/Felsing case, “The pattern of misconduct peaked in the early hours of December 29, 2010 when one of Young’s employees punched Felsing in the head, causing him to fall to the ground and drop his camera. The manager of the company, Christina Ly, then stole the camera and later discarded it on the sidewalk after removing its memory card.

## “Anti-gay remarks”

“While the video footage of the recent attack was lost, Zollman and Felsing say they “have documented several similar incidents in the past ten months,” including other alleged assaults and alleged “anti-gay remarks.” One such remark was a suggestion from one live market worker to another “that he should avoid physical confrontation” with Zollman and Felsing “because they are gay and therefore probably have HIV.” Attorney Matt Gonzalez filed the case for Zollman and Felsing one week after the city Human Rights Commission mediated inconclusive talks among the parties.

Defendant Young, 41, has sold live chickens in San Francisco for about 20 years. Zollman and Felsing contend that the chickens are “spent hens” obtained from “egg factories” in Modesto, Sacramento, and Manteca.

“The activists demonstrate nearly every day the market is open,” according to *San Francisco Chronical* staff writer Jessica Kwong, “recording video and handing out pamphlets in two languages.” Before filing suit, Kwong wrote, “they lodged complaints with the district attorney, the city attorney, the Public Health Department, and Animal Care and Control. The city has investigated the allegations but has not taken any disciplinary action, allowing vendors and the market—the only one in the city with live fowl—to continue operating as usual.

The Zollman/Felsing lawsuit came amid a renewed effort by live market opponents to persuade the California Fish & Game Commission to halt the import of live frogs and turtles into the state. The live markets import and sell about 300,000 turtles per year for humane consumption, according to Action for Animals coordinator Eric Mills, a veteran of decades of anti-live market activism.

“When members of the commission attempted to ban the import of turtles and frogs for food last year,” recalled Malcolm MacLachlan of *Capitol Weekly*, “a half-dozen Asian-American legislators joined together to block the idea, noting that the animals were traditional to the Asian diet. The de facto leader of that group, Senator Leland Yee (D-San Francisco), is now viewed as the front-runner to replace Gavin Newsom as mayor of San Francisco. After 15 years of efforts by animal groups, the Commission voted last March to ban bringing frogs and turtles into the state for food.” MacLachlan remembered, but “In the end, the commission opted to continue to study the issue and ordered a California Environmental Quality Act review, essentially shelving the idea rather than issuing a strong regulation.”

Live frogs, turtles, and poultry are reportedly also sold for human consumption in Los Angeles, Oakland, San Jose, and Stockton. Humane investigators have documented cruelties at the other California live markets. But the San Francisco live markets are especially prominent, not only because of the size of the city’s Asian-American population, but because the San Francisco live markets operate in central Chinatown, long a leading tourist attraction.

While the other live markets tend to be seen only by those who go looking for them, those in San Francisco frequently shock casual visitors who discover them by accident.

Yet the live markets have withstood humane pressure since 1868, when banker James Sloan Hutchinson became so upset at the abuse of a pig he saw dragged to slaughter that he founded the San Francisco SPCA.

## 1905 language

San Francisco attorney Baron Miller in 1998 filed a lawsuit somewhat antecedent to the Zollman/Felsing case, hoping to oblige city and state agencies to enforce a variety of anti-cruelty and public health statutes, which he held should have forbidden the methods the live markets commonly use to keep and slaughter a variety of birds, reptiles, and amphibians.

California Superior Court Judge Carlos Bea rejected the Miller case, citing language in the state anti-cruelty law dating to 1905 which states

that “No part of this title shall be construed...to interfere with the right to kill all animals used for food.”

As the Miller case was in progress, the San Francisco SPCA won the signatures of representatives of all 12 live markets then operating in the city on a Joint Statement of Principles & Guidelines. “In principle,” the marketers agreed, animals are to be killed humanely, though the term “humanely” was not defined; “no animal” was to be “dismembered, flayed, cut open, or have skin, scales, feathers, or shell removed while alive”; no injured or diseased animal would be sold or offered for sale; no live animal would “be kept in a manner likely to cause starvation, dehydration, or suffocation”; no live animal would “be kept in a manner likely to cause them to be crushed, attacked, or wounded by other animals”; and animals would “be able to lie down, stand erect, change posture, and rest in a normal manner for their species.” But when the Miller lawsuit was dismissed, the live marketers declared that they were under no obligation to honor their agreements.

## Non-enforcement

Lobbying led by then-San Francisco SPCA Department of Law and Advocacy chief Nathan Winograd in 2000 won passage of a state law based on the Joint Statement of Principles & Guidelines. But Mills less than five months later documented that the law was not enforced in San Francisco. Then-San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control director Carl Friedman acknowledged, Mills wrote to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, that the department would not and/or could not enforce the new law, due to a lack of funding, lack of staff, and lack of support from city hall.”

The 1905 language in the California humane law that thwarted the Miller case also states that the humane law applies to “frogs, turtles, and birds sold for human consumption, with the exception of poultry.” The Fourth District California Court of Appeals ruled in 2000 that this clause should cover all birds, but San Francisco District Attorney George Gascon holds nonetheless that chickens are specifically exempted.

Current San Francisco animal control director Rebecca Katz recently acknowledged to Heather Mack of the *San Francisco Bay Guardian* that the way poultry are kept at the Heart of the City farmers’ market “is not the way we would recommend they be cared for. Do we think there is some cruelty? Probably,” Katz said. “But there is nothing we can do at this time until the law changes.” Zollman and Felsing contend that San Francisco is simply misinterpreting the law.

## Japan suspends whaling (from page 1)

Japanese whale-catchers, after a 26-day pursuit and then two weeks of high-seas skirmishing. The Sea Shepherd fleet first caught the whalers on December 31, 2010, before any whales were killed, but the whalers escaped through a broken ice field that kept the *Gojira* speeding after them, relaying their position to the *Steve Irwin* and *Bob Barker*.

“The ocean skirmishes are just one part of a much bigger picture,” observed Richard Black of the BBC blog Earth Watch.. “Sales of whale-meat have fallen, despite promotion. The national budgetary situation is dire. The Kyodo Senpaku company, which actually does the whaling on behalf of the Institute of Cetacean Research, is itself said to be in major financial difficulties. Sources from within the whaling industry told Greenpeace in December that a smaller quota would be targeted this year, purely for financial reasons.”

Also, Black mentioned, Australia has filed a case against Japanese whaling with the International Court of Justice, due to be heard in 2011—an embarrassment, win or lose, that some voices within the Japanese government would like to avoid.

“Another looming constraint,” Black wrote, “is that from next season, ships carrying heavy fuel oil will be banned from Antarctic waters under the International Maritime Organization’s new anti-pollution code. Switching the *Nisshin Maru* to diesel would be technically feasible—but would anyone foot the bill? An alternative would be to invest in a new factory ship that would both meet the new pollution standard and be fast enough to escape Sea Shepherd’s attention. But again—who’s going to pay?”

“It does at least appear possible,” Black concluded, “that the current Antarctic whale hunting season will be the last.”

## Is South Africa phasing out sow stalls?

**CAPE TOWN**— South African Pork Producers Organisation officers indicated to news media twice in the first two months of 2011 that sow gestation stalls are to be phased out—but Compassion in World Farming national representative Tozie Zokufa has yet to get SAPPO to confirm the planned phase-out directly to him.

Zokufa became hopeful when SAPPO chief executive Simon Streicher e-mailed to the *Beeld* newspaper in January that South African pig producers are beginning “the gradual phasing out of sow crates,” and that “SAPPO supports the phasing out of crates in a reasonable and realistic time frame.”

“When I telephoned him,” recounted Zokufa, “and introduced myself in order to find out the phase-out period envisaged for South African sows, following his email to *Beeld*, he put the phone down after politely wishing me a good day.”

In February, Zokufa said, SAPPO veterinarian Peter Evans in a radio interview “confirmed SAPPO’s support, on animal welfare grounds, for a

phase-out of sow stalls by 2020. However,” Zokufa noted, “SAPPO wants to keep pigs in modified sow stalls for the first four to six weeks of their pregnancies. Modifications would include that sows ‘could get up and lie down with ease.’ This is not acceptable,” Zokufa said. “A phase-out is a phase-out, and modified sow stalls are not part of the scenario in other countries that have already banned or are phasing out sow stalls.

“As far as CIWF is concerned, sow stalls are out, modified or not,” Zokufa emphasized, “and not in 10 years’ time, but much sooner,” through legislative action if need be. “Please expect to hear more from CIWF shortly,” Zokufa continued, “as we take this forward.”

Partnered with the Humane Education Trust, founded by Louise van de Merwe of Capetown, CIWF/South Africa has campaigned against sow stalls for more than a decade. About 130,000 sows in South Africa produce about 2.6 million pigs for slaughter per year, according to CIWF.

## U.S. “bear product” linked to bile is synthetic

**HONG KONG**—Trying to shake bad publicity and attract investment, a leading Chinese bear bile producer apparently planted news items with two *Wall Street Journal* subsidiaries in 2009 that paralleled bear bile farming with the work of a U.S. company founded to develop a synthetic analog of a hormone produced by North American black bears.

The ploy appeared in non-bylined postings of October 26, 2009 to the *China Real Time Report* and *Venture Capital Dispatch* blogs, both produced by Dow Jones, the financial news firm whose flagship product is the *Wall Street Journal*. The identical postings included an attribution to Associ-ated Press, but **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found no trace of the items in the online archives of the Associated Press. Credited to Associated Press, the Dow Jones blog postings were redistributed on February 16, 2011 by the Asian Animal Protection Network, coinciding with an application from the bear bile producer Gui Zhen Tang of Fujian province to sell stock on the Hong Kong

exchange. Currently keeping 470 bears caged to produce bile, Gui Zhen Tang hopes to raise \$10.6 million with which to expand to keep 1,200 bears.

The first half of the 2009 Dow Jones blog postings, reading much like a press release, described the work of the Gui Zhen Tang company. Gui Zhen Tang was said to have “raised \$11 million from Chinese venture firm Jiangsu Top-Bridge Capital to increase its presence in the traditional Chinese medicine industry.”

Continued the blog postings, “Gui Zhen Tang isn’t the only start-up building a business around black bears. Kalamazoo, Michigan-based Aursos Inc. believes a hormone of the black bear will be the key to preventing bone loss in immobile patients with osteoporosis.”

Explained Aursos chief executive Donald Zinn, in a quote taken from *Venture Wire*, yet another Dow Jones blog, “A person loses bone mass being bedridden for five days, but a bear coming out of hibernation for six, seven months comes out with the

same bone density.”


Asked **ANIMAL PEOPLE** of Aursos scientific advisory board chair Seth Donohue and Aursos chief scientific officer, Ron Shebuski, immediately upon receiving the AAPN item: “If Aursos wins the necessary approvals to market a parathyroid hormone product extracted from bears, where are the bears going to come from to produce it?”

Donohue and Shebuski both responded within minutes.

“It’s not extracted from bears,” e-mailed Donohue. “The gene for back bear parathyroid hormone is expressed in *e. coli* [bacteria] in the manufacturing process, i.e. the protein hormone is produced recombinantly.”

Added Shebuski: “No actual bears are used by Aursos. The bone building hormone is made in a laboratory.”


Shebuski, a hunter, admits to having shot two bears, and having eaten the meat. But he had no hesitation about saying he “absolutely!” wanted to distance the work of Aursos as far from the bear bile industry as possible.



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### Lion airlift

**LOS ANGELES**—Campaigning against animal circuses in Latin America since 2006, Animal Defenders International on February 16, 2011 flew 24 former Bolivian circus lions to the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Conservation Center in Keenesburg, Colorado, doing business as the Wild Animal Sanctuary. Retired Price Is Right host Bob Barker, who donated \$2 million to fund the rescue, was present to witness their arrival.

Bolivia banned animal circuses in July 2009, but did not provide for the animals who could no longer be exhibited. Animal Defenders International in June 2010 flew four former Bolivian circus lions to the Performing Animal Welfare sanctuary near Galt, California.

Rocky Mountain Wildlife Conservation Center founder Pat Craig announced in August 2006 that the sanctuary was out of funds and on the verge of closure. The sanctuary closed to public visits in September 2006, but in October 2006 Craig said enough donations had been received to keep it going. The 30-year-old sanctuary then housed about 150 animals, including 75 tigers and 30 bears, on 140 acres of a 320-acre site. After accepting some transferees from the now defunct Wild Animal Orphanage sanctuary in San Antonio, Texas, the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Conservation Center has a current population of about 200 animals.

Animal Defenders International, with offices in Los Angeles, California, and Bogota, Columbia, is an affiliate of the National Anti-Vivisection Society of Britain [not related to the U.S. organization of the same name], the Lord Dowding Fund for Humane Research, and the British organization Animal Defenders, founded in 1990. All are headed by longtime National Anti-Vivisection Society of Britain chief executive Jan Creamer.

As well as helping to win passage of the Bolivian ban on animal circuses, Animal Defenders International is promoting similar proposed legislation in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Peru.

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### Two major zoos defy Chinese order to halt animal acts

**GUANGDONG**—Defying a nationally publicized order from Beijing—and claiming it was never received—the Shenzhen Safari Park and Xiaomeisha Sea World have continued daily animal acts using birds, tigers, lions and dolphins, the Guangdong *Daily Sunshine* reported on February 2, 2011, without hinting at what the Chinese federal authorities might do about it.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, responsible for zoo regulation in China, on October 26, 2010 “suggested” in an official web posting that zoos should adequately feed and house animals, should stop selling wild animal products and serving wild

animal parts in restaurants, and should stop staging circus-like trained animal acts, including feeding live prey to carnivores, because “These activities go against the public good.” The official “suggestion” was preliminary to an order taking effect on January 18, 2011, applying to more than 700 animal exhibition facilities.

“We are hopeful it will have an effect,” Animals Asia Foundation animal welfare director Dave Neale told Telegraph Media Group correspondent Malcolm Moore. “I visited the Chongqing zoo before Christmas,” Moore said, “and their circus was clearing out.” “The circus at Kunming Zoo in

Yunnan Province is closed and the stage has been dismantled,” reported Deng Shasha of the Xinhua News Agency in a November 2010 update about compliance with the federal directive. *China Daily* in December 2010 added that six teams of federal inspectors had visited about 500 of the 700 zoos covered by the directive, revoking the operating permits at seven, and ordering 50 to change procedures to stop “frequent abuse and exploitation” of animals.

“Both the security of endangered species and the safety of the public are threatened by improper management,” said State Forestry Administration deputy chief Yin Hong.

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## Year of the Rabbit brings campaigns for rabbits

**HONG KONG**—Will the Year of the Rabbit bring anything good for rabbits?

Starting on February 3, 2011, the Year of the Rabbit is recognized throughout the world by ethnic Chinese people, and by many other Asians who share Chinese traditions. If nothing else, the Year of the Rabbit afforded activists an opportunity to raise a voice for rabbits.

"There's no better time to help rabbits than during the Year of the Rabbit," declared Beijing-based PETA campaigner Maggie Chen to Agence France-Presse, urging readers to "not support the pet trade that causes so many animals to suffer." PETA also "launched an ad campaign imploring Chinese movie star Gong Li to curb her penchant for wearing rabbit and other furs," reported Denis D. Gray of Associated Press, from Bangkok, Thailand. "The ad shows a woman's foot stepping on the neck of a dead rabbit next to the words, 'Where Does Gong Li Stand on Fur?'"

"The International Union for the Conservation of Nature is stressing that, despite their reputation as prolific love-makers, nearly one in four rabbits, hares and pikas are threatened with extinction," Gray continued. "Asian species under siege include the Sumatran striped rabbit, hispid hare, Amami rabbit and the Annamite striped rabbit, only discovered by scientists in 1995. The endangered ili pika has disappeared from half of its

known locations in northwestern China since it was first described some 30 years ago."

Hong Kong SPCA director of welfare Fiona Woodhouse, VMD, and Rabbit Society spokesperson Joanna Chow Yuk-ha also addressed the traffic in rabbits as pets. Following a 3% rise in rabbit surrenders in 2010, they anticipated a further increase of 30% to 40% in 2011. "Rabbits are emotional and aware of being abandoned. It's heart-breaking to see a little bunny leaning by the window, head down, knowing she has been abandoned," Chow told Serinah Ho of the *Hong Kong Standard*.

ACTAsia for Animals executive director Pei F. Su addressed the use of rabbit fur in China with a Twitter campaign reaching 1.5 million people, she estimated.

Animals Asia Foundation founder Jill Robinson addressed the use of rabbits for meat. "We've just returned from a week-long investigation of some of China's live animal markets, where the rabbits were bludgeoned to death," Robinson posted in rebuttal to rabbit fur industry claims that byproduct fur from the rabbit meat industry is "humane."

Only chickens are raised and slaughtered in China in greater numbers than rabbits. China has in fact led the world in rabbit production since 1958, when global statistics were first assembled, and has perhaps always led the world in rabbit production, since China

is where rabbits first were domesticated, millennia ago, and were first kept in small hutches. Indeed, rabbits may have been the first "factory farmed" species. Currently about 450 million rabbits per year are killed for meat in China, amounting to between a quarter and half of global output. About 235 million rabbits are on Chinese farms at any given time, according to Lai Zhiqiang and Cai Xioyan of the Guangxi Institutes of Animal Sciences, in a 2008 paper entitled *Rabbit Resources of China*. China sells about 15 to 20 million rabbit pelts per year, Lai Zhiqiang and Cai Xioyan reported, making China the only major exporter of rabbit fur, they said.

Year of the Rabbit campaigners hope to change attitudes toward rabbits much as attitudes were changed on behalf of dogs during the two most recent Years of the Dog. Previously, the Year of the Dog was rarely auspicious for dogs. 1910, for example, brought famine and a rise in dog-eating to Korea, following a Japanese invasion. In 1922 the Chinese Communist Party declared that dogs are social parasites. The notoriously dog-hating Mao Tse Tung became head of the Chinese Communist Party in 1934, began his rise to national rule in 1946, and in 1958 purged both dogs and songbirds, blaming them for a famine caused chiefly by poor economic planning that killed millions of people.

The 1994 Year of the Dog both



began and ended in Beijing with dog massacres in the name of rabies control—but late in the year city officials acknowledged that the Beijing pet dog population had trebled despite the killing and began promoting licensing and vaccination instead. The licensing fee was reduced three times before the next Year of the Dog, in 2006. 2006 also began and ended with dog massacres rationalized in the name of rabies control, but mostly in smaller cities in outlying provinces. Throughout the year Chinese state media amplified activist exposure of the killings and often pointed out that vaccination had eradicated rabies in the Beijing region.

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### Events

**March 15-19: Dog Population Management** conf, co/hosted by FAO & WSPA, Banna, Italy. Info: <[dog-population-management@fao.org](mailto:dog-population-management@fao.org)>.

**March 17: Stand Up For Horses** comedy night, Los Angeles. Info: 858-945-1371; <[www.after-the-finish-line.org](http://www.after-the-finish-line.org)>.

**March 31-April 2: The SNIP! Summit**, s/n best practices conf. hosted by Humane Alliance, Asheville, NC. Info: 828-252-8804; <[www.humane-alliance.org](http://www.humane-alliance.org)>.

**March 31-April 1: Thinking About Animals**, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario. Info: <[ac2011@BrockU.CA](mailto:ac2011@BrockU.CA)>.

**April 10: Touched By An Animal** Benefit Brunch, Auction & Gift Boutique, Skokie, Illinois. Info: 773-728-6336 or <[tba@touchedbyananimal.org](mailto:tba@touchedbyananimal.org)>.

**April 27: National Free Feral Cat Spay Day**. Info: <[www.savea-cat.org/programs.html](http://www.savea-cat.org/programs.html)>.

**April 28-29: The Purebred Paradox: On the Health and Welfare of Pedigree Dogs** conf., Washington, DC. Info: <[www.humanesociety.org/about/departments/hsisp/](http://www.humanesociety.org/about/departments/hsisp/)>.

**May 2-4: Intl Veterinary Forensic Sciences Annual Conf.**, Orlando. Info: <[vmaloney@pathology.ufl.edu](mailto:vmaloney@pathology.ufl.edu)>.

**May 2-4: Pan African Sanctuary Alliance Management Workshop**, Kent, U.K. Info: <[www.pasaprimates.org](http://www.pasaprimates.org)>.

**May 19-22: Intl. Animal Rights Conf.**, Luxembourg. Info: <<http://ar-conference.com/>>.

**May 21: Bark In The Park**, St. Louis. Info: Humane Society of Missouri, 314-647-8800; <[info@hsmo.org](mailto:info@hsmo.org)>.

**May 21: Mutt Strut** dog walk benefit for Animal Care Sanctuary, East Smithfield, PA. Info: 570-596-2200; <[www.animalcaresanctuary.org](http://www.animalcaresanctuary.org)>.

(continued on page 11)







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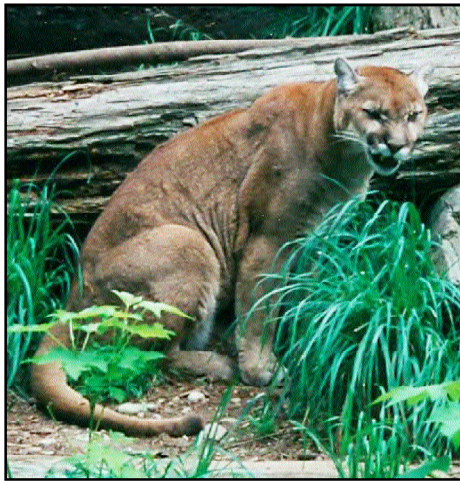
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## Why did BLM reject Madeline Pickens' wild horse sanctuary proposal? (from page 1)

Griffith of Associated Press.

Also certain to be heard are objections to roundup methods "in which wild horse families are destroyed, burros are hot-shotted and knocked to the ground by helicopters, and old, weak animals are harassed into collapse," said filmmaker and Cloud Foundation founder Ginger Kathrens.

Kathrens asked wild horse advocates to join her in seeking at least a temporary halt to round-ups; for an increase in the numbers of



Puma—major horse predator. (Kim Bartlett)

wild horses and burros allowed to live on public range; for the majority of forage in herd management areas to be allocated to wild horses and burros, rather than livestock; for improvement of existing water sources; for fencing to be removed to allow horses to use the range in their natural manner; for abandonment of artificially skewed gender ratios; for protection of pumas, the major predator of wild horses; for healthy wild horses now in BLM holding to be returned to range which no longer has wild horses; and for the BLM to "sincerely explore public/private partnerships," such as the Pickens proposal.

The importance of pumas as a natural control on wild horses was underscored by findings newly published in the *Journal of Wildlife Management* that wild horses make up from 10% to 13% of the diet of adult male pumas—less than deer, but slightly more than elk. University of Alberta biologist Kyle Knopff and three colleagues who co-authored the paper studied more than 1,500 puma kill sites while tracking 54 radio-collared pumas for 10 years.

Counter to the pro-wild horse position, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners has reportedly instructed state water engineer Jason King to tell the BLM that

only animals "designated for beneficial use" such as livestock and wildlife are entitled to drink Nevada water. Wild horses are excluded, contends the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, because they are considered "feral," despite evolving in North America.

BLM director Bob Abbey rejected Pickens' plan because it "wouldn't save taxpayers' money and doesn't include enough water and forage for the mustangs," reported Griffith of Associated Press.

Pickens first proposed creating a mega-sized wild horse sanctuary in 2008 after the BLM proposed killing some of the more than 40,000 horses it is now holding in corrals, at cost of \$37 million per year. About 33,700 wild horses remain on the range, half of them in Nevada, according to BLM estimates.

The BLM rejected Pickens' initial proposal because it would have put wild horses on leased public land where wild horses did not live when Congress passed the Wild Free-Roaming Horses & Burros Act in 1971.

"While Pickens' latest proposal addresses that issue," Griffith wrote, "Abbey said it would require an environmental analysis to transfer title of wild horses to her and change the class of livestock authorized on several Nevada grazing allotments from cattle

to horses. Existing law also would need to be changed to give the BLM the authority to reimburse a private party for grazing wild horses, Abbey said."

Said Pickens, "Our target number of 1,000 horses is consistent with the number of cattle the BLM has consistently authorized on the public lands portions of the ranches I purchased. It seems that the BLM believes there is enough forage and water for cows, but not enough for horses on those same lands, from which the cows have been removed."

As the Phoenix showdown approached, BLM wild horse and burro program manager Don Glenn quietly retired, reported Steven Long of *Horseback*. BLM spokesperson Tom Gorey said a successor had not yet been chosen.

Recalled Long, "Glenn's tenure as head of the program included a record number of wild horse deaths during last year's 'Calico Gather' [in Nevada], misrepresentation of drought conditions to a federal judge by BLM lawyers, illegally banning overflights of roundups against Federal Aviation Administration rules, and the capture of an iconic Palomino named Cloud and his band, featured in three PBS specials," produced by Ginger Kathrens.

## Guinness delists elephant polo

LONDON—Guinness World Records Ltd. on January 24, 2011 wrote to PETA that it will no longer recognize elephant polo in the annual *Guinness Book of World Records*. "The decision was based on expert counsel which advised that the activities related to elephant polo could be potentially harmful to the animals," said Guinness editor Craig Glenday.

## Events

(continued from page 10)

**June 10-14:** *Asia for Animals* conference, Chengdu, China.

**June 20-23:** *Dogs Trust Intl Training Program*, London. Info: <davidnewall@dogs-trust.org.uk>.

**June 25-26:** Anti-Fur Society Conf. on Fur Bearing Animals, Alexandria, Va. Info: <www.AFSConference.org>.

**July 15-18:** *Taking Action for Animals* conference, Washington D.C. Info: <www.humanesociety.org>.

**July 30-31:** *No Kill Conference*, Washington, D.C. Info: <www.nokilladvocacy-center.org>.

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

**Sept. 12-15:** *Dogs Trust International Training Program*, London. Info: <davidnewall@dogs-trust.org.uk>.

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

**Oct. 15:** *Adopt-A-Dog 30th Anniversary Gala*, Greenwich, Connecticut. Info: 203-629-9494; <www.adoptadog.org>.

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Camels, horses & change in Egypt (from 1)

cofounder Mona Khalil to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. The riders were “from the area near the Giza pyramids and sphinx called Nazlet El Saman,” Khalil added. “The parliamentary representative there is from the National Party,” Mubarak’s party, “and he motivated them. Many of these animals were injured, but we do not have info about what happened to them. We investigated as much as we could,” Khalil said. “Six horses were reported to have been tied to a lamp post the next day. We sent three volunteers the next morning to check them and see if we could take them to safety, but the horses were gone. We knew some horses were injured in the riots, but could not locate them in the pyramid stables area. We hope Brooke Egypt can help them.”

Brooke Hospital

Not the oldest animal charity in Cairo, but by far the biggest, the Brooke Hospital for Animals was founded as the Fund for Old War Horses in London by English equine advocate Dorothy Brooke in 1930, who had recently moved to Cairo. Initially just a bank account, the fund opened the Brooke Hospital for Old War Horses in Cairo in 1934. The original Brooke clinic is still in service, located about halfway between the government district and the Giza pyramids. Now called the Brooke Hospital for Animals, the organization has expanded worldwide. Just within Egypt, Brooke branch clinics, several much larger than the one in Cairo, serve the working horses and donkeys of Luxor, Aswan, Edfu, Alexandria, Mersa Matruh, and the Nile Delta.

But the Brooke was evicted from Egypt in 1956, along with other foreign-controlled charities. Returning circa 1961, the Brooke has had often strained relations with the politically well-connected owners of the major riding stables near the Giza pyramids.

Working animals were banned from inner Cairo to relieve traffic congestion about 20 years ago. This was expected to force the Brooke to leave inner Cairo.

The Cairo SPCA, on the far side of the older part of the city, founded in 1895, was likewise marooned. Losing the equine pound contract that once filled 150 stables occupying an entire city block, the Cairo SPCA failed to develop a new mission and funding base, and today operates only a small outpatient clinic for small animals and boards a handful of dogs and horses.

But the Brooke site remains busy, though many of the people who bring horses and donkeys for treatment have in recent years had to bribe police to look the other way as they lead or drive the animals through the narrow streets. Before the January/February 2011 crisis started the Brooke held weekly field clinics near the Giza pyramids and at the brick kilns serving the Cairo construction industry, where the most donkeys are used.

The Brooke tried to keep a low profile during the January/February 2011 crisis, and was confined to headquarters by barricades at the time of the horse and camel charge in Tahrir Square. “We are managing regular contact with our team in Cairo,” Brooke media manager Kirsty Whitelock e-mailed to

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** from London. “Following reports of the horses and camels being ridden into the crowds,” Whitelock said on February 4, “the Brooke team have reported one horse was injured and treated promptly by local vets in the Giza area. The Brooke team work closely with vets in that area and have remained in close contact with them to offer support.” As the Cairo situation stabilized, Brooke field clinics resumed at the brick kilns on February 8.

Identifying the dead

An anonymous photo portfolio published in the February 8 edition of the London *Daily Mail* showed, said the caption, “the sad plight of dozens of Egyptian horses who have starved to death,” because tourism at the Giza pyramids halted, leaving the many riding stables in the vicinity without feed or funds.

Taken at Nazlet El Saman, the major stable area near the pyramids, the photos actually appeared to show some horses who had died from dehydration, tied without shade in the sun. A horse who receives adequate water may survive without food for weeks, but a horse dies from dehydration after suffering a net loss of about nine gallons of body fluid. This typically takes two to three days, but can occur within hours after strenuous exercise in hot sun. As well as the recently deceased, the *Daily Mail* photos showed some horses who had died some time earlier.

“Please excuse us if we are not shocked,” said Egyptian Society of Animal Friends president Ahmed al Sherbiny. “Horses are brought to ESAF shelter in the most horrible condition on a regular basis,” Sherbiny continued. “During our regular clinics in the pyramids region, we witness horrible cruelty which can be seen at any time. Some of the horses used for tourists to ride, though not all, have suffered neglect and abuse for years.”

Publication of the photos touched off an urgent search by Cairo activists to identify the stables where the horse deaths occurred.

The Brooke resumed holding clinics in the pyramids area on February 10, joined two days later by the Donkey Sanctuary, but on their first days back in the field the Brooke and Donkey Sanctuary reported finding no cases of mass starvation.

“We now have three mobile units in Giza,” Brooke spokesperson Whitelock told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on February 15, “providing treatment and fodder in the area. The team are also working with community leaders in Giza,” Whitelock said, “helping them with fodder distribution in order to ensure that food reaches those animals most in need. In Edfu,” Whitelock continued, the Brooke and the Carriage Owner’s League were “feeding 300 horses used in the tourist trade. We are doing the same in Aswan,” she said, “feeding 300 horses and expecting to help many more.”

But ESMA volunteer Beth Sartain, a British veterinary nurse recently working as a riding instructor in the pyramids area, on February 11 confirmed some of the *Daily Mail* account. Sartain described “Dozens of horses tethered on wasteland, some standing, many too weak to stand. There are many bodies there also. I took many photos,” Sartain said.



Above: Horses were fed within sight of the Giza pyramids. Right: Cats watched from atop a pile of feed sacks; a veterinarian inspected a donkey’s hooves; a horse got a few carrots. (Equine photos by ESAF; cats by ESMA)



“However, on my way back from Giza I was stopped and searched by the army and made to delete all my photos. There is food available,” Sartain said, “but it trebled in cost during the unrest. The owner of the stable where I keep my horses stables many horses for expatriates, and nearly all these people have left Egypt without leaving funds for him to buy food. When I was there yesterday he received 40 malnourished horses from other stables. I am feeding my own horses and giving as much as I can to help others.”

ESMA cofounders Khalil and Susie Nassar, working with Sartain to feed horses, on February 13 saw the removal of a dead horse from a stable and saw “at least 50 carcasses,” including three camels. But longtime Cairo animal advocate Dina Zulfikar later learned from stable owner Hussein Ghoneim that the area where the dead animals were found has long been a government-designated carcass dump.

Zulfikar told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that according to the Ghoneim family and their vets and workers, the remains photographed by the *Daily Mail* included horses from many different stables who had died over many weeks of causes often unrelated to the uprising, including malaria. Some horses may have starved; others apparently died from being given inappropriate “food” that they could not digest.

On February 13, however, ESAF’s first day back in the pyramids area, “We noticed a much larger number of very thin horses,” al Sherbiny e-mailed, “and we can assume this is due to the political situation and lack of tourism.”

Feeding frenzy

The second ESMA feeding mission came on February 15. “This time we had ordered two loads of feed,” Sartain wrote, “to distribute from two points, to reach as many starving horses as we possibly could. We loaded an open truck with 40 sacks of mixed feed. We drove into Nazlet El Saman, the truck in front of several cars of ESMA volunteers. I was in the car behind the truck with Susie Nassar and my two daughters. People on horseback from the village recognized us and started to follow the truck. When the truck slowed down to negotiate a speed bump, they mobbed the truck. Dozens of men grabbed sacks of food and tried to ride off.

“I told my children to stay in the car with Susie and ran over to the truck,” Sartain said. “I shouted at the men to stop taking the food as we were trying to help them. Some did stop but many didn’t. One man had loaded three sacks into his carriage. I jumped into the carriage and sat on the food and told him if he wanted the food he would have to take me too. He set off at a gallop with me pleading with him to stop and trying to explain to him that we wanted to offer long-term help, but couldn’t if this was how we were treated. He



listened and stopped his horse. He shouted to many of his friends who were riding past with the stolen food to stop and they did. They crowded around and listened as I explained that we were doing our best to help but needed them to co-operate. The man I was with turned the carriage around and drove back to the place where the truck had been mobbed.

“Word started to go around the village about what had happened,” Sartain continued. “While we were waiting for the food to be returned, we kept busy by treating wounds as best we could with limited medical supplies. We also arranged for a local farrier to attend one stable whose horses’ hooves were desperately in need of attention. He trimmed 10 horses’ feet while we were there.”

Eventually 28 sacks of food were returned to ESMA. Local stable owners donated another 26 sacks to help ESMA continue the rescue mission.

Helping the Brooke and ESAF to distribute feed in Nazlet El Saman on February 17, Dina Zulfikar “noticed that camel owners

(continued on page 13)



Egyptian Society of Animal Friends personnel, funded by ANIMAL PEOPLE, feed and provide veterinary care to a camel near the Giza Pyramids. (ESAF)



## Camels, horses & change in Egypt (from page 12)

were not included in the food distribution,” she told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “I questioned this and called the directors of the Brooke, the Donkey Sanctuary, and al Sherbiny. I told them that the ratio of horses and donkeys to camels in the area is ten to one, and the camels need food just like the equines.”

Confirmed al Sherbiny, whose work was funded by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and the Best Friends Animal Society, “The Brooke refused to feed camels and Dina raised this point. I will push this issue further. We are feeding camels with clover and treating all camels that come to ESAF every day. The ESAF vet, Mohamed Gomaily, has extensive experience and knowledge of camels and we will feed them tomorrow.”

Said Whitelock of the Brooke, from London, “The Brooke’s efforts are focused on working horses, donkeys and mules. Whilst we recognize that camels are in need too, our mission is to help equines. There are a huge number in desperate need at this time, and these are also the animals our supporters are providing funding for. We are working in collaboration with other organizations,” Whitelock added, “one of which [ESAF] is not equine-specific. Hopefully all animals will be helped, using each organization’s expertise.”

Humane Society International veterinarian Hassan Al Maraghy “has the camel feeding problem resolved,” **ANIMAL PEOPLE** president Kim Bartlett learned after several days of back-and-forth. “This is only temporary feeding, of course, and it is to be ended when the tourists return.”

Maraghy on February 17 hosted an assessment visit by Worldwide Veterinary Service founder Luke Gamble. Even estimates of how many working animals need feeding were uncertain. As the March 2011 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press, the Brooke estimate was 2,000 nationwide. ESMA estimated 3,000 in the pyramids region alone. The Donkey Sanctuary said 7,000, citing government sources.

Some Egyptian animal advocates expressed hope that regime change and the debut of new political parties might offer an unprecedented opportunity to develop sympathetic voices within the government. “I would be optimistic that if there is political reform in Egypt, this is the time to have animal welfare represented,” said Zulfikar. Currently, however, there is no unified umbrella for Egyptian animal advocates, no agreed agenda among the existing groups, and no organized pro-animal constituency. —Merritt Clifton

## Concern for animals who were locked up in Cairo under curfew

**CAIRO**—Unable to move about Cairo and surrounding suburbs during the January/February 2011 Egyptian unrest, due to barricades guarded by police, the military, and ordinary citizens trying to protect their neighborhoods, animal rescuers did what they could by cell telephone and e-mail. When electronic communications were shut down for several days as well, those trapped in their homes could only imagine the plight of animals trapped at the Giza Zoo, in pet stores, and left behind by foreigners who heeded warnings to evacuate.

One of the first bulletins about animal welfare in Cairo to reach the outside world after the electronic communications blackout ended came on February 2, 2011 from Egyptian Society for Mercy to Animals cofounder Mona Khalil. “Not just Americans but many European Union and United Nations employees left,” under orders, Khalil said. “We are left with a list of names and homes to check for animals, and others are trying to find people to care for their animals. We are collecting abandoned animals too,” Khalil added, “who clearly are pets, as some did not know what to do, so released their pets.”

Wrote Ahmed and Noor Diab, “Shelter animals need food, zoo animals need food, working animals need food, and the horses and donkeys in the tourist areas have nothing because we have no tourists now.”

“Today I went to the shelter—the first time [since January 25] that I have been able to leave my house in relative safety,” reported ESMA cofounder Susie Nassar on February 4. “We found a Dalmatian dog dumped in Maadi and three Persian cats dumped in various areas, plus orphaned puppies and kittens. We are terrified of how many pets may have per-

ished in the locked pet shops. Even in the best of circumstances these animals are kept in terrible conditions. We will not be able to investigate until our volunteers are able to move freely on the streets.

“We have sent some of our volunteers who live near the Giza Zoo to go inside and meet with the management. The zoo animals are being fed, and actually seem less tormented without the visitors. The authorities assured Mona Khalil that they have stocks of food to last months,” Nassar continued.

“We are in a continuous struggle at our shelter,” Nassar said. “We didn’t have any vets for one week, as they were unable to get to the shelter due to road blocks and curfews. The shelter and the care of our animals was the responsibility of a few workers who agreed to stay 24/7. We are struggling to locate and buy food and medicines, pay the rent and the workers salaries, and even find detergents and disinfectants. We are only able to offer our animals one meal, instead of the usual two meals per day. We have been reluctant to ask our local sponsors to pay their sponsorship pledges, as we understand that they too do not have cash, or food at home. Food is becoming increasingly difficult to find and everything has shot up in price. All the big supermarkets have been closed. Many have been burnt down. There are very few petrol stations open.”

But the restoration of communications allowed networking to save the day and the animals in distress. “Regarding the situation here in Maadi,” Egyptian Society of Friends president Ahmed al Sherbiny updated on February 11, “people who were not evacuated are looking after the animals of the owners who were evacuated and will return. We are

monitoring and in touch with them at all times. A project called Operation Ark has been organized by diplomatic staff to fly pets out to reunite with their people. There are also a few individuals who are catching pets who were left behind. We are giving the assistance that we can.”

### WVS assessment

Wrote Worldwide Veterinary Service founder Luke Gamble after doing assessment on February 17-18, “There is a high likelihood that during the initial stages of unrest, the animals were not fed within the Giza Zoo. However, the poor condition and welfare of many of the animals is not a result of the revolution.”

Rather, Gamble said, the problems he saw were the result of “the chronic neglect and inadequate husbandry in which they are kept,” at all times. “The animals all had food and water,” Gamble noted. “Having witnessed zoo visitors throwing objects at the animals to gain their attention, I suspect they found peaceful the ten days or so during which the zoo was shut. An announcement on the radio expressing concern about Giza Zoo on day four of the revolution,” Gamble added, “resulted in many people coming to the zoo to see that the animals were being fed. This undoubtedly ensured that food and water remain in ready supply.

“There is no denying that the animals in Egyptian pet shops do not have a great time normally, and they will have certainly suffered from the unrest,” Gamble continued. “However, with the political situation settling down, the pet shops are open and the owners are able to feed and water their animals.

## Talk of dogs in Bahrain amid demos & shooting

**MANAMA**—Thousands of opponents of the regime of King Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa of Bahrain reoccupied central Manama on February 20, 2011 after troops were withdrawn, following gunfire that left at least five protesters dead and 25 missing.

Amid the demonstrations, which began on Valentine’s Day, “Residents across Bahrain have come out in force with suggestions on how to tackle the increasing number of stray dogs plaguing the country,” reported Basma Mohammed of *Gulf News*. “Dozens of e-mails have been sent to Central Municipal Council chair Abdulrazzaq Al Hattab following his appeal,” on February 8, “for ideas to find a solution to the problem. The animals have been accused of attacking cattle and leaving many residents too afraid to leave their homes at night.”

Basma Mohammed said Bahrain councillors were “looking for ways to solve the issue without resorting to the old method of shooting strays. It is estimated that there are at least 1,000 stray dogs roaming the streets of the governorate,” Mohammed wrote.

“Some suggestions included establishing animal shelters across Bahrain and allowing people to adopt a pet, following the example of western countries,” Basma Mohammed continued. “Others call for pet owners to be forced to have electronic tags fitted to their animals and pay a fee to go toward monitoring strays. Many called for the stray dogs to be caught and be spayed or neutered, while others warned of a possible outbreak of rabies and a need to have sufficient stocks of post-exposure vaccine.”

Al Hattab told *Gulf News* that “plans are underway to organise a workshop to finalise suggestions and take them over to the Public Commission for the Protection of Marine Resources, Environment and Wildlife to get their views. They can adopt the ideas that seem practical and help push them to the government. A committee will then be established to implement approved suggestions.”

TNR Bahrain founder Ben van Hoogen, working with the Dutch organization AniMedics, estimated in 2009 that about 25,000 feral cats and 15,000 street dogs roam Bahrain. “People don’t see the whole problem because cats and dogs hide away in the day time,” van Hoogen told *Gulf News* in April 2010, “but after 2 a.m. you see hundreds.”

## Equine illness kills big cats in Iran—feral cats blamed

**TEHRAN**—A Russian/Iranian zoo animal exchange reportedly promoted by Russian prime minister Vladimir Putin came to grief, the Iranian National News Agency and the Russian ITAR-TASS agency disclosed in January 2011, after an Amur tiger sent from the Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk Zoo in Russia to the Eram Zoo in Tehran died from the bacterial disease glanders. Fourteen African lions were later euthanized after also becoming infected.

Russian natural resources minister Yury Trutneve and Iranian counterpart Mohammad Javad Mohammadzadeh brokered the deal in early 2010. In April 2010 a Russian aircraft flew a pregnant female Amur tiger and a male to Tehran, picked up a pair of Persian leopards, and returned to Moscow.

Amur tigers are closely related to the Mazandaran tigers found in Iran until circa 1960. Persian leopards inhabited the Caucasus region of Russia until the early 20th century. Both the tigers and the leopards were to produce offspring for release into the wild, and were perhaps to have been released into the wild themselves. Putin had hoped, according to Agence France-Presse, that Persian leopards could be re-established in Russia before the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi.

The first word of the deaths came when the Iran State News Agency reported on January 3 that according to Iranian Environmental Protection Organisation adviser Hooshang Ziaee, “Preliminary laboratory tests show that the Amur tiger tested positive for FIV.” Ziaee added that a Bengal tiger and five other lions at the Eram zoo had also tested positive for FIV.

Eram Zoo director Amir Elhami said the tiger had been infected with FIV before arrival, but denied that any other animals contracted FIV. Unnamed Russian officials insisted that both tigers were “absolutely healthy at the moment of transfer,” said ITAR-TASS.

Then said Ziaee, “The final cause for the death of the Siberian tiger was that it and other felines fed on diseased donkeys,” an unlikely mode of FIV transmission.

Two weeks later the Iranian state-owned daily newspaper *Jam-e Jam* reported that the lions were suffering from glanders, wrote Nasser Karimi of Associated Press.

Mohammadzadeh confirmed to the Iranian news agency Fars that the deceased Amur tiger died after being fed contaminated meat, admitting the possibility of glanders. The other tiger remained in quarantine, he said.

As large carnivores kept in zoos are often fed horse or donkey meat, and glanders is chiefly an equine illness, the contaminated meat hypothesis seemed plausible. Rare in the

U.S. and Europe, glanders is still relatively common in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and South America.

But Elhami denied that the deaths of the tiger and lions were due in any way to poor feeding or zoo conditions.

“The Russian tiger that was brought to the country was itself a carrier of glanders and did not catch the disease in Iran,” Elhami alleged to Press TV.

“He said that other zoo inhabitants had no glanders, and all were in good health. The only previous case of glanders at the Tehran Zoo happened 50 years ago, Elhami said,” according to the Iranian National News Agency.

Eram Zoo veterinarian Houman Moloukpour told media that the lions were euthanized after the loss of three other lions in two months due to glanders. Moloukpour said that the zoo was concerned that glanders could spread to zoo visitors, and asserted that glanders cannot be treated in wild animals, although domestic species may respond to treatment.

Eventually the glanders outbreak was blamed on feral cats. “Feral cats, who frequently go to the zoo, can easily transfer the disease to the rest of the city,” asserted veterinarian Ami Peiman Khosravi of the Tehran Veterinary Center.

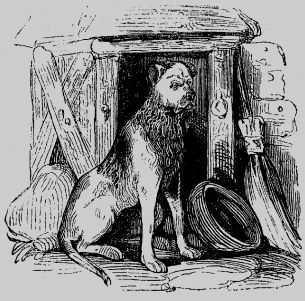
Glanders experts were skeptical.

“Limited data is available about glanders in felines, let alone tigers and lions,” commented International Society for Infectious Diseases moderator Karn Lekagul from Bangkok, Thailand. Lekagul found in a literature search only that University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School founder Rush Shippen Huidekoper in 1895 stated that he had “seen a number of lions die in a menagerie from having eaten glandered meat.” In addition, Huidekoper observed that a cat and her litter who ate offal from a glandered horse he had necropsied became terminally ill within four days.

“Although glanders can theoretically have an incubation from days to months,” Lekagul advised, “most infection progresses in weeks. If these Amur tigers from the cold region of Far East Russia had contracted glanders in Russia, the disease would have more likely flared up during the environmental stress of the hot Iranian summer, not the cool winter.

“The possibility of stray cats at the zoo transmitting glanders is possible,” Lekagul wrote. “A stray cat might have been infected with glanders from elsewhere and transmitted the disease to zoo animals. But this is quite unlikely, as a sick cat with glanders would have to wander through the animal cages, and eat or contaminate the same water or food source as the tiger and lions.” —Merritt Clifton





# The Watchdog

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

## Canada Revenue Agency moves to muzzle animal charities

**OTTAWA**—The Canada Revenue Agency on February 5, 2011 published new regulations governing animal charities which would revoke the nonprofit status of any who oppose vivisection, hunting, trapping, the fur trade, seal-clubbing, animal agriculture, and any other legal use of animals.

“Under common law, an activity or purpose is only charitable when it provides a benefit to humans,” the Canada Revenue Agency regulations assert. “As far back as the 19th century, the courts have stated that promoting the welfare of animals ‘has for its object, not merely the protection of the animals themselves, but the advancement of morals and education among [people].’ To be charitable, the benefit to humans must always take precedence over any benefit to animals. If a purpose or activity that promotes the welfare of animals harms humans, or has a real potential to cause significant harm to humans, it is likely not charitable.”

The Canada Revenue Agency interpretation of common law governing charities parallels the interpretation that the United Kingdom has applied since the 19th century to constrain the opposition of major animal charities to vivisection and fox hunting, in particular. The U.S. Internal Revenue Service and the Indian Revenue Agency, however, have taken a broader view of the same common law precedents, and have not imposed a test of whether activities benefiting animals benefit humans more.

The Canada Revenue Agency draft regulations recognize that “Purposes that promote the welfare of animals may fall under the advancement of education,” or qualify for nonprofit status by “promoting the moral or ethical development of the community, upholding the administration and enforcement of the law, protecting the environment, [and/or] promoting agriculture,” but assert

that “Any benefit or potential benefit to the welfare of animals must be balanced against any harm or potential harm to humans.”

“For example,” the Canada Revenue Agency draft regulations state, “the courts have decided,” in the 1947 case *National Anti-Vivisection Society v. Inland Revenue Commissioners*, “that seeking to abolish vivisection is not charitable. This is in part because, as the courts have put it, despite the suffering inflicted on animals, the ‘immense and incalculable benefits which have resulted from vivisection,’ and the ‘positive and calamitous detriment of appalling magnitude’ that would result from its abolition, outweigh any possible promotion of the moral and ethical development of the community.”

The Canada Revenue Agency draft regulations do not directly mention trapping and sealing, but include an example making clear that Canadian animal charities may not openly oppose them: “A charity might offer courses in how to minimize harm to local wildlife and ecosystems that tend to result from human activity. However, if the charity were to try to convince people that certain legal hunting practices were morally wrong and should be abolished, it would not be advancing education in the charitable sense.”

### Slaughter allowed

The Canada Revenue Agency draft regulations will prevent Canadian charities from opposing animal slaughter and consumption, but note that in a 1946 case, “The courts have recognized promoting ‘the humane slaughtering of animals’ for food as charitable. Such purposes would not try to prevent the animals from being processed for food, as permitted by animal welfare law, but would seek to minimize any pain or suffering felt by the animals.”

The U.S. Internal Revenue Service

allows charities to engage in political activity to a limited extent, usually interpreted as spending less than 5% of their cumulative program budget to influence legislation over a three-year interval. This allows charities to either lobby for legislation or exercise political influence in election years, but limits their ability to do both without incorporating a separate not-tax-exempt subsidiary.

In Canada, “Applicants will be denied registration if their purposes are to oppose or change or retain a law or policy of a government, or if their activities reveal that there is an unstated political purpose,” a phrase which could apply to almost any subject of advocacy. Continue the Canada Revenue Agency draft regulations, “Examples of political, and therefore unacceptable, purposes for charities or applicants promoting the welfare of animals include: to pressure the federal, provincial, or territorial governments to ban or restrict a particular hunting practice or consumer product; to promote legislation to abolish the use of animals for scientific research or to ban euthanasia of animals,” and “to strengthen the laws protecting wildlife.”

### Already muted

At the March 2011 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** edition deadline apparently no major Canadian animal charity had posted or published any criticism or statement of opposition to the new Canada Revenue Agency draft regulations, perhaps because of the chilling effect of past rulings depriving animal charities of tax exempt status.

Neither had any international animal charity with a Canadian office spoken out against the new Canada Revenue Agency draft regulations in any evident way, including the World Society for the Protection of Animals, whose current board vice president, Dominic Bellemare of Montreal, has three times run unsuccessfully for Parliament as a candidate of the governing Conservative Party of Canada.

Bellemare in 2008-2010 was WSPA board president. Articles published in the June and July/August 2008 editions of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** pointed out that Bellemare—a 19-year WSPA board member—has rarely if ever taken public positions on animal issues, has never individually and explicitly denounced the seal hunt and wearing fur, and was elected to the WSPA board after working for the Canadian Ministry for External Affairs, which then and now led Canadian governmental efforts to prevent the European Union from

banning imports of seal pelts and trapped fur.

The Ministry for External Affairs while Bellemare worked there was headed by former Canadian prime minister Joe Clark, a strong defender of sealing, trapping, and hunting. Bellemare campaigned in 1983 for Clark, against Brian Mulroney. Elected prime minister, Mulroney suspended the seal hunt in 1984. The hunt resumed in 1995, a year after Mulroney left office.

Bellemare and Clark both told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that Bellemare did not work on animal issues while working for the Ministry of External Affairs, but neither would say what Bellemare did work on.

### Revocations

The Canada Revenue Agency began actively revoking tax-exempt status of animal and environmental charities in the early 1990s. In 1992 the agency, then called Revenue Canada, revoked the charitable status of the Animal Defence League of Canada, and in 1999 it revoked the nonprofit status of the Fur-Bearers Protection Association, both for allegedly spending too much money on “political” activity.

“Revenue Canada’s threat of cancelling any group’s charitable status if they criticize the fur industry has effectively silenced all of the big groups in eastern Canada. They are now afraid to speak out,” Fur-Bearers cofounder George Clements charged in an April 2003 letter to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

In December 2001 the CBC public affairs program *Disclosure* reported that the Canada Revenue Agency routinely targeted charities for audits after they were denounced by Charity Watch, whose president, George Barkhouse, also headed online entities called Hunt Action Canada and Hunt Action U.S. Among the charities audited were the Schad Foundation, which helped to halt spring bear hunting in Ontario and British Columbia; the Sierra Club of Canada; the Federation of Ontario Naturalists; WSPA; the Toronto Wildlife Centre; Ecotrust Canada; and the David Suzuki Foundation. —Merritt Clifton

**The Canada Revenue Agency will accept comment on the new draft regulations for animal charities until March 31, 2010, c/o <consultation-policy-politique@cra-arc.gc.ca>; fax 613-948-1320; or Charities Directorate, Canada Revenue Agency, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0L5, Canada.**

## Agribiz trying to learn to use Twitter

Having formed the U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance in November 2010 to try to counter bad publicity, agribusiness fronts including the National Corn Growers Association and National Pork Producers Council are still trying to figure out what to do and how to do it, reported Michael J. Crumb of Associated Press on January 31, 2011.

“The groups have been alarmed by such things as the release of videos that show male chicks being put into grinders, egg-lay-

ing hens in battery cages, and the mistreatment of hogs in large confinement operations,” Crumb wrote. “The alliance has yet to develop an action plan, but leaders said it will likely use social media such as Twitter and a public relations campaign.”

Responded Humane Society of the U.S. factory farming campaign manager Paul Shapiro, “It doesn’t matter what media they use. Defending practices most Americans consider indefensible is not a smart strategy.”

## Thai “tiger temple” defamation case fails to silence Wiek of Wildlife Friends

**BANGKOK**—A year after the notorious Thai “tiger temple” sued Wildlife Friends founder Edwin Wiek and representatives of the *Bangkok Post* for defamation, Wiek is still speaking out about how the temple keeps the tigers it exhibits and the case appears to be dead.

Located in Kanchanaburi, about two hours by tourist bus from Bangkok, the Wat Pa Luangta Bua Yannasampanno Forest Monastery claims it “started in 1999,” with “a sick baby tiger, orphaned by poachers,” and expanded to house other tiger orphans.

The temple sued Wiek and the *Bangkok Post* after the British charity Care for the Wild International described on the CFW web site “evidence of tigers being regularly beaten, having urine sprayed into their faces, being forced to sit in direct sunshine for hours on end, and being kept in poor conditions with inadequate feeding,” plus “evidence of illegal trade and breeding of tigers at the temple.”

Care for the Wild noted that, “Tigers are reported to be extremely lethargic during photo sessions, leading to concerns they may be drugged.”

Wiek was sued as the pur-

ported source of the information, said to have been collected from 2005 to 2008. The *Bangkok Post* was sued for reporting the Care For The Wild findings.

But “the prosecutor has still not filed with the courts,” Wiek told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “After the tiger temple was not happy with the progress of the criminal case, the tiger temple also charged us in Kanchanaburi civil court. When the civil court called us in for an ‘off the record’ hearing,” Wiek said, “as is usual in Thailand, we explained that the criminal case was already running in the same province and that we had enough evidence to stop that case, in our opinion. The criminal court then asked us to apologize to the tiger temple and pay for their legal expenses,” Wiek continued. “However we defendants vowed to deny the accusations and face court. I am very sure that with the video evidence, photos, and copies of some documents from the temple that we have, we could win the case in the long run, maybe not in the provincial court as they are sometimes corrupt, but in an appeal in Bangkok we would win.”

“We had then several more meetings. The prosecutor told us he

felt he had no case, but he wanted the civil court to speak first. In the end, in October 2010, the civil court did not accept the case, as they felt our ‘slandorous accusations’ were in fact sustained with evidence, and that as a charity involved in wildlife conservation and animal welfare, we had not just had the right but even a duty to report on animal abuse when we found it. Further,” Wiek said, “the court had the opinion that a temple is a public place of worship, not a business, so could not suffer financially from bad press. The criminal court then informed us it would not go ahead with the case either.”

“We have been told to counter-sue,” Wiek finished. “However, I am too busy with keeping Wildlife Friends running. I will, however, continue the fight against these crooks in yellow robes.”

The Thai Department of

National Parks, Plants and Wildlife in 2002 declared that the tiger temple was operating illegally, but allowed it to remain open because there was nowhere else for the tigers to go, said Care for the Wild.

In 2004, after Wiek exposed the possession of more than 70 smuggled orangutans by the Safari World zoo, who were used in kickboxing acts, Wildlife Friends was repeatedly raided and Wiek himself was briefly jailed. Wiek was eventually fined \$525 and given an eight-month suspended jail sentence for possessing 11 former pet macaques who had been given to the Thai Animal Guardians Association by their keepers, and were relocated to better housing at Wildlife Friends after the Thai forestry department declined to take them.

Under continued pressure from Wildlife Friends and other animal charities, 48 orangutans were

removed from Safari World and the orangutan acts were officially prohibited. But kickboxing acts at Safari World were exposed again by the *Daily Mail*, of London, in April 2010, and were still advertised on the Safari World web site in mid-February 2011.

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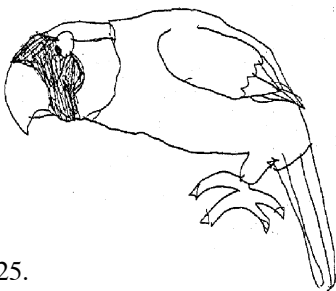
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Montana governor reprieves Yellowstone bison, signs death warrant for wolves

BOZEMAN—U.S. District Court Judge Charles Lovell on February 13, 2011 appeared to have doomed 525 bison who were to have been trucked to slaughter after wandering outside Yellowstone National Park, rejecting a Buffalo Field Campaign application for an emergency injunction against the killing. A day later, however, Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer issued an executive order prohibiting the transport of wild bison through Montana for 90 days.

The order means the bison and any others captured by the National Park Service after leaving Yellowstone will have to be held in corrals at Stephens Creek, northwest of Gardiner, until spring. “With all other routes closed due to snow, there are no other options for the National Park Service,” said a Buffalo Field Campaign media release. “We applaud this decision, yet are perplexed.” Governor Schweitzer, Buffalo Field Campaign recalled, “is the same man who in 2005 reinstated the bison ‘hunt’ [actually close-range shooting] as a form of ‘more tolerance’ and who, just last year, boasted to livestock interests that ‘No governor in the history of Montana has killed more buffalo’ than he has.”

Schweitzer claimed to have issued the order for the same reason that Montana does not allow bison to migrate into the state: fear that some may transmit the cattle disease brucellosis, which is actually transmitted in the Yellowstone region mainly by elk. Explained Carly Flandro of the Bozeman *Daily Chronicle*, “Brucellosis is spread when animals make contact with infected fetuses, uterus or afterbirth, raising questions of how transporting the animals in trucks to slaughterhouses raised disease concerns.

Schweitzer gave several examples,” in announcing his order. “In one scenario,” Flandro recounted, “he imagined a bison cow aborting a fetus on the truck and the fetus bouncing

out of the vehicle. A magpie could move it into a pasture and a cow could sniff it. ‘Bang! Brucellosis!’ he said.”

Lest anyone imagine Schweitzer had developed a soft spot for Yellowstone wildlife, he wrote to Interior Secretary Ken Salazar on February 16 that he has directed the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks to stop investigating wolf shootings north of Interstate 90, which crosses the state just north of Yellowstone, and to kill entire packs of wolves implicated in livestock depredation in the Bitterroot Valley.

Schweitzer wrote to Salazar three weeks after Montana Congressional Representative Denny Rehberg introduced two bills seeking to permanently remove wolves from Endangered Species Act protection, and Montana Senator Jon Tester asked Salazar to allow wolf hunting in Montana to limit

the wolf population.

Montana ranches in 2010 held 2.5 million cattle and nearly 250,000 sheep, according to USDA data. The latest available wolf depredation data, from 2009, shows that the state wolf population of 524 killed 97 cattle and 202 sheep. USDA’s Wildlife Services killed 145 wolves, and ranchers killed 10. Montana ranchers received \$141,462 in compensation for 367 confirmed and “probable” livestock losses to wolves. The Montana elk population is estimated to be about 150,000. “According to end-of-season reports from FWP,” said Defenders of Wildlife representative John Motsinger, “overall hunter harvest was on par with the long-term average across the region. Elk harvest in particular was up this year in the Bitterroot Valley.”

Illinois axes subsidy for National High School Rodeo Finals

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois—The Illinois Department of Agriculture on January 27, 2011 notified the National High School Rodeo Association that it can no longer afford the \$1 million annual cost of underwriting the National High School Rodeo Finals, a 10-day event held in Springfield in 2000, 2001, 2006, and 2007, due to have returned to Springfield in 2012 and 2013.

“While Illinois is claiming cancellation of the rodeo is due to budget cuts, the negative publicity generated by SHARK’s expose of the rodeo’s animal cruelty year after year undoubtedly played a part in the decision,” said SHARK founder Steve Hindi. In 2007 the National High School Rodeo Finals lost the sponsorship of Choice Hotels, including 11 leading midprice national motel chains, two years before the sponsorship contract was to expire.

“The early termination, for rules violations and ani-

mal abuse, followed a review of video documentation supplied by SHARK,” Hindi said, crediting SHARK staff member Janet Enoch for successful liaison with Choice officials.

The 2007 National High School Rodeo Finals drew 1,500 contestants and 10,000 spectators, said Associated Press. The Springfield *Journal-Register*, a sponsor of the event, claimed attendance of 50,000, apparently counting visitor days rather than individual visitors.

The National High School Rodeo Finals have for more than a decade rotated among Springfield; Farmington, New Mexico; and Gillette, Wyoming, where the 2011 Finals are to be held. Gillette cannot host the 2012 Finals because the arena is already booked for an RV event, said the Gillette *News Record*. The *News Record* noted that Farmington “has had trouble making money on the rodeo, though there has been no such problem in Gillette.”

Are Serengeti highway proponents practicing “Shoot, shovel, & shut up”?

DAR ES SALAAM—“Shoot, shovel, and shut up,” the creed of ranchers and land developers opposed to the U.S. Endangered Species Act, may have reached Tanzania. But nobody knows for sure.

What is known is that a confidential government Environmental & Social Impact Assessment Draft Report on a proposed highway that would bisect Serengeti National Park in October 2010 identified the May 2010 reintroduction of five black rhinos to Serengeti as a potential obstacle.

On December 10, 2010 one of the five rhinos was poached. Three suspects were reportedly held for questioning, but under the authoritarian regime of Tanzanian president Jakaya Kikwete, whose party has ruled since 1961, wildlife criminals and law enforcement have been at times difficult to tell apart.

In addition, summarized Sven Torfinn of *The New York Times*, “Kikwete’s party has been widely accused of siphoning millions of dollars out of the treasury by awarding contracts to ghost companies.”

Causing problematic rhino to disappear would be a comparatively simple matter.

In early February 2011 the 600-page report from the United Republic of Tanzania Ministry of Infrastructure Development Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) was leaked to the anti-Serengeti highway organization Serengeti Watch and posted to the Serengeti Watch web site. The possible effects of the proposed highway on rhinos were only one of the many issues that the TANROADS report warned about.

There is of course nothing unusual about rhino poaching in Africa: 232 rhinos were poached in South Africa in 2010, and 22 in Zimbabwe. But the five rhinos who were flown to Serengeti from South Africa in May 2010 were supposed to have been closely guarded within a fenced habitat. They were the first of 32 descendants of Tanzanian rhinos who are to be returned to Tanzania to try to rebuild the national herd.

Between 500 and 700 rhinos occupied the Serengeti/Mara ecosystem in northern Tanzania and southern Kenya circa 1970, constituting the east African *Diceros bicornis michaeli* subspecies. Five of the Serengeti rhinos were sold to South Africa during the 1980s. While the Serengeti-Mara population was poached out of existence, those sent to South Africa produced 61 living descendants.

The TANROADS study authors also examined topics including the chances that the road might increase the incidence of HIV infection in the region, might bring invasive plant species into the region, and might lead to more use of child labor if adult men are drawn away from farming to help build the road.

But the biggest concern, worldwide, is the potential impact of the Serengeti highway on wildlife. “The [wildest] migration may be limited by the high level of traffic,” TANROADS acknowledged in the report’s executive summary. The highway “is expected to have 800 vehicles per day in 2015,” TANROADS said, “rising to 3,000 vehicles per day by 2035. This is a major concern that has caused a lot of publicity...It is argued that only the wildebeest will be affected, but the animals who prey on them will also be affected

if the migration is disrupted.

“There has been a recent reintroduction of rhinos in the project area,” TANROADS continued. “These sensitive animals will be subject to traffic and poaching...The black rhino and wild dog have conservation strategies that may be hindered by the construction and operation...The shy oribi is also found in the eastern corridor. This antelope would be disturbed by the increased traffic.”

John Fryxell, a biology professor at the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, in a recent study estimated that the effects of building the Serengeti highway could cut the migrating wildebeest herd by 35%: more than half a million animals.

“The Serengeti is a jewel of our nation as well as for the international community. We will do nothing to hurt the Serengeti and we would like the international community to know this,” Kikwete on February 10, 2011 told Agence France-Presse, reiterating promises often made during the past six months that the Serengeti road will not be paved.

“No tarmac road will be built through the Serengeti,” Kikwete insisted.

Responded Serengeti Watch cofounder Dave Blanton to Canadian Press, “I think common sense would say with that volume of traffic there is no way you could have a dirt road. Paving and fencing is the future.”

“The World Bank has offered to help fund an alternative route, according to the German-based Nature & Biodiversity Conservation Union,” reported Jeremy Hance of the science web news periodical Mongabay.com in January 2011. Tanzania was a German colony from 1885 to 1946. Founded in 1899, the Nature & Biodiversity Conservation Union has had involvement in Tanzania from inception.

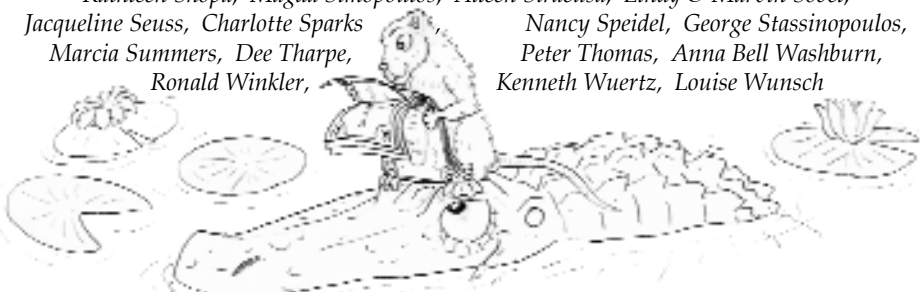
The Kenya-based African Network for Animal Welfare in December 2010 filed suit against the Serengeti road project in the East African Court of Justice, a month after the United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization came out against the project. The UNESCO position was supported by the World Wildlife Fund, International Union for Conservation of Nature, and the World Commission on Protected Areas

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# British TV hit rolls over into Indian vet training & rabies eradication drive

**MUMBAI, LONDON**—The most ambitious dog and cat surgical sterilization training program in India has rapidly expanded into the most ambitious rabies eradication program in India.

The multi-directional project began with a 2009 visit to the India Project for Animals & Nature by Luke Gamble, founder of Worldwide Veterinary Service, to film the pilot for *Vet Adventures*.

Produced by SKY TV, of Britain, *Vet Adventures* is now an internationally syndicated hit. Gamble in each episode visits an animal shelter in a part of the world remote from Britain and participates in treating a variety of species.

Located in Ooty, in the Nilgiris hills of south-central India, IPAN operates a dog sterilization clinic as part of the Indian national Animal Birth Control program, conducts outpatient clinics for livestock and working animals, and—being near the hub of the Indian horse racing industry—frequently receives cast off ex-race horses.

Impressed with the work of IPAN veterinarian Ilona Otter, Gamble with the active encouragement of Animal Welfare Board of India chair General Rammehar Kharb and Dogs Trust chief executive Clarissa Baldwin arranged to establish the World Veterinary Service International Training Centre in Ooty, to help bring ABC surgery technique up to global standards.

But the center had barely debuted when Gamble, Otter, Kharb and Baldwin decided to demonstrate the efficacy of high-volume dog vaccination against rabies, as well. In late 2010 they formed the India

National Rabies Network.

“The International Training Centre is now all set up,” Gamble told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “We have run a few courses and need to find our feet, get more funding under-way and get the courses accredited with the University of Edinburgh,” whose veterinary school hosts the Alliance for Rabies Control, an international information-and-awareness organization.

“We will then have professional credibility,” Gamble continued, “and that will help drive us on. The India National Rabies Network is going to be an immense challenge,” Gamble acknowledged, “but worthy. The idea is that we want to get all the charities and government organizations [involved in Animal Birth Control programs] to register with the INRN.” They will then be able to buy rabies vaccine at steeply discounted rates.

“We’ve negotiated a rate of 19 rupees per dose,” Gamble said—about 50¢. “We have arranged for nationwide cold chain storage,” to ensure that the vaccine remains potent, “and if I can somehow get funding to provide the vaccine to registered organisations at about 10 rupees a dose, we have a fighting chance of getting them to buy it, use it, and record what they are doing. We’re going to concentrate on a couple of states first. Our ambition is to record the vaccination of 2.3 million street dogs in the next three years. According to the very loose World Health Organization stats, this should prevent the death of at least one child under 15 every single day as a result of being bitten by a rabid dog. The general thought is that 2.3 million street dogs will be 5% of the street dog popula-

tion,” including free-roaming quasi-pets.

Rabies statistics in India are notoriously shaky, in part because India does not require local hospitals to collect and report rabies statistics, as is done in most of the rest of the world. Instead much of the available data comes from manufacturers of human post-exposure vaccine, some of whom have bitterly opposed the ABC program.

“Making rabies notifiable in India is all part of the grand plan,” said Gamble.

“Dogs Trust has been amazing in helping me get the ITC off the ground. I couldn’t have done it without them—specifically Clarissa Baldwin,” never before involved in India, “who has backed me every step of the way,” Gamble emphasized. “I am getting the Indian government hopefully very much onside,” Gamble added, “but don’t plan to rely on them for anything financial! It’s all a work in progress, a bit like herding cats, and no doubt I’ll learn plenty on the way and will probably tear my hair out several times, but I’ve got the bit between my teeth on this and I think it can be done.”

Gamble, 33, founded Worldwide Veterinary Service in 2003, shortly after graduating from veterinary school. Sending two volunteer missions abroad in 2004 on a budget of about \$15,000, Worldwide Veterinary Service rapidly grew into one of the largest international veterinary charities.

Gamble recruited Niles Bhanage as WVS network manager for India, who during the same years has built the Plant & Animal Welfare Society from a student project into one of the most prominent Mumbai animal advocacy and rescue organizations.

Said Bhanage, introducing the India National Rabies Network to the membership of the Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organizations, “The cost of treating one human who has been bitten by a suspected rapid dog is enough to prevent rabies in 75 dogs by vaccinating them. We will provide the participating parties with campaign materials such as posters, stickers, and vaccination cards, and an administrative framework, as well as the right to use our project plan in applying for further funds for this project locally. All participants will also receive a comprehensive rabies vaccination campaign manual as a PDF soft copy. Staff can be sent to the International Training Centre for practical training in dog catching and rabies vaccination campaign management.”

The World Veterinary Service International Training Center, explained Otter, offers an ABC surgery course “meant mainly for junior veterinarians who are already associated with clinics,” which “senior veterinarians can also attend to update their knowledge and skills.” The center also offers an ABC assistance course, which “combines operation theatre work with humane dog catching,” and an ABC program management course.

The courses emphasize surgical and post-surgical asepsis. ABC programs traditionally hold dogs after surgery for about a week, on average, to identify and treat post-surgical infections. High-volume dog and cat sterilization programs in the U.S. by contrast often conduct thousands of surgeries between encountering infection cases, usually with only overnight post-surgical time or same-day release in the case of male animals.

## Bali dog & Jakarta cat rabies vaccination drives show rise in Indonesian awareness

**JAKARTA, BANTUL, UBUD**—Amid rumors that the Bali government will reinstitute aggressive dog-killing when a new fiscal year begins in May 2011 came two hints from Jakarta that Indonesian authorities may be starting to realize that only high-volume vaccination lastingly reduces rabies transmission.

More than 150 people have died from rabies on Bali since October 2008, more than 90% of them infected before the Bali government authorized the Bali Animal Welfare Association to vaccinate dogs throughout the island, funded by the World Society for the Protection of Animals. BAWA had demonstrated the efficacy of high-volume vaccination for a year and a half, holding human rabies deaths in the densely populated Gianyar Regency area to just three, markedly fewer than in adjacent regencies, while the central government tried unsuccessfully to halt the spread of rabies across the rest of the island through culling dogs.

Indonesian agriculture ministry director general for livestock and health Prabowo R. Caturso on February 5, 2011 announced the allocation of \$17.6 million over the next two years to fund rabies prevention, primarily on Bali and the islands of Nias in North Sumatra province, and West Maluku Tenggara, in Maluku province.

“The funds are expected to be used to purchase rabies vaccines and to monitor and evaluate the implementation of prevention programs,” said the *Jakarta Post*.

Bali is to receive 70% of the funding, having had 77% of the reported bites by suspected rabid dogs in Indonesia in 2010, and 119 of the 195 human rabies fatalities.

Five more Balinese died from rabies during the first weeks of 2011, fueling renewed fervor for killing dogs, but only one case—on the offshore island of Nusa Penida—was actually contracted from a dog bite occurring after the BAWA vaccination drive went island-wide.

As of mid-February 2011, BAWA founder Janice Girardi told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, BAWA had deployed 45 vaccination teams, including 50 veterinarians, 50 data recorders, and 250 dogcatchers, with five more teams in training. Among them, they had vaccinated 169,000 dogs, believed to be about 56% of the dog population of Bali, expecting to vaccinate about 90,000 more. The 70% vaccination threshold, believed to be necessary to stop the spread of rabies, is likely to be reached in May.

While the Indonesian national rabies control budget was still in negotiation, Jakarta animal health division chief Naniek Susetjoharti on January 17, 2011 suspended charging 55¢ apiece to vaccinate cats. From now on, she said, the agency would vaccinate pet cats—but not ferals—for free, providing that the cats are at least eight months old and healthy.

The program hopes to vaccinate at least 250 cats in 2011, Naniek Susetjoharti told the *Jakarta Post*. Her agency vaccinated 286 cats, 1,621 dogs, and 49 pet monkeys in 2010.

Jakarta has officially been rabies-free since 2004, but Naniek Susetjoharti hopes to push the rate of vaccination up, lest infected animals arrive from elsewhere in Indonesia.

Amid the encouraging signs pertaining to rabies control, the Bantul city government demonstrated that Indonesian authorities still tend to lack even a basic understanding of how zoonotic disease spreads. Responding to the deaths of 19 people during the past two years from the bacterial disease leptospirosis, which thrives in rodent urine and spreads to humans and other animals mainly through contaminated water, the Bantul government declared a bounty of about 5¢ U.S. on rats.

The officially recommended strategy “would be to fill rat nests with water and kill rats as they emerged, according to the administration,” reported Slamet Susanto of the *Jakarta Post*. “Thousands of people, including civil servants, students, police officers and Indonesian military members, joined the drive at a number of sites,” Slamet Susanto added.

The moderators of the International Society for Infectious Diseases’ ProMed newsgroup agreed that flooding rat middens to flush out rats would amount to distributing leptospirosis by the fastest and most efficient means possible.

“While they may get some rats, this will not get rid of the disease. The rats left behind will be efficient breeders and spreaders, and the flooding will also spread it,” commented Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine professor Tam Garland.

## Flood rescues in Australia, Sri Lanka, Africa driven by La Niña

Climate change has more than doubled the risk of flooding since 1950, two new studies agreed in the February 16, 2011 edition of *Nature*.

“For years scientists have said that global warming would likely cause extremes in temperatures and rainfall. But this is the first time researchers have been able to point to a demonstrable cause-and-effect,” assessed Pulitzer Prize-winning Associated Press writer Seth Borenstein.

The *Nature* edition was assembled as a La Niña weather pattern produced rains inundating much of Queensland and Victoria state in Australia, and parts of Sri Lanka, Brazil, Pakistan, the Philippines, and African nations including South Africa, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Namibia.

More than 70 communities in Queensland and more than 50 in Victoria suffered damage. At least 37 Australians were killed by the flooding, along with 6,100 sheep.

A Royal SPCA temporary shelter set up at the Central Queensland University evacuation center accommodated the pets of displaced persons, while RSPCA field personnel did boat rescues of pets who were stranded in homes—but the RSPCA shelter in Fairfield, the main shelter serving the Brisbane area, was itself obliged to evacuate more than 500 animals just ahead of the fast-rising water.

“Whilst all the animals were safely evacuated and homed in temporary foster care, the Fairfield shelter is inoperable, closed to the public, and will remain that way for some time,” said RSPCA Queensland chief execu-

tive Mark Townend on January 14, 2011. Despite heavy damage, the shelter reopened temporarily for a February 19 adoption event.

Brown snakes usually eat frogs, if possible, and frogs sometimes eat snakes, too, but computer technician Armin Gerlach photographed a green tree frog riding a brown snake through the floodwaters near Brisbane.

“In some degree we are lucky in Queensland that much of the flooding occurred in agricultural areas, where there is not a lot of wildlife,” wrote Wildlife Protection Association of Australia president Pat O’Brien.

“The kangaroos are fairly okay,” O’Brien said, “because in most cases in rural areas the water came up relatively slowly and they could get away. We’ll still lose a lot of kangaroos. We’ll lose lots of the smaller macropods, especially the wallabies. Bandicoots, native rats and mice, invertebrates etc, will all be heavily impacted, but the reptiles and spiders seem to be able to get up on fenceposts and trees. There are lots of dead snakes on the roads. I heard a report from Lowood that some people in a boat were going around shooting snakes in the trees.

“One huge impact,” O’Brien predicted, recalling coral damage after flooding in 1991, “will be on the Great Barrier Reef, when the silt, containing mud, cow manure and farm chemicals, pours out of the rivers and onto the coral.”

A longterm threat to both wildlife and humans, the International Society for Infectious Diseases warned, will be from mosquito-borne viruses, as mosquitoes find plenti-

ful breeding habitat among the puddles left by receding floodwater. Outbreaks of the Ross River and Barmah Forest viruses in the afflicted areas had already nearly tripled in a year’s time before the 2010-2011 flooding started.

More than a million people were displaced by Sri Lankan flooding, reported Tsunami Animal-People Alliance founder Robert Blumberg, whose team mobilized a reprise of the relief work they did after the Indian Ocean Tsunami in December 2004. Since mid-2005 TAPA has focused on providing high-volume dog and cat sterilization service in the communities hit by the tsunami.

During the January 2011 flooding, TAPA initially did disaster relief assessment with representatives of Humane Society International and the World Society for the Protection of Animals. “The TAPA team, with support from the Odel Foundation, HSI and WSPA, then started treating any animal needing assistance, including dogs, cats and farm animals,” Blumberg said. “The DogStar Foundation provided much needed medicines.”

Partnering with the German charity Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund, TAPA after February 8 focused on the Batticola area where, Blumberg reported, “There are a high number of sick or dying farm animals due to the flood. These rural communities do not receive veterinary services,” Blumberg said, “and the people just refused to let the TAPA team leave—they worked 10-hour days with no breaks! Dogs and cats were treated as needed in these communities,” Blumberg noted, “but we focused on injury and illness,



Saved in Sri Lanka. (TAPA)

with spay-neuter left for another visit.”

Approximately 6,000 people have been displaced and at least 70 were killed due to the flooding in South Africa. Disaster areas were declared in eight of nine provinces.

The National Council of SPCA fielded water rescue teams in Gauteng, North West, the Orange Free State and KwaZulu-Natal, said spokesperson Christine Kuch.

“There have been concerted efforts to reach animals stranded on islands, at first by boat and then by air,” Kuch said. “In some instances the animals were safe from drowning but had no food source.”

On January 26, Kuch wrote, the flooding receded and all returned to normal.



# The Lady & Her Tiger by Pat Derby with Peter S. Beagle

Performing Animal Welfare Society (P.O. Box 849, Galt, CA 95632), 1976; reprinted for PAWS. Paperback, 263 pages. \$10.00.

Performing Animal Welfare Society cofounder Pat Derby did not see the modern animal rights movement coming 35 years ago, when her memoir *The Lady & Her Tiger* became one of the books that launched it.

Published by E.P. Dutton in May 1976, six months after Peter Singer's *Animal Liberation*, and 20 months after Cleveland Amory's *Man Kind?*, *The Lady & Her Tiger* won an American Library Association award and was a Book of the Month Club selection. Reissued as a Ballentine paperback in 1977, *The Lady & Her Tiger* ensured that the treatment of performing animals was prominent on the nascent animal rights agenda—but Derby remained a Hollywood animal trainer, albeit in the doghouse with much of her profession after exposing their methods, for another eight years.

Merging animal training businesses with Ed Stewart in 1980, Derby and Stewart at last gave up on training wildlife and cofounded the Performing Animal Welfare Society in 1984, to oppose animal use in entertainment and to provide sanctuary care for life to their own retired menagerie.

Derby had already taken in animals who were retired by other trainers or were given to her by people who could no longer handle exotic pets for at least 20 years, and had already tried twice before to operate nonprofit sanctuaries, but her previous efforts had tried to support themselves with revenue from paid admissions, gift shops, and traveling animal acts. PAWS has by contrast been sustained from the start almost entirely by donations, solicited primarily by direct mail. Because it has never promoted itself as a visitor attraction or as entertainment, PAWS has given Derby the philosophically consistent platform for critiquing the performing animal industry that she appears to have wanted all along.

Yet only after the emergence of the animal rights movement, after the formation between 1977 and 1984 of most of the major national animal advocacy organizations of today, does Derby appear to have recognized the opportunity she had prepared herself for all her life.

Derby in 1976 exhibited no awareness, either, of her status as one of the few people whose lives link the first beginnings of the humane movement to the animal rights movement. Yet she was a proto-animal rights activist almost by heredity.

Born Patricia Shelley, in Sussex, England, Derby is a direct descendant of Percy and Mary Shelley.

Percy Shelley, remembered mainly as a poet, also wrote at least two tracts against eating animals, *A Vindication of Natural Diet* and *On the Vegetable System of Diet*. "How unwarrantable is the injustice and the barbarity which is exercised toward these miserable victims," Percy Shelley wrote of animals raised for slaughter. "They are called into existence by human artifice that they may drag out a short and miserable existence of slavery and disease, that their bodies may be mutilated, their social feelings outraged. It were much better that a sentient being should never have existed, than that it should have existed only to endure unmitigated misery."

Mary Shelley authored *Frankenstein*, published in 1818, when she was barely 19 years old. "My food is not that of man," declared her tragic hero, Dr. Frankenstein's monster. "I do not destroy the lamb and kid to glut my appetite; acorns and berries afford my sufficient nourishment."

Percy and Mary Shelley remained vegetarians, animal advocates and anti-vivisectionists throughout their short lives. Their beliefs persisted among at least some of their descendants. Born more than 90 years after Mary Shelley died, Patricia Shelley was raised a vegetarian and detested hunting

from her first memories. Her mother was a bird rehabilitator. Patricia Shelley debuted as an actress, starring as Juliet in a production of *Romeo & Juliet*, soon after her father died. Emigrating to New York at age 15, she sang as well, and enjoyed some early theatrical success.

Patricia Shelley, by the time she was 17, was already touring nightclubs as the star of The Gimmicks, a retro jazz band. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found old newspaper clips confirming her possible trajectory toward stage and screen stardom—but her career took an abrupt turn when she met former animal trainer Ted Derby, nine years her elder. Attracted by his background in working with animals, she encouraged Ted Derby to return to animal training, and accompanied him as his training career resumed.

Though Patricia Shelley continued to act and sing at times, including after she married Ted Derby in 1964 and became known to the world as Pat Derby, her life refocused on animal care. The first half of this time was largely an informal apprenticeship. Employed in relatively menial capacities by some of the biggest names in Hollywood animal handling, Pat Derby learned as much as any of them could teach her, but soon found that few people knew very much.

Among her early disenchantments was learning that Walt Disney was an ill-tempered grouch with relatively little understanding of animal needs and behavior. Disney produced hundreds of films, animated films, and television programs with strongly pro-animal messages, but tended to expect animal actors to perform on cue like people, with the same ethos that the show must go on, regardless of setbacks.

Despite this early disappointment, Pat Derby worked more for Walt Disney Studios than for anyone else, particularly on sets for *Lassie*. Eventually Pat Derby discovered for herself the principles of positive reinforcement training—which at the time was practically unknown to anyone, and for many years afterward was undercut by the incorrect belief, persisting among some trainers, that animals must be starved to respond adequately to food rewards.

Pat Derby's reward for challenging the prevalent Hollywood way of training animals, despite many on-set successes, included frequent conflicts with colleagues, directors, and producers. Ted Derby, who seems to have been only half convinced by Pat's achievements, joined her in starting their own company to provide animal actors. When that struggled financially, they briefly operated a couple of roadside zoos, and produced an animal show for the San Diego Zoo. Their one consistent success was training Chauncey, the puma who for more than a decade promoted the Ford-Mercury Cougar lion of automobiles.

Both Derbys were repeatedly bitten by animals. Pat suffered several broken noses and a painful chronic back injury. Their most painful failures, however, were the financial collapses of their first nonprofit ventures. The first collapse obliged them to raise \$50,000, a high sum now, astronomical then, to redeem their animals from creditors who claimed them through bankruptcy.

After the bankruptcy of one of their first employers as an animal-handling duo, Pat had witnessed animals being auctioned to all comers, including a taxidermist who shot a friendly tame female grizzly bear as she sat waving to visitors from her cage. Fearing a similar fate for the animals after the second collapse of a Derby-&-Derby nonprofit, Pat reluctantly had euthanized all those she could not afford to keep.

Meanwhile Pat and Ted Derby split largely because

Ted Derby continued to rely on electroshock to control animals, a technique Pat considers ineffective and cruel.

*The Lady & Her Tiger* ended, in a sense, before most of the Pat Derby story began. It also skips over or omits much that in hindsight was significant. Early in Pat Derby's training career, for instance, she worked for three weeks on the set of the *Flipper* television series alongside then-dolphin trainer Ric O'Barry. O'Barry became a vegetarian during a 1968 visit to India, turned against dolphin training, and made his first abortive attempt to liberate a captive dolphin on Earth Day 1970. Whether O'Barry and Pat Derby influenced each other in any way is never mentioned. Indeed O'Barry himself is never mentioned, though the two were and have remained on parallel paths.

Only three animal advocacy organizations are mentioned in *The Lady & Her Tiger*—the American Humane Association, for ineptitude in monitoring animal use on film sets; the Humane Society of the U.S., as employer of Sue Pressman, an early advocate for captive wildlife whom Derby clearly admired; and the Fund for Animals, the beneficiary of a fundraising auction of a Mercury Cougar at which Chauncey performed.

"Cleveland is a charming, clever, genuinely dedicated man," Pat Derby observed, "but he and I favor different ways of promoting conservation of wild animals. Like most of us, he tends to preach to the converted and scream damnation at the rest. I don't think it works—you can't get the average hunter to stop killing animals by calling him a sick, vicious barbarian. I think you have to get him somehow to like or identify with a single deer or bear, or whatever it is that he kills. That may sound crazy and hopeless, but otherwise it's just words, just numbers, like six million Jews and all the starving children in India who'd love to eat your cauliflower. Numbers don't make us care, and neither does hellfire. Individuals sometimes do."

Among Pat Derby's most telling insights in this passage is the phrase "Like most of us." I have personally conflicted with Pat Derby at least twice for "screaming damnation" at the wrong people—at people who basically agreed with all of her pro-animal messages—and she has screamed damnation at me, too. There are few people, however, who have done more than Pat Derby to encourage rethinking every aspect of keeping captive wildlife, from animal actors to zoological conservation. *The Lady & Her Tiger* narrates the experiences that reinforced her intuitive and inherited beliefs with the depth of background that has required the captive wildlife industry to sit up and pay attention, and—at times—to jump through hoops to avoid her wrath.

Perhaps Pat Derby will some day write the rest of her story, at least a portion of which would read like a spy novel. According to filings from a series of bitterly fought court cases, Feldman Entertainment, owner of the Ringling Bros. Circus, from 1988 to 1998 spent \$8.8 million to employ a small army of spies to try to disable the Performing Animal Welfare Society and PETA. The operation was reportedly directed by Clair E. George, deputy director of operations for the Central Intelligence Agency from July 1984 through December 1987.

—Merritt Clifton



## A New Name for Worthless: A Hero is Born by Rocky Shephard, illustrated by Tamara Ci Thayne c/o Dogs Deserve Better (P.O. Box 23, Tipton, PA 16684), 2011. Hardcover, 16 pages. \$17.97.



A chained dog named Worthless craves human companionship. In the winter a shabby doghouse barely protects the old dog from the brutal winters. There is not much shade from the sizzling summer sun.

*A New Name for Worthless* means well. Author Rocky Shephard presents it as a tribute to Tamira Ci Thayne, founder of Dogs Deserve Better, and her devotion to freeing dogs from the misery of chains, a most laudable goal. But the book conveys mixed and confusing messages to its intended audience of young readers.

Fiction is of course made up, but it has to be believable. *A New Name for*

*Worthless* stretches it even for me, a fan of talking animals. Otto the sea otter lives outside of water. Children will pick up on that. The other character, Sly Fox, is Otto's friend, but how the sea otter and fox become friends is a mystery.

The fox and the otter help the chained dog escape during a "perfect" night of whipping wind and driving rain. I'm confused when Otto the sea otter jumps on Sly Fox's back. It seems improbable that the heavier animal, the otter, would ride the other.

Eventually the trio find an abandoned cabin. A man sits outside a nearby cabin cooking his dinner, with a hungry coyote ready to steal the food. Worthless fights the coyote. The message that a dog gains value by fighting coyotes is inappropriate message for humane education. Coyote attacks on humans are rare. A dog who attacks a coyote may not "lose," but is likely to be injured.

The man adopts the dog, the fox, and the otter.

I wanted to endorse this book with my highest recommendations, but was disappointed.

The real Worthless was among the dogs who inspired Dogs Deserve Better. Tamira Ci Thayne rescued him, after he spent most of his life on a chain, and renamed him Bo. Bo enjoyed six months of indoor living with her and then passed away.

—Debra J. White

## What Every Horse Should Know by Cherry Hill

Storey Publishing (210 MASS MoCA Way, North Adams, MA 01247), 2011. 192 pages, paperback. \$19.95.



"Horses are wonderful already," begins Cherry Hill in *What Every Horse Should Know*. Her book is wonderful too.

Hill, horse trainer extraordinaire, begins the book with a chapter on fear. Fear, she says, is the single most dangerous and destructive force in a relationship with a horse. "Eradicate fear and you begin to develop trust," Hill writes. Fearful horses often panic and try to flee. Wild or undomesticated horses, suddenly cornered, feel trapped. Attempting to escape can harm the horse or anyone standing close by.

Hill's chapter on fear begins a sound and thoughtful discussion of proper training methods that start with birth of a foal and continue throughout the horse's life.

Horses can experience separation anxiety just like dogs. Among horses this behavior is manifested in several different ways. A "herd-bound" horse misbehaves when separated from the herd. A horse who is nervous when separated from just one particular horse is called "buddy-bound." A horse who is antsy when taken out of the barn is "barn-sour."

Hill suggests ways to help nervous horses relax. She adds a section on building confidence.

Sub-sections outline key behaviors. For example, on page 49 Hill offers a list of "Visually spooky things" that a horse may find frightening, such as umbrellas, bicycles, bal-

loons, and people who are behaving strangely.

Communication with the horse is critical for anyone who rides. There must be mutual respect and trust between horse and rider. Hill discusses horse movements, conversing with a horse, and getting a horse ready to ride. She also talks about rewards such as rubs. Horses enjoy soothing physical contact.

A chapter about the various riding methods includes clear concise sketches and colorful photos, along with an easy-to-follow discussion about rein release, backing, and yielding.

Riding a horse is more complicated than just hopping on the horse's back. Much preparation is involved, such as the saddling process. Keeping a horse is also not cheap. Those who acquire horses need to be prepared for all the costs of stabling, feeding, hoof care, and vaccinations, and the work needed to keep the horse adequately exercised, trained, brushed, and cleaned up after.

*What Every Horse Should Know* is beautifully written and illustrated. If you are thinking about adopting a horse, read this book first. You'll find out what you're getting into. But as Hill says, horses are wonderful. If you follow her tips, your horse should become a good equine citizen and you'll become a satisfied horse keeper.

—Debra J. White

### TRIBUTES

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





## PEOPLE

**Major General (Retired) Ram-mehar Kharb**, chairing the **Animal Welfare Board of India** since 2006, was honored with a lifetime achievement award in January 2011 by the **Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organizations**. Kharb was saluted for advocacy on behalf of street dogs, pushing municipalities to share the cost of **Animal Birth Control** programs, standardizing ABC surgical and dogcatching procedures, expelling corrupt organizations from the AWBI, initiating the national **Rabies Free India** program, and lobbying for the first major update of the Indian national humane law since 1960, recently introduced in the Indian Parliament.

**Patricia N. Olsen**, DVM, who was director of veterinary affairs for the **American Humane Association** from 1995 to 1998, was on February 22, 2011 named chief veterinary advisor to the AHA. A cofounder of the **National Council on Pet Population & Policy**, Olsen headed the **Morris Animal Foundation** from 2004 to 2010.

**The Los Angeles City Association of Black Personnel** in February 2011 honored 5-year animal control officer **Shatana Bacon** with one of six Trailblazers Awards presented for contributions to the advancement of African Americans in city government.

## Five alleged animal fighters die in 10 days

**DETROIT, YAZOO, DELANO**—Five alleged animal fighters died in three separate incidents during the last 10 days of January 2011.

Detroit police responding to calls about gunshots and an anonymous call saying that bodies could be found at a particular address on the night of January 21 found the remains of three young men after removing 11 pit bull terriers to gain access to the building.

"A neighbor, who spoke anonymously out of fear for her life, recalled the stench of dead dogs filling the air last summer after dogfights when dog carcasses littered an abandoned house next door to her," reported *Detroit Free Press* staff writer Megha Satyanarayana. "There was nothing but blood all over the basement and the walls, she said

**Kaankata**, 35, an Indian rhino who lost an ear to a poacher's bullet and afterward charged humans on sight, died peaceably in Orang National Park on February 16, 2011. Kaankata once destroyed a forestry official's car, and another time chased a poacher for two kilometers, division forest officer Sushil Daila told *The Telegraph*, of Kolkata.

**Middleweight and light heavyweight boxing champion Bernard Hopkins** and fellow boxers **Ivan Robinson** and **Mike Jones** posed in January 2011 for a New Jersey Aid for Animals billboard promoting pit bull terrier sterilization. About 80% of the dogs entering animal shelters in the communities where the billboard is posted are pit bulls.

**The Asheville Humane Society**, serving Buncombe County, North Carolina, on February 17, 2011 promoted Katherine McGowan Shenar to become president and chief executive officer, after serving as interim president since May 2010. She previously helped to found the Ocean State Animal Coalition in Rhode Island and the North Carolina Animal Federation, and was an animal sheltering issues consultant for the Humane Society of the U.S., for whom she wrote the book *Coalition Building for Animal Care Organizations*.

of the abandoned house. The neighbor said the fight conductors moved the operation from the abandoned house to a home across the street, where the bodies were found," Satyanarayana continued.

The day after the killings, Satyanarayana wrote, "a dead dog was lying in the backyard of that house, frozen and chained to a dog house."

Charged with shooting pit bull breeder Earl Riptoe, 43, at a dogfight near Benton, Mississippi, seven miles east of Yazoo, on January 28, Cedric Harvey, 33, of Jackson, Mississippi, surrendered to police on February 7. Harvey was held in lieu of bond of \$800,000. Relatives claimed Riptoe was not himself a dogfighter, but admitted that he bet on dogfights.

Jose Luis Ochoa, 35, was on January 30 fatally slashed across his right calf by a gaff-wearing gamecock in rural Tulare County, California. Ochoa was apparently preparing to "pit" the bird when Tulare County sheriff's deputies raided the cockfight. Ochoa fled with other suspects, but was later captured and taken to a hospital in Delano, in neighboring Kern County. He died about two hours after suffering the injury.

Tulare County sheriff's spokesperson Ray Pruitt told media that it was not clear whether the delay in seeking medical attention contributed to Ochoa's death.

Two similar incidents killed two people within 17 days in January 2003. Gamecock handler Elmer Mariano of Zamboanga, the Philippines, had just strapped spurs to the legs of a cock in preparation for a fight when the cock wrested one leg free and fatally stabbed him in the groin. At Kampung Murni, Nabawan district, Malaysia, cockfighter Tungkalang Ratu had also just strapped the spurs to a cock when the bird escaped, fatally slashing the thigh of his 12-year-old son Henrysius.

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## ANIMAL OBITUARIES

**Anapka**, 18, a female donkey who survived being parasailed as a promotional stunt for a private beach near the Sea of Asov in southern Russia in July 2010, died in December 2010 at the farm near Moscow where she was taken in August 2010 to enjoy a quiet retirement after her ordeal, which ended with a crash landing in the water.

**Chloe**, a German shepherd who was rescued by a New York City police scuba diver in January 2011 after falling into the Hudson River from her guardian's docked yacht, was killed in a February 3, 2011 fire that razed the same yacht, the *Quid Pro Quo*. Chloe's person, Mark Stoss, 42, suffered smoke inhalation and hypothermia, but survived.

## OBITUARIES

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

**Dick King-Smith**, 88, died in his sleep on January 4, 2011 at his home near Bath, England. Smith turned to writing after World War II military service, 20 years of farming, stints selling firefighting equipment and working in a shoe factory, and finally teaching, after he completed a degree in education at Bristol University at age 53 in 1975. King-Smith's first of more than 100 books, *The Fox Busters*, appeared in 1978. Concerning three chickens who repeatedly foil the efforts of foxes to eat them, *The Fox Busters* inspired a 26-episode Cosgrove Hall animated TV series of the same name, aired in 1999-2000. King-Smith's books, mostly about talking animals, sold more than 15 million copies in all. *The Water Horse* (1990) became a 2007 feature film starring Emily Watson and David Morrissey. *The Queen's Nose* (1995), about a girl who loves animals but is not allowed to have a pet, became a BBC television series aired in 1995-1998. Other successes were *Harriet's Hare* (1994) and *The Invisible Dog* (1995). But King-Smith's biggest hit, by far, was *The Sheep-Pig* (1983), retitled *Babe: The Gallant Pig* when republished in the U.S. two years later. "It's the story of a piglet who is won at a fair by a sheep farmer and adopted by the farm's mother sheepdog, Fly. Trained to herd sheep by Fly, the polite Babe puts his own spin on getting sheep to obey," summarized Dennis McLellan of the *Los Angeles Times*. *Babe* was made into a 1995 hit film by Australian screenwriter/producer George Miller and director Chris Noonan. Starring James Cromwell as Farmer Hoggett, *Babe* was nominated for seven Academy Awards, including best picture, and won an Oscar for best visual effects. Cromwell subsequently became a vegetarian and a prominent animal advocate.

**Robin Suzanne Kinman**, 51, of Conyers, Georgia, died on February 1, 2011. An American Kennel Club judge of German shepherds and former animal control officer in Dekalb County, Georgia, "Suzanne will be remembered for her pioneering work in Dekalb County mandating that no animal be released from animal control unless neutered, and for planning for animals in disaster. She testified on many occasions at the Georgia state capitol for animal legislation. Her professionalism brought credibility to our cause," wrote Humane Association of Georgia director Carolyn Danese.

**Richard H. Greene, Sr., DVM**, 70, died on February 13, 2011 in Marietta, Georgia. Greene worked with Cobb County Animal Control for more than 25 years, recalled Humane Association of Georgia director Carolyn Danese. Practicing in Americus until 1984, Greene later co-owned the Twilley-Greene Animal Clinic in Marietta.

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**Gertrude Maxwell**, 99, died on January 17, 2011 in West Palm Beach, Florida. Maxwell in 1972 founded the no-kill Save-A-Pet adoption shelter in Highland Park, Illinois. She relocated to Florida when her first husband, real estate investor Mark Maxwell, retired in 1978, but remained active in promoting neuter/return of feral cats, sterilizing pets, and no-kill sheltering to the end of her life. Save-A-Pet, now in Grayslake, is now a \$2-million-a-year organization which has rehomed more than 70,000 dogs and cats, currently rehoming about 1,500 per year.

**William Thomas Warden**, 75, died on January 10, 2011 in Victoria, British Columbia. A career diplomat and international election observer for the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Warden later founded and directed the International Centre at the University of Calgary. Best known as a human rights advocate, Warden was also an animal advocate who donated to the Visakha SPCA in Visakhapatnam, India, and encouraged his daughter Lisa Warden to fight animal abuse in India and Vietnam. Her most prominent campaigns have pushed for reform at the 104-year-old Kakinada SPCA and in the allocation and management of animal control and Animal Birth Control program contracts in Ahmedabad.

**Thomas Van Cise, DVM**, 60, of Corona, California, died on December 30, 2010 from a heart attack. Receiving his veterinary degree from Purdue University in Ohio in 1974, Van Cise purchased the All Animals Exotic or Small clinic in Norco, California in 1981. Van Cise became nationally known for practicing veterinary homeopathy, acupuncture, and various other alternative treatments.

**J. Lindsay Oaks**, 51, died on January 15, 2011. A Washington State University microbiologist who frequently worked with the Peregrine Fund, Oaks in January 2003 identified the anti-inflammatory drug diclofenac as the cause of the loss over the preceding 10 years of more than 95% of the once common Oriental white-backed vulture, and similar declines in the populations of long-billed and slender-billed vultures. The source of exposure turned out to be Indian and Pakistani farmers who use diclofenac to keep lame oxen, buffalo, and equines on the job pulling carts and plows. When the animals die, their carcasses are left for scavengers. While residual diclofenac does not seem to harm dogs or jackals, cumulative exposure causes kidney failure in vultures. Slightly more than 11% of the carcasses of working animals tested proved to contain diclofenac. Based on these studies, the Government of India banned the use and production of the veterinary painkiller through an order of the Drug Controller General in May 2006. "In August 2008," recalled *The Hindu*, "a directive was issued by the Drug Controller [of India] to make human painkiller manufacturers label their products with the warning, 'Not for veterinary use.'" However, diclofenac is still commonly used in working animals, and vultures of all Asian species are still declining.

## MEMORIALS



In memory of Lucy, who died in late 2010.

In 2002, when she was about four, some friends found her locked in a horse trailer in the mountains. We never found out what had happened to her, but it took many years for us to earn her trust, and to help her come out of her shell. Lucy taught us a lot about the natural world around us, and she finally learned how to play. Lucy was the sweetest dog, and we miss her a lot.

—Ann & Bill Koros

In memory of Jack Weaver.  
 —Nancy Speidel

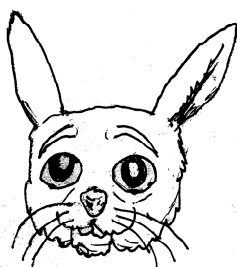
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**www.youtube.com/watch?v=0JXcPxsSGE**

Based on Hindu mythology, this is the story of Yudisthira, a pious king whose place in Heaven is determined by his love for a dog. Animated by Wolf Clifton in the style of an Indonesian shadow puppet play.

**RESCUE ORGANIZATION** or "handy" animal-friendly individual or couple to care for barn, grounds and resident cats on beautiful, private seven-acre farm in lieu of rent. Hanover, PA area.

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## Cooperative Buying Program Save Money Today... *Save The Pets of Tomorrow*

The Pet Savers Foundation wants to help animal welfare organizations maximize their limited financial resources. The Pet Saver's Cooperative Buying Program allows organizations of all sizes to take advantage of high-volume purchasing power for discounts on high-quality products. These products can be used in-house, or to start a retail program. Participation is easy & membership is **FREE!**

**Together we can save more lives of homeless animals and enhance the lives of those saved.**



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Call: 1.800.233.7544 • Fax: 516.883.1595

[www.petsavers.org](http://www.petsavers.org)



SAVE  
THE  
DATES

# PET ADOPTATHON®

KICK-OFF WEEKEND

Saturday, April 30th & Sunday, May 1st



## Three Easy Ways to Register for FREE!

There is no cost for any of the support materials provided to your organization.

- 1 Register online  
[AnimalLeague.org/petadoptathon2011](http://AnimalLeague.org/petadoptathon2011)
- 2 Call toll-free 1.800.214.4308
- 3 Fax your organization's name, address, phone, e-mail address and contact person to 516.883.1595.

Be part of the largest worldwide adoption extravaganza by joining Pet Adoptathon® 2011! This year on April 30th and May 1st, shelters across the country and around the world will be united by one common goal – to find loving homes for all the animals in their care.

Register and receive free promotional materials, a listing on the Pet Adoptathon Web page, access to our online How To Guide and national publicity for your shelter. Since 1995, Pet Adoptathon has helped over a quarter of a million dogs, cats, puppies, and kittens around the world find new, loving homes.

**REGISTER TODAY!**

Presenting Sponsor:



**Yes, our organization would like to participate in PET ADOPTATHON 2011!**

Organization Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Event Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization's Mailing Address (for regular U.S. Mail- No PO Boxes please) \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Shipping Address (to be used for UPS delivery) \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Actual location of your event (or where you'll be holding your Pet Adoptathon 2011 event if different from left). No PO boxes please.

City \_\_\_\_\_  
State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if you do not want the above address posted on the Pet Adoptathon Web page or given to potential adopters who call our 800 referral hotline.

Organization's Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_ Web Site \_\_\_\_\_

By filling out this form, I am officially registering for Pet Adoptathon 2011 and agree to submit my adoption figures after the event is over.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and fax to 516.883.1595 or mail to North Shore Animal League America, 16 Lewyt Street, Port Washington, NY 11050 or sign up online at [AnimalLeague.org/petadoptathon2011](http://AnimalLeague.org/petadoptathon2011)





