

1,000 dolphins massacred in Solomon Islands doublecross



Bottlenose dolphins. (Kim Bartlett)

HONIARA, Solomon Islands; BERKELEY, Calif.—Dolphin hunters in the Solomon Islands, dolphin broker Christopher Porter, and some far-right U.S. news media are blaming the Earth Island Institute Marine Mammal Project for the massacre of more than 1,000 dolphins in December 2012 and January 2013.

Ongoing coverage by the *Solomon Star News*, however, supports the Earth Island Institute contention that the dolphin hunters just got greedy, after three years of in effect holding dolphins for ransom. Earth Island Institute had issued \$98,000 in grants meant to help dolphin hunters to develop new ways to make a living, but suspended the grant-making in April 2012—as required by U.S. law governing foreign grant-making by U.S. charities—after becoming aware that the money was not being distributed as intended.

An overt dolphins—
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Lab mouse. (Pehpsii Altemark)

Mouse studies often don't work, NIH admits after landmark 10-year study

WASHINGTON D.C.—Bluntly stated the headline in the February 11, 2013 edition of *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, “Genomic responses in mouse models poorly mimic human inflammatory diseases.”

Echoing an article of faith prevailing among anti-vivisectionists for several centuries, though not validated to biomedical researchers’ satisfaction by mouse studies, the report in this instance came from 10 years of investigation by

39 leading biomedical researchers, funded by the U.S. National Institutes of Health—long the world’s leading sponsor and at times the leading defender of animal-based research.

Blogged NIH director Francis Collins, “If it works in mice, so we thought, it should work in humans. But,” Collins recounted, “150 drugs that successfully treated sepsis in mice later failed in human clinical trials. Sepsis, a life-threatening systemic infection, can be caused by a variety of pathogens, including bacteria, viruses, and fungi. Serious consequences occur when tissues damaged by infection produce proteins sometimes called ‘alarmins’ that send the immune system into overdrive. Traumatic injuries involving extreme blood loss or burns can set off the same dangerous response.

“To probe the molecular response to all of these triggers,” Collins explained, “the authors [of the study] took periodic blood samples from 167 trauma patients; 244 patients with burns over at least 20% of their body; and four healthy volunteers who had been injected with a low-dose bacterial toxin. Then they studied the activity of the genes in the white blood cells. They found that of the 5,500 or so genes that re-

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care

About Animals

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Lobster. (Robert L. Harrison)



Kittens. (Eileen Crossman)

Inflated cat stats panic birders

WASHINGTON D.C.—Inflating the U.S. pet cat population by ten million, the outdoor pet cat population by closer to 50 million, and the best documented estimates of the feral cat population by up to 64 million, Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute ornithologists Scott Loss and Peter Marra and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Tom Will on January 29, 2013 alleged in the journal *Nature Communications* that domestic cats in the U.S. kill up to 3.7 billion birds and as many as 20.7 billion mice, voles, and other small mammals.

Based on a review of previously published papers, the findings were trumpeted by mass media with scant notice that the projected cat numbers appear to be more than four times the most plausible figures that could be drawn from actual cat population surveys.

The projected estimate of cat predation was therefore magnitudes of order higher than the estimate of 100 to 125 million birds killed by cats per year issued by Albert Manville of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in 2002.

The U.S. pet cat population is down 18% from the 2007 peak of nearly 90 million, and is now 74 million and still falling, according to the 2012 edition of the *American Veterinary Medical Association Pet Ownership &*

Demographics Sourcebook.

Pet keeper surveys have shown since 1990 that more than two-thirds of U.S. pet cats are kept indoors.

Loss, Marra, and Will guesstimated that there are between 30 and 80 million “un-owned” cats in the U.S., but in the past 20 years no survey of animal control data, roadkill counts, or nationally representative sampling of feral cat habitat has shown any likelihood that the feral cat population exceeds 16 million.

ANIMAL PEOPLE has estimated since 2003, from the combination of available data sources, that the annual midsummer peak of the feral cat population is steady at less than 13 million, the winter low is just over six million, and the year-round average is about nine million.

Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine graduate student Anne Fleming, at a December 2012 conference on outdoor cats hosted in Los Angeles by the Humane Society of the U.S., presented data from surveying 263 feral cat colonies in Rhode Island which projects a national feral cat population of 8.8 million.

“This [Smithsonian] literature review was a thinly veiled attempt to promote an anti-cat agenda,” charged Alley Cat Allies. “The

(continued on page 6)

New study confirms crustacean sentience

BELFAST—Challenging the global scientific, regulatory, and humane communities to recognize crustacean sentience, Robert Elwood of the School of Biological Sciences at Queen’s University in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on January 16, 2013 published his third major study in six years to demonstrate that crustaceans feel and respond to pain.

“Billions of crustaceans are caught or reared in aquaculture for the food industry,” wrote Elwood of his latest research, published in the *Journal of Experimental Biology*. “In contrast to mammals, crustaceans are given little or no protection, as the presumption is that they cannot experience pain. Our research suggests

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Editorial feature

Gun control, “boomers,” & the future of hunting

“In the matter of gun control, our main concern is rightly for the human victims of mass shootings,” wrote veteran journalist Dick Meister on January 18, 2013 for *California Progress Report*. “But what of the other defenseless animals who die at the hands of humans? What of the hunting rifles that are cited as legitimate simply because they are not rapid-fire weapons, the guns that are used by hunters to kill so many of our fellow beings in the name of sport?”

“There are people who find great fun—many claim even deep meaning—in hunting down and killing fellow creatures of the winged and four-legged variety,” Meister continued. “They are animal killers. They are not sportsmen. They find it amusing to stalk and kill other animals. For some, it’s even more than amusing. They find hunting to be downright spiritual, if not orgasmic.”

Now 80 years old, Meister grew up at a time when the prevailing attitudes toward animals closely reflected the American agrarian heritage. Fewer than 25% of Americans were more than one generation removed from rural living—almost the reverse of today. Breaking into journalism nearly 60 years ago as a sportswriter, Meister did not cover hunting, fishing, and trapping, but shared page space with those who did. Moving to the labor beat, Meister worked for mostly editorially conservative media including United Press International, Associated Press, the *San Jose Mercury News*, the *Oakland Tribune*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, KQED, and Pacifica Radio.

Meister has written critically of hunting before, but chiefly within the past 10 years. First Meister became exasperated that former U.S. President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney at times seemed more interested in shooting animals and catering to the hunting lobby than in exercising leadership. Later Meister noted that performance-enhancing drug-using former baseball star Barry Bonds showed a similar lack of sporting ethics in his post-baseball career as a celebrity trophy hunter and shill for hunting rifles. Meister may, in short, be considered a reasonably representative voice for mainstream middle American values, who like much of the mainstream public finds sport hunting to be increasingly at odds with those values.

“Once, a long time ago,” Meister wrote in his column about Bonds, “we had to hunt and kill in order to survive. In today’s circumstances, making sport of inflicting pain, suffering and death on other animals who are less able to defend themselves is cruel and unnecessary—in a word, barbaric.”

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in August 2012 announced survey results showing that the numbers of licensed hunters in the U.S. had increased 9% since 2006, to 13.7 million: 6% of the U.S. population 16 years old and older. But, while hunting advocates celebrated the findings, the August 2012 report also showed that not more than 11% of the residents of any of the nine U.S. demographic regions hunt, and as many as 10% hunt in only two regions. Outside of the “West North Central” and “East South Central” regions, not more than 7% of the residents of any region hunt.

Further, the August 2012 report showed that the national increase in hunting participation was driven by a whopping 39% increase—600,000 hunters, half of the total increase—in the “East South Central” region alone, which includes the Appalachian states, Mississippi, and Alabama. Since these states have only about 10.5 million human residents to begin with, circa 4% of the total U.S. population, and already had a high rate of hunting participation, the finding must be considered suspect.

Outside of the “East South Central” region, the numbers of hunters increased marginally in half the states, but decreased marginally in the other half.

The August 2012 report did not stratify hunting participation by age group, but appeared to confirm nonetheless that hunting is in steep decline among all generations younger than the post-World War II “Baby Boom” generation, whose birth years were 1946-1964.

The Fish & Wildlife Service has conducted similar surveys since 1955, when

the first-born “Boomers” were nine years old, just beginning to use BB guns. The numbers of hunters increased rapidly until 1977, when the last-born “Boomers” were first becoming eligible to hunt deer. From then until the first-born “Boomers” reached retirement age, the numbers of hunters fell—and the median age of hunters increased parallel to the median age of “Boomers.”

Hunters, according to other Fish & Wildlife Service-sponsored research, typically hunt less often as they age, from their mid-thirties on, except that they usually spend more days afield for a few years post-retirement. They typically do not actually shoot more animals. For many, hunting later in life is “armed nature-walking.” But, still identifying themselves as hunters, for several years they have more free time available to spend on hunting. Within five years of retirement, however, most hunters hunt markedly less, due to declining health and to conserve fixed incomes.

With about 10% of the “Boomers” already retired, the numbers of hunting licenses sold were expected to increase proportionately from 2006 to 2011, when the first “Boomers” reached age 65. This occurred. Based on demographics alone, the hunting population is likely to remain relatively steady for the next five to ten years, then fall precipitously as “Boomer” retirees age out of participation.

Declining social acceptability

There is no hint in the demographic data that younger people have taken up hunting at anywhere close to the numbers that would be required to replace the “Boomers.”

The decline in hunting participation among post-“Boomers” parallels the rise of animal advocacy in recent decades, but any direct influence of pro-animal campaigning appears to have been marginal. More than 80% of animal advocates and animal advocacy donors are female and urban; more than 95% of hunters are male, and more than half of them are rural or semi-rural.

Rather than directly persuading hunters to give up hunting, animal advocacy appears to have shifted the norms of society so that hunting has gradually lost social acceptability. Fewer men hunt because fewer men they know hunt. More men appear to have reached the view, expressed by Dick Meister, that recreationally killing animals is unsportsmanlike.

Relatively little animal advocacy activity has directly targeted hunting. The most aggressive anti-hunting efforts, the hunter harassment campaigns led by current Humane Society of the U.S. president Wayne Pacelle in 1990-1994 when he was national director of the Fund for Animals, backfired spectacularly. Instead of discouraging hunters from hunting, attempting to disrupt deer and waterfowl hunting awakened hunters as a political constituency. Within five years every U.S. state had passed anti-hunter harassment legislation. The aroused pro-hunting lobby went on to pass “right to hunt” amendments to 16 state constitutions, with more such amendments introduced in each legislative session.

Pacelle since joining HSUS has favored much less confrontational tactics against hunting. Successful animal advocacy against hunting, including campaigns led by Pacelle, spotlight practices that even deer and waterfowl hunters often consider cruel and unethical, including hounding bears and pumas, pigeon shoots, and poisoning wildlife.

Demographics predict that as hunter numbers level off and then plummet during the next decade, deer and waterfowl hunters in particular will remain a politically influential constituency. What becomes of legislative efforts to restrain or prohibit other forms of hunting depends largely on the extent to which deer and waterfowl hunters expend resources to defend practices that they too find ethically questionable.

Among the forms of hunting that even deer and waterfowl hunters often find distasteful, yet defend to keep deer hunting and waterfowling from coming under attack, are trapping, hounding in any form, “hunting” captive animals, and holding killing contests targeting species such as squirrels, rabbits, and prairie dogs. Far fewer deer and waterfowl hunters have ethical objections to hunting wild predators such as coyotes, wolves and pumas, who are widely seen as threats to deer and elk herds, but many hunters do object to using “unsportsmanlike” methods to kill predators. Most hunters accept bowhunting and hunting with muzzleloading firearms, but find hunting with spears unacceptable because spear hunters are much less likely to effect a quick kill.

In addition, many and perhaps most deer hunters and waterfowlers share the perspective of most non-hunters that no one should be hunting or otherwise trespassing on posted private property, and no one should be shooting into posted private property. Many deer hunters and waterfowlers have “war stories” similar to those of non-hunters about incidents in which their lives and property were jeopardized by reckless “slob hunters.” Many deer hunters and waterfowlers agree that the percentage of “slob hunters” appears to have increased as the total numbers of hunters have decreased, and see the offensive behavior of “slob hunters” as almost as serious a threat to the future of hunting as the lack of youth participation.

A parallel may be drawn with hunter attitudes toward gun control. Very few deer hunters and waterfowlers use semi-automatic rifles with large-capacity magazines, or heavy-caliber sniper rifles, or handguns of any sort. Most hunters might have few objections, if any, to restricting or prohibiting the possession and use of firearms that are practical only for use in killing or threatening people, if hunters felt that allowing any gun to be banned was not a start toward taking away their hunting weapons.

Funded heavily by the gun industry, the National Rifle Association and the rest of the pro-gun lobby maintain influence in part by cultivating strong alliances with pro-hunting organizations. Together, pro-gun and pro-hunting organizations manage to keep hunters in a constant state of alarm, which helps the organizations’ fundraising efforts. Yet surveys of deer hunter and waterfowler perspectives on why they hunt show that these hunters often have as much in common with animal advocates as with many of the participants in other types of hunting whom the deer hunters and waterfowlers help to defend. As well as expressing discomfort with trapping, hounding, and killing captive wildlife, deer hunters and waterfowlers tend to mention that they prefer eating animals who had a natural life in the wild, over eating those who were factory-farmed.

Such hunters are still hunting chiefly for fun. Admit it to themselves or not, on some level they enjoy killing animals. They are not hunting just to avoid becoming vegetarian. They are not fellow travelers with the animal rights movement, and mostly never will be. But neither are they participants in such overtly sadistic practices as pigeon shoots, massacring prairie dogs for target practice, and setting dogs on coyotes, foxes, and pigs in “chase pens.” To many deer hunters and waterfowlers, such pursuits fail to meet the definition of “hunting,” since the victim animals have little or no chance to escape, and are rarely eaten afterward.

Hunters together with all members of their households constitute less than 20% of the U.S. electorate, yet retain grossly disproportionate political influence for two reasons, of which alliance with the gun industry is actually the least important. Well-funded

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Gun control, “boomers,” & the future of hunting (from page 3)

as the NRA and other pro-gun organizations are, and as many politically prominent members as Safari Club International claims, they would have no more clout than many other marginal causes and factions if not for geography.

There are now more vegetarians than hunters, and far more vegans than participants in trapping and hounding. Vegetarians and vegans, however, are relatively concentrated in about half a dozen major metropolitan areas, overlapping perhaps a dozen states, which mostly have not been in political sway for at least a generation. No politician needs to cater to vegetarians and vegans as a key “swing” constituency.

Hunters by contrast are broadly distributed throughout the conservative rural and semi-rural “red” states which form the base of the Republican constituency. The combined human populations of six of the most strongly pro-hunting states amount to less than the human populations of the Los Angeles and San Francisco metropolitan areas, yet those six states have 12 U.S. Senators, while the entire state of California has just two.

In addition, among the states with the most hunters per capita are the “swing” states of Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, which Democrats must win to keep the Presidency and to hold their present slim majority within the Senate.

The disproportionality of hunter influence is so extreme that even though polls have shown that up to 78% of all U.S. voters oppose hunting in National Wildlife Refuges, at least 321 of the current 553 National Wildlife Refuges now permit hunting—and more refuge hunting seasons were opened during the Bill Clinton and Barack Obama administrations than in all Republican administrations combined.

Except that a lunatic used a formerly banned assault rifle to massacre 20 school children and six faculty on December 14, 2012 in Newtown, Connecticut, the present political landscape would not suggest much opportunity to pass new federal gun control legislation. Certainly there is nothing to suggest that effective gun control legislation is likely to get through the present Congress if deer hunters and waterfowlers respond to the gun lobby appeals to stand against it.

For that reason, if no other, animal advocates who favor gun control legislation need to think twice about taking positions which conflate the gun control debate with opposition to hunting.

There are hints that the electoral landscape may favor opposition to the most egregiously cruel forms of hunting at the state level, in states which are not in political flux. Several very strongly pro-hunting states have within the past 20 years prohibited chase pens, “hog/dog rodeo,” “canned hunts,” hunting with remote-controlled weapons, and pigeon shoots, often at instigation of deer hunters and waterfowlers who did not want these practices to become the public image of hunting.

There are also indications that hunter political strength in some of the “swing” states has already waned. From 1991 through 2001, Illinois, Iowa, North Carolina, Ohio, and New Mexico all experienced drops in hunting participation of at least 19%. “Boomer” retirements may have temporarily slowed the decline, but within another 10-15 years the political climate for hunters could be considerably different.

Finally, regardless of the opportunities to pass legislation, opponents of hunting can continue to erode the social acceptability of recreationally killing animals.

Letters

Peter Marsh elaborates on book topics

Many thanks for taking the time to read my books *Getting to Zero: A Roadmap to Ending Animal Shelter Overpopulation in the United States* and *Replacing Myth With Math: Using Evidence-Based Programs to Eradicate Shelter Overpopulation*, write the reviews published in the January/February 2013 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, and send copies of the reviews my way.

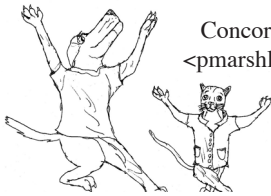
You make a good point about the cost-effectiveness of pet behavior counseling and surrender prevention programs. In a promising development, Ian Hallett, the new director of Hillsborough County Animal Services in Tampa, Florida, is starting an intake-prevention program there modeled on the Positive Alternatives to Shelter Surrender program that seems to have worked well in Austin, Texas.

Your point about the difficulties that result when people try to implement a New

Hampshire-type publicly funded spay/neuter program on a larger scale was right on the money, too. We found that out in Massachusetts. It turned out to be pretty easy to set up similar programs in Vermont, half the size of New Hampshire, and in Maine, which is about the same size. Massachusetts shares many of the same demographics that you mentioned, including relative affluence, a generally well-educated population and strong humane history, but it took us ten years to get even a modestly funded program set up there because of the scale. New York State was even tougher.

—Peter Marsh

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Samantha Mullen and Nathan Winograd

I only wish I could knock on Samantha Mullen’s door and enjoy reading the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** obituary “Samantha Mullen fought animal hoarding done in the name of no-kill sheltering” to her as a most fitting accolade. She would have been so proud of this portrayal.

You really have a finger on the pulse of her underlying philosophies and her missions, which earned for her the burning hatred of No Kill Advocacy Center founder Nathan Winograd. He blamed her in a blog posting called “Unobvious Choices: The Animal Protection Movement’s Fourteenth Floor” for being a prime reason for the failure of a “Companion Animal Access & Rescue Act” that he has had introduced in New York several times and touts across the country. This bill means well, but if passed would result in more hoarding and less oversight of so-called

“no kill” shelters—an idea, though wonderful, whose time has not yet come as a viable solution for all homeless animals. When we are down to euthanizing 200,000 animals per year rather than 2-3 million, then we can talk “no-kill.”

I hope you had a chance to experience Samantha’s wonderful humor. She could appear a bit strait-laced and formal, with her wonderful language and writing skills, but she had a huge appreciation of the ridiculous and of human foibles. I miss her laugh.

I miss her very much and consider her a primary mentor in my own activist career, exemplifying courtesy and restraint, coupled with a dogged and stubborn determination.

—Holly Cheever,

DVM

Albany, New York



Editor’s note:

The “Companion Animal Access & Rescue Act” is modeled on the 1998 California legislation called the Hayden Act, never fully funded or implemented and now suspended, which required California animal control shelters to make healthy animals available to rescue groups, regardless of whether the animals are deemed adoptable.

Samantha Mullen, representing the New York State Humane Association, an umbrella representing animal shelters in New York state, opposed the “Companion Animal Access & Rescue Act” because she believed that it included insufficient mechanisms to ensure that animals would not be transferred from state-inspected public shelters to nonprofit shelters and rescues which in New York state operate with no supervision at all.

Much of Mullen’s career, as her **ANIMAL PEOPLE** obituary recounted, was spent in exposing and closing some of the most abominable hoarding situations that ever masqueraded as “animal shelters.” Typically many years of investigation and repeated prosecutions were necessary before the courts imposed penalties sufficient to shut these operations down, or force a transition to new management. Meanwhile, hundreds of animals died from neglect.

Winograd credits the Hayden Act with a substantial role in reducing shelter killing in California from 588,000 in 1997 to 455,000 in 2010. This may be true, although—as **ANI-**

MAL PEOPLE spotlighted in April 1993—California animal control shelters had already been partnering with nonprofit agencies to re-home animals in rapidly increasing numbers for at least 10 years before the passage of the Hayden Act.

Meanwhile, the operators of three California “no-kill” rescue networks were convicted of running dogfighting rings soon after the Hayden Act passed. At least 14 nonprofit “no kill” animal shelters and rescues in California have been successfully prosecuted for mass neglect in the past five years alone.

Thus, while the net effect of the Hayden Act may have been positive, sufficient safeguards have not been in place in California to prevent the abuses that Mullen anticipated.

Mullen sought for at least 25 years to introduce mandatory shelter standards and inspection to New York state. This would have precluded the need to prosecute hoarders who pass themselves off as operators of shelters and “rescues,” after large numbers of animals suffer in their custody.

While **ANIMAL PEOPLE** cannot posthumously speak for Mullen, we believe, based on long acquaintance, that Mullen might have favored a version of the “Companion Animal Access & Rescue Act” that compelled nonprofit shelters and rescues to meet reasonable animal care standards and pass annual or semi-annual inspections.

St. Petersburg “bird market” sells sick animals

I am writing from St. Petersburg, the cultural capital of Russia. Two weeks ago we bought a little kitty at the “bird market” in central St. Petersburg, the traditional place where pets are sold. The kitty, as we later learned, was very ill. Soon she died. I went to the Internet and discovered many similar stories about this horrible place.

I write to you because the Russian legal system is 100% corrupt, and asking the law

to help in this case is absolutely useless. The law will do nothing.

The owners of this horrible place get big money from people who sell sick animals. Money in Russia is all. Either human or animal life counts for nothing.

Please help to close this place.

—Yaroslav Shaposhnikov

St. Petersburg, Russia

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Editor’s note:

The situation described in St. Petersburg is common all over the world, wherever people are allowed to breed and sell puppies and kittens as commodities. In the U.S. and the European Union, there is legislation to require that large commercial breeders must sell only healthy animals, but enforcement is often weak. Some U.S. states and some municipalities have additional legislation that requires the sellers of unhealthy animals to refund the

purchase price to the buyers, but while this legislation to some extent protects customers, it does not actually protect the animals.

The trend in the U.S., for many years, was to try to enforce the applicable legislation at the point of sale. More recently, there has been much effort put into trying to strengthen and better enforce legislation pertaining to the conditions where dogs and cats are bred, as the most serious problems tend to arise with the breeders.

Kitten Healing From Severe Burns



Animal League America recently rescued a sweet kitten, named Frankie, from a municipal shelter, where he was at imminent risk of euthanasia. Some shelters often lack the resources to care for gravely injured animals, and sadly, Frankie was suffering from extremely serious burns to three of his paws and his entire abdomen.

We suspect that Frankie’s injuries may have resulted from a stovetop burner—but we’ll never know for sure whether he incurred the burns accidentally or as a result of abuse.

Our veterinary team immediately placed Frankie on medication to ease his pain. Despite the severity of his condition, the brave little kitten responded to our medical staff with affection and gratitude.

Frankie has been a champion throughout this ordeal, patiently allowing our medical team to change his bandages and attend to his wounds. Frankie knows that he is not alone; he welcomes the love and attention he is receiving here at our medical center, rewarding his caretakers with grateful purrs. The veterinary staff is consulting with our experts on whether Frankie will need skin grafts. Every day, little by little, Frankie is healing, but he still has a long road to recovery. We will be with him every step of the way.

Once Frankie is back on his paws, we promise to find him the loving individual or family who will provide him a safe, warm home for the rest of his life.

The dedicated support of the life-saving Help Me Heal Program allows Frankie – and other innocent animals like him – receive the treatment needed that will save their lives.

To learn more about our Help Me Heal Program, please visit AnimalLeague.org/help-me-heal.

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



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Proposed new Thai humane law exempts wildlife

Following years of campaigning, Thailand might finally gain an animal welfare law, prohibiting cruelty to animals, but unfortunately not all animals. A parliamentary sub-committee drafting this long overdue law has opted to exclude all wild animals from coverage, so that exploitation of wildlife can continue.

After the Animal Activist Alliance of Thailand in early April 2012 led a protest by 30 animal groups in front of parliament, a parliamentary sub-committee was set up to draft a national "law against torture of animals." The initial plan was to have a wide selection of activists and people from several animal welfare and wildlife conservation charities to be represented, plus legal experts and parliamentarians from several political parties.

Unfortunately the committee of 30 was quickly filled by parliamentarians and lawyers, leaving just over a dozen seats to animal advocates. Then one non-governmental organization was given 10 seats, leaving little room for different views.

Most domestic animal use within Thailand is monitored by the Livestock Department. But anything having to do with wildlife falls under jurisdiction of the Department of National Parks. Enforcing an animal welfare

law that covers wildlife would mean extra work for the Department of National Parks. And the department would have to improve their own 14 wildlife breeding centers, where tens of thousands of animals are kept under sometimes horrific conditions. The department also may not wish to confront the very powerful zoo community. Thai zoos found to have illegally obtained wildlife have never been charged in court.

Strong opposition to excluding wild animals from the animal welfare law was voiced by Roger Lohanan of the Thai Animal Guardians Association and Ke Cholada of Facebook Animal Lovers, but the Thai SPCA sided with the Department of National Parks.

—Edwin Wiek



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Humane leadership

Thank you, **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, for all you do for animals and for your January/February 2013 editorial "Pi, Dorothy, and the qualities of humane leadership."

I am interested in advocating for the rights of all animals in the way that various oppressed groups have galvanized their energies to achieve rights.



—Risa M. Mandell
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Praises editorials about cats & pit bulls

I am writing to praise the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** November/December 2012 and January/February 2013 editorials—they resound large with me! I very much appreciated all of the ex-

Discount drugs

Costco now sells about 100 of the most prescribed drugs for dogs and cats at substantial discounts. One does not need to be a Costco member to buy prescription drugs from their stores. However, a local humane society volunteer told me that she has received complaints that some veterinarians refuse to write prescriptions for medications to be purchased elsewhere at a lesser price than they charge in their own clinics. The California state veterinary association informed me that this is breaking the law, and should be documented and made the subject of a formal complaint.



—Hazel Mortensen
Solvang, California

cellent, informed, and compassionate thoughts about the cats we care so deeply about and for.

I am heartened to read your informed and intelligent thoughts regarding pit bulls, rare in this politically correct climate, but I wish more widely read and accepted. I have some empathy for these unfortunate creatures, whom I believe should be spayed/neutered to zero population, for everyone's good. It is incomprehensible that cats are getting a completely unfounded and unsubstantiated bad rap as superpredators, yet pit bulls, unpredictable and violent in all too many cases, have television series, cadres of rabid advocates, and entire animal advocacy organizations promoting them as such "sweet, misunderstood dogs."

Thanks also for posting to your website the item in Arabic and English on Islam and neuter/return. I appreciate this very much, and hope it will be of value to many: feline, dog, and human.

—Jamaka Petzak
Glendale, Calif.

<jmuhjacat@att.net>



Animal rights law pioneer Larry Weiss checks in

Here's what's happened since I retired in 2003, after 18 years of practicing animal law in California. I remain involved in mentoring young attorneys and giving occasional presentations at law schools and vegan gatherings.

I am struck by the number and quality of attorneys coming out of law school who choose to be involved in animal issues. I find they don't need my input on animal law as their professors take care of that impressively. What they do need is some guidance on how to make a living practicing animal law, e.g. what crossover fields

(domestic, property, criminal) will earn enough income to support an animal law practice.

The time has arrived to take our ideas mainstream in the form of education and legislation. Many of us from the first generation of animal rights activism are still around and able to be of help in such practical matters. So let's stay involved and be available to these young, bright, dedicated attorneys and activists.

—Larry Weiss
Denver, Colorado
<animatty@aol.com>



Events

March 18: Asheville Humane Soc. Party for the Pets, Asheville, NC. Info: 828-681-9902; <www.ashevillehumane.org>.

March 20: Meatout 2013. Info: <www.meatout.org>.

March 22-24: Box Turtle Conserv. Workshop, Asheboro, NC. Info: <www.boxturtleconservation.org>.

March 24: Veggie Pride Parade, New York City. Info: <www.veggiepride-parade.org>.

April: Adopt-A-Greyhound month. Info: <www.adopt-a-greyhoundl.org>.

April 6: Conscious Eating conf., co-hosted by United Poultry Concerns, Animal Place, & Berkeley Org. for Animal Advocacy, Berkeley, Calif. Info: <www.upc-online.org/forums/2013>.

April 19-20: Rescue Me! conf., Swansboro, NC. Info: <www.safeharborfarm.org>.

April 20: Michigan Animal Adoption Network & Animal Care Network vaccine clinic, Pontiac. Info: 248-545-5055; <miann@att.net>.

April 20-28th: World Lab Animal Liberation Week. Info: <www.saenonline.org>.

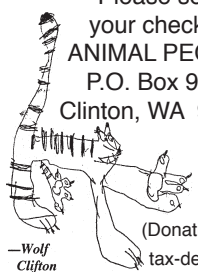
April 27: Free Feral Cat Spay Day. Info: 301-277-5595; <www.savea-cat.org>.

April 28-May 1: Animal Transport Assn. conf., Las Vegas. Info: <www.animaltransportassociation.org>.

(continued on page 11)

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—Wolf Clifton

Should we stop admitting community cats into our shelters?

YES! If admission = death!



That's the view of two of the nation's acknowledged leaders on community cat health and policy, the University of Florida's Julie Levy, DVM and UC Davis' Kate Hurley, DVM.

Historically, many shelters have routinely admitted more healthy cats than they placed into adoptive homes. While the intention behind this practice has been to protect both cats and communities, the result has been chronically over-crowded shelters and the deaths of many millions of cats.

At one time, this was seen as sadly inevitable. However, new research and innovative programs suggest that there are humane and cost effective alternatives to this traditional approach.

These strategies can virtually eliminate both shelter crowding and euthanasia of healthy cats, and include spay/neuter/return programs and scheduled/managed intake to shelters. A holistic approach to unwanted and free-roaming cats allows shelters to focus on positive, lifesaving programs that account for the needs of pets, wildlife and people in our communities.

To read more about some of the most frequently asked questions about these new approaches, go to www.maddiesfund.org/FelineFAQ.



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Bear cub rescued from Indo-Nepal traffickers recovering at the Wildlife SOS sanctuary in Agra.

Wildlife SOS saves more bears from Indo-Nepal traffic

AGRA, India—“In an all night anti-poaching rescue operation based on intelligence provided by Wildlife SOS, four young male sloth bears were seized from poachers in the Sahibganj district of Jharkhand on the Indo-Nepal border,” Wildlife SOS cofounder Geeta Seshamani e-mailed to ANIMAL PEOPLE on February 19, 2013.

“Six persons were arrested,” Seshamani said. “Four bears aged between 15 months and 3 years were smuggled into India from Nepal by Kalandars,” the tribal people who traditionally promote dancing bear acts, “who were planning to sell them to others for a hefty price.”

After rescue, Seshamani continued, “The four bears were transported carefully in a large truck to the Wildlife SOS Agra Bear Rehabilitation Center in Uttar Pradesh, which is the largest rehabilitation center for sloth bears in the world,” operated with the help of Free the Bears Fund, of Australia, and International Animal Rescue of the United Kingdom.

“The anti-poaching unit of Wildlife SOS, called Forest Watch, is run with support from One Voice of France, the Humane Society International division of the Humane Society of the U.S., and Hauser Bears of the United Kingdom,” Seshamani said, “and helps mon-

itor illegal trade in wild animals and their parts through a network of informers and decoys, assisting enforcement agencies across India.”

Rescuing 460 bears in seven years, Wildlife SOS in December 2009 took custody of the last known dancing bear in India—but as the November/December 2012 edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE exposed, Wildlife Trust of India founder Vivek Menon and World Society for the Protection of Animals director general Mike Baker claimed credit for the accomplishment at the 21st International Conference on Bear Research and Management in New Delhi.

“More than 12 dancing bears are roaming between India and Nepal. Wildlife SOS is fully aware about this, but with the knowledge that dancing bears are still there in the streets, they announced that they have taken out the last dancing bear from the street,” complained Wildlife Trust of India representative Jose Louies in the January/February edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE.

Nepalese reports document, however, that Wildlife SOS had rescued at least 15 dancing bears of Nepalese origin since 2006, including eight from within Nepal in 2010. There appears to be no record of WSPA and the Wildlife Trust of India rescuing any.

Chicago hunting radio show host blames feral cats for decline of bobwhite quail

CHICAGO—Feral cat neuter/return advocates are apprehensive of an ongoing study of the ecological effects of feral cats, funded by the Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation, after foundation president and WGN radio hunting program host Charlie Potter blamed feral cats for a continent-wide decline of bobwhite quail.

“We have hundreds of thousands of feral cats now in Illinois,” Potter fumed on the February 17, 2012 edition of his show *The Great Outdoors*. “They might eat a barn mouse occasionally. But mostly they’re living on ground-nesting birds, especially pheasants and quail,” Potter said, according to Dave Gathman of the *Chicago Tribune*. Both WGN and the *Chicago Tribune* are owned by the Tribune Media Network.

Texas hunters alone shot 98 million bobwhite quail in 1960. Florida hunters killed 2.5 million; Virginia hunters killed one million. By 2007, according to National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative director Don McKenzie, the U.S. bobwhite quail population had fallen by 80%. Hunters bagged barely 5% as many as at peak.

Blaming the decline on loss of brushy habitat, resulting from farm mergers and more land being plowed, the National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative has focused on habitat restoration. Ecological nativists also blame the loss of bobwhite quail on non-native plants taking over much of the remaining brushy habitat. An alternate view, unpopular among conservative-leaning hunters, is that the decline of bobwhite quail and the success of non-native brush species both reflect global warming.

Canadian toxicologists Pierre Mineau and Melanie Whiteside on February 20, 2012 published in the online journal *PLOS One* a review of U.S. Geological Service Breeding Bird Survey data from 1980 to 2003 which concluded that grassland birds, such as bobwhite quail, are four times more likely to be harmed by pesticide use than by any other factor.

The Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation, of East Dundee, Illinois, was founded in 1948 by electrical inventor and entrepreneur Max McGraw, who died at age 81 in 1964 while hunting in Utah. Leading the feral cat research

is Ohio State University assistant professor of wildlife ecology Stanley D. Gehrt, best known for studies of coyotes, foxes, and Canada geese in the greater Chicago area.

Radio-collaring 680 coyotes between 2000 and 2012, Gehr estimates that as many as 2,000 coyotes share the greater Chicago area with about nine million humans. The success of coyotes may have cut the red fox population by about two-thirds, Gehrt found, and may have completely extirpated grey foxes, who are smaller and were apparently always fewer in red fox habitat.

Rarely eating garbage and hunting domestic pets, Gehrt learned, urban coyotes mostly hunt rodents and rabbits, supplementing their diets with seasonal fruit, like rural coyotes, all in year-round food competition with foxes.

But urban coyotes also account for about 80% of successful predation on non-migratory giant Canada geese, Gehrt discovered through use of hidden video cameras. Monitoring 200 non-migratory Canada goose nests in April and May 2005, Gehrt found that more than 90% lost eggs to predators. The geese were often able to fend off raids by raccoons and skunks, but retreated from coyotes, who would eat some eggs immediately and bury others to eat later.

Gehrt presented some of his preliminary findings pertaining to feral cats at a December 2012 conference in Los Angeles hosted by the Humane Society of the U.S.

“Among his findings,” summarized *Vox Felina* blogger Peter Wolf, “the feral cats he studied in the Chicago area have a 73% chance of living from one year to the next. Over two years, that translates to about a 50-50 chance,” better than the survival rates for urban and suburban raccoons and skunks. This finding parallels the findings of ANIMAL PEOPLE assessments of the age structures at eight Connecticut feral cat colonies in 1991-1992.

Continuing his research, Gehrt “established colonies at six sites and, from what I could tell, is restocking them in order to maintain eight cats at each site. Such an approach,” Wolf wrote, “strikes me as profoundly unnatural—raising serious questions about any subsequent results.”

Birders fly into panic over inflated cat stats from literature review (from page 1)

authors’ findings were based on extreme extrapolations made from miniscule studies; their margin of error was in the billions; and they included studies from decades ago.”

“If the real number for cat predation is even one tenth or one one-hundredth of the numbers invoked by the authors of this study,” commented HSUS president Wayne Pacelle, “it warrants serious attention from the animal protection movement and from everyone else concerned about cats and about wildlife.”

But Pacelle admitted to skepticism. “Loss, Will, and Marra have thrown out provocative numbers for cat predation, and their piece has been published in a highly credible publication,” Pacelle continued, “but they admit the study has many deficiencies. Their work is derivative of what others have done on the topic, and they have essentially rolled up what they could find in the literature and done their best to attach some numbers.”

Vox Felina responds

The most thorough critique came, in several installments during the next two weeks, from *Vox Felina* blogger Peter Wolf.

Recounted Wolf, “On May 25, 2011, J. Scott Robinson, director of the Office of Sponsored Projects for the Smithsonian Institute, sent a three-page proposal to Randy Dettmers, a biologist in the Division of Migratory Birds for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, outlining the scope and budget for a project called ‘Effects of subsidized predators on bird populations in an urban matrix.’ The work was to begin in just one week and continue through the end of September, conducted by Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute researchers Peter Marra and Nico Dauphiné. Two weeks earlier, on May 11, 2011, Dauphiné had been arrested, charged with attempted animal cruelty for trying to poison neighborhood cats.”

Convicted in District of Columbia Superior Court of misdemeanor attempted cruelty to animals on October 31, Dauphine was on December 14, 2011 sentenced to do 120 hours of community service, spend a year on probation, and pay a fine of \$100, with 180 days in jail suspended.

“Fast-forward a year and a half,” Wolf continued, “to the recent publication of the Smithsonian’s ‘killer cat study.’ If, as [bird population researchers] T.W. Arnold and R.M. Zink have suggested, the breeding population of North American landbirds is 4.9 billion, then the 1.4 to 3.7 billion mortalities reported by Loss *et al* represent an astonishing 28.5–75.5% of the total population. That’s on top of the 21% that Arnold and Zink attribute to collisions with towers and windows. While some species are, unquestionably, on the verge of extinction, the entire population of North American landbirds most certainly is not.”

Further, Wolf wrote, “Loss *et al* fail to acknowledge that predation—even at very high levels—does not necessarily lead to population-level impacts. Like all predators, cats tend to prey on the young, the old, the weak, or unhealthy. As the British Royal Society for the Protection of Birds notes: ‘Despite the large numbers of birds killed, there is no scientific evidence that predation by cats in gardens is having any impact on bird populations United Kingdom-wide...It is likely that most of the

birds killed by cats would have died anyway from other causes before the next breeding season, so cats are unlikely to have a major impact on populations.”

Loss, Marra, and Will noted that cats have been found to prey upon at least 58 U.S. native bird species. Observed Wolf, “57 of the 58 species have been given a ‘Least Concern’ conservation status by the International Union for Conservation of Nature.”

Wolf also obtained a brief critique of the Loss, Marra, and Will paper from Dennis Turner, editor of *The Domestic Cat: The Biology of its Behaviour*.

“Such extrapolations of how many birds or rodents or reptiles and amphibians cats kill each year are absolutely meaningless on the species level if not put into context with the annual production of that species,” said Turner. “Any claim that cats are a much ‘more significant anthropogenic threat’ than other factors (e.g., construction with loss of habitat, pollution, road traffic kills, etc.) are even more ridiculous, in that there are rarely estimates (good or poor) of deaths of birds/mammals/amphibians to such factors to compare with.”

Ironically, Loss, Marra and Will recently reached a similar conclusion, Wolf recalled, in a 2012 paper published in the journal *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. There, Loss, Marra, and Will acknowledged, “Quantification of direct anthropogenic mortality, although critical for conservation efforts, remains imprecise. National mortality estimates are often based on extrapolation from a limited sample of small-scale studies, and estimates of uncertainty are ignored or only superficially assessed.”

Historical context

While Loss, Marra and Will argued that the U.S. outdoor cat population is increasing, a variety of studies done since 1908 suggest that the combined totals of outdoor pet cats and feral cats have actually been quite consistent. Frank M. Chapman of the American Museum of Natural History produced the first estimate, putting the outdoor cat population at circa 25 million. National Family Opinion founders Howard and Clara Trumbull did surveys in 1927, 1937, and 1947-1950 that showed the outdoor cat population gradually rising from about 30 million to 35 million.

ANIMAL PEOPLE found in surveys done in 1992 and 1996 that the combined outdoor pet and feral cat population had probably peaked circa 1991 at about 46 million, and was in rapid decline. Shelter admissions of cats dropped by about 75% during the 1990s, after the introduction of neuter/return to the U.S., before leveling off at about four million per year during the past decade.

Oldest colony is zeroed out

Loss, Marra and Will contended that neuter/return has not reduced feral cat numbers just five weeks after Inayat Singh of Canadian Press reported that neuter/return has eliminated possibly the oldest feral cat colony in North America. Living behind Parliament Hall in Ottawa, above the Rideau Canal, the cats were reputedly descended from cats brought by British engineer John By, who built the canal in 1826-1832. Ottawa was originally called Bytown in honor of By. From completion of the first Parliament building in 1866 until 1955 the cats wandered the halls of Parliament as quasi-official mousers.

After eviction, the cats persisted on Parliament Hill, fed by volunteers coordinated by Irene Desormeaux, who died in 1987. Neuter/return was begun by her successor, Rene Chartrand. About 30 cats were sterilized. Chartrand retired for health reasons in 2008, replaced by former civil servant Brian Caines and half a dozen volunteers. The last kittens in the colony were born “probably 10 to 15 years ago,” Caines told Singh of Canadian Press.

With just four cats left, Caines found adoptive homes for three, and adopted the last cat himself. —Merritt Clifton



“I’m an alley cat ally.”
- Angela Kinsey

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They **have** your heart,
they **need** your mind. -Mike Arms



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New adoption center gives embattled Fresno humane community a point of pride

FRESNO, Calif.—Celebrating a rare “good news for animals” event in a city which has had little to celebrate, the Cat House on the Kings and the Petco Foundation on February 15, 2013 together opened a new 1,500-square-foot adoption center inside the Fresno Petco store.

Founded in 1990 by Lynea Lattanzio of Parlier, in rural Fresno County alongside the Kings River, the Cat House on the Kings is the oldest and most successful of many local “no-kill” organizations trying to knock down a rate of animal control dog and cat killing which—though less than half of what it was 10 years ago—remains among the highest in the U.S., more than three times the current national average.

Profiled as “The Lady With 700 Cats” by National Geographic television in 2011, Lattanzio operates arguably the largest no-kill cat refuge in the world. Lattanzio tells media that her 12-acre facility has served more than 20,000 cats. But she hastens to mention that The Cat House on the Kings has sterilized more than twice as many cats as have lived there. Most of the resident cats are in transit, receiving veterinary care and socialization on their way to being adopted outside the Fresno area.

“We also rescue a few dogs, about 100 per year, and have a family of rescued goats and about 30 peacocks on the grounds,” Cat House on the Kings board member Tammy Barker told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Barker said that volunteers and the 25-member staff have tried for years to increase adoptions in Fresno, an inland California city about the size of San Francisco, but 188 miles to the east, in the middle of the heavily agrarian Central Valley.

“Prior to the facility being built, we did adoptions every Saturday and Sunday by setting up a table with cages,” Barker recounted. “We would normally have five to seven kittens and one or two adults. We have been doing adoption at the Fresno Petco for almost 10 years this way. We did 315 adoptions at Petco in 2012.”

Now, Barker said, with “two huge viewing rooms that can display about 15 kittens comfortably and five or six adults, we have committed to doubling our adoptions the first year and tripling the second year. That would mean 600 adoptions in year one and 900 in year two.”

Most Cat House on the Kings cats

come from the 14 animal control agencies in Fresno County that do not contract for animal control sheltering with the Central California SPCA in Fresno, Barker said. In addition, Cat House on the Kings formerly “pulled approximately 1,000 cats and kittens” per year from the Central California SPCA in Fresno, Barker told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, but that relationship ended, she said, after Cat House on the Kings took about 125 cats from the CC/SPCA in early 2012.

The CC/SPCA until mid-2012 handled animal control sheltering for both the city of Fresno and Fresno County. Formed in 1946, the CC/SPCA hired executive director Gib Rambo in 1961. Rambo headed the CC/SPCA for 40 years, succeeded by Norm Minson, a CC/SPCA employee from 1967 until his retirement in May 2011. Under Rambo, who died at 98 in August 2010, Fresno and Fresno County killed upward of 80 homeless dogs and cats per 1,000 human residents as recently as 2001. By Minson’s last year, the rate of shelter killing per 1,000 humans was down to 33—but that was still the highest rate for any jurisdiction of comparable size in a west coast state.

“To be a no-kill community, we have to first become a no-kill community,” Minson said.

Quits animal control

Yet visible friction between the CC/SPCA and the local rescue community escalated after the appointment of current executive director Linda Van Kirk. Van Kirk within a year of her arrival re-oriented the CC/SPCA toward following the prescription for moving toward no-kill animal control pioneered by the San Francisco SPCA nearly 30 years ago, advocated by the no-kill grantmaker Maddie’s Fund since 1998 under former SF/SPCA president Richard Avanzino, and by the No Kill Advocacy Center, founded by former SF/SPCA operations director Nathan Winograd.

The first step was giving up the Fresno city and county animal control contracts, to refocus the CC/SPCA on doing sterilization, adoptions, cruelty investigations, and humane education. The CC/SPCA relinquished the \$1 million per year Fresno County animal control sheltering contract in October 2012. Originally hoping to give up both contracts at once, the CC/SPCA continues to shelter animals for the

city of Fresno under a temporary extension of the former \$2.3 million contract, meant to give the city time to find or create an alternative service provider.

“Animal control is a government service,” Van Kirk told Marc Benjamin of the *Fresno Bee*. “We have not been sufficiently funded. We subsidize animal control services with our donor funds.” CC/SPCA board president Vivian Vidoli told Benajmin that the subsidy of animal control services amounted to about \$1.3 million per year.

Rescuers dissent

Negotiations over the future of the animal control contracts were conducted in the aftermath of a March 2012 implosion of relations between the CC/SPCA and 21 no-kill rescue organizations, including Cat House on the Kings, that formerly rehomed CC/SPCA animals. The triggering event came when Van Kirk introduced a new contract with rescues.

“Key features of the CCSPCA agreement,” reported Craig Kohlruss of the *Fresno Bee*, “include rescue representatives providing personal information to the shelter, such as a copy of a driver’s license, telephone number and e-mail address; allowing shelter officials to inspect rescue or foster facilities; forbidding photography or video recording in the shelter’s stray-animal building or off-limits areas; and prohibiting rescue groups from interfering in shelter representatives’ dealings with the public.”

Of these four requirements, the first two and part of the third are standard for shelters working with shelterless rescues. Non-shelter personnel are usually not allowed into off-limits areas, including holding areas for dogs who have bitten people or been impounded for dangerous behavior, and quarantine areas for cats who may have upper respiratory infections or other contagious diseases. But photography and video recording are usually allowed in any area open to the public. Usually this amounts to no more than acquiring visual images used to advertise specific animals for adoption.

The meaning of “prohibiting rescue groups from interfering in shelter representatives’ dealings with the public” was disputed.

“We’re not going to give them [the CC/SPCA] our adopters’ information or other

personal information,” Animal Rescue of Fresno director Linda Guthrie told *Fresno Bee* reporter Tim Sheehan.

Wrote Sheehan, “The CC/SPCA said the contracts were necessary because some [rescues] lacked the nonprofit status required by state law. But a *Bee* search of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service’s database of tax-exempt nonprofits reveals that all but three of the groups have the proper tax-exempt credentials. Shelter spokeswoman Beth Caffrey defended the shelter’s position and then cut off further comment, saying in an email that it was necessary to protect shelter staff because of ‘death threats.’”

The conflict brought forward several seldom discussed aspects of transitioning to no-kill. For starters, when a major humane society such as the CC/SPCA gives up animal control sheltering to put more emphasis on adoption, it goes from being a source of adoptable animals for rescues to being competition—both for obtaining adoptable animals from a municipal animal control agency and in finding homes for the animals. Greater visibility of the humane society and the cachet of going no-kill give the humane society a big advantage in both fundraising and rehoming animals. Shelterless rescues may lose their economic base, and indeed their reason for existing.

Rescuers who are actually focused on getting a community to no-kill tend to be less troubled by this than those who have developed lucrative tax-exempt businesses in brokering shelter animals—a subset of shelterless rescuers including many former backyard breeders.

Eventually, wrote *Fresno Bee* reporter Benjamin, “The city hired the University of California at Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program to improve the relationship between the SPCA, local rescues and government agencies, and design a shelter that would be used after the contract with the SPCA ends.”

New contractor

The sole bidder for the Fresno County animal control sheltering contract was Liberty Animal Control Services, formed by Clovis veterinarian Charles Wilkins and his wife Karen, and former Tulare County animal control officer Daniel Bailey.

(continued on page 8)

Euro scandal shows the big money in horsemeat is in labeling it “beef”

PARIS—At least 28 companies in 13 European nations plus Hong Kong have been involved in marketing horsemeat as beef, French government investigators assessed in mid-February 2013, predicting that more alleged perpetrators would be exposed by ongoing investigations.

Entrepreneurs seeking to resume horse slaughter in the U.S. have argued that they would market to an upscale clientele in nations including Belgium, France, Italy, Switzerland, and Japan, who would demand that horses were transported and killed humanely. But the horsemeat-as-beef scandal has revealed just the opposite: by far the greater portion of the European horsemeat trade involves the lowest priced meat products, in which the ingredients are most easily disguised, and about which consumers and regulators tend to ask the fewest questions.

“The motivation for passing off horsemeat as beef appeared to be financial,” affirmed Angela Charlton of Associated Press on February 10, 2013, summarizing statements by Benoit Hamon, the French junior minister for consumer goods.

Though horsemeat is still openly consumed in France, French foreign minister Laurent Fabius called the substitution of horsemeat for beef an “abominable” fraud.

The horsemeat-as-beef scandal erupted when on January 15, 2013 the Food Safety Authority of Ireland disclosed that horse DNA had been found in burger products sold by major British and Irish supermarkets. The British Food Standards Agency confirmed the finding, discovering that 29 of 2,401 products tested included at least 1% horse DNA. Expanded testing soon found that some “beef lasagna” products contained from 30% to 100% horsemeat.

Finger-pointing

Silvercrest Foods, headquartered in Ireland, recalled 10 million suspect burgers and other products including ground meat. Several other companies also recalled products. Ireland, with the fastest-growing horse slaughtering industry in Europe, was initially suspected to be the source of the horsemeat sold as beef. Of the 57,000 horses killed in Ireland for human consumption since 2008, when 2,002 horses were slaughtered, 24,000 were killed in 2012 alone, Irish agriculture minister Simon Coveny told Dan Griffin of the *Irish Times*.

But two other companies involved in the recalls, Fin-dus and Aldi, blamed the French meat supplier Comigel. Other companies pointed toward Romania and Poland. Romania, where horses are still widely used for farm work, is a known major supplier of horsemeat, and exports about 40,000 horses per year for slaughter in other nations. Poland exports about 25,000 horses per year for slaughter, but has no slaughterhouses licensed to kill horses for human consumption, Polish deputy veterinary officer Jaroslaw Naze told media.

“The United Kingdom imported 6,200 tons of beef from Poland in 2012, 3.5 times the amount imported in 2010, because of cheap prices, although this still represented less than 3% of all beef imports,” noted James Meikle, Jemma Buckley and Felicity Lawrence of the *Guardian*.

Despite the fingers pointed abroad, the first three reported arrests for alleged fraud in connection with selling horsemeat as beef came in Wales and Yorkshire on February 14, 2013. One of the men who were arrested was an employee of the Peter Boddy Licensed Slaughterhouse in Todmorden, West Yorkshire.

“Horses killed during Grand National meetings at Aintree have been taken away for years by a Yorkshire slaughterhouse now suspected of supplying horse meat for burgers and kebabs, *Irish Times* London editor Mark Hennessy reported on February 15, 2013. “The firm, owned by Peter Boddy, was closed down earlier this week after it was raided by police and food safety inspectors, who believe it supplied horsemeat to a Welsh plant.

“Two horses were put down by lethal injection in last year’s Grand National,” Hennessy recalled. Aintree spokespersons confirmed that any carcasses removed would be “totally unsuitable for consumption,” Hennessy wrote.

The British charity Animal Aid told Hennessy that more than 1,100 ex-racehorses were killed or rendered by British slaughterhouses in 2011.

Bute & trichinella

British food minister David Heath acknowledged on February 7, 2013 that eight horses out of a lot of 206 whose carcasses were tested for contamination during the preceding week showed traces of the anti-inflammatory drug phenylbutazone. Called “Bute” for short, phenylbutazone is often given to racehorses, but is banned for use in animals who will be slaughtered for human consumption, because ingesting only small amounts can induce conditions including heart failure. Six of the contaminated carcasses were shipped to France.

Both French agriculture minister Stephane Le Foll and British chief medical officer Sally Davies asserted that the level of phenylbutazone found would only be dangerous if a consumer ate 500 horse hamburgers per day.

But Damian Carrington, James Meikle and Simon Neville of *The Guardian* a week later revealed that “In July 2012 the Veterinary Residues Committee, which advises the government, warned that it had ‘repeatedly expressed concern’ about bute entering the food chain. Only 145 tests were conducted in the whole of 2012 and about 50 a year before that,” Carrington, Meikle, and Neville wrote. “In the case of the two carcasses that tested positive for bute in 2012 and were not reported to the FSA for months, the horsemeat is thought to have left abattoirs in May and October, but the positive results did not arrive at the FSA until 10 days ago. In the meantime the meat had gone to the Netherlands and France.”

The rate of bute contamination found by the limited testing done in 2010-2012 and early 2013 “would mean hundreds of affected UK horses entering the food chain every Year,” Carrington, Meikle, and Neville pointed out.

But veterinarian Richard A.L. Brown of the Bellevue Veterinary Center in Banff, Scotland, warned that the worm-carried disease trichinella might be a greater threat to the public from consuming horsemeat than the risk of ingesting bute. “I suspect the

only saving grace may be the cooking by the consumer,” Brown told the International Society for Infectious Diseases’ Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases.

Concern about grazing animals ingesting and passing along trichinella cysts rose in Europe after cysts were discovered in December 2012 in the carcasses of feral pigs shot by hunters near Malaga, Spain.

“Despite claims that trichinellosis has been eradicated from Europe, there have been a number of cases reported over the last decades, mainly due to ingestion of horse meat. The country with the largest number of cases is Romania,” posted ProMed wildlife disease moderator Pablo Beldominico.

Horse spelled backward

Meanwhile, Associated Press correspondent Toby Sterling reported, “A company called Draap Trading Ltd. moved to the center of Europe’s horsemeat mislabeling scandal. Draap is ‘horse’ spelled backward in Dutch,” Sterling noted.

“Court documents in the city of Breda, Netherlands, show that a Jan Fasen was convicted on January 18, 2012 as the main suspect in a case where hundreds of thousands of kilograms of horsemeat or horsemeat mixed with beef were mislabeled as containing only beef and sold to two unnamed French buyers.

“Jeffrey Grootenboer, owner of the freezer warehouse Nemijtek, readily identified Fasen from a photograph as also being the owner of Draap.” Sterling continued. “In the 2012 case, Fasen’s company Fasen Meat Trading BV and its accomplice Windmeijer Meat Trading BV sourced cheap horsemeat from Mexico, Brazil and Argentina, marked it up, and sold it on, in some cases certified as being halal beef slaughtered according to Muslim dietary laws. Fasen was sentenced to a year in prison for his role in the scam, which took place over two years in 2007-2009. In December 2008,” Sterling added, “Fasen dissolved Fasen Meat Trading. The same year he founded Draap Trading, registering it in Limassol, Cyprus.”

The *Guardian* reported that Fasen admitted selling horsemeat to the French firm Spanghero, but denied mislabeling it. French consumer affairs minister Benoit Hamon identified Spanghero as the first “agent” to have marketed the horsemeat in the current investigation as beef. “The French authorities found that Spanghero had profited to the tune of more than \$660,000 over six months by marketing the cheap horsemeat as much more expensive beef,” the *Guardian* said.

Transborder traffic in live horses for slaughter within the European Union has fallen by about 100,000 since 2001, but net horse consumption appears to have increased.

“The number of horses exported for meat from Canada and Mexico, where most U.S. horses go for slaughter, jumped to over 160,000 in 2012,” said Jo Swabe, the Humane Society International representative in Brussels.

“The more people have looked for horsemeat, the more products have been found containing it,” senior British food inspector Duncan Campbell told Jill Lawless of Associated Press. “I don’t think we have got to the bottom of it yet.”

Bureau of Land Management introduces new wild horse roundup policies

RENO, Nevada—The U.S. Bureau of Land Management on February 1, 2013 issued new policy directives governing wild horse roundups.

“At all times, the care and treatment provided by the BLM and contractors will be characterized by compassion and concern for the animal’s well-being and welfare,” ordered BLM assistant director for renewable resources and planning Edwin Roberson.

“Helicopter contractors will have to take extra care not to separate slower young animals from their mothers during roundup stampedes,” wrote Scott Sonner and Matthew Daly of Associated Press. “The new orders also require the agency to make sure the public has reasonable access to observe the roundups, in compliance with federal law,” and with a directive issued by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, responding to a lawsuit brought by

Wild Horse Education president Laura Leigh.

American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign spokesperson Deniz Bolbo called the new directives “an attempt by BLM to address criticism,” that “will do nothing to change the practices on the ground. American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign founder Neda DeMayo told Sonner and Daly that a part of the new policy requiring that horses be treated “consistent with domestic livestock handling practices” is a step backward from a December 2011 memo in which Nevada BLM director Amy Lueders declared that wild horse handling should be consistent with “domestic horse handling procedures.”

“Although domestic horse handling practices are a step above the livestock industry,” DeMayo said, “wild horses are neither domestic horses nor livestock. They are wild animals and as such must be humanely managed as a wildlife species on the range where they belong.”

The new directives were issued just a month before Recreational Equipment Inc. chief executive Sally Jewell was to succeed Ken Salazar as Interior Secretary, responsible for oversight of the BLM and all other federal agencies that manage wild horses, except the Department of Defense.

Under Salazar, nearly 40,000 wild horses have been removed from the range since 2008. But the American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign and Saving America’s Mustangs, headed by Madeleine Pickens, had lobbied for the appointment of Representative Raul Grijalva (D-Arizona) to replace Salazar.

“We’re hopeful that Jewell doesn’t start to drink from the same well that everybody has been drinking from in Washington,” Pickens told Martin Griffith of Associated Press. “The animals get left out at every turn. Politically, the mustang has always been treated as

less than a desert cockroach,” Pickens said.

A Salazar acquaintance, livestock hauler Tom Davis of San Luis Valley, Colorado, is reportedly under investigation by both federal and state agencies in connection with the purchase of more than 1,700 horses from the BLM since 2009.

“Davis maintains he found the animals what he called ‘good homes,’ but wild-horse advocates fear they ended up in Mexican slaughterhouses,” summarized Dave Philipps of the *Colorado Springs Gazette*, who exposed the transactions in September 2012.

A BLM directive issued on January 4, 2013 states that “buyers will be allowed to purchase only four horses every six months, unless they have special approval from top BLM officials,” Philipps wrote. “Buyers also must tell the BLM where agents can find the horses for six months after the purchase.”

Fresno humane community

“The company has a one-year deal to provide animal control services for the county, at a cost of \$750,000—\$250,000 less than what the county paid the CC/SPCA,” reported Kurtis Alexander of the *Fresno Bee*. “The county, though, is underwriting a number of the contractor’s expenses, such as vehicles. The company is providing mostly the minimum services that the county is required to provide under state law, which could become an issue with a public accustomed to getting more. For example, stray animals don’t have to be collected, just injured and dangerous ones. The CC/SPCA typically welcomed all. The company’s shelter, on the grounds of the old county morgue, also could become problematic. Space is limited. Employees are using portable cages.”

Liberty Animal Control Services debuted on October 1, 2012 with 90 cages and a 180-dog capacity. Only about 40 dogs and 10 cats could be housed indoors, causing the new agency to appeal for donations of blankets during a mid-November cold snap. The sheltering capacity was briefly exceeded in the first week of January 2013 when 30 dogs arrived as result of a raid on an alleged puppy mill in the Fresno County town of Sanger. But Liberty Animal Control Services had yet to kill any animals.

“I’m concerned that if we end up with another puppy mill or more vicious dogs, then we will have to make some decisions,” Bailey told Alexander.

Fresno County Board of Supervisors member Henry R. Perea has for more than a year tried to rally support for building a state-of-the-art animal control shelter, to be shared by the county

and city agencies, but a vote on the necessary bond issue is not expected before 2014—meaning that a new shelter probably could not be completed before 2016.

Dog attacks

The wisdom of not picking up dogs seen running at large until and unless they exhibit dangerous behavior was meanwhile called into question by the December 11, 2012 fatal mauling of field hand Esteban Alavez, 34, of Selma. Apparently accosted by four free-roaming pit bulls, Alavez was the first known dog attack fatality in Fresno County since 2005, when Tyler Babcock, 6, of Clovis, was killed by two pit bulls and possibly a German shepherd in a field beside his grandparents’ home. But Fresno city police only 11 days before Alavez’ death had rescued a 70-year-old man from a mauling by two pit bulls. In August 2012 a Fresno County sheriff’s detective shot a pit bull to halt an attack on a teenaged boy.

Free-roaming pit bulls were a frequent issue in Fresno County, however, even when animal control policy was officially to pick up all free-roaming dogs. At least three different local governmental agencies settled lawsuits out of court resulting from the Father’s Day 2008 mauling of Krystal Cooney, 16, by five pit bull and Rottweiler mixes who had for several years run loose near the Parlier High School football field—and were allowed to remain there even after allegedly killing sheep



Cat House on the Kings founder Lynea Lattanzio. (Cat House on the Kings)

and goats kept for a class project in 2006.

Fresno police chief Jerry Dyer in August 2007 announced that his department had broken up a dogfighting ring that called itself the Dogpound Gang. The existence of the ring came to police attention through two murder investigations. Videos recovered during the first of the murder investigations reportedly showed six organized dogfights.

How to protest against killing contests without promoting them vexes animal defenders

MIAMI, Fla., HOLLEY, N.Y., ADIN, Calif., CHICAGO, Ill.—The Python Challenge was pushed by the Florida Wildlife Commission in the name of conservation, albeit without strong scientific support.

The Hazzard County Squirrel Slam in Holley, New York, and the Pit River Rod and Gun Club’s Seventh Annual Coyote Drive in Adin, California, were promoted as opportunities to introduce young people to recreational killing, though older hunters were more in evidence.

Pigeons netted off the streets of Chicago at instigation of Alderman James Cappleman were allegedly killed at pigeon shoots in Indiana.

Confronting killing contests remains as frustrating for animal defenders in 2013 as it was in 1960, when syndicated columnists Cleveland Amory and Ann Landers tried to stop the “Bunny Bop” rabbit-killing contest held annually in Harmony, North Carolina, since 1946. Responding that they would not be dissuaded by “do-gooders,” the organizers banned the use of firearms, restricting participants to using stones, clubs, and dogs. Enrollment soared—until stones were also banned. That apparently made the killing too difficult to attract most of the sadists, and all but eliminated participation by children.

Only 20 hunters participated in 1967, killing nine rabbits. Financial losses ended the “Bunny Bop.” Belatedly aware of the bad image that the “Bunny Bop” created, Harmony civic leaders in 1975 wrote to national media to emphasize that it was history.

Killing contests again became a national issue when Mobiiization for Animals and Trans-Species Unlimited in 1988 initiated protest against the Labor Day pigeon shoots held in Hegins, Pennsylvania since 1935. Amory joined the campaign in 1991. For several years as many as 1,000 protesters flocked annually to Hegins. Pigeon shoot participation rose in response. Along with the shooters came hundreds of shoot supporters, including robed Ku Klux Klansmen, spoiling for a fight with animal advocates. The protests ended several years before a court decision suggesting the possibility that the pigeon shoot organizers might be prosecuted for cruelty finally stopped the shoot in 1999.

Ignoring killing contests is not an option for animal defenders, yet the Python Challenge had only 400 registrants when PETA voiced opposition to it, days before it started, and concluded on February 17, 2013 with 1,600. A three-member team of hunt-

Australian & Indian Supreme Courts overturn dog laws

MELBOURNE, DELHI—The Supreme Courts of Australia and India on January 26 and February 6, 2013, respectively, struck down enforcement of recent appellate court rulings upholding dangerous dog laws.

The Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal had agreed with the Darebin and Monash city councils that two dogs they had impounded are pit bulls, kept in violation of legislation adopted after the August 2011 fatal mauling of Ayen Choi, 4, by a free-roaming pit bull who chased her mother into their home. The Darebin and Monash dogs were both scheduled to be killed, but the American Pit Bull Terrier Club of Australia funded a series of appeals. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Kaye ruled that the dogs do not closely enough meet the breed standards for pit bulls, ordered that they be returned to their homes, and ordered Darebin and Monash to pay \$200,000 in legal fees and pound costs.

Victoria state premier Ted Baillieu pledged to introduce new legislation to crack down on pit bulls. “I think Victorians want these dogs off the street and out of their lives,” he told *Melbourne Age* political correspondent Richard Willingham.

The Supreme Court of India stayed a December 7, 2012 Karnataka High Court interpretation of the national Animal Birth Control legislation which held that dogs who are “a menace” or “cause [hazardous] nuisance” may be killed, even if they have been sterilized by an ABC program. The Karnataka High Court had, however, stipulated that “dogs cannot be culled *en masse*.”

ers who had previously captured 60 pythons for researchers caught 18 more. All other participants combined killed 50 pythons, calling into question the Florida Wildlife Commission estimate that as many as 150,000 pythons live in the Everglades. The Florida Wildlife Commission blames the pythons, rather than about 1.3 million alligators, for alleged declines of mammals and birds in the Everglades. Alligators, however, eat all of the purportedly declining species, while pythons eat alligators.

Also abundant in the Everglades, feral pigs “devour pythons and threaten the snakes as much as the snakes threaten them,” observed Marc Caputo of the *Miami Herald*.

Squirrel slam

“No one outside this tiny, rural village of 1,800 people had ever paid much attention to the Holley Fire Department’s annual Hazzard County Squirrel Slam fundraiser before now,” wrote Rochester *Democrat & Chronicle* reporter David Andreatta, covering protests led by Animal Advocates of Western New York, Animal Allies of Western New York, and Friends of Animals. This year, however, the seventh year of the Squirrel Slam, Andreatta noted that “at least 40,000 people signed various online petitions” against it, and about 100 demonstrators picketed the firehouse.

Squirrel Slam participants bought tickets, shot up to five squirrels each, and brought them back to the firehouse to be skinned and served at a community dinner.

“Normally 200 [Squirrel Slam] tickets are sold each year. This year, 1,000 were sold,” reported Christina Noce of YNN-Rochester.

Coyote Drive

“Hunters in the tiny town of Adin in Modoc County paid \$50 for the pleasure of kill-

ing as many coyotes as they could,” reported Liza Gross of QUEST-Northern California. “A few years ago, the gun club and Adin Supply Outfitters urged hunters to hurry and get their applications in ‘if you want to win prizes and help rid Northern California of coyotes.’ This year, they encouraged junior hunters to participate because the ‘drive is a great time to teach quality ethics and outdoorsmanship to young hunters.’”

Previous editions of the coyote drive attracted little attention, but this year a coalition of about 20 conservation organizations sought unsuccessfully to stop it, lest the hunters accidentally kill OR-7, the only wild wolf in California,” who wandered in from Oregon. “Given the anti-predator rhetoric behind a contest designed to exterminate coyotes, I worry that someone will shoot OR-7 knowing full well he’s a wolf,” said Gross.

The California Fish & Game Commission “took no action because the hunt was not on the agenda,” reported Associated Press. OR-7 survived anyhow.

Adin Supply Outfitters owner Steve Gagnon exulted to Laird Harrison of KQED that the controversy helped to bring about 240 coyote hunters to the town of 279.

Pigeon shoots

Several hundred pigeons were meanwhile netted by two men in Chicago and transported to Indiana in a pickup truck belonging to Lake County farmer Herb Govert, reported Brad Edwards of CBS-2. Govert was apparently invited to capture the pigeons by Alderman James Cappelman, Edwards continued, who “has been waging a war on pigeons, proposing an ordinance to make [feeding them] a crime punishable by a \$1,000 fine and up to six months in jail.”

Taking the pigeons to Indiana was “in violation of state regulations,” Indiana

Department of Natural Resources Lieutenant Jerry Shepherd told Edwards. But Shepherd said Govert would not be cited for an offense. “We’re going to give him a chance to come into compliance,” by purchasing a permit to import pigeons, “and let it go at that,” Shepherd said. “The individual doing what he was doing was not a big deal for Indiana, because people have pigeon shoots all the time.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE found no record at NewsLibrary.com and NewspaperArchive.com of pigeon shoots being held in Indiana since 1970, when the Indianapolis Jaycees ended the biweekly shoots they had held since 1948. Pigeon shoots had been editorially denounced by leading Indiana media at least since 1898, when the *Fort Wayne Sentinel* asked “How can anything so cruel and barbaric be allowed in a civilized country?”

Pigeon shoots, American SPCA founder Henry Bergh reasoned in 1869, were among the least defensible human abuses of animals, and therefore should have been easily abolished.

Bergh in 1872 broke up a pigeon shoot hosted in Yonkers by millionaire James Gordon Bennett, organized by blackface performer Ira Paine. Paine sued Bergh, claiming that his right to organize pigeon shoots was protected by the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which allows citizens to bear and maintain arms.

Marine Court Judge David McAdam found nonetheless that “The assemblage...was clearly illegal, and the shooting of the birds was a needless mutilating and killing within the meaning” of the New York state anti-cruelty law.

The Inter-State Association of Manufacturers of Powder, Shot, & Guns in 1875 won an exemption from the anti-cruelty law for captive bird-shooting, which endured even though Theodore Roosevelt in 1883 backed Bergh in an effort to repeal it.

—Merritt Clifton

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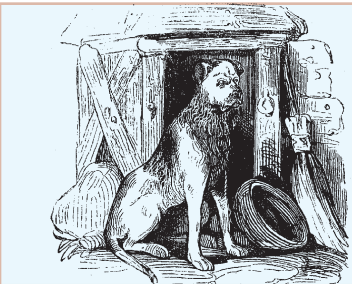
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The Watchdog

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

U.S. will back bid to win Appendix II CITES protection for sharks and rays

WASHINGTON D.C.—U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe on February 26, 2013 told media that the U.S. will endorse proposals to restrict traffic in the fins of porbeagle, scalloped hammerhead, great hammerhead, smooth hammerhead, and oceanic whitetip sharks, and in the gill plates of manta rays.

If approved by the 16th triennial meeting of the 177-nation Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in Bangkok in March, the five shark species and manta rays will be uplisted to CITES Appendix II status. The listing proposals must be approved by two-thirds of the national delegations in attendance. Trade in Appendix II species is permitted but regulated to ensure species survival. Trade is prohibited for Appendix I species.

The proposal on behalf of oceanic whitetip sharks is co-sponsored by the U.S., Colombia, and Brazil.

U.S. District Court of Northern California judge Phyllis J. Hamilton on January 2, 2013 upheld a California state law that bans the sale of shark fins, adopted in October 2011. Authored by Silicon Valley state assembly member Paul Fong, who is of Chinese ancestry, the law

was challenged as an alleged attack on Chinese culture by Asian Americans for Political Advancement and the San Francisco Chinatown Neighborhood Association. Similar legislation was already in effect in Guam, Hawaii, Illinois, the Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon and Washington.

On December 31, 2012, the City of Toronto, Canada, served notice that it intends to appeal a November 30, 2012 ruling by Ontario Superior Court Justice James Spence that a city bylaw banning the sale of shark fins is discriminatory. Spence agreed that cutting the fins off of live sharks and tossing their bodies overboard, a frequent practice of shark fishers, is inhumane, but wrote that banning shark fin sales “will not by itself have any identifiable benefit for Toronto with respect to the environmental well-being of the city.”

About 95% of global shark fin consumption is in China. The Beijing-based Green Beagle Environment Institute reported in December 2012, however, that a survey of 132 hotels in the cities of Beijing, Shenzhen, and Fuzhou found that 12 have quit serving shark fin soup within the past year, up from just one in a 131-hotel survey done a year earlier.

Big Cat Rescue wins \$953,000 judgement against traveling exhibitor

TAMPA, Fla—U.S. District Court Judge Mary Stenson Scriven on February 8, 2013 ruled that Oklahoma wildlife exhibitor Joe Schreibvogel, doing business as Entertainment Group, Inc. and G.W. Exotic Memorial Animal Foundation, has since 2010 infringed on copyrights and trademarks belonging to Big Cat Rescue, of Tampa, Florida, by using photos belonging

to Big Cat Rescue and a logo similar to that of Big Cat Rescue to promote his shows under the name “Big Cat Rescue Entertainment.” Scriven at the same time dismissed counterclaims filed by Schreibvogel. Scriven awarded Big Cat Rescue damages of \$653,000 plus \$300,000 for legal expenses.

“Rather than face us in two trials where he had nothing to gain

and a lot to lose, Schreibvogel agreed to a Consent Final Judgment,” Big Cat Rescue founder Carole Baskin told supporters.

“How this plays out in terms of collecting the judgment remains to be seen,” Baskin added. “There are some scenarios in which this may turn out to be a benefit to the animals” in Schreibvogel’s custody.

Georgia bill enlists opposition to BSL against spay/neuter

ATLANTA—Humane Association of Georgia coordinator Carolyn Danese on February 24, 2013 appealed for opposition to a newly introduced Georgia state bill which seeks to turn opposition to breed-specific dog control laws into a weapon against legislative efforts to promote dog and cat sterilization.

The bill appears to be a possible prototype for similar bills that might be introduced by state legislators nationwide, hoping to mobilize the political vehemence of pit bull advocates—and resistance of more than 70% of pit bull keepers to sterilizing their dogs—on behalf of dog breeders and keepers of hunting packs.

“HB 409,” explained Danese, “would prohibit local governments from requiring spaying or neutering; prohibit higher licensing fees for intact animals; and prohibit banning certain breeds of animal.”

Among the five initial co-sponsors of HB 409 is Earl Ehrhart, the longest serving Republican in the Georgia House of Representatives and former national chair of the American Legislative Exchange Council. The other four initial co-sponsors identify themselves in their legislative biographies as hunters and/or allies of agribusiness.

Formed by far-right political strategist Paul Weyrich in 1973, ALEC helps member legislators to rapidly adapt bills introduced in one

state to be introduced in many others. The same agenda is thereby simultaneously pushed in statehouses across the nation. The multiple introductions often fragment the ability of opponents to respond.

Funders of ALEC include most of the major firms involved in agribusiness and animal testing—and the National Rifle Association. Current ALEC projects include pushing “ag-gag” bills to criminalize undercover videography done in livestock barns and slaughterhouses and right-to-hunt amendments to state constitutions. ALEC has also sought from inception to weaken protection of endangered species and wildlife habitat.

ALEC founder Weyrich later helped evangelist Jerry Falwell, who died in 2007, to organize the far-right activist organization Moral Majority. Falwell’s father Carey H. Falwell was a twice-convicted dogfighter.

The signal accomplishment of the Humane Association of Georgia was establishing a statewide dog and cat sterilization program funded by sales of a special vehicular license plate. The Humane Association of Georgia declared in February 2005 that it “adamantly opposes breed-specific legislation,” after a bill was introduced which would have prohibited possession of pit bulls.

Danese argued at the time that “Georgia’s current dangerous dog and dog-fighting statutes, as well

as existing local ordinances, are adequate to address these issues.”

In 2008, however, the Humane Association of Georgia supported the passage of a bill criminalizing attendance at a dog fight, breeding dogs to fight, or possessing a dog with the intention of using the dog to fight—all of which were legal in Georgia in 2005.

Responding to what were “existing local ordinances,” the Humane Association of Georgia reiterated opposition to breed-specific legislation in September 2010.

Since 2007 the Atlanta corporate security firm Norred & Associates has helped law enforcement to investigate more than 50 dogfighting cases in Georgia, resulting in execution of more than 25 search warrants, approximately 50 arrests, and the impoundment of nearly 900 pit bulls.

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Farm animal cruelty convictions lead to “ag-gag” laws rather than reform

RALEIGH, N.C., BOISE, Idaho—Former Butterball employees Terry Johnson and Billy McBride were on February 24, 2013 convicted of abusing turkeys at a farm in Shannon, North Carolina, in 2011.

“Johnson and McBride join Butterball workers Brian Douglas and Ruben Mendoza, who were convicted in 2012 of criminal cruelty to animals arising out of the same investigation,” said Mercy for Animals founder Nathan Runkle. Mercy for Animals conducted the undercover video investigation that led to the charges.

“Douglas’s conviction marked the first-ever felony conviction for cruelty to factory-farmed poultry in U.S. history,” Runkle added.

“The investigation found workers kicking and stomping turkeys,” summarized WECT-TV of Raleigh. “The investigation also found evidence of workers bashing in the heads of live birds with metal bars.” In addition, the Mercy for Animals investigation led to the conviction of Sarah Mason, director of animal health for the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, for improperly sharing information about the investigation with Butterball. Mason pleaded guilty in February 2012.

Mercy for Animals was disappointed, however, that Ernie Lee, chief prosecutor for Onslow, Duplin, Sampson and Jones counties, refused to prosecute similar behavior videotaped by an undercover investigator in late 2012. Released on November 14, 2012,

“The video shows employees kicking turkeys as they herd them and throwing them roughly by their wings,” reported Kyle Jahner

of the *Raleigh News & Observer*. “The video does not show the same level of violence and gore as the video shot in Hoke County in December 2011,” Jahner assessed, “though it contains similar elements.”

Gary Burkett, an adjunct assistant professor at the N.C. State College of Veterinary Medicine, told Jahner that the 2012 video also showed actions that were “cruel, inhumane, and injurious to the birds,” but Lee concluded that “The workers’ contact with the turkeys appeared to be with the intent of moving the turkeys.” Butterball, headquartered in Garner, North Carolina, suspended the crews involved in the 2012 incidents, pending consideration of possible disciplinary measures.

Another Mercy for Animals undercover video brought the January 16, 2013 criminal conviction in Twin Falls, Idaho, of Bettencourt Dairies worker Jesus Garza. Garza, who pleaded guilty to cruelty, was reportedly videotaped in the act of beating, kicking, and jumping on cows at the Dry Creek Dairy in Hansen, Idaho, one of the 13 farms belonging to Bettencourt. Bettencourt manager Jose Acensio and worker Javier Rojas-Loayza were also charged in the case, but at last report had not yet been apprehended.

“Following the undercover investigation, conducted in July and August of 2012, Mercy for Animals immediately alerted authorities and presented a detailed legal petition and evidence of violations of Idaho’s anti-cruelty laws to the Idaho Department of Agriculture,” said Mercy for Animals spokesperson Gary Smith.

Colorado State University livestock handling expert Temple Grandin has long advised agribusiness to prevent the possibility of being embarrassed by undercover videos by installing their own closed-circuit video monitoring systems and making sure for themselves that animals are not being abused or neglected. Much of the agribusiness sector, however, is instead promoting “ag-gag” legislation meant to criminalize undercover investigations.

“Ag-gag” bills were reportedly pending in at least 10 states as the March 2013 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** went to press. Similar bills were defeated in seven states in 2012, but were passed in Missouri, Iowa, and Utah.

“In all, six states now have ag-gag laws,” summarized Katherine Paul and Ronnie Cummins for *AlterNet*, “including North Dakota, Montana and Kansas, all of which passed the laws in 1990-1991. Most of the ag-gag laws introduced since 2011 borrow the premise, if not the exact language, from model legislation designed by the American Legislative Exchange Council, a 40-year-old far-right organization with close ties to agribusiness.

“Wyoming HB 126 is the perfect example of a direct link between an undercover investigation of a factory farm and the introduction of an ag-gag law,” Paul and Cummins continued. “The bill was introduced mere weeks after nine workers at Wyoming Premium Farms were charged with animal cruelty following an undercover investigation by the Humane Society of the U.S.”

The HSUS video, collected in April 2012, showed “workers kicking live piglets, swinging them by their hind legs, and beating and kicking mother pigs,” Paul and Cummins summarized. The video was promptly shared with law enforcement, but misdemeanor charges were not filed until late December 2012. Wyoming state representative Sue Wallis and state senator Ogden Driskill introduced HB 126 in January 2013.

“Wallis,” recalled Paul and Cummins, “was the subject of a conflict-of-interest complaint filed in 2010 by animal welfare groups. The groups accused her of improper and fraudulent abuse of her position as a legislator after she introduced a bill allowing the Wyoming Livestock Board to send stray horses to slaughter. At the time she introduced the bill, Wallis also was planning to develop a family-owned horse slaughter plant in the state.”

Wyoming HB126 was tabled in the state senate, HSUS farm animal campaigns manager Paul Shapiro said, after the *Casper Star-Tribune* editorially called it “an egregious lapse in judgment” by Wallis.

“Ag-gag bills come in two packages,” observed Farm Sanctuary senior director for strategic initiatives Bruce Friedrich. “The first version criminalizes making false representations while applying to work at an industrial farm or slaughterhouse. If you are affiliated with a charity that cares about animals, the environment, or workers, you don’t get the job. The second version requires that any witnessed illegal activity be reported to

(continued on page 12)

More events

April 29-May 2: NE Region Stranding Conf., Riverhead, NY. Info: <jwocial@riverheadfoundation.org>; <www.riverheadfoundation.org>.

May 16-20: Veggie Pride, Geneva, Switzerland. Info: <info@Veggiepride.ch>.

May 18: Humane Soc. of Missouri. “Bark in the Park,” St. Louis. Info: <bark@hsmo.org>.

May 26: Natl. Day of Mourning for Animals in Labs. Info: <www.saenonline.org>.

May 31-June 2: Anti-Fur Society AR Conf., Alexandria, VA. Info: <AntiFurSociety@msn.com>; <www.AntiFurSociety.org>.

June 20-22: 5th Intl. Symposium on Non-Surgical Methods of Pet Population Control, Portland, Oregon. Info: <symposium@accd.org>; <www.acc-d.org>; 503-310-4265.

June 27-30: AR-2013 conf., Alexandria, VA. Info: 888-327-6872; <www.AR-Conference.org>.

Aug. 25-28: Partners in Flight conf., Snowbird, UT. Info: <www.abcbirds.org>.

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

Sept. 27-30: India Intl. Vegan Festival, Byn-door, India. Info: <www.indianvegansociety.com>.

October 3-9: IVU World Vegfest, Kuala Lumpur & Penang, Malaysia. Info: <www.worldvegfest.org>.

Oct. 10-13: No More Homeless Pets conf., Jacksonville, Fla. Info: <www.bestfriends.org>.

Oct. 11-14: Free the Animals conf., Los Angeles. Info: <www.saenonline.org>.

Oct. 12-20: Natl. Primate Liberation Week. Info: <www.saenonline.org>.

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Third study in six years affirms crustacean sentience (from page 1)

otherwise. More consideration of the treatment of these animals is needed," Elwood emphasized, "as a potentially very large problem is being ignored."

Elwood and Queen's School of Biological Sciences student Barry Magee in Elwood's most recent investigation of crustacean sentience studied the responses of common shore crabs to mild electrical shocks. The experiment partially paralleled previous studies in which Elwood showed pain response in prawns and hermit crabs, but had a more complex goal.

"The experiment was carefully designed," said Elwood, "to distinguish between pain and a reflex phenomenon known as nociception. The function of pain is to aid future avoidance of the pain source, whereas nociception enables a reflex response that provides immediate protection but no awareness or changes to long-term behavior. While nociception is generally accepted to exist in virtually all animals," Elwood explained, "the same is not true of pain. In particular, whether crustaceans experience pain remains widely debated."

Summarized Elwood of his experimental protocol, "Crabs value dark hideaways beneath rocks where they can shelter from predators. Exploiting this preference, our study tested whether the crabs experienced pain by seeing if they could learn to give up a valued dark hiding place in order to avoid a mild electric shock.

"Ninety crabs were each introduced individually to a tank with two dark shelters. On selecting their shelter of choice, some of the crabs were exposed to an electric shock. After some rest time, each crab was returned to the tank. Most stuck with what they knew best, returning to the shelter they had

chosen first time around, where those that had been shocked on first choice again experienced a shock. When introduced to the tank for the third time, however, the vast majority of shocked crabs now went to the alternative safe shelter. Those not shocked continued to use their preferred shelter.

"Having experienced two rounds of shocks," Elwood continued, "the crabs learned to avoid the shelter where they received the shock. They were willing to give up their hideaway to avoid the source of their probable pain."

The shore crab experiment built upon findings that Elwood and colleague Mirjam Appel reported in March 2009. Elwood and Appel had collected hermit crabs from rock pools in Northern Ireland, to which the crabs were later returned. Hermit crabs, rather than forming shells, occupy shells discarded by other animals. Usually these shells are much larger than the hermit crabs' own bodies. Once a hermit crab moves into a shell, the crab typically responds to a threat by retreating farther into the shell.

Elwood and Appel offered the hermit crabs alternative shells to move into, but shells less attractive to them than the shells they already had. Elwood and Appel then gave some of the crabs small electric shocks while they were inside their old shells. The crabs soon changed shells. Crabs who were not shocked did not change shells.

Published in the journals *Animal Behavior* and *Applied Animal Behavior Science*, the hermit crab study followed by two years a study Elwood published in *New Scientist* in November 2007, concerning the behavior of 144 prawns after he daubed one of their antennae with diluted acetic acid.

The prawns immediately groomed and rubbed the daubed antennae, but not their other antennae. This, Elwood wrote, was "consistent with an interpretation of pain experience."

"Even a single-cell organism can detect a threatening chemical gradient and retreat from it," responded University of Utah pain researcher Richard Chapman. Elwood designed the hermit crab study to respond to such criticisms of the prawn study, and then designed the shore crab study to reinforce the findings from the hermit crab study.

In Elwood's *Applied Animal Behavior Science* paper about the hermit crab experiment, he and co-authors Stuart Barr and Lynsey Patterson noted that crustaceans placed under stress release adrenal-like hormones, consistent with feeling pain. Also, if crabs are given anesthetics or analgesics, they show fewer responses to negative stimuli.

Feelings of pain and stress in mammals are associated with the neocortex. Because crustaceans lack a neocortex, prevailing belief has been that they lack the physiological structure necessary to suffer.

Wrote Elwood, "Using the same analogy, one could argue crabs do not have vision be-

cause they lack the visual centres of humans." In actuality, trilobites, who are ancestral to modern crustaceans and insects, were among the first species known to have evolved vision.

Humane attention to crustaceans has been longstanding but sporadic.

Delegates to a 25-nation conference hosted in 1952 by the Dutch-based World Federation for the Protection of Animals approved a resolution seeking the abolition of boiling live crustaceans. PETA has staged heavily publicized lobster releases almost annually for more than 30 years. In 2006 two members of Animal Rights Croatia locked themselves into a fish tank to dramatize the fate of lobsters.

The Scottish organization Advocates for Animals in 2005 published a volume entitled *Cephalopods & Decapod Crustaceans: Their Capacity To Experience Pain & Suffering*, summarizing scientific knowledge to that point. But also in 2005 the Prince Rupert SPCA boiled crabs at a fundraising event. The parent charity, the British Columbia SPCA, cancelled a planned sequel in 2006 after Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson led a campaign against it.

—Merritt Clifton

U.S. military to phase out "live tissue training"

WASHINGTON D.C.—All five branches of the U.S. military were on March 3, 2013 due to send to Congress written plans to phase out "live tissue training," meaning the use of deliberately mutilated animals to teach emergency lifesaving techniques to combat medics.

The requirement was included in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2013, passed by Congress in January 2013 and signed into law by President Barack Obama.

"In recent years, we've convinced the Army and Navy to replace cruel training involving monkeys, cats, and ferrets in favor of human-like simulators. Now we're close to ending the abuse of the animals most frequently and violently killed by the military," said PETA laboratory

investigations director Justin Goodman.

The U.S. is one of just six of the 28 members of NATO that still uses live animals in training combat medics. About a third of the animals—3,600 a year—are goats used by the Army Special Operations Command in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Live pigs and goats are used by the U.S. Marine Corps at Marine Corps Base Hawaii and Twenty-Nine Palms, California.

Pressure to end live tissue training intensified in 2006 as result of a *New York Times* article detailing the training of a combat medic, and gained further momentum after video surfaced in April 2012 of goats suffering leg amputations with a tree-trimmer as part of Coast Guard medical training in Virginia Beach.

"Ag-gag" laws

(continued from page 11)

authorities and all video documentation turned over immediately.

"It's certainly possible that animal-friendly legislators are supporting this bill out of concern for animals," Friedrich continued, "but undercover investigations, whether of a drug ring or organized crime syndicate or factory farm, require that the investigator document the full extent of the illegal activity. If the FBI or CIA stopped an investigation at the first sign of criminal activity, wrong-doers would be inadequately punished, if they were punished at all, because the full extent of the criminal behavior would not be known. Similarly, if an investigator witnesses illegal abuse of animals and immediately turns in the evidence without thorough documentation, the plant may receive a slap on the wrist, at best. The real goal, and effect," of ag-gag legislation, "is that no investigations happen in the first place."

Friedrich pointed out that "Time and again during undercover slaughterhouse

investigations, plant management has been made aware of abuse, or actually has participated in it themselves, and federal inspectors were on site at all times," without taking action. This occurred, Friedrich recounted, at the Butterball facility in North Carolina, the Hallmark/Westland slaughterhouse in California whose abuse of downed cattle was exposed by the Humane Society of the U.S. in 2008, and at AgriProcessors in Iowa, exposed by a PETA undercover videographer in 2004.

"If there are no problems on factory farms or slaughter plants, then the proprietors have nothing to worry about," said HSUS president Wayne Pacelle. "I myself walked through the dairy operations at Fair Oak Farms in Indiana, like tens of thousands of people do every year. There was no ban on picture taking or videos, because the owner of the place oversees a sound animal-care program and does not tolerate abusive practices."



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Mouse studies often don’t work, NIH admits after landmark 10-year study (from page 1)

sponded to traumatic injury, 91% also played a role in burn response and recovery. About 45% of these same genes were involved in recovery from the bacterial toxin exposure.

“Mice, however, apparently use distinct sets of genes to tackle trauma, burns, and bacterial toxins,” Collins continued. “When the authors compared the activity of the human sepsis-trauma-burn genes with that of the equivalent mouse genes, there was very little overlap. No wonder drugs designed for the mice failed in humans: they were, in fact, treating different conditions!

“But that doesn’t mean studying mice is useless,” Collins added. “Mice are more resilient to infection and mount a much more regulated immune response to pathogens than humans. Perhaps this is because mice nose around in some filthy places and can’t afford to overreact to every microbe. If we knew how these rodents limit the drama of their immune response, it might be useful for us humans.

“But this study’s implications may well go beyond mice and sepsis,” Collins allowed. “It provides more reason to develop better and more sophisticated models of human disease. More than 30 percent of all drugs successfully tested in animals fail in human trials. The NIH plans to commit \$70 million over the next five years,” Collins announced, “to develop miniature 3-D organs made with living human cells to help predict drug safety and efficacy. Though this is high-risk research,” Collins acknowledged, “these ‘tissue chips’ may ultimately provide better models of human disease and biology than the use of animals.”

Reported *New York Times* science writer Gina Kolata, “Sepsis afflicts 750,000 patients a year in the United States, kills one-fourth to one-half of them, and costs the nation \$17 billion a year. It is the leading cause of death in intensive-care units.”

Skeptics

Despite the importance of the “Genomic responses” finding, however, co-author Ronald W. Davis of Stanford University told Kolata that the team tried for more than a year to publish their paper. “They submitted it to the publications *Science* and *Nature*, hoping to reach a wide audience. It was rejected from both,” Kolata wrote.

Scientific journal peer reviewers, said Davis, “were so used to doing mouse studies that they thought that was how you validate things. They are so ingrained in trying to cure mice that they forget we are trying to cure humans.”

“When I read the paper, I was stunned by just how bad the mouse data are,” said University of California at Los Angeles sepsis expert Mitchell Fink told Kolata. “I think funding agencies are going to take note,” Fink predicted. “Until now, to get funding, you had to propose experiments using the mouse model.”

Whalers and Sea Shepherds collide

HONG KONG—A Sea Shepherd Conservation Society video posted to YouTube on February 26, 2013 shows the Sea Shepherd vessel *Bob Barker* being repeatedly crunched between the much larger Japanese whaling factory ship *Nisshin Maru* and the *Sun Laurel*, a Panamanian-flagged fuel oil tanker reportedly carrying a South Korean crew.

The Institute of Cetacean Research, the Japanese umbrella for “research whaling, earlier on February 26 released a shorter and more ambiguous video clip which ICR claimed showed the *Bob Barker* ramming the *Nisshin Maru* and the *Sun Laurel*. The longer Sea Shepherd clip, appearing to show the same incident, revealed a different story.

As the video opened, the *Bob Barker* was about the width of the *Nisshin Maru* from either the *Nisshin Maru* or the *Sun Laurel*. The *Bob Barker* held a straight and steady course between the *Nisshin Maru* and the *Sun Laurel*, obstructing the *Sun Laurel* from refueling the *Nisshin Maru* for the last ten days of the 2013 ICR whaling campaign.

Five times the *Nisshin Maru* closed the gap, hit the *Bob Barker* broadside with multiple water cannon blasting the *Bob Barker*’s decks, and pushed the *Bob Barker* against the *Sun Laurel*. “In the turbulence of the combined wake, the *Bob Barker* was slammed back and forth between the *Nisshin Maru* and

Two leading biomedical researchers told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that they had already questioned the applicability of mouse studies to sepsis, burns, and trauma in human patients.

“I can only say that I would not consider the mouse as first choice model for the study of burns, since the anatomy of the mouse skin, and the gross physiology of the mouse have less similarities to humans then, for instance, the pig, and in particular the miniature hairless pig,” offered Gad Simon, past editor of the *Israel Journal of Veterinary Medicine* and for more than 20 years a member of the Animal Experimentation Review Committee at the Israel Institute for Biological Research.

“At least as far back as 1959 people were using mice for such studies, dropping them in boiling water and then examining them for blisters and toxins and God knows what. I saw such work with my own eyes,” recalled Colorado State University at Fort Collins virologist Charles Calisher, who said he had explosively disapproved of it even then, when animal studies were much less often questioned.

“As to what the findings will mean for the future of mouse studies in general, I do not know, of course. Mice are small and inexpensive, which I presume are the reasons anyone uses them as models in the first place,” Calisher said.

Millions of mice

Even if the findings in the “Genomic responses” paper influence only studies of bacterial infection involving mice, mice are used in experiments so often compared to all other animals that eliminating just 10% of mouse use would spare as many animals as if all use of other species stopped entirely.

“Clearly ‘Genomic responses’ is very significant, and the *New York Times* was right to report it on the front page,” American Anti-Vivisection Society and Alternatives Research & Development Foundation president Sue Leary told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “This paper represents a trend,” Leary continued. “Similar studies have looked at animal research methods for particular diseases and have found problems almost as dramatic as the complete failure in inflammatory disease research. The predominant mouse types used in Alzheimer’s research were shown to be useless to the point that leading researchers were sent ‘back to the drawing board.’ Comparable situations have been exposed recently in research on stroke, multiple sclerosis, and asthma.

“At the Eighth World Congress on Alternatives & Animal Use in the Life Sciences in 2011,” Leary recalled, “nearly 1,000 attendees agreed to the ‘Montreal Declaration,’ which is designed to examine the validity of individual research proposals using animals and is gaining momentum. The important lesson [from ‘Genomic responses’] is that everyone needs to challenge the assumptions behind routine approval of funding for research and testing that uses animals. We

saw that done successfully with the publication in 2007 of the National Academy of Sciences report ‘Toxicity Testing in the Twenty-first Century: A Vision and A Strategy.’ That comprehensive examination of the problems of the current, animal-based methods in chemical safety assessment was commissioned by the Environmental Protection Agency. Since then,” Leary said, “the EPA and other federal agencies have invested much more in alternative technologies to be used instead of animals.

“When AAVS and the Alternatives Research & Development Foundation conducted our push in 1999 to ban the use of mice to produce monoclonal antibodies, which are widely used in all kinds of research,” Leary recounted, “we drew upon a growing scientific consensus about the benefits of alternative methods. NIH ultimately declared that researchers should use in vitro methods to produce monoclonal antibodies, unless they could provide a detailed justification. Our understanding is that this development has prevented the use of up to one million mice a year.”

Other medical fields

Researchers in some areas relatively far removed from sepsis, trauma, and burns took immediate note of “Genomic responses.”

“A very interesting paper and I suspect sound. Of course it has to be tested and validated by other researchers, but it smells correct,” Louisiana State University epidemiology professor emeritus Martin Hugh Jones told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

“Really mind-blowing!” said Jack Woodall, a cofounder of the International Society for Infectious Diseases’ Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases. Woodall recalled that for decades virologists injected extracts of blood and tissues from humans, livestock and wildlife directly into the brains of baby mice to isolate viruses, before tissue cultures were developed in the 1990s that produced faster and more accurate results. “Baby mice were before that [believed to be] the most sensitive system—it had nothing to do with whether they reacted like people,” Woodall explained.

The “Genomic responses” paper did not study mouse response to viruses, but the much less sensitive response of mice to bacteria calls into question whether mice might also be less sensitive than humans to viral infection.

Mice are still used extensively in vaccine research, including in findings reported on February 19, 2013 by University of Georgia professor Biao He which may lead to much more effective control of rabies.

Explained University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine publicist Kat Gilmore, Biao He and team “used a common dog disease—canine parainfluenza—to build a new [anti-rabies] vaccine,” which can be administered nasally, orally, or as a conventional

injection. As detailed in the *Journal of Virology*, Gilmore wrote, “The study tested the efficacy of the drug on a mouse model. When the mice were administered a lethal dose of rabies, survival was 100% when they had received the vaccine nasally or into muscle. Survival was 50% when the vaccine was administered orally.”

A rabies vaccine which can be administered nasally could potentially be sprayed into caves to immunize bats, the major reservoir of rabies in wildlife.

Alternatives

“The Humane Society of the U.S. and Humane Society International have urged similar critiques of other areas of animal research,” said HSUS president Wayne Pacelle. “For example, we have argued that there are major problems with chimpanzee research and this was finally confirmed by the Institute of Medicine last year. Leading research journals have published studies. However,” Pacelle added, “it is important that we not simply focus on the failures of the current animal research paradigm, but that we also encourage the development of non-animal alternatives. We have launched the Human Toxicology Project Consortium to make this vision a reality,” Pacelle said.

Commented Procter & Gamble toxicologist Harald Schlatter, “The ‘Genomic responses’ finding is interesting, and needs to be verified over the coming years in terms of its relevance and impact—primarily for drug development. However, I don’t think this impacts or relates directly to P&G, as we do not test on sepsis, trauma, and burns,” Schlatter added. “We only explore testing for very selected endpoints for which no alternatives exist yet. Even for these, we are working to develop non-animal alternatives. We have spent the last few decades investing over \$300 million in the development of over 50 alternative tests that are now used throughout the industry, resulting in where we are today, with over 99% of our safety assessments worldwide being conducted without animals.”

Education

Interniche representative Nick Jukes has for more than 10 years traveled the world introducing non-animal teaching methods. The “Genomic responses” findings, Jukes told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, are “about pure research and the testing of drugs, not a pedagogical issue. So it doesn’t directly correspond to our work. However, there are of course connections between these fields,” Jukes added. “The findings are another reminder that within human medicine we should be focusing on human bodies and human tissue, and that is also true within university-level education of medical students and within professional training of doctors.”

The findings also “makes very clear that a lazy acceptance of convention is far from scientific,” Jukes added. —Merritt Clifton



Explosion of alleged stun grenade.

the fuel tanker,” said a Sea Shepherd prepared statement.

Twice bright flashes came from flying objects which detonated between the *Bob Barker* and the *Sun Laurel*. The objects appeared to come from the *Sun Laurel*.

Sea Shepherd founder Paul Watson told media from the Sea Shepherd vessel *Steve Irwin* that three armed Japanese customs officials had been transferred to the *Sun Laurel* by the *Shirasse*, a Japanese escort vessel. The flashes, Watson said, were from stun grenades.

“You can see in that footage the very small Sea Shepherd ship being tossed around as if in the washing machine,” Sea Shepherd director Bob Brown told Australian Associated Press.

The Sea Shepherd video appeared to have been taken from a trailing vessel, believed to be the *Steve Irwin*. The Sea Shepherd vessel *Sam Simon* was also nearby. During the day’s encounters the *Nisshin Maru* also collided with the *Sam Simon*, “causing hull damage along most of the port side of the ship and smashing their satellite communications dome,” said the Sea Shepherd statement.

Eventually the *Nisshin Maru* “decided to interrupt her refueling procedure due to the extremely dangerous and foolhardy behavior” of the Sea Shepherd vessels, the ICR told CNN in Hong Kong.

The February 26 collisions came a week after similar incidents, after which ICR admitted that the *Nisshin Maru* had rammed the *Steve Irwin* and the *Bob Barker*, near the Davis Research Base maintained by Australia on the Antarctic coast, but ICR blamed the contact on *Sea Shepherd* maneuvers. The *Nisshin Maru* also hit the *Sun Laurel* on that occasion, Watson said.

The *Bob Barker* put out a distress call to Australian maritime authorities after it lost power following the February 20 collisions and began taking on water, but withdrew the call when the crew was able to repair the damage.

Watson predicted on February 21 that the ICR fleet would return to Japan, having apparently killed only 12 whales during the 2013 campaign, but Hidenobu Sobashima, the Japanese consul-general in Melbourne, Australia, said the ICR had only temporarily suspended trying to refuel.

Confronting the Japanese whaling fleet every winter since 2005-2006, the Sea Shepherds contend that both the *Nisshin Maru* and the *Sun Laurel* entered Antarctic waters in violation of international law—the *Nisshin Maru* to kill whales within a whale sanctuary declared by the International Whaling Commission,

Tributes

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—Marilyn Weaver

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The Cat Whisperer:
Why Cats Do What They Do – And How to Get Them to Do What You Want
by **Mieshelle Nagelschneider**
Random House (1745 Broadway, New York, NY 10019), 2013. 297 pages, hardcover. \$25.00.

Feline perceptions and responses differ far more from those of humans than do the perceptions and responses of dogs. Thus, while most dogs train humans to understand their needs relatively easily, misunderstandings of cat behavior may be the most common reason why cats who once had homes land in shelters.

Mieshelle Nagelschneider in *The Cat Whisperer* seeks to remedy that situation. Nagelschneider is renowned for resolving spraying and litterbox issues, which occupy much of the book. But most litterbox issues can be resolved just by keeping the litterbox clean and keeping it where cats feel comfortable using it. And, paradoxically, spraying, fighting, and many other problems resulting from feline rivalry, another of Nagelschneider’s major topics, can be reduced by adding more cats to the household: while two cats may fight, larger numbers often psychologically revert to kittenhood, becoming playmates and sleeping in piles.

Nagelschneider usefully lectures against declawing, but omits the simplest of solutions to cats clawing woodwork: if cats claw doorway trim, let them. Replacing a \$10 stick of trim now and then is much easier and less costly than trying to change the behavior and possibly redirecting it to furniture.

Want a cat to claw one doorway, but leave another alone? Use varnished trim for the doorway that is to remain undamaged, with plain softwood trim on the target doorway.

Most of Nagelschneider’s advice is more-or-less what one might learn from anyone who has long had cats, and has spent some time watching them. But Nagelschneider is far off in writing that “Meowing is a form of communication that is mainly directed to us. Adult cats,” she contends, “rarely choose vocalization to communicate with other cats, and when they do it’s usually to communicate fear or aggressive intent.”

From barn cats in rural Quebec to street cats in Cairo to the six still feral ex-basement cats in my own home, I have witnessed countless cats who have never had or sought relationships with humans using a considerable friendly vocabulary among each other—especially when unaware that I am anywhere within possible earshot.

—Merritt Clifton

The Heartbeat at Your Feet:
A Practical, Compassionate New Way to Train Your Dog
by **Lisa Tenzin-Dolma**
Rowman & Littlefield Publishers Inc.
(4501 Forbes Blvd., Suite 200, Lanham, MD 20706), 2012.
180 pages, hardcover or e-book. \$32.00 in either format.

The Heartbeat at Your Feet is advertised as “the first book to reveal how you can fully understand and communicate with dogs and how you can easily eliminate any behavior problems based on new information about animal behavior.”

I don’t agree. There are many excellent dog training books. But no matter how many books one reads, some dogs are a cinch to train, while others are problematic. Merely reading and even memorizing training manuals will not erase the effects of years of abuse and/or neglect, and turn a scared dog who barks uncontrollably, digs up the yard, and lunges at neighbors into a model show dog.

Author Lisa Tenzin-Dolma styles herself a “canine psychologist” in promotional materials for *The Heartbeat at Your Feet*, The Dog Helpline, which she founded, and the International School of Canine Psychology, of which she is director. Tenzin-Dolma is author of a previous how-to about dogs, *Adopting A Rescue Dog*, and has worked with a variety of dog rescue charities.

Tenzin-Dolma is probably at least as well-known, however, as an author of self-help books, and books about tarot and “healing mandalas.” She also promotes herself as a singer/songwriter.

Under the hat of dog expert, Tenzin-

Dolma offers helpful but conventional training information and insights into dog behavior.

A chapter about body language and communication will help those who know little about canine behavior. Yes, dogs do become depressed, mostly when separated from their families or when they lose a canine partner. Shelter dogs are often depressed.

Tenzin-Dolma discusses the usual training topics such as leash walking, house training, whether to adopt or buy from a breeder, and sit/stay. She does a nice job of discussing canine behaviors such as food guarding, nipping, and growling then how to handle them. She reminds the reader that the way to shape a dog’s positive behavior is through rewards, not punishment. There are times to tell a dog “no,” and to use sharp words and/or leash corrections to discourage misdeeds, but positive reinforcement is the basis for all humane compassionate dog training.

The Heartbeat at Your Feet has no pictures or sketches that might help a new owner to comprehend a training technique, but ample case studies from personal experience are provided.

Concludes Tenzin-Dolma, “Sharing your life with a dog(s) should be fun.” Her final chapter is about games for owners and dogs. An exercised dog is a happy dog.

—Debra J. White

Knowing Horses:
Q&As to Boost Your Equine IQ
by **Les Sellnow & Carol A. Butler**
Storey Publishers (210 Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art Way, North Adams, MA 01247), 2012.
249 pages, paperback. \$14.95.

What a marvelous book, I said to myself, after reading *Knowing Horses, Q&As to Boost Your Equine IQ*. As a city kid, I knew little about horses until moving west in 1997. Authors Sellnow and Butler answer basic questions about working with horses, horse care, horse racing, wild horses, horse breeds, and horse behavior.

Easy-to-follow chapters introduce newcomers like me to such topics as horse-shoes. Why do horses wear them? “Domestic horses often need extra protection from the wear and tear caused by riding, walking on hard surfaces, jumping, racing, and other activities.” However, domestic horses with strong healthy hooves can go without shoes,

as do wild horses, depending on the terrain and the amount of riding. I learned that horses cough but do not sneeze. They are easily trained because they have excellent memories. While unable to decipher specific words said to them, horses understand tone and inflection. Hundreds of horse breeds exist around the world, some surviving only in isolated herds. And yes, horses can catch rabies, so preventive vaccination is recommended. As many as 60 rabid horses per year are identified in the U.S. alone.

The back of the book says if you love horses, there is more to discover. I’d have to agree.

—Debra J. White

Experiencing Animal Minds: *An Anthology of Animal-Human Encounters*
Edited by **Julie A. Smith & Robert W. Mitchell**
Columbia University Press (61 West 62nd St., New York, NY 10023), 2012.
380 pages. \$19.24/Kindle, \$105.00 hardcover, \$35.00 paperback.

Experiencing Animal Minds is a fascinating collection of 21 essays by animal researchers and academic scholars. Many of the authors discuss how animals interact with each other and with humans, including United Poultry Concerns founder Karen Davis.

Davis’ contribution anticipated and rebuts a study published in February 2013 by British Royal Veterinary College researcher Siobhan Abeyesinghe. Concluded Abeyesinghe, “We found no evidence to suggest that modern hens reared in commercial conditions form friendships, even when they are housed in small groups where it is possible to know every other bird. This suggests that, at present, fostering of friendships cannot be used as a way to improve the welfare of chickens.”

Writes Davis, “My experiences with chickens for more than 20 years has shown me that chickens are conscious and emotional beings with adaptable sociability and a range of intentions and personalities,” who “are constantly sending, receiving, and responding to many signals that elude me.”

Yet, Davis summarizes on the UPC web site, “The fact that the chickens have their own vocabularies, social discourse, and dramas amongst themselves does not prevent me from interpreting much of their chicken talk, and I know that they accurately interpret much of mine.” Davis then cites several examples of how she has responded to chickens and how they, in turn, have responded to her, in ways which certainly sound a lot like friendship as humans know and express it.

Chickens are also capable of expressing ideas and pursuing goals that clearly do not originate entirely from their own previous conditioning.

Sarah, for example, rescued from a cramped windowless barn shared with thousands of other chickens at a commercial egg farm, arrived at the UPC sanctuary with health issues. As she recovered, she fought to climb the stairs leading into the main house, apparently seeking a peaceful and comfortable environment unlike any she had ever known. Once inside, she laid her eggs in the second floor bathroom.

“We can never fully apprehend another’s experience, whether that other is human or nonhuman, with or without verbal language,” Davis continues in her own discussion of *Experiencing Animal Minds*. “In ‘Inner Experience as Perception

(like) with Attitude,’ Robert Mitchell describes hearing a biologist argue that we cannot know if an immobilized calf having a hot iron attached to his head for several seconds to remove his horns feels the same pain as a human being would feel under similar circumstances. Mitchell replies that ‘unless you assume that calves have no pain experience during the administration of painful stimuli, lack of knowledge of exactly how pain feels to the calf, or whether it is like that of humans, is irrelevant.’”

Writes Mitchell, “In our attempts to understand an animal’s inner experience, we may be asking for more information than we can obtain even about other humans who speak the same language.”

Mount Royal University psychology professor Alain Morin in a chapter entitled “What Are Animal Conscious Of?” asserts that “Wild animals have never been observed worrying and do not seem to experience sleeping difficulties as a result.”

This contradicts at least 50 years worth of ethological observations, including some very famous findings by primatologists Jane Goodall, studying wild chimpanzees, and Robert Sapolsky, studying wild baboons. Morin acknowledges, however, that laboratory animals show evidence of anxiety “when asked to perform extremely difficult discriminatory tasks.”

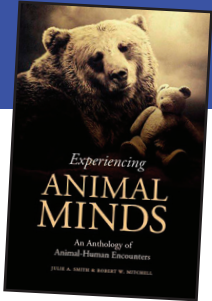
Benjamin and Lynette Hart discuss the unique attributes of the elephant’s mind. Elephants and humans share large brains, tend to be long-lived, and have offspring who remain dependent upon their parents for many years.

Elephant memories are “arguably beyond that of humans” say the Harts. “Older elephants, particularly long-lived matriarchs, accumulate and retain memories from a lifetime of varied experiences that have adaptive consequences for their families.”

Elephants using branches to swat away flies and throwing sticks at rodents, both behaviors mentioned in antiquity, were among the first recorded examples of animal tool use.

Experiencing Animal Minds also includes intriguing essays about the mental attributes and communicative abilities of dolphins, whales, chimpanzees, monkeys, and beavers.

—Debra J. White



Dogs of Courage:
The heroism and heart of working dogs around the world
by **Lisa Rogak**
Thomas Dunne Books (175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010), 2012. 269 pages, paperback. \$14.99.

Dogs of Courage: The heroism and heart of working dogs around the world begins with Ebony, a hyperactive giant schnauzer. Mike and Melenda Lanus, who own a cleaning business called MoldBlasters, send Ebony to a training academy to learn to sniff out mold. Ebony now works for a living, no longer bored or hyper.

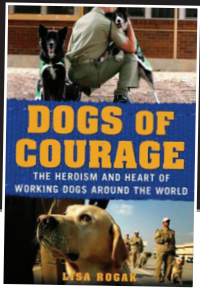
The work of search-and-rescue dogs is much better known. Dogs of Courage author Lisa Rogak spotlights a dog named Doc, trained by Dave Paradysz to do search-and-rescue after avalanches. Near Lake Tahoe in January 1993 an avalanche buried a night shift worker at a ski resort. Paradysz and Doc rushed to the scene. Just before Doc found the frightened worker, recalls Paradysz, Doc’s tail spun like a propeller.

Marvin, a black lab mix, twice lost

homes. His future seemed bleak, but in 2002 Rhode Island SPCA president E.J. Finocchio took Marvin home and put him to work visiting hospitals. Using non-toxic watercolors, Marvin created art work by using his wagging tail as a brush. His art was sold to benefit a variety of nonprofit projects. Marvin died in 2010, but is remembered in at least two other books, and is memorialized by the Marvin Fund, which helps to pay the veterinary costs of the pets of elderly and disabled people.

Rogak also describes the lives of police dogs; guide, service, and assistance dogs; therapy dogs; medical detection dogs; and wildlife detection and conservation dogs.

—Debra J. White



Training the Best Dog Ever
by **Dawn Sylvia-Stasiewicz & Larry Kay**
Workman Publishing
(225 Varick St., 9th floor, New York, NY 10014), 2012.
287 pages, paperback. \$14.95

Training the Best Dog Ever is the paperback release of a manual originally published in 2010 as the *Love That Dog Training Program*. Co-author Dawn Sylvia-Stasiewicz, who died in January 2011, was renowned as trainer of three water spaniels for the late Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy, and of Bo, the current White House dog.

Even before Sylvia-Stasiewicz and Larry Kay delve into training, they ask the reader a basic question: why are you getting a dog?

Getting a dog, they emphasize, is making a commitment for the life of the dog.

Like most handbooks about dog acquisition and training, *Training the Best Dog Ever* includes a checklist of supplies and paraphernalia that should already be on hand when the new dog arrives.

Stasiewicz and Kay suggest adoption as a good way to acquire a dog, but recommend asking questions about shelter or rescue dog’s background, and interacting with the dog before committing to taking the dog home. All family members should be comfortable with the dog. If there is already another dog in the home, the old dog and the prospective new dog should meet. If a shelter or rescue avoids truthfully answering questions, or allowing old and new dogs to meet, Stasiewicz and Kay suggest looking elsewhere.

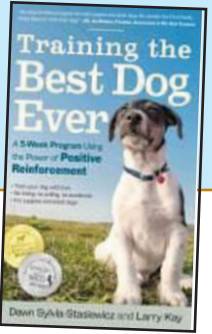
Stasiewicz and Kay warn people who

want purebred dogs to avoid pet stores. Nearly all stores that sell dogs get them from puppy mills. A reputable breeder, Stasiewicz and Kay say, will invite a prospective buyer into her home and encourage interaction with the puppies who are for sale. Some breeders will deny a sale if they are uncomfortable with the buyer. Dogs from good breeders are happy and healthy.

Stasiewicz and Kay emphasize that a well-trained, well-behaved dog is unlikely to be surrendered to an animal shelter. They demonstrate positive reinforcement training methods. They favor crate training, however. Advocated for several decades as an easy way to house-train a puppy, so long as the pup does not spend an excessive amount of time inside, crate-training has fallen out of favor with many trainers recently because so often crating is misused as a punitive measure, or busy people simply forget to let puppies out of their crates when they should.

Stasiewicz and Kay provide lesson plans for teaching dogs to sit, stay, and walk on a leash, but suggest enlisting professional training help to cope with problem behaviors such as excessive barking, digging, or leash pulling.

—Debra J. White



Zoobiquity: What animals can teach us about health and the science of healing
by Barbara Natterson-Horowitz, M.D. & Kathryn Bowers
Knopf (1745 Broadway, New York, NY 10019), 2012. 308 pages, hardcover. \$26.95.

Animals have long been involved in human health care, as sources of purported medicines, subjects of experiments, and as witches’ familiars.

“The idea that animals have healing powers reaches back to the dawn of human civilization,” explains Creighton University medical historian Carrie E. Muffett, M.D., on the Creighton pet-assisted therapy web site. “The Mayans, for example, believed that each of us is given a ‘soul animal’ to serve as a protective guide in earthly life. The Egyptian deity Anubis, physician of the gods, bore a canine head. In ancient Greece, the healing cult of Aesculapius used dogs to lick the sick with their tongues. Florence Nightingale promoted pet ownership as a way to ease the suffering of the chronically ill. One of the earliest recorded uses of structured animal therapy was at the York Retreat in England,” founded in 1792.

Child psychiatrist Boris Levinson (1908-1984) is credited with introducing dogs into therapeutic treatment of emotionally challenged pediatric patients, beginning in the 1960s. Levinson’s work inspired Michael J. McCulloch (1944-1985), who founded the Delta Society in 1977 to promote pet-assisted therapy.

But the roles of animals relative to human health care have already been much discussed and debated. Summarizing current knowledge and practice, *Zoobiquity* offers little by way of original insight into these frequent issues of contention.

Instead, *Zoobiquity* presents the One Health approach to investigating animal and human health issues. Co-author Barbara Natterson-Horowitz, a cardiologist who has treated zoo animals, is among the leading voices for the international One Health network. The book *Zoobiquity* shares the same title as some of Natterson-Horowitz’s lectures on the One Health concept.

One Health begins with the premise that animal and human diseases are mostly shared, having common origins and treatments. The One Health network takes no collective position on the issue of whether animal experimentation to find treatments for humans is ethical or morally justified. Sidestepping that debate, while welcoming the participation of people who are doing relevant work on either side, One Health encourages viewing diseases and disorders as a continuum, which can

often be prevented in humans by recognizing and preventing the spread of causal agents among animals. Paying more attention to animals’ health needs, in other words, benefits both animals and humans—and can eliminate much laboratory use of animals, as well as much needless killing to “stamp out” animal disease.

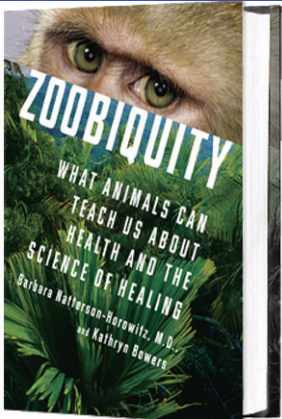
Conversely, “The results of human clinical investigations benefit many species of animals every day all over the world,” Natterson-Horowitz told Cynthia Lee of *UCLA Today* in 2011. “Every day veterinarians reach into human medical literature to help guide their care of animals.”

Zoobiquity offers examples of how the evolution of diseases and conditions as result of changing human lifestyles can be seen in the animals who share our homes and consume our refuse. Just as the average American human girth has been expanding for several decades, American rodents are becoming plumper too. “City rats crawling around the alleys in urban Baltimore grew about 6% fatter per decade between 1948 and 2006,” write Natterson-Horowitz and *Zoobiquity* co-author Kathryn Bowers, a medical journalist, “presumably because their food came almost entirely from human garbage cans and pantries.”

Rats chowing down on the remnants of French fries, hamburgers, corn chips, sugary pies, and the wide range of products made with high-fructose corn syrup responded much as humans have, even though rats have much faster metabolisms.

Dogs, like humans, may experience fainting. “Some vaso-vagal fainting in dogs and cats happens when they’re physically restrained against their will, an especially terrifying situation for many pets,” the authors write—although the symptoms may not be recognized by human companions

Diseases classed as zoonotic pass from animals to humans. But humans and animals also share many diseases that are not considered “zoonotic” because they are not spread from individual to individual. The potentially lethal skin cancer



Biotech firm allegedly hid goats

SANTA CRUZ, California—The Animal Legal Defense Fund and Stop Animal Experimentation Now on January 17, 2013 asked Santa Cruz County Court for a permanent injunction ordering Santa Cruz Biotechnology Inc. to cease violating the federal Animal Welfare Act by allegedly neglecting goats used to produce antibodies.

The lawsuit was filed three days after the Animal Welfare Institute asked Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack to revoke the Santa Cruz Biotech permits to deal in live animals, and asked National Institutes of Health director Francis Collins to require Santa Cruz Biotech to submit a statement of compliance with the Animal Welfare Act as a condition for supplying antibodies to NIH-funded researchers.

The USDA filed Animal Welfare Act charges against Santa Cruz Biotech in September 2012, then learned that the company had since 2009 kept 841 goats at a separate site, nine miles away, which had reportedly never been inspected because the company had not told the USDA that the facility existed.

melanoma is one example, “diagnosed in the bodies of animals from penguins to buffalo,” Natterson-Horowitz and Bowers write. I have had experience with this. A dog I had named Dharma, an adopted Dachshund, lived indoors. She rarely spent any time in the sun, the primary trigger for human melanoma. Nonetheless, Dharma developed a melanoma on her underbelly when she was about ten years old. I remember when I found it. It was just as the doctors at the New York University Medical Center Dermatology Department described melanomas when I worked there: black, raised with irregular borders. A simple surgical procedure removed the lesion. There was no recurrence in the remainder of Dharma’s long life. Early recognition and treatment were the keys to her survival. In this instance, awareness of melanoma in humans may have saved my dog.

Concludes Natterson-Horowitz, “My medical education included stern warnings against the tantalizing pull to anthropomorphize. In those days, noticing pain or sadness on the face of an animal was criticized as projection, fantasy, or sloppy sentimentality. But scientific advancements of the past two decades suggest that we should adopt an updated perspective. Seeing too much of ourselves in other animals might not be the problem we think it is. Underappreciating our own animal natures may be the greater limitation.” —Debra J. White

For Love of Cats

by **Animal Rescue League of Iowa, Inc.**
Landauer Publishing Co. (3100 NW 101st St., Suite A, Urbandale, Iowa 50322, 2012. 160 pages, paperback. \$21.95.

For Love of Cats, presented by the Animal Rescue League of Iowa, draws upon years of shelter experience with cats and making successful adoptions of cats, beginning with what to consider when choosing a cat. Factors include age, gender, and whether the cat is a purebred or a rescued stray.

Discussion of cat behavior includes what to expect from a shy cat and how to cope with fearful cats. Cats rarely act out of anger, and the book offers hints on positive reinforcement if a cat misbehaves. Moving an indoor cat with a litter box issue out to live in the yard is not a viable solution. There could be multiple causes for the problem. Among the most common is that the cat may have a urinary tract infection.

A section on de-clawing explains that what this actually means is the amputation of part of the cat’s toes. De-clawed cats often develop behavior problems, for example balking at using litter boxes because the litter hurts their paws, and declawed cats cannot be allowed outside safely, since without front claws they can neither effectively defend themselves nor rapidly climb a tree to escape a threat. Alternatives to de-clawing are offered.

For Love of Cats includes dozens of adorable photos of shelter cats. I particularly enjoyed seeing a cat who was mesmerized by a computer screen showing fish. Other photos are accompanied by stories with happy endings. Ziggy and Carmella, for instance, were surrendered when their people moved out of state. “They are great cats,” says their new person. “I can’t fathom why their previous parents would move out of state and not take them.”

Cat overpopulation is adequately addressed through a discussion of spay/neuter. Most shelters are overloaded with cats and the Animal Rescue League of Iowa is no different.

The rest of *For Love of Cats* describes how to introduce the family dog to a new cat, why cats need scratching posts, how to choose a veterinarian, how to play with cats, how to give pills to a cat (gingerly!) and much, much more. The section called “Myths about cats” is a must read for new cat-keepers. Myth number one: cats may like the taste of cow’s milk, but they do not need it, and if a cat did not grow up in a dairy barn drinking cow’s milk, milk might make the cat ill. —Debra J. White

For Love of Dogs

by **Animal Rescue League of Iowa, Inc.**
Landauer Publishing Co. (3100 NW 101st St., Suite A, Urbandale, Iowa 50322), 2012. 208 pages, paperback.

For Love of Dogs is a companion book to *For Love of Cats*, also produced by the Animal Rescue League of Iowa. It is just as well written and informative as the book on cats.

The opening page features Duke, a mastiff mix who was shot by persons unknown and thrown into a river. Two strangers saved him. With intervention from the Iowa State Veterinary College and the ARL, Duke was adopted. He toodles around in a donated doggie wheelchair and has served as a spokes-dog for ARL fundraising events.

For Love of Dogs includes a chart of American Kennel Club-recognized dog breeds and their popularity ranking based on AKC registrations. As only a small percentage of dogs are from registered litters, the AKC rankings tend to be distorted both by transient fads for particular breeds and by the omission of pit bulls, now the second most numerous breed according to the annual **ANIMAL PEOPLE** surveys of dogs advertised for sale or adoption.

For Love of Dogs includes discussion, however, of “designer breeds,” some of which are also quite popular and also not recognized by the AKC. “Designer breeds” are basically mixed

breed “mutts.” Shelters are often full of them, yet “designer” breeders sell them for extraordinarily high prices.

All dogs need grooming, some more than others. *For Love of Dogs* points out that a collie or other longhaired dog will need more grooming than a short haired dog.

The behavior section covers house training, preventing excessive barking, walking dogs on leashes, and preparing for a newborn to enter a home with dogs. Physical punishment will never correct bad behavior in a dog, say the co-authors, who offer training classes and manage a puppy kindergarten on the ARL premises. *For Love of Dogs* offers tips on how to deal with an escape artist and dogs who dig, howl, and chew. Written descriptions of training methods are augmented by a DVD and excellent color photos. Shelter dog photos and individual rescue stories strengthen the book’s appeal.

For Love of Dogs recommends supplies that will be needed for a new dog, and suggests the purchase of an emergency kit. And the ARL strongly encourages that pet dogs should be sterilized. —Debra J. White

The Hunter
Starring Willem Dafoe, Frances O’Connor, & Sam Neill. Directed by Daniel Nettheim.
Adapted from novel *The Hunter* by Julia Leigh. Porchlight Films, 2011 (Australia). U.S. release on April 6, 2012.

A year after release, the 2012 film *The Hunter* remains worth a second look. Based on the novel *The Hunter* by Julia Leigh, the film version stars Willem Dafoe, Frances O’Connor, and Sam Neill. Dafoe, a mercenary, hunts the last living thylacine, or “Tasmanian tiger,” on assignment from a biotech company that hopes to isolate, identify, and somehow use the toxin that thylacines are said to have used to paralyze prey.

In truth, thylacines were not venomous. The last known thylacene was captured in 1930, and died in 1936 at the Beaumaris Zoo in Hobart, Australia. The zoo itself, which had kept thylacenes since 1909 and was the only zoo that ever had any, was closed in 1937. Rumors have persisted, however, that remnant thylacenes may still exist in the wild.

For 75 years now the history of demise of the thylacene has been recited by zoological conservationists as a parallel to the story of the 1914 demise of the last passenger pigeon at the Cincinnati Zoo, after 57 years of failed attempts to pass protective legislation and more than a dozen years of captive breeding failures. But the “moral” of the thylacene and passenger

pigeon stories is usually represented entirely in terms of preserving species. *The Hunter* ends with a different message, worth contemplating in the context of considering individual animal welfare and rights.

The hunter character, Dafoe, begins to identify with and care about the family of a zoologist he stays with. The zoologist died trying to track the thylacene, hoping to save the species. The family does not realize that Dafoe has been sent to kill the thylacene.

Dafoe is also touched, despite himself, by the words of their “greenie” friends. O’Connor, playing the widow of the zoologist, offers that the plight of the thylacene is very sad—just killing prey and eating and waiting for death all alone, and as long as people believe she is there, they will be trying to hunt her down.

Other mercenary individuals are tracking Dafoe and the thylacene, at least one them hired by the same bio-cloning company. Someone burns down the home of the zoologist’s family, killing the mother and daughter; the young son is taken away.

When Dafoe finally sees the thylacene out of cover, she turns and looks at him. He rais-

es his rifle. She continues to look at him. Finding himself unable to shoot, Dafoe lowers his rifle. The thylacene lowers her head as if disappointed. Raising the rifle, Dafoe shoots her. He begins to cry and continues to cry as he builds a fire and cremates her body. Then he takes the ashes and scatters them to the winds from a cliff.

Returning to “civilization,” Dafoe calls the bio-cloning company and tells them that they can’t have what they want, that the thylacene is gone forever. Then he goes looking for the zoologist’s son and is reunited with him.

Dafoe’s character may have felt that he did a good deed by ending the life of the lonely tiger and sending her species into extinction. Certainly he started out doing the job he was hired to do, but he never seemed totally comfortable about it, and he seemed to be a man of decent character and habits.

The Hunter contrasts the issues that motivate Dafoe’s character with the selfishness of the bio-cloning company, which wants to obtain the biologically valuable properties of the thylacene but at cost of causing the extinction of the species, so that competitors cannot gain access to the thylacene’s DNA.

The perspective of conservationists who care little about the lives and well-being of individual animals, so long as the DNA of favored specimens replicates, is not specifically represented in *The Hunter*. However, the ruthlessness of the biotech company mirrors that of conservationists who remove rare animals from the wild to spend the rest of their lives in cages as part of captive breeding experiments, and exterminate countless other animals to enhance the chances of survival of remnant populations whose native habitat no longer even exists, due to development and climatic change.

—Kim Bartlett & Wolf Clifton



Thylacenes at the Beaumaris Zoo.



Obituaries

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

Pat Derby founded the Performing Animal Welfare Society & ARK 2000 sanctuary

Pat Derby, 69, founder of the Performing Animal Welfare Society, died from throat cancer on February 15, 2013 at her home on the ARK 2000 sanctuary she built near San Andreas, California. "Ed Stewart, her partner of 37 years, was by her side," said the PAWS death announcement.

Derby's 1976 memoir *The Lady & Her Tiger*, co-authored with Peter Beagle, appeared six months after Peter Singer's *Animal Liberation*, 20 months after Cleveland Amory's *Man Kind?*, for several years outsold both combined, and ensured that the treatment of performing animals was prominent on the animal rights movement agenda. Derby remained a Hollywood animal trainer, however, for another eight years. Merging animal training businesses in 1980, Derby and Stewart quit training animals and co-founded PAWS in 1984.

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, funded by paid admissions, gift shops, and traveling animal acts. Eventually Derby recognized that trying to "retire" performing animals while keeping them on exhibit was a self-defeating contradiction in terms. PAWS has been sustained from the start almost entirely by donations, raised mainly through direct mail.

Born Patricia Shelley, in Sussex, England, Derby was 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*. Mary Shelley at age 19 authored *Frankenstein*. "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 me sufficient nourishment."

Performing career

Percy and Mary Shelley remained vegetarians and anti-vivisectionists throughout their short lives, whose beliefs endured within their family. 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. Touring nightclubs two years later as star of The Gimmicks, a retro jazz band, Patricia Shelley might have been positioned to be part of the "British Invasion" that transformed U.S. music culture. 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 as Pat Derby, her life refocused on animal care. For several years they worked chiefly for Walt Disney Studios. Discovering by trial and error the then little-understood principles of positive reinforcement training, Pat Derby came into frequent conflict with colleagues, directors, and producers who persisted in using traditional coercive methods. The Derbys later 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 line of automobiles.

Both Derbys were repeatedly bitten by animals. Pat suffered several broken noses and a painful chronic back injury. Meanwhile, the collapse of their first nonprofit ventures obliged the Derbys to raise \$50,000 to redeem their animals from creditors. Having seen a bankruptcy sale at which a taxidermist bought and shot a friendly tame female grizzly bear as she sat waving to visitors from her cage, Pat Derby after the second collapse of a Derby-and-Derby nonprofit reluctantly arranged for the euthanasia of all the animals she could not afford to keep.

Meanwhile Pat and Ted Derby split largely because Ted Derby continued to use electroshock to control animals.

In the mid-1960s Pat Derby spent three weeks on the set of the *Flipper* television series working alongside then-dolphin trainer Ric O'Barry, who formed The Dolphin Project to oppose dolphin captivity in 1970. "Pat trained a baby elephant for two episodes. We became instant friends and remained friends for life," O'Barry told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "Later, whenever Pat introduced me to one of her Hollywood friends, she would say 'This is my old friend Ric. We have the same story.' We both eventually rebelled against our utilitarian relationship with animals. They say elephants never forget. I'm sure those elephants who were lucky enough to meet Pat will never forget her."

Derby did not mention O'Barry in *The Lady & Her Tiger*, but criticized the American Humane Association for ineptitude in monitoring animal use on film sets; transiently mentioned the Humane Society of the U.S., as employer of Sue Pressman, an early advocate for captive wildlife; and wrote of Fund for Animals founder Cleveland Amory that he was "a charming, clever, genuinely dedicated man," who unfortunately tended "to preach to the converted and scream damnation at the rest."

The Berosini case

Derby appears to have been quoted just once by major mainstream media after game show host Bob Barker and United Activists for Animal Rights drew national attention to the alleged off-set abuse of chimpanzees in the 1987 Matthew Broderick film *Project X*—even though Barker's allegations centered on the weaknesses in AHA screen production supervision that Derby had identified eleven years earlier. And Derby appears to have been quoted only twice after video emerged in 1988 showing the beating of a San Diego Zoo elephant named Dunda.

But Derby emerged as an animal rights movement superstar in July 1989, after she sent to *Entertainment Tonight* an undercover video made by dancer Ottavio Gesmundo, showing entertainer Bobby Berosini beating his performing orangutans. Then-Circus Circus employee Linda Faso had tried to expose and stop Berosini as early as 1972, but without success until the Gesmundo video was broadcast. PETA sought to prosecute Berosini; Berosini sued PETA and PAWS. A Las Vegas jury in August 1990 awarded Berosini \$4.2 million for libel and invasion of privacy, but the Supreme Court of Nevada overturned the verdict in 1995. After paying PETA a \$350,000 judgment, Berosini was ordered to pay PETA an additional \$256,000 in legal fees in 2004. Losing his last appeal in February 2007, Berosini has in recent years reportedly lived in Costa Rica and Brazil.

Derby built on the recognition she developed in connection with the Berosini case by hosting workshops and conferences on animal



Pat Derby and elephant named "71," at ARK 2000. (PAWS)

use in entertainment that inspired and informed a generation of activism. She cofounded the Association of Sanctuaries, an influential forerunner to the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries.

Ringling & Hawthorn

But Derby may have become best known for her campaigns to retire elephants from circuses and zoos, and to replace hands-on elephant care with the "protected contact" method that in 2014 is to become required at American Zoo Association-accredited zoos.

"Since PAWS' inception, we have advocated eliminating the use of bullhooks and other weapons in the care and handling of all captive elephants," Derby said when the AZA policy was adopted. "PAWS' elephants have been managed with no punishment since the arrival of our first elephant in 1986."

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 PAWS and PETA. The operation was directed, according to court filings, by Clair E. George, deputy director of operations for the Central Intelligence Agency from July 1984 through December 1987. Derby sued Feld Entertainment in June 2000. Feld reportedly settled the case by agreeing to retire several circus elephants to PAWS and to fund their upkeep.

PAWS elephant advocacy gained momentum after the Hawthorn Corporation, a firm that rented elephants to circuses, exhibited an elephant named Tyke at a circus in Honolulu, Hawaii. While waiting to perform, Tyke injured his handler, killed trainer Allen Campbell, 37, when Campbell tried to intervene, bolted from the circus arena, and was shot dead by police.

Derby's partner, Ed Stewart, recalled a similar incident involving Tyke that occurred a year earlier. Derby and Stewart discovered, Derby summarized in 1997, that "Tyke was an elephant with a history of problems," who "had been disciplined in public as early as 1988. Complaints had been lodged with the USDA about her treatment. No action was taken, and the elephant continued to travel and perform, creating problems in other cities."

"Since 1983, at least 20 people have been killed by captive elephants performing in zoos and circuses around the world," Derby continued. "At least 60 others have been seriously injured, including 42 members of the general public who have been visitors or spectators at zoos, circus, and other animal exhibits; six children have been injured, mostly during elephant ride incidents; and at least six elephants have been killed in retaliation for the injuries they have inflicted."

Elephant TB

While researching elephant attacks, Derby and Stewart also learned and warned

about the spread of tuberculosis among the U.S. captive elephant herd. The USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service did not become visibly responsive to their concerns until after another Cuneo elephant, named Joyce, collapsed and died from TB during dental treatment in August 1996 shortly after performing for the Circus Vargas in Los Angeles.

Joyce died 10 weeks after the USDA rejected a PAWS request that she be taken out of performances because she had lost about 1,000 pounds during the preceding year. Recalled Derby, "The USDA retained a consultant [to investigate], Alan Roocroft of the San Diego Wild Animal Park, who had previously been cited by the USDA for violating the Animal Welfare Act [in 1988] when he and other trainers under his direction repeatedly beat the elephant Dunda with an ax handle."

Roocroft reported that Joyce appeared to be healthy, but Los Angeles County director of disease control Shirley Fannin discovered that at death, Joyce's lungs were 80% destroyed by tubercular scar tissue. Joyce's companion elephant, Hattie, died of TB a week later.

TB continued to spread among the Hawthorn elephants, leading eventually to the dissolution of the Hawthorn Corporation. TB also developed among the Los Angeles Zoo elephants. Whether transmission somehow occurred when Joyce was weighed on Los Angeles Zoo equipment was not determined. A tubercular elephant had been sent from the Los Angeles Zoo to the San Francisco Zoo. Soon identified there, too, TB is now known to afflict at least 12% of all the elephants in the U.S.

The last San Francisco Zoo elephants were retired to PAWS in 2004, over the opposition of the AZA. The lone Alaska Zoo elephant was retired to PAWS in 2007. The last African elephant at the Los Angeles Zoo was retired to PAWS in 2010. The Los Angeles Zoo still exhibits Asian elephants. The Toronto City Council in December 2011 voted 31-4 to send the last three African elephants at the Toronto Zoo to PAWS, with Bob Barker funding the transfer, and reaffirmed the decision in November 2012, 32-8, but Derby did not live to see the move accomplished.

Currently home to eight elephants, the \$3.7 million, 2,300-acre ARK 2000 sanctuary opened in 2002. The last of the animals were transferred to ARK 2000 from the original PAWS sanctuary in Galt, California in 2011.

In addition to the elephant facilities, ARK 2000 includes a 10-acre tiger habitat built to house 39 of the 54 tigers who were seized in November 2002 from Tiger Rescue, operated for 30 years by John Weinhart at sites in Glen Avon and Colton, California. Thirty dead adult tigers and 58 dead cubs were also found at the Tiger Rescue premises. Weinhart was in February 2005 convicted of multiple related felonies.

—Merritt Clifton

Suzanne Saueressig, DVM, worked 55 years for the Humane Society of Missouri

Suzanne Saueressig, DVM, 89, died on February 8, 2013 in Richmond Heights, Missouri. Born in Nuremberg, Germany, Saueressig "grew up with cats and dogs," remembered *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* reporter Michael Sorkin. "One day a cat went missing. Suzanne, then 10, suspected the family's maid, who hated cats. Suzanne caught a collection of mice and put them in the maid's drawer. After that, the cat returned. Saueressig's great-grandfather founded a construction business and behind it built the family home. Suzanne, the eldest of four siblings, was educated at a Catholic cloister. She rebelled at having to wear a school uniform. At 17, she attended one session of a typing school. That evening, the Allies bombed the school. When she saw the wounded without medical aid, she decided to enroll in nursing school instead. After her first semester in nurse training, she and her classmates were drafted into the army. During another bombing, she was hit on the head by a falling door and suffered a concussion. From the spring of 1945 through

the spring of 1946, she said, she was held as a prisoner-of-war at a camp overseen by Americans," helping to provide medical care to German prisoners.

Admitted to veterinary school in 1949, Saueressig "graduated from the University of Munich Veterinary College in 1953 and completed her doctoral dissertation magna cum laude in 1954," her Humane Society of Missouri obituary added. Then focused on the public health side of veterinary work, Saueressig wrote her dissertation about salmonella in mollusks. In 1955, however, Saueressig accepted a one-year internship to learn veterinary surgery at the Humane Society of Missouri. Her first operations were sterilizations of the pets of other staff members.

The first female practicing veterinarian in the state of Missouri, Saueressig "brought with her a host of progressive ideas. She insisted that veterinary surgeons use sterile instruments and wear gloves and gowns. She wanted modern X-ray machines to diagnose injuries. When she was turned down, she

took her fight to the board of directors," wrote Sorkin of *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, citing oral history collected by Animal Medical Center of Mid America director of veterinary services Steven Schwartz, DVM.

When push came to shove, the former meat inspector who was then the Humane Society of Missouri chief veterinarian departed. Promoted into his position, Saueressig soon found herself training other interns, including Richard Riegel, DVM. They were married in 1956. He survives her.

Saueressig was named Humane Society of Missouri chief of staff in 1965, and was nationally honored as "Woman Veterinarian of the Year" in 1972 by the Women's Veterinary Medical Association. From 1979 to 1985 she wrote a weekly "Ask the Pet Doctor" column for the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*.

Saueressig retired from the chief veterinary role in 1997, but continued to practice veterinary medicine at the Humane Society of Missouri until 2010.

World’s oldest tiger dies at Popcorn Park Zoo in New Jersey

FORKED RIVER, New Jersey—Bengali, 24, believed to be the oldest tiger on record, died on January 18, 2013 after undergoing surgery to remove a tumor from his pancreas. Bengali had spent the last decade of his life as the emblematic animal at the Popcorn Park Zoo, a sanctuary for wildlife and large domestic species operated since 1977 by the Associated Humane Societies of New Jersey.

Reportedly bred and raised to be shot at a Texas hunting ranch, Bengali was said to have escaped that fate when in 1990 the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service cracked down on “canned hunts” featuring species listed as endangered or threatened by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Nearly 15 years later, recalled Popcorn Park Zoo director John Bergmann, “Bengali was the last cat left at a defunct big cat sanctuary in



Flavio, now the world’s oldest tiger, carved a Halloween pumpkin. (Big Cat Rescue)

Texas, from which we had taken three other tigers the year before. In January of 2003 someone called us to help out with Bengali because no one else could take him in and he was starting to fail. In May 2003 Bengali arrived—emaciated, weak and with hardly any will to live. His first accomplishment was just being able to jump up on his bench. That took a week. Then he began acknowledging us, walking a little more each day, and gaining back some strength.”

Bengali, already older than most tigers live to be, made faster progress after learning that an elderly African lioness named Jaz lived in an adjacent enclosure. Their friendship was brief, as Jaz died in December 2003, but by then Bengali had befriended many other Popcorn Park Zoo animals and staff.

Though aware that Bengali was old for his species, the Associated Humane Societies did not know he might have been the oldest tiger ever, Associated Humane president Roseann Trezza told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

The next oldest tiger whose exact age was known was Huahua. Born in 1985 at a zoo in Guangzhou, China, Huahua later lived in zoos in Suzhou and Luoyang, where she died on August 14, 2007, mourned by Chinese state media as the oldest tiger in the multi-millennia recorded history of tiger captivity in China. About 30% of the South China tigers in Chinese zoos today are reportedly descended from Huahua and her 24 cubs.

Two other tigers are known to have reached age 23. Dani, a longtime resident of the Stropkov Zoo in Slovakia, became the world’s oldest tiger after Huahua died. The oldest is now Flavio, 23, who lives at Big Cat Rescue in Tampa, Florida.



Bengali in person and on Popcorn Park Zoo poster. (Associated Humane Societies)

“Flavio arrived in 2002 after retiring from the circus,” recalls Big Cat Rescue founder Carole Baskin. “He was hailed as the smartest circus tiger ever known. He performed a light-and-music number flawlessly for years, until he decided one day that he didn’t like the other tigers and all he wanted to do was fight. He is known here as having the loudest voice of any of our tigers. What sounds like loud moaning is actually just his way of communicating with all of us. And, you can always count on him to give a demonstration of how powerful a tiger’s spray can be when marking his territory and possessions.”

Ivan, 20, the oldest known tiger at an accredited North American zoo, was euthanized in January 2003 due to conditions of age. Born at the Fort Worth Zoo, Ivan had lived at the Potter Park Zoo in Lansing, Michigan, since 1989.

Obituaries (continued from page 17)

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

C. Everett Koop, 96, U.S. surgeon general 1982-1989, died on February 27, 2013 in Hanover, New Hampshire. Born in Brooklyn, Koop was admitted to Dartmouth College in Hanover at age 16. He studied medicine at Cornell Medical School in upstate New York, served an internship at Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia and a surgical fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania hospital, then studied pediatric surgery for a year at Boston Children’s Hospital. Becoming only the seventh pediatric surgery specialist in the U.S., Koop returned to Philadelphia to become surgeon-in-chief at Children’s Hospital. Founding the first neo-natal surgery unit in the U.S. and cofounding the Journal of Pediatric Surgery, Koop in *The Right to Live*, *The Right to Die* (1976) warned against “a progression of thinking in this country from liberalized abortion to infanticide to passive euthanasia to active euthanasia, indeed to the very beginnings of the political climate that led to Auschwitz, Dachau and Belsen.” This influenced then-U.S. President Ronald Reagan to appoint Koop surgeon general upon Koop’s retirement from Children’s Hospital, but brought Koop into philosophical conflict with the utilitarian theories advanced by *Animal Liberation* author Peter Singer. Paradoxically, Koop as surgeon general took a utilitarian position in frequent outspoken defense of animal research. Koop encouraged expanded efforts to study AIDS in chimpanzees; when chimpanzees proved to be largely immune to the human form of AIDS, Koop argued that decades of studies of retroviruses in animals were nonetheless essential to understanding AIDS. Koop found more common ground with advocates of eating less meat. “Your choice of diet can influence your long term health prospects more than any other action you might take,” he warned. After his second four-year term as surgeon general expired, Koop in 1990-1991 lobbied on behalf of the Cosmetics, Toiletries, and Fragrances Association against a bill twice passed by the California legislature which would have banned animal testing. The bill was vetoed in 1990 by California Governor George Deukmejian, and in 1991 by his successor, Governor Pete Wil-

son. Retiring to Hanover, Koop in 1992 founded and endowed the C. Everett Koop Institute at Dartmouth College. There, Koop invested much of his personal wealth into developing computer programs which—even at the initial reported price of \$35,000 per set—soon replaced much animal use in advanced anatomical study, permitting examination of any part of the human body in slices the thickness of a microscopic slide.

Wendy Wilson Garraghty, 61, died of cancer on January 22, 2013 at her home in Franklin, Massachusetts. Executive director of Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue since 2002, Garraghty brought to the job a background as analyst in the Bank of Boston treasury division, and earlier, as a teacher at the Powhatan Correctional Center, a 600-man maximum security prison in Virginia. Garraghty became acquainted with Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue as an adopter, then served as membership director and as a board member before stepping up to head the organization. Founded by Joan Puglia and Susan Foster in 1985, Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue has rehomed more than 8,000 golden retrievers. The first Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue shelter opened in Hudson, Massachusetts, in 1996. The present 22-acre shelter complex opened in 2000.



Wendy Wilson Garraghty and Zoe #5007. (Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue)

Gloria Maycher Scott, 87, died on January 13, 2013 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, her home since 2010, from complications of Parkinson’s disease. Born in Mississippi City, Mississippi, she graduated from high school in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and attended Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. Relocating to Washington D.C. in 1967, she and realtor Joanna Harkin cofounded the rescue organization Alliance for Stray Animals & People in 1998.

South African National SPCA fights crocodile farming

PONGOLA, KZN, South Africa—Fined the equivalent of \$33,000 U.S. dollars by the South African Department of Agriculture & Environment for housing crocodiles in single pens shorter than the length of their bodies, Metroc Broedery owner Coen Labuscagne of Pongola, KwaZulu-Natal, “nevertheless has applied for permission to expand his operation to incarcerate 1,500 crocodiles,” South African National SPCA information officer Chris Kuch e-mailed to media on January 17, 2013.

Labuscagne raises crocodiles for leather. “The aim of these pens,” in which each crocodile is kept for at least six to seven months, “is to increase growth of the crocodiles and ultimately avoid confrontation or interaction

among other crocodiles, thereby guaranteeing no injuries to the skins,” explained NSPCA inspector Nazereth Apalsamy. “The crocodiles cannot lie or rest straight. There is no shade cloth or shelter or any heating, which is necessary depending on the season. All of this for a mere jacket or handbag.”

Ministry for Agriculture & Environmental Affairs spokesperson Jeffrey Zihkali told Chris Makhaye of the Parktown *New Age* that the fine might be reduced because Labuscagne “has been complying with regulations.”

“The NSPCA laid Animals Protection Act charges in January 2012,” said Kuch, “but the State declined to prosecute. The NSPCA stance is that keeping crocodiles incarcerated in

Memorials



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—Judy Hecht

In memory of Wendy Garraghty. —Herb & Sylvia Forsmith

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Seals in hotels

BEIJING—China Daily on February 22, 2013 spotlighted an Internet campaign against the fast-spreading practice of keeping seals in tanks as an attraction at hotels and restaurants. The campaign was initiated by the Panjin Harbor Seal Protection Volunteer Association, of Panjin, Liaoning province, and the Green Beagle Environment Institute of Beijing, whose volunteers have documented the presence of 43 captive seals at 20 facilities—most of them small and severely substandard.

Dolphins in India

CHENNAI—The Animal Welfare Board of India on January 14, 2013 ordered state governments and wildlife agencies to deny permits to anyone who “proposes to import or capture any cetacean [whale or dolphin] species for training, to use as a performing animal for commercial entertainment, private or public exhibition, private or human interaction, educational or research purposes.” The directive formalizes policies which have informally prevailed against would-be marine mammal exhibitors since 1998, when a now defunct Chennai aquarium called Dolphin City imported four dolphins from Bulgaria. All four died within six months. Whether the AWBI directive can be enforced is likely to be tested by would-be developers of dolphin parks in Mumbai, Delhi, and coastal Kerala state.

single pens is inherently cruel, unacceptable, and a violation of the Animals Protection Act.

Kuch noted that there are about 60 crocodile farms operating in South Africa, some holding more than 20,000 crocodiles.

“No one species of animal deserves any less or any greater protection than any other,” Kuch said, noting that public discomfort with closely confining laying hens in battery cages and keeping pigs in sow stalls has led to these practices being phased out in much of the world. “The public needs to know that crocodiles are being intensively farmed and incarcerated. We need to make this known within our own country and to extend the awareness to overseas,” Kuch finished,

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