

# New Orleans rescue ends with a storm

**NEW ORLEANS**—The biggest animal rescue effort in U.S. history officially ended on October 25, 2005. On advice of assistant state veterinarian Martha Littlefield, Louisiana Governor Kathleen Blanco allowed the temporary permits issued to out-of-state veterinarians assisting animal relief efforts in New Orleans to expire.

Out-of-state rescuers still operating temporary shelters and feeding programs were thanked and asked to return home, to leave the remaining work to local agencies.

“We are literally seeing animals on the streets starving to death,” objected



Feline survivor. (Jan Bertman)

AnimalRescueNewOrleans founder Jane Garrison, of Charleston, South Carolina. “We need more volunteers to feed and water the thousands of traumatized animals still on the streets, we need to keep trapping animals so we can reunite them with their guardians, and we need a massive spay/neuter program.”

“We have been unable to find local vets who can provide consistent care for the cats housed at our temporary shelter in Bogalusa, let alone enough to conduct the type of large-scale spay/neuter program that is so desperately needed,” added Alley Cat Allies national director Becky Robinson. “We need about a dozen veterinarians experienced with high-volume surgery. Many out-of-state vets have offered their services, free of charge.

“If the state government doesn’t allow us to feed, treat, and find homes for the thousands of animals struggling to survive now,” Robinson fumed, “it is in for a rude awakening next year. The number of free-roaming cats and dogs will be devastating”

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# How Irish dog racers muzzle humane critics

**SALLINS, County Kildare**—Greyhound racing issues in Ireland converge on the People’s Animal Welfare Society, halfway between Dublin and the Newbridge Greyhound Racing Track, just a few miles beyond at Naas. Greyhound breeding, training, and boarding are big business right in the neighborhood.

PAWS founder Deirdre Hetherington, 73, is among the most prominent critics of the Irish greyhound industry.

Yet PAWS is also increasingly reliant on funding from both the Irish government and the Irish Greyhound Board, reputedly made available as part of a co-optive strategy to distract opposition by rehoming a relative handful of the greyhounds who are bred to race.

Many of the PAWS dogs are boarded with a prominent local greyhound racer.

Hetherington operates PAWS from her home, Sallins Castle, built to withstand armed foes.

Some Irish tourism web sites allege that Sallins Castle, later known as Sallins Lodge, no longer stands. In truth, it is well-preserved, though disguised with a stucco façade, and is almost entirely still used according to the original Norman plan. Hetherington started PAWS in 1996, formally incorporating



(Kim Bartlett)

in February 1997, by simply renovating the ancient stables and kennels already on the site, and putting them back to use.

Built soon after the mid-12th century Norman conquest of Ireland, a century after the 1066 Norman conquest of England, Sallins Castle was in essence a fortified farmhouse for the knights of Sallins, who ruled the nearby village for most of 800 years. Now a bustling Dublin suburb, Sallins throughout that time had a human population always recorded within a few dozen of 500.

A moated keep with twin half-round towers flanking the portcullis faced the river

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# ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

November 2005  
Volume XV, #9

# Everyone but the chicken-eaters takes blame for spreading H5N1

**TULCEA, Romania**--The avian flu H5N1, hitting the poultry industry hard throughout Asia, spreading into Europe, and potentially deadly to humans, has never infected dogs.

That did not stop officials hellbent on finding a pretext to kill street dogs near Balikesir, Turkey, when H5N1 was discovered there in early October. Street dogs were as easily blamed as anyone for the economic havoc and emotional trauma resulting from wholesale massacres of domestic poultry in thus far futile efforts to contain H5N1.

Rumors of a Romanian dog massacre ascribable to H5N1 panic reached animal advocacy groups and news media on November 9.

The killing allegedly occurred near Tulcea in the eastern Danube Delta region, shortly after the H5N1 virus was on October 13, 2005 confirmed in the carcasses of three barnyard ducks found dead on a farm in Ceamurlia-de-Jos, Tulcea County.

Two accounts of the Tulcea dog massacre e-mailed by people who claimed to be acquaintances of witnesses agreed that the dogs who survived rough capture and handling were thrown alive into a deep pit, covered with lime, and bulldozed under. As Tulcea was the scene of a municipal dog massacre in 2001, under a different political administration, the story sounded plausible.

Fundatia Daisy Hope founder Aura Maratas, of Bucharest, visited Tulcea to investigate on November 13. At the Tulcea dump, Maratas interviewed gypsy trashpickers

who "in exchange of some money told us that the dogs were brought there."

Maratas photographed the purported site, but the photos did not prove the story, and some felt that the photos actually contradicted it.

Two days of follow-up investigation in Tulcea by ROLDA cofounder Dana Costin and Romania Animal Rescue founder Nancy Janes on November 26-27 found no evidence that any such dog massacre ever occurred.

But potentially infected poultry were killed by similar methods south of Tulcea. On November 28 Romanian Agriculture Minister Gheorghe Flutur fired local officials who burned alive many of 15,000 turkeys who were killed on infected farm near Scarlatesti.

Realitatea TV video of the killing "showed veterinarians in white medical suits breaking the necks of poultry before throwing them into a fire burning in a ditch. Some of the birds were still alive and could be seen struggling, their wings in flames, in a vain attempt to escape," reported Agence France-Presse.

First identified in Hong Kong after three children died from it in 1996, H5N1 spread rapidly throughout Southeast Asia beginning in mid-2003. Nearly 70 people have succumbed to H5N1 since then, almost all of them poultry workers, cockfighters, or residents of homes shared with live fowl.

More than 100 million chickens, ducks, geese, and other domestic birds have been killed by gassing, neck-breaking, and/or

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The Austrian-based veterinary outreach organization Vier Pfoten sent a multi-national team to Dubrovnik, Croatia, to sterilize dogs and cats during the 2005 International Companion Animal Welfare Conference. More about animal welfare progress in Croatia is on page 8.

# Africans defending national wildlife parks turn from guns to courts

**NAIROBI, HARARE, GABORONE, JOHANNESBURG**—Amboseli, Kalahari, Hwange, Kruger: the names alone evoke images of wide-open wild places on a sparsely inhabited continent—at least to non-Africans. But to many Africans whose tribal lands they historically were, these and other globally renowned wildlife parks are symbols of conquest, occupation, and deprivation.

To those who till land or keep livestock, the parks are the source of marauding wildlife, and appear to hoard disproportionate shares of the green grass and water.

To those who have nothing, the parks symbolize inaccessible opportunity.

To politicians, the great African wildlife parks often represent potential largess, expendible to build a power base.

Preserving the parks as unpeopled as European and American ecotourists and wildlife conservation donors imagine the “real” Africa to be is a multi-million-dollar industry, but there is also big money in open-

ing them to more hunting and other commercial exploitation, while returning the parks to tribal control is an oft-expressed rhetorical ideal often most strongly favored by whoever anticipates gaining easy access to resources in exchange for giving tribal partners a few more dusty acres in which to graze goats.

Amid all this, growing numbers of educated Africans see the value of protecting the integrity of the wildlife parks, but are politically scattered, their tribal identities and value as a perceived block vote typically lost a generation back, or several, when their parents or grandparents ventured into big cities to enable their children to attend good schools.

As the African colonial past recedes, to where only those already well past middle age were ever part of a European-dominated establishment, the perennial struggle over preserving the parks is passing to a new generation of leadership on both sides.

There are still aging “big men” like

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When I first found her, even I didn't know this beautiful smile was hiding beneath that fright-



November 2005

Dear Partner,

Falcon was born in the wilderness. Her parents were abandoned dogs, and her mother couldn't use one of her hind legs . . . she'd been hit by a car the year before. Still, she gave birth to Falcon and her siblings.

When I found them, there were about a dozen dogs foraging in the picnic trash. Some were long haired, some short . . . but all were black. They were one big family of unwanted dogs and their kids.

I set up feeding stations and rescued the dogs at night when they came around, but only one or two at a time . . . because when I caught one in my trap, the others would run away . . . frightened.

Eventually I got them all . . . including three puppies . . . and we named one "Falcon."

But I've had this battle with myself for years . . .

I rescue cats and dogs who are struggling to survive against all odds.

Thanks to people like you I can rescue them and take them to our sanctuary where they are safe and loved for the rest of their lives.

But . . . it is my sworn duty to these animals to give them the most marvelous life I can.

Here, most are loved for the first time. And most are afraid of people for what has been done to them. But they love to play among themselves . . . that is when they are the happiest.

So what else can I do for them . . . to make them happier? That is my constant struggle. One answer to that question was the straw bale dog house. 100+ square feet of additional surface area to play on . . . and a huge dog house with an igloo opening to regulate the temperature naturally.

Another answer is rawhide treats every day. And toys. And pools in summer to add to their fun, so they can play like the kids they are. But I'm constantly looking for other things to do for them.

Then I went in to her huge yard to take Falcon's picture for you. She is so happy, she just loves it here! She told me in so many ways. After she ran around for 20 minutes, jumping up to let me hug her now and then, she plopped herself down under the juniper tree in her yard and smiled.

She was contented. Then it hit me . . . just having a place to call her own . . . to have fresh food and water . . . a house . . . a clinic within walking distance . . . friends to talk to and play with . . . and to know this is her life now, and that the bubble won't burst someday . . . this is the good life they deserve, and you and I have sacrificed to give it to each of them.

For the others who didn't have us, who weren't so lucky, I mourn.

For the ones who died of disease in the pounds, I mourn.

For the ones who were put to death early because of a physical impairment that makes them "less than perfect," I mourn. But for the ones we've saved, like Falcon and her family, I rejoice.

Falcon will be loved and cared for, for the rest of her life. And if she needs heart medication when she's old, or cancer treatment, or physical therapy for paralysis . . . she will get it here . . . because treating Falcon like a person is our promise to her.

Please help this unique mission continue to spread love, and to grow. Send your best gift for these precious animals today.

For the animals,

Leo

Leo Grillo, founder

P.S.: I just remembered "Bert." If you were on tour in the early 90s you saw him. When he was 13 he became paralyzed. For two years, every day, he went for a ride around the shelter and visited the other dogs. He lay under a tree in good weather, like Falcon. He enjoyed his full life. And he was so happy here, he smiled. This is truly what care-for-life means.

**D.E.L.T.A. Rescue**  
PO Box 9, Dept AP, Glendale, CA 91209

# + Attention: Rescuers and Shelters +

**Build your own inexpensive straw bale dog house for your pets' maximum protection, comfort and fun!**

Here at D.E.L.T.A. Rescue, we invented a better housing system for our more than 859 dogs. Using 25 common bales of straw, and three sheets of plywood, two people can build a straw bale dog house in under 10 minutes! This is the same simple structure that withstood our terrible El Nino rains in 1998. The *simple* straw design can last 20 years, but because we are a permanent sanctuary, our houses must last longer.



Our dogs love to play on the straw ... before, during and after construction!



*Simple* straw house, 4x6 foot interior, 10 x10 foot rooftop play area, and steps!



Newly finished "deluxe" stucco version, which will last 100 years or more!



Our dogs climb their steps and play on top and inside their houses. They have a ball!



One village at D.E.L.T.A. Rescue. Two dogs per yard, and a deluxe house for both!

That's why we now build the *deluxe* "stucco" version. Our materials cost for this stucco version is about \$400, while you can put up the simple building for under \$150. Good news! We put all the building instructions for both versions on video tape for anyone to use, or copy in its entirety. And it's FREE! To help us help precious animals, besides our own 859 dogs and 552 cats, please get this video today and pass it around!

We spent a year making this video tape. Now, for the sake of cold, unsheltered dogs everywhere, we are offering it to anyone *for free*. To pay for duplication and postage, we are asking for a \$6 donation per tape, but only if you can afford it! And we can send the tape to anyone you want. Or you can get one, copy it yourself, then give it to friends.

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

## Editorial

# ANIMAL PEOPLE & the role of humane reporting

"We still haven't found an executive director. Guess no one wants to come down to the sunny south and dodge all the hurricanes," Suncoast Humane Society interim director Warren Cox wrote on Halloween from Englewood, Florida.

Sending Cox to Florida was clearly easier than ushering him into retirement. Now in his 53rd year of humane work, Cox reduced his possessions before taking his 22nd leadership position by donating to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** a complete set of the *National Humane Review*, from the years 1933 through 1976.

Published by the American Humane Association, the *National Humane Review* for much of that time was a mainstream slick magazine, sold on train station newsstands, with

**SEARCHABLE ARCHIVES: [www.animalpeoplenews.org](http://www.animalpeoplenews.org)**  
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## ANIMAL PEOPLE

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separate regional editions serving all parts of the U.S. Even without carrying paid advertising, and without soliciting donations with particular vigor, the *National Humane Review* generated enough revenue at peak, through sales and subscriptions, to subsidize the AHA itself. At the height of her popularity, in June 1935 and January 1936, actress Shirley Temple was twice the cover girl.

Few animal advocates alive today ever saw the *National Humane Review* as it existed under a succession of former newspaper editors who took it to its heights, the last of whom was Fred Myers. Few even imagine that such a periodical ever existed, in many respects pre-saging the editorial positions and scope of coverage of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Well ahead of the times, the *National Humane Review* demonstrated similar sympathy for no-kill sheltering, feral cat rescue, and humane work abroad, and put comparable emphasis upon developing accurate statistics on animal issues. Many of the studies commissioned and published by the *National Humane Review* were markedly better designed and much more accurate than anything produced during the next several decades.

At times in the early 1950s the *National Humane Review* even leaned toward endorsing vegetarianism, though it never actually came right out and said so.

Those still in humane work who remember the *National Humane Review*—except Cox—tend to recall the last years of a shelter-oriented publication that nearly 30 years ago morphed into *AHA Shop Talk*. That was the terminal incarnation of the *National Humane Review*, and a faint shadow of the influential magazine it once had been.

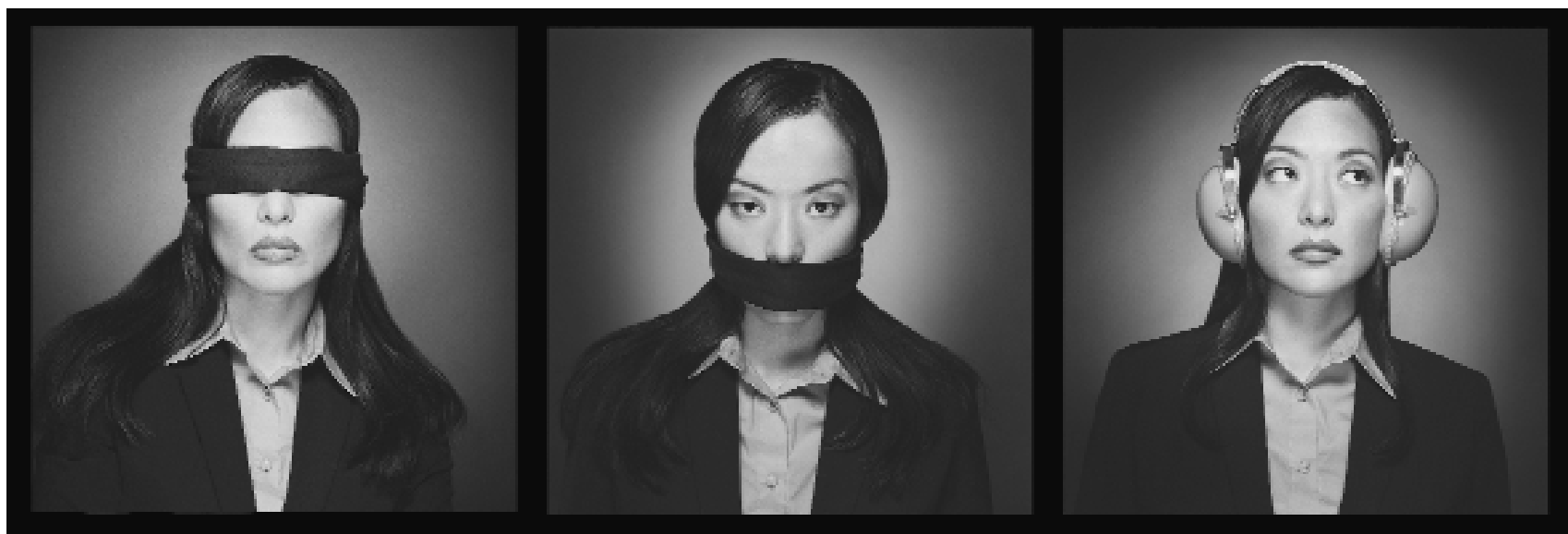
At peak the *National Humane Review* emphasized uncompromising moral leadership. Just a month after the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor plunged the U.S. into World War II, for example, a *National Humane Review* lead feature took note that wars sometimes must be fought, but warned against unduly glorifying war, and especially cautioned against the harmful psychological effects of giving children war toys, thereby encouraging the pretense that killing can be wholesome fun.

Notes of compromise on hunting, trapping, and pound seizure crept into the *National Humane Review* with increasing frequency after World War II, but the erosion of focus and moral clarity markedly accelerated after Myers resigned in 1954, rather than further weaken editorial integrity on topics including opposition to sport hunting, fur trapping, the use of pound animals in biomedical research, and animal experimentation in general. Meyer went on to found the Humane Society of the U.S., in partnership with Helen Jones and Cleveland Amory. Jones and Amory in 1959 split from HSUS to start the National Catholic Animal Welfare Society, which in 1977 became the International Society for Animal Rights. Amory soon returned to HSUS, but took his own direction again in 1968, when he started the Fund for Animals, merged into HSUS in January 2005.

Economics drove the ethical implosion of the *National Humane Review*, and of the AHA itself. The rise of television and decline of train travel cut deeply into readership and sales. The AHA leadership frantically tried to reposition themselves closer to mainstream perspectives, at cost of becoming increasingly irrelevant to their core audience. By the mid-1960s, the *National Humane Review* had long since become uncritical of high-volume killing in animal shelters, after a decade of waffling before finally endorsing killing by decompression. Having compromised on every other front, the *National Humane Review* in later years even accepted wearing fur.

In retrospect it is painfully clear that the more the AHA tried to mainstream itself, the more it lost the momentum and direction that had made it the leading voice of the humane movement from 1877 until the formation of HSUS.

(continued on page 4)



## The Global Animal Welfare Summit – creating a force that governments can't ignore

The welfare of animals is something that concerns us all. But for our actions to be seen, and our arguments heard on a worldwide basis – we need to speak with one united voice.

WSPA has been active on a worldwide basis for 25 years and our greatest achievements have come from collaborating with other established animal welfare societies to achieve common goals. We have also helped and advised animal welfareists in the set up and development of new Societies.

Today, WSPA has 600 Member Societies operating in over 125 countries and that number is increasing rapidly.

Recently, WSPA has co-ordinated desperately needed aid to animals afflicted by the Tsunami, funded a campaign to help end tortoise production in Israel

and helped maintain the moratorium on commercial whaling. Throughout all of this, WSPA has continued to work with Member Societies to foster and promote animal welfare, particularly in developing countries.

But, if we are to achieve lasting and fundamental reform for all animals, we need to think and work as a co-ordinated global entity.

WSPA's aim is to mobilise an unstoppable global movement, whose objective is to gain worldwide recognition that animal welfare is an issue of vital importance to all nations. And, at the same time, advise and assist in providing enforceable welfare improvements for all species in all corners of the world.

This is a truly noble aim – and achievable if we all work together as a global force.

WSPA invites all Member Societies to attend a Global Summit in London, on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2006.

Over the two days urgent issues will be addressed, supported by guest speakers of international renown, with the aim of advancing our cause.

To reserve your place please email us at the following address: [symposium2006@wspa.org.uk](mailto:symposium2006@wspa.org.uk)

If you are not already a WSPA Member Society and wish to apply for membership, please email for further information: [membersocieties@wspa.org.uk](mailto:membersocieties@wspa.org.uk)

By working together, we can change the world.

The Global Animal Welfare Summit  
 June the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006, London, England.

**WSPA**  
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# ANIMAL PEOPLE & the role of humane reporting *(from page 3)*

As the *National Humane Review* imploded into a house organ, Frederick L. Thomsen in 1965 founded Humane Information Services Inc. as umbrella for a newsletter called *Report to Humanitarians*, which tried to fill the vacated leadership role. It grew into a newspaper, *The Humane Report*, featuring investigative exposes by the late Henry Spira. *The Humane Report* circulated 19,000 copies per edition at Thomsen's death in 1978, but died with him.

## Animals' Agenda

The next periodical of record for the U.S. animal advocacy cause was the *Animals' Agenda*, founded in 1981 through the merger of animal rights newsletters published by Jim Mason and Doug Moss.

Since the demise of the *National Humane Review* and *The Humane Report*, there had been no nationally distributed independent news media covering animal advocacy. Not even one newspaper in the U.S. had a reporter formally assigned to covering animal issues, though some had pro-animal columnists. Only a handful of syndicated columnists wrote about animals, most notably Cleveland Amory.

Yet the sudden rise of the animal rights movement required participant-oriented coverage, including forums for discussion and debate.

*Animals' Agenda* filled the gap, as the self-designated "magazine of the movement." The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** founders, not yet acquainted, were readers right from the beginning. Kim Bartlett, now the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** publisher, became editor of *Animals' Agenda* in 1986, joining associate editor Patrice Greanville, who is now the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** webmaster. Merritt Clifton, now **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor, debuted as *Animals' Agenda* lead feature writer in the January/February 1987 edition.

*Animals' Agenda* achieved peak circulation, readership, income, and influence from 1986 to 1992, after turning two important corners.

First, before Bartlett was hired, came the decision to go slick. Unaware of the *National Humane Review* history, *Animals' Agenda* went from a newsprint format resembling that of *The Humane Report* to essentially the format that the *National Humane Review* died with. Going slick never came close to paying for itself, but did put *Animals' Agenda* on newsstands just as the concept of "animal rights" caught the public imagination.

This in turn inspired former *Animals' Agenda* typesetter Laura Moretti to expand her *Animals' Voice* newsletter into an even glossier magazine, heavily subsidized by philanthropist Gil Michaels.

Two years later, Bartlett and Greanville promoted Clifton to news editor, with a single-sentence mandate to establish for *Animals' Agenda* a reputation for journalistic integrity and credibility. This was done at a price. The founders, before they departed, elected a board of directors consisting of longtime activists and representatives of national advocacy groups. The editorial team soon learned that the board largely wanted the good reputation without allowing the editors to exercise the reportorial independence, capacity for critical thought, and standards of factual verification that such a reputation must be built upon.

The board wanted applause for their own campaigns, often without regard to the greater health of the cause.

The most frequent flashpoints for conflict were cov-

erage of movement controversies, investigations of the use of donated money, and attention to dog-and-cat issues, often emphasized despite a barrage of criticism that this was "trivializing" the animal cause, expressed in published letters from executives of PETA, the Doris Day Animal League, and various antivivisection societies.

Unconsciously echoing the editors of the *National Humane Review* more than 50 years earlier, Bartlett editorially explained many times that the leaders of the animals' cause had to find ways to avoid killing more animals each year than either laboratories or the fur trade, if they were to be taken seriously.

*Animals' Agenda* came full circle back to where it started on May 1, 1992, when the board opted to return it to being "of the movement" first and foremost, firing Clifton. Bartlett soon resigned. By sundown on May 2, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** debut logo had already been designed, incorporation was underway, and a business plan was in development.

The "magazine of the movement," like any house organ of any cause, was self-doomed to becoming little more than a historical repository as the movement matured. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** from the first was and is a community newspaper, emphasizing "News for people who care about animals," for a community united by interest rather than geography.

Movements, succeed or fail, tend to die young, either becoming absorbed into mainstream culture or fading into self-isolated irrelevance. Communities grow, with no inherent limit on what they might become.

*Animals' Agenda* eventually merged with *Animals' Voice*, then collapsed. Moretti later revived *Animals' Voice* as a website.

## The community grows

The animals' cause continues to grow and diversify. The 3,000 U.S. organizations that existed in 1981 are now more than 11,000, according to the Internal Revenue Service, including more than 5,000 animal shelters. The numbers of active groups abroad are growing even faster.

The Internet took over the role of providing internal communications, which *Animals' Agenda* and **ANIMAL PEOPLE** once had, and expanded the audience, enabling **ANIMAL PEOPLE** to devote much more space to original investigative reporting and news analysis.

Discovering the value of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** as an accessible independent information resource, mainstream newspapers increasingly often explore the local dimensions of the topics we raise. Most mainstream dailies now have at least one reporter who is assigned to animal-related coverage on a regular basis, increasing their cumulative attention to animal issues more than tenfold since our debut. Many mainstream animal beat reporters have more knowledge of animal issues than anyone serving the animal cause did 20 years ago, because background on almost any issue is now readily accessible from the Internet, enabling anyone to become informed almost overnight if necessary.

Regional pro-animal tabloids supplement the mainstream coverage in many areas.

General interest pro-animal publications such as the Massachusetts SPCA's *Animals* and the American SPCA's *AnimalWatch* thrived when mainstream coverage was sparse, but faded out in recent years because the readership long since began getting equivalent material from mainstream sources. There was no longer a need for a humane society to do it, nor a

viable niche for providing general interest coverage through a nonprofit medium.

The animal rights movement long ago followed earlier incarnations of the humane cause into developing established institutions and career tracks. The "no kill movement" emerged 20 years later, evolving through the same phases of growth and institutionalization during the past decade. A second-generation animal rights movement emerged as well, focused on food issues rather than vivisection, and has also produced many now fairly well established organizations and information media.

Animal advocacy is now not just a community but a fast-expanding megapolis.

There have been setbacks and implosions along the way, mirroring the disasters that afflict any growing community. Among our disasters were the amendments to the Animal Welfare Act that permanently excluded rats, mice, and birds from protection in 2002; the virtual repeal of the 1971 Wild Horse Annie Act in November 2004; the simultaneous exclusion of "non-native" species from coverage by the 1918 Migratory Bird Treaty Act; the resumption and expansion of the Atlantic Canada seal hunt, Norwegian and Japanese whaling, and the recovery of the fur industry through the sale of cheap pelts from China, including dog and cat fur. (Adjusting for inflation, fur still is not anywhere near as profitable as it was 20 years ago, but the animal toll is again comparable.)

Many of these setbacks and implosions occurred due to the short-sightedness of activists and activist groups who continued to think in terms of being a "movement" instead of in terms of belonging to the mainstream political landscape.

There are now more vegetarians in the U.S. than hunters and trappers, for example, and more financial supporters of animal advocacy causes than there are people who ever hunted or trapped.

Animal advocates are not a movement, but a constituency, and a major constituency at that, like the citizens of any community that encompasses millions.

If a constituency feels it is not getting adequate attention, it has the capacity to organize politically to change the status quo. This is at last beginning to occur.

A constituency needs multiple news media, of multiple kinds, and we have them. Like the *National Humane Review* and *Animals' Agenda* in their heydays, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** occupies a unique niche as the only printed periodical providing fulltime specialized coverage of animal advocacy, but the national and international mainstream newswires now move enough pro-animal material every day to fill a daily newspaper. Online information distributors circulate more material each week than any pro-animal printed periodical ever did, or could, and may also reach more people.

While **ANIMAL PEOPLE** still looks much as it did in 1992, our mission continues to evolve.

Recognizing the growing importance of websites, we place increasing emphasis on making our online archives accessible and producing how-to handbooks that humane workers around the world can download to help themselves cope with such problems as fundraising and accountability, mange and rabies control, and keeping shelter cats healthy.

Our annual *Watchdog Report On Animal Protection Charities* long ago outgrew the annual "Who gets the money?" section, from which it descended.

The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** newspaper is not less focal to our work, but the newspaper is now the hub of much more activity, helping to move the animals' cause forward.



—Wolf Clifton

## MAINSTREAM NO LONGER ACCEPTS MEAT AT HUMANE EVENTS

"With friends like these..." was the first thing that came to mind after reading the Carbon County Friends of Animals raffle ticket I'd just bought," wrote Michael J. Frendak of Lansford, Pennsylvania, in the August 2005 edition of *Reader's Digest*.

"I could win one of the following, it said: a 10-pound box of chicken legs, one smoked ham, four T-bone steaks, five pounds of fresh sausage or hot dogs, or a box of pork chops."

Such laments are often voiced in **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and other pro-

animal and pro-vegetarian media, but *Reader's Digest* is more deliberately representative of mainstream Middle American values than the U.S. Congress.

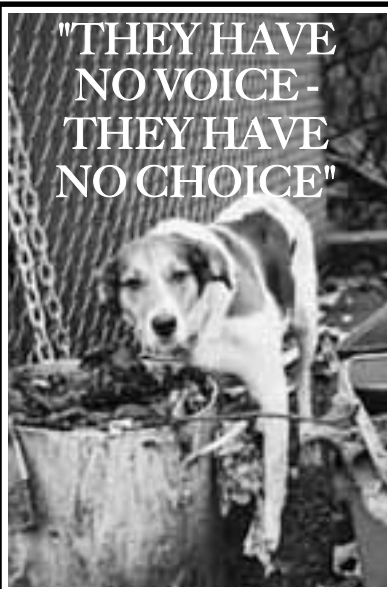
Founded in January 1922 as a source of sermon material for ministers, *Reader's Digest* describes itself in its *Popular Culture Guide* as "traditionally never sensationalistic and rarely controversial, with a tendency toward inspirational self-help stories. The magazine has been criticized," it admits, "for espousing a generally right-wing, conservative point of view and for evoking nostalgia for a simpler, less diversified America."

When even *Reader's Digest* hints that humane societies should avoid either promoting or participating in meat

consumption, in an anecdote submitted from coal mine country by a reader of no animal advocacy background discernible through online searching, any humane society that still raffles meat or serves meat at official events needs to take note.

Even much of the meat-eating public now views the involvement of a humane society in meat consumption by human beings much as it views fornication by the clergy.

People may politely ignore indiscretions by others of ordinary moral stature, but guardians of public morality, including humane workers, are expected to exemplify a higher standard.



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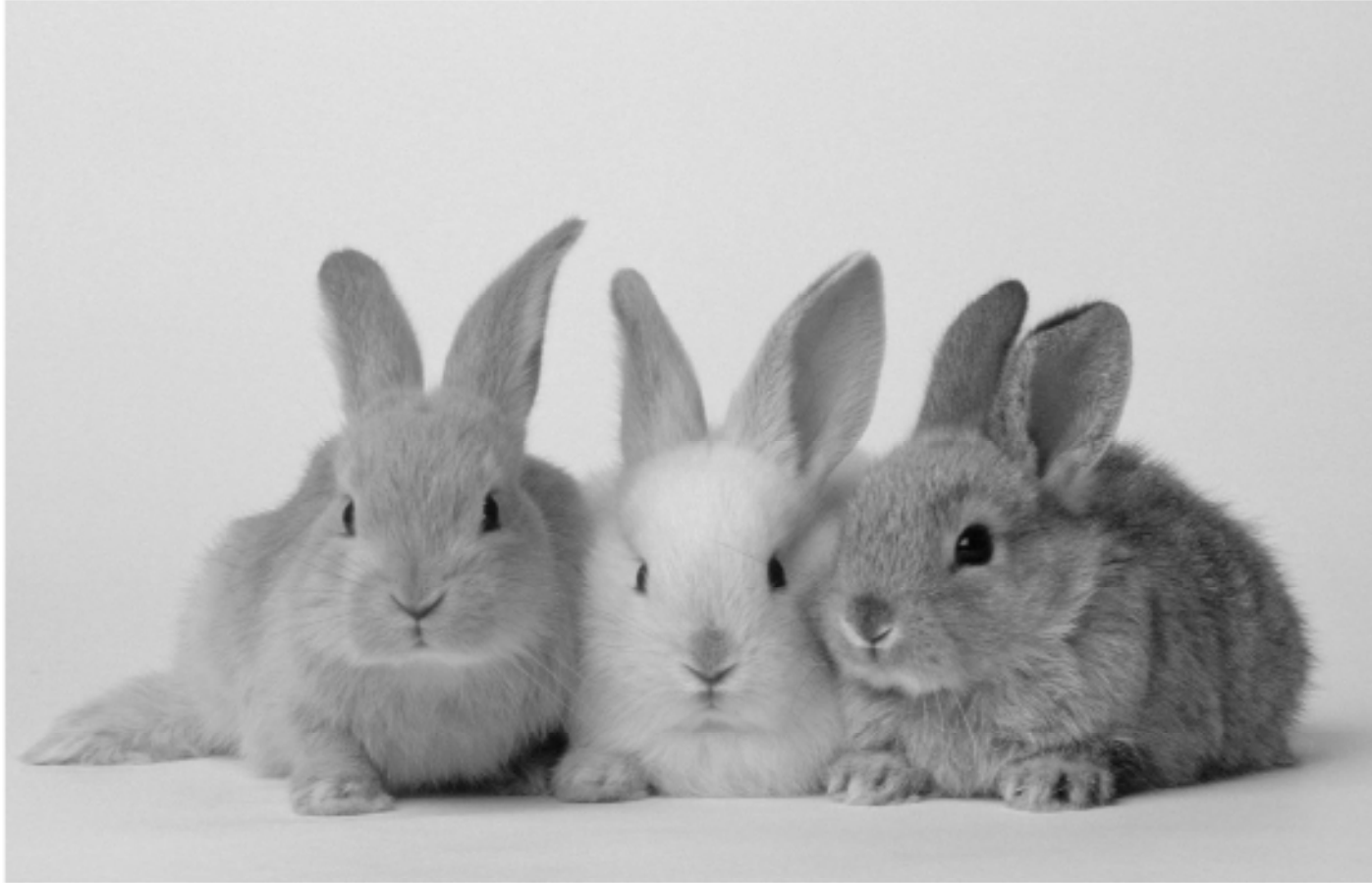
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## Please help these chickens

**Y**ou may think you're looking at rabbits. But according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), you're looking at chickens. And chickens, says the USDA, are not really animals.

This isn't the first time the USDA has changed the meaning of commonly understood words. Perhaps you remember when the agency declared that ketchup was a vegetable.

USDA officials have a well-established pattern of playing word games to avoid compliance with federal laws. And they're at it again. This time, they're doing it to avoid enforcing the federal Humane Slaughter Act—the law requiring animals to be rendered unconscious before they're butchered.

Fifty years ago, the USDA lobbied *against* passage of the Humane Slaughter Act. Today, USDA officials continue to do everything in their power *not* to enforce that law. As a result, farm animals—from cattle to pigs to horses—are often subjected to the pain and terror of being brutally skinned, immersed in scalding water, and dismembered while still fully conscious.

And when it comes to smaller animals, the USDA doesn't even pretend to protect them from cruelty. Species that the USDA deems to be "poultry"—including the 9 billion chickens and turkeys slaughtered each year—are excluded from the Humane Slaughter Act.

Amazingly, the USDA has arbitrarily decided to classify rabbits as "poultry." This has resulted in nothing short of torture at the slaughterhouse. For some rabbits, this means having their throats sliced open while they're fully conscious and struggling. For others, it means having their necks broken or being struck in the head with a metal pipe or a piece of wood.

***"The animals are completely aware of what's happening and are fighting for their lives."***

According to the USDA's own meat inspectors, some rabbits are fully conscious as they have meat hooks jabbed through their legs. Workers hang them up by "running a meat hook through the rabbit's leg muscle and sometimes into the bone."

Hung upside down, the rabbits then have their heads sawed off as they struggle and cry in pain. According to inspectors, workers "use a dull knife and have to keep using it over and over to decapitate the rabbit. The workers were having to try three or four times to remove the rabbit's head. There were occasions where the knife slipped and the rabbit's ears were cut off.

"A worker had numerous scratches and bite marks from the rabbits struggling to survive as he was killing them," the inspectors continued. "The rabbits will cry almost like an infant with loud shrieking noises."

Outraged by what they saw, some USDA inspectors contacted their supervisors. They were told that no action would be taken to stop these atrocities "because rabbits are classified as poultry by USDA and are therefore excluded from Humane Slaughter Act enforcement."

### STOP THE TORTURE NOW

Please contact the Secretary of Agriculture. Tell him that no farm animals should be slaughtered while still fully conscious. Ask that the USDA adopt regulations to include rabbits as well as chickens under the Humane Slaughter Act. Urge the Secretary to take immediate action to stop the kind of brutality that his own inspectors are witnessing.

Mike Johanns  
Secretary of Agriculture  
Room 200-A  
United States Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250  
Phone: (202) 720-3631  
Fax: (202) 720-2166  
Email: [agsec@usda.gov](mailto:agsec@usda.gov)



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### PetSmart & live animal sales

Regarding PetSmart's Luv-A-Pet Adoption Centers, described in your September 2005 edition, and the October 2005 letter from PetSmart Charities vice president Susana M. Della Maddalena, I sincerely appreciate all that PetSmart Charities does for dogs and cats, but implore PetSmart to reconsider selling other animals as merchandise.

Birds, reptiles, fish and small mammals deserve the same respect as dogs and cats. Petco, pressured by PETA and other animal rights groups, in April 2005 agreed to stop selling large parrots. Should we now campaign against PetSmart?

—Tami Myers  
The Angry Parrot, Inc  
P.O. Box 442  
Thorndike, MA 01079  
Phone: 413-283-5039  
<Tami@thebeakretreat.com>  
<www.theangryparrot.org>

**Editor's note:** PetSmart Charities, a subsidiary of PetSmart, has no part in deciding what PetSmart stores sell. PetSmart Charities executives have for at least eight years urged PetSmart to extend to other species the philosophy that dogs and cats should be adopted, not sold. A shrill response from some small mammal advocates several years ago appeared to halt discussion of experimentally offering small mammals for adoption rather than sale. Petco, partnering with the House Rabbit Society, in mid-2004 began offering rabbits for adoption at selected stores.

## Forced Labor on the Factory Farm by Karen Davis, PhD, founder & president, United Poultry Concerns

"Unless they were productive, their lives were worthless to their masters."

—Anne Applebaum, *Gulag, A History*

A primary difference between a factory farm and a concentration camp would appear to be the role of forced labor.

"Work was the central function of most Soviet camps," according to Anne Applebaum in *Gulag: A History*. In Nazi Germany, Hitler built camps to terrorize the population into compliance, and, after war broke out, to provide German industry with cheap, expendable labor. "The entire existence of Nazi concentration camps was marked

by a constant tension between work and extermination," says Enzo Traverso in *The Origins of Nazi Violence*.

Compared to our usual concept of "work" as "physical and/or mental effort exerted to do or make something," the notion that chickens on a factory farm "work" may seem strange. Granted, egg-laying hens are caged in horrible conditions, but while they are there, are they not just laying eggs the way apples fall from a tree?

In fact, the formation and laying of an egg is an extremely demanding biological activity for a hen, under any conditions. And while chickens raised for meat have been

forced to become, in Michael Watts' words, wretched "sites of accumulation," how does becoming buried in one's own flesh constitute work, or anything that could reasonably be regarded as forced labor?

If this seems a stretch, consider Watts' imagery in his essay *The Age of the Chicken*, where he writes that "the designer chicken establishes the extent to which nutritional and genetic sciences have produced a man-made broiler, a cyborg, to fit the needs of industry." There is "something grotesque," Watts argues, "about the creation of a creature which is a sort of steroidally enhanced growth machine, producing in unprecedentedly short periods of time enormous quantities of flesh around a distorted skeleton. . . . What is striking about the chicken is the extent to which the biological body has been actually constructed physically to meet the needs of the industrial labor process."

Striking it is. In the 20th century the domesticated chicken was divided through genetic research into two separate utility strains, two separate "divisions of labor," one designed for egg production, the other for meat production. The model of the chicken, in both cases, is based on machine metaphors derived from industrial technology. Factory-farmed chickens are not only *in* factories: they are regarded by the chicken industry *as* factories. The hen, originally a wild jungle fowl, and once an archetype of motherhood, has been converted, economically and rhetorically, to an "egg-laying machine."

If hens spoke human language, they would say with the women whose value in Margaret Atwood's book *The Handmaid's Tale* resides solely in their reproductive organs, "We are containers. It is only the insides of our bodies that are important," and of their captors, they would agree: "They didn't care what they did to your feet or your hands...For [their] purposes your feet and your hands are not essential."

Like the existence of prisoners in concentration camps, the existence of chickens in the poultry industry is marked by a ceaseless interplay between forced labor and extermination, between existence as bodily "performance" and existence as industrial waste.

The forced labor of chickens on factory farms is internalized forced labor. Like everything else in their lives, including their lives, the work imposed on these birds is invisible.

This is because, in addition to its being conducted inside total confinement buildings, the work has been built into the chicken's genome. The bird's body is now locked into a state of perpetual warfare with itself and with the essential nature of the chicken as such.

A former chicken farmer captures something of the cruel and unnatural burden embedded within these birds when she writes that "the sign of a good meat flock is the number of birds dying from heart attacks."

Factory-farmed chickens are designed not only to be slaughtered at early ages, but to die prematurely regardless. They are forced to produce too many eggs if they are "laying" hens, and to generate, from the overstrained pumping of their hearts, too much muscle tissue if they are "broiler" chickens.

Industry sources say that hens used for egg production are so overwrought that they exhibit the "emotionality" of "hysteria," and that something as simple as an electrical storm can produce "an outbreak of hysteria" in four-to-eight-week-old "broiler" chickens. These chickens are suffering in systems inimical to their basic nature, in ways that could equal and even exceed the suffering of human prisoners.

Impregnating chickens with induced pathologies and forced-labor pain starts in the genetics laboratory. Experiments on chickens are conducted in an underworld of corporate and governmental terrorism euphemized as "basic research," "biomedical research," "toxicity research," and "agricultural research."

Just as there were no restraints on what the Nazis felt they could do in the concentration camps to human prisoners, so there are no restraints on what human beings are doing and will continue to do to chickens.

United Poultry Concerns promotes compassionate and respectful treatment of domestic fowl. This column is derived from Karen Davis' book *The Holocaust and the Henmaid's Tale: A Case for Comparing Atrocities*, reviewed on page 22.

### Rehovot

With reference to your September article "Israeli rescuers remove about 400 animals from Gaza," no mention was made of the Rehovot Society for the Protection of Animals. Using our rescue van, donated by the Royal SPCA of Great Britain, and members' own cars, we brought many cats and dogs to safety. On September 3, 2005 we and Let The Animals Live had an adoption day for the rescued animals. All of our rescued dogs, some dogs already in our care, and six cats found new loving homes.



—Mrs. V. Santar  
Rehovot SPA  
POB 1067  
Rehovot 76110, Israel  
Phone: 972-8-9445497  
<www.israelpets.org>

### Marvin Mackie, DVM

In your October 2005 article on the QuickSpay DVD you misspelled Dr. Mackie's last name. For future reference, it's W. Marvin Mackie, DVM.



—Janet Ashley  
Administrative Manager  
Animal Birth Control  
450 Arcadia Drive  
San Pedro CA 90731  
Los Angeles, Calif.  
<Spaydvm@aol.com>

We have known and appreciated Dr. Mackie's work for many years, but also misspelled his name in our September 2005 article "Who invented no-kill?" Apologies!

## ANIMAL PEOPLE Holiday Nut Roast

### Mix together:

2 pounds of firm tofu, mashed well  
2 cups of coarsely chopped walnuts  
(Other nuts may be substituted, such as sunflower seeds or pecans.)

### Then thoroughly blend in:

1/4 cup of soy sauce  
2 teaspoons thyme leaves  
1 teaspoon basil leaves  
2 tablespoons of dried parsley or  
1/2 cup of chopped fresh parsley  
1 finely chopped onion  
1 teaspoon minced garlic

(Seasonings may be altered to suit preferences. For example, a teaspoon of sage may be added, or you may add more garlic)

### Finally, add:

1 cup of dried breadcrumbs  
1/2 cup of whole wheat flour

Mix all ingredients well. Turn into oiled pan(s) and form into a 1-inch thick loaf. Rub the top of the loaf with a very thin coating of olive or other vegetable oil. Cover the pan(s) with foil, and bake for one hour at 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Take the foil off the pan and cook about 10 minutes longer, until the top of the loaf is browned. The loaf tastes best when crispy.



Serve with cranberry sauce, applesauce, or apple butter. Good with vegetarian gravy and cornbread dressing (you can adapt any traditional recipe by simply substituting vegetable broth or water for the customary meat broth).

### Vegan cornbread

#### Mix dry ingredients:

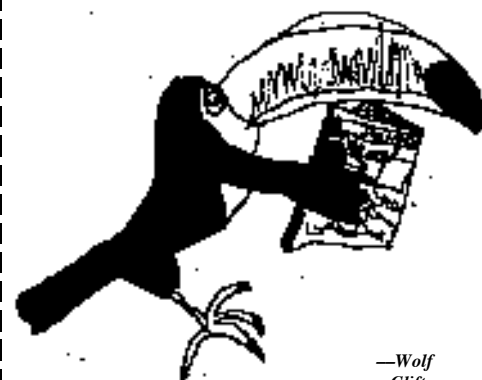
1 cup white flour  
3 Tablespoons sugar  
3 teaspoons baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 cup corn meal

#### Mix wet ingredients:

1 cup of soymilk  
1/4 cup vegetable oil

Stir the two mixtures together until fully moistened. Turn batter into oiled square or round cake pan. Bake 20-25 minutes, until just brown.

## YES! I'M AN ANIMAL PERSON!



—Wolf  
Clifton

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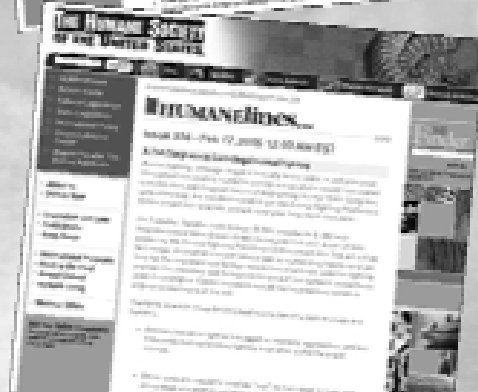
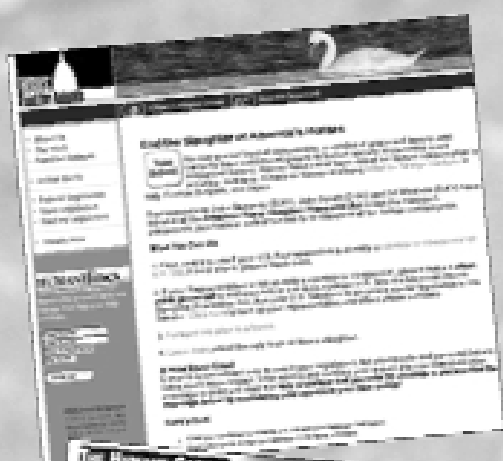
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# Humane reps can't get to H5N1 sites in Croatia

**DUBROVNIK**—Concern that the potentially human-killing avian flu H5N1 might hit Croatia during the October 18-19, 2005 International Companion Animal Welfare Conference in Dubrovnik proved premature.

Though the spread of H5N1 from nearby parts of Romania, Russia, and Turkey was considered inevitable, the first cases were not actually detected until October 21, when six swans were found dead at a fish farm near Zdenci National Park.

Tissue samples from the dead swans were rushed to Britain for further testing, but Croatian officials did not wait for the results before killing all 10,000 chickens and other domestic fowl kept within three kilometers of where the swans were discovered.

Poultry product sales fell by half.

A similar poultry massacre followed when more dead swans were found about 15 kilometres south of the first H5N1 outbreak—but wild birds got a break, when health officials cancelled the hunting seasons for ducks, geese, and woodcocks. Pheasant hunt-

ing was briefly suspended, then reinstated, after the proprietors of commercial hunting estates complained about their anticipated losses.

Most of the representatives of international animal advocacy groups who converged on Dubrovnik were still in Croatia when the poultry massacres started, due to limited flight schedules. However, several representatives who looked into monitoring the slaughter to see that the most humane practicable procedures were followed found that almost the only way to get to Zdenci was to fly to Britain first, then fly to Hungary, rent a car, and drive.

Complaints about the slaughter methods were subsequently amplified by Animal Friends Croatia (*see below*), who complained that the killing was an exercise in mass hysteria.

Defined by ethnic warfare rather than geographic logic, Croatia is shaped like the letter "C." Zdenci is along the upper edge of the "C." Zagreb, the national capital, is at the back of the "C." Dubrovnik lies alongside the Adriatic Sea at the extreme end of the lower portion. The interior of the "C" is Bosnia & Herzegovina.

## Animal Friends Croatia halts beagle experiments & wins circus animal act bans, *but who are they?*

**ZAGREB**—The difficulty of getting from one part of Croatia to another may have kept Animal Friends Croatia from attending the International Companion Animal Welfare Conference in Dubrovnik—but they were busy.

Between October 10 and November 11, Animal Friends Croatia won bans on circus animal acts in ten cities: Mursko Sredisce, Varazdin, Donji Mholjac, Rovinj, Velika Gorica, Split, Delnice, Gospić, Cakovec, and Ozalj.

The string of victories started 81 days after Animal Friends Croatia exposed and ended a series of debilitating surgical experiments on 32 beagles at the University of Zagreb Medical School, following just six days of campaigning.

The campaign was amplified by all radio and TV stations in Zagreb, five days in a row, and was endorsed by 15 leading Croatian public figures, including national president Stejepan Mesic.

Eventually the beagles were surren-

dered to Animal Friends Croatia.

"The first part of the Battle for the Beagles is over," posted Animal Friends Croatia international campaigns coordinator Bernard Vjeran Franolic. "The second part will be pressing charges against Dr. Antun Brkic and Dr. Slobodan Vukicevic," who were responsible for the surgeries, "and the start of our campaign to strengthen the Animal Welfare Law of Croatia."

Who are Animal Friends Croatia? Prominent members, other than Franolic, include president Luka Oman and spokesperson Snjezana Klopotan. They appear to have PETA sponsorship.

Many people at the International Companion Animal Welfare Conference knew of them from the widely distributed Animal Friends Croatia electronic newsletter, but only one person **ANIMAL PEOPLE** asked had ever actually met them, and few could recall receiving responses to e-mails of introduction.



The first animal shelter in Dubrovnik occupies a former artillery post. (Kim Bartlett)

## Animal welfare on the Dalmatian coast

**DUBROVNIK**—The Austrian-based Vier Pfoten mobile veterinary teams often seemingly drive back into time in formerly Communist central Europe, but usually just decades, not centuries.

In Dubrovnik to sterilize dogs and cats for two weeks overlapping the October 2005 International Companion Animal Welfare Conference, Vier Pfoten international project manager Amir Khalil, DVM, and surgical team headed by Katia Kovacev, DVM set up outside the building that was the city quarantine station during the Black Death in the 14th century.

The marble walled central city just beyond, little changed since the 13th century, reputedly inspired the Minas Tirith "white city" scenes in the *Lord of the Rings* film trilogy. Among the oldest ports on the Dalmatian coast, Dubrovnik has had a breakwater since pre-Roman times.

Yet organized animal welfare work only began in Dubrovnik circa 2001, with the formation of the dog rescue group *Drustvo Za Zastitu Zivotinja*. The group gained a shelter early in 2005, winning civic permission to put up fences and use outbuildings at a ruined artillery outpost overlooking the city. The stoneworks were

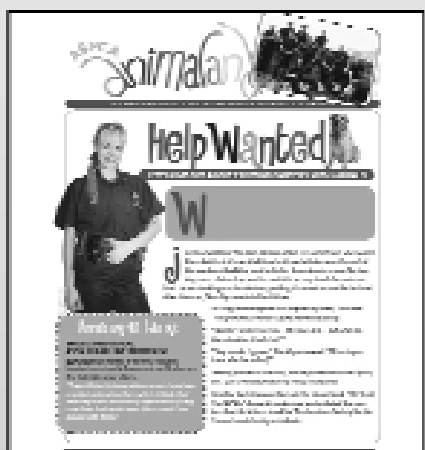
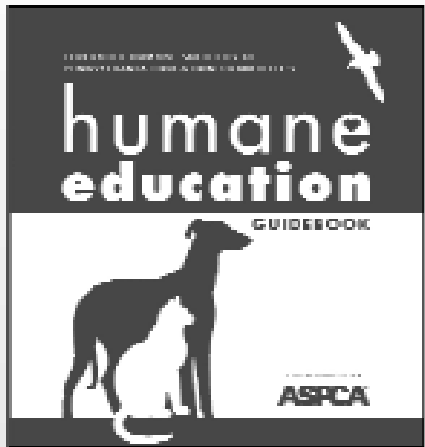
probably built in Napoleonic times, but were used most recently by Serbians who shelled the local World Heritage landmarks in 1991-1992, killing about 250 residents.

Managed by Amica Sambrailo, who cofounded *Drustvo Za Zastitu Zivotinja* with her sister Sandra Grljevic, the shelter houses about 100 dogs, none purebred Dalmatians but about 40% of Dalmatian build, with black-and-white coloration.

The cats of Dubrovnik are also mostly black-and-white. The surrounding cliffs and rugged shore were historically a stronghold of eagles and other birds of prey, depleted by human persecution during the 20th century but now making a comeback. When the raptors were many, black-and-white colors might have protected puppies and kittens among the stones and shadows below the aiirs.

Cat welfare work is represented by shopkeeper Katarina Uremouic, who collects funds to feed cats at the end of a Dubrovnik alley.

**CONTACT:** *Drustvo Za Zastitu Zivotinj*, Put Kupara 48, Mlini, Dubrovnik 20207, Croatia; phone 091-591-8434. *Katarina Uremouic*, Za Karmenom, BR 2, Dubrovnik 2000 Croatia; phone 091-323-655.



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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.*

## ESA rewrite author Pombo took junket funding from anti-animal welfare front

**WASHINGTON D.C.**—Central California rancher and House of Representatives Resources Committee chair Richard Pombo (R-Tracy) enjoyed the biggest victory of his political career on September 29, 2005, when the House passed his “Threatened & Endangered Species Recovery Act” 229-192, with 96 co-sponsors and little debate, just eight days after introduction.

Rolling back the 1973 Endangered Species Act, the chief feature-of the Pombo rewrite is a requirement that property owners must be compensated for any loss of land use that results from protecting animals or habitat.

“It establishes an extraordinary new entitlement program for developers and speculators that requires taxpayers to pay them unlimited amounts of money,” House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi (D-San Francisco) told Zachary Coile of the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Playing a perceived hot hand, Pombo followed up his ESA rewrite by introducing a draft bill to sell 15 National Parks for “energy or commercial development,” and to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and other coastal areas to more oil drilling, both perennial goals of Congressional “wise-use” Republicans.

Backed by U.S. President

### NEW STATE LAWS

**California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger** on October 7, 2005 signed into law a bill by state senator Jackie Speer (D-Hillsborough) that allows local governments to enact breed-specific dog sterilization ordinances. Cities and counties including San Francisco are reportedly rushing to have mandatory sterilization of pit bull terriers and other breeds commonly used in fighting in place when the state law takes effect on January 1, 2006.

**North Carolina Governor Mike Easley** in late September 2005 endorsed into law a felony penalty for anyone who is convicted in any way of participating in a cockfight, including spectating. Cockfighting is now illegal in 48 states and a felony in 32 of them.

**New York Governor George Pataki and Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm** in September 2005 signed into law bans on hunting via web sites.

George W. Bush, the Pombo ESA rewrite may run into more opposition in the U.S. Senate, where the ESA has much stronger and better positioned Republican support.

Bob Williams of the Center for Public Integrity and Steve Henn of the American Public Media radio program *Marketplace* interrupted Pombo’s momentum by disclosing on October 18 that Pombo “may have broken the law by not paying taxes on at least two foreign trips costing more than \$23,000, paid for by the nonprofit International Foundation for the Conservation of Natural Resources.”

The misleadingly named IFCNR is a wise-use front that “received donations from nearly three dozen funders from 2000 to 2004,” Williams and Henn said. “Most of the money came from the food, agriculture, or fur industries.”

The top listed IFCNR donor was Darden Restaurants, owners of Red Lobster and Olive Garden restaurant chains, contributing \$574,000. Red Lobster sales of Canadian snow crabs are under boycott by the Humane Society of the U.S. and other groups as a pressure tactic in opposition to the Atlantic Canadian seal hunt.

The next three largest IFCNR donors were the National Trappers Association, \$143,890; the International Fur Trade Association, \$120,000; and Monsanto Corporation, the leading maker of bovine somatotropin, a synthetic hormone used to artificial-

ly boost milk production, \$115,000.

“Other big donors to the IFCNR include the Japan Whaling Association, the Maryland Trappers Association, Caspian Star Caviar, the [food service provider] Sysco Corporation, Smithfield Foods, Strauss Veal Company, and the University of Southern Mississippi’s Gulf Coast Research Laboratory,” Williams and Henn added.

The top individual donor, contributing \$47,022, was Lori J. White, a former IFCHR director according to Williams and Henn. White is wife of David Wills, who was listed as the chief contact for the IFCNR on their 2004 filing of IRS Form 990, and was listed as an IFCHR director in 2000.

IFCNR President Emeritus Stephen Boynton told Williams and Henn that Wills is not an IFCNR employee or officer, and called the listing in 2000 a mistake.

But Boynton said that Wills “is responsible for the IFCNRs financial affairs,” Williams and Henn summarized.

“Repeated phone calls to Wills seeking comment were not returned,” Williams and Henn said. “Boynton at one point agreed to set up a meeting between the Center, Wills and himself to discuss the foundation, but he later withdrew that offer, saying he didn’t think it would be in IFCNR’s best interest.”

Lori J. White, former wife of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals cofounder Alex Pacheco, married Wills in June 1995. Wills

## U.K. cruelty act update introduced

**LONDON**—British junior environment minister and minister for animal welfare Ben Bradshaw on October 14, 2005 introduced a long awaited new draft Animal Welfare Bill, which if passed by Parliament would be the first major update of the U.K. anti-cruelty statute since 1910.

Summarized Amanda Brown of *The Independent*, “The bill introduces a duty on those responsible for animals to do all that is reasonable to ensure the welfare of the creatures in their care—a duty which for the first time applies to non-domestic animals. The bill simplifies animal welfare legislation by bringing more than 20 pieces of legislation into one, strengthening penalties and elimi-

nating loopholes. Those causing unnecessary suffering to an animal will face up to 51 weeks in prison, a fine of up to £20,000 or both.”

Added *Guardian* political correspondent Matthew Tempest, “The bill applies to all vertebrates owned by people, except farmed animals and animals used for scientific experimentation.”

The draft animal welfare bill was lauded by Royal SPCA director general Jackie Ballard, herself a former Member of Parliament for the Liberal Democratic Party, but *Daily Telegraph* environment editor Charles Clover fretted that, “Keeping wild animals in circuses, docking the tails of dogs and some aspects of keeping game birds could be ended by stealth.”

was at the time vice president for investigations with the Humane Society of the U.S. The wedding was jointly performed in Mexico City by then-HSUS president John Hoyt and then-HSUS vice president Paul Irwin, both former clergymen.

A longtime Hoyt protégé, Wills was hired in 1972 at Hoyt’s recommendation to head the New Hampshire Humane Society. Wills reportedly left in 1978 just before the board discovered that funds were missing. Hoyt then recommended Wills to the Michigan Humane Society, where Wills was executive director, 1979-1989. Wills resigned from Michigan Humane when the board began inquiring into the disappearance of \$1.6 million. Bookkeeper Denise Hopkins was eventually convicted of embezzling \$56,000 of the missing sum.

Wills next founded the National Society for Animal Protection, but dissolved it when he took the HSUS position. Longtime Michigan Humane Society volunteer and employee Sandra LeBost of Royal Oak, Michigan, in June 1995 won a \$42,500 judgement against Wills for nonrepayment of loans he solicited in connection with starting NSAP. She was never able to collect the money.

In August 1995, three HSUS employees sued Wills for alleged sexual harassment and embezzling. Suspended by HSUS soon afterward, Wills was fired in November 1995, after **ANIMAL PEOPLE** detailed his history in three-edition series of exposés.

Wills countersued the HSUS employees who sued him. Those cases were settled out of court in mid-1998.

In June 1999 Wills pleaded guilty to one count of embezzling \$18,900 from HSUS between 1990 and mid-1995; agreed to pay restitution of \$67,800 to HSUS; and

## Horse slaughter moratorium weakened

**U.S. President George W. Bush on November 4, 2005 endorsed into law an eight-month suspension of federal funding for inspecting horse slaughterhouses,** included as a rider to a USDA appropriation bill. As originally passed by both the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives, the moratorium was to start immediately, having the effect of suspending horse slaughter for human consumption, and was to run for a year, but House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture chair Henry Bonilla (R-Texas) won a 120-day delay of implementation in conference committee. “Bonilla managed to sneak in confusing language that may allow horse slaughterhouses to hire their own meat inspectors and continue their operations,” added Gannett News Service correspondent John Hanchette.

## INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL LEGISLATION

**Twenty-three nations with native chimpanzees, bonobos, gorillas, and orangutans** on September 9, 2005 signed a Declaration on Great Apes in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, committing themselves to protecting great apes and ape habitat in terms similar to the language of the 1982 global moratorium on commercial whaling and the 1997 Kyoto protocol on climate change. The treaty was brokered through four years of negotiation by the Great Apes Survival Project, formed by the United Nations Environment Program and the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation. “GRASP has convinced nearly all of the range states that saving great apes is very much in their interests, by stressing that apes can bring enormous economic benefit to poor communities through eco-tourism,” summarized Michael McCarthy, environment editor of the *London Independent*. “The new agreement places ape conservation squarely in the context of strategies for poverty reduction and developing sustainable livelihoods.”

**The Director General and Inspector General of Police and Commissioner of the Department of Hindu Religious Institutions & Endowments in Tamil Nadu state, India,** in mid-October 2005 warned that “slaughtering animals, offering their organs, spilling their blood, exhibiting their flesh or bones, selling, or cooking them in the name of religion, deity, fair, festival, house warming, vehicle sanctification, etc., is punishable under the Karnataka Animal Sacrifice Prohibition Act of 1959.” Enforcement of the 46-year-old law has often been weak and sporadic. At request of the federal ministry of environment and forests, however, the Tamil Nadu Director General of Police in September 2005 signaled a crackdown by ordering all city and district police departments to form units mandated to enforce anti-cruelty laws.

**A 59-point pet care bylaw taking effect on November 9, 2005 in Rome, Italy,** reportedly bans keeping goldfish in small round bowls, requires that dogs be walked at least once a day, bans displays of live animals in storefront

advertising, forbids the use of choke collars and electrical shock collars, bans tail-docking, ear-cropping, and declawing of dogs and cats, and officially recognizes feral cat caretakers. Similar bylaws have been adopted lately by other Italian cities, wrote Barbara McMahon of *The Guardian*. “Reggio Emilia, near Bologna, banned boiling live lobsters,” McMahon said, “and birds such as budgerigars and parrots must be kept in pairs.”

**The Bulgarian Council for Electronic Media** on November 8, 2005 ordered that Bulgarian TV channels must not broadcast “psychological or physical violence against humans or animals” between 6 a.m. and 11 p.m.

**The 577-member French National Assembly** on October 17, 2005 unanimously resolved that *foie gras*, produced by force-feeding ducks and geese until they develop unnaturally distended livers, is “part of the cultural and gastronomic patrimony, protected in France.” The Israeli Supreme Court in August 2003 banned *foie gras* production as unconstitutionally cruel. (See “Letters,” page 6.)

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## Africans turn from guns to courts (from p. 1)

Zimbabwean president-for-life Robert Mugabe, cynically exploiting the parks to pay off their supporters; still neo-colonial *bwanas* using proximity to the parks to stock private hunting preserves, most conspicuously in South Africa; and still some overseas nonprofit organizations funding paramilitary efforts to defend the parks, as in past decades.

The effect of the Mugabe regime on wildlife habitat is particularly evident in Hwange National Park now, wrote Peta Thornycroft in the October 31, 2005 edition of *The Independent*, because officials diverted to purchasing new cars for themselves the funds that were needed to maintain the pumps that keep the Hwange waterholes filled. Whole herds of buffalo, zebras, antelope, and other species are left at risk.

"This is mismanagement, nothing more. It's not a natural disaster," said Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force chair Johnny Rodriguez. Members of the all-volunteer nonprofit task force recently donated diesel fuel and made pump repairs as best they could to try to save some of the animals.

Yet the struggle is now more often among African lawyers in neatly pressed suits than gun-toting rangers and rebels, with courts making the key decisions.

### Fighting Amboseli giveaway

The battle over Amboseli National Park in Kenya erupted in earnest on September 29, 2005. With a November

21 referendum on a proposed new national constitution looming, Kenyan president Mwai Kibaki directed the Kenya Wildlife Service to surrender management of Amboseli to the Olkejuado County Council, to be managed by the Kajiado region Masai in the same manner that the Narok and Trans Mara councils manage and share revenue from the Maasai Mara Game Reserve.

Kajiado leaders contend that the government improperly seized Amboseli to create a park in 1974.

Other regional councils have also demanded control of national parks as the price of endorsing the Kibaki constitution. These demands have come at the same time that Masai leaders including Minister of State William ole Ntimama have threatened to lead hunts to kill lions, elephants, and other species whose ventures outside wildlife reserves often result in human deaths, injuries, and economic losses.

The lion and elephant populations of Kenya have both been poached to a fraction of what they were 30 years ago, but human settlement around the national parks has increased.

As result of the Amboseli turnover, "Kajiado leaders can anticipate a financial windfall to build schools, hospitals and roads," editorialized *The Nation*, of Nairobi. "In terms of promoting rural development, the government has done the right thing. The revenue will directly benefit the local people.

"However, the timing suggests that the decision was based not on the need to give Kajiado people control of their resources, but as part of a bid to entice them to back the government position on the vote for the proposed new constitution. To put it more bluntly, official policy is being dictated by the need to bribe specific communities in order to secure their political backing."

The Kenya High Court on October 12 granted standing to the East Africa Wildlife Society, Centre for Environmental Legal Research and Education, Born Free Foundation, and Youth for Conservation to sue seeking to nullify the turnover of Amboseli. On October 28 the High Court also granted a restraining order to suspend the turnover, pending the outcome of the lawsuit.



These animals came running and fought for water when volunteers refilled a Hwange National Park waterhole. (Johnny Rodriguez)

### Anti-chaining & feral cat ordinances

The cities of Burnaby and Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, in October and November 2005 adopted anti-chaining ordinances that Animal Advocates of B.C. founder Judy Stone believes are "the best in North America." Animal Advocates of B.C. began promoting anti-chaining ordinances through advertising in *ANIMAL PEOPLE* about seven months before Tammy Grimes formed the U.S.-based anti-chaining organization Dogs Deserve Better, and 20 months before Connecticut passed an anti-chaining law sought since 1986 by National Institute for Animal Advocacy founder Julie Lewin. The Animal

Advocates, Dogs Deserve Better, and NIAA campaigns have now won banning or restricting chaining in almost as many cities as children have been killed by chained dogs (58) since Grimes began counting in 2003.

The Indianapolis city council on October 10 voted 26-1 to make a neuter/return program run by the local organization IndyFeral a part of the official city animal control policy. "IndyFeral charges colony caregivers \$20 per cat for their service, compared to approximately \$120 per cat trapped and killed by Indianapolis Animal Care and Control," noted *Nuvo Magazine* writer Mary Lee Pappas.



### Bushmen win in Botswana

An October 28 Botswana High Court verdict went the opposite way, as the court ordered the Botswana government to allow Basarwa tribesman Amogolang Segootsane and his family to return, with their goats, to their ancestral land in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve. The ruling may have been the beginning of the end of an often violent 20-year dispute between the Basarwa and the reserve managers, but was viewed in some quarters as also potentially the beginning of the end of the reserve itself.

"Dozens of Bushmen have been evicted from the reserve at gunpoint in recent weeks," claimed the indigenous rights group Survival International. "Three Bushmen, including a seven-year old boy, have been shot and wounded."

Earlier, one Basarwa allegedly died during a brutal police interrogation. Several others have been killed in similar confrontations during past years.

The September 2005 shooting started after members of an organization called First People of the Kalahari tried to return to the park after being removed in 2002. Twenty-eight Basarwa were arrested by police firing tear gas and rubber bullets on September 24, according to Survival International, after the Bushmen tried to take food and water to relatives who had not yet been evicted.

*ANIMAL PEOPLE* was unable to locate any independent media accounts of the conflict. Survival International said reporters were kept away by the Botswana government.

On September 2, however, Botswana presidential

(continued on page 11)

## Buck Starbucks!

"I hate rodeos and animal cruelty more than I like soy lattes."



"Contributing positively to our communities and environment is so important to Starbucks that it's a guiding principle of our mission statement," they say.

At this year's Cheyenne Frontier Days in Wyoming, what was so important to Starbucks was supporting an extremely abusive rodeo. The coffee giant called it a "festival."

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## Turning from guns to courts (from page 10)

press secretary Jeff Ramsay told Sello Motseta of Associated Press that parts of the reserve were closed due to "a highly contagious outbreak of sarcoptic mange among herds of domestic goats and sheep illegally brought into the reserve by Bushmen who resisted being relocated."

Ramsay said the disease had "a high fatality rate and was potentially disastrous to native springbok," Motseta wrote.

About the size of Switzerland, the Central Kalahari Game Reserve was formed in 1961 to protect the Basarwa and their habitat, including the animals they hunted. Over time, however, the Basarwa turned from hunting to herding, resulting in habitat degradation. Many of those who continued hunting were caught killing endangered or threatened species. Pressured by conservationists, the Botswana government began trying to persuade the Basarwa to voluntarily resettle outside the park in 1986, and started forcibly evicting herders in 1997.

The Basarwa population of the reserve, now about 1,400, peaked at circa 5,000 in the 1960s.

### Great Limpopo

Similar conflict may be ahead as result of the merger of wildlife reserves in Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe to create the Great Limpopo Transfrontier

Park. Fifteen years in planning, the park "has been praised as an example of regional cooperation and sustainable development, raising foreign investment and creating much needed jobs," wrote Kristy Siegfried in the October 15 edition of *The Guardian*.

However, at drought-stricken Salani village in Mozambique, Siegfried said, "Since officials removed a section of fence between Kruger National park in South Africa and Limpopo National Park in Mozambique and enforced a hunting ban to allow animals to begin populating the land along the Limpopo River, villagers and their livestock are vulnerable to predators. The hunting ban has depleted the villagers' already meagre diet and the promised tourism jobs are a distant prospect."

"Limpopo National Park lacks tarred roads, running water, and electricity, much less tourist-friendly amenities. Game-viewing opportunities are still rare, and it will take years for zebras, giraffes, impala and rhinos to populate the entire area."

Further, Siegfried noted, "No donor is willing to fund the Zimbabwean section of the park, which includes Gonarezhou National Park. South African papers report that Gonarezhou has been invaded," by supporters of Robert Mugabe, "and that much of its game has been killed."

—Merritt Clifton

## Will Thai zoo crowd eat Kenya wildlife?

**BANGKOK, NAIROBI**—A long-controversial sale of 135 wild animals from Kenya to the Chiang Mai Night Safari zoo in Thailand on November 10 appeared to be almost a done deal.

Kenya president Mwai Kibaki and Thai prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra ceremonially signed the agreement at the State House in Nairobi.

The transaction is to include both black and white rhinos, elephants, lions, leopards, cheetahs, hyenas, servals, hippos, and at least 14 hooved species.

But the deal was originally to have included more than 300 animals, as described in July 2005. It was scaled back after Youth for Conservation rallied international opposition to the animal sale, over a variety of humane, tactical, precedential, and conservation considerations.

Already claiming 726 animals of 103 species, the Chiang Mai Night Safari opened for promotional tours by invited guests on November 16. The public opening is to be on January 1, 2006.

Youth for Conservation founder Josphat Ngunyo pledged to continue efforts to stop the transfer of the Kenyan animals. The seemingly lost cause gained momentum after Chiang Mai Night Safari director Plodprasop Suraswadi disclosed plans for the park to include a buffet restaurant serving tiger, lion,

elephant, and giraffe meat.

Three of the four species that Plodprasop Suraswadi said would be eaten are native to Kenya, and would apparently be bred from the Kenyan stock.

Elephants are also native to Thailand—and are a symbol of both the Buddhist religion and the Thai nation, which is 95% Buddhist.

Animal advocates in both Kenya and Thailand were appalled.

"The idea will set the country's image back a century," warned Wildlife Fund Thailand secretary Surapol Duangkae, "because nowadays zoos around the world aim to educate, and to conserve wildlife, campaigning to stop the killing of animals."

"The zoo should be a place for study and conservation, not killing. Promoting the eating of wild animals will confuse adults and children about what's right and what's wrong," added Wildlife Conservation Society representative Petch Manopavitr.

Formerly the Thai fisheries minister, and later the wildlife minister, Plodprasop Suraswadi lost both positions amid scandals. A Thai senate panel in late 2004 officially found reason to believe that he illegally issued permits allowing the Sri Racha Tiger Zoo to sell 100 tigers to China. The panel concluded that the tiger sale was a commercial transaction, not a legitimate attempt to conserve the species.

## Events

**Nov. 20:** *Touched By An Animal Benefit Lunch*, Chicago. Info: 773-728-6336.

**Nov. 21-24:** *Intl. Federation of Environmental Journalists Congress & Vatavaran wildlife film festival*, New Delhi. Info: <www.cmsindia.org/-vatavaran2003>.

**Nov. 25:** *Deadline to apply for 2005 InterNICHE Humane Education Award* for replacement of harmful animal use in higher education. Info: <coordinator@inter-niche.org>.

**Dec. 1-4:** *1st Natl. Conf. on Animals*, Lagos, Nigeria. Info: Emerald Animals, c/o <conferenceforanimals@yahoo.co.uk>.

**Dec. 9:** *Animal Care & Control of New York City awards reception*. Info: <events@nycacc.org>; 212-788-4000.

**Dec. 10:** *Intl. Animal Rights Day*. Check local schedules of events.

**Dec. 17:** *Christmas for the Animals*, Peace River Refuge & Ranch, Zolfo Springs, Florida. Info: <www.peaceriver-refuge.org>; 863-735-0804.



### IF YOUR GROUP IS HOLDING AN EVENT,

please let us know—we'll be happy to announce it here, and we'll be happy to send free samples of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** for your guests.

## MADDIE'S FUND® GIVES \$1.7 MILLION TO CORNELL UNIVERSITY'S COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Maddie's Fund® has awarded Cornell University a \$1.7 million grant to support a six-year shelter medicine program. Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program at Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine will be named in perpetuity in honor of Maddie, the Miniature Schnauzer who made this funding possible.

The goal of Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program is to educate veterinarians and veterinary students in the field of animal shelter medicine to help achieve a no-kill society that guarantees a home for all healthy and treatable shelter animals.

Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program consists of four components:

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Shelter medicine research.

*To read the entire proposal submitted by the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, go to [www.maddiesfund.org](http://www.maddiesfund.org) and look under "Funded Projects."*



The Pet Rescue

Maddie's Fund® The Pet Rescue Foundation ([www.maddiesfund.org](http://www.maddiesfund.org)) is a family foundation endowed through the generosity of Cheryl and Dave Duffield, PeopleSoft Founder and Board Chairman. The foundation is helping to fund the creation of a no-kill nation. The first step is to help create programs that guarantee loving homes for all healthy shelter dogs and cats through collaborations with rescue groups, traditional shelters, animal control agencies and veterinarians. The next step will be to save the sick and injured pets in animal shelters nationwide. Maddie's Fund is named after the family's beloved Miniature Schnauzer who passed away in 1997.

Maddie's Fund, 2223 Santa Clara Ave, Suite B, Alameda, CA 94501  
510-337-8989, [info@maddiesfund.org](mailto:info@maddiesfund.org), [www.maddiesfund.org](http://www.maddiesfund.org)



# Rescued donkeys bring peace to

**LISCARROLL, County Cork**—In time the Donkey Sanctuary of Ireland may be remembered as the most significant institution in the history of the blood-soaked rolling hills of Liscarroll.

The 350 donkeys peacefully grazing at the impeccably tidy 30-acre visitor center and the equally well-managed 70-acre donkey retirement farm together form a living monument to a globally influential turning point in animal/human relations.

Donkeys are known to have lived at Knockardbane, the farm that became the visitor center, since 1926, when Donkey Sanctuary manager Paddy Barrett's grandfather retired from a career as a police officer, and took up grazing livestock instead.

But in all likelihood donkeys have inhabited the site for almost as long as donkeys have been in Ireland.

At the highest point on Knockardbane, as far from the office as visitors can walk within the fenced trails, a circle of half-buried white-painted stones highlight the earthworks that are the remaining traces of Cearbhall's Fort, a now little remembered landmark in both Irish and equine history.

This is where Cearbhall MacDúnlainne, Lord of Osraighe, built the fortified cavalry stable for which he became known to his enemies as "Cearbhall MacDunghill."

He was not called that to his face.

Cearbhall was first recorded in history when he fought off an attack by Vikings who invaded overland from Dublin in 845. Alternately a foe and an ally of the Vikings, thwarting frequent attacks by both sea and land, between raids on rival regional warlords, Cearbhall for the next 43 years proved exceptionally adept at survival, if never quite strong enough to convert victories into conquest.

Cearbhall was most nearly defeated in 868. His longtime arch-foes from Leinster cornered him at Cearbhall's Fort. Charging up the steep hill hellbent on effecting his quick demise, they reached the summit winded. A cavalry charge repelled and slaughtered them.

The name "Cearbhall" over time metamorphized into a description of his prized "skewbald" horses. While the term evolved on into "piebald" during the 19th century. "skewbald" became "Stewball," the name of a wine-drinking horse kept by Sir Arthur Marvel. Stewball circa 1790 was entered into a match race in Kildare against Miss Portly, a gray mare of comparably dubious habits kept by Sir Ralph Gore.

Miss Portly took an early lead but stumbled and fell. Stewball, the winner, was remembered in a ballad first published in 1829, made famous in mid-20th century versions by The Weavers, Lonnie Donnegan, Joan Baez, and Peter Paul & Mary.

The remains of Cearbhall's Fort overlook the ruins of Liscarroll Castle, among

the largest Norman edifices in Ireland, believed to have been built by David Og de Barry circa 1280.

Garrett Barry, possibly a distant descendant of Og de Barry, in 1642 captured Limerick with an Irish rebel army of 1,500. Rallying the countryside, Barry had 6,000 men behind him, including 500 horsemen commanded by one Oliver Stephenson, when he stormed Liscarroll Castle in mid-July.

The victory lasted just two weeks.

Murrough O'Brien, Earl of Inchiquinn, marched from Cork to take Liscarroll back. Stephenson captured Inchiquinn in an ill-timed charge, but Inchiquinn's brother shot Stephenson dead through the eye-piece of his helmet. As Stephenson's cavalry fell back, O'Brien counter-charged, killing more than 700 rebel riders and foot soldiers, capturing 50 rebel officers alive. All were hanged the next morning, effectively ending any threat the revolt posed to English rule.

Though there are plaques at the Donkey Sanctuary identifying the fortifications, more signage describes the ancient lime kiln just behind the office, used for centuries to make mortar for brickwork.

The Barrett family commitment to making peace rather than war turned from agriculture to humane work in 1964, when Paddy Barrett's father took a job as field inspector for the Irish SPCA. From time to time during the next 17 years he occasionally impounded abused animals, especially donkeys, who at the time were still heavily used in Ireland for farm labor and rural transport. Having nowhere else to take them, he brought them home.

This was the beginning of the Barrett Animal Sanctuary. Succeeding his father with the Irish SPCA, Paddy Barrett formally incorporated the sanctuary in 1982, left the Irish SPCA to manage the sanctuary fulltime in 1987, and a year later formally affiliated with the Donkey Sanctuary of the United Kingdom, founded in 1969 by Elisabeth Svensden.

To hear Paddy Barrett, he and his family knew nothing about donkeys before Svensden became involved, and not much about anything else; but Paddy is an Irish story-teller. The official Donkey Sanctuary version is that Svensden began helping to fund site improvements because she was favorably impressed with how much the Barrett family was doing for donkeys with so little by way of public support.

Renamed the Donkey Sanctuary of Ireland, the project eventually expanded to Hannigan's Farm, on another hilltop on the far side of the main road to Liscarroll. Today incoming donkeys go first to Hannigan's Farm, for examination, any necessary veterinary treatment, and quarantine and extended care, if appropriate.

Many donkeys stay at Hannigan's

# Dog racers muzzle critics (from page 1)

road, the direction from which attack was most likely. The upper floors of the keep housed the knights and their families. The lower floor housed their servants.

At the back of the keep stood a two-story stable, with an armory in between. On the ground level were the horses. Above was a loft, defended by loopholes, with a pitched roof to keep firebrands out of the hay.

Like most Norman castles, Sallins Castle was not designed to withstand a prolonged siege. The strategy, if attacked, was for most of the residents to put up the best fight they could, while riders or runners slipped out the back way to fetch help from the next castle, typically 10 to 20 miles distant along the main toll roads.

For the knights of Sallins, that meant Dublin, 18 miles east.

Hugonats exiled from France in the 16th century bought the Sallins keep, probably by then abandoned, and rebuilt it into a more comfortable house, after the style

of French chateaus, by opening windows through the Norman walls, filling most of the moat to keep down insects, and completely replacing the wooden interior.

The best-remembered residents of Sallins Castle and the neighborhood arrived in the 18th century, including the author Richard Brooke, who shared Sallins Lodge with his brother and their families for a few years early in the century; General Samuel Holt, who occupied the castle during and after the 1798 rebellion; and Theobald Wolfe Tone, instigator of the rebellion.

A resident of Sallins village, not the castle, Tone is buried at nearby Bodens-town. Poet Thomas Davis made the graveyard a nationalist shrine by erecting a stone to Tone's memory in 1843.

The Sallins Castle stable has probably housed greyhounds and other dogs for as long as it has existed. Norman knights typically kept a hunting pack in an otherwise (continued on page 13)



Paddy Barrett, manager of the Donkey Sanctuary of Ireland. (Kim Bartlett)

Farm for the remainder of their lives, but those who are the best prospects for adoption or demonstrate the most interest in human companionship are taken to Knockardbane.

Adopted donkeys are in effect on loan. The Donkey Sanctuary retains legal title to them, and may recall them at any time if visits by the Donkey Sanctuary inspectors find any sign of mistreatment.

The Donkey Sanctuary outreach to Ireland yielded such encouraging results that Svensden followed up by introducing field clinics to help donkeys in Mexico in 1984, conducted since 1991 with help from the International League for the Protection of Horses. The Donkey Sanctuary also started donkey clinics in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in 1986, adding mobile units in 1994, and built a complete donkey hospital in 1999 at the

Addis Ababa University veterinary school.

Svensden opened the Lamu Donkey Sanctuary on an island off the coast of Kenya in 1987. Since 1994 Donkey Sanctuary has also funded a donkey hospital and harness workshop at the Kenya SPCA in Nairobi.

Donkey Sanctuary affiliates in Gurgaon, Bhatti, and Ahmedabad, India, debuted in 1998, 2003, and 2004.

El Refugio del Burrito, a Donkey Sanctuary affiliate in Spain, opened in 2003.

**[Contact the Donkey Sanctuary of Ireland** c/o Liscarroll, Mallow, Co. Cork; telephone 353-22-48398; fax 353-22-48489; <donkey@indigo.ie>; <www.thedonkeysanctuary.ie>. **Contact the Donkey Sanctuary U.K.** c/o Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 0NU; telephone 44-01395-578222; fax 01395 579266; <thedonkeysanctuary@compuserve.com>; <www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk>.]

# Carmody caught with

**CAREW**—Animal Rights Action Network campaigns coordinator John Carmody, 23, may be the most often exposed activist in Ireland, but **ANIMAL PEOPLE** publisher Kim Bartlett did manage to photograph him—twice—with all his clothes on.

A more typical portrayal would show Carmody hunched over his laptop computer wherever he can connect, e-mailing the effervescently upbeat ARAN newsletter around the world, coordinating countless events and demonstrations on behalf of half a dozen international advocacy groups, and answering his cell telephone every five minutes.

Effectively a fulltime animal rights activist since age 16, Carmody takes clerical and sales jobs when he must to make ends meet. The laptop is ARAN's only "office," other than Carmody's bedroom, at his parents' home in Carew, a Limerick suburb where goats and horses graze in green strips, and where, he insists, some neighbors at times drag horses indoors.

A work ethic, frugality, and emotional intensity that has Carmody frequently bursting into tears in response to either animal or human suffering better characterize him than occasional nude demonstrations.

Yet the photos most often posted on web sites, tending to be best remembered,

show Carmody leading nude demos against the fur trade and Australian live sheep exports, and as a two-time participant in the PETA-sponsored "Running of the Nudes" protest against bullfighting in Pamplona, Spain.

"ARAN continues to grow on a monthly basis," Carmody proclaims. "We are now working with more activists, more members of the public, more groups here in Ireland, the United Kingdom, and around the world, along with maintaining the strong presence we continue to hold in the media. What is so encouraging," Carmody continues, "is that people are becoming more aware of cruelty to animals, and if they have the free time, they are wanting to do anything they possibly can to stand up against the industries that continue to exploit animals."

"We are making progress here in Ireland," Carmody insists, "and thanks to everyone who continues to help our work for animals, along with other groups across the country and around the world that are working just as hard to fight animal abuse, we are a family and we need to stay strong and committed to each other in order to win for the animals we all so dearly love."

**[Contact ARAN** c/o P.O. Box 722, Kildare, Ireland; telephone 353-87-62-75579; e-mail <arancampaigns@eircom.net>.]



ARAN founder John Carmody at the Donkey Sanctuary. (Kim Bartlett)



How the Irish dog racing industry muzzles humane critics (from page 12)

unoccupied horse stall. The stable appears to have been renovated only twice, by the Hugonauts, who built the present stalls, and by Hetherington, who added some tile walls and floors. Eventually Hetherington also converted the former servants' quarters into dog housing, and turned the outbuildings into kennels. The onetime gardens became runs.

Raising an annual budget of about \$150,000 per year, assisted by family and friends, Hetherington has ambitions of replacing the admittedly dilapidated, cold, wet, drafty medieval animal quarters with a state-of-the-art adoption palace. But that will take an influx of new funding from somewhere, perhaps a major bequest.

Hetherington claims to have adopted out more than 7,000 dogs since starting PAWS, 70% of them adults. Many were cast-offs from the Newbridge racetrack.

"We are the only animal rescue in Ireland currently taking greyhounds from the state-run dog pounds, and one of the few taking lurchers," or greyhound-mix hunting dogs, Hetherington says.

"All of the greyhounds are ex-racers, who have been taken to the pounds to be destroyed, usually at about two years of age," Hetherington continues. "As it is nearly impossible to rehome these dogs in Ireland, we have to hold them until we can get them to the United Kingdom or the U.S.," where many are rehomed by Louise Coleman of Greyhound Friends, in Hopkinton, Massachusetts.

The PAWS adoption record is outstanding, but has a more problematic side.

PAWS' work has been subsidized since 2001 by grants from the Irish government. Officially, there is no direct link between subsidies for animal welfare and

efforts to counter activist criticism of the greyhound industry. Yet PAWS began getting help after the Dublin-based Alliance for Animal Rights and the American/European Greyhound Alliance embarrassed agriculture minister Joe Walsh with an August 2000 protest outside Leinster House, seat of the Irish Parliament.

The Irish SPCA followed up in 2001 with an investigative report detailing cruel treatment of greyhounds exported to Spain.

As the Irish greyhound export issue gained global attention, the aid increased—some of it coming directly from the industry.

"During 2004 we hugely expanded our greyhound rescue," daughter Gina Hetherington explained in a recent PAWS newsletter. "The Irish Greyhound Board has committed to pay kenneling fees and neutering costs for registered greyhounds in our care."

Most of the PAWS greyhounds are

boarded with a racing trainer whose large commercial kennel and cattery stands on the same road, a mile beyond Sallins Castle.

The PAWS greyhound rescue program thereby helps indirectly to keep at least one trainer in business, while helping the Irish government to pretend that the usual fate of ex-racing dogs is humane retirement.

But PAWS is scarcely the only Irish animal welfare charity to receive government and industry subsidies for finding homes for ex-racing greyhounds. The funding, a fraction of the \$69 million euros spent to subsidize racing in 2004, is reputedly liberally distributed among animal rescue societies.

Neither is PAWS the only Irish animal welfare charity to board dogs with greyhound trainers. No one has been more outspokenly critical of the greyhound industry over

(continued on page 14)

More events (from page 11)

December 20-24: Asian Vegetarian Union Cong-ress, Bangkok. Info: www.ivu.org/avu/. (continued on page 13)

2006

March 8-11: Humane Society of the U.S. Animal Care Expo, Anaheim. Info: 301-548-7739; <www.hsi-hsus.org>.

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

June 3: Christian Animal Rights Conference, Caldwell,

TRIBUTES

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

In honor of Allison Webb on her birthday. —Holly Gurry



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### How Irish dog racers muzzle critics (from 13)

the years than American/European Greyhound Association and Limerick Animal Welfare cofounder Marion FitzGibbon, for example. FitzGibbon is also a board member of the Avalon Greyhound Sanctuary. Her former tenure as Irish SPCA board president coincided with the most aggressive phase of ISPCA greyhound activism.

Yet among the boarders housing dogs for FitzGibbon is prominent racing trainer and transporter Donal Croke.

"Croke has just built new kennels and has big paddocks for the dogs to run in," FitzGibbon told supporters. "He has good connections in England, and will try to find homes for greyhounds in the south of England, as well as promoting them in the southeast of Ireland."

FitzGibbon and virtually every other Irish animal advocate whom **ANIMAL PEOPLE** interviewed readily agreed that greyhound racing is among the most urgent animal welfare issues in Ireland—but most also asserted that the racing industry is much too strong to confront directly, and that working with it is inevitable.

Ironically, FitzGibbon and others quickly acknowledge the longtime support of Greyhound Friends founder Louise Coleman. Outspokenly critical of both greyhound racing and U.S. organizations that accept aid from the industry, allegedly at the price of silence, Coleman began Greyhound Friends

in 1983 precisely because, as she put it, she refused to be muzzled.

Major U.S. promoters were then still building new greyhound tracks. Now tracks close every year, not to be replaced, and most of the survivors augment live racing with telecasts, slot machines, and poker tables.

The Irish greyhound industry is also declining—but about a generation more slowly.

As of 1994, according to the Irish Greyhound Studbook, Ireland bred 25,000 greyhounds per year. About 11,000 greyhounds per year were retired from racing, of whom about 4,000 were killed, according to the Irish SPCA. Approximately 10,000 greyhounds were exported, chiefly to race and hunt in Spain. Most of the dogs sold to Spain were believed by greyhound advocates to have been killed at the end of the hunting or racing season, to be replaced with more dogs from Ireland the next year.

By 2003, only 20,000 greyhounds were whelped in Ireland, according to a report called *Greyhound Hell*, jointly published by the Irish SPCA and the Royal SPCA of Great Britain. As the export market had dwindled, following a collapse of greyhound racing at Spanish tourist venues, the Irish SPCA believed that about 14,000 Irish greyhounds were killed as surplus in 2003, more than triple the volume of killing when exports were strong.

13,278 greyhounds were

registered during the first half of 2005, according to FitzGibbon. Since breeding and registry mostly come early in the year, the 2005 total may represent another drop in greyhound whelping.

Yet the complete context shows little to celebrate. The three most recently published annual totals of dogs killed in Irish shelters were 24,000, 20,000, and 18,000. The numbers are dropping due to the success of pet sterilization programs such as SpayWeek Ireland.

If the greyhound toll is included in the shelter toll, as the reporting leaves unclear, greyhounds accounted for 13% of Irish shelter dog killing in 1993, 58% in 2003, and 78% in fiscal 2005. If the greyhound toll is separate, greyhounds accounted for 11% in 1993, 37% in 2003, and 44% in fiscal 2005. Either way, ex-racing greyhounds are the largest single source of homeless dogs killed in Ireland.

### Hidden taxes

Greyhound racing thrived even when Ireland was poor. Now that Ireland has the fastest growing economy in Europe, the Irish government sees dog racing as perhaps the easiest way to raise taxes in a nation whose historical antagonism toward tax collectors is why Sallins Castle was built.

"A major difference between greyhound racing here and there," Coleman told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, "is that in Ireland the



Deirdre Hetherington with spaniel pups. (Kim Bartlett)

*Bord na gCon*—the Irish equivalent of the National Greyhound Association—is almost an official government agency. Many aspects of the greyhound industry receive special privileges. So the industry seems to be more monolithic than here.

"I began going to Ireland on a regular basis in 1978," Coleman added. "I have Irish grandparents and used to go over to visit family, hear music, and have a good time. After my greyhound work began in 1983, I realized that the glut of extraneous greyhounds in the U.S. had a corollary in Ireland. Many of the dogs raced here are from Ireland or are bred from Irish dogs."

"In 1994 I heard that the World Greyhound Racing Federation was meeting in Dublin. I decided to see what was happening," Coleman recalled. "I was not an official registrant but sat in on many presentations. I became worried about plans to send greyhounds to race in countries where there is little or no animal protection, including in the Far East, Spain, and Morocco. Even with marginal welfare provisions, those dogs' fate was obviously grim. And in some ways things have not gotten better."

"In Ireland," Coleman said, "one major change is that there are now shelters that take greyhounds. When I started work with FitzGibbon in 1994, almost no Irish greyhounds were rescued. Now there is [www.IrishAnimals.com](http://www.IrishAnimals.com), and some greyhounds get exposure."

Coleman noted that in Ireland, by law, racing greyhounds must be muzzled if outside their kennels, lest they attack other small animals after being trained to race by chasing live rabbits.

"In Ireland, greyhounds are used for coursing, as well as racing," Coleman pointed out. "Coursing is a spectator sport, even sometimes televised, in which grey-

hounds tear a live rabbit to shreds. From this, people have the mistaken idea that greyhounds are dangerous," even though no greyhound has ever been listed on the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** log of life-threatening and fatal dog attacks, kept since 1982. The log includes more than 2,000 attacks by dogs of 83 different breeds and combinations, including more than 1,000 attacks by pit bull terriers and nearly 400 by Rottweilers.

Coleman sees convincing the Irish public that greyhounds are not inherently dangerous as the first step toward turning public opinion against the cruelties of greyhound racing and training—and coursing, the longtime primary target of the Irish League Against Cruel Sports.

"For the past seven years I have set up a greyhound welfare/adoption booth at the Dublin Horse Show," Coleman said. "Initially, people would look at our booth as if we were crazy to offer greyhounds as companions. Gradually more and more people have stopped to say that they have taken in a stray greyhound, or lurcher, or have adopted one from a pound. People believe what they see," Coleman emphasized. "If there were not legions of adopted greyhounds out and around in the U.S., the greyhound welfare effort would be stunted."

Coleman agreed that taking industry funding seems to make Irish greyhound advocates "more hesitant to lobby against racing," but noted that even in the U.S., "Different groups have different work. The Greyhound Protection League is the most outspoken. Adoption groups like Greyhound Friends," as frank as Coleman herself is, "have to be more circumspect. If we are seen as anti-racing, the tracks will not give us dogs."

The leading dog welfare organization in Britain, already  
(continued on page 15)

### Join the No More Homeless Pets Forum

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#### Coming topics—

##### November 14-18

Bite Prevention—When a dog or cat bites someone, a person gets hurt and the animal's life is on the line. Yvette Van Veen of Animal Rescue Foundation Ontario answers your questions to keep animals and humans (especially children) interacting safely and harmoniously.

##### November 28 - December 2

The Vaccine Controversy—How can you prevent the spread of illness in shelters or foster homes? How often should animals be vaccinated? Can some vaccine protocols do more harm than good? Dr. Brenda Griffin of Auburn University and Dr. Kate Hurley of the University of California, Davis, will address keeping animals in our care safe, healthy and happy.

##### December 5-9

Pets in Prisons—Toby Young of Safe Harbor Prison Dog Program outlines the best types of programs to help homeless pets and prison inmates prepare together to rejoin society!

##### December 12-16

You Went Potty Where?! Want to help animals in danger of being relinquished due to housetraining issues? At your wits' end with a critter who thinks the floor is an outhouse? Helen Colombo and Dilara Parry of the San Francisco SPCA are #1 (or is it #2?) at solving potty problems!

##### December 19-23

Animal spay/neuter laws and ordinances have the power to help or harm. Submit your legislation brainstorm to Susan Robinson of Coalition for Cats & Dogs and Ledy VanKavage of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for feedback to create a winning statute.

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## Betting on all but the dogs

**DELEVAN, DAYTONA, LACONIA**—The 15-year-old Geneva Lakes Greyhound Track in Delavan, Wisconsin ended live racing on November 6, 2005, with telecasting of races at other tracks due to end in December.

About 450 of the estimated 1,000 dogs housed at Delavan were offered for adoption by the local chapter of Greyhound Pets of America, formed in 1989. Greyhound Pets of America is the largest U.S. greyhound rescue group to be partially subsidized by the greyhound industry.

Of the five greyhound tracks opened in Wisconsin during the early 1990s, only the Dairyland Greyhound Park in Kenosha is still operating. Geneva Lakes Greyhound Track general manager blamed the closures on competition from Native American gambling casinos. The casino operators have managed to keep the Wisconsin greyhound tracks from expanding into other forms of gambling.

The Iowa Racing & Gaming Commission on October 13 rejected an application from the National Cattle Congress to reopen the Waterloo Greyhound Park, closed in 1996, as hub of a riverboat casino complex.

The increasing economic anxiety of the U.S. greyhound industry and allure of other forms of gambling to help make ends meet were underscored in Rhode Island by federal prison sentences meted out on October 28 to Daniel Bucci, former general manager of the Lincoln Park track in New Hampshire, and Nigel Potter, former chief executive of Wembley PLC, the British-based parent firm.

"They were convicted in August 2005 of conspiring to bribe former Rhode Island House Speaker John Harwood with up to \$4 million to muster support for more gambling machines at the park and to block a rival casino proposed by the Narragansett Indian Tribe," reported Associated Press.

Florida Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering data shows that the money wagered on live greyhound races at the Daytona Kennel Club fell from \$22 million in 2000

to \$12.9 million in 2004. Yet track poker receipts rose from \$707,895 to \$3.4 million.

Statewide, Florida greyhound racing tax and fee income as recently as 1997 amounted to \$33.7 million, but dropped to just \$12.7 million in 2004—a 62% decline. State poker income increased from \$336,469 to nearly \$1.7 million during the same years, for an increase of 397%.

Three Broward County greyhound tracks on September 28, 2005 won from the Florida Court of Appeals the opportunity to add slot machines to their gambling options.

Massachusetts attorney general Tom Reilly, expected to run for governor in 2006, meanwhile "accepted eight donations totaling \$4,000 from members and associates of the Carney family, which operates the Raynham-Taunton Greyhound Park," reported Casey Ross of the *Boston Herald* on October 26.

This was a week before the Massachusetts senate passed a bill which would allow greyhound tracks to install as many as 2,000 slot machines apiece on their premises—"significantly benefiting an industry that Reilly oversees," Ross noted.

"Reilly, who has been publicly quiet on the issue, has previously accepted \$500 donations from other racetrack owners such as Charles Sarkis, who owns Wonderland, and Joe O'Donnell, who holds the controlling share in Suffolk Downs," Ross added.

The Ross expose broke a month after Grey2K USA began collecting signatures on petitions to place on the 2006 ballot an initia-



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tive which would end greyhound racing in Massachusetts by 2008, while increasing the penalties for breeding fighting dogs and abusing police and service dogs. Grey 2K USA will need 66,000 signatures from Massachusetts registered voters. Grey2K USA grew out of a 2000 initiative campaign to end dog racing that failed to win approval by barely 1% of the vote.

The Lakes Region Greyhound Park in Belmont, New Hampshire, closed on April 27, 2005, may reopen in January 2006 as a project of the Torguson Gaming Group of Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

According to John Koziol of the *Laconia Citizen*, "Formally operated by the New Hampshire Gaming Association, the track has been rocked by two separate investigations into alleged illegal activities since January 2005. Following the indictment of two former managers in New York on illegal gambling and money-laundering charges, New Hampshire Gaming agreed to surrender its license to the state Pari-Mutuel

Commission, and also agreed to put the track up for sale.

"Moultonboro developer David Johnston and a group of investors bid \$4.1 million for the facility," Koziol added, "but that deal fell apart in June after federal authorities broke up a drug-trafficking and money-laundering ring that was allegedly operated from the track. Johnston then approached Torguson, who pioneered casino gambling on Mississippi's Gulf Coast. Torguson eventually bought Johnston's rights to buy the track from New Hampshire Gaming."

Torguson appears to have acquired the Lakes Region Greyhound Park in anticipation of eventually being allowed to operate slot machines there.

In August 2005 a consortium of Nevada gaming firms bought Rockingham Park, of Salem, New Hampshire, apparently with the same strategy in mind.

The Seabrook Greyhound Park a few days earlier cut losses by reducing the racing schedule and laying off half its staff.

## These Books Will Change How You Think About Chickens, Turkeys, Thanksgiving, and the Holocaust

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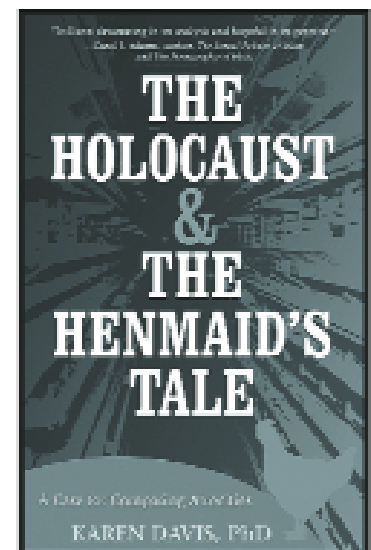
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"Your *Holocaust and Henmaid's Tale* is powerful and deeply insightful. Thank you for bringing me, and hopefully many others, to a new level of understanding and sensibility." — Carl Mariani, Ambler, PA

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## + Muzzling (from 14)

helping dogs in Ireland too, and planning to add an Irish affiliate, is Dogs Trust.

"I chair the U.K. Greyhound Forum and the International Greyhound Forum. Deirdre Hetherington sits on the latter," Dogs Trust chief executive Clarissa Baldwin told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "I agree it is a difficult line to walk when you accept money and then need to cajole the same people to change their ways. Dogs Trust does not accept money from the industry," Baldwin stipulated. "I do, however, believe in working from within, and have spent much time with the industry bosses. Deirdre is not backward when she talks to the industry," Baldwin averred, "and weighs in heavily when she thinks they are not doing what has been promised."

"Her kennels are by no means perfect," Baldwin continued, "but I think she does her best, and she does save a lot of dogs' lives. She turned her home over to the dogs and is very short of cash. We help her out with neutering vouchers when we can."

"There is a lot of work to be done in Ireland," Baldwin emphasized, "but there are moves afoot to do it. New greyhound breeding and transport laws are under discussion. Our frustration is with the length of time it takes! Ireland is a very rich country now, and Irish care of animals has to be improved in line with this."

—Merritt Clifton

[Contact the Peoples Animal Welfare Society c/o Sallins Lodge, Sallins, County Kildare, Ireland; telephone 353-45-894041; <waymeet@eir-com.net>; <www.paws.ie>.



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# Irish SPCA looks to a new era

**KEENAGH, County Longford**—When man bites dog, that's news, so when Irish SPCA chief executive Helen Dolan hit and killed a stray dog with her sport utility vehicle on October 21, 2005, the incident swiftly became tabloid and television news all over Ireland.

Dolan did not discourage the publicity. Instead Dolan took the occasion to warn pet keepers to keep their animals secure during the Halloween season, when the Irish traditionally detonate fireworks to scare ghosts, mostly scaring dogs and cats instead. Dolan also dispensed tips about avoiding roadkills and finding lost dogs.

Hired in January 2005, Dolan brought to the Irish SPCA a global background in hotel management and fundraising for education, a lifelong love of dogs and horses, and no formal experience in humane work.

In less than a year, Dolan's flair for fundraising and publicity has rattled quite a few cages. Some elder Irish animal advocates grumble about Dolan's rapid rise to national prominence. Others say she is just what animal welfare in Ireland needed—a charismatic young leader who isn't afraid to spend money in order to attract it, seizing the opportunity for humane work in Ireland to grow with the fast-rising Irish economy.

Founded in 1949, the Irish SPCA is the national umbrella for 26 animal rescue centers at present, down from more than 30 at peak. Several former member societies have been disenfranchised or suspended in recent years for failing to meet Irish SPCA standards, and/or for violating humane policies, amid a bruising internal political battle over the longtime Irish SPCA policy of opposition to hunting.

The Irish SPCA headquarters, called the National Animal Centre, is an 80-acre former working farm at Derryglogher, near Keenagh, in the peat bog country between Ballymahon and Lanesboro.

The location could be described as the middle of nowhere, except that everywhere in Ireland is accessible within a day's drive from anywhere else, and it is only 10 miles from Glasson, the traditional center of the Irish land mass.

The National Animal Centre includes 20 kennel runs, 20 cat accommodations, four stables for horses and donkeys, and considerable wildlife habitat.

As fox and bird hunters make seasonal use of surrounding properties, Dolan told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, the targeted species tend to find their way to sanctuary at the National Animal Centre. The center also does wildlife rehabilitation.

Dolan supervises an office staff of seven, plus four fulltime animal care workers and four regional inspectors, who chiefly investigate cruelty complaints.

"We purchased the land from a supporter of the society at a very reasonable price with the help of a grant from the Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry," former Irish SPCA chief executive Ciaran O'Donovan told Sean MacConnell of *The Irish Times* in June 2000.



*Sarah Mortimer & Kate Browne of Clare Animal Welfare, in front of their cubicle in the Clare Haven House office. (Kim Bartlett)*

"There has been a growing need over a number of years for a proper center for the organization," O'Donovan added. "Our first need is for an area where we can bring animals when orders are issued in court for them to be handed over to us, after convictions for cruelty. This will be more than a national refuge," O'Donovan promised. "We want to turn the farm into a major education center."

The center formally opened in June 2000. The investment of more than six million euros to date, much of it borrowed, has been heavily criticized, but acquiring and constructing comparable premises for less money would be difficult in almost any developed nation. The new facilities are luxurious only by traditional Irish shelter standards, not by contemporary European and American standards.

The dog runs, for example, have the barred fronts that have been standard since the Middle Ages, instead of plate glass, which encourages dogs to look quietly out instead of reacting to scents and barking up a constant storm.

The limited volume of dog housing is bitterly denounced by some animal advocates who believe the Irish SPCA should be caring for at least 10 times as many dogs, but the location is too remote—pending major motorway development—to be appropriate for doing high-volume adoption.

Dolan sees the mission of the Irish SPCA as focused on setting standards, not on replicating the work of the regional affiliates, many of which are much better situated for doing adoptions. In addition, Dolan believes the Irish SPCA should emphasize sterilization and keeping animals in homes, not accommodating cast-offs at the expense of becoming unable to do education and outreach.

## Progress—and opposition

The numbers of former pets entering Irish shelters and often being killed due to lack of adoptive homes have fallen fast in recent years, coinciding with the introduction of aggressive low-cost sterilization programs in many communities. Stray dogs and feral cats, though more abundant than in Britain, are seldom seen compared to the U.S., where pets are kept at about twice the Irish frequency.

Despite a recent Dublin SPCA proclamation that "more than a million" feral cats live in Dublin, the total Irish cat population based on human demographics and habitat availability appears to be not more than one million, of whom about 40% may be outdoors and free-roaming. The Irish dog population appears to be about 650,000.

Total shelter intake of dogs around Ireland has reportedly fallen from 32,850 in 1998 to circa 24,000 in fiscal 2005. Shelter dog killing declined slightly from 27,848 in 1997 to 27,570 one year later, then began a precipitous drop to as few as 18,000 in 2004, with a projected total of 16,000 in 2005.

Killing surplus racing greyhounds has markedly increased, however, with the collapse of the export market. The toll rose from about 4,000 circa 1998 to 14,000 in 2003, even as killing dogs for other reasons fell.

Exactly how many greyhounds are killed in shelters as opposed to other venues is unknown, but among 181 dogs killed in County Clare during one week of observation by Sandy Barron of the *Irish Times* in October 2000, 73 were greyhounds: 40%.

Past Irish SPCA board president Marion FitzGibbon, as the longtime most prominent critic of greyhound racing in Ireland, led the society toward direct opposition to the racing industry, unnerving some shelter operators who feared that opposing racing would mean a loss of government support.

But FitzGibbon was elected on a platform of maintaining uncompromising positions, including pushing a position statement that, "The Irish SPCA is in principle opposed to the taking or killing of wild animals, or the infliction of any suffering on them."

Allegedly infiltrated and taken over by fox hunters who opposed the statement, the North Tipperary SPCA in May



*Helen Dolan, Irish SPCA chief executive. (Kim Bartlett)*

1996 refused to endorse it. FitzGibbon told the North Tipperary SPCA to sign or resign.

After several years of continuing confrontation with the North Tipperary SPCA and other recalcitrant members, FitzGibbon was re-elected at the November 1999 Irish SPCA general meeting in Dublin, as members of the Irish Trust for the Protection and Care of Animals, Alliance for Animal Rights, Association of Hunt Saboteurs, and Campaign for the Abolition of Cruel Sports rallied in the street outside.

FitzGibbon in her acceptance speech opened another rift by asking the Irish Veterinary Union to back the Irish SPCA position of favoring lethal injection over the use of captive bolt guns to kill dogs. Irish SPCA affiliates had entered 1999 managing 16 of the 30 Irish dog pounds, but lost three contracts during the year when local governments refused to pay the added cost of using lethal injection.

Yet the Irish SPCA position prevailed: as of November 2005, 27 of the 30 pounds had instituted lethal injection, and County Wexford, one of the last holdouts, was under criticism from the Alliance for Animal Rights because it had allegedly failed to fulfill a pledge to go to lethal injection.

## The Irish network

Much of Dolan's work involves reuniting the Irish SPCA network after the battles of the past decade.

FitzGibbon heads Limerick Animal Welfare, an Irish SPCA member society that she cofounded in 1983 with Beverly Wolf, no longer involved in the organization.

Operating for 22 years as a no-kill fostering network, Limerick Animal Welfare opened a thrift shop in 2001, to help raise funds, but has never had a shelter.

"At any one time we care for about 50 dogs and 30 cats," explains the Limerick Animal Welfare web site. "As we have no sanctuary, our dogs are boarded in kennels from Oola, in County Limerick, to Mountshannon in County Clare, and Doneraile in County Cork. Our cats are housed in Newport, County Tipperary. Our ultimate goal is to have a sanctuary where all of our animals will be boarded in the same place. We have purchased 25 acres in Kilfinnane, in County Limerick, where we plan to build our sanctuary."

The construction is to be done in phases, FitzGibbon explained to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, over a copy of the layout. As the most urgent need is for isolation kennels, to handle sick dogs, those will be built first. The rest of the projected double-winged shelter will be added as funding permits.

Operating without a shelter is relatively normal for Irish humane societies. Clare Animal Welfare cofounders Sarah Mortimer and Kate Browne have just a closet-sized office space in one corner of the industrial park headquarters of Clare Haven House, a rescue network that assists battered women. Often Clare Animal Welfare fosters the pets of women who are aided by Clare Haven House.

Despite the lack of facilities, Clare Animal Welfare rehomes about 300 dogs per year, many of them through Dogs Trust of Britain. Clare Animal Welfare also promotes a neuter/return program for feral cats, rehomes cats through the Cheltenham Animal Shelter and Ash Animal Rescue in Britain,

### CONTACT:

**Irish SPCA National Animal Centre** c/o Derryglogher Lodge, Keenagh, County Longford, Ireland; telephone 353-43-25035; fax 353-43-250-24; <info@ispca.ie>; <www.ispca.ie>.

**Limerick Animal Welfare**, 12 B Upper Cecil St., Limerick, Ireland; telephone 353-87-6371044; <queries@limerickanimalwelfare.com>; <www.limerickanimalwelfare.com>.

**Clare Animal Welfare**, Cappahard House, Tulla Road, Ennis, County Clare, Ireland 353-87-7954351; <rehoming@clareanimalwelfare.org>; <www.clareanimalwelfare.org>.



*Marion FitzGibbon & Niomah Allen of Limerick Animal Welfare, outside the LAW thrift store. (Kim Bartlett)*

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## Everyone but the chicken-eaters takes blame for H5N1 *(from page 1)*

being buried or burned alive in unsuccessful “stamping out” exercises. Vaccination is increasingly believed to be the only effective method of protecting domestic flocks from H5N1 transmission, despite the difficulty of distinguishing birds who carry the disease from birds who have developed antibodies from being vaccinated.

Chinese national chief veterinarian Jia Youling on November 15 announced that “China is trying to vaccinate all poultry nationwide.” After experiencing just two outbreaks nationwide in 2004, one in Tibet and one in Xinjiang, China suddenly had 10 outbreaks in 31 days after October 14, afflicting Inner Mongolia, two locations each in Xinjiang and Anhui, and additional sites in Hunan, Liaoning, and Hubei provinces.

Producing about 14 billion chickens per year, 21% of the global total, China has approximately 5.2 chickens and other domestic fowl on farms at any given time.

H5N1 spread in fall 2005 to Russia, Turkey, Romania and Croatia—and was almost immediately invoked as an excuse to kill dogs in Balikesir, Turkey, where H5N1 first appeared in Turkey, even before the presence of the disease in birds was confirmed.

A subtext to the dog massacres in both Turkey and Romania is that both nations have unenforced legislation which purportedly restricts killing street dogs to situations in which public health is in imminent jeopardy.

### Blaming cats

A tiger, a clouded leopard, and several domestic cats all from one household who were fed diets consisting almost entirely of poultry killed by H5N1 contracted H5N1 in Thailand in early 2004. The tiger recovered. Except for those incidents, cats seem almost as resistant as dogs.

Yet cats have apparently also been wrongly targeted as potential H5N1 carriers, the Xinhua News Agency reported from Shenyang on November 12. Soon after H5N1 hit farms in Badaohao Township, Heishan County, Liaoning, 30 farm cats died between October 25 and November 9 of an unknown cause. The Liaoning provincial animal health department found no trace of H5N1 in either the dead cats or 82 live cats. Rather, the 30 dead cats were apparently poisoned.

In Indonesia, a nation which has been especially slow to respond to H5N1 outbreaks among poultry, avian flu researchers Chaerul Nidom of Airlangga University in Surabaya, East Java, and Wayan Teguh Wibawan of Bogor Institute of Agriculture on October 27 told Agence France-Presse that cats might be significant H5N1 carriers.

“We have suspected cases in isolated areas, far from any potential sources of contamination such as poultry or pig farms,” Wibawan claimed, “and on the other hand, we have almost no suspected human infection cases among workers in the poultry industries, including those hit by the bird flu.”

Nidom named cats, dogs, hamsters, rats, and mice as possible vectors. “The most likely candidates are cats,” Nidom asserted.

Responded World Health Organization representative for Indonesia Georg Petersen, “Worldwide, more than 80% of H5N1 infections can be traced back to contact with poultry. In some countries, there have been reports of animals such as tigers and cats being infected just as with pigs,” Peterson agreed, “but so far we have no report of anyone contracting the virus from animals other than poultry. There is so far no indication that

animals other than poultry or pigs are sources of infections for humans.

“Studies are welcome,” Peterson conceded. “We certainly need to know more, but I think [the possibility of feline H5N1 transmission] is not something that is important at this point in time.”

The real problem in Indonesia, suggested retired Bogor Institute veterinary lecturer Marthen Malole, is that while “Chickens continue to die of the disease here and there, farmers are reluctant to report the deaths,” from fear of losing their livelihoods, “and the government certainly does not have the capability to monitor everything.”

### Trafficking

Another plausible explanation is that Indonesia is believed to lead the world in illegal bird trafficking. The extent of the traffic—and of government involvement in it—was indicated on October 14 when five leading Indonesian conservation groups announced that they were ready to denounce to police three high-ranking officials of the Natural Resources Conservation Agency.

“The activists revealed that they have documentation taken with a hidden video camera that shows the three officials extorting a pet shop owner in North Jakarta, threatening to close the shop for selling protected animals if he does not pay up,” wrote Abdul Khalik of the *Jakarta Post*.

The coalition members also accused the three officials of selling confiscated wildlife. The alleged transaction captured on videotape involved 24 turtles, but the officials under surveillance also dealt in cockatoos, the coalition spokespersons said. ProFauna Indonesia chair Rosek Nursahid believes as many as 100,000 cockatoos per year are illegally trapped from the wild and exported or illegally sold at Indonesian markets.

Coalition members included ProFauna Indonesia, the People’s Information Center, the Animal Advocacy Group, the Indonesian Society for Animal Welfare, and the Alliance for Indonesian Wildlife.

Bird-smuggling of various sorts is flagrant throughout most of Southeast Asia—and H5N1 often turns up among the bootlegged birds.

On October 20, for example, H5N1 was confirmed among eight of 276 dead birds who were confiscated six days earlier by the Taiwan Coast Guard, along with 1,037 live birds. A Panamanian-registered ship allegedly brought the birds from Fuzhou, China, to Taichung harbor. The birds who survived the journey were killed on shipboard.

The illegal traffic reaches into Europe as well. While investigating how an orange-winged Amazon parrot came to be fatally infected with H5N1 at a quarantine station operated by Pegasus Birds Ltd., British undercover operatives learned that Pegasus owner Brett Hammond “secretly imported thousands of exotic birds using fake documents more than a decade ago, according to court records,” reported Jon Ungood-Thomas and Steven Swinford of the London *Times*.

Jailed for a year for tax evasion, Hammond was nonetheless allowed to keep operating one of the 83 quarantine stations that are considered the first British line of defense against H5N1 and other zoonotic diseases.

“The center consists of a group of ramshackle sheds in the garden of a semi-detached house in South Farnbridge, Essex,” Ungood-Thomas and Swinford added. “It has emerged that 32 other birds died there before



Newly hatched ducklings. (Kim Bartlett)

the parrot,” whose reported H5N1 demise was discovered on October 22, “and that some of those were also infected with avian flu.”

The case took an additional turn on November 14 when the National Emergency Epidemiology Group for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs announced that the parrot didn’t have H5N1 after all. Instead, samples were mixed up by the testing laboratory. The H5N1 strain found at the center probably came from some of about 50 Asian finches who were housed there, notably a blue-headed pionus from Surinam and a mesia from Taiwan, found dead together on October 14.

### Poultry farms

Globally, politicians and mass media into mid-November 2005 continued to point toward migratory birds as vectors for H5N1. Indeed H5N1 has often been detected first among migratory birds, who are outdoors and therefore more easily exposed than most commercially produced poultry, typically raised entirely indoors in close confinement. However, infected wild birds have only been found in the mid-portions of their north/south range, far from where populations converge in northern latitudes.

“Wild birds appear to acquire the virus through contact with infected poultry or with facilities used by them,” pointed out BirdLife International spokesperson Ade Long. “H5N1 evolved in poultry from low pathogenicity avian influenza viruses probably acquired from wild birds,” Long conceded, but noted that “Conditions in poultry flocks, such as crowding and prolonged contact with feces, saliva and other bodily secretions, keep the viruses circulating as they evolve.”

“A dramatic increase in intensive poultry production [in Southeast Asia],” Long continued, “is sometimes combined with poor hygiene and bio-security. Domestic ducks are commonly turned out to feed in rice fields alongside waterbirds during the day, and confined with other poultry at night. Birds from different areas are brought together in networks of poultry markets, and are often transported hundreds of miles.”

“Within Southeast Asia, movements of poultry and poultry products are known to have been involved in the spread of H5N1,” Long recited. “Outbreaks in China, Kazakhstan and southern Russia are connected by major road and rail routes.”

“The transmission routes between outbreaks in Asia do not follow migratory flyways,” Long emphasized. Further, “Many of these outbreaks also occurred in summer, when birds are moulting and do not fly far.”

“Researchers in the U.S. and China have been monitoring wild birds for several years, looking for healthy birds carrying H5N1,” wrote Dennis Normile of *Science*. “So far, both searches have found nothing. But outbreaks among wildfowl in remote corners of China and Mongolia,” Normile argued, “where movements of domestic poultry have been ruled out as a cause, are forcing some to change their minds.”

### Bird fighting

However, overlooked in those cases—as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** pointed out to the membership of the International Society for Infectious diseases on August 27—is that wild bird fights are a frequent marketplace gambling pastime in these parts of Central Asia, as in Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, and nearby parts of Russia.

Held by threads, freshly captured wild songbirds are briefly pitted against each other, then released to avoid violating the Islamic prohibition on caging wild birds.

Wild bird fights often occur in the same pits as cockfights, in proximity to

domestic poultry.

The pattern of H5N1 spread has been almost entirely from the east coast of the Asian mainland to the west. The few instances of eastward spread, to Japan, Taiwan, and the Philippines, have almost all been linked to illegal commerce in wild birds, gamecocks, and other smuggled domestic fowl.

The Thai Livestock Development Department has “set up 32 checkpoints nationwide to control movement of fowl,” Kultida Samabuddhi of the *Bangkok Post* reported on October 31, “but owners of fighting cocks are hiding the birds in cars, which are beyond the officers’ ability to interdict.”

### Bad vaccines

Illegal commerce in ineffective homebrewed vaccines is also a factor in H5N1 transmission.

“Drug salesmen who smuggled out an unlicensed vaccine still being tested and sold it on the market have been blamed for the massive outbreak of bird flu in Liaoning province,” China, *South China Morning Post* Beijing correspondent Josephina Ma disclosed on November 12.

Citing an earlier report published by *China Business News*, Ma wrote that a vaccine bootlegged into use while still undergoing clinical tests “was the culprit for the rapid spread of the disease among 18 villages in Liaoning, where more than three million birds have been culled. Farmers in infected areas said they had already vaccinated their poultry against H5N1,” Ma continued, “but large numbers still died. Many farmers in Heishan county had used a vaccine produced by Inner Mongolia Jingyu Group, a Shanghai company, which offered little protection against the deadly disease.”

“*China Business News* said the company was given special approval to produce the vaccine last year by the Ministry of Agriculture,” Ma wrote, “due to the pressing demand for H5N1 vaccines, but the vaccine was intended for testing in infected areas exclusively, and it was not supposed to be sold.”

“After the outbreak,” Ma added, “the company’s licence to produce veterinary medicine was suspended and the firm admitted some of the vaccine was sold to Heishan, although it said the amount was small.”

Similar cases have occurred throughout Southeast Asia, typically involving smuggled Chinese products.

“Raisers of fighting cocks are allegedly the major buyers of Chinese-made bird flu vaccines for birds, which are being smuggled through the border town of Chiang Saen in Chiang Rai province,” charged Teerawat Khamthit of the *Bangkok Post* on October 30. Chiang Saen customs official Patcharadit Sinsawat told Teerawat Khamthit that 1,377 bottles of avian flu vaccines had been seized at his port, from five cargos, since June 2005.

Problems have reportedly also developed in connection with hastily produced batches of Tamiflu, one of the few antiviral drugs that is believed to be generally effective against H5N1, and possibly with illicitly produced and distributed generic knockoffs.

The Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare in November reiterated an earlier warning that Tamiflu may induce strange behavior, citing the cases of two teenagers who took it. One, a 17-year-old high school student, jumped in front of a truck after taking Tamiflu in February 2004, according to the newspaper *Mainichi Shimbun* and the *Kyodo News*. The other teenager either fell or jumped from the ninth floor of his apartment building in February 2005.

Tamiflu in Japan carries a label warning that side effects might include abnormal behavior and hallucinations. —M.C.



Rooster and hen in India. (Kim Bartlett)

# New Orleans rescue ends with a storm *(from page 1)*

ing. The state claims that local authorities can handle the problem,” Robinson charged, “but rescuers on the ground know this is not the case. One of the hardest hit areas, St. Bernard Parish, has no active animal control agency or functioning animal shelter. The Louisiana SPCA does not have anywhere close to the staff, space, or resources required to address a problem of this magnitude.”

Responded Louisiana SPCA executive director Laura Maloney, “Please be assured that I recognize and value the tremendous effort demonstrated by those who have given their time and resources to save our animals. It would be foolish to think that the Louisiana SPCA could have handled this alone.”

But Maloney noted that, “Visiting animal control teams and local residents are not seeing evidence of thousands of starving animals. We’re trapping every night and definitely seeing strays, but we’re not seeing thousands. We have been trapping between 15 and 30 animals per day.”

The longtime Louisiana SPCA headquarters on Japonica Street in New Orleans was damaged beyond repair.

Maloney said that until a temporary Louisiana SPCA shelter in Algiers has appropriate adoption facilities, some adoptable animals would be transferred for rehoming to the Plaquemines Animal Welfare Society in Belle Chasse.

To prepare for the next phase of the post-Katrina/Rita animal recovery effort, Maloney said, “We are deploying a multi-agency assessment team, which is visiting the city’s animal rescue hot spots. We are working two shifts, at dawn and dusk, when animals are most active.

“We always need volunteers,” Maloney added. “Not everyone, however, wants to work within the system,” an increasing problem for the Louisiana SPCA and other local agencies as residents returned to the city.

## Complaints

Some residents who recovered lost pets, or returned to New Orleans with pets, complained that the animals were snatched by rescuers who wrongly presumed that any animal they saw was abandoned. Some returnees threatened to shoot would-be rescuers who repeatedly broke into homes to search for animals. Tempers were additionally frayed by rescuers who spray-painted houses or even parked cars to identify the locations of animals for others.

The Louisiana SPCA and animal control agencies found themselves on the receiving end of countless complaints about the actions of rescuers they knew nothing about.

“Sadly, we were forwarded emails where people mentioned testing us with false reports to see how fast we would respond,” Maloney told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on November 13. “Yesterday, one of our visiting teams responded to a call only to see an ‘animal rescue’ vehicle flee when they approached. I would hope that rescuers wouldn’t waste valuable resources playing games with animals’ lives.”

“An unfortunate reality,” Maloney continued, “is that we will never know how many more animals might have been saved had unsanctioned rescuers been willing to work cooperatively with regional and state authorities. Precious time and resources have been wasted through working at cross-purposes and duplicating services.”

Maloney noted that some *ad hoc* rescue groups

worked with “untrained volunteers who may have arrived the very morning they were deployed. Perhaps assigning them to cage cleaning or other support tasks would have been a better use of their skills,” she suggested, noting that “When I asked for volunteers to stay behind and help care for the animals at Lamar-Dixon,” the largest of the post-Katrina temporary rescue centers, “it was clear that many of the unskilled volunteers were more interested in fulfilling their personal needs than in doing what was most needed by the animals.”

## Summing up

The Humane Society of the U.S. withdrew from New Orleans in mid-October after a two-week phase-out of operations. As the lead agency coordinating the relief efforts until then, HSUS “helped to rescue more than 8,200 stranded pets and other animals,” summarized HSUS president Wayne Pacelle. “At peak, our Lamar-Dixon emergency shelter in Gonzales, Louisiana housed nearly 2,000 animals, and more than 300 people attended to their needs. Our facility at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, handled nearly 2,400 animals.

“We helped reunite more than 800 rescued pets with the people who love them,” Pacelle continued. “We have pledged, with the American SPCA, to pay whatever costs are necessary to transport animals to be reunited with their people. More than 40 HSUS staff and a cadre of volunteers are working to match lost pets with their caregivers.”

The rescue operations had by October reached a point of steeply diminishing returns. Only about 5% of the total number of animals who were rescued were recovered after September, and few of those were not found loose, outdoors.

“If an animal was still home, he was on the edge of life,” Iowa State University assistant professor of veterinary pathology Christine Peterson told *Des Moines Register* staff writer Mike Kilen, after spending the last week of September seeking animals in deserted houses. “The vast majority of them were dehydrated, emaciated, and had parasites.”

Two dogs died for every cat, Peterson found. But once she found a woman lying dead with her seven cats.

“She did not want to leave them,” Petersen told Kilen. “It was not easy to see.”

Added animal control officer Michael Melchionne, of Stafford, New Jersey, to *Asbury Park Press* staff writer Joe Zedalis, “You can’t believe how many animals we found dead on the beds of their people or at the front door, waiting for them to return.”

After encountering so much death, many rescuers compulsively sought live animals, whose recovery might bring them some consolation, even long after there were any to be found. The syndrome was familiar to disaster relief veterans, but difficult to counter.

Remaining rescuers hopes were raised, for example, when Kim Campbell Thornton reported on November 3 for MSNBC that, “More than two months after Hurricane Katrina, animals are still being found alive in New Orleans, pulled out of attics and from beneath flooring, or” in all but a handful of cases, “off of the streets.”

Since October 1, Thornton said, when the HSUS rescue centers quit taking animals, “volunteers with Animal Rescue New Orleans have rescued more than 400 animals,

delivering them to the Best Friends shelter on the grounds of Saint Francis Animal Sanctuary in Tylertown, Mississippi.”

Confirmed Best Friends president Michael Mountain on November 5, “Another 155 animals rescued from New Orleans left the Best Friends rescue center at Tylertown last week with foster groups from around the country.

“We began running short of foster groups early in the week,” Mountain said, “and had to stop taking in more animals for a few days. Instead, we temporarily placed the new rescues in boarding kennels.” The Tylertown rescue center was still receiving about 20 animals per day, with about 400 on the premises at any given time, according to Mountain.

“We’re expecting to keep the rescue center open through the end of this year,” Mountain said, “since the other major rescue organizations are now less active in the region.”

“Many of the animals have special needs, such as high levels of heartworm, and behavioral issues arising from the conditions they have been in,” Mountain mentioned.

## Spending the money

Estimating that up to 80% of the dogs rescued from the Hurricane Katrina disaster area had heartworm, carried by mosquitoes, HSUS, the ASPCA, the Humane Society of Greater Miami, Adopt-a-Pet, and the American Animal Hospital Association on November 4 jointly announced a subsidized heartworm treatment program.

Subsidies of up to \$500 per animal will be made available for animals from more than 200 participating shelters who are treated by an AAHA-accredited veterinary practice.

Money did not seem to be an issue for the organizations whose fundraising arms responded promptly to Katrina and Rita. HSUS reportedly raised \$18 million. The American SPCA raised \$13 million. Network For Good vice president Katya Andresen told *Houston Chronicle* reporter Cynthia Garza that Noah’s Wish ranked third among animal groups in funds raised, at \$6.5 million, though mentioned in only 31 (5.3%) of the 581 print and electronic news items that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** received about the Katrina/Rita animal relief effort.

HSUS was mentioned in 165 items, Best Friends in 104, and the ASPCA in 95.

As well as helping humane societies hit by Katrina and Rita to rebuild, the ASPCA offered incentive grants of \$500 “to each rescue site that reunites a pet and owner, as well as grants to pay for the cost of the return of the pet.”

## Lessons learned

“I find myself struggling with the nagging fear that we could have saved more animals,” wrote American Humane Association disaster relief coordinator Dick Green in an online blog. “If there had just been more hours of daylight, no curfew, better intelligence, more trained responders, better cooperation...If there is any consolation, it is that our country is beginning to understand how intricately connected the safety and well-being of humans and animals are.”

“We had an emergency plan, but I have learned it is not enough,” Humane Society of the Nature Coast executive director Joanne Schoch told *St. Petersburg Times* staff writer Beth N. Gray. Schoch made three trips to assist in the Katrina/Rita disaster zone.

—Merritt Clifton



ABOVE LEFT: Alley Cat Allies volunteer Diane Blankenberg and national outreach director Bonney Brown rescue a cat. (Photo by James Davis.) ABOVE CENTER: After several rescuer break-ins, the occupants of this house threatened to shoot rescuers. (Photo by Laura Maloney.) RIGHT, TOP & BOTTOM: Spray-painted notes sometimes helped rescuers to find animals, and other times just annoyed New Orleans residents, as when someone painted this car to point out a sign on the house behind it. (Photos by Laura Maloney.)



## Coastal pastures became better habitat for sea cows than cattle

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita between them submerged as much as a third of the cattle grazing land in Louisiana. Rainfall from Wilma perpetuated conditions that had Debra Barlow of Hopeful Haven Equine Rescue wishing for an ark.

“We are a horse rescue organization, but have opened our arms to include all the livestock we can help,” Barlow e-mailed to Brenda Shoss of Kinship Circle, whose daily bulletins throughout the fall 2005 hurricane season made her the unofficial dispatcher for rescue efforts from Alabama to Texas.

“We have rescued emus, cattle, horses, you name it,” Barlow continued. “The rescued animals have been put in holding pens since they can’t graze the saltwater-saturated alfalfa fields. The salt content made the animals dehydrated and delusional. We are hoping to flush the saltwater absorbed out their systems with feed, clean water and hay.”

“The Army used helicopters to search for thousands of cattle feared stranded in high water, amid reports that more than 4,000 may have been killed in Cameron Parish alone,” Associated Press reported after Rita hit.

Louisiana Cattlemen’s Association representative Bob Felknor predicted that more than 30,000 cattle might be in trouble.

“An estimated 135,000 farmed animals were impacted in southwest Louisiana alone, with many of them now roaming free but trying to escape the flooded areas,” *Farmed Animal Watch* reported.

About 5,000 cattle were stranded on Pecan Island, Vermilion Parish Office of Emergency Preparedness director Robert LeBlanc said.

Emergency feed was trucked in from Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska.

“We’re probably years away from getting back to normal,” Johnson

Bayou cattle ranch manager Kent LeDoux told Doug Simpson of Associated Press. “With the salt on the pastures, we don’t know how long it will take to recover.”

“Not even the surviving cattle are worth much,” Simpson wrote. “The animals are known as ‘storm cows,’ less valuable because their health is threatened by pneumonia and digestion problems from swallowing salt water and going without fresh water.”

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## Hurricanes Stan, Tammy, Wilma, & unnamed twisters add to catastrophe

**WEST PALM BEACH**—Hurricane Wilma, after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, might have seemed anticlimactic to those who were not hit by it. To those who were, including Pegasus Foundation program officer Anne M. Ostberg, whose organization specializes in assisting humane work in island nations, it was the real thing.

Wilma hit the west end of Grand Bahama island on October 24, displacing as many as 4,000 people and their animals. The Humane Society of Grand Bahama suffered only damaged fencing, Ostberg e-mailed, based on a report from director Elizabeth Burrows, but needed urgent help to feed and water displaced animals.

"The Bahamas Humane Society in Nassau sent inspector Carl Thurston to Grand Bahama on November 1 to spend four days assisting," Ostberg said. "Inspector Thurston also delivered supplies and equipment. Humane Society International provided some

funding to Bahamas Humane, and the Pegasus Foundation wired \$1,000 to the Kohn Foundation, a Colorado charity that acts as a fiscal agent for the Humane Society of Grand Bahama.

"At this end," Ostberg added, "the barn at the Pegasus Foundation's animal sanctuary in Florida lost part of its roof, but the animals and people were unhurt. The building where our West Palm Beach offices were located was badly damaged, but again, no one was hurt."

As Wilma approached Florida, the Humane Society of Broward County in Fort Lauderdale received an influx of 19 cats and 23 dogs from evacuees. The Suncoast Humane Society in Englewood received an additional 50 animals.

But the Florida crisis was brief. Other than the Pegasus Foundation, the only animal facility to report extensive damage was the Naples Zoo, also hit in 2004 by Hurricane

Charley. A pregnant parma wallaby died from stress, zoo director David Tetzlaff said. The zoo was closed for repairs that were expected to take up to two months.

The World Society for the Protection of Animals was already funding emergency vaccination and feeding in Costa Rica and El Salvador and investigating situations in Guatemala and Mexico, after hurricanes Stan and Tammy, when Wilma swung south, spokesperson Celia Wood said.

WSPA also helped the Society for the Protection of Animals in El Salvador to build a temporary cattle shelter near the Llamatepec Volcano, Wood added.

After Wilma, Juan Carlos Murillo of WSPA directed two veterinary field teams on a two-week mission to Quintana Roo state, Mexico. The Humane Society of the U.S. sent six staff members, some of whom had already assisted an HSUS Rural Area Veterinary Services team in the vicinity.

The fall tropical storm season had an impact as far north as Woonsocket, Rhode Island, where the October 15 opening of a flood control dam due to torrential rain forced animal control officer Paul Rose to evacuate seven dogs, ten cats, and the reptile collection he uses on educational visits to schoolrooms. The animals were temporarily housed by the Lincoln Animal Shelter and the Providence Animal Rescue League.

The last of the series of disasters to hit the U.S.—rescuers hoped—may have been the October 29 tornado that killed 22 residents of the Eastbrook Mobile Home Park near Evansville, Indiana. Evansville Animal Control and the Vanderburgh Humane Society recovered more than 70 dogs, cats, reptiles, rabbits, birds, and other animals from the scene, reported Evansville *Courier & Press* staff writer Jimmy Nesbitt.

Two cats and three dogs were found dead in the rubble.

## Wildlife in the hard-hit Gulf region is most imperiled by human activity

Hurricane Katrina first hit wildlife along the east coast of Florida.

"About 200 loggerhead sea turtle hatchlings born on Hutchinson Island were unable to crawl through deposits of sea grass washed ashore by the storm," *Palm Beach Post* staff writer Kimberly Miller reported. "Beachgoers from Delray Beach south found about two dozen hatchlings that experts believe made it into the water, but were spit back worn out onto the beach by the waves."

Treated for dehydration and exhaustion by the Gumbo Limbo Environmental Complex in Boca Raton and the Marinelife Center in Juno Beach, most were returned to the sea within days.

There they encountered a new threat. After hurricanes the National Marine Fisheries Service often suspends the requirement that shrimpers must use turtle exclusion devices (TEDS) on their nets, because floating debris often fouls TEDS and tears nets.

The timing of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma meant that the TED rule was continuously suspended from September 26 to November 23.

Meanwhile, as Katrina roared westward, about 50 sea turtle nests were destroyed along the Alabama coast. Habitat for the endangered Alabama beach mouse and red-capped woodpecker was also destroyed.

Rita and Wilma did similar damage

on Caribbean islands and along the coast of Mexico.

"Sea turtles are well-adapted to survive even intense natural disasters such as hurricanes," noted Janice Blumenthal of the Cayman Islands Department of Environment. "It is human impacts such as accidental capture in shrimp nets, hunting turtles and eggs, long-line fishing, and loss of nesting and feeding habitat which threatens sea turtles with extinction."

"Hurricane Katrina washed away sea turtle eggs, tore holes in beaches and drowned alligator nests in the Everglades," observed David Fleshler of the Florida *Sun-Sentinel*. "But scientists and environmental officials expect most of the effect to be temporary."

Agreed Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission biologist Thomas Eason, "Wildlife in Florida have co-evolved with hurricanes for thousands, if not millions of years. Bears, deer, and panthers hole up on some high ground or find a safe spot and weather the storm. Butterflies wedge themselves into tree hollows, sharks head to open water, and migratory birds delay flights."

Among the 120 nonmigratory Mississippi sandhill cranes at the Mississippi Sandhill Crane National Wildlife Refuge in Gautier, 31 of 32 with radio transmitters survived Katrina and Rita, biologist Scott Hereford told Gary Holland of the Biloxi *Sun*

*Herald*—but 31 of the 35 observation posts on the refuge were damaged or destroyed.

"The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, in charge of 16 now-closed refuges along the Louisiana coast, said the storms reduced the Breton National Wildlife Refuge from more than 18,000 acres to barely 9,000, and caused \$94 million worth of damage to facilities," wrote Dina Capiello of the *Houston Chronicle*.

While missing major cities, Rita actually hit protected habitat harder than Katrina, "wreaking havoc on more 300,000 acres of state and federal wildlife refuges in southwest Louisiana, pushing the salty Gulf of Mexico into freshwater marshes, washing away levees, killing animals, and possibly further eroding fragile coastal areas," wrote Richard Burgess of the *Baton Rouge Advocate*.

"The largely rural region hit by Rita is home to four federal and three state refuges," Burgess wrote, "from the 124,511-acre Sabine National Wildlife Refuge in Cameron Parish to the 9,000-acre Bayou Teche National Wildlife Refuge, set aside in 2001 as habitat for the Louisiana black bear."

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service spokesman Tom MacKenzie guesstimated that the damage from Rita would cost about \$41.7 million to repair.

Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries staff told Jason Brown of the Lafayette Advertiser that the hurricanes might

cost the state hunting and fishing industry \$2.3 billion over the next two years—about 16% of the expected gross.

Two weeks before the November 1 opening of the 2005 Louisiana deer season, basic hunting license sales were down 56%, and big game permit sales were down 65%.

Near Cameron, Louisiana, high water made state highway 27 an evening haunt of turtles and alligators, the latter apparently hunting nutria, reported Jennifer Steinhauer of Associated Press.

At Moss Point, Mississippi, the Gulf Coast Gator Ranch lost about 200 alligators. About 80 were recovered during the next six weeks. The same ranch lost 30 alligators during Hurricane Georges in September 1998, Associated Press recalled.

"The manatees who grazed in Lake Pontchartrain before Hurricane Katrina haven't been seen since," Janet McConaughy of Associated Press noted on October 13, "but eight dolphins were leaping in the lake this week."

Observed Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation executive director Carlton Dufrechou, "If the big critters are back, the lake is definitely coming back."

Dufrechou pointed out that the dolphins and flocks of pelicans soaring over the lake appeared to be feeding successfully, an indication that the food chain had survived.

## Fate of rescued animals goes to court

Pasado's Safe Haven, of Sultan, Washington, directing one of the major ad hoc rescue centers near New Orleans, suffered a major embarrassment after sending 61 pit bull terriers to Every Dog Needs A Home, also known as the EDNAH Animal Rescue & Sanctuary, in Gamaliel, Arkansas.

Another 18 pit bulls were sent to EDNAH by the Humane Society of Louisiana, which since losing its own facilities to Katrina has operated from a corner of the St. Francis Animal Sanctuary in Tylertown, Mississippi.

An October 21 visit to EDNAH by Baxter County Sheriff John Montgomery found more than 400 dogs packed into a two-acre lot, as many as 75 of them running loose. One dog was found dead.

Founders William Hanson, 41, and his wife Tammy Hanson, 38, were charged with cruelty and released on \$1,000 bond each.

"It's definitely not the type of facility that we thought it was," Pasado's representative Diane Goodrich told Jane Stewart of the Arkansas *Democrat-Gazette*.

"Goodrich said the Pasado

dogs arrived at Hanson's shelter on October 17, delivered in individual cages that were lined up on a gravel road inside the shelter entrance. Apparently the animals and the cages had not been moved since their arrival," Stewart wrote.

Pasado's cofounders Mark Steinway and Susan Michaels said they found Hanson "through qualified independent word-of-mouth resources," citing two veterinarians, among others.

However, three rescuers told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** before the arrests that they had developed misgivings about EDNAH.

Where Angels Run founder Desiree Bender of Little Rock, Arkansas, beginning on October 12 tried to alert Steinway and others to the developing problems at EDNAH. "Desiree," responded Steinway on October 16, "you need to cease and desist with this character defamation or you will soon be facing legal action the likes of which you never dreamed of."

But a quick search of <www.NewsLibrary.com> archives soon discovered indicative history. In 2003 the Hansons escaped

charges in Cass County, Missouri, after 132 dogs were found at their former home near Belton, Missouri.

Tammy Hanson, then known as Tammy Doneski, was in 1994 convicted in Chicago of felony impersonation of a medical doctor.

Steinway eventually led a team from Pasado's who joined other volunteers in looking after the dogs at EDNAH pending court determination of their disposition.

### Rescuer "theft"

"The threat of legal action against Walt and Faye Peters of Contented Critters in Makinen appears to have stalled," Jana Goerd of the Duluth *News-Tribune* reported on November 8, "because no one has come forward to claim the twelve dogs and one kitten they brought back from Louisiana."

Many rescuers removed animals from Louisiana before the mandatory holding time for identification expired, but Walt and Faye Peters were apparently the only rescuers from whom animals were seized. Duluth police took the animals on September 21.

In a second case involving



A happy reunion for Dusti the cat and Aretha Parker. (Kate Howard)

the right of possession of rescued animals, whose former caretakers have not been identified, former Colorado Animal Rescue board member Sue Schmidt of Silt, Colorado, on November 7 sought a court order to prevent CARE from transferring, relocating, assessing or euthanizing six dogs she brought back from Louisiana in October.

Schmidt resigned from the CARE board, *Aspen Daily News* staff writer Andre Salvail, wrote,



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# REMOTENESS OF DEADLY PAKISTAN EARTHQUAKE THWARTS AID

**KARACHI**—An earthquake measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale killed more than 30,000 people and countless animals on October 5, 2005 in the North West Frontier Province of Pakistan.

The remoteness of the region, lack of established animal welfare infrastructure anywhere in Pakistan, and lack of official interest in helping animals thwarted prompt response by international organizations.

“I just got back to Karachi after spending two weeks filming in Balakot,” e-mailed Pakistan Animal Welfare Society representative and Geo TV assistant producer Mahera Omar on November 11.

Omar, more than a month after the earthquake, was nonetheless among the first pro-animal representatives to bring back first-hand testimony about what is needed.

“Balakot is a small town in the North West Frontier Province, about 60 miles north of Islamabad,” Omar explained. “Located near the quake’s epicenter, it is said to be among the worst devastated.

“We visited a few small villages up in the mountains around Balakot,” Omar recounted. “The people in these areas depend on subsistence farming and their livestock. Many of the livestock have been killed. The rest are without any sort of shelter. Many people are still without tents. Some have provided makeshift shelters for their animals, using cloth or plastic sheets. Without shelter, their livestock will not survive the harsh winter. The animals also require veterinary care.

“Tent villages have been established in the towns,” Omar said, but “the majority are not willing to leave their land and live-

stock. At this time of the year,” Omar added, “the yearly migration of people and their animals from the mountains to the plains is underway. On the main road from Kaghan/Naran to Mansera, we saw many families on the move, usually with a few donkeys, cows, buffaloes, goats, sheep, and a dog or two. Baby goats and lambs born on the move were often carried on donkey’s backs, or were carried by the people in their arms. Pregnant animals get no rest. Neither are they able to receive any veterinary care along the way.

“At night they move in pitch dark. Sometimes they stop by the side of the highway. They burn discarded relief clothing for warmth. Shepherds often collect the sweaters and shirts and put them on their goats. Many goats we saw were constantly coughing. The shepherds too are facing a crisis,” Omar noted, “as the price of their animals has fallen drastically,” since no one has any money. “They do not know how they will survive.

“The international animal welfare community needs to be urgently mobilized to provide assistance to the animals in the affected areas,” Omar opined. “Apart from the World Society for the Protection of Animals and the Brooke Hospital for Animals, no other animal welfare organizations that I am aware of are providing disaster relief.

Omar was aware of rescue work individually sponsored by Pakistani/American veterinarian I.M. Kathio, who operates dog-and-cat sterilization clinics in both nations.

“Food is now available for both people and animals in most places,” Omar observed. “Providing shelter ought to become a priority, before the severe winter weather

sets in at the end of November. Snow is already falling in some areas. More mobile veterinary teams need to be sent out to the remote villages, and most importantly, the Pakistani veterinary community needs to be encouraged to play their role.”

The Brooke Hospital for Animals, maintaining a veterinary mission in Pakistan since 1991, dispatched a reconnaissance team to Balakot on October 11.

“The Brooke is the largest animal welfare organisation in Pakistan,” said Brooke public relations chief Nikki Austin. “Last year we helped a quarter of a million working horses, donkeys, and mules across five regions of the country, including Peshawar, a large city close to the affected regions, and over the border in Jalalabad, Afghanistan.

“The Brooke has helped such communities in the past,” Austin continued, “when it sent veterinary teams to Gujarat, India after a devastating earthquake in 2001, and in 2002 aided the animals of Afghan refugees in camps along the Pakistan border.”

WSPA deployed five veterinary teams to Pakistan on October 14, said spokesperson Sarah Pickering.

“Working from two base camps shared by military personnel and other international NGOs in the heart of the affected area, WSPA is delivering emergency veterinary first aid, vaccinating animals against leptospirosis and rabies, and providing food supplements,” Pickering said.

Other organizations’ efforts to assist in Pakistan ran afoul—in different ways—of the local utilitarian view of animals.

Animal Save Movement of Pakistan

president Khalid Mahmood Quereshi e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** an urgent request for aid, intended that the request should be circulated to the major charity representatives at the International Companion Animal Welfare Conference in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Apparently presuming that even animal welfare charities would put human needs first, Quereshi including nothing on his itemized list of needs for human victims that any of the participants could have funded with money donated to help non-humans.

Humane Society International representative Sherry Grant hoped to help in Pakistan after completing a commitment to assist in the aftermath of a cyclone and flash floods that in October repeatedly struck the Visakha SPCA in Visakhapatnam, India.

Stopping in Sri Lanka, en route to Visakhapatnam, Grant applied for a visa to enter Pakistan, and while waiting to be interviewed, “managed a friendly chat, unknown to me at the time, with the High Commissioner of the Pakistan Consulate,” she e-mailed to supporters.

“I must have said something right about the work we have done in Sri Lanka and family values,” Grant guessed, as she got a visa while another charity representative interviewed just ahead of her did not. “There was concern and aggravation that I would want to work with animals over people,” Grant continued. “I explained the connection.”

**CONTACTS:** Both the **Pakistan Animal Welfare Society** and **I.M. Kathio, DVM**, are presently best accessed by e-mail, at <mahera.omar@gmail.com> and <IHKSINDH@aol.com>, respectively.

## Visakha SPCA digs out after floods, fights disease outbreaks

**VISAKHAPATNAM**—Already hit by flooding after a September 19 cyclone, the Visakha SPCA was inundated twice more by further cyclones before the end of October.

Monsoon rains and occasional cyclones are part of the normal weather cycle along the Bay of Bengal, but fall 2005 brought the region triple the usual rainfall.

The impact was felt as far south as Chennai, where the St. Thomas Mount Animal Birth Control Center was badly damaged by flash flooding, Blue Cross of India chief executive Chinny Krishna told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, and part of the Blue Cross shelter at Guindy was briefly awash.

“Fortunately, thanks to our volunteer Shanthi, all animals in the lower-lying enclosures were moved out to the main building,” Krishna said.

The Visakha SPCA began clean-up and rebuilding at the same time as extending emergency aid to surrounding areas, then had to start over after the destruction of a retaining wall by the first flood allowed a second and third flood.

Despite the setbacks, Visakha SPCA founder Pradeep Kumar Nath saw the outreach as a first priority. “Just as after the December 2004 tsunami,” Nath explained, when the Visakha SPCA fielded three rescue teams funded by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** almost immediately, “giving medical attention to the villagers’ domestic animals allows us to introduce our dog sterilization program, and educate against animal sacrifice, wildlife trading, and killing dogs.

“Months of hard rain have weakened many animals and death stalks all around,” Nath continued. “Specifically,

foot and mouth disease. We can control it at the shelter through our intensive efforts, but it is difficult to get the farmers properly educated in time for them to save their own animals. And government help is sporadic or nonexistent.

“Cattle are dying right in front of us,” Nath said. “Unlike in the west, farmers here will not allow infected cattle to be killed. We try to save the cattle with antibiotic injections, vitamins, cleaning and dressing the wounds on their feet, and asking the farmers to give their animals a warm liquid diet.”

Helping the Visakha SPCA to rebuild, recover, and assist the villagers were the Animal Help Emergency And Disaster team recently formed by Rahul Sehgal of Ahmedabad; Darmesh Solanki of People for Animals in Mumbai; several staff from Animal Aid in Udaipur; four representatives from the Tsunami Memorial Animal Welfare Trust in Sri Lanka; and Sherry Grant, Asia field rep for Humane Society International.

Among their first jobs was safely containing seven cobras who had washed into the Visakha SPCA premises.

“A handful of local workers are racing against time and weather to finish shelters for the cows,” Grant e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “I asked Pradeep ‘Why don’t you hire more workers?’ By the end of the day it was clear that the weather and the work [removing deep mud and manure] put the laborers off, no matter how much he paid them. He pays over three times the going rate, but they come, they leave, and they don’t show up the next day.

“We agreed that the traditional method of women scooping up one rice bag of muck at a time and carrying it



*A Visakha SPCA outreach team at work. (VSPCA)* away on their heads was out. What was needed was heavy equipment. We found a guy with a loader.”

“Construction in future has to be done on higher platform,” said Nath. “The biggest problem is that the government never will give us good land, and the land we now occupy was the best available. I thought the stream that flooded us was a bonus, as we need 5,000 litres per day, and had good water during the severe drought of just three years ago. We built initially on five feet of fill, and now another four feet is required. The wall needs to be stronger, maybe engineered like a bridge.

“We will build a much better shelter for the animals, and better than that, a paradise for them,” Nath pledged.

**CONTACT:** Visakha SPCA, 26-15-200 Main Road, Visakhapatnam 530001, India; telephone: 91-891-564759; <vspcadeep@yahoo.co.in>

## Fund-Raising for Animal Care Organizations

*Edited by Julie Miller Dowling*

**Humane University (c/o Humane Society of the U.S., 2100 L St. NW, Washington, DC 20037), 2005. 184 pages, paperback. \$44.95.**

*Fund-Raising for Animal Care Organizations* is the second in a Humane University how-to series that began with *Volunteer Management for Animal Care Organizations*, by Betsy McFarland. Much of *Fund-Raising for Animal Care Organizations* overlaps and closely parallels the fundraising information included in the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** handbook *Fundraising & Accountability for Animal Protection Charities*, available in PDF format free for downloading at <www.animalpeoplenews.com>, under “important materials.”

Thus in reviewing *Fund-Raising for Animal Care Organizations* for the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** audience, the \$44.95 question is whether the HSUS take on the topic offers enough additional information to be worth the cost.

The answer is probably yes for U.S.-based organizations that already raise more than \$100,000 per year, but no for smaller organizations and those based abroad.

The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** handbook, albeit shorter, includes more information about simple, basic approaches to fundraising that any organization, anywhere, can use right away.

Both handbooks include approximately the same advice about accountability and ethics, but the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** handbook describes accountability procedures in terms applicable to any charity in any nation. The advice in *Fund-Raising for*

*Animal Care Organizations* is contrastingly geared to the specific requirements of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

*Fund-Raising for Animal Care Organizations* does include much more about finding, cultivating, and collecting contributions from high donors. Some of this may be of potential value to foreign charities, but much of it, for example a section about how to establish a charitable remainder trust, is closely dependent upon the quirks of U.S. tax law. Charitable remainder trusts and several other longterm arrangements discussed in *Fund-Raising for Animal Care Organizations* are not a big part of fundraising abroad because the legislation that enables such relationships rarely has an equivalent in other nations.

Chapter contributors to *Fund-Raising for Animal Care Organizations* include Judith Calhoun of the Denver Dumb Friends League, Vincent Connelly of Connelly & Associates Fund-raising LLC, Caryn Ginsberg of the Priority Ventures Group, Christie Smith of the Potter League for Animals, Alice Tracy of the Humane Society of the U.S., and Karen Medicus, who formerly headed the Austin/Travis County SPCA, and before that, the Humane Society of Greater Miami. Her current project, Imagine Humane, is jointly sponsored by the American SPCA and PetSmart Charities.

—Merritt Clifton

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## Dining With Friends

*The Art of North American Vegan Cuisine*  
by Priscilla Feral, Lee Hall,  
& Friends of Animals Inc.

Nectar Bar Press, 777 Post Road, Suite 205, Darien,  
CT 06820. 164 pages, paperback. \$19.95.

This marvelous collection of vegan recipes might be called a fusion cookbook, since the recipes explore a wide variety of sources, among them Italian, West African, and Mexican.

Not being qualified cooks ourselves, we gave *Dining With Friends* to Leroi Willmore, the gourmet chef who also runs the Barnyard Donkey Sanctuary, near George in the Cape Province of South Africa.

Explains Willmore, "The Sanctuary was started in 1995, as a direct result of our history and involvement with the National SPCA over the years. We found a need to care for the amazing amount of abused and neglected donkeys we came across in the townships and poorer parts of the country.

"Only when the donkeys learn to trust humans again do we put them up for adoption. We have homed thirty-eight donkeys since the inception of the sanctuary and have had to repossess only two donkeys from foster homes. The restaurant is an effort on our part to raise funds to cover our day-to-day expenses."

We subjected *Dining With Friends* to the judgement of a critical panel of dedicated South African meat-eaters, whose taste in food is conservative in the extreme.

We assembled the panel to enjoy a six-course meal of recipes prepared from the book. Willmore went to great trouble to ensure that the dishes were authentic to the book, no mean feat in a nation where many of the ingredients are not readily available.

The meal extended over three hours. The dishes were veg-

etable bisque, toast caps with cilantro pesto, Italian vegetable and potato stew, and stuffed bell peppers with tofu and vegetables. For desserts there were blackberry and raspberry flummery and apple cinnamon crisp. Vegan butter was provided for the bread.

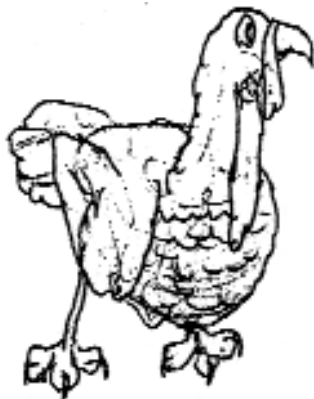
The doubters were pleasantly surprised. The average rating on every dish exceeded 8 out of 10.

Anyone who thinks that vegan cooking is boring, bland or tasteless should try these recipes. Actually, everyone should try them.

Our one constructive criticism of *Dining With Friends* is that there should be a photograph of each dish, so that one can use the visual aid to decide which recipe to choose.

We doubt that our guests will change to a vegan lifestyle, as this involves making a philosophical choice involving much more than diet. But none of them will ever feel compelled to ask again, as one guest did before we started, "If you take all the meats and dairy products out of a meal, what is left?"

—Chris Mercer & Bev Pervan  
Cape Town, South Africa.  
<[www.cannedlion.co.za](http://www.cannedlion.co.za)>



## The Holocaust & The Henmaid's Tale

by Karen Davis, Ph.D.

Lantern Books (1 Union Square West, Suite 201, New York,  
NY 10003), 2005. 138 pages, paperback. \$30.00.

Karen Davis, founder and president of United Poultry Concerns, concludes that, "The Holocaust epitomized an attitude, the manifestation of a base will. It is the attitude that we can do whatever we please, however vicious, if we can get away with it, because we are superior and they, whoever they are, are, so to speak, just chickens. Paradoxically therefore, it is possible, indeed it is requisite, to make relevant and enlightening comparisons between the Holocaust and our base treatment of non-human animals. We can make comparisons while agreeing with the approach taken by philosopher Brian Luke towards animal abuse. Luke writes:

"My opposition to the institutionalized exploitation of animals is not based on a comparison between human and animal treatment, but on a consideration of the abuse of animals in and of itself."

Davis's philosophy is well-

argued and closely reasoned, so that by the time she reaches her conclusion—that there is a Nazi within all of us—the reader has already arrived there.

Of course Davis does not state her point as baldly as we have. Her message is couched in more hopeful terms, suggesting that the sooner humankind changes our cruel and violent ways, the better for all of us as well as other life forms.

This implies that there is some prospect of humankind doing so in the foreseeable future. There is little to suggest that this is likely. We have caused limitless suffering to ourselves and to all other life forms since the beginning of recorded time.

The real question which underlies Davis' book, and all treatises on animal rights, is simply this: How can we change human nature for the better?

Any suggestions?

—Chris Mercer



We have rescued many dogs and cats, including this mother and her kittens. Your donation to our sanctuary fund will help us save many more from the terrible cruelty of the Korean dog and cat meat markets. We have bought the land to build Korea's first world-class animal shelter and hospital. A donor paid for the foundation with a promise to put on the roof if we can raise the money to build the middle.

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International Aid for Korean Animals / Korea  
Animal Protection Society  
POB 20600, Oakland, CA 94620

## The World Peace Diet

*Eating for Spiritual Health and Social Harmony*

by Will Tuttle, Ph.D.

Lantern Books (1 Union Square West,  
Suite 201, New York, NY 10003), 2005.  
318 pages, paperback. \$20.00.

Will Tuttle is a professional pianist and teacher with a strong background in Zen Buddhism. He argues for a broader understanding of the implications of our food choices. He promotes veganism to all people of conscience, whatever their religion, as the vital first step to allow our species to break out of the cycle of violence, poverty and destruction.

Unlike most other authors on vegetarianism, Tuttle does not content himself with listing the physical harm done to our bodies from meat/dairy consumption. He contends that the harm from meat eating is much broader and deeper than we realise, and has important emotional and spiritual ramifications. He believes that our relentless cruelty to animals, principally for meat-eating, is the fundamental cause of a global crisis today, and not merely a symptom of human limitations.

"If we cannot stop eating meat," Tuttle argues, "how can we possibly develop the sensitivity which is essential for spiritual maturity?"

The argument is logical but it discounts examples like the Dalai Lama, who ate meat for decades before briefly going vegetarian in 1995 and finally going veg for keeps earlier in 2005. The Dalai Lama was widely regarded as spiritually mature long before eating meat visibly troubled him.

Tuttle lists human activities that brutalize livestock and then draws a comparison with related human suffering, to drive home the point that because all things are connected at all levels, we will all suffer ourselves for what we do to other living things.

"As we force animals to be fat, diseased, overcrowded and stressed, we become the same," Tuttle writes. "As we feed them unnaturally processed chemical-laden foods, we find our grocery stores filled with similarly toxic products posing as food."

Our meat-eating choices are inherited from our parents. This indoctrination is reinforced by social and market pressures as well as by acquired taste. To break out of the rut requires conscious effort, a desire to leave home, in the sense of wishing to achieve a higher set of moral values:

"In a herding culture nothing is more subversive to the established order of exploitation and privilege than consciously refusing to participate in buying and eating the animal foods that define that culture."

Tuttle is at his best when describing the plight of farmed animals and linking it to our physical and emotional well being. We learned much that other books have failed to tell us. However, when he discusses the metaphysical consequences of animal cruelty, there are logical jumps which elude us.

For example, Tuttle links meat-eating directly to specific phenomena such as alcoholism and military spending: "Every minute our slaughter houses kill 20,000 land animals and the Pentagon spends \$760,000." While we can be convinced that meat eating can contribute metaphysically to the massive expenditure on armaments, the corollary to Tuttle's argument is that if people stopped eating meat then the armaments industry would collapse.

—Chris Mercer

## Gods In Chains

by Rhea Ghosh

Foundation Books  
(4764/2A, 23 Ansari Rd.,  
Daryaganj, New Delhi 110002,  
India), 2005. 239 pages,  
hardcover. \$20.00.

Rhea Ghosh, of Boston, Massachusetts, spent the summer of 2004 researching the status of working elephants in India, commissioned by the Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre in Bangalore, Karnataka state, India.

*Gods In Chains* is the 230-page record of her findings, including her detailed recommendations for changes in the elephant-keeping regimen, and extensive appendices containing much of her source material.

Ghosh's observations are heavily derivative of those of Peter Jaeggi, who has observed captive elephants in India since circa 1990. The extent to which Jaeggi's commentary has influenced Ghosh is evident from comparing her text to the two Jaeggi articles included

among the appendices, "Chained in Delhi" and "Living Gods in a living hell." The Jaeggi articles might just as well have constituted the first part of the book, as Ghosh offers very little original insight about the present state of elephant care and the recent deterioration of the once lifelong bond between mahouts and their elephants. As Jaeggi pointed out in 2003, an elephant today may have a new mahout almost every year—or even more often, if either the elephant or the elephant owner is particularly difficult.

However, while Jaeggi more thoroughly and originally diagnosed the plight of Indian elephants, Ghosh offers much more extensive suggestions about what might be done to help them, within the present framework of Indian law and culture, and within present Indian technological capacity.

Ultimately, Ghosh would like to abolish captive elephant-keeping. Elephants who for whatever reason must be removed from the wild would be kept at spacious sanctuaries.

However, Ghosh recog-

nizes that Indian cultural pressure to use and display elephants for a variety of ceremonial and symbolic purposes is unlikely to disappear within the present generation, though the use of elephants for strictly practical purposes long since faded out. Logging elephants remain in use only to approximately the extent that workhorses still exist on U.S. farms. Elephants today work by standing outside temples, marching in parades, and hauling tourists.

As the numbers of captive elephants today are comparatively few, and could be tracked by methods no more complicated than a check-in system making use of the ubiquitous Indian internet cafes, Ghosh recommends establishing an online elephant tracking system, which would be much more efficient and effective than the present paper tracking system, and could prevent many abuses. Ghosh also favors a system wherein captive elephants, like their wild kin, would remain property of the state, not of individuals, although those now in private hands might stay where they are now, if not abused. —M.C.

## Abandoned in Gaza

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## KATZ ON DOGS: A COMMON SENSE GUIDE TO TRAINING AND LIVING WITH DOGS by Jon Katz

Villard Books (299 Park Ave., New York, NY 10171), 2005.  
240 pages. \$24.95 hardcover.

Dogs have their place in Jon Katz's family, but Katz, author of *A Dog Year* and *The Dogs of Bedlam Farm*, neither treats them as children nor accords them equal status with humans. He views no-kill shelters with disfavour, arguing that there is little reason to keep potentially dangerous, un-adoptable dogs in a lifetime of crowded, noisy confinement.

Katz offers guidance both from his own experience and from case studies about what kind of dog to adopt, how to train and feed the dog, and how to build a healthy rapport with a dog. Handling the complexities of multi-dog families is also discussed, as well as some ethical and spiritual issues.

Though centered on useful information about dog care, *Katz On Dogs* also discusses the changing roles of dogs in modern American society, and how increasing stresses on families affect dogs.

Katz deplores the growing tendency

to sentimentalise dog behaviour. Referring to the belief among many dog guardians that their animals suffer separation anxiety, when apart from each other, Katz writes: "Technically, the term applies to the anxiety a small child feels when separated from a parent. There is no equivalent response in a dog."

We believe this statement is too sweeping. We know from our own experience, especially during our years of managing the Kalahari Raptor Center, how anxious animals become in separation, especially social animals such as dogs, lions, and meerkats. All of them exhibit obvious anguish when separated from their packs, prides, or den mates, and display unmistakable joy and relief when re-united—including with humans whom they have admitted into their social circles.

—Chris Mercer  
<www.cannedlion.com>  
South Africa

## OBITUARIES

**Rolando Cepraga**, 30, died on November 5, 2005 in Galati, Romania after seven months of inconclusively diagnosed illness. Stricken in early April, Cepraga was at first believed to have pneumonia. Tuberculosis was later suspected. At his death Cepraga was believed to have lung cancer. An autopsy disclosed that the illness was *Borreliosis*, known in the U.S. as Lyme disease. Carried by ticks common to many birds and small mammals, the *Borrelia* bacterial spirochete produces symptoms that notoriously elude recognition, tending to mimic other diseases. The incidence of severe cases in Romania is unknown, but about 3,500 per year occur in neighboring Bulgaria, according to World Health Organization data, of which only 55 on average are recognized and promptly treated with penicillin or tetracycline. Animal care workers are among the humans at highest risk. Cepraga and his longtime companion, Dana Costin, 27, cofounded the animal advocacy group ROLDA in 1996, and opened the first ROLDA shelter in 2001.



Rolando Cepraga. (Sharon Hopkins)

Partnered with Romanian Animal Rescue, of Livermore, California, ROLDA now operates a sanctuary for about 40 dogs outside Galati, feeds about 250 pound dogs, has an adoption program for pound dogs, sterilizes community dogs and cats, and does classroom humane education. "A very modest person, Cepraga never wanted to be in front and take credit for his hard work," recalled Elena Stoica of the Galati newspaper *Viata Libera*.

**Muriel Hatheway Verizzi**, 92, died on October 29, 2005 in New Hartford, Connecticut. Involved in humane work for more than 42 years, she was the longtime president of the Connecticut Animal Welfare League, begun in the mid-1970s to pursue pro-animal legislation, and was treasurer of Animal Friends of Connecticut, an adoption shelter founded a decade later.

**Zhu Chunhong**, 15, of Pudong, Sichuan Province, China, was twice bitten by a small stray dog she tried to help in a September 13, 2005 rainstorm. She died from rabies on October 16. "No one in her family knew about rabies," reported the Xinhua News Agency.

**Beverly Parent**, 50, of Surrey, British Columbia, Canada, died on October 13, 2005 from burns suffered as she tried to rescue her 59 cats from an early morning apartment fire. All of the cats were killed too. "I recently moved to the same complex, in order that we might have some mutual support for caring for sick and rescued cats," wrote **ANIMAL PEOPLE** reader Roslyn Cassells. "Bev rescued animals and rehomed them. She was particularly good with feral kittens, and always placed the mums in safe settings, after spaying of course. She had an extra large suite and back yard, and special runs for recovering animals. She was crawling in and out of her suite, on fire, with burns to over 90% of her body, still trying to save her cats when rescuers arrived."



## ANIMAL OBITS

**José**, a four-month old blackfooted ferret who was raised at the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo and released into the wild near Wolf Creek, Colorado in late October 2005, was killed by a coyote or badger just three days later. "We found only his radio transmitter, and it was all chewed up," Bureau of Land Management biologist Brian Holmes told Dave Philipps of the Colorado Springs Gazette. Philipps learned that the survival rate for reintroduced blackfooted ferrets ranges from one in 10 in Colorado to one in 30 in New Mexico. Two other ferrets released at the same time as José are also deceased, but details of their fate were not disclosed.

**Eastern Racer Snake #039**, 15, was killed by a truck during the first week of November 2005 in Windham County, Vermont. "Long, black and sinuous, #039 belonged to the rarest snake species in Vermont, where only seven other Eastern racers have been found," wrote Candance Page of the *Burlington Free Press*. "Herpetologist Jim Andrews captured and tagged him in 2004 as part of the rediscovery of a species once thought extinct in Vermont. #039 achieved minor celebrity last month," Page added, "when he was returned to his home after a Herculean effort by humans to save his life after he was found on July 14 on Interstate 91 with a broken jaw, badly injured eye and cuts and bruises. Volunteers fed him through a tube. State transportation officials used his October 5 release to tout their efforts to improve wildlife habitat near highways."

**Bulgy**, 50, a hippo born at the Miami Bird Farm but sold to the Chaffee Zoo in Fresno in 1958, was euthanized on November 10 due to incurable painful conditions of age.



## MEMORIALS

In memory of Thistle, feline companion of Susie Anthony for 20 years.  
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—Dianne & Michael Bahr



Bear & BeeGee (right)

In memory of BeeGee, beloved cat of Lindy, Marvin, and Melinda Sobel, whose brave and loving heart will remain an inspiration to those who knew her or knew of her.

In memory of Tigre, 11,  
beloved cat of Raffaella Revaso.

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).

**Best Mate**, 10, three-time winner of the Gold Cup, remembered by Michael Fleet of the *Daily Telegraph* as "the most popular racehorse in Britain," stumbled in front of the crowd after his first fall 2005 race, the first race he ever failed to finish. "Jockey Paul Carberry immediately dismounted. Best Mate fell to his knees and rolled over after suffering a fatal heart attack," Fleet wrote.

**Bud**, 16, a golden eagle, died from the mosquito-transmitted West Nile virus on September 9 at the Southwest Wildlife Foundation in Cedar City, Utah. Considered a threat to livestock, Bud was trapped in 1991 by Southwest Wildlife Foundation president Martin Tyner. "A frequent flier at schools, businesses, and the Utah Shakespearean Festival, Bud was the foundation's favorite partner for promoting wildlife conservation and birds of prey," wrote Mark Haves of the *Salt Lake Tribune*. "Bud's prowess at publicity landed him last year on the floor of the Utah House of Representatives, where he was feted for his work." Tyner recognized that Bud had the symptoms of West Nile virus and began treating him on September 6, to no avail.

**Future**, 2, a male African elephant who lost half of his trunk to a poacher's wire snare, died on September 12 despite intensive efforts to save him by Sharon Pincott of the Presidential Elephant Conservation Project on the Hwange Estate in Zimbabwe.

**Calvin**, 30, among the oldest grizzly bears in captivity, died in early November at the Utica Zoo in upstate New York. Born at the Milwaukee County Zoo, Calvin had also lived at the Cleveland MetroParks Zoo.

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**Elisabeth Lewyt Award Presented to Courageous Companion Animals and  
Humane Society of Louisiana**

To people throughout the world, the names Katrina and Rita will forever signify death and destruction. Endless videos of devastated homes and ravaged landscape will always be in our minds. To animal lovers everywhere, pictures of dogs stranded on rooftops and cats wandering through abandoned streets will also be with us for all time. But there is more to their story. However desperate these pets were to survive, they never stopped giving unconditional love – and more – to people in their lives.



The story of Brill was reported in the October issue of *Animal People*. He is a German shepherd mix who arrived with a woman at the Lamar-Dixon staging area in Gonzalez, LA. Brill and the woman were strangers before they were trapped together for many days on the top floor of a building in the hurricane zone. Brill (short for Brilliant, as he was called by his human companion) continued to bark

until rescuers arrived. Unable to care for him, the homeless woman entrusted her savior to Erin Marcus, a volunteer at Lamar-Dixon. Ms. Marcus will adopt Brill if his first guardian does not claim him. In addition, animals were an incredible comfort to those in distress:



"I have been at the Red Cross center here in Knoxville for two days," Humane Society of the Tennessee Valley executive director Vicky Crosetti emailed Merritt Clifton on September 5. "This is where all refugees must sign up for government help. Even though I have tons of boarding kennel space available for an extended period and plenty of foster homes, the people who got out with their animals are not ready to be separated from them right now."

These stories are only two of the many thousands of reports of heroism and compassion shown by dogs and cats who were themselves in the gravest danger.



The Elisabeth Lewyt Award for November 2005 has been presented by North Shore Animal League America to all the dogs and cats who, despite their desperate situations, showed amazing love, bravery, and empathy to the people and other animals with them. In honor of these dogs and cats, the League will present the Humane Society of Louisiana with a plaque and a \$1,000 check. The Humane Society of Louisiana worked tirelessly in the staging area in Tylertown, Mississippi to save the lives of the animals affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.



In a world plagued with human injustice and violence, there are many dogs and cats who are loving, caring, and compassionate. If you have a pet who has shown unbelievable courage or amazing tenderness to another animal

or a person, nominate your furry friend for a future Elisabeth Lewyt Award. Let the world know the exceptional dedication and affection pets have for those they love as well as for those who love them.

**Nomination Form**

Please complete this form, attach written description, photo and documentation and send to: Merritt Clifton @ *Animal People* • P.O. Box 960 • Clinton, WA 98236-0960

The following pet has demonstrated extraordinary heroism or compassion. I would like to nominate him/her for North Shore Animal League America's Elisabeth Lewyt Award. Attached is a description of the pet's remarkable deed as well as a publishable photograph and documentation.

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Street \_\_\_\_\_  
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