



A shipping pallet substituted for Noah's Ark at the Cani-Bucarest shelter in Cernavoda, Romania. The water rose a foot higher than this before subsiding. (Sara Turetta)

## Global warming collides with humane concerns worldwide

**BELGRADE, CERNAVODA, FREIBERG, GALATI, SEATTLE**—Global warming collided with humane concerns along the Danube river in April 2006. Free dog and cat sterilization drives planned in several cities to stop the annual spring flood of puppies and kittens were hastily reorganized into response to the fourth round of severe spring flooding to hit parts of the Danube basin since 2000.

Sterilization surgery continued as best it could, interrupted by electricity blackouts, washed-out roads, and emergency demands on the already thin resources of regional humane societies.

The series of Danube disasters have followed intensified hurricane seasons in the southern U.S. in both 2004 and 2005, capped by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, plus exceptionally heavy 2005 monsoon flooding in India. The Danube flooding coincided with a bizarre mid-April 2006 flash flood along the Sabaki River in otherwise drought-stricken Kenya that caused more than 10,000 people to flee with their

livestock. About 100 homes were ruined, said Associated Press, but apparently no one was killed.

The flooding of New Orleans by Katrina and Rita and the Indian monsoon floods have affected more people, but the Danube flooding has directly afflicted ten

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## Sierra Club endorses hunting (page 3)

### 17-year-old's death changes lawmakers' view of exotic cats in private hands

**TOPEKA**—Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius on April 17 signed into law a bill requiring Kansans who keep big cats, bears, and non-native venomous snakes to hold a U.S. Department of Agriculture exhibitors' license plus \$250,000 worth of liability insurance.

To take effect on October 1, 2006, the bill sailed through the Kansas senate unanimously, and cleared the state house 101-24.

Just eight months earlier the new Kansas law might never have escaped a legislative subcommittee. Press coverage of a much weaker regulatory effort was not sympathetic.

"Exotic cats keep Kansas couple purring, but regulations could take pets away," headlined the *Kansas City Star* on August 6, 2005, above a feature by Leann Sulzen of Associated Press about hog farmers Rod and Rita Rose, of Salina, Kansas.

Since 1991, Sulzen wrote, "the Roses have owned eight large cats, usually



White lion. (Bonny Shah)

more than one at a time. When the cats grow old and die, the Roses get another big cat. They got Cody and Callie from Ray O. Smith, who used to live in rural Ottawa County. He raised African lions and Siberian tigers."

That, in a paragraph, is often the whole story of big cats in private hands. Animals whose lifespan in zoos and accredited sanctuaries often exceeds 15 years rarely last a fraction as long in the care of private individuals. But efforts to change the paradigm have

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# ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

May 2006  
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## Odds are risky for whales at IWC

**ST. KITTS**—The outcome of the 58th annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission, upcoming at the St. Kitts & Nevis Marriot Resort and Royal Beach Casino, looks like an even bet.

"This year the pro-whaling nations look likely to achieve their first majority," assess environment correspondents David McNeill and Michael McCarthy of *The Independent*—but that was just before Israel joined the IWC, possibly tipping the balance against whaling

"Over the past six years, at least 14 nations have been recruited to the IWC as Japan's supporters," McNeill and McCarthy note. "Most of them have no whaling tradition. Some, such as Mongolia and Mali, do not even have a coastline.

"It is likely that the full total of supporting states Japan has brought into the IWC since 1998 is 19," McNeill and McCarthy believe. "All can be shown to be clients of Japan by the consistency of their IWC voting. They can also be shown to be in receipt of Japanese largesse." The Republic of Guinea, McNeill and McCarthy note, which joined the IWC in 2000, in 2002 received \$6.6 million from Japan to build a fish market in Conakry, the Guinean capital.

"A 51% majority will not secure scrapping the 1986 moratorium [on commercial whaling]," McNeill and McCarthy explain. "That needs a majority of 75%. But it would be a huge propaganda coup for the whaling nations, and would enable them to bring in other measures, such as secret voting, which may bring the crucial majority nearer."

Confirmed New Zealand prime minister Helen Clark during an April 17, 2006

*Newstalk ZB* broadcast, "We've been concerned for a number of years because Japan has been steadily recruiting small developing countries to its cause."

"We're trying to persuade some nations not only to attend and join the IWC, but also to send ministers who will have a lot more political heft than we normally see at the IWC," said New Zealand IWC delegation chief Sir Geoffrey Palmer.

But "political heft" will not mean as much to poor nations as money, Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson warned, after shadowing and skirmishing with the six-vessel Japanese whaling fleet in December 2005 and early January 2006.

"I am urging other groups with money who campaign against the slaughter of the whales, like the International Fund for Animal Welfare and Humane Society of the U.S., to underwrite the membership dues of pro-whale members of the IWC," Watson said. "They need to do with poor pro-whale nations what Japan is doing with the poor nations that it recruits to support whaling. A few hundred thousand dollars could prevent the Japanese from seizing control of the IWC."

"At the 2005 IWC convention, of the 66 IWC member nations," Watson reminded, "29 voted yes to commercial whaling, and 30 voted no. Anti-whaling nations Costa Rica, Kenya, and Peru could not vote," as their dues had not been paid. "Four pro-whaling nations [allied with Japan]—Belize, Gambia, Mali, and Togo—were absent.

"If all IWC member nations show up to vote in 2006," Watson continued, "it will be 33 yes and 34 no. But Costa Rica,

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Project Bay Cat found ways to accommodate both Sylvester and Tweety. (Robert Barbutti)

## Beyond "Sylvester & Tweety"

**FOSTER CITY, Calif.**—Tired of playing stereotypical opposing roles in endless political re-runs of the "Sylvester & Tweety" cats-vs.-birds battle, Homeless Cat Network "cat manager" Cimeron Morrissey, Sequoia Audubon Society conservation committee chair Robin Winslow Smith, and Foster City management analyst Andrea Lorenz in 2004 quit competing for TV sound bites and formed Project Bay Cat instead.

They all knew what the problem was: more than 170 feral cats lived along the Bay Trail, a popular scenic hiking route that follows a long abandoned shoreline railway. Mostly the cats hunted small rodents. Like other predators, they caught mostly the old, the young, the sick, and the injured.

But the cats were near various threatened and endangered species, including the California clapper rail, a bird whose last habitats include a marsh at the northern end of the Bay Trail, where Foster City meets San Mateo.

Efforts to protect the clapper rail from feral cats, coyotes, and foxes had included more than fifteen years of confrontations among animal advocates and government agencies. Especially bitterly fought

were proposals to use leghold traps to capture and kill potential clapper rail predators. Although leghold traps are banned in California, the ban exempts use to protect endangered species.

While lawyers battled, Morrissey, Smith, Lorenz and friends realized that none of them really wanted feral cats to be on the Bay Trail, none of them wanted to fight, and much could be done to reduce the feline presence if they brokered their own peace and worked together.

"The homeless cat population started as a result of illegal abandonment by irresponsible people," recounted Morrissey on March 27, 2006, formally the first anniversary of Project Bay Cat—but by the time they announced that it existed, in March 2005, the participants had already sterilized 77% of the Bay Trail cat population.

"Volunteers have diligently trapped the cats to have them neutered, tested for disease, and vaccinated," Morrissey told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "Thanks to the San Mateo Animal Hospital and Crystal Springs Pet Hospital veterinarians, 92% of the cats who live along the levee pedway (*footpath*) have

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May 2006

Fellow Lover of Animals,

Years ago, I was a movie actor living with three cats in Hollywood. Then in March 1979, I began having these strange dreams about a dog who was going to change my life.

As the dreams continued, I'd find myself looking around my bedroom when I woke up, feeling this dog's presence.

Then April rolled in. I had promised my best friend that I would visit his family in Bakersfield . . .

As the highway cut through a section of the Angeles National Forest, I gasped! Off to the right, slowly plodding his way along a ridge, was a black Doberman . . . the dog in my dream!

I jammed on my brakes and pulled onto the soft shoulder. Then I ran over to the edge of the road and called to the dog. He spotted me right away and he began walking toward me. Those last ten yards, he ran toward me, whimpering. He was magnificent . . . but very tired and thin.

I took off my belt and slipped it over his head and walked him to my car.

As I headed for Bakersfield, the dog lay on the front seat and he put his head in my lap. I held his head the rest of the way. Someone had abandoned this sensitive, loving dog . . . in the forest . . . far away from food or water.

I named him "Delta."

Back in Hollywood, Delta had to sleep in my car at first, because pets were not allowed in my apartment . . . where I already had three "illegal" cats!

So for months, I took Delta everywhere, like a proud father takes his son. I took him to Marina Del Rey for a strawberry ice cream cone every day, and to Venice Beach where he loved to swim. Seven days and evenings a week, we were always together. And my only wish was to have a house where Delta could sleep on my bed at night.

We also hiked in the forest a lot . . . and sometimes Delta chose hills that were so steep, I'd wrap his 30 foot lead around my waist and he'd pull me up with him!

It was on one of those wilderness hikes that Delta and I found 35 more dogs . . . each one starving and abandoned . . . they were so hungry they knocked over garbage cans full of picnic trash . . . trying to find a morsel of food . . .

. . . they even ate paper sandwich wrappers.

I was so shaken by this that Delta and I drove to the city and bought four large fifty pound bags of dog food. Back in the forest, I spread them over the ground.

These dogs dove into the food piles up to their elbows and started munching loudly . . . and while they ate, they smiled at Delta and me . . . thanking us for helping them.

Moved to tears, I vowed I'd never leave them. We were even together in the cold winter rains when they were sick with pneumonia . . . and I put medicine in their food to help get them through it.

I remember feeling so helpless that I couldn't do more for them . . . Delta's new best friends were homeless . . .

. . . living on the cold ground . . . trying to sleep through the pounding storms . . . in puddles of cold water, rain beating constantly on their naked heads.

It took a full year to get them all out of the forest, but I did . . . before the next winter's rains. I found loving homes for a few, but most I kept myself . . .

. . . I was too much in love with them to see them go, and they were deathly afraid of other people.

We did find a house to rent, and Delta loved his yard, and all his new friends. You could tell, he was their "leader." All the other dogs looked up to Delta.

And because the landlord allowed pets, Delta finally got to sleep on my bed . . .

. . . for about a year.

Then when he was only seven, Delta developed a cancer.

We still went for walks every morning, though he could only go short distances.

Then one morning, in 1982, while I was typing a letter on the kitchen table, I heard a whimper in the bedroom. I ran in to see if Delta needed anything . . . he had just passed away. And I never got to say good-bye.

I've rescued many thousands of abandoned dogs and cats since Delta found me . . . and I even founded this organization in his name, to honor him as the dog whose love changed my life forever.

And I promised him that whenever I found an abandoned animal in the wilderness, that I would help him in Delta's memory.

But it has haunted me for 24 years that I never got to say good-bye to my son . . . my beloved Delta.

Then, a few weeks ago, I realized that Delta chose to cross over while I was in the other room, working, for a reason . . . he didn't want me to ever say good-bye to him. His last wish, I'm sure now, was that I simply not forget him.

So it is with great sadness, and yet with great joy, that I ask you to plant forget-me-not seeds on this anniversary of Delta's last wish. Please call me at 661-269-4010 and I will send you the packet of forget-me-not flower seeds for free.

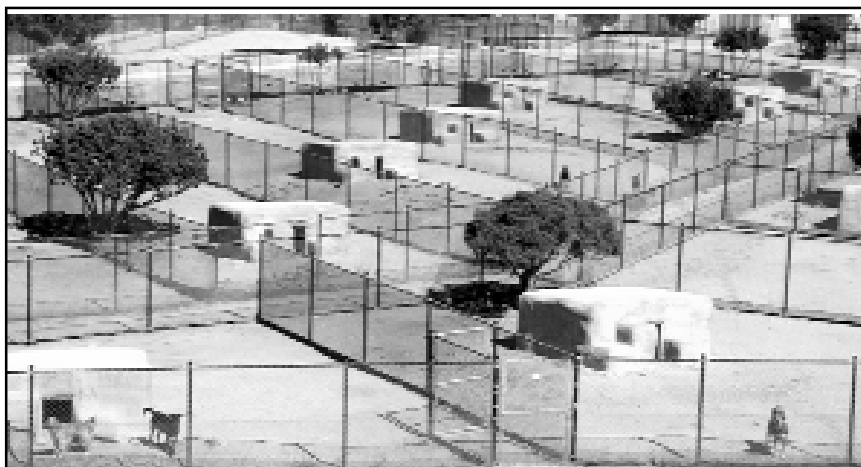
Please . . . plant them somewhere so they can grow wild and multiply year after year. And when you look at them in the years to come, remember my beloved Delta to whomever you are with.

Today, thanks to Delta, we are home to over 1,500 abandoned cats and dogs.

We're here for these animals . . . 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. And no matter what else I'm doing, the animals always come first.

Each of our dogs is neutered and then "married" to another rescued dog of the opposite sex.

And then the couple lives in a huge yard with their own straw bale adobe dog house, which I invented after years of trying to find out what dogs like best!



Our over 500 cats live in three dozen indoor/outdoor catteries and they each enjoy three meals a day.

They are safe and nobody will ever hurt them again. They will never go hungry, and we have two hospitals to keep them in good health.

With your gift, we can continue to feed these animals, rescue them . . . and shower them with love . . . at our spacious 94-acre mountain-top sanctuary.

For the animals,



Le

Leo Grillo, founder

P.S.: Please call 661-269-4010 today and request your FREE packet of Forget-Me-Nots to honor my beloved dog Delta. It was because of him that I have devoted my life to rescuing abandoned animals. Wherever these flowers grow, the spirit of Delta will shine through.

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## Editorial feature

# The Sierra Club vs. anti-hunting legacy of founder John Muir

That Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson would eventually resign from the Sierra Club board of directors was widely anticipated almost from the moment of his election in 2003. Watson was elected as part of an aggressive challenge to a range of Sierra Club positions and policies, was elected without sufficient supporters and allies to have much chance of success, and was predictably isolated throughout his tenure from the rest of the Sierra Club power structure.

Yet Watson did not resign until April 17, 2006, just a month before the end of his three-year term. When Watson did resign, he left in protest against the Sierra Club executive issuing an unprecedented and unequivocally strong endorsement of sport hunting, directly contrary to the views of founder John Muir.

On April 21, 2006, Muir's 168th birthday, Watson followed up his resignation statement by e-mailing to supporters and news media a selection of Muir statements about hunting. "My fear," Watson prefaced, "is that the Sierra Club has been corrupted to the point of evolving into another crass hunting society, where the men with the guns enjoy more respect than the victims they slaughter. This is now the 21st century, yet the Sierra Club is encouraging behavior that John Muir condemned in the 19th century, spending \$200,000 a year on hunter outreach programs, and hosting an essay competition entitled *Why I Hunt?*," offering as first prize a \$12,700 hunting trip to Alaska.

"Muir was not close-minded. He did accompany hunting parties in some of his outings," Watson recalled, "and did attempt to understand the psychology of the hunter." In the end, however, "Muir referred to hunting as the 'murder business.'"

*A Thousand Mile Walk*, Muir's first book, documented his 1867 hike from Indiana to Florida, two years after the end of the U.S. Civil War.

"Let a Christian hunter go to the Lord's woods and kill his well-kept beasts, or wild Indians, and it is well," Muir fulminated, "but let an enterprising specimen of these proper, predestined victims go to houses and fields and kill the most worthless person of the vertical godlike killers—oh! that is horribly unorthodox, and on the part of the Indians, atrocious murder! Well, I have precious little sympathy for the selfish propriety of civilized man, and if a war of races should occur between the wild beasts and Lord Man, I would be tempted to sympathize with the bears."

Muir was no less scathing in *The Cruise of the Corwin*, his account of an 1881 voyage into the Arctic.

"In nothing does man, with his grand notions of heaven and charity, show forth his innate, low-bred, wild animalism more clearly than in his treatment of his brother beasts," Muir wrote after seeing walruses slaughtered. "From the shepherd with his lambs to the red-handed hunter, it is the same: no recognition of rights—only murder in one form or another."

Reminded Watson, "Muir's other writings also include passages that defend wildlife and condemn the overlordship of humans over beasts. It was this philosophy that brought me to the Sierra Club in 1968, and was why I became a member. I joined an organization with a legacy and tradition of respect for wildlife and nature, that appealed to hikers, birders, naturalists and climbers, not bullet-brained nimrods who profess to love nature with a gun."

"The majority of Sierra Club members are not hunters," Watson continued. "Yet [executive director] Carl Pope has decided that the club needs to recruit more hunters. To flagrantly emphasize his position, the club has posted a web page featuring Sierra Club leaders and staff posing with their freshly slaughtered trophies."

"There are plenty of pro-hunting organizations like the Wilderness Society, Ducks Unlimited, the National Audubon Society, and the World Wildlife Fund," Watson pointed out. "John James Audubon," for whom the Audubon Society was named, 54 years after his death, when formed by George Grinnell in 1905 to regulate competitive bird shooting, "was a prolific killer of birds. Why must the Sierra Club follow this example," Watson asked, "when unlike Audubon, Muir despised hunting?"

"At least the Sierra Club of Canada retains the respect that Muir held for wildlife," Watson finished. "They have no hunter outreach program."

The circumstances surrounding the Sierra Club embrace of hunting and Watson's resignation are unfortunately a microcosm of the politics of conservation throughout the U.S. Though fewer than 14 million of the 300 million U.S. citizens hunt, and fewer than 40 million either hunt, trap, or fish, the hunting minority of under 5% maintains a chokehold on public policy, largely through the influence of U.S. Senators from rural states, whose entire constituencies are often smaller than the populations of suburbs within the under-represented coastal states.

Because hunters have disproportionate political influence, hunters also enjoy disproportionate influence over many of the nonprofit organizations that seek to direct environmental

policy, largely with funding from donors who either fail to realize that the conservation charities they support endorse hunting, or feel that they must tolerate hunting as the price of protecting wildlife habitat.

Demographics indicate that actual participant support for hunting has fallen by half in 25 years, proportionate to the U.S. population, yet few politicians dare admit that they do not hunt, let alone oppose hunting, because hunters have managed to position themselves as the potential swing voters at every level of politics, on issues from zoning to gun control.

Axiomatic in politics is that hunters vote as a block, for fellow hunters, while non-hunters may be most motivated by any of a range of issues.

That even occurs within the Sierra Club.

## How Sierra Club endorsed hunting

As one of the few major environmental advocacy groups in the U.S. whose directors are elected by the membership, the Sierra Club is in many respects a model of participatory governance—much to the frustration of Watson and everyone else within it who would like to see it more often take concerted action. No one faction among Sierra Club members ever appears to gain a majority large enough to dominate policy. Instead, competing interest groups typically elect only partial slates. Since no faction gains unchallenged control, each tends to check and balance the others, as in most representative national governments. Board members must compromise radical positions and extreme interpretations of principle, if they hope to get anything done.

The Sierra Club is accordingly both enduring, having survived since 1892, and slow to evolve, despite constant internal dissension, and despite offering the highly diverse membership the opportunity to try to induce change through an open political process.

Like the electorate of most representative national governments, Sierra Club voters individually hold positions along the entire political spectrum. Yet by failing to agree on the direction of change, they collectively lean toward conservatism, perpetuating the existing institution instead of destabilizing it.

The oldest of all internal issues within the Sierra Club is whether the organization should oppose or endorse sport hunting. Muir, as Watson pointed out, unequivocally opposed hunting, but early Sierra Club supporters and donors included many "hunter/conservationists," including U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt, with whom Muir fiercely debated the morality of hunting.

Needing hunter support in order to protect wildlife habitat, Muir was coerced into compromise by the other early Sierra Club board members: while the Sierra Club did not endorse hunting, neither did it take an anti-hunting position.

Pro-hunting and anti-hunting members have been trying to tilt the electorate decisively ever since, but so far neither the membership nor the elected board has seen fit to significantly alter Muir's position of reluctant neutrality.

This is no longer true of the Sierra Club executive.

Over time and many election stalemates, the real decision-making authority within the Sierra Club has accrued to the senior administrators, the equivalent of senior civil servants within a national government. The chief concern of a bureaucracy tends to be the institutional interest, not the pursuit of ideology or philosophy. If the society is functional, the bureaucracy keeps political rivalry from eroding social stability. If the society is dysfunctional, the bureaucracy may perpetuate the dysfunctionality—but in a predictable manner, preferred by most members to chaos.

The most influential personality within the Sierra Club in recent years has been Watson nemesis Carl Pope, the Sierra Club chief administrator since 1992. Pope has been instrumental in leading the Sierra Club into increasingly militant confrontation with factory farmers over water pollution and soil erosion, through lawsuits, lobbying, and public education. While the Sierra Club has not endorsed vegetarianism or raised humane issues involved in confinement animal husbandry, other than incidentally, in passing, it has done an immense amount in recent years to raise public awareness of the environmental cost of meat-eating.

But the Pope record on hunting is another matter.

About 20 years ago Pope "noticed articles in *Outdoor Life* attacking the Sierra Club as anti-hunting," recounted *Washington Monthly* managing editor Christina Larson in an April 2006 review of the strengthening alliance between pro-hunting organizations and mainstream environmental charities.

"At that point," said Pope, "I realized we were dealing with a conscious political strategy to separate rural hunters and fishers from urban environmentalists. It wasn't about hunting and fishing. It was about politics."

"Since becoming Sierra Club executive director, Pope has sought common ground with hunters," Larson summarized. Because hunters have clout in the U.S. Senate and other Republican-controlled branches of government, Larson explained, and perhaps also because environmental charities have no fear of losing their non-hunting donor base to charities that take firm anti-hunting positions but win no political victories, the Sierra Club and most of the rest of the "green" advocacy establishment are actively courting the hook-and-bullet crowd.

Clashing with Pope almost incessantly, perennially at odds with most of the other 14 Sierra Club board members over issues including immigration policy and the decision of President George W. Bush to invade Iraq, Watson apparently saw little more opportunity to advance his priorities within the Sierra Club than he had more than 30 years earlier, when at age 19 he became the youngest of the cofounders of Greenpeace.

Similar frustration as Greenpeace grew caused Watson to form the Sea Shepherds seven years after that, parallel to the example of the late David Brower—who had urged Watson to run for a Sierra Club board position.

As first executive director of the Sierra Club, 1952-1969, Brower largely formed the present image of the organization, but left to form Friends of the Earth in the break-up that also produced EarthJustice, originally known as the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund. When Friends of the Earth became mired in similar administrative institutionalism, Brower left it too, to found Earth Island Institute in 1984. But Brower remained associated with the Sierra Club as well, until his last of several resignations in 2000, just before his death.

"The world is burning," Brower said, "and all I hear from them is violins. May the Sierra Club become what John Muir wanted it to be and what I have alleged that it was."

Watson concluded his Sierra Club board tenure by announcing that he will not attend the final board meeting of his elected term, in San Francisco, May 17-20.

"I have no intention of attending a meeting of a hunting club," Watson said. "I wonder how many of the Sierra Club's 750,000 members know and approve of killing animals with their contributions?"



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## From Youth for Conservation to the Africa Network for Animal Welfare

U.S. and European conservationists long ago narrowed their goals to preserving an abundance of wildlife, whether to hunt, watch, or to maintain biodiversity by preventing the extinction of endangered species.

Youth for Conservation founder Josphat Ngonyo, of Kenya, initially accepted a conventional American or European perspective—but the more Ngonyo learned about animals and about the feelings of fellow Africans, the more his outlook shifted. First he began trying to become a vegetarian. Then he began to see potential for providing Africa with a new kind of pro-animal leadership.

Youth for Conservation under Ngonyo received tremendous support from fellow Kenyans, partly for anti-poaching and trash removal projects that were and are the focal YfC program, but most enthusiastically for two departures from mainstream conservation philosophy.

First, in December 2004, YfC with strong community backing won a presidential veto of a stealth effort to repeal the 1977 national ban on sport hunting. The veto squarely rebuffed Safari Club International and others who had hoped to turn Kenya into a trophy-shooting gallery to replace Zimbabwe, now that Zimbabwe has become hopelessly corrupted and destabilized by decades of CAMPFIRE, the USAid-backed hunting program that served mainly to channel funds into the pockets of Robert Mugabe regime insiders.

Second, Kenyans responded even more ardently when Ngonyo stood up against a deal brokered by President Mwai Kibaki to export 170 or more animals to the Chiang Mai

Night Safari Zoo in Thailand.

"After much soul-searching and many consultations with my family, I have decided to take early retirement from Youth for Conservation, effective on July 1, 2006, to fully pursue the vision of creating the Africa Network for Animal Welfare," Ngonyo e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on April 4.

"This decision has been prompted by an investigation that I carried out last August of the transportation of farmed animals in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, commissioned by Compassion in World Farming" Ngonyo elaborated. "There are also glaring problems to be addressed involving the companion animals, including the policy of shooting street dogs for fear of rabies and general lack of appreciation of them as sentient beings. In order to address these issues in addition to the problems facing wildlife, I have founded the Africa Network for Animal Welfare. Like Youth for Conservation, ANAW will be hands-on, and will focus on humane education and awareness, policy and legislation advocacy, and support of campaigns against poaching and consuming bush meat.

"I am giving three more months to Youth for Conservation to enhance a smooth transition," Ngonyo stipulated, "before taking leave to build the foundation of ANAW. I have no doubt that Steve Itela, the current YfC programs officer, whom I have spent much time with, is well able to steer the organization in the right direction."

The formation of ANAW follows by five months the December 2005 debut of the Africa Animal Protection Network, an online forum and information exchange coordinat-

ed by Yao Novalis of Ivory Coast, sponsored by **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. An early role of the AAPN has been distributing news updates to help the African humane community respond to the spread of the avian flu H5N1 into Egypt, Nigeria, Niger, Ghana, Sudan, and Ivory Coast.

The AAPN has also helped the Youth for Conservation campaign against the Chiang Mai Night Safari Zoo animal sale.

The AAPN is only the latest of many **ANIMAL PEOPLE** initiatives in Africa. In 2000 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** sponsored the formation of the Homeless Animals Protection Society of Ethiopia, and for the past year has paid the salaries of cofounders Efrem Legese and Hana Kifle. HAPS debuted doing humane education and assisting with pet sterilization and vaccination work in the vicinity of Bale National Park. HAPS now operates a clinic and animal shelter in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital city, while continuing to do humane education and advocacy on multiple fronts.

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** has also helped the HAPS, YfC, and AAPN founders to take advantage of a variety of training and promotional opportunities in the U.S., Europe, and even China.

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**Africa Animal Protection Network:**  
www.africananimal.org

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A clergyman revisits *Animals, Ethics, & Christianity*

In response to the review by Chris Mercer and Bev Pervan of Matthew Priebe's book *Animals, Ethics, & Christianity*, published in the January/February 2006 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, I share Priebe's conviction that God certainly is not only keenly interested in all his creatures, but also lovingly cares for them, and expects us to do the same.

However, a few critical remarks should be made re the way Priebe reads scripture.

For example, on page 9 reference is made to the severe restriction on the eating of blood made in Genesis 9:4, continued in Leviticus, and affirmed as applicable also to Christians in Acts 15:28, 29. Priebe goes on to say, "Paul reaffirms this policy in Acts 21:25." It was not Paul, but the elders in Jerusalem, probably including James, who reaffirmed the policy.

As for Paul, I seriously doubt whether he personally felt as strongly about instructing non-Jews converted to Jesus to abstain "... from meats offered to idols, from blood, and things strangled..." We know from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians that he subscribed to a more liberal approach to the question of eating meat offered to idols, in

contradiction to the consensus reached in Acts 15. His letters, as recorded in the New Testament, do not demonstrate any custom on his part to continually command or advise the young church in Asia Minor and Europe to refrain from eating the blood of animals.

According to Priebe, God in scripture only allows eating bloodless meat, and that post-flood humans are supposed to eat such meat only when the absence of better food necessitates. One wonders how he understands the following Biblical command: "...and you shall bestow the money for whatever your soul desires, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatever your soul asks of you; and you shall eat there before the Lord your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your household." This we read in Deuteronomy 14, where just after listing all the animals and birds Israel was prohibited from eating, Moses commanded the people to use their tithes at the end of each third year to go and have a real whopper of a party, and to just rejoice consuming it in the presence of the Lord. They were to enjoy the meat.

More instances of a rather superficial reading of Scripture in

*Animals, Ethics, & Christianity* could be pointed out. Still, Priebe is correct in his basic contention that God expects us to treat animals with kindness and deep respect.

I would like to draw attention to one beautiful passage in the Bible to which Priebe does not refer. In the very last verse of the book Jonah, who wanted Nineveh destroyed, God asks his frustrated prophet, "And am I not to have mercy on Nineveh, that great town, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons without the power of judging between right and left, as well as much cattle?"

I am indebted to Priebe for his strong wake-up call and his important message to Christians to be better representatives of the God of mercy. He who could not bring Himself to just annihilate Nineveh, because of his love for its citizens, and for their animals.

—Johan van der Merwe  
Duminee  
Dutch Reform Church



George  
Western Cape  
South Africa

### Oral rabies vaccine tested successfully in domestic dogs

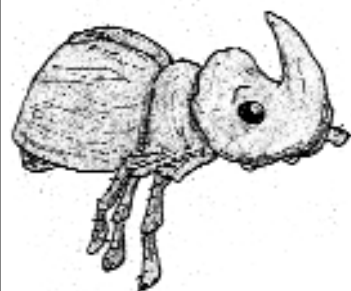
I thought you might be interested in this paper, in which domestic dogs were effectively vaccinated with oral rabies vaccines. This could be a helpful approach to mass vaccination of dogs.

—Julie Levy, DVM, PhD, ACVIM  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
2015 SW 16th Avenue 100126  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL 32608  
Phone: 352-392-4700 x5717  
Fax: 352-392-6125  
<levyj@mail.vetmed.ufl.edu>



### TRIBUTES

In honor of the Prophet Isaiah,  
St. Martin De Porres,  
and Rabbi David Rosen.  
—Brien Comerford



#### Citation data:

"Oral vaccination of dogs with recombinant rabies virus vaccines," *Virus Research*, July 2005; 111:101-5; <www.elsevier.com/locate/virusres>.

Rupprecht, C.E., Hanlon, C.A., Blanton, J., Manangan, J., Morrill, P., Murphy, S., Niezgodna, M., Orciari, L.A., Schumacher, C.L., Dietzschold, B.

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Division of Viral and Rickettsial Diseases, Viral & Rickettsial Zoonoses Branch, Rabies Unit, Mailstop G-33, Atlanta, GA 30333, USA; <cyr5@cdc.gov>.

#### Excerpts of abstract:

The objective of this experiment was to examine the safety, immunogenicity and efficacy of recombinant RV vaccines administered to captive dogs by the oral route, compared to a commercial vaccinia-rabies glycoprotein (V-RG) recombinant virus vaccine. Animals consisted of naive purpose-bred beagles of both sexes, and were six months of age or older.

Dogs were randomly assigned to one of six groups, and received either diluent or vaccine, with at least six animals per group... After vaccination, dogs were observed daily and bled weekly, for five weeks, prior to RV challenge. No signs of illness related to vaccination

were detected during the observation period...Thereafter, all dogs were inoculated in the masseter muscle with a street virus of canine origin. All control animals developed rabies, but no vaccines succumbed, with the exception of a single dog in the V-RG group. Review of these preliminary data demonstrates the non-inferiority of recombinant RV products, as concerns both safety and efficacy, and supports the suggestion that these vaccines may hold promise for future development as oral immunogens for important carnivore species, such as dogs.

#### Editor's note:

*This study shows great potential for using oral rabies vaccines in dogs, including street dogs. This could significantly reduce fear and abuse of dogs worldwide. Regrettably, the research involved deliberately infecting some non-immunized young beagles with rabies, to prove that the challenge to the vaccinated beagles was made with a living, lethal strain. Finding ways to control experiments without causing healthy animals to suffer is among the areas with the most potential for achieving reduction, refinement, and replacement of animals used in scientific study.*



### Feral cat-friendly includes TNR

Thanks for being feral cat friendly. More articles about why some groups are still against trap/neuter/return and believe all stray cats should be killed would be great. There is no good reason why we should still have a cat overpopulation problem. I believe the big groups should provide more publicity about how many cats are killed. If all groups could find common ground and support high-volume cat sterilization, we could actually stop the killing.

—Ted & Linda Dennis  
Cats/Cat Spay/Neuter Help  
1513 N. Cambrian Ave.  
Bremerton, WA 98312

### Happy birthday!

On my birthday I asked all guests to donate to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in lieu of giving me presents. I am sending the results. Please use it as you see fit. Just remember the animals who became victims of hurricanes. Thanks for doing such a good job.

—Diana Mitchell  
Tarzana, California

#### Editor's note:

*The most urgent need for cat sterilization is in developing nations where the use of TNR has reduced the numbers of street dogs. As the refuse and rodents remain, cats breed up to the carrying capacity of the habitat, at a replacement ratio of about three cats in place of each dog. Sterilizing cats at the same time as dogs, before feral cats become as abundant as they did in the U.S. and Europe after street dogs were mostly eliminated, saves having to sterilize three times as many cats later. Public complaints about feral cats typically do not begin until they are much more abundant than dogs, but this is all the more reason to limit their fecundity now, before cat extermination campaigns gain momentum.*

#### CORRECTION

A gorilla mother and baby on page one of the April 2006 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** were miscaptioned "chimps." A chimp mother and baby appeared with the same article, on page 12.

This little one will never face laboratory research or isolation or the beatings and stress of training to perform as "entertainment." She has found safe haven at Primarily Primates, among nearly 600 other rescued primates and 400 birds. We give them sanctuary for the rest of their lives.

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## No Milk of Human Kindness Found Here

**T**hreemile Canyon Farms in Morrow County, Oregon likes to boast about how big it is: 20,000 cows crowded into one gigantic milk factory. Another 25,000 replacements wait in the wings. The buildings used to confine such a vast number of animals are a half mile long. The waste generated from all of these animals reaches an estimated 800 tons per day.

Threemile Canyon Farms touts its handling of waste as a model of water conservation. But it's really a model for crippling and often fatal disease.

Environmental hazards mount when "water" is flushed through the buildings. The accumulated manure and urine is supposed to be washed into a nearby lagoon. Liquid from this lagoon is used over and over to flush the sheds. This recircled "water" is a sickly black liquid that can irritate and burn the skin of the confined cows.



Cows are forced to stand or lie down in their own waste and become infected with painful mastitis.

Alerted by whistleblowers within the facility, investigators from the Humane Farming Association (HFA) obtained statements from Threemile's own workers. Along with graphic photo documentation, these worker statements detail filthy conditions caused by negligence, insufficient manpower, and broken down flushing equipment which leaves the floors covered with manure, urine, and standing flush water.

### The Unkindest Cut

These horrendous conditions cause cows to become more susceptible to mastitis. This is a painful and sometimes fatal infection and swelling of the udder and teats. Threemile Canyon Farms has its own grisly way of dealing with its mastitis problem: the workers cut off a portion of the infected teat with a razor like device.

This cruel and maiming procedure is performed without any anesthetic.

According to one worker, "When I first started out there and saw them cutting the teats off, I didn't know what to think. There were a bunch of teats piled up on the floor. Then it was explained to me that the cows out here got mastitis so bad that they have to cut the teats to drain all the pus and blood out. It really hurts them." Needless to say, this is not a medically appropriate form of treatment.



The remains of a cow's teat that has been sliced off.

### Mistreatment of Calves

Fifty percent of calves born at Threemile Canyon (the male calves) are considered an unwanted "by-product" since they produce no milk. Some of these unwanted calves are simply abandoned to slowly starve to death. "The managers don't want them fed," said one worker. "They figure it's a waste of time and money to feed the male Jersey calves. They let them starve first, then shoot those who haven't starved to death."

Those that are shot are hit with rounds from a .22 caliber rifle. "If a calf runs away after being shot," said another, "sometimes the supervisors just start shooting, hitting it anywhere they can." Other calves are killed by bashing their heads with a 2 x 4 or swinging the animal by its hind legs and pounding its head on the concrete floor.

Making matters even worse, some of the calves survive these shootings and beatings. According to several workers, "They don't die right away. Some have lived for three hours and are still alive after shooting. There is usually always one alive in the dead pile."

### "Pusturized" Milk

Threemile Canyon's concern for human health and safety is also woefully lacking. It doesn't help that the USDA's restrictions on blood and pus in milk are not nearly as stringent as those in Europe.

One worker stated, "If the mastitis is not too bad, the cow will stay in the dairy and the blood and pus coming from the teat will go into the milk when the cow is milked. This is the milk you are drinking." According to another, "The boss tells us to milk the cows even if they know the milk is bad. The milk will look like pieces of cheese." Workers say that the tainted milk is simply mixed in with the rest of the milk supply.

### Please Help Stop the Cruelty

The Humane Farming Association (HFA) has petitioned Oregon's Attorney General to prosecute Threemile Canyon Farms for its pervasive pattern of abuse potentially affecting thousands of animals. Attorney General Hardy Myers has been provided with worker statements, as well as extensive photographic documentation.

Shockingly, after sitting on this evidence for months now, Attorney General Myers has thus far failed to take appropriate action. Some believe that Myers is fearful of investigating a well-funded and politically influential agribusiness corporation. As the state's ranking law enforcement officer, however, his duty is to enforce state law and to protect the citizens of Oregon—regardless of his own personal political interests.



A calf is abandoned to die from starvation.

Please contact the Attorney General and urge him to stop the cruelty at Threemile Canyon Farms. You can reach him by writing or calling:

The Honorable Hardy Myers  
Office of the Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
1162 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301-4096  
Tel: (503) 378-4400  
Fax: (503) 378-4017  
E-mail: [doginfo@dog.state.or.us](mailto:doginfo@dog.state.or.us)

**The Humane Farming Association (HFA) - P.O.Box 3577 - San Rafael - CA 94912**  
For further information, please visit [www.hfa.org](http://www.hfa.org)  
Free newsletter upon request



## 17-year-old's death changes lawmakers' view of exotic cats in private hands *(from page 1)*

rarely succeeded in conservative rural states.

"The Roses' right to keep such pets could change," wrote Sulzen. "The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks is re-evaluating Kansas laws for possessing exotic animals. Kansas requires a permit to own a bear, wolf or mountain lion. There are no permit requirements for owning [other] large cats."

"The federal Captive Wildlife Safety Act, passed in 2003, restricts the interstate sale or transportation of certain exotic animals," Sulzen noted. "Wildlife & Parks Commission chair John Dykes said the regulations Wildlife & Parks is looking into would be more in sync with federal law."

Federal regulation of animal industries has often proved especially unpopular in Kansas, a longtime "puppy mill state."



Captive puma. (Robert L. Harrison)

### 1st chimp at Tacugama kills man, leads escape

**FREETOWN, Sierra Leone**—Bruno, 20, the orphaned chimpanzee for whom Bala Amarasekaran founded the Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary in 1995, led 31 other chimps in an April 23 mass breakout, killing tourist driver Issa Kanu.

The three American passengers, in Sierra Leone to help build a new U.S. embassy about two miles from Tacugama, were reportedly flown to Atlanta for treatment of undisclosed injuries.

Reuters identified them as Gary Morris, Paul Gregory, and Donald Ford. Agence France-Press said they were Alan Robertson, Gary Brown, and Richie Goodie.

"The men are recovering gradually from shock and their wounds are no longer life-threatening," a nurse told AFP.

Four chimps later returned to Tacugama. Five others were caught within 48 hours of the escape. Police and soldiers hunted the rest. About 40 to 50 other chimps remained in their enclosures at Tacugama, a 100-acre facility which has become the leading tourist attraction in Sierra Leone.

The incident reportedly began when Kanu took the visitors to Tacugama before the usual opening hour.

"According to zoo officials, citing survivors' accounts, Bruno smashed the windshield of the car which took the men to Tacugama," Agence France-Press reported. "Kanu tried to drive the car away but crashed into the sanctuary gate." Bruno dragged Kanu from the car by his neck, bit off his extremities, and killed him with a facial bite.

Amarasekaran bought Bruno as an

On August 18, 2005, however, 17-year-old Haley Hilderbrand visited the Lost Creek Animal Sanctuary in Mound Valley, Kansas, to pose with a seven-year-old Siberian tiger for her senior photograph. Operated by Doug Billingsley and family since 1994, the 80-acre facility kept lions, leopards, tigers, and bears.

The tiger, held on a chain by a handler, turned suddenly and killed Hilderbrand.

The Hilderbrand family began pushing for strengthened Wildlife & Parks regulation, and then, when the commission moved slowly, pushed for a stronger law on which to base the regulation.

Supporting testimony came from Ken Lockwood, a former employee of the Tanganyika Wildlife Park in Goddard.

Lockwood in 2001 survived a 30-minute attack by a Himalayan snow leopard, that according to Brent D. Wistrom of the *Wichita Eagle* "transformed him from a person enthralled with big cats to one who thinks cat ownership should be regulated."

International Fund for Animal Welfare representative Josephine Martell reminded lawmakers that, "In 1999, at the Safari Zoological Park," in Caney, Kansas, "a woman was severely mauled by an adult tiger. Also in 1999, in Wichita, a five-year-old child was severely mauled by a five-month-old tiger and received 20 stitches in the throat to close a near fatal wound. In 2001, in Oskalooska, a police officer shot a privately owned escaped tiger as the tiger crouched to attack him."

In all, Martell said, captive big cats have mauled 75 people and killed 12 in the U.S. since 1990, while 26 states still have little or no regulation of keeping exotic and dangerous wildlife.

Kentucky banned private possession of big cats in 2005.

Minnesota banned private possession of big cats, bears, and nonhuman primates in 2004, but allowed people who already had them to keep them. Among those people was Cynthia Lee Gamble, 52, a former film editor for Jacques Cousteau and writer/producer of wildlife documentaries for the Discovery Channel and BBC. From 1992 to 2004 she ran a facility called the Center for Endangered Cats near Sandstone, Minnesota. Gamble reportedly kept two tigers and a caracal. Friend Al Wolter and her son Garrett, 14, found her remains on April 7 in a cage with a 500-pound Bengal tiger.

"In 1996, a black leopard from Gamble's center scratched and bit a student after a presentation at Oak Grove Junior High School in Bloomington," recalled Kevin Giles and Bob Von Sternberg of the Minneapolis *Star Tribune*. "Authorities said the child was not supposed to be backstage, where the attack occurred."

Wildcat Sanctuary founder Tammy Quist, whose facility is about five miles away, told Giles and Von Sternberg that since the

Minnesota law took effect, she has removed 33 tigers from Minnesota homes.

### Draft federal regs

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on January 31, 2006 at last published for public comment the long-awaited Captive Wildlife Safety Act enforcement regulations. The initial 30-day comment period ran to March 2.

The act is more familiarly known to animal advocates as the "Shambala Act" after the Shambala Preserve operated by actress Tippi Hedren in Acton, California. Congressional Representative Howard McKeon (R-Santa Clarita) co-authored and introduced the act at Hedren's request.

The act bans interstate or Internet trade or transfer of live lions, tigers, leopards, cheetahs, jaguars, pumas, or any hybrid combination of these species, except among USDA-licensed exhibitors, such as zoos and circuses, universities, some veterinarians, and accredited wildlife sanctuaries. The act also includes provisions pertaining to public safety and record-keeping.

USDA authority does not extend to commerce in big cats within states. Thus breeders and dealers of big cats may continue to produce animals for sale to in-state clients, subject to state regulation.

"Before the passage of the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, it was as simple and cheap to buy a tiger cub on the Internet as it was to buy a black lab pup," said International Fund for Animal Welfare spokesperson Kerry Brannon, a claim that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** made and demonstrated on camera in 1998 for KIRO television news of Seattle.

"These draft regulations are a good first step," said Martell. "It is essential," she added, "that the final rules add strict enforcement protocols and penalties not included in the draft." Violators of the ban on interstate traffic in big cats may be sentenced to serve up to five years in prison, and may be fined up to \$250,000 for an individual, or \$500,000 for an institution or business. However, the regulations do not provide comparable penalties for other possible infringements and infractions.

infant for \$30, and named him after Frank Bruno, a British heavyweight boxer who fought Mike Tyson on the day of the deal.

Tacugama operates under the auspices of the Sierra Leone Conservation Society. It has never before had an escape, SLCS president Sama Banya said.

The escape paralleled the March 3, 2005 escape of two male chimpanzees named Buddy and Ollie from the Animal Haven Ranch sanctuary near Caliente, California. The chimps had apparently learned how to unlock their cage, unknown to Animal Haven Ranch operator Virginia Brauer.

Elsewhere on the property, St. James Davis, 62, and his wife LaDonna Davis, 64, of West Covina, had taken a birthday cake to Moe, 39, who lived for most of his life in a cage in their yard. He was moved to the Wildlife Waystation sanctuary east of Los Angeles in 1999 by the California Department of Fish & Game, and then transferred to the Animal Haven Ranch in 2004.

Taking the Davises by surprise, the escaped chimps reportedly bit or tore off St. James Davis' nose, testicles, his left foot, and several fingers on both hands, as well as putting out one of his eyes. Mark Carruthers, Brauer's son-in-law, shot both chimps, summoned police and medics, and provided first aid as instructed by the 911 dispatcher.

St. James Davis, hospitalized for six months, survived with help of an induced coma. The attack gave impetus to efforts to strengthen California laws restricting possession of exotic and/or dangerous animals, and governing supervision of animal sanctuaries.

of cottontop tamarins. They had been used in colon cancer research. It's no mystery that many have died from colon cancer."

Bobby and Kermit were among nine chimps sent to Primarily Primates after OSU closed a chimp lab directed for 23 years by faculty member Sally Boysen. OSU pledged \$324,000 to Primarily Primates to fund the chimps' care and construction of housing.

Boysen bitterly fought the lab closure, and enlisted the help of PETA to try to block the transfer to Primarily Primates. Boysen has reportedly sued OSU, seeking to recover the chimps or send them elsewhere.

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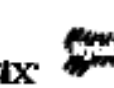
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—Allison C.

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## Odds are bad for whales (from page 1)

Kenya, and Peru may not show up because they cannot afford the membership dues. The solution is for groups like Greenpeace, IFAW, or HSUS to pay their dues, and also to recruit other nations to join to support the whales."

The Sea Shepherds, a much smaller organization, ran out of fuel, budget, and luck at the end of their December 2005 anti-whaling campaign. The *Farley Mowat*, the Sea Shepherd flagship, docked in Cape Town, South Africa, in January, after 50 days of chasing and occasionally skirmishing with the eight-vessel Japanese whaling fleet. The original plan was to refuel, then head north to protest against the annual Atlantic Canada seal massacre. Instead, the *Farley Mowat* was marooned at dockside because the South African government insisted that it had to meet various requirements applicable to commercial vessels. The *Farley Mowat* is actually registered in Canada as a yacht—a pleasure craft—because Watson considers the activities of the mostly volunteer Sea Shepherd crew to be a pleasure, rather than commerce.

South African and Japanese officials denied Watson's claim that Japanese political pressure was behind the detention.

Japanese whalers killed 853 minke whales and 10 fin whales between December 2005 and mid-April 2006, mostly within waters designated as a whale sanctuary by the IWC in 1994, but not actually protected in any manner. The self-assigned Japanese quota for the 2006-2007 whaling season reportedly includes 50 fin whales and 50 humpback whales, internationally recognized as endangered. Japan has killed nearly 10,000 whales, mostly in the name of research, since the IWC moratorium was approved in 1986.

The 2005-2006 hunt added about 1,700 metric tons of whale meat to the Japanese inventory of about 2,700 metric tons. Although the price of whale meat is now down a third from the 1999 price, sales came to just 1,035 metric tons in 2005. That apparently included large amounts provided by the Japan Whaling Association for school lunches in Wakayama prefecture, a pro-whaling com-

munity, and some sold for dog food.

A realignment of the Japanese pro-whaling strategy of as yet unclear implications came on March 24, when the shareholders in the for-profit firm Kyodo Senpaku Kaisha Ltd., which had done the Japanese "scientific" whaling under contract to the government Institute of Cetacean Research, transferred their assets to the institute and several affiliated nonprofit corporations.

About 32% of the shares had belonged to Nippon Suisan Kaisha. "According to press reports, Nippon Suisan has stated that it also intends to stop canning and selling whale meat," said the Environmental Investigation Agency. "In November 2005 the EIA released a report, *The Gorton's Family Whale Killing Business*, targeting one of Nippon Suisan's most profitable subsidiary companies, Gorton's of Gloucester.

"EIA, with the Humane Society of the U.S. and Greenpeace, called on Gorton's to use its connections with Nissui to end Japan's whale hunting. A subsequent global consumer campaign putting pressure on Gorton's and other Nissui subsidiaries has no doubt brought about this change in shareholder structure," the EIA claimed.

Commented Watson, "Nissui had to divest because two of their companies, Gorton's in the U.S. and Sealord in New Zealand, were the target of consumer boycotts. The campaign began with the Earth Island Institute in January 2005," according to Watson, "when Sealord inquired of Earth Island about becoming certified as 'dolphin safe.' It is a victory for the whales that Nissui has agreed to get out of the whaling business," Watson said, "but their shares have been taken over by the government of Japan."

Believes McNeill, "The real engine behind the whale campaign is that after decades in the diplomatic and military shadow of the U.S., Japanese nationalists within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party feel this is one area where they can make some noise. Besides, if they back down on whales, restrictions on other marine resources may follow,

## Sealers overkill quota, mob observers

OTTAWA—Atlantic Canadian sealers reportedly killed as many as 16,000 more infant seals than their 2006 record quota of 325,000, "yet not one sealer was arrested," observed Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson.

Logistic problems kept the Sea Shepherds away from the Atlantic Canada seal hunt in 2006, but Watson initiated a boycott of Costco stores. Costco executives on March 1 told Sea Shepherd volunteer Stephen Thompson that Costco would quit selling seal oil capsules, Watson said, only to renege less than two weeks later under pressure from Newfoundland politicians.

Animal Friends Croatia international campaigns coordinator Bernard Vjeran Franoic enjoyed more success in persuading the Croatian government to ban seal pelt imports. Other nations banning imports of Canadian seal pelts, for a variety of humanitarian, environmental, and commercial reasons, include the U.S., Mexico, Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Luxembourg, and Greenland.

"With the threat of boycotts growing and with more countries considering bans on seal products, officials with the Canadian Fisheries Department are reviewing their options to protect the hunt," reported Chris Morris of Canadian Press on April 26, 2006.

including that beloved staple, tuna."

Two other nations have openly defied the 1986 whaling moratorium.

The Norwegian whaling season "officially started on April 1, but most whalers don't begin until early May," wrote Nina Berglund of the *Aftenposten* English web desk, after the British Embassy in mid-April delivered a protest letter co-signed by 10 other nations to the Norwegian foreign ministry.

"Around 30 boats will participate in this year's hunt," Berglund continued, "and they have authority to kill 1,052 whales, 250 more than last year. The hunt seems more symbolic and seeped in tradition," Berglund observed, "than backed by commercial reward. The market for whale meat is small,

"At the very least, they say there could be new restrictions placed on hunt observers."

Violence against the Humane Society of the U.S. observer team led by Newfoundlander Rebecca Aldworth began on March 27 when sealing vessels repeatedly charged the two inflatable boats used by Aldworth and colleagues. Canadian fisheries minister Loyola Hearn then banned Aldworth, two other HSUS observers, and two foreign reporters from the ice.

Trouble flared again on April 12, after the hunt moved north from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the Labrador Front. At Cartwright, Newfoundland, a mob of about 50 sealers and their supporters sat on the floats of a helicopter leased by HSUS and the Franz Weber Foundation of Switzerland, so that it could not take off. The next day, at Blanc-Sablon, Quebec, about 60 people blocked a van that the reporters accompanying the Aldworth team were trying to take to their helicopter.

While the HSUS team was unable to reach the ice, an International Fund for Animal Welfare helicopter flying out of Goose Bay, Labrador, videotaped the hunt on both days, IFAW spokesperson Regina Flores told Canadian Press. On April 14, however, the Cartwright mob prevented the IFAW helicopter from refueling.

and it is not the staple of the Norwegian diet that it once was. The market for whale blubber is also restricted, and exports are limited."

The Norwegian quota consists of an annual base of 745 whales, plus 307 whales "left over" because the full 2004 and 2005 quotas were not met.

Iceland, the third active whaling nation, killed 39 whales in 2005 and is expected to kill about as many this year.

Preliminary IWC meetings start on May 24. Voting on the resolutions that may determine the fate of whales will come during the main part of the IWC meeting, June 16-20, after weeks of preliminary maneuvering that annually serves as a test of strength between the pro-whaling and anti-whaling nations.

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**Attn. Ms. Hilary Duff**

Dear Ms. Duff,

Greetings from Showing Animals Respect and Kindness (SHARK).

It has come to our attention that you have played at the Houston rodeo for the past two years and also the San Antonio rodeo this year. We are also aware that you are scheduled to perform in the Leganes bullring in Madrid on May 6.

I am writing you to ask that you reconsider your association with these highly abusive activities.

Rodeos, though legal, are one of the worst forms of animal abuse in the United States. While rodeo supporters claim to care about animals, rodeo is extremely abusive, and bears little if any resemblance to actual Western ranch practice—now or ever. How many animals are injured and killed in rodeos is a closely guarded secret. The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association and other rodeo promoters refuse to disclose animal injuries and deaths.

The PRCA and other rodeo promoters also refuse to identify participants who are cited for violating their supposed humane rules. Many animals are injured and killed, and as SHARK has documented on videotape, the alleged humane rules are not enforced.

Bucking horses are sensitive animals who are brutally mistreated in rodeos. Since Pittsburgh banned the use of bucking straps, spurs and electric prods at rodeos over a decade ago, there hasn't been a rodeo held in that city.

Many rodeos, including PRCA rodeos, include what is called the "Wild Horse Race." This is not much of a race, but rather a free-for-all in which three thugs jump one of a herd of terrified horses, brutally force a saddle on the animal, and then one rides him. I watched a horse die at the Cheyenne Frontier Days last July during a "Wild Horse Race." This a PRCA rodeo.

Calves and steers used in roping events endure the worst abuse of all. Roping calves and steers are considered throwaway animals, and even many rodeo fans do not like the brutal treatment these victims receive.

Concerning your planned concert at the Leganes bullring in Madrid, regardless of whether there is a bullfight at the time of your concert, you will be attracting many people into a venue that glorifies one of the worst forms of animal abuse in the world. You won't just be performing in a slaughterhouse, but rather, a torture chamber / slaughterhouse. This puts more money into the pockets of the killers, and lends them an air of social acceptance.

I have personally videotaped dozens of bullfights. I do not believe that the suffering of the bulls and horses can be adequately described by the written word. It is a cruelty so gripping, so heart wrenching, that I hope you will force yourself to watch the video I send you before you agree to support such horrific abuse in any way. The bulls are physically and mentally impaired before they ever enter the bullring. A bull does not face just one person, but a gang, who together rob him of his natural defenses, and inflict upon him as much humiliation, pain and torment as possible. The victims gasp for breath and cry out as they are slowly stabbed, bled, taunted, tortured and ultimately killed.

Blindfolded horses are forced to carry the murderous cowards, who purposely use their steeds as targets for the wounded, terrorized bull, who mistakenly sees the hapless horse in front of him as a threat, and charges him over and over while the killer slams his spear into the bull to destroy his defenses by cutting up his necks and shoulder muscles. If the horse is knocked over, he is helpless to defend himself against the attack of the bull. The bull can open the horse up, spilling his entrails out over the arena floor.

We were interested to find that you were associated with Return to Freedom, a horse rescue organization. We hope this means that you share our concern for horses and other animals. In that case, it is impossible for you to support either rodeos or bullfighting.

Hilary, you have done very well for yourself, and for that I congratulate you. There is no need to stoop to abusive venues. Any facility in the U.S., Europe or beyond will be happy to have you perform. Therefore I hope you will choose carefully. You can join the ranks of great people like the legendary Paul McCartney and his equally caring wife Heather, and stand for love and compassion, or be like the less-than-noteworthy Ted Nugent, who may now be more noted for his practice of violence toward animals than for his music, most popular several decades ago.

I urge you to view the videos and let your heart speak to you. In that case, I have no doubt that you will make the right choice. I look forward to hearing from you on these important matters at your earliest convenience.

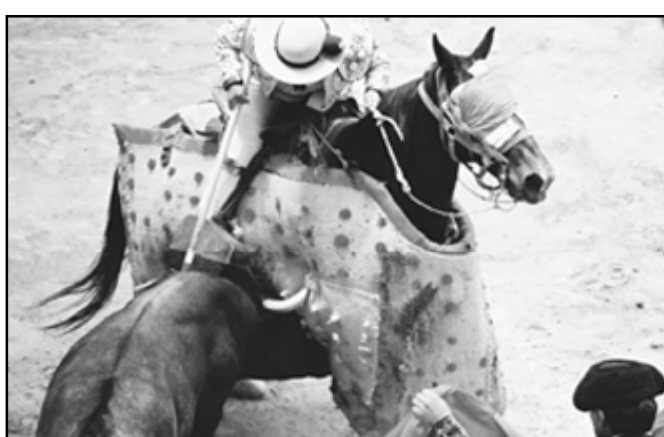
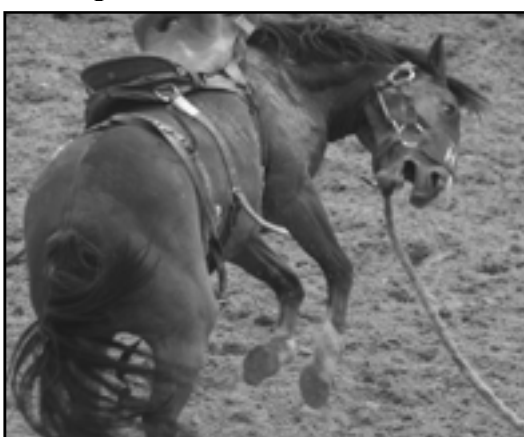
Kindest Regards,

Steve Hindi, President



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## Gaming politics & greyhounds

**BOSTON**—Does anyone care if Native American-run gambling casinos donate to campaigns to end greyhound racing?

The Massachusetts-based anti-dog racing group Grey2K USA “receives support from the Humane Society of the U.S.,” which “routinely accepts cash donations from Indian casinos,” alleged *Boston Herald* chief investigative reporter Dave Wedge on April 20, 2006, raising two questions: are casinos actually involved in anti-greyhound racing efforts, and if they are, is there anything questionable about opponents of gambling on animals accepting support from promoters of non-animal based gambling, especially in view that hundreds of humane societies are partially supported by raffles and bingo?

“In my recollection, the only time we have partnered in any financial way with Indian casinos was in fighting efforts by greyhound tracks to [get state legislatures to] allow slot machines at their tracks,” HSUS president Wayne Pacelle told *ANIMAL PEOPLE*.

This was a fight recently lost in Florida, where the Hollywood Greyhound Track is now allowed to have slot machines. A similar proposal is still under legislative consideration in Massachusetts.

“I [personally] am against gambling as a matter of public policy,” Pacelle elaborated. “But I do believe that casinos can be a natural ally to animal advocates in helping to

eradicate greyhound racing.”

Greyhound racing opponents taking money from casinos wasn’t all that Wedge was exercised about.

“Key members of Grey2K are part of the National Coalition Against Legalized Gambling, which has worked alongside Indian casinos to fight expanded gaming in Alabama, Colorado and Florida,” said Wedge.

Specifically, Wedge mentioned, “The Reverend Tom Grey, a member of Grey2K and the NCAAG, was flown to Alabama and put up by a member of the Christian Coalition, the conservative religious group headed by Ralph Reed that is involved in the Jack Abramoff lobbying scandal. The disgraced lobbyist and GOP strategist has pleaded guilty to swindling Indian tribes out of millions, some of which was used to fight expanded gambling by potential rivals.”

In other words, Grey2K knows someone, who knows someone, who knows someone who knows Jack Abramoff, whose chief asset—as for any lobbyist—is knowing lots of people.

“We have never had anything to do with Abramoff or the tribes we have heard he has been associated with,” responded Pacelle.

“Grey2K USA has no relationship whatsoever with Jack Abramoff,” affirmed Grey2K president Christine Dorchak. “We have never worked with him in any capacity.



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While some members of Grey2K USA may personally have an objection to gaming,” Dorchak added, “Grey2K USA does not. Our focus has always been on protecting greyhounds. While we have not accepted contributions from tribal casinos,” Dorchak said, “we have no moral objection to doing so.”

Dorchak drafted the language of an initiative called the Dog Protection Act, currently before the Massachusetts legislature, expected to be on the November 2006 state ballot. The Dog Protection Act would ban greyhound racing and provide stiffer sentences for dogfighting and assaulting police dogs.

Massachusetts secretary of state William Galvin Jr. in December 2005 certified that Dog Protection Act backers had gathered 83,431 *bona fide* signatures from voters in support of the initiative, about 18,000 more than were needed in the first step of the two-step petitioning process.

The Massachusetts legislature now has the option of either passing the Dog Protection Act itself, or asking the bill supporters to gather another 15,000 signatures asking that the initiative go before the voters.

The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court is soon to rule on an objection by Raynham Greyhound Park owner George Carey that as his attorney Lee Kozol put it, “the petition [that backers signed to bring the initiative to the legislature] contains subjects that are not related or mutually dependent,” and “would constitute a taking of property without providing compensation.”

Possibly anticipating more bettors from Massachusetts if the Dog Protection Act passes, the Lakes Region Greyhound Park in Belmont, New Hampshire, plans to reopen soon after a year-long closure. Bought by Mississippi gambling baron Marlin Torguson, the track is now called The Lodge at Belmont.

## Events

**May 13:** Jefferson Starship benefit for Humane Society of St. Lucie County, Fla., Fort Pierce. Info: <www.hsslc.org/>

**May 15-17:** *Caribbean Animal Welfare Conference*, Antigua. Info: <www.pegasusfoundation.org>.

**May 19:** *Live & Let Live farm auction & benefit*, Manchester, NH. Info: <rsvp-horsefarm@com-cast.net>.

**May 20:** *Nomination deadline for the Christine Stevens Wildlife Award*, presented by the Animal Welfare Institute. Info: 609-334-1378 or <dj@awionline.org>.

**May 20:** *Farm Sanctuary 20th Anniversary Gala*, New York City. Info: 607-583-2225 x221 or <gala@farm-sanctuary.org>.

**May 22-23:** *Humane Care & Use of Agricultural Animals in Research conf.*, St. Louis. Info: 301-345-3500; <www.scaw.com>.

**May 23:** *World Turtle Day*. Info: <www.tortoise.com>.

**May 24:** *VIVA! “White Lies”* anti-milk campaign debut reception, London, U.K. Info: +44-117-944-1000; <www.vegetarian.org.uk>.

**May 29-31:** *Conservation & Animal Welfare*, conference co-hosted by Instituto Português para a Educação Humanitária, Cambridge Learning Inst., British Council of Portugal, Jane Goodall Inst. & Univ. de Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologias, Lisbon, Portugal. Info: <www.livetag.com/ipeh/>.

**June 1-3:** *3rd Intl. Conf. on Legal Protection of Animals in Spain*, Barcelona. Info: 34-93-412-0 73; fax 34-93-412-15-54; <altarriba@altarriba.org>; <info@cip-lae.org>; <www.ciplae.org>.

**June 3:** *Christian Animal Rights Conf.*, Caldwell, N.J. Info: <Gods-cre@MSN.com>; <www.Gods-crea-



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## Kindness Clubs grew into the Ghana SPCA by Debra J. White

Scraggly dogs and hungry cats foraging on the crowded streets of Kumasi tugged at schoolteacher Roland Azantilow's heart. Besides his love for children, including his own three, Azantilow was always fondness of animals. Indifference to animal mistreatment troubled him. There were no private or public agencies that helped animals in distress.

Born and raised in Ghana, Azantilow was educated at the Technical Teachers Training Institute, Madras Southern Region, in Chennai, India. Chennai is headquarters of the Animal Welfare Board of India, and of the Blue Cross of India, one of the most influential humane societies in Asia, but "I never had any contact with anybody in animal welfare," Azantilow recalls. He did, however, take a course about animal welfare.

In April 2004, after 22 years of teaching, Azantilow formed the Ghana SPCA, with technical assistance and limited financial support from the World Society for the Protection of Animals.

"The Ghana SPCA is an outgrowth of the WSPA Kindness Clubs," chairperson David Nyoagbe explained in the February 2005 first-ever Ghana SPCA newsletter. "Schoolchildren of any age can start a club. Three times a year they receive newsletters from WSPA. We now have over 200 Kindness Clubs all over Ghana," Nyoagbe said. "Some have been active for over ten years.

"Our main focus is raising awareness about animal welfare," Nyoagbe said, but the all-volunteer Ghana SPCA also helps unwanted, sick and injured animals in both Kumasi and Accra, the two largest Ghanaian cities, and assists the animals offered for sale at the Accra Puppy Market.

"Most of the vendors try to take good care of the puppies they sell. Some of the pups have even seen a vet and have their vaccination certificates," wrote Ghana SPCA newsletter editor Karen Menczer, after joining a recent puppy market visit. "Some vendors are fairly knowledgeable about puppies and their requirements," added Menczer, who is an American—and longtime **ANIMAL PEOPLE** reader—who previously helped humane societies in Uganda and Botswana.

"The vendors bathe the dogs and take some out for walks," Menczer continued. "But since the puppies are really there for only one reason, to make money for the vendors, they are not treated as they would be in a permanent home. They could all use attention, food, and water. The day we visited, we held the puppies, played with them, and fed and watered them. All the pups, having already been in the sun all morning were very, very thirsty."

"In Ghana we don't see many stray dogs and cats," Azantilow told Menczer. "Most of the dogs and cats have owners. The real problem isn't the stray dogs and cats, but that the owners might not know how to care for them, or might not have the money to provide good care. But many Ghanaians do keep pets at their homes."

Some dogs are eaten or used in animist rituals in parts of Ghana, where about a third of the people practice indigenous faiths.

Occasionally dogs are poisoned, stoned, or beaten from fear of rabies, a constant threat in Ghana, as in most hot climates where vaccines are scarce, costly, and often unreliable due to lack of refrigeration.

"Rabies is considered a public health problem in many areas," advises <www.travmed.com>, founded in 1989 by *International Travel Health Guide* author Stuart R. Rose, M.D. "There is a high incidence of dog rabies," the site continues, "with frequent human cases reported. All animal bites or scratches, especially from a dog, should be taken seriously."

Among the most recent U.S. human rabies cases was a 54-year-old male Ghanaian, who died on a visit to New York City.

But current rabies advisories are somewhat more optimistic than the 1975 analysis of D.W. Belcher, F.K. Wurapa, and D.O. Atuora, in a paper entitled *Endemic rabies in Ghana: Epidemiology and control measures*.

"Rabies is well established in Accra," they wrote, "and there has been no decline in canine or human cases during the past five years. In the first six months of 1975, canine cases almost doubled." Belcher, Wurapa, and Atuora urged "improved educational and post-dog bite services," describing "problems with logistics, canine vaccine shortage and failures, lack of owner cooperation, and control of a large stray dog population."

To that point, the few Ghanaian veterinarians rarely treated animals other than livestock and those used for work.

A decade later, the rabies risk had decreased, but was still high by global norms.

"Despite yearly vaccination programs for dogs and humans at risk, begun in 1977, the incidence of rabies is still high," D.O. Alonge and S.A. Abu reported in the June 1984 edition of the *International Journal of Zoonosis*. "A total of 752 canine and 102 human rabies cases were reported and confirmed," 1977-1981.

Alonge and Abu called for "a nationwide effort to control, if not eradicate, the disease by mass vaccination of dogs."

"We should provide free or subsidized spay and neuter in poor communities, educate people about rabies, and provide rabies inoculation where vet services are not easily accessible," Azantilow told Menczer. "And of course, the Ghana SPCA should continue to educate children about animal welfare."

Sterilizations are now underway, said the March 2006 Ghana SPCA newsletter. "WSPA has approved a Ghana SPCA request to transfer half of the funds [granted for] the puppy market project into a spay/neuter fund," Menczer wrote. "We will sterilize dogs and cats of low-income or no-income families in and around Accra and Kumasi."

The Ghana SPCA is also currently at the forefront of vigilance against the anticipated arrival of avian influenza H5N1, which has already hit nearby Nigeria and Niger.

"Livestock transport is a big problem," Azantilow says. "Animals are transported

from the north to other parts of the country, over 300 kilometres sometimes, on the roofs of vehicles and in car boots [trunks]. We need to act with the police and the regional veterinary services to curb the use of passenger vehicles and other inhumane means of transport.

"Slaughter is [also] a problem," Azantilow continues, "especially outside of Accra and Kumasi, where they still mostly use crude methods. I think the Ghana SPCA should be able to work with local authorities to acquire stunners for the slaughterhouses."

Ghana is prosperous compared to most African countries, with a constitutional democracy, abundant mineral wealth, and about twice the *per capita* economic output of other West African nations, yet 31% of the human population live in poverty. Unemployment hovers around 20%. About 30,000 people per year die from AIDS.

The 1892 British Empire humane law may technically still exist on paper to protect animals, inherited from colonial times, but it has not been enforced since the British left in 1957—if it ever was. Many former British colonies left functioning humane societies, but **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found no record that any were founded in Ghana.

Active animal-related law enforcement tends to be limited to doing what is necessary to comply with the Convention on

(continued on page 12)

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## Kindness Clubs grew in Ghana (from 12)

International Trade in Endangered Species, funded by foreign nonprofit organizations.

Friends of Animals, for example, gave Ghana a custom-built spotter plane in 1997, for use in anti-poaching work. FoA also built a 162-acre chimpanzee sanctuary on Konklobi Island in Ghana, but was never able to get permission to send chimps to it because of concern raised by political opponents that the chimps might introduce diseases transmissible to wildlife and human neighbors. FoA suspended efforts to work at Konklobi in 2002.

Though the colonial era ended long ago, European economic exploitation continues to have an effect. European vessels fishing off West Africa increased their annual catch 20-fold from 1950 to 2001, while fishing subsidies rose nearly 60-fold just from 1980 to 2001. Soaring fishing pressure coincided with population collapses of elephants, hippos, bongo antelope, colubus monkeys, and "almost the whole suite of large carnivores—wild dog, lion, hyena, and leopard" in Ghanaian wildlife reserves. University of California at Berkeley and Cambridge University researcher Justin Brashares reported in *Science* in 2004. "People turned to bushmeat when fish became unavailable."

"If you cannot feed your family, how great a priority is animal welfare?" rhetorically asks fundraiser and publicist Heather Cowie, of the Animal Anti-Cruelty League in South Africa, whose work involves confronting comparable conflicts.

"Unsustainable hunting for bushmeat is a huge problem," Azantilow admits. But he sees the potential for change as enormous. "Our work is beginning to have an impact, especially among the children," he believes. "They are our future and with them, there is hope."

Aware that U.S. and European scholars have demonstrated the association of animal abuse with child abuse, Azantilow hopes that as the Ghana SPCA grows, it will attract funding for humane education on an even more ambitious scale.

"I would like to see the Kindness Clubs and the children trained in our animal welfare certificate course linked to senior secondary level" schooling, Azantilow outlines. "Older children could serve as volunteer inspectors and humane educators. While educating people about animal care, the group could also help raise the visibility of the Ghana SPCA by sponsoring a Ghana SPCA Day or other events with animal themes. If we have the proper equipment," Azantilow adds, "the group could help us create documentaries about animal care, and could use video to help educate."

Illustrating the potential, Azantilow in October 2004 presented World Animal Week in Kumasi. "We organized talks on animal handling and held a heavily attended free rural animal clinic 40 kilometers outside Kumasi, where we treated over 1,500 animals, including sheep, goats, dogs, and cats," Azantilow recounts. The Ghana SPCA demonstrated dog and cat sterilization, goat de-worming, vaccinating cats against rabies, and protecting birds against Newcastle disease. Azantilow and Ghana SPCA associates also lectured the audience about proper animal care and kindness to all living creatures. "Children went on a ride through the streets and sang songs



Left: A Ghana SPCA vaccination clinic. Right: A scene from the Accra dog market. (Karen Menczer)

about animals," Azantilow said. "Everyone seemed to have a good time. I think they learned valuable lessons."

Under Azantilow's guidance, Ghana SPCA representatives are now visiting rural areas. They hold animal wellness clinics and organize Kindness Clubs.

"It is important to get the message around our entire country, not just in the cities," Azantilow explains.

"Children who learn kindness to animals grow up to be more compassionate



adults. That will help make this a better world," says Azantilow. "I love my country and my people, but sometimes they are stubborn and need to show more concern about the plight of animals. Animals are part of our world too."

Testifies WSPA consultant Dipesh Pabari, of Kenya, "The Ghana SPCA is grounding itself as an organization which I believe has a great future ahead of it."

"We have not developed into a safe haven for all homeless animals, but that is our

ultimate goal," Azantilow says. "Our membership drive is slow, but still evolving, and we attract more supporters all the time. Naturally, we need more funding and we will keep looking for new sources."

[Additional research was provided by ANIMAL PEOPLE staff.]

### Contact:

Ghana SPCA, P.O. Box AN-12051, Accra, Ghana; <nyoagbe@wwwplus.com>, <razants@yahoo.com>, or <perros2@earthlink.net>.



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Global warming collides with humane concerns worldwide (from page 1)

nations, more than any other obvious impact of global warming. For much of its distance the Danube marks the boundary between European Union members, with strict air pollution laws, and would-be members which have yet to effectively



Cernavoda shelter dogs contemplate the flood. (Sara Turetta)

control coal smoke, the major source of so-called greenhouse gas emissions in Europe.

A 10-year comparative study of disasters from 1950 to 1998 by the German insurance company Munich Reinsurance recently found that the number of major floods worldwide has nearly quadrupled, from only seven to nine per decade before 1980, to 34 from 1989 to 1998.

The growing frequency and severity of disasters associated with global warming is bringing intense discussion among administrators of multinational charities and foundations of priorities, response capacity, and the possibility of donor fatigue. At the scene of each disaster, however—as the Katrina/Rita response showed—local charities and independent rescuers are acting with increasing self-confidence and know-how. The *ad hoc* Winn-Dixie rescue center set up by unaffiliated rescuers in a parking lot outside New Orleans, without big group direction, may become the new paradigm for animal relief work worldwide. Operating for more than a month longer than the official rescue centers, it probably handled a third of the total number of rescued animals.

Donors found and linked by Internet are responding

positively to images of people helping animals—and each other—in scenes of evident peril, whether or not the big groups with formal protocols have completed their needs assessments.

Questions about what might become of broad philosophical missions to change the world if donors mostly turn to supporting hands-on crisis response have been asked at least since pioneering public health statistician Florence Nightingale headed into the field in 1858 to help wounded soldiers during the Crimean War. Nightingale was thoroughly denounced from church pulpits and in newspaper editorials for allegedly diverting volunteer support and donations from the flustered church-based anti-slavery, anti-war, and pro-women's rights societies with which she was formerly associated.

CANI-BUCAREST

Amid hell and high water, Danube region rescuers—like their Katrina/Rita counterparts—ignored the strategic debate, if they were even aware of it, and focused on the job at hand. More than 16,000 people were evacuated from more than 150 Romanian communities, along with tens of thousands

(continued on page 14)

More events (from page 13)

turesministry.org>.  
**June 3: ASPCA Central Park Dog Walk.** Info: <[www.asPCA.org/dog-walk3a](http://www.asPCA.org/dog-walk3a)>.  
**June 8-9: WSPA Global Animal Welfare Summit, London.** Info: 44-0-207-587-5000; <[symposium-2006@wspa.org.uk](mailto:symposium-2006@wspa.org.uk)>.  
(continued on page 13)  
**June 9-11: New Zealand Animal Rights Conf.,** Wellington. Info: <[www.war-conference.org.nz](http://www.war-conference.org.nz)>.  
**June 10: Open horse show for Meadow Haven Horse Rescue,** Bandera, Texas. Info: 830-589-2400; <[www.horseadoption.net](http://www.horseadoption.net)>.  
**June 11: "No Pet Left Behind" Party Animals events.** Info: 202-646-2309; <[joster@hsus.org](mailto:joster@hsus.org)>.  
**July 15-16: PETA Helping Animals 101, Miami.** Info: <[www.HelpingAnimals-101.com](http://www.HelpingAnimals-101.com)> or 323-644-7388. To be repeated in Seattle, Sept. 30-Oct. 1; Dallas, Oct. 21-22; and Boston, Nov. 4-5.  
**July 16-21: Dog People** conf. on animal management in indigenous communities, Darwin, Australia. Info: <[conference@dogpeople.com.au](mailto:conference@dogpeople.com.au)>.  
**August 6-10: Wildlife Disease Assn. & American Assn. of Wildlife Veterinarians conf.,** Storrs, Ct. Info: <[wda.2006@gmail.com](mailto:wda.2006@gmail.com)>.  
**Sept. 2-5: Taking Action for Animals conf.,** Wash., D.C. Info: <[www.Taking-ActionForAnimals.org](http://www.Taking-ActionForAnimals.org)>.  
**Sept. 10-16: World Vegetarian Congress,** Goa, India. Info: <[www.ivu.org/congress](http://www.ivu.org/congress)>.

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### Global warming collides with humane concerns worldwide (from page 13)

of farm animals and several thousand pets. Smaller evacuations occurred in seven other nations. Low-lying pounds often just let their animals go, or surging water tore down the fences.

Appearing to have learned from the Katrina experience, Romanian and Bulgarian soldiers reportedly helped evacuees to take their animals with them—a panic-stricken pig in one case, and in another, 250 sheep moved for a shepherd.

Though more than twice the normal water volume flowed down the Danube, timely evacuation prevented any human deaths. Flooding along tributaries killed at least 74 people in 2005.

Inundated humane societies hoped that increased community good will and visibility would compensate for the diversion and loss of resources. Taking in the pets of evacuees, some shelter directors hoped to sterilize more animals than they otherwise might have, if high water had not brought the animals to them—and if they could keep their surgical facilities operating.

#### CANI-BUCAREST

"Bulldozers have worked nonstop for two days," Sara Turetta of Cani-Bucarest e-mailed from Cernavoda in southern Romania on April 15. "Without the help of city hall, the situation would be worse," Turetta continued. "Sixty dogs have been moved, puppies put inside, and the whole clinic surrounded by soil, stones and sandbags. We are asking companies to donate shipping pallets to make rafts for the dogs."

Feeding the dogs became a further problem—and expense—as stores closed, cutting off the usual supply of scraps. A major donation of kibble, however, enabled Turetta to help others in Cernavoda to feed their dogs through the crisis.

"We have huge damages," Turetta e-mailed on April 22, a week into the crisis but still six days before the Danube receded. "Many dogs are running outside the shelter

because we have nowhere to put them. We are surrounded by a wall of water," held back by an earth berm, which "could fall down at any moment, and then the whole shelter would be destroyed."

Scheduled to deploy a mobile clinic on May 2, Cani-Bucarest was using the portable kennels that were to have been used for post-surgical recovery to house animals displaced by the flooding.

"We will be obliged to make massive structural repairs," Turetta anticipated. "This is the worst moment in four years of activity in Romania," during which Cani-Bucarest has sterilized more than 4,000 dogs.

"Yesterday one of our cats drowned," Turetta finished.

#### UPSTREAM

The Danube, the second longest river in Europe, winds for more than 1,700 miles across the bottom of a post-Ice Age inland sea. Winter snows in the Danube basin have historically melted slowly. In 2000, 2003, 2005, and now 2006, however, unusually fast melts have caused the Danube to spill over.

This year the Danube flooded first in Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, and Slovakia. Nine tributaries overflowed in Hungary, hitting 12 of the 20 Hungarian counties by April 7. A 15-kilometer section of highway south of Budapest was closed to enable wildlife to get to high ground.

Taking early warning, Serbian and Romanian farmers began evacuating animals from low ground near the Danube during the second week of April.

As the Kamenjar village area in northern Serbia flooded, ARKA founder Branka Pasco moved dogs to dry land.

"Basic things are needed, like blankets and clean water," Jelena Zaric of Belgrade e-mailed on behalf of ARKA on April 16.

World Society for the Protection of Animals disaster man-

agement director Mark Yates reported on April 20 that, "The Serbian SPCA shelter in Backa Topola has been badly damaged. Animals from the shelter are trapped in a barn," Yates said, believing the count to be circa 200 dogs and 50 cats.

The Austrian-based multinational organization Vier Pfoten was "conducting searches and local assessments already," Yates added, but Vier Pfoten as of April 29 had not yet posted any updates to their web site, issued any press releases, or responded to media inquiries.

Reuters reported from Rousse, Bulgaria, that horse carts were working alongside heavy machinery, amid a fuel shortage, to help plug leaky berms.

"We have been trying to plug a gap in a dike caused by badgers for four days now," Rousse civil defense chief Stefko Burdzhiev told Reuters on April 20. The badgers had either drowned or departed.

On the Romanian side of the Danube, "Authorities evacuated 3,200 people and more than 6,000 animals from the village of Rast," Martin Dokoupil of Reuters reported. A week later the displaced people and animals were still huddled in muddy hillside tent cities.

Above Rast, and along the major Danube tributaries, the 2006 flooding was less than in 2005. Ecovet Timosoara founder Adriana Tudor, who led the first Romanian animal relief effort in 2005, told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that there was no flooding near her. Nor did flooding hit Bucharest, said Fundatia Daisy Hope founder Aura Maratas, whose shelter flooded in 2005.

Below Rast, however, the 2006 flooding was worse, as dams and levees that withstood the previous floods fell like dominoes.

Cernavoda was hard-hit, where the Danube turns north to Braila and Galati, before veering east to Tulcea and the sea. Villages in Braila, Galati, and Tulcea counties were evacuated, while streets in much of Braila, Galati, and Tulcea cities were underwater for days.

At Galati the Danube crested 21 feet above normal, two feet above the 1897 old record.

The Galati animal aid organization Help Labus, believed

to be on the flooded side of town, did not respond to e-mailed requests for information.

The Galati organization ROLDA found that coping with flash floods in 2005 was a useful rehearsal for the 2006 crisis. Located on a high hill, ROLDA helped residents to evacuate in both Galati and Braila—and had fortuitously stockpiled extra supplies just before the flooding, for a free dog and cat free sterilization drive sponsored by Romania Animal Rescue, of California, assisted by the British-based Society for Protecting Animals Abroad and Mayhew Home for Animals. Volunteer vets from as far away as Alaska were already coming when the water rose.

#### BUG THREAT

A deadlier threat than the actual flooding, throughout the Danube basin and at similar latitudes worldwide, may be tick and mosquito-borne diseases. Tick-borne diseases, once rare, have felled several thousand Romanians and Bulgarians per year since the Danube floods started, including ROLDA cofounder Rolando Cepraga, who collapsed in July 2005 while doing flood relief work at the older of the two Galati pound, and died on November 5.

The first outbreak of the mosquito-borne West Nile virus in Europe hit Romania in 1996, afflicting at least 400 humans. Malaria, a former mosquito-borne scourge of the region, appeared to be eradicated by 1971, but the World Health Organization reported in 2002 that "Since the early 1990s the malaria situation in the region has deteriorated considerably, owing to political and economic instability, massive population movement, and large-scale development projects."

Reported Reuters on April 28, "TV footage has shown military helicopters spraying disinfectants and anti-mosquito insecticides onto

villages over a 1,000-kilometer stretch of the river," a response which may help to control the bugs but at possible cost to fish and birds.

But recurring outbreaks of the mosquito and biting fly-borne disease equine infectious anemia in Romania, and fear of more, in December 2004 caused the European Union to reinforce inspection requirements on the export of horses from Romania to Italy for slaughter. In April 2006, the German/British organization Animals Angels disclosed on May 2, the traffic was halted, after horse dealers and transporters were repeatedly caught "recycling" inspection papers.

"In the past, 26,000 horses per year from Romania were transported," Animals Angels managing director York Dittfurth said. "These journeys inflicted great pain and suffering on the animals, who were tightly crammed together in overloaded trucks, receiving neither food nor water. Now, Italian customers have to collect their meat in refrigerated transport trucks. We hope prices will increase and demand drop."

Animals Angels had been exposing abuses in the horse traffic since 2000, which took advantage of the post-Communist era gradual mechanization of Romanian farms.

As each degree of increase in soil temperature brings an exponential rise in the hatching success of insects and arthropods, insect and tick-borne diseases are likely to continue their global spread.

The emergence of Lyme disease and ehrlichiosis in New England during the early 1980s, after milder winters and earlier snow melts, in hindsight appears indicative that ecological effects of global warming were already evident, about a decade before shrinking glaciers, pieces breaking off the Antarctic ice shelf, shifting ocean currents, recurring El Niño weather

(continued on page 15)



Dogs on a berm between flooded streets in Kamenjar, Serbia. (ARKA)

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## RSPCA of Australia wins big case but loses face with activists

"Two months after opposing Australia's live animal export trade for slaughter, the Royal SPCA has endorsed a large shipment of dairy cattle from the Port of Newcastle bound for Japan," the Australia Broadcasting Corporation revealed on April 25, 2006.

Explained Bernie Murphy, RSPCA chief executive officer for New South Wales, "I need to emphasize the difference between live export for breeding, and the RSPCA's stated and continued opposition to live export for slaughter. We consider that totally unnecessary," Murphy said. "We think

the animals should be processed in humane conditions in Australia."

"I'm perplexed and utterly stunned that they have made this exception and are supporting Live-corp," the exporter, "when Live-corp are also responsible for the transport of thousands of animals to be slaughtered," said Lynda Stoner of Animal Liberation Australia.

The controversy overshadowed the April 10, 2006 neglect conviction of Tasmanian sheep farmer Josef Gretschmann, recently honored for operating the best organic farm in Australia. Gretschmann, of Elizabeth Town, avoided

using chemicals to prevent flystrike by allowed his flock to grow two years' worth of wool between shears instead of just one.

"The RSPCA brought charges of management likely to cause pain and suffering, saying 25 sheep were found dangerously laden with wool," the Australian Broadcasting Corporation reported. "The RSPCA alleged that one sheep had fallen over and could not move, and that Gretschmann ignored an order to shear his flock within 14 days."

The Devonport Magistrates Court fined Gretschmann \$200 (Australian funds).

## Blue Cross of India wins case vs. bullock cart racing

CHENNAI— Justice R. Banumathi of the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court in Chennai, India, on March 29 directed the Tamil Nadu state government to prevent cruelty to animals in connection with bullock cart racing and Indian-style bullfighting, which masquerades as a way of "honoring" cattle.

"It is high time the government shouldered the responsibility of taking up the cause of animals," Banumathi said. "Equally, it is high time the police shared responsibility in boldly declining permission" for public events involving illegal cruelty, she added.

"Though animal fights are expressly banned under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act of 1960," Blue Cross of India chief executive Chinny Krishna told ANIMAL PEOPLE, "these sad spectacles go on year after year. Scores of spectators and animals are

badly injured and killed each year. The bulls are driven crazy with fear, are force fed alcohol and ganja (opium), have their tails bitten, and are then let loose before a drunken crowd to find a person who can 'tame the bull.' The largest of these bullfights," Krishna said, "is organized by the Government of Tamil Nadu in Alanganallur, near Madurai, in January each year.

"In 2003, Kishkinta Amusement Park in Chennai tried to introduce it," Krishna continued, "but the Blue Cross of India was able to persuade the district collector of Kanchipuram to prevent it by convincing the amusement park owners that it was illegal and action would be taken under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act."

Other Indian humane societies have had less success in bringing similar cases. In March 2005, for example, Justice D.S.R. Varma

of the High Court in Hyderabad allowed bullock cart racing to proceed at Chodavaram in Visakhapatnam district, and ordered police not to interfere.

## Three strikes against major poultry producers

April 1, 2006 was the deadline by which United Egg Producers was to complete a six-month phase-out of egg cartons labeled "Animal Care Certified," by agreement with the U.S. Federal Trade Commission in settlement of a complaint by Compassion Over Killing that the logo was misleading. "Consumers should now find a logo reading 'United Egg Producers Certified,'" reminds COK. "If you find egg cartons bearing the 'Animal Care Certified' logo still in stores or see the logo advertised, please contact COK at <info@cok.net>, or call 301-891-2458."



Compassion Over Killing on April 18, 2006 won a ruling from District Judge Jayne Duncan in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, that undercover investigator John Brothers did not illegally entrap Esbenshades Farms in alleged violations of Pennsylvania cruelty laws, which Brothers videotaped, because he was not an agent of humane officer Johnna Seeton. After seeing the video, Seeton filed multiple charges in January 2006 against Esbenshade CEO H. Glenn Esbenshade and farm manager Jay Musser.

The Royal SPCA of Great Britain was reviewing

charges against employees of the poultry firm Bernard Matthews Ltd. as the May 2006 edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE went to press, after a videographer for the Hillside Animal Sanctuary in Frettenham, Norfolk, caught the men playing "baseball" and "soccer" with turkeys at Beck Farm in Felthorpe, near Norwich. Said Bernard Matthews' technical director Jeremy Hall, "Those involved have been suspended, pending an investigation that is likely to result in prosecutions and dismissals...We will take whatever steps are needed to ensure such maltreatment does not happen again."

## Global warming collides with humane concerns worldwide (from page 14)

patterns in the eastern Pacific ocean, and melting Arctic Circle permafrost began to capture public attention.

Scientific warnings about an impending global warming trend caused by air pollution and deforestation were on page one of *The New York Times* as early as 1932, but the United Nations Environmental Program did not formally recognize the human role in global warming until 1995. The first international agreement to respond to global warming was adopted in Kyoto, Japan, in December 1996.

World Wildlife Fund Danube-Carpathian Program deputy director Andreas Beckmann and fresh water project manager Christine Bratich hoped that the flooding would accelerate "practical implementation of the Lower Danube Green Corridor Agreement signed by Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova and

Ukraine in 2000. Implementing the Lower Danube Green Corridor Agreement could significantly contribute to the creation of flood retention areas," Beckmann and Bratich pointed out, while protecting habitat for more than 5,000 animal species, including more than 100 fish species and 320 bird species.

About 70% of the world population of white pelicans would benefit, Beckmann and Bratich said.

### LOOKING AHEAD

Conservation organizations are beginning to realize that concern for animals motivates the public more to donate and write to politicians in response to global warming than any amount of discussion about the science of it.

The science, moreover, can be confusing, like the findings of a recent research trip that ranged

from the Antarctic to Alaska, sponsored by the University of Washington and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory in Seattle.

The good news was that global warming appears to be self-correcting. The bad news was that the correcting process brings sea changes that may not be good for either humans or other animals.

"As humans pump out more carbon dioxide, helping to warm the planet," explained *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* reporter Lisa Stiffler, "the ocean has been doing yeoman's work to lessen the effects—but over time, the mechanism could have an impact that ripples through the food chain. The Pacific is getting warmer and more acidic, while the amount of oxygen and the building blocks for coral and some

kinds of plankton are decreasing."

Added *Los Angeles Times* staff writer Robert Lee Hotz, "The researchers found that by 2002, Pacific gray whales were fleeing northward to feed in cooler currents, while pink salmon by the millions swarmed into warmer waters the whales had abandoned. Bottom-dwelling species, unable to adapt, were destroyed in large numbers. The broken shells of a vanished clam species carpeted the sea floor. As sea ice diminished, breeding grounds for seals were disrupted and populations fell. Polar bears started to drown. Walrus, used to diving in the shallows to feed along the sea bottom, found themselves adrift on broken ice floes in waters 6,500 feet deep. The animals starved."

Added Doug Struck of the *Washington Post*, from Pangnirtung, Canada, 30 miles below the

Arctic Circle, "Robins, barn owls, and hornets, previously unknown so far north, are arriving in Arctic villages."

At the far end of the globe, a review of climate trends by researchers at the University of South Africa in Cape Town predicted in March 2006 that the semi-arid parts of Africa, barely habitable by the numbers of people who live there now, will get 25% less rain in coming years. Even a 10% reduction could halve the amount of water reaching streams and watering holes.

The water shortage is likely to intensify the land use and access conflicts already underway between ancestral Africans and Arabs in the Darfur region along the border of Sudan with Chad, herders in southern Ethiopia and northern Kenya, and warring Somali tribes.

Global warming is not just an issue for environmentalists to worry about. It is now also central to concerns about world peace, human rights, social justice—and affects animal welfare.

—Merritt Clifton

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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.*

## Lebanon chimp case exposes traffic

**BEIRUT**—“A recent botched attempt to rescue three endangered chimpanzees and a baboon who were smuggled into Lebanon has exposed a lucrative market for exotic animals, flourishing due to lax enforcement of laws on animal importation and ownership,” opened Meris Lutz in the April 19, 2006 edition of the *Daily Star* of Lebanon.

Lutz affirmed in much greater detail the allegations of would-be chimp rescuer Jason Mier, published in the April 2006 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** article “A planned chimpanzee rescue is thwarted in Lebanon.”

Mier’s claims were also affirmed by Animals Beirut.

“Any chimpanzee held here is being held illegally,” Lebanese agriculture ministry representative Fadallah Monayer told Lutz. Yet the three chimps were openly exhibited.

“Emile Hadife is said to have kept Ricardo in a cage outside a gas station in Antelias and trained the chimp to smoke cigarettes and drink coffee for spectators,” Lutz wrote. “Baba was kept in a small cage with the baboon at Mr. Steak restaurant in Sin al-

Fil. Charley, the youngest of the animals, was on exhibition at Tony Asmar’s Animal City Zoo in Nahr al-Kalb.”

Mier arranged for the chimps to go to Jane Goodall Chimpanzee Eden Sanctuary in South Africa, “which sent its own delegation to facilitate the transfer,” Lutz said.

However, when the chimps were to have been confiscated, “Hadife claimed Ricardo had died the day before, Bejjani said Baba had died, and the zoo would not give up Charley and refused to say where he was,” Lutz recounted. Animals Beirut eventually was able to send the baboon to the Cefn-yr-Erw Primate Sanctuary in South Wales.

Ricardo and Baba are still “missing and presumed dead,” Lutz wrote, while Charley is still at the zoo.

Meanwhile, “A trip by *The Daily Star* to a Beirut pet shop confirmed that owners were openly advertising illegal snakes, monkeys, and chimpanzees they said had been smuggled into the country,” Lutz revealed. One dealer told Lutz that he had sold seven chimps, and could get another for \$7,000.

## Stock shows keep kids away from drugs?

**DENVER**—Eleven years after scandals over use of the banned growth-enhancing synthetic steroid clenbuterol embarrassed livestock shows from coast to coast, the issue is back bigtime.

Eighteen of the top 35 exhibitors at the January 2006 National Western Stock Show Junior Market Lamb competition in Denver were disqualified, National Western Stock Show spokesperson Kati Anderson announced on April 5, after Colorado State University at Fort Collins pathologists “concluded that the lambs had been injected with a

substance that caused inflammation and swelling of tissue, making the animals appear more muscular,” said *Denver Post* staff writer Jim Kirksey. The symptoms describe the most readily evident effects of clenbuterol.

The 18 exhibitors “will get neither prize money nor the proceeds from the sale of their lambs,” and may be banned from future National Western competitions, Kirksey reported. They may also face charges of cruelty to animals, tampering with livestock, attempted theft, and conspiracy, deputy district attorney Diane Balkin told Kirksey.

## Spain may introduce law to protect great apes

**MADRID**—The Socialist Workers Party of Spain, leading the ruling parliamentary coalition since 2004, on April 24 announced that it intends to introduce legislation to protect great apes.

Responding to news stories that linked the proposal to the Great Ape Project goal of extending human rights to great apes, Pamplona archbishop Fernando Sebastian reportedly called it “ridiculous,” while

Amnesty International representative Delia Padron told the Indo-Asian News Service that she was “Surprised” that apes’ rights might be protected when some basic human rights still are not.

“We are not talking about granting human rights to great apes, but about protecting their habitat, avoiding ill-treatment and preventing their use in circuses,” clarified environment minister Cristina Narbona.

## Spring 2006 brings notable legislation in seven states

**Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius** on April 17, 2006 signed into law the state’s first felony cruelty penalty. Persons convicted of felony cruelty must serve at least 30 days in jail, pay a fine of from \$500 to \$5,000, must undergo a psychological evaluation, and must complete an anger management course before being released. The law also requires persons convicted a second time of misdemeanor neglect of animals to spend at least five days in jail.

**Maine Governor John Baldacci** on March 31, 2006 signed the first state law specifically giving judges the authority to include pets in a protective order against domestic violence. “Baldacci called it ‘unconscionable’ that 76% of victims who seek safety at domestic violence shelters report that their abusers either harmed or threatened their pets as a tool to control and intimidate them,” reported **Sharon Kiley Mack** of the *Bangor Daily News*. **Anne Jordan** of the **Maine Animal Welfare Advisory Council** cited data published by the California-based **Latham Foundation** showing that 87% of Wisconsin domestic violence victims reported that animal abuse occurred in their presence; 70% of animal abusers convicted in Massachusetts had previous records for violent crimes; and animal abuse occurred in 88% of the families involved in New Jersey child abuse investigations.

**Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour** on April 14, 2006 signed into law a bill extending the state anti-cruelty law to cats. The law previously only protected dogs. The new law also bans so-called hog/dog rodeo. **Alabama Governor Bob Riley** on the same day also signed a bill banning hog/dog rodeo. Both bans take effect on July 1, 2006. Louisiana banned hog/rog rodeo in 2004. The three Gulf states have been the hub of hog/dogging, in which dogs are set on captive boars.

**Wyoming Governor Dave Freudenthal** in March 2006 signed into law a bill requiring that any unvaccinated dog, cat or ferret who bites a person be euthanized immediately for rabies testing. Wyoming is among the few states that do not mandate rabies vaccination of companion animals.

**Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell** on April 14, 2006 signed legislation increasing the penalties for “property destruction that is designed to stop a lawful activity that involves animals, plants or natural resources,” under a variety of statutes pertaining to such offenses as arson and burglary. The new law also allows property owners to sue people convicted of such offenses for triple damages.

**Virginia Governor Timothy M. Kaine** in early April 2006 endorsed legislation creating a felony penalty for keepers of dogs who kill or maim people who are not committing criminal acts at the time. If a dog previously declared dangerous bites a person, the maximum penalty could be one year in jail, a \$2,500 fine, or both. If the dog kills or injures another dog, or a cat, the maximum penalty could be six months in jail, a \$1,000 fine, or both.

**Washington Governor Christine Gregoire** on March 24, 2006 signed into law a felony penalty for bestiality. The bill was prompted by the July 2, 2006 death of **Kenneth Pinyan**, 45, of Seattle, from a perforated colon, after alleged inducing a stallion to mount him while **James Michael Tait**, 54, of Enumclaw, videotaped the incident. Washington had no anti-bestiality law, and investigators concluded that they could not win a cruelty case against Tait, but Tait pleaded guilty in November 2005 to criminal trespass, receiving a one-year suspended jail sentence, a fine of \$300, an order to perform eight hours of community service, and an order to have no contact with the owners of the horse. “**Senator Pam Roach** (R-Auburn) began drafting the bill days after hearing that the dead man had been visiting an Enumclaw-area farm in her district that was a destination for people wanting to have sex with animals,” wrote *Seattle Times* staff reporter **Jennifer Sullivan**. “Authorities said the Enumclaw farm was well-known on the Internet,” added **Rachel La Corte** of Associated Press.

## Ukraine gets humane law at last

“In Ukraine a law on animal protection was passed,” **Ellen Slusarchik** of the **Kharkov organization CETA-Life** e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on March 27, 2006. CETA-Life had long promoted the bill. Slusarchik did not mention what was included in the final draft of the law, which had gone through many revisions.

## Noteworthy ordinances

**The Chicago City Council** on April 25, 2006 banned the sale of *foie gras*, made from the distended livers of force-fed ducks and geese. Foie gras production and/or sale is already banned in Britain, Denmark, Switzerland, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Luxembourg, Germany, Poland, the Czech Republic, and Israel. The Chicago ordinance was introduced by 49th district alderman Joe Moore.

**The Solano County, California board of supervisors** on April 25, 2006 gave preliminary approval to a ban on hare coursing, in which hounds are set on rabbits. Banned in Britain since February 2005, hare coursing surfaced in Lagoon Valley, within Solano County, in early 2006. Seldom seen in the U.S., hare coursing somewhat resembles hog/dog rodeo; setting dogs on captive coyotes and foxes at so-called chase pens; and raccoon hunting with dogs, widely practiced but especially common in the South.

**The Southampton, New York town board** on March 2, 2006 banned body-gripping traps within city limits. Several other Long Island communities are reportedly considering similar ordinances.



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## India tries, but cannot find a humane way to kill poultry to stamp out H5N1

**JALGAON, India**—Veterinarian Abdul Kalim Khan died of jaundice, not the H5N1 avian influenza, Maharashtra state animal husbandry commissioner Bijay Kumar told media on April 24, 2006. Khan fell ill soon after helping to kill nearly 200,000 chickens in the Jalgaon area to contain an H5N1 outbreak, Kumar explained, but his illness had a different origin.

Through May 2, 2006, India had

not yet had any of the 113 reported human H5N1 fatalities worldwide, but at least seven poultry farmers committed suicide after losing their flocks and/or customers.

Indian poultry sales were reportedly down 40% to 60%, after averaging 17% growth in recent years. India has the world's sixth largest poultry industry, with about 500 million birds on farms at any given time.

At Anparti, East Godavaria, farm-

ers reportedly gave away 300,000 live chickens whom they could not sell.

"Indian Railways stopped serving egg and chicken curry on certain routes," said the Indo-Asian News Service, "while a number of domestic carriers, including state-owned Indian Airlines, replaced poultry products with mutton, lamb, and fish."

A National Egg Coordination Committee press release alleged that the panic was in response to a false alarm, blaming it on "Multinational vaccine manufacturing and pharmaceutical companies, eager to sell their anti-flu drugs in India."

*The Hindu* on April 3, 2006 reported about the introduction of forced molting on farms near Erode to interrupt the egg-laying cycle. Forced molting usually consists of starving hens for several days to as long as two weeks, after their egg production declines, to simulate winter. After their rations are gradually increased back to normal, the hens respond to the coming of "spring" by again laying eggs every day. The idea in India, however, was simply to avoid producing eggs that no one would buy.

Early Indian coverage of poultry culls due to H5N1 paid notably more attention to animal welfare than the coverage in most nations. The animal welfare aspects of the culling apparently also concerned public officials, especially in Maharashtra and Gujarat, where pro-animal Hindu teachings are accentuated by the strict vegetarianism of influential Jain and Bishnoi minorities.

But the logistics of trying to kill large numbers of chickens without cruelty tended to defeat civil servants who often had never killed anything before.

"Doctor B.R. Patil, leading a team of

animal husbandry volunteers, said the method of poisoning the water was working," reported Agence France-Presse from Navapur, the site of the first Indian outbreak. "Asked if he would sanction strangling the birds, Patil said: 'We're not doing it manually. That's a cruel method.'"

Countered Meena Menon of *The Hindu*, "Men in bright protective gear picked up the hens one by one from the cages, twisting their necks and putting them into plastic or gunnysacks. Phenobarbitone, an anaesthetic, had been put in the birds' water. However, many birds were still conscious and the men found it a task to put them into the sacks. The gunnysacks filled with the struggling birds were dumped into a deep pit dug outside the cages. A bulldozer was poised at the edge of the pit to bury the birds. In some cases, the birds were first strangled and thrown into the pit. But some birds managed to clamber out."

Parag Rabade of the *Deccan Herald* mentioned that some birds were electrocuted.

Reuters noted that the workers were mostly bare-handed, without masks.

Indian minister for animal husbandry Anees Ahmed told the *Indian Express* that the methods available for culling birds were "inadequate," and that "steps are being taken to speed up the process."

As the outbreaks continued, attention to the birds' suffering diminished. But the *Indian Express* observed that, "Lack of machines to dig pits for burying birds has hit the pace of culling. Unhygienic conditions prevail where culled birds are buried," a significant observation to people familiar with normal Indian waste disposal, much of which is done by street dogs, pigs, monkeys, scavenging birds, and other urban wildlife.

## Hong Kong seeks to end live markets & pig farming

**HONG KONG**—Citing H5N1 prevention as an urgent pretext, the Hong Kong Health, Welfare, & Food Bureau in February 2006 asked the Legislative Council to ban live poultry sales by 2009, a goal the bureau has pursued since 1997.

Under a permit buy-back plan introduced in 2004, 272 of 814 live chicken vendors and 30 of 200 Hong Kong chicken growers have gone out of business, the bureau said.

The Hong Kong government is also trying to buy out and close all 265 local pig farms, which raise 330,000 pigs per year, producing 520 metric tons of waste per day. Pigs have in the past been an intermediary host for avian flu that spread to humans.

However, the Legislative Council panel on Food Safety and Environmental hygiene on April 11 rejected the Health, Welfare, and Food Bureau's plan to require all poultry sold in Hong Kong to be slaughtered at a central plant to be built in the New Territories, the semi-rural district between the mainland and the cities of Kowloon and Hong Kong. The plan was also voted down by the North District Council—because incoming poultry might bring in H5N1.

Hong Kong banned keeping chick-

ens and ducks as pets, effective on February 20, 2006, after H5N1 was confirmed in 10 wild birds of four different species, but on March 30 began issuing exemptions. Hong Kong secretary for health, welfare and food York Chow Yat-ngok told Mary Ann Benitez of the *South China Morning Post* that the government had "noted with compassion the bonds between owners and their pet poultry and the owners' wish to keep their poultry as pets till their natural deaths."

The Hong Kong legislature authorized granting exemptions after searches of homes throughout the territory's rural areas netted "about 300 banned birds from 60 households," Benitez wrote. "Three unauthorised farms with 1,200 chickens and 3,300 quail also were discovered and closed."

Officials had expected to find as many as 9,000 chickens and 3,500 ducks, reported Agence France-Presse.

Hong Kong tried to ban and cull other bird species kept as pets when H5N1 first appeared in 1996, killing six humans, but many bird keepers released their pets rather than allowing them to be slaughtered. This might have spread the disease if any of the pet birds had been infected.

## Risk of cats giving H5N1 to humans is small, says Euro Centre for Disease Prevention & Control

**ROTTERDAM, STOCKHOLM, LONDON**— "Cats could fuel bird flu pandemic," headlined the April 5 edition of *The Times* of London, sparking similar headlines worldwide—but the risk is small, responded the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control in Stockholm, Sweden, after reviewing the evidence.

"A distinction needs to be made," reminded the European Centre, "between species which can occasionally be infected by a particular influenza, but who rarely transmit it," such as cats, "and those species in which it seems that the viruses are better adapted and transmitted," such as birds.

Cats were first known to be vulnerable to H5N1, the European Centre response con-

tinued, in December 2003, "when a few leopards and tigers died in a zoo in Thailand after being fed infected poultry." Later came "a much larger H5N1 outbreak in zoo tigers, also in Thailand, who had been fed chicken carcasses. Over 140 tigers died or were euthanised. There was convincing evidence of tiger to tiger transmission.

"Experimentally," the European Centre acknowledged, "it has been shown that domestic cats can be infected with H5N1 through eating infected material, and can transmit influenza to other cats. These experimentally infected cats, though limited in number, all became seriously ill when infected, and did not seem to shed the virus until they had symptoms. To date the only domestic cats

who have been conclusively shown to be infected have been those found ill or dead in the intense epizootic of H5N1 in wild birds on Rugen Island," off the German coast, "in February 2006.

"There have been anecdotal reports of increased mortality in cats during H5N1 outbreaks in other countries," the European Centre warned, "but these have not been confirmed by laboratory tests. Unconfirmed reports of infections and deaths from H5N1 in cats elsewhere should always be interpreted cautiously. A recent preliminary report of infected cats in Austria was eventually not confirmed."

*The Times* article, by science correspondent Mark Henderson, summarized a

paper published in the April 6 edition of *Nature* by virologist Albert Osterhaus and colleagues at the Erasmus Institute in Rotterdam.

"As soon as the virus becomes endemic in wild birds or poultry, it would be wise to realise that cats are susceptible," Osterhaus told Henderson. "As soon as you have birds that become sick, cats are very effective at catching and eating them. In endemic areas you should keep cats indoors and dogs on a lead."

"Affected regions of Germany and France have already ordered that cats be kept indoors," Henderson reported, "but the [British] Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has not yet said whether it would make similar provisions."

## Project Bay Cat goes beyond "Sylvester & Tweety" (from page 1)

now been altered. This has stabilized the population. The Homeless Cat Network also created an aggressive fostering and adoption program, and found homes for more than 60 kittens and friendly adult cats. This has already reduced the number of cats living along the levee pedway by 30%, thereby exceeding our initial goals."

Added Smith, "There are fewer cats on the Bay Trail now. Those who remain appear to be healthier. Thanks to the feeding stations and the spay/neuter effort, the cats seem to have settled into the program, and don't need to hunt."

Though sterilized and fed cats may still hunt, few hunt with the urgency of a pregnant or nursing cat mother.

"To protect birds and their habitat, and reduce debris along the levee pedway," where hikers often left food for cats, "10 cat feeding stations were built by the Homeless Cat Network and installed along the trail," recounted Morrissey.

"Appropriate locations for the stations were jointly identified

by our three groups, with special consideration given by Sequoia Audubon Society to insure that the stations were placed away from bird habitats. The program's effectiveness is a result of keeping the cats well-fed and concentrated away from avian nesting sites.

"Evidence of the program's effectiveness," Morrissey said, "is that the Sequoia Audubon Society recently found that the endangered California clapper rail is thriving and is not impacted by the cats. Rails are quite easily seen and heard at high tide," along the northern end of the Bay Trail."

### Education

Neuter/return stabilized the Bay Trail feral cat population. Adopting out cats who could be handled reduced the cats' numbers and their environmental impact. The key to success, however, is "educating the community while enlisting help," assessed Morrissey.

"To educate the public and encourage community involvement, Foster City erected four Project Bay

Cat signs along the levee pedway," Morrissey explained. "Because the homeless cat problem is a result of animal abandonment, which is an illegal and inhumane act, the signs discourage abandonment and ask the public to call the police if they see suspicious or malicious activity. The signs also ask the public not to feed the cats unless they are registered through the Homeless Cat Network as official feeders.

"As a result of positive press coverage," Morrissey continued, "we have been able to educate thousands of people about feral cats and how to humanely manage them, and have changed how people perceive feral cats. Now people know that feral cats can be healthy, happy, sometimes friendly, and that they deserve to live out their lives. We have many more volunteers helping them now, trail users have become vigilant and have prevented

animal abandonment, and many more people are protecting our furry outcasts. They aren't really outcasts any more—they're celebrities," Morrissey said.

Morrissey noted that, "The Homeless Cat Network is seeking additional volunteers, to help feed the cats, foster and socialize kittens, and humanely trap cats." as there are still a few to be caught and sterilized, and some abandonment of intact cats may yet occur.

But Morrissey believes Project Bay Cat has passed "the transition from active program development to ongoing maintenance. Volunteers will continue to provide food and water to the homeless cats," for the duration of their lives or until all are tamed and adopted, "while also working to trap the remaining unaltered felines."

"The results speak for themselves," commented Foster

City parks and recreation director Kevin Miller. "Most impressively, we have achieved success without expense to taxpayers, since the program is implemented by volunteers, and by veterinarians who have donated their services."

The Project Bay Cat step-by-step "tool kit" is offered free of charge to others who might like to start similar collaborations among cat people and bird people, c/o <info@homelesscatnetwork.com>.

"Others around the country have requested it," Morrissey said. "The State of New York is

(continued on page 18)



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# Project Bay Cat goes beyond “Sylvester & Tweety” (from page 17)

looking to our example as they consider what to do with the feral cats in their state parks.”

## Long Island

Originally made for theatre showing, adapted for broadcast in the early years of network television, the “Sylvester & Tweety” cat-versus-bird cartoons were variously set in apartment blocks resembling New York City and suburban areas resembling Long Island.

Tweety, a canary, was more often a pet than a wild bird, but took turns as both. Sylvester, however, was always an alley cat, stray or feral, who got into Granny’s house to hunt Tweety only by skulking past Spike the bulldog, and often ended up in the pound. Long-time personnel at the no-kill North Shore Animal League joke that the pound must have been theirs, as North Shore held several pound contracts between 1944 and 1960, and tried to avoid taking in cats.

Much of Long Island is now served by low-kill animal control agencies, but not all of the island—and Long Island is now more than ever a battleground of cat and bird rescuers. Some of the oldest and most successful neighborhood neuter/return programs in the U.S. operate on Long Island, along with some of the most bitterly anticat wildlife rehabilitators and conservationists.

There are two flashpoints for conflict.

One is the visceral reaction that bird

people have at seeing cats kill animals they have watched, fed, nursed, and created habitat for. Cat people often have the same response when coyotes, foxes, hawks, owls, or eagles carry off cats or kittens.

The other flashpoint is habitat.

Since the “Sylvester & Tweety” cartoons were made, Long Island has gained protected wetlands and shorelines. The pollution that then fouled streams, beaches, and bays, inspiring the start of the Environmental Defense Fund, is markedly reduced. Decades of donations, public investment, and volunteer labor have gone into restoring habitat. Maturing suburban tree canopies have also helped birds.

Overall, Long Island today probably has far more birds than 50-60 years ago, and has tens of thousands more people who watch, feed, and otherwise care about birds. Yet the island may not have more bird species. Meadow birds, thriving when much of Long Island was still open field, are often barely holding on, their feeding habitat reduced to heavily sprayed yard lawns and golf courses.

Deer, no longer able to browse the edge habitat where fields met woodlots, now eat the remaining brush understory beneath yard and park trees, where meadow species nest. Neotropical migratory songbirds are in particular trouble, losing nesting and feeding habitat at the northern end of their range while rainforest logging followed by beef ranching devastates their Central and South American winter habitat.

Sylvester and his descendants had little or nothing to do with the decline of the bird species of most concern to Long Island birders—but a cat seen stalking, carrying, or eating a bird is an easy scapegoat for the frustrations of birders who may not realize that the bird was typically caught only after being crippled by diseases spread at feeders, by injury from colliding with cars, windows, or microwave towers, or by ingesting lawn chemicals along with a dinner of bugs. Usually a bird caught by a cat had little chance of contributing to the survival of the species. Yet the visible role of the cat in dispatching sick and injured birds can seem to symbolize everything bad for birds about concentrated civilization.

West Islip bird rehabilitator Richard DeSantis, 56, was on April 16, 2006 charged with fourth degree criminal mischief, fifth degree criminal possession of stolen property, and making a false written statement for allegedly trapping a Russian blue cat named Coal in his yard on April 3, and taking the cat to the Town of Islip Animal Shelter to be killed, saying Coal was his. Coal actually belonged to neighbors Jesse and Regina Fagone and their two children. Arraignment was set for June 5.

The Fagone family told Wil Cruz of Long Island *Newsday* that shelter records they obtained through the Freedom of Information Act showed that DeSantis in December 1998 had two cats killed, whom they believe were two previous cats of theirs who went missing at about the same time. Another Fagone cat disappeared in 2002, they said, and a cat kept by across-the-street neighbor Tom Blaser, brother-in-law of Jesse Fagone,

was shot dead with a pellet gun by an unknown attacker.

“The shelter’s records confirm that since 1995, this gentleman has brought in five cats to be euthanized,” a Town of Islip Animal Shelter spokesperson told New York *Daily News* writer Michael White.

## Dat dwatted cat!

Birder antipathy toward cats has been whetted since the neuter/return method of feral cat control caught on in the U.S. during the early 1990s by grossly exaggerated estimates of feral cat numbers circulated by some humane groups, including Alley Cat Allies, amplified by the American Bird Conservancy.

Excessive estimates of cat predation, based on dubious estimates of the feral cat population, further inflame birders’ anxiety. A recent example would be *Cats & Wildlife: A Conservation Dilemma*, by John S. Coleman, Stanley A. Temple, and Scott R. Craven, distributed since March 2005 by the Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management at the University of Nebraska.

Temple, a University of Wisconsin-Madison wildlife biology professor, in 1996 projected that there are two to three times more cats in Wisconsin than any standard animal control or pet industry estimating method indicates, and that they kill up to 100 million birds per year in Wisconsin alone.

Credible estimates of bird predation by cats nationwide range from 100 million per year, projected in 2003 by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Management Office biologist Al Manville, to 134 million per year, projected in 2000 by Carol Fiore of the Wichita State University Department of Biological Sciences—and Fiore estimated that approximately twice as many pet cats are allowed to roam as other studies showed.

Yet the Temple claims were influential enough within Wisconsin to motivate 57% of the participants in the April 2005 state Conservation Congress caucuses to vote in favor of allowing hunters to shoot feral cats.

## How many cats?

ANIMAL PEOPLE in November 1992, March 1996, June 2003, and November 2003 extensively reviewed the evolution of feral cat population estimates, each time incorporating new data from multiple sources. The findings of researchers other than Temple and colleagues have been easily reconciled, pointing consistently toward the conclusion summarized in the November 2003 headline “Roadkills of cats fall 90% in 10 years—are feral cats on their way out?”

Outdoor and feral cat numbers have been in free fall since the introduction of neuter/return, while urbanized coyotes, foxes, hawks, and owls are now rapidly reclaiming former feral cat habitat including even Central Park in the center of New York City.

The U.S. pet cat population has increased during the past five years from about 74 million to 90 million, according to the Pet Product Manufacturers Association—but fewer cats roam than ever. The biggest factor in the increase is not rising births or acquisitions, but rather decreased mortality among the elder half of the ever-growing percentage of pet cats, now more than two-thirds of all pet cats, who are kept indoors.

The most distant ancestor of the Pet Product Manufacturers Association data was compiled in 1953 by the National Family Opinion Survey, funded by the American Can Company, summarized by study director John Marbanks in early 1954 for the *National Humane Review*, the long-defunct general audience humane magazine that once helped to support the American Humane Association.

Marbanks projected that the total U.S. cat population then, when Sylvester was in his prime, was about 50 million, including about 13.2 million barn cats, 6.5 million other rural cats, 7.0 million cats in urban homes, and 23 million ferals. Up to 80% of the cats,

at least, had opportunity to hunt birds. About 42 million cats—or more—were at large.

The numbers of barn cats, other rural cats, and ferals appear to have remained relatively steady for about 40 years, even as the numbers of cats in urban homes increased tenfold. But, as about half of all cat-keepers allowed their cats to roam, the numbers of cats at large soared, especially after dog-keepers began keeping their pets confined in the 1970s and 1980s, giving free-roaming pet cats more opportunity to hunt, scavenge, and interbreed with the barn cats, rural cats, and ferals.

Neuter/return arrived coincidental with cat-keepers attitudes toward keeping pets indoors catching up with the practices of dog-keepers. The numbers of free-roaming pet cats and feral cats plummeted.

“Birth and Death Rate Estimates of Cats and Dogs in U.S. Households and Related Factors,” published in 2005 in volume 7.4 of *the Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science*, established from a 1996 survey of 7,399 U.S. households that the cat birth rate was then not more than about 11.2 kittens per 100 cats in households.

Attrition included a death rate of 8.3% among cats, plus a disappearance rate of 3%. In short, cat births in households equaled attrition.

The study authors included John C. New Jr. and William Kelch of the University of Tennessee, Jennifer Hutchison of the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry, Mo Salman and Mike King of Colorado State University, Janet Scarlett of Cornell University, and Philip Kass of the University of California at Davis.

Their findings confirmed that movement of feral cats into homes and shelters was just about equal to net growth in the household population plus cat killing in shelters, exactly as long projected by ANIMAL PEOPLE.

Therefore the number of feral cats can be estimated by adding net cat acquisition to shelter killing and multiplying by three, to account for the numbers of queens, toms, and siblings not entering homes or shelters who must exist to produce the numbers of ferals who are either adopted or killed.

U.S. pet cat acquisitions appear to exceed attrition by about 1.5% per year: 1.1 million, about half of net population growth, with decreased mortality among older cats accounting for the rest. Nationally, animal shelters kill about two million cats per year, according to ongoing shelter data collection & analysis conducted by ANIMAL PEOPLE since 1993.

Thus the U.S. feral cat population appears to be about 9.3 million on a year-round average, rising in spring and summer, but contracting in fall and winter.

This number is most meaningful when compared to the national carrying capacity, estimated relative to the volume of food that would be available to dogs and cats if humans did not artificially elevate the carrying capacity by deliberately feeding them.

In poor nations where most dogs are street dogs, and few people deliberately feed them, dog populations tend to peak at about one dog per 10 humans, as in India, and run far lower in harsher climates. When street dogs are sterilized or killed, feral cats gradually replace dogs at a ratio of approximately three cats taking the niche of one dog. This is close to their relative average biomass.

Thus the U.S. national feral cat carrying capacity might be as high as 100 million, higher even than the pet cat population—if coyotes, foxes, hawks, owls, eagles, fishers, ferrets, snakes, and many other predators of small rodents were not absorbing most of the carrying capacity wherever they can.

—Merritt Clifton



Fostered ferals: Mudgie & babies. (Eileen Crossman)

## “Sylvester & Tweety” go global

Robben Island Museum, responsible for managing Robben Island, South Africa, is again trying to eradicate feral cats. Sharpshooters killed cats on the island in 1999 and 2005, when 58 cats were shot, but as many as 70 cats remain, environmental coordinator Shaun Davis recently told *Cape Argus* reporter John Yeld. The shooting was suspended for a time to allow animal advocacy groups including *Beauty Without Cruelty/South Africa* to trap the surviving cats and take them to mainland sanctuaries. BWC/South Africa spokesperson Beryl Scott told Yeld that the initial effort was “not that successful,” partly through lack of official cooperation, but on April 24 Davis announced that the number of traps set for cats would be expanded from 10 to 50, and that no cats would be shot before June. The cats are blamed by University of Cape Town avian demographer Les Underhill for killing all but three of the fledgling population of about 60 endangered African black oystercatchers during the past breeding season. Allan Perrins, chief executive officer of Cape of Good Hope branch of the **South African National SPCA**, suggested that the actual culprits might have been some of the feral rabbits on the island, who might have turned carnivorous and become nest predators. Seals are also blamed by some observers. Seals have been kept from re-establishing haulouts on Robben Island in recent years to protect seabird colonies, but on April 21, 2006 “Both Robben Island and the department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism agreed to allow the return of Cape fur seals,” e-mailed *Seal Alert/South Africa* founder Francois Hugo. Robben Island, designated a World Heritage site by the **United Nations Environmental Program**, provides habitat to 132 bird species in all.

Responding to concerns voiced by English Nature and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, builder George Wimpey has offered to include a ban on keeping cats among the covenants to which home buyers must agree within a proposed development at Crowthorne, Berkshire, England. The Bracknell Forest borough council earlier refused to allow Wimpey to build on the site. Wimpey is among Britain’s biggest developers, and is a leading member of the **Thames Valley New Homes Coalition**, formed to help open habitat to housing construction, in a nation with an increasingly acute housing shortage.

The cities of Fukuoka and Kitakyushu, Japan, are taking opposite approaches to feral cat control, *Yomiuri Shimbun* reported on March 7, 2006. Both cities are within Fukuoka Prefecture. Fukuoka will pay cat caretakers a subsidy per cat of about 10% of the sterilization cost, and is drafting regulations for cat colony care, to be published in July 2006. Kitakyushu is meanwhile reportedly close to adding feeding feral cats to a list of offenses covered by the city nuisance ordinance, for which violators may be fined.

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# How Animals Talk *And Other Pleasant Studies of Birds and Beasts*

by William J. Long 🐾 Bear & Co. (1 Park Street, Rochester, VT 05767), 276 pages, paperback. \$18.00.

William J. Long (1867-1952), was a United Church of Christ minister who became one of the best-known U.S. authors of nature books of the early 20th century.

*How Animals Talk* followed earlier Long hits including *Ways of Woodfolk*, *Beasts of the Field*, *Fowls of the Air*, and *Secrets of the Woods*. It appeared 12 years after Theodore Roosevelt, then U.S. President, enduringly identified Long as the most egregious of the alleged “nature-fakers,” in remarks amplified by Roosevelt’s hunting buddy Edward B. Clark, White House correspondent for the Chicago *Evening Post*.

Naturalist John Burroughs had already been attacking Long for propounding “sham natural history” since 1903, with Roosevelt’s warm endorsement, but it was Roosevelt’s invention of the term “nature-faker,” that demolished Long’s stature well beyond his own lifetime, even though Long far outlived all of his critics.

In the original and narrowest definition, a “nature-faker” was an author whose observations seemed dubious and were unverified by others. The definition rapidly expanded, as the debate raged, to include all authors who presumed to impose anthropomorphic interpretations upon natural observation, especially interpretations which supposed that ani-

mals might think as humans do, or have comparable morality.

Long was in distinguished company as a purported “nature-faker.” Among the others accused were Ernest Thompson Seton, founder of the Scouting movement, whose 1903 volume *Wild Animals I Have Known* was Burroughs’ first target, and Jack London, whose *White Fang* (1905) attacked dogfighting and pet theft.

All were animal advocates, in their own understanding of what effective animal advocacy meant. Roosevelt in particular remains difficult to categorize, since he was at once openly fond of living animals, and outspokenly critical of cruel or unsporting treatment of animals, yet not averse to killing animals whenever he felt that the killing could be rationalized.

“Son of an incorporator and charter trustee of the American Museum of Natural History,” recounts Gerald Carson in his essay *T.R. & the ‘Nature Fakers,’* “Roosevelt in his boyhood...studied the songbirds of Long Island, New York, with nature book and shotgun and took lessons in taxidermy before he reached his teens.”

Despite his early initiation into hunting and scientific “sacrifice,” however, Roosevelt soon developed reservations about

killing for “mere damnable and detestable curiosity,” as Charles Darwin put it.

“He thought seriously of becoming a professional biologist,” Carson continues, “but was put off by the emphasis at Harvard, during his undergraduate years, upon the laboratory approach to natural science—the embalming, the microscopy, and the dissection of tissues and embryos. It was an un congenial approach to the young New Yorker who kept live animals in his own living quarters.”

Roosevelt eventually compromised between his personal sense of morality toward animals and his participation in hunting by promoting the notions of “fair chase” and “sportsmanship.” Along with Burroughs and many others, Roosevelt argued that hunters were best qualified by concern and experience to restore North American wildlife from the then-prevailing depletion to hunttable abundance. Roosevelt and friends developed the “hunter/conservationist” philosophy of wildlife management which has prevailed ever since.

Their first political victory consisted of beating back other animal advocates, including Long and his readers, who sought to protect wildlife by banning hunting. Long was the most prominent naturalist backing a coalition of humane and religious leadership.

Unlike Long, whose sympathy for

animals was deep and genuine, many of the religious opponents of hunting were chiefly concerned that Sunday hunting might threaten church attendance.

Even before Long rose to prominence, Roosevelt in the mid-1890s helped to buy off humane opposition to hunting by giving the American SPCA the New York City animal control contract and the then-Albany-based American Humane Association the contract to operate orphanages for New York state. In exchange for financial stability and a quasi-governmental role, the humane organizations retreated from wildlife advocacy.

Prohibiting Sunday hunting then bought off the ecclesiasts, allowing New York state to pioneer the present system of funding wildlife management through the sale of hunting licenses. Maintaining the population of hunters thus became as much a concern of governmental wildlife management as maintaining wildlife itself.

Among the alleged nature-fakers, Thompson Seton sought to placate everyone, attempting to incorporate church-going, hunter/conservationism, and humane concerns into the broad-tent ethos of Scouting.

Jack London, while specifying that he could not defend Long’s extreme interpreta-

(continued on page 21)

## Pleasurable Kingdom: *Animals and the Nature of Feeling Good*

by Jonathan Balcombe

Palgrave/MacMillan (175 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010), 2006. 256 pages, hardcover. \$24.95.

Balcombe writes, “When animals are stereotyped, the public is done a disservice. Reinforcing the myth, we perpetuate a one-dimensional perception of the animal kingdom....It is only when we get close to animals, and examine them with open minds, that we are likely to glimpse the being within. Natural history writing is strewn with incidents in which writers are moved to awe by the intelligence, sensitivity and awareness of animals they have lived with.”

Balcombe points out many aspects of pleasure-seeking animal behavior. As all vertebrates have a nervous system very much the same as ours, it is reasonable to assume that all are alive to both pain and pleasure, contrary to the derision that greeted authors who suggested this in earlier times. As Balcombe points out, “In the face of these discoveries, the position that pleasurable states are the sole domain of the

human species is narrow and anthropocentric. To deny animals conscious experiences is to deny that they plan, desire, anticipate, tease, grieve, enjoy, tolerate, and gauge. It is to reject that they make decisions.”

With such evidence as this book has to offer, we as a species need to take a deeper look into our own morality, to give thought to whether that little mouthful of flesh which we put on the plate justifies depriving a sentient being of the many pleasures of life.

“If animals feel more than pain but are also capable of pleasure,” then surely we have an even greater responsibility to them.

Of minor note: on page 20, figure 1.3 illustrates an *eriolobis* or camel-thorn branch, not *Zisypus mucronata* or wait-a-bit thorn, which has hooked barbs, not the long white thorns shown in the picture.

—Beverly Pervan

## Cesar’s Way by Cesar Millan with Melissa Jo Peltier

Harmony Books (231 Broad St., Nevada City, CA 95959), 2006. 304 pages, hard cover. \$24.95.

Dog behaviourist Cesar Millan’s weekly show *The Dog Whisperer* airs on the National Geographic Channel. His Dog Psychology Center in Los Angeles, California, enjoys a celebrity clientele. His book *Cesar’s Way* is about dogs, but is also the autobiography of a poor Mexican who came to America as an illegal immigrant.

We have had family dogs all our lives, yet only after reading Millan’s book did we realize how many mistakes we made in training and understanding them. If we were to get another dog, it would only be after anxious consideration of our responsibilities: Would we commit ourselves to taking the dog for a long, tiring walk for at least an hour every morning, and another half hour every evening? Every day?

Millan believes that when one understands the evolutionary needs of dogs, one realizes that draining off energy by hard exercise is essential to their health.

Millan argues that affection should only be given to reinforce discipline, and that discipline, which comes second only to exercise in importance, must be consciously renewed with every event and activity.

Stick to cats if you are not prepared to make

the effort required to fulfill a dog’s life, Millan advises.

This is not a book about how to get your dog to respond to commands. It is far more fundamental than that. Millan provides insight into dog psychology, based on canine evolution, and explains how to know what your dog is thinking. He believes that such an understanding makes for a safe and happy relationship with a companion dog, and avoids creating what Millan terms “re-zone” aggressors, such as the two Presa Canarios kept by San Francisco attorneys Marjorie Knoller and Robert Noel, who fatally mauled neighbor Diane Whipple in January 2001.

Millan emphasizes that dogs are social animals, with pack instincts, and that it is important to use this when controlling a dog. Affection must be given after exercise and eating. Knoller and Noel often gave affection to their dogs after they had attacked people, Millan says, thereby reinforcing bad behavior.

Millan points out that many homeless people have better adjusted and behaved dogs than rich people, mostly because they spend more time with the dogs in a variety of environments.

—Chris Mercer & Bev Pervan

## Animal Instinct by Dorothy B. Hayes

Universe (2021 Pine Lake Rd., Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68512), 2005. 234 pages, paperback. \$15.95.

*Animal Instinct* author Dorothy B. Hayes was formerly known as Dot Hayes, longtime staff writer and public relations director for Friends of Animals. Earlier, Hayes covered animal issues for several Connecticut newspapers.

*Animal Instinct* is an autobiographical novel describing just over a year in the life of an advocacy group staff writer named Eleanor Aquitane Green.

Structurally and thematically, *Animal Instinct* is a “working girl story,” about coping with the pressures of a high-stress job under a demanding and often capricious boss, in an all-female environment where the rules of hierarchy are much more flexible—and therefore treacherous—than in the male-dominated news business.

There is history in *Animal Instinct*, as characters inform Green of background in summaries that are generally accurate in gist, off by up to 10 years in detail—but the mistakes are not more egregious than those made in the several formal histories that Hayes lists as sources.

Hayes also tries to educate readers about the issues that form the background to her plot, at times to the detriment of the story line.

Readers who are not familiar with the internal politics of national advocacy groups may be surprised at some of the goings-on, as Green is.

Insiders may be surprised, however, that Hayes describes mostly business-as-usual. Hayes’ tenure at FoA spanned high-level opposition infiltration of three national animal rights groups, several instances of animal rights groups

attempting hostile takeovers of each other, an explosive sexual harassment case at one group, and several financial scandals, but none of this gets more than a passing mention.

Hayes’ most successful accomplishment is melding aspects of multiple real-life models into single characters. Longtime animal advocacy insiders will enjoy trying to match the characters with real-life counterparts, but will often find that there is no one exact match.

Green’s boss Honor Vine, for example, combines elements of Friends of Animals’ president Priscilla Feral, FoA founder Alice Herrington, PETA president Ingrid Newkirk, International Society for Animal Rights founder Helen Jones, and perhaps Animal Welfare Institute founder Christine Stevens.

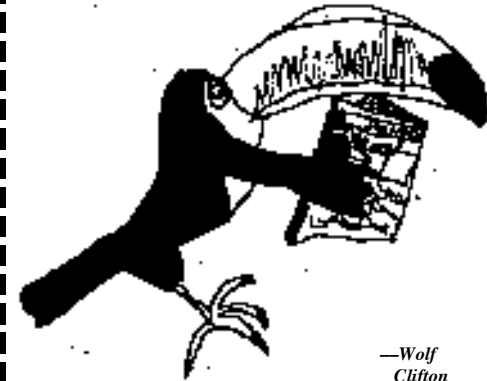
Some of these also help to model other characters. Relatively few, other than bit players, appear to be based on just one person, and even then, one female minor character seems to be modeled on a man.

Mild satire is tempered by Hayes’ still somewhat star-struck regard for animal advocates and their work. Many accomplished but rarely recognized street-level activists are saluted in passing introductions of characters. Occasionally Hayes clutters a paragraph with mentions of names, but at times she also memorably and recognizably sketches people worthy of note in just a few lines.

*Animal Instinct* almost certainly will not amuse everyone who helped to inspire it, but is an entertaining tribute to the people behind the stars of the animal cause.

—Merritt Clifton

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—Wolf Clifton

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# How Animals Talk *And Other Pleasant Studies of Birds and Beasts* (from page 20)

tions of animal behavior, moved philosophically toward proto-animal rights activism. As well as speaking out memorably for dogs and horses, London prominently attacked circus animal abuse just as circuses reached their height of popularity, shortly before the advent of screen entertainment began their century-long slow decline.

The nationwide string of Jack London Clubs begun by second Massachusetts SPCA president Francis Rowley, with London’s muscular support, may be viewed as proto-animal rights groups, and still existed as late as 1963, but lost their early energy after London killed himself in 1916, at least partially in despair over the suffering caused by World War I.

As both Thompson Seton and London were eminently able to defend themselves, Burroughs and Roosevelt focused their scorn on Long.

Long, summarized Carson, “not only described occurrences that no other observers had been fortunate enough to see, but maintained that the denizens of the fields and forests established schools in which they trained their young for the life struggle ahead of them...Many of [his books] were issued at low prices for school use. The young were thus being corrupted, in Roosevelt’s view, with consequences as grave as would be the case if geography classes were taught that the earth was flat.”

Superficially about biological accuracy, the “nature-fakers” debate was at heart a debate about the human presumption of a right to use and abuse animals, in particular to hunt them—as Ralph H. Lutts discusses in depth in *The Nature Fakers: Wildlife, Science, and Sentiment* (1990).

“Long’s most effective response,” continued Carson, “was to drop the biological issue and raise the question of President Roosevelt’s motives. He described Roosevelt as less the lover of nature than a game butcher who ‘hides behind a tree and kills three bull elks in succession, leaving their carcasses to rot...Every time he gets near the heart of a wild thing he puts a bullet through it.”

Long won considerable support, including from *The New York Sun* and the British Humanitarian League, but Roosevelt’s prominence backed by the scientific authority of Burroughs and U.S. Biological Survey chief C. Hart Merriam prevailed.

The debate enduringly established the public image of hunters as practical, realistic observers of wildlife, in contrast to the alleged sentimentality and anthropomorphism

of humanitarians, who favored Long, but were often ill-equipped to defend him with anything more than anecdotes and questionable interpretation.

On wildlife, at least, Long was *the* scientific voice of the humane movement. If his arguments failed, there was no one else to take his place.

*How Animals Talk* marked Long’s retreat to writing less for the public than for his most devoted readers, at the fringe of scientific respectability, or perhaps a step beyond, even at a time when the study of para-normal phenomena had yet to be discredited to the extent that it was within another decade.

Within Long’s own time, *How Animals Talk* was essentially a cult classic. More than 50 years posthumously, many of his most controversial observations have been confirmed, and at least some of his once seemingly far-fetched contentions have been scientifically validated.

Now known, for instance, is that many birds have far more advanced intelligence in many aspects of communication and problem-solving than most mammals; that human behavior generally has antecedents in animal behavior; that much animal behavior is learned, not instinctive; and that many species communicate by a variety of means that tend to be beyond human perception.

Some animals, including prairie dogs, appear to communicate in at least the beginnings of language, with grammar and a vocabulary.

Marc Bekoff, who combines distinguished scientific achievement with open sympathy for animal rights activism, acknowledges that “William Long presages numerous areas that are ‘hot topics’ in the study of animal behavior,” but Long may have been damned by association when Rupert Sheldrake, author of *Dogs that Know When Their Owners Are Coming Home*, endorsed *How Animals Talk* as “The classic book on animal telepathy.”

Even conceding that Long may not have invented his observations, as Roosevelt *et al* charged, and even accepting that Long was well ahead of his time in many of his interpretations of animal behavior, “Extraordinary claims require extraordinary proof.” As a man of religious faith, Long easily accepted para-normal explanations for behavior, even when they seemed to flunk the Occam’s Razor test of being the simplest explanation for the observed phenomena.

The Bear & Company reissue of *How Animals Talk* enables readers to make up

their own minds about Long, without reference to the “nature-fakers” controversy.

The language is unaltered from the 1919 edition, affording a charming window into a bygone era.

*How Animals Talk* is believed to have been the first book to seriously explore the possibility of telepathic communication among animals, which at the time might have seemed to be a relatively reasonable hypothesis. The discoveries that bats use radar, dolphins use sonar, and elephants and great whales use low-frequency sound were all decades away, for example, along with the possibility that these animals use their ultrasonic and sub-sonic abilities to communicate as well as to evaluate the world around them. Yet, even though *how* animals communicated seemed in 1919 to be deeply mysterious, even Roosevelt *et al* had no doubt that they do communicate by various means.

“Whether you search the wood or the city or the universe, the only interesting thing you will ever find anywhere is the thrill and mystery of awakening life,” wrote Long. “That the animal is *alive*, and alive in a way you ought to be but are not, is the last and most fascinating discovery you are likely to make in nature’s kingdom.”

As Long pointed out, it is not good enough to make an ornithology of mere feathers, or to accept without reservation what scientists have to say. For true understanding, it is necessary to observe animals in their own environment.

Writing at a time when even many of the most common North American wildlife species had largely vanished from the vicinity of human habitation, Long introduced his readers to birds, deer, bears and foxes, emphasizing seeing them in everyday life without awareness of being watched.

Only through ethological observation, Long argued, can we truly appreciate telepathy among animals. But Long wrote ten years before Konrad Lorenz even began his studies of greylag geese, long before Lorenz invented the term “ethology.”

“Every wild creature is finely ‘sensible’ in the true meaning of the word, his sensitiveness being due to the fact that there is nothing dead or even asleep in nature; the natural animal or the natural man is from head to foot wholly alive and awake,” Long contended. “This because every atom of him or every cell, as a biologist might insist, is of itself sentient and has the faculty of perception.”

This, in two sentences, summarizes the difficulty of accepting Long at face value

as an influential and prescient nature writer. He was ahead of his time in understanding the premise of ecology: that natural environments as a whole function much like individual living organisms. Yet Long was at odds with science in asserting that even cells with no perceptive organs are “sentient,” capable of perception.

Yet there was thought behind Long’s assertions. The discovery of DNA, a year after Long’s death, provided a much simpler explanation for some of the processes that Long deduced must exist at the cellular level. Long was less “wrong” than ahead of science in observation and intuition, and not content to await scientific discovery in his zeal to share appreciation of the sacredness of life.

Long argued that there are three marked differences between humans and animals. First, he believed, animals retain a spirit of play throughout life, which he felt that humans had largely lost. In this, Long inverted the usual belief of post-Darwinian natural observers, before Bekoff’s pioneering studies of animal play, that animals are wholly focused on “survival of the fittest.”

More conventionally, Long asserted that animals live in their sensations, and are happy, while humans dwell mostly in thoughts and postpone happiness for the future. Animals, Long believed, are fully alive at every moment, while humans are only alive “the day before yesterday.”

These are essentially theological beliefs, echoing some Biblical passages as well as teachings of Buddhism and other eastern religions—but the notion that the process of evolving into modern humanity involved a fall from grace is as all-pervasive in environmentalism as in self-aware religious doctrine.

If Theodore Roosevelt had not been addicted as he was to hunting, and less closely aligned with Burroughs and Merriam in his quest to persuade Congress to preserve natural habitat, he and Long might have found common ground in their qualms about studying nature by “collecting more skins or skulls.”

Accused Long, addressing the scientists who emphasized taxonomy above ethology, “You have unconsciously placed destruction above fulfillment, stark death above the beautiful mystery of life, and in so doing we estrange ourselves from meeting on any common ground of understanding.”

Though Long made mistakes in reaching beyond what could be credibly documented in his own time, *How Animals Talk* is a wonderful book about understanding and recognizing the mysteries of our natural world.

—Bev Pervan & Merritt Clifton

## Listen

by Stephanie S. Tolan

Harper Collins Publishers  
(1350 Avenue of the Americas,  
New York, NY 10019), 2006.  
197 pages, paperback. \$15.99.

Charley, 12, is trying to come to terms with the death of her mother in a car accident that leaves Charley herself struggling to learn to walk again. Compounding her sense of isolation is the desertion of her best friend.

While exercising her damaged leg in the woods near her home, Charley finds a feral dog. Not knowing why, she feels an intense need to tame this dog, take him home, and care for him. Because she has never had a dog before, her father tries to talk her into getting a puppy. But Charley only connects to this particular animal, whom she names Coyote, spending weeks trying to get close to him.

She tries food as an inducement, but telepathic flashes show her that the dog was once caught and locked away with the lure of food, and so she feels she has to try something else. On the Internet she discovers Jane Goodall and her experiences in becoming acquainted with the wild chimpanzees at Gombe. Charley studies the Goodall methods and tries to use them with Coyote.

Further inspiration comes from a book of nature photographs that her late mother had published. All of her photos were taken in the woods around their home. Alongside each photo is a poem or quotation, and from these Charley also finds ideas about how to tame Coyote. The photos encourage Charley to explore the woods, to experience the beauty of nature’s garden, and to appreciate compassion for all animals, as Charley’s mother did.

—Beverley Pervan  
<www.cannedlion.co.za>  
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—Wolf Clifton



OBITUARIES

**Elora Petrasek**, 6, remembered by acquaintances as a very gentle child who loved animals, was fatally mauled by a bear on April 13 in Cherokee National Forest, near Benton, Tennessee. The bear also bit her brother Luke Cenkus, 2, puncturing his skull, and mauled their mother, Susan Cenkus, 45. The attack, 10 miles from the nearest highway, occurred as adults tried to drive the bear off of a hiking trail. A bear in the vicinity was later shot by rangers, but was not positively identified as the killer. Petrasek was the 56th person verifiably killed by a black bear in North America within the past 100 years, according to Lynn Rogers of the North American Bear Center in Ely, Minnesota, and only the second person killed by a bear in the Great Smokies. The first was Glenda Ann Bradley, 50, of Cosby, Tennessee, who was killed in an un-witnessed attack in May 2000 near Gaitlinburg.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Chrystal Blue.  
—Donald & Darlene King

In memory of Norman.  
—Judy Meincke

In memory of my husband, Louis.  
All dogs were his.  
—Elisabeth Arvin

In memory of Alfred.

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



**Richard Meza**, 52, was fatally shot by an unknown assailant at about 11 p.m. on April 8, 2006, while feeding a feral cat colony he attended near Anaheim and Walnut Avenues in Long Beach, California. No motive was evident; Meza was not robbed. A 30-year lineman and repairman for GTE and Verizon, Meza and his wife of 24 years, LoAnn, 48, planned to retire in June 2006 to a home they were building in Virginia. LoAnn, who was losing her sight, received a cornea transplant from her late husband.

**Barbara Osborne**, 84, died on April 8 from kidney failure at home in Bellevue, Washington. Osborne was known for performing open heart surgery on rats and mice at the University of Washington, 1971-1979, "but she treated her rats like human subjects. She didn't like to see them suffer. She was always worried about her rats," her son Richard Osborne told *Seattle Times* medical reporter Warren King. Richard Osborne is director of the Whale Museum in Friday Harbor, Washington, an institution which has often provided a speaking venue to anti-whaling and anti-cetacean captivity activists.

**Janet Ennis**, 76, died on April 9, 2006, at her home in Akron, Ohio. "Jan contributed to numerous animal charities in the U.S. and abroad, including CHAI, " CHAI founder Nina Natelson told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, "and was a tireless activist for the cause. An art expert, she compiled a huge collection of animal folk art from all over the world." Ennis in 1960 was among the cofounders of Animal Aid, a local humane society that later merged into the Animal Protective League of Greater Akron.

**Pete Thomashay**, 66, longtime animal control officer for Bellingham, Massachusetts, died on April 23, two weeks to the day after *Country Gazette* staff writer Rick Holland profiled his long career.

**Richard "Baba" Looey**, 57, of Chicago, whose surname was changed from Bogulewski, drowned on April 16 while trying to rescue a dog from Lake Michigan. Looey was criticized by some animal advocates because his own dogs had produced two litters of puppies in recent years.

**Joan Haggard**, of Chorleywood, Hertfordshire, England, remembered by World Society for the Protection of Animals director general and former Royal SPCA chief executive Peter Davies as "well into her eighties," died in the third week of April 2006. "Joan was a prolific writer to British newspapers on animal issues," recalled Davies. "She campaigned particularly on live transport of farm animals. She took a great interest in spreading animal welfare messages into developing countries."



**Alfred the Great**, 17, named for his political wisdom, was euthanized due to incurable suffering from conditions of age on March 30, 2005.

While removing a poacher's snares set for fox or coyote from an abandoned junkyard near Brigham, Quebec, in December 1998, at twilight, in a blizzard, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton found hints that a kitten had been used as live bait but escaped. Amid the snow, in the gathering dark, among countless hiding places, the kitten could not be found.

"I reluctantly hiked home," Clifton recalls, "and was just shaking the snow off my coat in the woodshed, when my landlady, Lorna Kemp, came out and pointed to a tiny gray-and-white kitten stumbling up the road behind me, looking like a moving snowball.

"Alfred spent his first week in the house tied to the woodstove with a pink ribbon, eating everything we gave him so fast we were afraid he'd make himself sick, then abruptly changed from the wildest kitten ever to the tamest. He started trying to fight our 10 other cats as soon as he tamed up. He was so small that they all thought he was nuts.

"I adopted him out two months later, but was called two months after that to rescue him from a violent domestic dispute. After that I kept him. He rewarded me by often bringing me live snakes."

Joining the **ANIMAL PEOPLE**

**Chrystal Ann Lloyd**, 19, of Norfolk, Virginia, stopped her car along U.S. 1-58 near Virginia Route 272 at about 10:30 p.m. on April 22 to help a dog who had been hit by a preceding car. Both Lloyd and the dog were killed when another driver swung wide to avoid Lloyd's car, not seeing her in the road. [The safe way to remove an animal from a road is to use your car as a shield, with four-way flashers on, and ideally with flares placed at an adequate stopping distance back.]

household in December 1989, continuing to catch snakes occasionally even when kept indoors, "Alfred was at the bottom of the hierarchy," among 41 rescued cats at peak, recalls publisher Kim Bartlett, "but in 1992 he began following a grouchy old cat named Gidget, nicknamed 'Devil of the Boss Cats' by our son Wolf, then two years old. Gidget kept other cats at bay with a snarling swag-ger. One day I found Alfred following a step behind her, in the same gait, making the same snarl. From then on, Alfred mimicked Gidget around other cats. He rose into the upper echelon of tomcats, and kept his position through cunning, rather than brawling with younger and stronger cats. When he did get into a face-off, Alfred always out-growled and chased off the other cat, even with a considerable size disadvantage.

"Voltaire, the reigning tom until his death in March of 2004, at almost 20, slept on my pillow," relates Bartlett. "A few nights after Voltaire died, Alfred crept onto my pillow, and was acknowledged by all the other cats as the new king. In recent months, as Alfred declined mentally and physically, he gave up the pillow and began sleeping next to me in the center of the bed. He seemed to know that he could no longer hold the dominant position. When I placed him on my pillow in his old spot, he quickly moved away, as if afraid that he might be challenged if he pretended to still be the king."



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**SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** in Visakhapatnam, India. Field work January/June, documentation & awareness July/December. This is an unfunded program made possible entirely by volunteer contributions. Limited free accommodation with cooking facilities available at the Visakha SPCA.

Info: <[vspcanath@sify.com](mailto:vspcanath@sify.com)>  
[www.visakhaspca.org](http://www.visakhaspca.org)

**ELEPHANTS, RHINOS, LIONS, AND THE GREAT WILDBEEST MIGRATION** — See the wildlife of **KENYA** with an expert guide from **Youth For Conservation**. All proceeds benefit animal protection, including our anti-poaching snare removal project, which in 2004 saved the lives of more than 6,000 animals.

Info: <[info@youthforconservation.org](mailto:info@youthforconservation.org)>  
[www.youthforconservation.org](http://www.youthforconservation.org)

Register your pro-animal organization at  
[www.worldanimal.net](http://www.worldanimal.net)

Take time to smell the flowers and to visit:  
<http://humanelink.org>



# SPAY/USA

FINDS A LOVING HOME



*Not only do some pets need new homes, so do the programs that help them.*

**N**orth Shore Animal League America has welcomed the SPAY/USA program into our headquarters in Port Washington, N.Y.

Every year in the United States, millions of unwanted dogs and cats are euthanized because not enough homes are available for them. Lowering this horrific statistic is the mission of both SPAY/USA and North Shore Animal League America. Both groups will now work together under one roof to stop this trend.

SPAY/USA is a national referral service that offers help to anyone who needs assistance finding affordable spay/neuter services in their area. The program consists of a network of over 7,000 top-notch veterinarians and 1,000 sterilization programs and clinics nationwide.

Veterinarians wishing to participate and have your program listed on our site please visit [www.spayusa.org](http://www.spayusa.org) or write [Spay@nsalamerica.org](mailto:Spay@nsalamerica.org)



## Spay/USA Veterinarian Participation Form

VETERINARIAN'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PRACTICE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

I provide reduced cost spay/neuter surgeries.

Veterinarian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to:  
**SPAY/USA**  
 59 South Bayles Ave.  
 Port Washington, NY 11050  
 e-mail: [Spay@nsalamerica.org](mailto:Spay@nsalamerica.org)



# *A Love Like No Other*



**Constant. True. Unconditional.**

Support the national rescue mission of  
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[www.nsalamerica.org](http://www.nsalamerica.org)

**877.4.SAVEPET**



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