

Neuter/return foe Nico Dauphine convicted of trying to poison cats

WASHINGTON D.C.— Anti-feral cat ornithologist Nico Dauphine was on October 31, 2011 convicted in District of Columbia Superior Court of misdemeanor attempted cruelty to animals.

Facing a maximum penalty of 180 days in jail plus a \$1,000 fine, Dauphine was to be sentenced on December 14.

Routine in other respects, the Dauphine case became prominent because her papers have been distributed and often cited by anti-feral cat organizations such as the American Bird Conservancy and the Wildlife Society. Dauphine's choice of a top-dollar defense attorney also occasioned notice.

Observed Keith L. Alexander of the *Washington Post*, "When Michael Vick was facing animal cruelty charges four years ago, the star quarterback called on local defense lawyer Billy Martin for help. Dauphine, too, turned to the powerhouse lawyer," whose previous clients have included other athletes, several politicians, and former White House aide Monica Lewinsky, whose testimony about alleged sexual misconduct brought impeachment proceedings against then-U.S. President Bill Clinton.

Post-conviction, Dauphine changed lawyers and petitioned for a new trial.

"Martin argued that although security cameras captured Dauphine, 38, hovering



(Kim Bartlett)

over a bowl of cat food sitting outside the Park Square apartments March 2, she was simply removing the food to keep strays from congregating," reported Alexander. "But prosecutors said the 40-second video showed Dauphine removing a plastic bag from her purse, reaching into the bag, and dumping poison onto the food. A neighbor reported the incident, and no cats ate poisoned food."

Assistant U.S. Attorney Kevin Chambers cross-examined Dauphine about several of her anti-feral cat writings. Dauphine argued that the examples were mis-

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"Dog Island" became the home base for Bangkok dog rescue. (Soi Dog Foundation)

Thai flood rescuers wonder "Where were the global animal charities?"

BANGKOK—"I think we have shown that a group of dedicated local organizations can be far more effective [than international organizations] in dealing with disasters," e-mailed Soi Dog Foundation president John Dalley in mid-November 2011, as two months of flooding across much of Thailand

subsided. "It would have been nice to have been given some aid. Many of us expected the large international charities to take the lead and were disappointed, to put it mildly," Dalley continued. "I exclude Humane Society International from this comment," Dalley added, since an HSI team from India did help the local coalition, after several days of miscommunication.

But Dalley, Wildlife Friends Foundation of Thailand founder Edwin Wiek, and less outspoken representatives of other local rescue groups—most of them veterans of the rescue effort after the December 26, 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami—for several weeks did not even damn with faint praise the responses of the World Society for the Protection of Animals and the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

Among the first into the field as the waters rose in northern tributaries to the major rivers that converge at Bangkok was Save Elephant Foundation founder Sangduen "Lek"

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals



November/December 2011
Volume 20, #9

Mercy for Animals undercover video cracks open scandal at 5th-largest U.S. egg producer

CHICAGO—"It's likely," assessed Rod Smith of the agribusiness newspaper *Feedstuffs*, "that the undercover video clandestinely recorded at Sparboe Farms has been the most successful ever made by animal activists."

Footage collected between May 23 and August 1, 2011 by Mercy for Animals investigators at Sparboe Farms laying hen facilities in Iowa, Minnesota, and Colorado aired on November 18, 2011—first on the ABC television program *Good Morning America*, then on *ABC World News Tonight with Diane Sawyer*, next on the ABC prime time news magazine show *20/20*.

By that time the exposé had gone viral on the Internet and Facebook, had been picked up by other media, and Sparboe Farms

had lost customers including McDonald's Restaurants, Target, Wal-Mart, Cargill Kitchen Solutions, and SuprValu Inc.

The hidden-camera video revealed "Hens crammed into filthy wire cages with less space for each bird than a standard-sized sheet of paper; workers burning off the beaks of young chicks without any painkillers and callously throwing them into cages, some missing the cage doors and hitting the floor; rotted hens, decomposed beyond recognition as birds, left in cages with hens still laying eggs for human consumption; a worker tormenting a bird by swinging her around in the air while her legs were caught in a grabbing device; chicks trapped and mangled in cage wire; others suffering from open wounds and torn beaks; and live chicks thrown into plastic bags to be suffocated," summarized Mercy for Animals founder Nathan Runkle in a media statement.

"These are company-wide, policy-level abuses," Mercy for Animals spokesperson Matt Rice charged. The Mercy for Animals investigators "documented daily abuses that would shock and horrify most Americans, yet are largely considered standard and acceptable to the egg industry," Rice said.

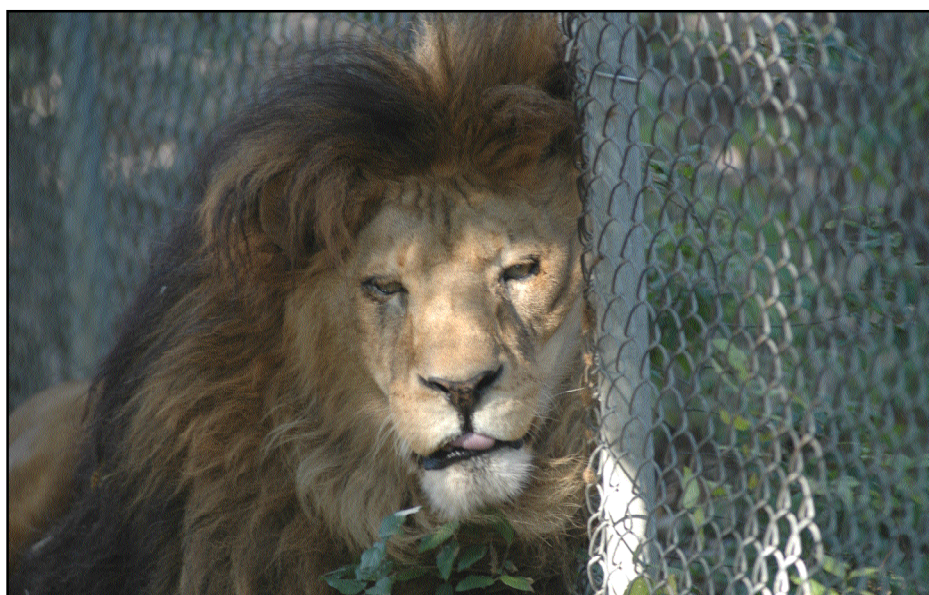
Added Runkle, "The worst abuse is a lifetime of confinement." Laying hens at Sparboe and almost all other major egg production facilities "live their lives crammed in cages. They can't stretch their wings or engage in natural behaviors," Runkle said.

"McDonald's says it 'will no longer accept' eggs from Sparboe Farms," ABC News announced soon after the *Good Morning America* episode aired.

Until November 18, the Sparboe facility in Vincent, Iowa, had produced all eggs used by McDonald's restaurants west of the Mississippi River.

The Mercy for Animals video was broadcast two days after

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A circus sold Arrell the lion and a Siberian tiger to an exotic pet keeper. Arrell and the tiger lived out their lives at the Primarily Primates sanctuary. (Kim Bartlett)

Zanesville animal release and massacre demonstrates need for effective laws

COLUMBUS—Lions, tigers, bears, and other exotic and dangerous animals were still running loose and Muskingum County sheriff's deputies were still shooting them in Zanesville, Ohio on October 19, 2011 when a reporter first contacted ANIMAL PEOPLE to ask what questions should be asked of whom.

The most important question, ANIMAL PEOPLE offered, was why Governor John Kasich not only failed to implement a 90-day executive order by previous Governor Ted Strickland which would have prohibited the possession or sale of such animals, but allowed it to lapse on April 6, 2011 without introducing any other mechanism for controlling traffic in exotic and dangerous wildlife.

Strickland issued the 90-day order only hours before leaving office, keeping a promise made in June 2010 to the Humane Society of the U.S. and other members of the Ohioans for Humane Legislation coalition, to help convince the coalition to withdraw a ballot initiative on farmed animal welfare. (See editorial, page 3.)

All parties understood that Kasich, a Republican, would be unlikely to keep intact an order from Strickland, a Democrat.

Not expected was that Kasich would replace the Strickland order with nothing.

Kasich was besieged by the morning of October 20, 2011 with variants of the question that ANIMAL PEOPLE recommended, but coherent responses were slow in coming—even though the Kasich administration had already had six months to rehearse, since almost the same question had already been asked back in April 2011 by Alan Johnson of the *Columbus Dispatch*, Richard Payerchin of the *Lorain Morning Journal*, and Cindy Leise of the *Elyria Chronicle-Telegram*, among others.

The shooting in Zanesville had barely ended when Ohio University student Liz Dumler started an online petition asking Kasich to reinstate and reinforce the Strickland order. Dumler "managed to recruit thousands of supporters in less than 24 hours," said Change.org Director of Organizing Stephanie Feldstein.

"How many incidents must we catalogue before Ohio takes action to crack down on private ownership of dangerous exotic animals?" asked Humane Society of the U.S. president Wayne Pacelle. Pacelle had incor-

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THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

Editorial feature

Who has the mandate to speak for farm animals?

Controversy continues in this November/December 2011 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, as in almost every edition since July/August 2010, over agreements reached during the past 18 months among animal charities and entities representing agribusiness. In dispute are both the substance of the agreements themselves, which concern the lives, suffering, and deaths of more animals than are involved in all other animal advocacy issues combined, and the even greater question of who is ethically entitled to speak for the interests of livestock.

The latter question brings here-and-now urgency to legal, political, tactical, and philosophical debates which have previously been waged mostly in the abstract, among animal rights theorists and strategists. Now the discussion has jumped from conference halls to barnyards. Having to wear rubber boots while examining key points is sometimes now reality, not just a metaphor. This represents the culmination of decades of effort just to gain access to the decision-makers in agribusiness on the one hand. On the other, there is now increased risk of making disastrous slips while trying to guide the practices of industries whose major branches are all many times larger, in terms of economic and political influence, than the entire animal advocacy sector.

The recent deals between animal charities and agribusiness kindled activist furor first when representatives of the Ohioans for Humane Farms coalition and the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation on June 30, 2010 accepted a truce brokered by former Ohio Governor Ted Strickland which resulted in Ohioans for Humane Farms withholding rather than filing a petition to place an initiative on the 2010 Ohio state ballot.

Sponsored chiefly by the Humane Society of the U.S., supported by petition signatures from more than half a million Ohio voters, the initiative would have required the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board to ban lifelong confinement of veal calves, breeding sows, and laying hens. The initiative would also have required that downed pigs and cattle must be euthanized by methods approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association, and would have banned transporting downed cows and calves to slaughter for human consumption.

The Ohio Farm Bureau Federation and allied representatives of agribusiness agreed that the use of veal crates would be phased out by 2017, as specified by the initiative petition; that building new sow gestation stalls would be banned after December 31, 2010, and that all Ohio pig farms would stop using them by 2025; that no permits would be issued to build new battery cage facilities for laying hens; that the transport of downed cattle to slaughter would stop immediately; and that farm animals would no longer be culled by methods that do not meet the American Veterinary Medical Association standards for humane euthanasia.

Most of this required the cooperation of the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board, a politically appointed body created in 2009 at the behest of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation expressly to forestall the risk of being compelled by voters to make animal welfare reforms. Ironically, the legislation that formed the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board was ratified by voters who appeared to believe that it was a step toward improving farmed animal welfare.

Also as part of the June 2010 Ohio compromise, the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation *et al* agreed to support the passage of a bill passed by the Ohio House of Representatives in December 2009 that would make cockfighting a felony; to support a pending state bill to increase regulation of puppy breeders; and to support an administrative order that Strickland issued soon afterward against keeping or selling exotic and/or dangerous animals as pets.

Ohioans for Humane Farms retained the right to submit the initiative petition and put the original proposed farmed animal welfare reform bill to a vote if the provisions of the Ohio compromise were not kept. Despite initially balking at implementing the veal crate phase-out, the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board has complied so far with the major terms of the deal—but the long phase-out time for sow gestation stalls and battery caging allows much opportunity for future retreat.

Meanwhile, Ohio still has no felony penalty for cockfighting, no puppy mill legislation, and Governor John Kasich, who defeated Strickland in November 2010, allowed Strickland's executive order pertaining to exotic and dangerous wildlife to lapse in April 2011. The 56 exotic and dangerous animals who were released into the countryside near Zanesville on October 19, 2011—49 of them shot by sheriff's deputies (*see page one*)—would not have been legally present if the Strickland order had remained in force.

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News for People Who Care About Animals

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ISSN 1071-0035. Federal I.D: 14-1752216

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Web: www.animalpeoplenews.org

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ANIMAL PEOPLE: News for People Who Care About Animals is published nine times annually by Animal People, Inc., a nonprofit, charitable corporation dedicated to exposing the existence of cruelty to animals and to informing and educating the public of the need to prevent and eliminate such cruelty. Donations to Animal People, Inc. are tax-deductible. Financial information on Animal People, Inc. and other charities can be accessed at www.guidestar.org

Subscriptions are \$24.00 per year; \$38.00/two years; \$50/three years.

Executive subscriptions, mailed 1st class, are \$40.00 per year or \$70/two years.

The **ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on Animal Protection Charities**, updated midyear, is \$25.

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Since winning passage of a 2008 California initiative similar to the initiative proposed in Ohio, the Humane Society of the U.S. had used the threat of introducing initiatives to win a variety of legislation to improve conditions for farmed animals in Colorado, Maine, and Michigan. Those deals were relatively non-controversial among animal advocates. The Ohio compromise was different. Thousands of activists and other humane organizations had already committed time and resources to driving what they had hoped would be a stronger bargain.

Undercut by American Humane

Ohioans for Humane Farms and HSUS may have settled for the terms they got because the American Humane Association had on June 18, 2010 undercut the intent of the California initiative by cutting a deal with the egg producer J.S. West, of Modesto, California, which held that the initiative language prohibiting battery caging would allow the use of “enriched” cages like those that are in theory to be used in the European Union by January 1, 2012. There is considerable question as to whether the European Union will actually enforce the pending battery cage ban, in view of widespread producer non-compliance. Similar foot-dragging by producers may delay or thwart any implementation of actual changes in California. Meanwhile, the AHA reading of the California initiative put organizations favoring an interpretation that the language requires cage-free egg production in the awkward position of having to oppose the oldest U.S. national humane society—albeit also the one most compromised by conflicts of interest in deals with agribusiness and other animal use industries. Indeed, repeated AHA acquiescence to animal use industry demands impelled the formation of the Animal Welfare Institute in 1952 and the Humane Society of the U.S. in 1954, among others with much more distinguished records on behalf of farmed animals than the AHA.

“Not larger cages, but no cages!” has rallied animal advocates since the dawn of the animal rights movement. Animal advocates demonstrated in California, Ohio, and later in Washington and Oregon that they will turn out in force to promote initiatives that they believe will end caging laying hens. But generating comparable enthusiasm in support of just making cages somewhat larger, with perches and small nest boxes for each hen, might be unlikely. HSUS has shown no inclination to want to test the prospect. Campaigns to place initiatives against battery caging on the Washington and Oregon state ballots had considerable momentum and public favor in May 2011, but agribusiness—with the endorsements of the AHA and the Oregon Humane Society—pushed bills through the Washington and Oregon legislatures which leave laying hens in conventional battery cages until 2026, after which “enriched” caging must be used.

Out-maneuvered, HSUS in July 2011 withdrew the Washington and Oregon initiative petitions as part of a deal with United Egg Producers to pursue passage of federal legislation governing the laying hen industry. By 2029 the proposed law would require white laying hens to have 124 square inches of space apiece, eight square inches more than is required by the AHA-backed Washington and Oregon legislation. Brown laying hens, who are larger, would get 144 square inches apiece. After 2011, according to the agreement with HSUS, UEP-certified egg producers will not be allowed to install new caging which cannot be modified to meet the space standards. Meanwhile, HSUS agreed that it would no longer do undercover investigations of factory egg farms, a largely symbolic stipulation, since other animal charities—notably Mercy for Animals—have done far more of this than HSUS.

The AHA further romanced agribusiness in September 2010 by endorsing what it termed “a new method of controlled-atmosphere stunning for poultry called Low Atmospheric Pressure System,” which is in essence decompression, a killing method not approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Though the LAPS system may be more efficient for the poultry slaughtering industry than the present method of stunning birds by shackling them upside down and dragging their heads through an electrified tank of water before decapitation, LAPS is emphatically not the controlled-atmosphere method promoted by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and widely used in Europe, which involves stunning poultry with carbon dioxide or argon gas.

Of note is that the AHA promoted decompression for killing dogs and cats at animal shelters for at least 30 years, beginning in 1950, and quietly dropped endorsement of it only after it was already opposed as unacceptably inhumane by almost every other national animal advocacy organization. Houston and Austin in 1985 became the last U.S. cities to abolish decompression.

Farm product labeling

Along with wheeling and dealing with entities representing farmed animal producers, seeking to establish welfare standards from the top down, animal charities continue to pursue an older from-the-bottom-up approach, aimed at getting individual producers to exemplify better welfare, in hopes that individual success stories will inspire emulation. Animal Rights International founder Henry Spira initiated attempts to use consumer pressure to negotiate improvements in farmed animal care about 30 years ago. Unsuccessful in negotiating directly with major poultry producers, Spira turned to approaching fast food chains, in hopes that their purchasing power could enforce producer compliance with basic standards. The McDonald's restaurant chain agreed to introduce animal welfare standards for producers in 1994. Several other major fast food chains agreed in principle to enforce similar standards, but Spira died in 1998, before full compliance was to take effect.

The Royal SPCA of Britain had meanwhile introduced Free Farmed, a product labeling scheme which allows consumers to vote for improved animal welfare by purchasing products certified to have been humanely produced. Recognizing that this approach can keep agribusiness under pressure to meet higher standards, then-AHA Washington D.C. office director Adele Douglass in 2000 started the “Humane Certified” program. Resisting suggestions from AHA higher-ups that she should relax standards to attract more industry participation and make the program more lucrative, Douglass left the AHA two years later to start Humane Farm Animal Care. Though HFAC has stricter standards than the AHA, the HFAC “Certified Humane” label has almost from inception been used by more producers.

The Animal Welfare Institute introduced the even stricter “Animal Welfare Approved” labeling program in 2003.

Agribusiness organizations responded by advancing nearly two dozen labeling schemes of their own. The most prominent is probably that of United Egg Producers. Compassion Over Killing, founded by Miyun Park and Paul Shapiro, between 2003 and 2008 won a string of Better Business Bureau and Federal Trade Commission rulings that the original UEP label claims were misleading to consumers.

Shapiro, now factory farm campaign manager for HSUS, was first to announce the July 2011 deal between HSUS and UEP. Park now heads Global Animal Partnership.

Global Animal Partnership is an operating name used by the Animal Compassion Foundation, begun by Whole Foods Markets founder John Mackey in 2004 to administer Whole Foods Markets' own husbandry standards for producers of ducks, sheep, pigs, and cattle raised for beef. GAP and the 300-store Whole Foods Markets chain in November 2010 introduced a five-step system of identifying how pigs, cattle, and chickens killed for meat were raised. A turkey standard was added in July 2011, but there is no standard yet for laying hens.

The GAP standards, which include no rules for slaughter or transport to slaughter, were endorsed by HSUS president Wayne Pacelle, World Society for the Protection of Animals director general Mike Baker, Compassion in World Farming director of public affairs

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Who has the mandate to speak for farm animals? *(from page 3)*

Joyce D'Silva, and PETA consultant Steven Gross. All hold seats on the GAP board of directors. But as Humane Farm Animal Care founder Adele Douglass and Animal Welfare Institute president Cathy Liss pointed out in January/February 2011 guest columns for **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, GAP includes no mechanism to encourage producers to improve after winning certification at steps one and two—which, the agribusiness magazine *Feedstuffs* agreed, differ little from industry norms. GAP data released in February 2011 showed that 81% of the chicken producers and 85% of the pig producers in the program were admitted at steps one and two. Including beef cattle producers, 72% of all GAP-certified producers were at the lowest steps—and these appeared to be the producers who raise the most animals.

Gaps in the GAP standards meanwhile allow such anomalous situations as certifying at high steps grass-fed beef from cattle who were born in Hawaii, but transported to the mainland to be “finished” and slaughtered. Almost a year after **ANIMAL PEOPLE** was told that new, improved GAP standards would soon be introduced to close some of the gaps, the new standards are yet to be announced.

Central to the labeling approach to farmed animal welfare is the hope that marketplace competition will oblige producers to strive to meet the highest standards. Inherent in the labeling approach, however, is the risk that producers will succeed in co-opting the process by establishing labels that only certify the status quo.

Because the tiered GAP standards include no mechanism to ensure that producers must advance beyond steps one and two, either within a specified length of time or ever, GAP in effect incorporates both the promise of advancing higher standards and the reality that most producers prefer to do what they perceive is most profitable—which means keeping their present facilities and *modus operandi* for as long as possible. Change might be accepted as part of the usual agribusiness reinvestment cycle, but that may be decades from now.

Collective bargaining

Central to negotiating farmed animal welfare, in lieu of legislation, is the concept of collective bargaining. As practiced in human labor relations, collective bargaining requires the existence of employers who agree that their workplace practices will be governed by contract, over and above whatever they are required to do by law, and labor unions representing employees, who agree to abide by the contractual terms won by their unions—even when violating contractual terms may be personally advantageous.

Employers have historically resisted having to make concessions to labor unions chiefly by trying to keep strong unions from forming. The most basic approach is to make competition for jobs so intense—for example, by importing workers willing to work for less pay—that employees forgo the

potential advantages of unionization just to keep their jobs. This tends to produce what labor historians describe as a “race to the bottom,” in which wages and working conditions steadily deteriorate because there is no mechanism to compel improvement. When pressure to unionize develops anyhow, employers may respond by establishing a weak “house union,” or by accepting a corrupt union whose leadership can be bought. The existence of the weak or corrupt union serves to prevent other potential collective bargaining agents from gaining enough membership to effectively represent the workforce.

Employers typically contend that they must adequately provide for the welfare of their workers in order to keep production and profits up, an argument echoed by the frequent claim of agribusiness that animals must be kept healthy in order to produce edible commodities.

The analogy of collective bargaining on behalf of labor with collective bargaining on behalf of farmed animals fails at a point of law: unlike human employers of other human beings, agribusiness owns the animals outright. Because animals are property, with no ability to organize or seek legal intervention on their own behalf, only their owners have an actual legal claim to represent their welfare.

Animal advocacy organizations, while trying to negotiate collective agreements on behalf of farmed animals, are in a position less comparable to that of labor unions than to the dilemma of reformers who tried to negotiate improvements in the conditions of human slavery before gaining the political leverage to abolish slavery. On the one hand, many reformers felt that the conditions of slavery were so onerous that any mitigation was worth pursuing. On the other, most reformers were at heart abolitionists, who recognized the risk of making concessions which might appear to condone slavery and perhaps delay abolition.

But that analogy also fails, because abolition of animal agriculture is nowhere in sight. Animal advocates, including **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, promote vegetarianism and veganism, and have reason to believe that future generations will eat far less meat, if only because the finite carrying capacity of the earth to produce more meat is close to exhaustion. Reality, nonetheless, is that lobbying and negotiating on behalf of farmed animals is at present limited to pursuit of reform. The open questions are what constitutes meaningful reform, what reforms can be won here and now, what reforms best position animal advocates to seek more later, and who is most legitimately entitled to be the collective bargaining agent on behalf of farmed animals?

The latter may be the most important question of all, since the answers to the other questions depend to a considerable extent upon the strength and integrity of the farmed animal welfare bargaining agents.

The differences of policy among the Humane Society of the U.S., the American Humane Association, Global Animal

Partnership, the Animal Welfare Institute, Humane Farm Animal Care, Farm Sanctuary, the Humane Farming Association, and many other charities addressing farm animal issues bring into question the issues of legitimacy and quality of representation.

Each of these organizations may be viewed as a collective bargaining agent trying to attract the support of as large a share of animal advocacy as it can muster, to reinforce a claim to be influentially representative as voice of the voiceless.

Among them, the AHA and GAP appear to have taken the roles of “house unions.” The Animal Welfare Institute and Humane Farm Animal Care, organizing within high-end market niches, occupy positions comparable to those of unions representing skilled tradespeople. The Humane Society of the U.S., in alliance with Farm Sanctuary and others, including GAP, might be compared to the AFL-CIO, trying to span the spectrum of trades, industries, and worker interests.

The value of a critic

The Humane Farming Association, while not opposing the goals of HSUS *et al*, has the role often assumed by Henry Spira during his decades as a labor organizer, before he formed Animal Rights International. Time and again Spira found himself leading rump caucuses of union members who saw the devil in the details of contracts negotiated by representatives who may have conceded too much.

Like Spira, who was caustic in his criticism of unions within which he was himself often an elected officer, Humane Farming Association founder Brad Miller is at times scathing in his denunciations of HSUS concessions. But Miller has a long history of accurately identifying instances of agribusiness negotiating in bad faith, deflecting pressure from animal advocates while changing little or nothing. Also of note is that Miller is moderate compared to the allegations of more militant critics of HSUS, including the vegan organization Tribe of Heart, whose www.HumaneMyth web site has been confused by some animal advocates with the www.HumaneWatch site maintained by the pro-agribusiness Center for Consumer Freedom.

ANIMAL PEOPLE recognizes a valuable role for both HSUS and HFA in advancing negotiations with agribusiness, which could be enhanced if HSUS took the HFA criticisms of agreements into consideration before making them. Instead of being part of the bargaining team, able to prevent questionable deals from being struck, HFA has thus far had no advance view of proposed agreements, and therefore has had no option upon perceiving potentially fatal flaws except to take criticisms public after the fact, lest animal advocates be lulled into premature hope that vital issues are settled.

Of course many of the recent agreements to which HSUS has been a party might not have been agreed in any form if HFA had been among the bargaining agents. This raises the

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LETTERS

Maggie Houlihan

I was sorry to read of Maggie Houlihan's death. I knew Maggie, a wonderful animal activist. I think I saw her last at a vegetarian event. Maggie is a big loss.

—Shirley Brown
San Diego, California

Navajo Nation

An estimated 445,000 dogs roam the Navajo Nation, animal control manager Kevin Gleason recently told Associated Press. Please help these U.S. animals!

—Pat Stork
Worth, Illinois

Editor's note:

The semi-autonomous Navajo Nation and contiguous Hopi and Ute territories include 27,425 square miles in Arizona,

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

Utah, and New Mexico, with 180,000 human residents. Also bordering Colorado, the region is usually called the Four Corners. Associated Press appears to have misreported the estimated dog population of about 44,500. More than a dozen agencies hold local animal control authority in parts of the Four Corners. The Four Corners has had the highest rate of animal control killing per 1,000 people in the U.S. for as long as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has tracked the numbers, but a variety of sterilization projects—many of them described in **ANIMAL PEOPLE** coverage—have gradually cut the toll from 136 per 1,000 circa ten years ago to about 50 per 1,000 now.

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.)

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 choice. 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 coat 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, apple sauce, 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 soy milk
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, at 350 degrees.





MEET CIDER

The Animal League recently rescued Cider, a three-month old puppy with a condition that causes her to limp. Cider was saved from an overcrowded shelter that was not able to care for her extensive medical needs.

Upon rescue, Cider was showing signs of lameness in her front leg. Animal League veterinarians diagnosed her with a congenital malformation of her right shoulder joint. If untreated, this impairment will worsen as she grows causing lameness and increased pain.




In order to give Cider a good quality of life, she will need surgery to correct the malformation and prevent any future pain. The procedure is called a biceps tendon transposition and will give Cider the best chance at having a functional leg. However, because she is still growing, it is likely she will need additional surgery later in life to correct any future problems.

If the Animal League had not rescued Cider, she would probably not be alive today. Not only does she need costly surgery, she will also need months of treatment and aftercare. This comprehensive level of care is very difficult for overcrowded shelters, and sadly, as a result, euthanasia is often the only solution.

Your dedicated support of the life-saving Help Me Heal Program allows us to give animals, like Cider, the care they need to heal.

To ensure the continued care for Cider and the many other animals in our Help Me Heal Program, please visit AnimalLeague.org/help-me-heal.

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“This is a thrilling moment for us in egg production.”

– United Egg Producers

“This deal saves cages.” “If the legislation does not advance, [industry] would be headed toward cage-free production as the dominant, if not the only, form of egg production.”

– *Feedstuffs*, agribusiness journal, on why the industry wants federal legislation



A cage is a cage ... Stop The Rotten Egg Bill

The egg industry’s trade association – the United Egg Producers (UEP) – has hatched an insidious plan: It is pushing federal legislation that would forever keep hens locked *in* cages, despite the wishes of the vast majority of the American public.

Under the guise of “enriching” cages, the egg industry’s legislation would:

- **Nullify** existing state laws that ban or restrict battery cages (*including* California’s Proposition 2).

- **Deprive** voters of the right and ability to pass ballot measures banning cages.

- **Deny** state legislatures the ability to enact laws to outlaw battery cages or otherwise regulate egg factory conditions.

To accomplish this, UEP’s bill would amend what is known as the “Egg Products Inspection Act.”

Specifically, it would establish egg factory *cages* as a national standard that ***could never be challenged or changed*** by state law or public vote.

UEP and its collaborators claim that its legislation would mean “progress” for laying hens. Just the opposite is true.

In reality, the egg industry merely agreed to *slowly* (at the glacial pace of **18 years**) continue the meager changes in battery cage conditions that are *already occurring* due to state laws and public pressure.

Fortunately, there is still time to stop this agribusiness scheme. You can do two easy things right now. Please visit our website to sign our petition and email your congressional representatives.

Help make clear to our elected officials that the egg industry’s unprecedented attack on anti-cruelty laws, states’ rights, and animal protection must not stand. Thank you!

Be informed. Speak out. *Sign the petition.*
Please visit: **StopTheRottenEggBill.org**

Who has the mandate to speak for farm animals? *(continued from page 4)*

question long vexing labor organizers as to whether obtaining any collective agreement is better than having none. Conventional wisdom within the labor movement is that winning almost any collective agreement will suffice at the outset of unionization, to establish the principle of collective representation—but implicit in accepting a weak agreement is the understanding that it will be re-negotiated within a few years, and that the union will seek to build a much stronger contract on the foundation of the first. This was the “stepwise, incremental” approach to change that Henry Spira urged animal advocates to adopt at every opportunity, including a posthumously published guest column written for **ANIMAL PEOPLE** three days before he died.

In that light, the question for animal advocates and HSUS itself to ask is whether each recent agreement with agribusiness puts HSUS and allies in a more advantageous future negotiating position—or any negotiating position at all.

Following the June 2011 agreement with UEP, which appears to have at least indefinitely suspended HSUS efforts to pursue cage-free egg production, HSUS appears to have been maneuvering toward negotiating some sort of collective agreement with the pig industry. Targeting the world’s largest pig producer, HSUS on November 2, 2011 filed a lawsuit with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission alleging that Smithfield Foods has illegally disseminated “unlawfully false or misleading representations about the animal welfare and environmental practices of its wholly owned subsidiary Murphy-Brown, LLC.”

The lawsuit itemizes “false and misleading statements about animal care,” covering almost every aspect of raising pigs for slaughter, plus “unlawful environmental claims, misleading assertions of organic agriculture, material omissions relating to manure lagoons, [and] misleading representations relating to antibiotic use.”

The HSUS lawsuit notes that “In January 2007,

Smithfield did, in fact, pledge to phase out its use of gestation crates in company-owned facilities by 2017, but in 2009 the company backtracked...while Smithfield claimed financial losses were responsible for withdrawing the initial phase-out deadline, the company has yet to re-establish the deadline after announcing all-time record revenues this year.”

“We’ve added another weapon to our arsenal by bringing on Joe Maxwell, a former Lieutenant Governor of Missouri, as a consultant,” HSUS president Wayne Pacelle told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “His family is involved in raising hogs, and he strenuously opposes gestation crates and industrial-style hog production. By enlisting family farmers to fight factory farmers,” Pacelle said, “we are building on a front of action that’s been part of our strategy from the very start.

“Our policies on animal agriculture have not changed at all,” Pacelle continued. “We maintain our board-approved position on eating with conscience, our internal and external food policies, and our participation in the Meatless Monday campaign. In fact, we just rolled out a new video and awareness campaign on that.

“I’m the first vegan president of HSUS,” Pacelle noted, “and I’ve been leading that lifestyle for 27 years. In all of my interviews, I speak proudly about that choice. So HSUS is an organization that comfortably includes vegans. But we also are a place that comfortably invites meat-eaters within the tent. Our metric isn’t purity, but movement in the right direction.”

Regardless of how well-meaning it is to hire a pig farmer to work for HSUS, there is an inherent conflict of interest between producing meat and animal welfare. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** encourages animal charities to work for incremental

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change and improve animal welfare in meat production, but they need to carefully construct firewalls between animal advocacy and advancing animal industry interests.

For example, to avoid an apparent conflict of interest, HSUS could have funded a subsidiary whose mission would be to network with animal farmers. Such a subsidiary might operate with a measure of independence, without appearing to represent either HSUS or the spectrum of animal advocates.

The focal question is whose interests the negotiators represent. Small, traditional animal farmers, like factory farmers, are in business to make a profit from selling animals to slaughter. Small, traditional farmers may have some concerns in common with animal advocates, but their ultimate interest is not the well-being of animals.

Euthanasia

I am responding to the letter by Doug Fakkema in the September 2011 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** concerning “euthanasia.” Without in any way impugning Fakkema’s motives and sincerity, he is either in denial or is unaware of the definition of the word. I do not argue that the death must be “good,” as stated by Fakkema, but his definition leaves out the most important aspect: the death should be *in the interests of the individual dying*. Of necessity, this means that the individual dying would benefit from death by ending a situation that is causing *intractable suffering*. Ideally, the individual would be able to indicate that he or she prefers death to continued life. In the case of cats, dogs or other nonhuman animals, this may not be feasible because of our inability to communicate with the individual. In these situations, it becomes especially important that the person ending life must be clear on her or his motives which must derive only from a sincere belief that ending the life will end suffering that cannot be relieved otherwise. Using a defense that one is somehow preventing *future* suffering does not even warrant consideration, being patently absurd.

In the vast majority of cases, killing cats, dogs and other animals for reasons of “overpopulation” fails to meet the “best interests” test. Handling an animal gently and using a method such as an intravenous overdose is not sufficient for the killing to qualify as euthanasia. Even if a dog is “unadoptable” for reasons of aggression, for example, this still does not qualify as euthanasia. One could not argue coherently that this particular dog would choose death over life. If one does not believe this, imagine killing a healthy human being, even one who is ostracized by others due to obnoxious behavior, in such a manner that he or she is unaware of impending death and feels no pain when it occurs. No rational person could consider this to be euthanasia. Taking the lives of animals for reasons of benefit to society or because funds are not available to provide care is not euthanasia, no matter how carefully and compassionately it is done, nor how fervently one wants to believe that it is. Such taking of life is killing, regardless of the rationalizations and justifications underlying it.

—Nedim C. Buyukmihci, V.M.D.

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HFA & HSUS

It always concerns me when I see animal advocacy groups bashing each other. I am referring in this instance to the full page ads by the Humane Farming Association in recent editions attacking the Humane Society of the United States. What a waste of time energy and money. We should be supporting each other. HSUS with Wayne Pacelle’s leadership has an outstanding record of achievements for animal protection.

I have long felt that one of the reasons we have not made more significant advancements in the battle for animals is because too many animal groups are at odds with each other. What a powerful force we would be if we spoke with one voice.



—Dale Hanson
Ojai, California

Editor’s note:

The historical record shows, as ANIMAL PEOPLE has often editorially pointed out, that causes most often grow through division and public debate of the issues, not through an enforced unity which limits the perspective of a cause by repressing dissent. The several substantive points of disagreement between HSUS and HFA are the the topic of the November/December 2011 ANIMAL PEOPLE editorial, starting on page 3, concluding above.

Adoptions, pit bulls, & “live release”

Concerning the October 2011 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial “More adoptions will not end shelter killing of pit bulls,” I agree that adoptions alone do not necessarily increase life saving. In our case 70% of the animals we take in are cats. We are constantly finding new ways to promote cat adoption. But adoption alone is not going to solve our cat overpopulation problem, nor will it solve any pet population issues. What we are doing with the cats and dogs we adopt out is replacing animals who might be sourced elsewhere with animals who are spayed or neutered.

In addition to adoption, we have to engage in education and spay/neuter, and create better legislation. Meanwhile, for us 60% of stray dogs and 20% of owner-surrendered dogs are pit bulls, and I have no intention of killing 30% of the dogs who come in because of their breed, so we have to find them homes while working to reduce their population.

I think New York state’s newly reformed Animal Population Control Fund will be a big help. The fund had been around a while, but was poorly conceived, underused, and literally went broke. The fund is now modeled after Colorado’s similar fund and will be administered by the American SPCA at no charge to distribute spay/neuter funds to nonprofits. We are applying for funds that will be used solely to spay/neuter cats and pit bulls.

One way animal welfare agencies

contributed to the pit bull problem that I don’t think you noted is that early anti-dog fighting campaigns often talked about how big, strong and dangerous pit bulls are, not thinking that many people think that having a big, strong, dangerous dog is actually a good thing.

It seems that your argument is at odds with the concept that a 90% save rate is possible or desirable. Since many shelters receive pit bulls in even larger percentages than we do, and if we should not be adopting them out, then by your argument a save rate of 90% would not only be impossible, but would be a danger to the public.

A growing aversion in some animal welfare circles to temperament assessment may contribute to the spread of dangerous dogs that you refer to.

I think we can absolutely agree that “save rate” or “live release rate” statistics are not helpful or productive to animal sheltering. These measures are too easily manipulated and do harm by failing to reflect the individuality of the community.

—Brad Shear

Executive director

Mohawk Hudson Humane Society

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Neuter/return foe Nico Dauphine convicted of trying to poison cats (from page 1)

represented by the editors.

"When he announced his verdict," wrote Alexander, "Senior Judge Truman A. Morrison III said it was the video, along with Dauphine's testimony, that led him to believe she had 'motive and opportunity.' He specifically pointed to her repeated denials of her writings."

Assessed Judge Morrison, "Her inability and unwillingness to own up to her own professional writings as her own undermined her credibility."

As witnesses for Dauphine, Martin called Peter Marra, her supervisor at the Migratory Bird Center of the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, and Wildlife Center of Virginia founder Ed Clark. Both Marra and Clark have also outspokenly argued for eliminating cats from the outdoors.

Clark was excluded from testifying. Wrote prosecutor Chambers, in a written Motion in Limine to Exclude Testimony of Defendant's Experts, "Defendant has proffered that Mr. Clark will testify regarding the 'ongoing debate between veterinary and wildlife conservationists and members of the public who support the feeding and maintenance of feral cats.' This debate...is irrelevant as far as the issue before this Court. The sole issue before the Court is whether Defendant intentionally attempted to poison cats."

E-mailed Alley Cat Rescue founder

Louise Holton, who also cofounded Alley Cat Allies, "I am so glad they found her guilty! We were all afraid she would get off scot free!"

Blogged Vox Felina founder Peter Wolf, "A guilty verdict will, I hope, get the media interested. And, with any luck, asking some hard questions for a change. Starting with: *How was Nico Dauphine hired by the Smithsonian's Migratory Bird Center in the first place?* They had to know her reputation for both misreading and misrepresenting the science in her efforts to vilify free-roaming cats. Yet, her supervisors—including Peter Marra—had Dauphine studying the hunting habits of pet cats.

"As I understand it," Wolf wrote, "hers was a highly competitive fellowship. Surely there were other candidates who would have been a better fit. If Dauphine was the best fit, though, what does that say about the Migratory Bird Center and the National Zoo?", the arm of the Smithsonian Institution that oversees the Migratory Bird Center.

"While I believe the guilty verdict was important given the evidence," commented Alley Cat Allies cofounder and president Becky Robinson, "this isn't something to celebrate. Cats are protected from cruelty by law in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. But far too often, cases of cruelty against cats—and other animals, for that matter—are never brought to trial, usually because of lack

of evidence. Regularly, I read stories of hideous cruelty towards cats—feral cats poisoned with anti-freeze in Kentucky; kittens from a managed colony killed in Chester County, Pennsylvania; cats shot with a bow and arrow in Hawaii. This case, however, was different. The cats' caregiver called the Washington Humane Society when she found what she suspected to be poison in their food. The Humane Society conducted a thorough investigation, including setting up video surveillance of the feeding area, and the case was swiftly prosecuted.

"The guilty verdict in this case brings to light a much deeper, more pervasive issue," Robinson added. "Dauphine has long been part of a community that persists in making dangerous, false claims against cats. Time and time again, I have seen cats scapegoated for species decline. Unbelievable figures—for example, that cats kill one billion birds a year—are carelessly thrown around to incite outrage. And now we see where that kind of rhetoric can take an individual.

"Today," Robinson said, "I call on the leaders of the American Bird Conservancy, The Wildlife Society, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, who persist in using flawed science and vicious rhetoric like Dauphine's to blame cats for species decline, to stop. Stop using inflammatory—and misleading numbers—on an argument we know is not at the

heart of the matter. Stop pitting species against species and address what humans can do to mitigate our own impact on our environment," Robinson finished.

Five days after the Dauphine trial, U.S. Fish & Wildlife personnel presented an all-day workshop at the Wildlife Society Annual Conference in Waikoloa, Hawaii, entitled "Influencing Local Scale Feral Cat Trap-Neuter-Release Decisions," intended to help Wildlife Society members to thwart local neuter/return initiatives.

"The Wildlife Society cannot comment on this case," said a terse posted statement. "However, as a professional society dedicated to science-based wildlife management and conservation, TWS obviously does not condone animal cruelty or illegal behavior of any kind."

Posted the National Zoo on Facebook two days after the Dauphine conviction, "Yesterday the Smithsonian accepted Dr. Dauphine's resignation; it was effective immediately."

The American Bird Conservancy kept three Dauphine papers posted at the ABC web site, including "What Conservation Biologists Can Do to Counter Trap-Neuter-Return." ABC also distributed open letters to mayors of the 50 largest cities in the U.S. attacking neuter/return, with supporting letters to the editors of local newspapers.

Events

Dec. 10: Tree House Humane Society Open House & Lighting Ceremony, Chicago. Info: <TreeHouseAnimals.org>.

Dec. 29, 2011-Jan. 2, 2012: Vegan Camp, Sthitaprajna Vegan Retreat, Karnataka, India. Info: <indianvegansociety@rediffmail.com>.

January 21: Hope for N.Y. Shelter Animals, conf. co-sponsored by Friends of Animals & SOS: Save Our Shelter Animals, New York City. Info: Edita Birnkrant, 2 1 2 - 2 4 7 - 8 1 2 0 ; <edita@friendsofanimals.org>.

Feb. 1, 2012: Deadline to enter films in STEPS Intl. Rights Film Festival, to be hosted by CETA-Life March 8-12 in Kharkov, Ukraine. Info: <mail@cetalife.com.ua>; <www.cetalife.com.ua>.

March 18-21: Intl. Conf. on Horse Transport, Vancouver, B.C. Info: <www.animaltransportationassociation.org>.

March 21-22: 14th Jaina Studies Symposium: Biodiversity Conservation & Animal Rights, London. U.K. Info: <www.soas.ac.uk/biodiversity/>.

IF YOU ARE HOLDING AN EVENT, please let us know—we'll be happy to announce it, and to send free samples of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** for your guests.

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

In honor of Kim Bartlett.
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Zanesville animal release and massacre shows need for effective laws *(from page 1)*

rectly anticipated when making the June 2010 deal with Strickland that Strickland would remain in office to implement his promises. Instead Kasich in November 2010 upset Strickland.

Four days after Zanesville resident Terry Thompson released his 56 animals and shot himself, Kasich announced that his staff had discovered that state animal humane officers are empowered to arrest people if they find evidence of animal cruelty. Saying that he did not understand why this authority was not exercised against Thompson, Kasich signed a new executive order which “directs state agencies to increase inspections of places that may house exotic animals and establishes a telephone hot line for the public to report unsafe situations involving such animals,” summarized Timothy Williams of *The New York Times*.

Responded American SPCA senior vice president of government relations Nancy Perry, “This tragic incident may well have been avoided had the previous emergency order issued by former Governor Strickland not been permitted to expire. While the animals paid the ultimate price,” Perry noted, “local governments and taxpayers are left to bear the enormous fiscal burden when dangerous wild animals are set loose or escape, or when they are seized due to neglect.”

The October 2011 Kasich order, like the January 2011 Strickland order, did not provide funds for enforcement.

The Strickland order did not entirely ban keeping exotic and dangerous animals, but did prohibit keepers from acquiring more, prohibited people from starting new exotic and dangerous animal collections, and would have introduced a registration requirement, so that law enforcement agencies responding to emergencies could know what they might find. These are not provisions of the Kasich order.

“Bill Damschroder, chief legal counsel for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources—the agency that would have enforced the executive order—said the Kasich administration determined that the [Strickland] order ‘exceeded the agency’s authority,’” reported Johnson of the *Dispatch*. “Damschroder said legislation was not in place that empowered the agency to do the things required by Strickland’s order,” Johnson added. “In addition, it allocated no resources to do the statewide enforcement job.” The lack of money to pursue regulation of exotic and dangerous wild animals would have required ODNR to transfer personnel and budget from other functions —such as promoting sport hunting.

“Instead of renewing Strickland’s order,” Johnson continued, “Kasich [in June 2011] put Natural Resources in charge of a working group to craft legislation controlling the

sale and ownership of exotic animals. That group has been developing a proposal for several months, but has not completed the task.” Members of the working group, besides ODNR itself, include the American Zoo Association, represented by the Columbus Zoo; the USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service; the Humane Society of the U.S.; the Knox County prosecutor’s office; the Ohio Association of Animal Owners; the Ohio Farm Bureau; the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association; the U.S. Sportsmen’s Alliance; and the Zoo Association of America, representing wildlife exhibitors who do not qualify for AZA membership.

Ohio Association of Animal Owners representative Henry Heffner shared with Johnson a draft law which “proposes a permitting process, but not a ban, on ownership of wild animals not native to Ohio. It also proposes,” Johnson reported, “that owners would be required to have at least \$250,000 in liability insurance,” and that animals covered by the law must be microchipped.

Ohio state legislator Debbie Phillips (D-Athens) meanwhile independently introduced a bill, HB 352, to ban “all future ownership of dangerous exotic animals, defined as, but not limited to, big cats, nonhuman primates, alligators, crocodiles and constricting and/or venomous snakes,” announced Born Free USA spokesperson Adam Roberts. “Importantly, the bill also gives the state the authority to expand this list,” Roberts said. Specifically to prevent another Terry Thompson from possessing exotics, persons previously convicted of animal abuse or who have had their licensure previously revoked or suspended by local, state or federal authorities will no longer be able to possess exotics.”

Without the endorsement of the ODNR working group, HB 352 is unlikely to advance.

Suggested Dayton animal control chief and National Animal Control Association president Mark Kumpf, “Any law regulating exotics that doesn’t include inspection authority, provisions for disaster management, ability to pass costs for capture and care on to owners, and registration and local notification requirements, plus all the other whistles and bells, won’t solve the problems. We still have a panther loose somewhere in Montgomery County that was likely an escaped or dumped pet,” Kumpf added on Facebook.

“Ohio has some of the weakest laws in the country regarding ownership of exotic pets,” observed Ohio Member of the House of Representatives Dennis Kucinich, “while having among the most incidents involving exotic animals and the public,” at least 22 since 2003 involving escapes and/or human injuries. Kucinich detailed several other cases, but as a federal

legislator, and a member of the House minority, did not endorse or promise specific legislation.

“States with weak laws—and Ohio is at the bottom—need to ban the sale and acquisition of dangerous wild animals,” said Humane Society Legislative Fund president Mike Markarian. “The federal government must do its part by cracking down on the interstate commerce in dangerous animals such as primates and giant snakes. Congress should pass the Captive Primate Safety Act, to ban the interstate commerce in chimpanzees, monkeys, and other primates as pets.

“The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service should finalize a proposed rule to ban the interstate trade in nine species of large constrictor snakes including Burmese pythons and anacondas,” Markarian specified, recommending also that “The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should finalize another proposed rule to remove generic tigers from the list of species exempt from registration under the captive-bred wildlife regulations. Because of this exemption,” Markarian said, “there is no oversight of interstate commerce in tigers bred in captivity from an unknown or mixed lineage.”

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service spokesperson Vanessa Kauffman on October 31, 2011 announced not progress but rather further delay in responding to a March 2010 petition asking that all chimpanzees be protected under the Endangered Species Act. This would halt private commerce in chimps. The petition was jointly submitted by co-sponsors including the Humane Society of the U.S., the American Zoo Association, the Jane Goodall Institute, the Wildlife Conservation Society, the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance, and the New England Anti-Vissection Society. “To allow the public adequate time to review the petition and the large volume of supporting documents submitted with the petition, the Service is reopening the comment period for an additional 90 days,” Kauffman said.

While the federal and Ohio regulatory processes falter, Michigan already has legislation restricting private possession of dangerous and exotic wildlife to AZA-accredited zoos, the *Detroit Free Press* editorially noted three days after the Zanesville incident. However, the *Free Press* continued, “The Michigan legislature currently is considering a bill to extend potential possession of carnivores to facilities accredited by the Zoological Association of America, which is less expensive [to join]. Detroit Zoo director Ron Kagan has made it clear he believes that ZAA standards are not strict enough, and that the change could open Michigan up to breeders and other types of operations. This week’s events near Zanesville certainly make it the wrong time to talk about easing any of Michigan’s animal control laws,” the *Free Press* said.

(continued on page 9)

Other captive wildlife cases illustrate the risks

The release of 56 large exotic and dangerous animals from the Muskingum County Animal Farm and subsequent killing of 48 of the animals on October 19, 2011 was not unprecedented.

Fifteen lion/tiger hybrids called ligers were on September 21, 1995 shot by a neighboring landowner and a 50-member sheriff’s posse after breaking out of the Ligertown Game Farm in Lava Hot Springs, Idaho.

Ligertown co-owner Robert Fieber previously ran a game ranch in Oregon. Charged with 54 counts of animal cruelty in 1984, Fieber pleaded no contest to four misdemeanor counts pertaining to food storage. Moving to Idaho, Fieber and Ligertown partner Dotti Martin ran into trouble in 1986 when one of their lions was shot while stalking a neighbor’s horse. Ordered to build better cages, they moved to the Lava Hot Springs site, where in 1989 they were convicted of running a wildlife park without a permit but won a reversal when a judge ruled that the legal definition of “wildlife park” was too inspecific. Ligertown was closed after 24 surviving lions and three tigers were removed to the Wildlife Waystation sanctuary just east of Los Angeles.

Escapes are common even at American Zoo Association-accredited zoos, which must have rehearsed escape response protocols and have equipment on hand to enable prompt recaptures. Within a week of the Muskingum County Animal Farm incident, a 21-year-old male Indian rhino bumped a gate open and wandered through Zoo Miami for 25 minutes; a Grevy’s zebra foal and her mother pranced

around the Franklin Park Zoo in Boston for an hour; and an African lion spent nearly an hour in a service hallway at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle after escaping from a sleeping den. In each of those cases the animals were contained by secondary barriers. The lion was sedated with a tranquilizer dart. No humans were injured in any of the incidents.

An October 17 episode in West Odessa, Texas was more typical of incidents involving large carnivores in private hands. Attacked by a pet puma, “A 4-year-old boy received lacerations and puncture wounds on his left side, including a bite mark on the left side of his face,” reported Jon Vanderlaan of the *Odessa American*. “Amber Michelle Couch was given a citation for not keeping up the vaccines on the animal, Corporal Sherrie Carruth with the Odessa Police Department said. According to a neighbor and family member, Couch is the boy’s aunt.”

Added Vanderlaan, “Texas and county laws declare that dangerous animals in unincorporated areas must be registered, and owners must adhere to a strict set of rules. The animal wasn’t registered. Carruth said the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department told animal control in July that it did not need to be. Chris Mitchell, a spokesman with the TPWD, said there would be no circumstance under which the department would advise anyone they did not need a permit for a puma. Even in situations when a permit may be issued, such as for research or rehabilitation, he said the TPWD does not issue such permits and that would be left to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.”





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Zanesville (from page 8)

Most commentators agreed that stronger state legislation governing possession of dangerous animals is urgently needed, but must be backed up at the federal level.

“‘Exotic’ is a fluid term for pets,” offered University of Oregon journalism professor Peter Laufer in the *New York Times*, as author of the recent books *The Dangerous World of Butterflies*, *Forbidden Creatures*, and *No Animals Were Harmed*, “but we ought to be able to agree on a list of animals that historically do not cohabitate with humans and pose such a threat that they must be caged. Then it’s an easy step to come up with federal laws to protect the animals and their neighbors.”

“Since 2006,” said the American Veterinary Medical Association in a prepared statement, “an AVMA policy has urged lawmakers to ban private ownership of wild and exotic animals because they pose a significant risk to public health, domestic animals, and native ecosystems and species. The only exceptions to this policy are for recognized research and conservation programs.”

The Zanesville incident “should serve as an urgent alarm that we need stronger regulations and a national data bank for all wild animals living in captivity,” said Bobbi Brink, founder of the Lions Tigers & Bears sanctuary in Alpine, California.

“The Performing Animal Welfare Society has advocated since our founding in 1984 that it is critical to restrict private sector ownership of wild animals,” said cofounder Pat Derby, noting that “two of PAWS’ rescued bears, Winston and Boo Boo, came from Ohio. If we could ban private ownership completely,” Derby said, “there may be hope that some day places like the PAWS sanctuary might not have to exist.”

PAWS and Animal Defenders International on November 2, 2011 unveiled a draft Travelling Exotic Animal Protection Act, introduced by Congressional Representative Jim Moran of Virginia. Said Moran, “This legislation is intended to target just the most egregious circumstances involving exotic and wild animals in traveling circuses. It is not intended to affect zoos, aquariums, horse racing, rodeos, or permanent facilities where animals travel out for film, television or advertising work. The bill will end the keeping of animals for extended periods in temporary facilities, cruel training and control methods employed by circuses, and address public safety issues,” Moran promised. “It will not impact zoos or other static facilities with captive wildlife,” Moran emphasized.

As Moran is a Democrat in the Republican-dominated House of Representatives, the Travelling Exotic Animal Protection Act has little more chance to advance soon than HB 352 in Ohio.

However, while state legislative tenures and bills tend to be short-lived, pro-animal federal bills tend to gain bipartisan support through repeated reintroductions in several successive Congressional sessions. The Moran bill could help to curtail private possession of dangerous animals because many possessors of such animals hold USDA exhibition permits and transport the animals to showing venues such as shopping malls.

Animal Defenders International president Jan Creamer noted that similar laws are in effect in Costa Rica, Croatia, Peru, and Portugal, and have been proposed in the United Kingdom, Brazil, Chile and Colombia.


Born Free Foundation president Will Travers took the opportunity to appeal to the public for information which might help to pass stronger laws. “Tell us about exotic incidents in your community and we’ll include them in our data base,” Travers said. “What’s the law? Use our online map to find out more. We will not stop working,” Travers pledged, “until captive exotics are a thing of the past.”

—Merritt Clifton

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Many red lights flashed about Terry Thompson

ZANESVILLE—After Terry W. Thompson released 56 tigers, lions, bears, and other dangerous animals on October 19, 2011, and then shot himself, and after Muskingum County sheriff’s deputies shot 48 of the animals, practically everyone agreed that Thompson should never have had his animal collection in the first place.

Before that, recalled Randy Ludlow of the *Columbus Dispatch*, “Thompson was a Vietnam veteran, pilot, admirer of vintage firearms, and a businessman,” who at his death reportedly owed more than \$68,000 in unpaid liens and taxes, but for more than seven years fended off complaints about how he fed and housed the animals.

Thompson bought a lion cub for his wife Marian as a birthday present in 1977. They bought the 73-acre Muskingum County Animal Farm property in 1987.

As the Thompsons’ animal collection grew, Terry Thompson sold guns and motorcycles, flew errands in light aircraft, and collected roadkill to keep the animals fed. Marian Thompson reportedly gave riding lessons.

“The Muskingum County Animal Farm was not open to visitors,” wrote Andrew Welsh Huggins and Ann Sanner of Associated Press, “but Terry Thompson would occasionally take some of the smaller animals to nearby pet shows or nursing homes. He also provided a big cat for a photo shoot with supermodel Heidi Klum and appeared on the *Rachael Ray Show* in 2008 as an animal handler for a zoologist guest.”

Despite all that, neighbors complained that the Thompsons’ animals were inadequately fed. In 2005, after three cows and a bison were found dead of alleged starvation on another property that Terry Thompson owned, he “was convicted in Muskingum County Municipal Court of cruelty to animals, having an animal at large, and two counts of rendering animal waste without a license,” Ludlow wrote. “Terry Thompson was put on house arrest for six months and paid a \$2,870 fine in that case,” Ludlow recalled.

Terry Thompson reportedly paid off the mortgage on 46 acres of the Muskingum County Animal Farm in

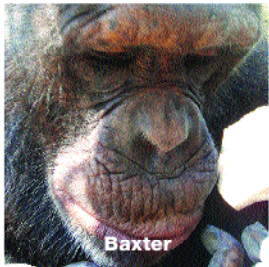
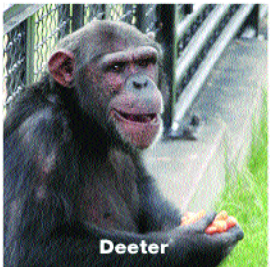
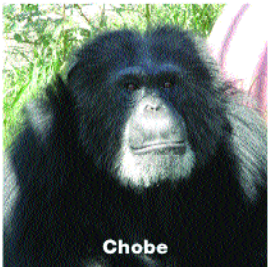
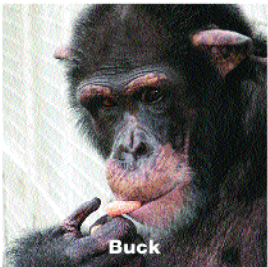
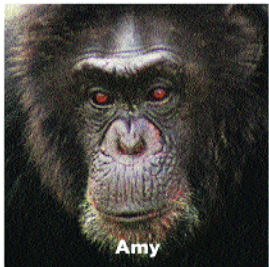
2007 and sold it to a coal company for \$500,000, but apparently retained the right to continue to live there and keep his animals there until the coal company wanted to use the land.

Meanwhile Terry Thompson allowed his federal permit to sell guns to lapse. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms in June 2008 seized 133 firearms from the Thompsons’ home, including five unregistered automatic weapons and three sawed-off shotguns and rifles with serial numbers filed off. Terry Thompson claimed to have inherited the weapons from his father. He denied ever having any involvement in hunting.

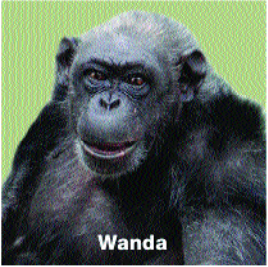
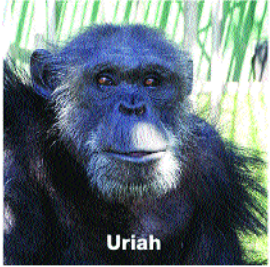
The investigators found “cages without roofs, cages secured by plastic ties and other makeshift methods, and in some cases, relatively lightweight dog kennels were used to secure lions and tigers,” reported Rene Lynch of the *Los Angeles Times*. “Lions, tigers, bears, monkeys, wolves, leopards and mountain lions lacked food, water and shade, and were living in unsanitary conditions in cages caked with layers of urine and feces. In some cases, animals were living alongside rotting carcasses,” Lynch summarized. The cages were “so tight that the animals, particularly tigers and lions, could not get sufficient exercise. Pens were located right alongside each other, causing stress and anxiety for the animals. Lion cubs showed signs of bow-leggedness due to malnutrition, a mountain lion suffered tremors, and there was sewage and standing water in the bears’ pen. Injuries in need of treatment included a cut over a bear’s eye, a horse with an injured leg, and lesions on a lion’s hips. There had been at least three dozen complaints since 2004 about Thompson’s exotic menagerie—including a giraffe grazing by a highway and a monkey in a tree,” Lynch recounted.

Despite all that, the animals remained on the site in Marian Thompson’s care while Terry Thompson served 366 days in prison for the firearms offenses.

Seven animals who survived the shooting on October 19, 2011 were transported to the Columbus Zoo. But only a quarantine order kept the animals there when Marian Thompson sought to reclaim them.



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Were activists involved in Bangalore murder?

BANGALORE—A purported lynching by animal rights activists in Bangalore, India, on November 1, 2011, headlined by media worldwide, might actually have been attempted cattle rustling or extortion of bribes by imposters.

In the next four weeks after the killing, however, neither police nor the allegedly involved animal rights group, Akhila Karnataka Prani Daya Sangha, responded to questions about the ongoing investigation.

The name Akhila Karnataka Prani Daya Sangha translates “Cow Defense Force.” The organization also campaigns against animal sacrifice.

Eight Bangalore men identified only by their first names were charged with murder and armed robbery after the November 1 incident. Mustering at about 2:00 a.m. at Kunigal Cross, they reportedly stopped a truck that they suspected of illegally hauling cows to slaughter and turned it over to the Nelamangala police.

The men then tried to stop a second truckload of cows, but the truck sped on. Chasing the truck in a sport utility vehicle, they caught up and blocked it on the Tumkur Road elevated expressway near Peenya. They allegedly clubbed the 40-year-old driver, Krishnappa, and his cattle handler, Babujan.

When Krishnappa tried to run, Babujan told police, the assailants pushed Krishnappa off the overpass. Still alive when found at about 3:30 a.m., Krishnappa died two hours later.

Akhila Karnataka Prani Daya Sangha coordinator Dayananda Swamji said that the accused were not members. “In 25 years of service,” he told the *Times of India*, “we have never taken the law into our hands. When we receive information about cows and buffaloes being transported, we inform police first and rescue the animals later. Often, we’re attacked by miscreants while trying to rescue animals from slaughterhouses.

We sympathise with Krishnappa’s family,” he said.

“I have known Akhila Karnataka Prani Daya Sangha well for 15 years,” Animal Rights Fund founder Dilip Bafna told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “They belong to the Jain community. They do not know anything about this incident. They were not involved.”

“Akhila Karnataka Prani Daya Sangha have won some good court judgments on the welfare of large animals,” Compassion Unlimited Plus Action cofounder Suparna Ganguly told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “The animals impounded from the trucks were in a really bad way,” Ganguly added “Five reached our shelter, only to die seven or eight days later. Their legs were so tightly tied that they could never get up.”

The minority rights advocacy organization Karnataka Komu Sauharda Vedike told media that similar incidents had been reported in Chikmagalur, Udipi and Mangalore in the days preceding Ramadan, the Muslim Feast of Atonement, which culminates in public halal slaughters.

No mention was made of the alleged murder case when just 48 hours later police and wildlife officials turned over to Akhila Karnataka Prani Daya Sangha three camels seized from people who brought them to Bangalore in violation of a high court order.

Across India to the northeast, meanwhile, “In the early hours of November 17, 2011,” Action for Protection of Wild Animals director Bijaya Kumar Kabi e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “as many as 86 cattle were freed from a truck by the organization Biswa Go Surakshya Bahini, headed by Suresh Panda near Seragarh in Odisha state. Following this, more than 50 cow traders intercepted Panda and one of his team. Both Panda and his teammate sustained injuries on their heads, chests and faces,” were hospitalized in Cuttack, “and are now battling for their lives,” Kabi said.

How the Zanesville animals were shot

ZANESVILLE—Muskingum County Sheriff Matt Lutz on the evening of October 18, 2011 ordered his deputies to kill 18 tigers, 17 African lions, six black bears, two grizzly bears, two wolves, and a baboon because he believed that the circumstances under which they were running loose—including a failed attempt to shut some of them back in their breached cages—left no other options.

Reported Zanesville *Times Recorder* staff writer Hannah Sparling, “Sam Kopchak, 64, owns about four acres on Kopchak Road,” next door to Terry Thompson’s 73-acre Muskingum County Animal Farm. Kopchak was walking his horse Red back to his barn when he noticed a group of about 30 horses on Thompson’s property acting strange, he said. He looked a little closer and saw they were running from a bear. Then, Kopchak turned around and saw a male African lion standing about 30 feet from him and Red. The only thing separating them was a 4- or 5-foot wire fence, he said.”

“I don’t know how I controlled myself,” Kopchak told Sparling. “We made a beeline toward my barn.”

Continued Sparling, “Kopchak called his mother, who called the sheriff’s office. Deputies were on the scene about 15 minutes later, he said.”

Muskingum County Sheriff Matt Lutz told Associated Press that his office began getting calls at about 5:30 p.m. that wild animals were running loose on Kopchak Road just west of Zanesville, near the Interstate 70 overpass. The sheriff’s office recognized the location: they had often before responded to escapes from the Muskingum County Animal Farm. Terry Thompson had been warned repeatedly since 2004 to improve security at the Muskingum County Animal Farm: 30 times in the past year alone, county officials said. Previously, however, loose animals were captured without further incident.

“Matt Lutz and his deputies thought they were dealing with just a couple of animals,” wrote Josh Jarman of the *Columbus*

Dispatch. Their initial concern was that school buses were still on the road locally, and I-70 traffic was heavy with people driving home from work.

The deputies realized that the situation was more than just another escape. Associated Press pieced together from their incident reports a week later, when they saw Terry Thompson’s body lying near his cages. The deputies could not approach to determine whether Thompson was alive because a white tiger “appeared to be eating the body,” the deputies reported. Most of the cages were unlocked, with holes cut in the fencing.

Preliminary autopsy findings obtained by the *Columbus Dispatch* showed that Thompson had scattered chicken parts around himself, put the barrel of a handgun in his mouth, and pulled the trigger. In addition to the bite mark that authorities said Thompson received on his head from a large cat mere moments after he shot himself, the autopsy revealed lacerations, puncture marks and abrasions to his head, neck and genitals, which occurred at about the time of his death.

Muskingum County sheriff’s deputy Jonathan Merry, 25, the second deputy to reach the scene, “was told to check on the home where the 911 call had originated, the residence of Sam Kopchak Jr.” Jarman continued. “He drove to Kopchak’s place, but had no sooner knocked on the door than he saw what he estimated to be a 130-pound gray wolf running down the middle of the narrow country road away from the Thompson property. Merry radioed for instructions. Lutz, who was on his way there from his home, told him not to let the wolf escape into the countryside.

“Merry followed the wolf in his car south on Kopchak Road until the wolf ran up a driveway, past a neighbor’s barn, and headed for the open field behind the house. Merry, a member of the sheriff’s special-response team, took the .223-caliber rifle from the trunk of his cruiser and shot the wolf before the wolf could reach the tree line.”

The rifle was of much lighter caliber

than is usually used to hunt large animals, but it was the most accurate weapon available.

Merry drove to Thompson’s driveway to meet the other responding deputies as they arrived. He was told that a lion was cornered at the Thompson home, “but it turned out to be a black bear,” wrote *Zanesville Times Recorder* staff writer Kathy Thompson, not related to Terry Thompson.

Recounted Merry, “I got out of my car, and the bear came charging at me.” Using his sidearm, because he had no time to grab the rifle, “I shot the bear about seven feet away from me,” Merry said.

“Merry turned around to see a lioness scoot under the livestock fence and run south on Kopchak Road,” Thompson wrote.

“All the animals were heading away from the Thompson farm,” Merry said. “They were running in all different directions.”

Wrote Jarman, “As the only officer there with a rifle, Merry was ordered to shoot any animal who left the property. In the next few minutes, Merry killed the lioness, a mountain lion who followed her, and a male African lion that he saw in the driveway of a property next door. The second lion didn’t come from the same part of the fence as the other animals who had slipped through. That’s when Merry realized the enormity of the situation, he said. As more deputies and Sheriff Lutz arrived on the scene, Merry was ordered to take his cruiser and rifle down to I-70, which runs along the northern border of Terry Thompson’s property, to keep animals from escaping into the highway. When he got there, he noticed that a section of fence along the interstate had been knocked down. On the freeway side of the fence was another gray wolf. While standing watch along the highway, Merry shot the wolf, two male African lions, a Bengal tiger and a grizzly bear who all would have made their way into traffic.”

There were efforts made to capture animals instead of shooting them. “A tiger and a black bear were in the same enclosure,” Associated Press said, “but the door was unlocked and open.”

Recounted deputy Jay Lawhorne, “As I backed the team up, the tiger came out the door and charged right at us.” Lawhorne said that a lion came within three feet of an auxiliary deputy who tried to close the cage door before seeing that the cage had been cut.

Altogether, 25 animals were shot within the first hour and sixteen minutes after the Muskingum County sheriff’s office received the first call that animals were loose.

Eventually, wrote Jarman, “The deputies were assisted by the Highway Patrol, authorities from the Columbus Zoo and The Wilds, the Ohio Division of Wildlife, the county Emergency Management Agency, and township fire department. A plan to bring in a helicopter with a thermal-imaging camera to find animals was scuttled by stormy weather.”

Barb Wolfe, DVM, arrived from

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Ruling on Tony the truck stop tiger

GROSSE TETE, Louisiana—More than 10 years of controversy and litigation over Tony, the resident tiger at the Tiger Truck Stop near Interstate 10 in Grosse Tete, Louisiana, may be near an end—or maybe not. District Judge Michael Caldwell on November 3, 2011 ruled for the second time in six months, in a case brought by the Animal Legal Defense Fund, that Tiger Truck Stop owner Michael Sandlin is illegally keeping the tiger. However, Caldwell’s previous ruling was reversed by a three-judge panel of the Louisiana First Circuit Court of Appeal, and Sandlin is expected to appeal again.

“Every American should have the right to own an exotic animal of their choice if they’re financially and morally capable of taking care of that animal,” Sandlin said.

The Wilds with a tranquilizer gun. She darted a tiger. “But he became extremely aggressive,” Wolfe told Kathy Thompson. “He turned and ran off,” capable of running for five or ten minutes before dropping, even if the tranquilizer dart took effect, “and we knew we would have to shoot him. The deputies couldn’t take any chances with him.”

Lamented Columbus Zoo associate veterinarian Gwen Myers, “We were unable to tranquilize any of the animals.” Besides trying to work in an uncontrolled setting, without fences to contain the animals and enable veterinarians to dart animals in relative safety, Myers explained, the vets did not know the weights of the animals or when they last ate. Thus there was little way to guessimate the drug doses needed to drop each animal.

Muskingum County sheriff’s deputies shot another 24 animals during the night. Terry Thompson had cut the wire cages so that most could no longer be used, but *Good Morning America* reported that food baits were placed in the cages that remained secure to try to lure animals back. Only six animals were captured alive and taken to the Columbus Zoo for safekeeping. A monkey, never found, was believed to have been eaten by one of the big cats.

Among the first experts to reach the scene was Columbus Zoo director emeritus Jack Hanna, who had attended nearby Muskingum University in New Concord.

Said Hanna in an October 23, 2011 talk at the Kirkland Fine Arts Center in Decatur, Illinois, as reported by Decatur *Herald-Review* staff writer Jim Vorel, “They had three tranquilizer guns on scene. With an hour of daylight left, I couldn’t have done anything different even if I had 50 tranquilizer guns. We’d heard about the animal owner [Terry Thompson] before, but in Ohio, there are a lot like him because there were no laws to prevent it. We’d even sent people there to check it out two years prior,” Hanna said. “What they saw wasn’t the best, but it wasn’t the worst, either, and they weren’t allowed to do anything about it.”

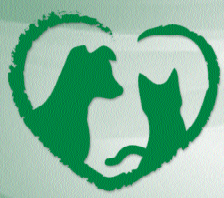
“I never thought anything like this could ever happen here,” Hanna told an earlier media conference.

But there was historical irony in Hanna’s comment. Hanna between 1976 and 1990 clashed repeatedly with the late Steve Graham, director of the Detroit Zoo from 1981 to 1990, over the ethics of selling surplus zoo animals to private dealers. Graham, previously director of the Antietam Humane Society in Pennsylvania, favored killing animals rather than taking the chance that they might end up at hunting ranches, roadside zoos, or badly kept private collections.

Hanna maintained a no-kill policy, but at least five times between 1986 and 1990 the Columbus Zoo sold animals to dealers who resold them to inappropriate destinations, as exposed in January 1990 by CBS 60 *Minutes*.



Puma at Primarily Primates. (Kim Bartlett)



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Mercy for Animals video cracks open scandal at 5th-largest U.S. egg producer *(from page 11)*

Sparboe was cited by the Food and Drug Administration for 13 "serious" and "significant" violations of sanitation requirements at five different sites, ABC News reporters Cynthia Galli, Angela Hill, and Rym Momtaz disclosed. The FDA found that "Sparboe didn't take appropriate measures after finding unacceptable rodent activity," ABC News said, and "didn't have a written prevention plan for salmonella enteritidis," or "adequate salmonella testing for young hens."

"This is a warning that there is a systemic problem, not just at one barn or one location," former FDA food safety chief David Acheson told ABC News.

"McDonald's expects all of our suppliers to meet our stringent requirements for delivering high quality food prepared in a humane and responsible manner. The behavior on tape is disturbing and completely unacceptable," said McDonald's vice president for sustainability Bob Langert. "It's important to note," Langert continued, "that the most alarming actions on video did not occur at Sparboe's Vincent, Iowa facility that supplies McDonald's. Nonetheless," Langert said, "standards for our suppliers prohibit this conduct."

"We're not going to turn around in a month and work with them again," McDonald's spokesperson Lisa McComb told Steve Karnowski and Derek Kravitz of Associated Press. "But we would never say never."

McDonald's bought Sparboe eggs via Cargill Kitchen Solutions, a division of Cargill Inc., the 146-year-old agribusiness giant which is now the largest privately held corporation in the U.S. "We will not tolerate mistreatment of animals anywhere in our supply chain," said Cargill Kitchen Solutions

president Chris Roberts. "After an investigation of events related to video taken at Sparboe Farms location in Vincent, Iowa, it became clear that we needed to take immediate action to address the issues with animal welfare compliance. We also just became aware today of an FDA warning letter that Sparboe received," Roberts continued. "Although there were no violations at the Vincent facility, the issues raised in the FDA letter about Sparboe's other operations warrant additional review by Cargill. As a result of the animal welfare questions and other concerns about the company's operations, we have decided to suspend Sparboe from our supply chain."

Wal-Mart spokesperson Dianna Gee told media that Wal-Mart quit working with Sparboe in mid-October, for undisclosed reasons having "nothing to do with animal welfare concerns."

A Target spokesperson told Bob Von Sternberg of the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* that it "pulled all the eggs it received from Sparboe Farms, nationwide. Calls to a number of Super Targets in the Upper Midwest found some out of eggs," Von Sternberg reported, "while others were still selling another brand. SuperValu Inc. followed suit," Von Sternberg continued, "announcing that it will no longer sell Sparboe eggs through the 2,000-plus grocers it supplies."

The fifth largest producer and marketer of eggs in the shell in the U.S., Sparboe operates seven processing plants supported by 33 egg-laying and pullet production facilities. Sustaining that scale of operation after losing so many large customers will challenge Sparboe president Beth Sparboe Schnell, heading the firm since the death of her father in 2005.

The four employees shown abusing animals "have been terminated. A production manager also has been relieved of his duties," Sparboe Schnell said. "Our investigation is ongoing and if any additional employees are involved, they will be held accountable. Acts depicted in the footage are totally unacceptable and completely at odds with our values," Sparboe Schnell said. "In fact, they are in direct violation of our animal care code of conduct, which all of our employees read, sign and follow each day."

"At Sparboe Farms," said an addenda to Sparboe Schnell's statement, "we follow a code of conduct that ensures our hens receive these five essential freedoms: freedom from hunger and thirst; freedom from discomfort; freedom from pain, injury or disease; freedom to express normal behavior; [and] freedom from fear and distress."

But Sparboe head of governmental affairs Ken Klippen, interviewed by Brian Ross of ABC News, defended the use of battery cages, and claimed that it is possible for hens in a battery cage, barely larger than themselves, to turn around and to spread their wings.

"It is not possible to supply companies" the size of McDonald's, Wal-Mart, Cargill, and Target "with eggs that were produced in a way that gives hens anything that could be considered a decent life," assessed Karen Dawn of Dawn Watch. "And even on the best possible egg farms, we have to ask what happened to the males. So this story gives us the opportunity to spread the word about the benefits to our health, the environment, and most of all to the animals, of choosing a plant-based diet."

How many tigers in private hands?

How many large carnivores are in private hands in the U.S.?

There are no comprehensive lists of most species. Guesstimates commonly hold that there are more tigers alone, just in Texas, than the 3,200 tigers remaining in the wild, or at least more than the 1,400 tigers still in the wild in India.

Computer systems analyst Linda Howard in 2005-2006 told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that she had collated data from a variety of sources showing that the U.S. tiger population was actually only about 2,000, but Howard shot herself during a July 2006 domestic dispute, before publishing her inventory, which also included lions and nonhuman primates.

On September 19, 2011 the Feline Conservation Federation released the findings from a similar collation, which "used the Freedom of Information Act to gain USDA and state wildlife agency inventories of all wild cats. The project also worked to identify non-exhibiting sanctuaries, and non-licensed wild feline owners," said executive director Lynn Culver. "The FCF census documented 2,884 tigers," Culver said, "at 468 facilities."

Two hundred twenty-six USDA-licensed exhibition facilities "hold at least 809 tigers," Culver said, "including the nearly 400 tigers maintained in American Zoo Association member zoos. Ninety-one sanctuaries hold 1,544 tigers. At least 22 educational facilities provide habitat for 68 tigers. The remaining 585 tigers, held by 129 USDA or state licensed entities," are kept by circuses and other traveling shows, defunct exhibition venues, breeders, entities using tigers as mascots, or private individuals.

The FCF released the data in connection with opposing efforts to end the Generic Tiger Exemption provision which excludes tigers born in captivity in the U.S. from coverage by the Endangered Species Act.



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55 YEARS OF ANIMAL ADVOCACY AROUND THE WORLD

Friends of Animals 

Thai flood rescuers wonder “Where were the global animal charities?” (from page 1)

Chailert. The Save Elephant Foundation Nature Park in Chiang Mai, 435 miles northwest of Bangkok, shelters 24 ex-working elephants rescued from various abusive situations. The Elephant Nature Park escaped damage, Chailert said, because “Our strong river wall saved us and kept us safe.”

But on October 9, 2011, Chailert posted, “I saw the people in Nakorn Sawan province run from flooding, many of them in such panic that they left their animals behind. They wanted to take their pets with them, but space on government boats was scarce and the animals were not allowed. I saw thousands of pigs floating in the flood. I was sick to see the dogs, cats, cows, buffaloes and others dead,” including reportedly more than a million chickens. “We decided to bring our team to help the animals as much as we could,” Chailert said. “We sent two trucks carrying 13 tons of bananas and watermelons to the elephants in Ayutthaya,” 17 of whom were stranded on a small island for two months. Seventy-three other elephants escaped, but the younger and smaller elephants were unable to push through the deep water and strong current.

“We managed to bring 10 tons of human and animal food and medicine to Nakon Sawan,” Chailert continued, “and then helped to move 300 dogs from a flooded shelter in Nontaburi, just upstream from Bangkok.”

As the water roared south, Dalley, Wiek, and others organized their disaster response coalition and began appealing for international aid. The Wildlife Friends Foundation of Thailand, as the strongest organization in the Bangkok area, was designated to coordinate field operations. The Soi Dog Foundation, out of harm’s way at Phuket, was designated to handle logistics and communications. Dalley first sought help from WSPA and IFAW on October 18, 2011, but received response only from their automated reply systems.

On October 21, however, WSPA head of disaster management James Sawyer blogged that two WSPA teams had begun “to assess the situation. The first team worked with Wildlife Friends of Thailand at the Emergency Operations Centre in Ayutthaya,” Sawyer said. “We assisted with setting up a temporary shelter that is expected to hold 100 animals for the next two to three weeks,” Sawyer continued. “We also were also able to assist with the rescue of eight dogs, three puppies, two cats and nine kittens.”

A day later Sawyer added, “We bought 1.5 metric tons of pet food, which will be split into bags of five kilograms each and marked with stickers so that the bags can be easily identified as pet food. This entire consignment of food will be delivered to the vet facility at the Chulalongkorn University. In Ayutthaya, Wildlife Friends of Thailand will receive half a metric ton of animal food at the Petchaburi Quarantine Center, where they have set up a temporary animal shelter. They have reportedly rescued 80 animals today alone.”

Sawyer blogged on October 24 that all had been done according to plan. Posted Wiek in response, “Mr Sawyer, many people have e-mailed you asking when or if WSPA will help the animals in Thailand, but until today you refuse to reply or act. Your Disaster Assessment Response Team joined

a boat trip with us,” Wiek acknowledged, “but did nothing. When will you start doing something?”

Wiek’s comment was deleted.

Said Sawyer on October 26, “There were a few comments here made by members of our partner organisations. These comments have now been removed, as we are continuing the conversation in a private space.”

On that day, eight days after Dalley first sought help, WSPA supporter services administrator Julie Therese wrote to Dalley, “Thank you for your e-mail to WSPA dated 18th October. I am so sorry for the delay in responding to you. We have been receiving a large number of enquiries lately and are trying our best to get through them as quickly as possible. I have forwarded your enquiry to a colleague of mine who should be able to respond to you directly. If you have any further questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us again.”

Exasperated, Dalley and Wiek on October 27 resigned the Soi Dog and Wildlife Friends status as WSPA member societies. “I’m glad they finally spoke up,” said Treat with Responsibility & Empathy all Animals in Thailand founder Margot Homburg.

Wrote Wiek in his resignation statement, “WFFT is extremely disappointed by the refusal to financially support any organization helping in the flooding, and the very slow response. WSPA has a regional office in Bangkok with dozens of staff,” Wiek noted, “and claims to have an international disaster relief team stationed in Bangkok, led by Ian Dacre, who said he would only fund us if we would rent one of our boats to them for their own project to bring food out with the livestock department.”

“Ill-informed”

Responded WSPA director general Mike Baker to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, via spokesperson Miranda Thompson, “I am very disappointed by the reaction of those groups criticising our efforts,” in what Baker termed “ill-informed briefings.”

Said an attached prepared statement, “In partnership with the Thai government and local groups such as WFFT, WSPA rapidly deployed its Disaster Assessment and Response Team. In partnership with these groups WSPA committed an initial \$50,000 from its emergency fund focusing on companion animals and their immediate needs of feed, delivering many metric tons of feed already.”

“The help WSPA is now referring to,” Wiek told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “was handing over cages worth about \$900 and food worth approximately \$600—about 3% of the total budget they claim to have reserved here. A sad detail of the handing over of cages,” Wiek added, was that going to get them, as instructed by WSPA, cost his team an entire day that ended at 10 p.m., because when they arrived, “We were told by a WSPA volunteer that they needed 4-5 hours to unpack all the cages to attach stickers saying ‘sponsored by WSPA’ and ‘donated by WSPA.’”

Dacre of WSPA meanwhile “asked to rent or use our first boat at Ayutthaya for a day to show the director of an international law firm in Bangkok around,” Wiek said. “This case is not related to the [earlier] offer to rent our second boat for livestock feed delivery. Why should I give up a boat for this for a whole day that is needed to rescue animals’ lives? What are the priorities here?” Wiek asked, signing his e-mail “From a very ill-informed person.”

Wildlife Friends of Thailand was by then housing 128 dogs and 36 cats, with space prepared for another 180 dogs and 50 cats. “All animals have been identified, photos taken, and marked for release back at exactly the same place where we found them,” Wiek said. “If possible,” Wiek added, “we would like to spay as many dogs

and cats as possible before returning them. A fully equipped surgery room is available at our centre. Hope we can find soon some vets to help out.”

Acknowledging the complaints from Wiek, Dalley, *et al*, without naming them, Sawyer posted on October 30 that “WSPA has been helping animals affected by the flooding in Thailand since early September, when our team went to Phichit Province,” about halfway between Chiang Mai and Bangkok, “and delivered emergency food to sustain over 2,000 cattle. We have since delivered 25 metric tons of emergency pet food to three different areas in Central Thailand,” Sawyer said, “which should help sustain 6,000 animals for around six weeks, and are expecting to deliver another five metric tons in the coming days. We have also distributed 75 cages for local groups to use in their emergency rescues and as temporary shelters. We are continuing to work in close coordination with the Department of Livestock Development, Thailand Red Cross Society, the Thai Vet Network and the Department of Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation in Thailand. Unfortunately,” Sawyer finished, “two local organizations have been trying to solicit funds from our supporters by posting comments on our animals in disaster blog. We have had to delete a couple of these comments, as we cannot be accountable for any funds directed by our supporters to these other organizations. WSPA will continue to respond directly to all groups making requests for assistance.”

Responded Dalley, “Nobody from the Soi Dog Foundation posted direct requests for funding on their pages.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE found no independent reportage about the WSPA work in Phichit, and no mention of it on the WSPA “Animals in Disasters” blog for September 2011, but Mayuree Sukyingcharoenwong of *The Nation* newspaper in Bangkok reported on September 15, 2011 that WSPA had “helped creatures caught in the flooding of Nghe An, one of 13 Vietnamese provinces hammered by Tropical Storm Haima.”

This was at about the same latitude as Phichit, but well to the east, on the far side of Laos.

“The group acted because Nghe An has 1.6 million head of domesticated livestock. The flood killed seven people and 3,500 animals,” Mayuree Sukyingcharoenwong wrote, mentioning that WSPA “dispersed more than 85,000 kilograms of feed meal and 583 canvas sheets for shielding animals against the cold,” at cost of about \$71,000.

IFAW responded at last to Dalley’s October 18 request for help on November 2.

“WSPA is a great organization,” e-mailed Tracy Weeks of IFAW Supporter Relations to Dalley, “and we work with them often. Generally if they have a presence somewhere, we await their request for help, and vice versa...That said, we have now received some requests and are working to see which are legitimate and where we can best help the most animals. I’ll keep you posted.”

As of November 27, two IFAW representatives had visited Wildlife Friends, and had promised to send \$4,000, Wiek told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Wiek by November 3 had “about 280 pets and one monkey under our care,” he said. “We are trying to get organized and set up properly,” Wiek said, “but as the pets keep on coming,” delivered by private individuals and at least five other rescue organizations, “we have a really hard time to cope. The last three days dogs and cats arrived at 4:30 a.m., 2:00 a.m., and last night, midnight and 3:00 a.m.,” Wiek noted, “so we are not only having tough days’ work, but also sleepless nights.”

Among them, the local animal charities had 800 dogs in care within another 24 hours, 330 of them at Wildlife Friends. Wildlife Friends took in 670 more animals during the next week. Soi Dog and Wildlife Friends donor Peter Collins tried to intercede with WSPA to obtain some dog food, as did Soi Dog U.S. representative Leonard Coyne. That resulted in a six-day electronic runaround, eventually forwarded to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**—and no food. Said WSPA supporter services administrator Julie Therese on November 15, “Our Disaster Management team have informed me that our trucks deliver pet food mainly to the Department of Livestock Development and some to Thai Vet Network and Thai Red Cross.”

Growled Dalley, “There is no organization called the Thai Veterinary Network. The Thai Red Cross is concerned with humans, not animals. The principle veterinary authority in Thailand is the Thai Veterinary Medical Association, whose president I have had two meetings with in the past week. They are offering full cooperation with us, and even donated 20 life jackets for our volunteers. At no time in our discussions did she mention WSPA,” Dalley said, “though I did not ask.”

“The Soi Dog Foundation,” Dalley added, “is supporting our own volunteers and working with other groups including Wildlife Friends, the Elephant Nature Foundation, Soi Cats & Dogs, TREAT Bangkok, SOS Thailand, and many other local groups, as well as coordinating international veterinary aid from Humane Society International, World Vets USA, NETAP Switzerland, the Worldwide Veterinary Association, Kinship Circle, and others. All of these groups are rescuing abandoned pets and stray dogs and cats. Throughout the campaign we have consistently publicized all the other groups involved and continue to do so. All monies raised directly for the flood appeal will be used for this purpose and the aftermath.

“Soi Dog Foundation has had a very successful fundraising campaign,” Dalley acknowledged, “although as with all disaster appeals the response tends to be short-lived and donations are now falling off rapidly. Also, as with all such campaigns, disaster relief donations tend to severely impact donations going to our regular programs.”

Looking ahead, Dalley recommended “for us all to meet and put into place a procedure for how to deal with future possible disasters.”

—Merritt Clifton



Dog peers over the back of a rescue boat. (Soi Dog Foundation)

Green mambas, crocs, & the risk of infection lurked

BANGKOK—The floodwater rising over Thailand was one problem, and what was in it was—and remains—another. Along with the threat of zoonotic disease and insect plagues that accompanies most floods, Bangkok res-

cuers found themselves handling more than 200 animals of protected species, “ranging from deer and tigers to monkeys,” reported Apinya Wipatayotint of the *Bangkok Post*, amid rumors that “deadly green mamba snakes got loose in Nonthaburi after escaping from a flooded house in Pak Kret.”

In addition, between 100 and “thousands” of crocodiles reportedly escaped from swamped crocodile leather farms.

Film maker Tim Gorski, in Thailand representing Kinship Circle, was reminded of his experience during the aftermath of the December 26, 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. “After being swept out of my bungalow, I was stranded on Phi Phi Island with 2,500 dead and ended up doing rescue and then recovery for four months,” Gorski told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Circa November 7, 2011, Gorski related, he and Darrick

Thomson, husband of Save Elephant Foundation founder Sangduen “Lek” Chailert, “were in Lum Luk Ka, north of Bangkok, removing 39 dogs from a woman’s house, flooded three weeks already. It was getting dark and the nasty black sewage was deep.

“I was hoisting a dog over my head into the boat,” Gorski said, “when he bit me right on the nose and mouth, sending me tumbling into the water. I wrapped my face in a dirty rag and Darrick and I spent the next 30 minutes or so trying to get as many dogs on the boats as possible and get back to the truck before darkness. It took an hour and a half to get the boats to the truck, then another 45 minutes to load the boats and animals on the truck. Then another hour and 40 minutes through the flood to the highway, where I had to hitch a one-hour ride to the hospital,” to receive 25 stitches.

“Miraculously,” Gorski said, “the wound did not become infected.”



Ukrainian government agrees to a six-month moratorium on animal control killing

KYIV, KHARKOV—"Let us stop the deaths of poor stray dogs for half a year and build shelters together," Ukrainian environment minister Mykola Zlochevsky told media on November 17, 2011.

"This is a fantastic victory for Ukraine, its citizens, and its animals," declared John Ruane, director of the British organization Naturewatch. Ruane had for two years organized an international campaign in support of Ukrainian animal advocates' efforts to reform animal control.

"With just six months remaining before the Euro 2012 Football Championships," Ruane said, "Naturewatch has secured agreements with top Ukrainian government officials to immediately address cruelty to stray animals.

"For the past two years," Ruane said, "Naturewatch has exposed mass killings of stray animals" in Kiev, Kharkov, Donetsk, and Lvov, the four Ukrainian host cities of Euro 2012, "allegedly to clean the streets in preparation for the massive influx of foreign football supporters. To mark World Animal Day on October 4, 2011, World Animal Day Ambassadors representing 62 nations, signed a joint letter calling for an end to the barbaric killing." In response, said Ruane, "Zlochevsky on November 13 agreed to adopt amendments to the Ukrainian legislation regarding the treatment of stray animals, and acted upon a further Naturewatch request for an immediate moratorium on the killing of stray animals in each of the Euro 2012 host cities."

"It remained unclear how the ban would be enforced," noted Associated Press. "Ukraine has a large stray dog population, numbering tens of thousands in big cities. Building shelters to house the animals would take months." Environment ministry spokesperson Serhiy Syrovatka "said the government would adopt legal and other changes to make the moratorium legally binding, adding that mayors who disobeyed would face punishment," Associated Press continued. "The ministry intended to help manage and finance construction of shelters, Syrovatka said, while noting that Ukraine is financially struggling. Syrovatka added that dogs who cannot be housed in shelters would be sterilized and released, Associated Press added.

"The minister's comments appeared to suggest that the six-month ban was a temporary measure aimed at quelling criticism before Euro 2012," Associated Press noted. "It is unclear whether the ban will remain in force

beyond the championship."

The announcement from Zlochevsky and Ruane came just as PETA became involved. "A few days ago our Centre in Kharkov was visited by representatives of PETA Germany about the capture and killing of homeless animals before Euro 2012," CETA-Life founder Igor Parfenov told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "We held a press conference with the director of the housing department, chief veterinary surgeon, chief of sanitation," and the agencies that handle animal control," Parfenov said, but the press conference recognized problems more than offering solutions.

Kharkov animal control official Yulia Shapovalova "acknowledged that 95% of the 550 dogs her facility handles each month are killed," wrote Maria Danilova of Associated Press. "Another city animal control contractor, the Kharkov State Veterinary Academy, is accused of keeping dogs in cages so small they can barely move, with virtually no light coming in. Captive dogs are given little food and water, and must urinate and defecate in the cages, said Yelena Ratnikova, head of the Kharkov Adopt-a-Pet Center."

A new Kharkov city shelter is under construction, Parfenov told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, but he predicted that it would offer "only a small number of dogs on display for visitors," while killing about 1,500 dogs per month. Parfenov obtained animal control records showing that Kharkov killed 11,623 dogs in 2001, a ratio of 7.8 per 1,000 human residents. This rose to 21,056 by 2004, 14.6 per 1,000 human residents, but fell to 9,169, 6.1 per 1,000 human residents, by 2010. The 2011 killing pace through October projected a toll of just over 6,100 for the year.

"Activists in Donetsk and Kharkiv say stray dogs are also routinely killed by blowgun syringes loaded with dithylinum, a paralytic drug banned in Ukraine and the West for animal euthanasia," reported Danilova of Associated Press.

Lyudmila Novikova, director of the Donetsk charity Animal Protection, alleged to Danilova that dogs are poisoned by a private animal control firm called Grinkodon. "Grinkodon spokesperson Serhiy Ustimov denied the allegations," Danilova wrote. City dog control official Oleksandr Reingold told Danilova that his agency kills only about half a dozen of the 20 dogs picked up each day.

But Ukrainian Association of Animal Protection Organizations president Asya Serpinska "disputed those figures, saying

records from a Donetsk dog control facility, Animals in the City, showed some 50 dogs were killed there daily—98% of all the dogs handled. Animals in the City declined to comment or provide any figures on dog control," Danilova reported.

"Taras Smurniy, head of a municipal animal control organization called Animal Shelter, said Kiev does not kill dogs," continued Danilova. "He said that all 300 dogs picked up over the past three months were sterilized and released. That statement was disputed by the Kyiv city administration, which said that stray dogs are euthanized when they are seriously ill, as well as in unspecified 'other circumstances.'" Responding to claims that Kiev also poisons dogs, "Kiev city administration head Oleksandr Popov insisted authorities have never given orders to poison dogs," Danilova wrote. But Danilova received a leaked invoice through SOS Animals Ukraine founder Tamara Tarnavska, which "indicates that Kiev animal control officials last year purchased a large quantity of zinc phosphate, a poison that kills dogs by causing internal bleeding," Danilova said.

Officials in Lvov acknowledged that at least 70 dogs had been poisoned there since April 2007, but blamed private individuals. "Roman Harmatiy, head of the city-funded animal control agency Lev said that of the 100 dogs it handles every month, half are euthanized and the rest sterilized and released," Danilova reported. "However, city veterinary official Yuri Mahora questioned that, saying Lev received no funding for sterilization this

year. Questions were also raised about how dogs are euthanized. According to Harmatiy, the facility uses injections of magnesium sulfate, which causes cardiac and respiratory arrest through muscle paralysis."

The American Veterinary Medical Association lists magnesium sulfate as an unacceptable method of killing animals.

The most widely amplified allegation of cruelty to dogs in preparation for the Euro 2012 football championship, however, carried on nearly 3,000 web sites, came from the eastern Ukraine city of Lysychansk, which was never scheduled to host any Euro 2012 events. Local activists alleged that Lysychansk animal control agents were shooting dogs and cats in the streets and throwing them, sometimes still alive, into a mobile crematorium.

According to *Kyiv Weekly*, Tamara Tarnovska on June 1, 2010 took photos of the mobile crematorium in use in Lysychansk and Mariupol to United European Football Association president Martin Cullen. "The same day Ukraine's Vice Premier Borys Kolesnykov, who is in charge of preparations for Euro 2012, received a letter from Martin Cullen, who in no uncertain terms distanced himself from the shameful practice of the Mariupol and Lysychansk city authorities," *Kyiv Weekly* reported.

Kolesnykov apparently had a similar response. As of September 27, 2010, said *Kyiv Weekly*, "The mobile crematoriums for dogs, which cost the cities a notable sum of money, are no longer combing the streets."

Animal sheltering

An allegedly speeding drunk driver and three passengers were unhurt after flying off an overpass and crashing through the roof of the **Friendicoes** animal shelter in New Delhi, India, at 1:30 a.m. on November 23, 2011, but a puppy was killed, 22 dogs were injured, and the shelter required urgent repairs at estimated cost of \$47,000. The accident came less than a month after the death of **Gautam Barat**, Friendicoes' shelter manager since 1980. (*Obituary on page 18.*)

St. Johns (Newfoundland) SPCA executive director Debbie Powers, a 40-year volunteer, and shelter manager **Susan Deir**, a 22-year employee, resigned after an October 15, 2011 annual meeting at which board president **David Buffett**, vice president **Libby Carew**, and past president **Kathy**

Hodgkinson were replaced by an alleged "no-kill" slate. **Jessica Rendell**, president of the local no-kill organization **Heavenly Creatures**, denied having orchestrated an attempted takeover. "I can say that we're going to try to reduce euthanasia rates. Are we going to eliminate euthanasia? We don't think that's going to be achievable," new president **Lynn Cadigan** told CBC News.

Jessica Isenhour, 33, founder of the North Carolina rescue **Saving Fur Kids**, is due in Lambertville (New Jersey) Municipal Court on December 21, 2011 to face eight civil and seven criminal charges brought by the **New Jersey SPCA**, alleging translocation of dogs who were seriously ill. The New Jersey SPCA contends Isenhour was operating for profit in the guise of rescuing.

Romanian activists are wary of newly passed U.S.-style animal control law

BUCHAREST—Romanian animal advocates fear that a new national animal control law ratified on November 22, 2011 by the national Chamber of Deputies will initiate dog population control killing at a pace unseen since then-Bucharest mayor Traian Basescu in April 2001 unleashed the most notorious dog pogrom since the fall of Communism.

Basescu has since 2004 been president of Romania, elected in part because the 2001 dog killing helped to establish his reputation for enforcing law-and-order. The Chamber of Deputies is dominated by the Democratic Liberal Party, of which Basescu is a founder. The Democratic Liberal Party collected half a million petition signatures in support of the new animal control law before bringing it to a final vote.

"Not even the election campaign [that brought Basescu to power] saw so much rallying, with such intense focus, as this campaign for the mass killing of dogs," charged pro-animal legislative activist Carmen Arsene, of Pitesti.

Approved by a one-vote margin, the new law provides that impounded dogs may be killed after three days if they are found to be dangerous or seriously ill. Otherwise, the mandatory holding period will be 30 days, after which the dogs may be killed, released, rehomed, or kept in custody at municipal discretion.

"Even if a city hall opts to keep dogs in shelters," instead of killing them "everybody knows the extermination camps" that pass for shelters in much of Romania, Arsene charged, where dogs often die from conditions associated with overcrowding and neglect. Meanwhile, Arsene pointed out, "other dogs will multiply in the street," taking the places of the dogs who have been impounded.

"If a town chooses sterilization and return," Arsene said, "the program will be sabotaged by other towns who will dump their dogs" in that town to avoid killing them.

Arsene also objected to increasingly common municipal policies that she alleged are meant to "obstruct and discourage adoptions," for example that "you can adopt a dog only if you show proof of having adequate living space and material resources for the dog, pay a fee, and if the neighbors agree" to the presence of the dog.

The new Romanian law resembles the animal control laws in effect in most of the the U.S., but Arsene and other Romanian animal advocates are wary in view of Basescu's history and the aftermath of the 2001 dog killing undertaken at Basescu's direction. Culminating a series of less intensive dog massacres begun in 1996, the 2001 episode brought a short-lived flood of funding to Romanian dog rescue projects, but

much of it was misdirected. The most flagrant offender, Wolfgang Ullrich, in April 2003 drew a 12-year prison sentence in Germany for embezzling as much as \$45 million raised to help Romanian shelters.

Most of the international animal charities that tried to work in Romania between 1996 and 2005 withdrew. The Austrian-based charity Vier Pfoten, however, continues to provide sterilization help to local charities across Romania.

In the Oradea region, in northwestern Romania, British clothing manufacturer Robert Smith continues to demonstrate neuter/return, high-volume local dog adoption, and the "open shelter" concept that he introduced earlier in the suburbs of Istanbul, Turkey.

"Since Romania became a democracy in 1990," Smith charged in a paper delivered to the Chamber of Deputies in October 2011, "politicians have failed to understand where unwanted dogs come from. They have embarked on sporadic and expensive dog extermination campaigns which invariably fail. Where neutering campaigns have been tried they have not been financed or managed properly, nor have they concentrated on the source of the problem: owned or semi-owned dogs.

"In 2004," Smith continued, "there were at least 4,200 unsupervised dogs in Oradea, a density of 70 unsupervised dogs per square kilometer. In June 2011," after seven years of Smith's program, "the Oradea police estimated that there were only 350 unsupervised dogs left on the streets. Additionally there are now at least another 10 dogs per square kilometer," Smith said, "who are properly supervised. We count all dogs not in totally secure premises or not on a lead as being a potential problem," Smith continued, "and as being able to reproduce unless neutered."

"The source of the street dog problem," Smith emphasized, "is not feral dogs foraging for food. The most reproductively successful dogs are those with feeders or protectors. Very few puppies from feral dogs survive. Many puppies from well-fed dogs at petrol stations, factories, blocks of flats, car parks, etc. do survive, at least to breeding age. When municipal dog catchers come

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to collect and kill these well-fed 'semi-owned' dogs," Smith said, "obviously the people tolerating those dogs protect them. Some bribe dog catchers to leave their dogs alone. We need to enlist the help of the citizens who feed and protect dogs to have all fertile dogs sterilized.

"Many cities in Romania have attempted over the last 20 years to solve their dog problem by collecting dogs from the streets and killing them—usually in barbaric ways," Smith recounted. "Animal lovers have tried to persuade the authorities not to kill these dogs, but to accommodate them in shelters. This is impractical, unaffordable, and often cruel, because municipal shelters invariably become canine concentration camps. As we have shown," Smith finished, "dog owners or semi-owners will co-operate with neuter/return programs, providing these are implemented by credible, humane and efficient animal welfare organizations. This cannot, however, be done successfully by poorly motivated and uneducated municipal workers—and certainly not by the same people who were previously catching, poisoning and killing dogs."

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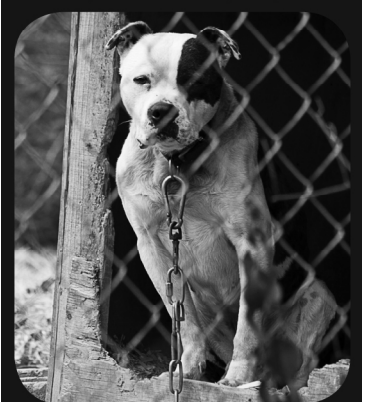
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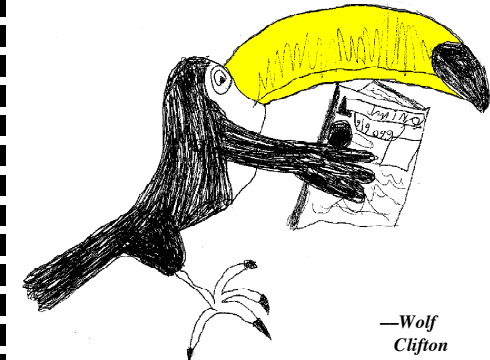
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The Watchdog

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

Animals' Angels of Germany alleges unauthorized takeover of U.S. Animals' Angels

FRANKFURT—Animals' Angels founder Christa Blanke has advised key donors and **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that her charity, founded in 1989 in Frankfurt, Germany, no longer has any control over the activities of a former U.S. affiliate, Animals' Angels Inc., based in Westminster, Maryland.

Affirmed Animals' Angels Inc. executive director Sonja Meadows in an e-mail to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, "We do share a similar logo, mission and approach with the German organization Animals' Angels. However, while the organizations have worked together occasionally in the past, there are no legal or business affiliations with this entity. Christa Blanke, president of the German organization, served as a board member of Animals' Angels Inc. until December 2010."

Blanke's Animals' Angels is noted for exposés of the traffic in horses and more recently heifers from farms in eastern Europe to slaughter in western Europe and Turkey.

Meadows' listing as a member of Saving America's Horses advisory board states that she "was an attorney before she founded Animals' Angels." Animals' Angels hired Meadows in Germany and sent her to the U.S. in 2007 to investigate livestock transport, Blanke told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

"Her work was financially supported from Germany," Blanke said. "In due time," Blanke continued, "Animals' Angels Inc. was founded, with me as director of the board." Animals' Angels in Germany sent Animals' Angels Inc. 400,000 euros "plus help with investigations by freelancers paid from Germany, and more than 50,000 euros paid by one of our supporters directly into her account," Blanke said.

"However, in 2009 I got severely ill," Blanke continued. "After a while no reports and pictures were sent to our office in Frankfurt and her financial statements were useless. When I started working again in summer 2010," Blanke said, "I demanded detailed statements," to "describe her activities and the results," and to "state clearly how the money we sent

was spent, and how much money came from U.S. supporters."

A dispute followed over Meadows' compensation and that of her husband, Keith Meadows, a part-time employee who was on the Animals' Angels Inc. board, along with Blanke and several other people. "Immediately after," Blanke said, "Sonja stopped communication with the office in Frankfurt. She activated a new web site," in place of one controlled from Frankfurt. "Our lawyer did some research and we came to know that I was thrown out from the board," Blanke said. "Since we had protection for our logo and name only in Europe, there was no way we could take her to court."

Sonja Meadows was paid \$110,620 in 2008, \$107,404 in 2009, and \$106,786 in 2010, according to IRS Form 990 filings. Keith Meadows was paid \$9,600 in 2008, \$51,757 in 2009, and \$64,392 in 2010. Board member Terry Torrance was paid \$12,100 in 2009 and \$12,810 in 2010. Other board members, including Blanke, were not paid.

Animals' Angels Inc. in mid-2009 appears to have begun fundraising through Fund Raising Strategies Inc.—a firm headed by fundraising counsel Bruce Eberle. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has since 2000 repeatedly reported about Eberle's fundraising methods and his record as a fundraiser for clients who include opponents of many animal advocacy goals.

ANIMAL PEOPLE assesses the fiscal efficiency of animal charities by comparing program expense to the sum of expenses declared on IRS Form 990 as "management and general," "fundraising," and "joint costs" of mailings which are claimed as program expense. Since 1992 the average share of budget spent by animal charities for "management and general," "fundraising," and "joint costs" appears to have been 28%. Since 2007 the average share spent for "management and general," "fundraising," and "joint costs" by animal charities known to have been represented by Fund Raising Strategies has been 65%. Among these charities have been Front Range

Equine Rescue, Lifesavers Wild Horse Rescue, Noah's Lost Ark, Peaceful Valley Donkey Sanctuary, People Helping Horses, Redwings Horse Sanctuary, Tiger Creek, and Tiger Haven. Wildlife Waystation is also an Eberle client, but IRS Form 990 data indicates that only slightly more than half of Waystation fundraising costs go through Eberle firms, bringing in about a third of Waystation income.

According to IRS Form 990 filings, Animals' Angels Inc. raised \$123,646 in 2007, \$301,277 in 2008, and \$363,163 in 2009, but raised \$969,639 in 2010. Fund Raising Strategies was paid \$109,763. Altogether, Animals' Angels Inc. in 2010 spent \$404,187 for fundraising; \$31,084 for "management and general"; and \$405,157 for program service, all of it declared as "joint costs." If this was correct, Animals Angels Inc. spent 100% of budget on fundraising, "management and general," and mailings. Examining itemized expenses in consideration that an error might have been made on the "joint costs" statement suggests that the actual sum of Animals' Angels fundraising, "management and general," and "joint costs" may have been about 66% of budget.

Two other animal charities represented by Eberle bear names used by foreign organizations. The first Tiger Haven was founded in India in 1959 by Billy Arjan Singh, who died in January 2010. Singh's Tiger Haven refuge, which became Dudhwa National Park, was never associated with the U.S. Tiger Haven. Founded in 1992, the U.S. Tiger Haven began fundraising through Eberle in 1997. The U.S.-based Redwings Horse Sanctuary was formed as Horsepower Sanctuaries Inc. The original Redwings Horse Sanctuary was founded in Britain in 1984. Horsepower Sanctuaries in 1993 announced that it had become an affiliate, Redwings Horse Sanctuary of America. The relationship between Redwings of Britain and Redwings of the U.S. appears to have ended, however, before Redwings of the U.S. began fundraising via Eberle firms, circa 2006.

Congress removes restriction against USDA inspecting horsemeat slaughterhouses

WASHINGTON D.C.—A Congressional conference committee scrapped House-approved language prohibiting the use of USDA funds for horse slaughter inspections while reconciling differing House and Senate versions of the "mini-bus" Agriculture, Commerce/Justice/Science appropriations bill signed into law on November 18, 2011 by U.S. President Barack Obama.

The deleted provision "had been in every agriculture spending bill since 2005," said Humane Society Legislative Fund president Mike Markarian. The deletion "reverses

six years of U.S. policy against subsidizing foreign-owned horse slaughter plants," Markarian explained, and could lead to the resumption of horse slaughter for human consumption in the U.S., halted in mid-2007.

"That change might take some time," Markarian said, "since the states would have to allow horse slaughter plants, and there would undoubtedly be court challenges."

United Horsemen, headed by Wyoming state representative Sue Wallis, celebrated the end of the anti-horse slaughter funding restriction by announcing formation of

the International Equine Business Association. Wallis called the IEBA "an outcome of the alliances that United Horsemen has formed with entities like the National Tribal Horse Coalition, Charros Federation USA, and the Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada."

"With no market for the meat, there has been no impetus for the horse roundups traditionally carried out by tribes to cull the herds," wrote *Seattle Times* staff reporter Lynda V. Mapes. Selling wild horses on Bureau of Land Management property directly to slaughter has been prohibited since 1971 by the Wild & Free Ranging Horse & Burro Protection Act, but horses on tribal and other federal property have never had protection. Horse slaughter proponents argue that the Wild & Free Ranging Horse & Burro Protection Act should be amended to enable the BLM to sell about 40,000 wild horses who have been removed from the range in recent years—more than the

33,000 horses left in the wild.

"The pro slaughter forces are certain to face tough financial sledding," commented Steven Long of *Horseback*, "in the wake of strict prohibitions enacted by the European Union this year that eliminate the prospect of importing U.S. horsemeat because of toxic chemicals commonly administered to American horses."

Markarian urged animal advocates to "redouble our efforts to pass the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act, S. 1176 and H.R. 2966, to finally stop American horses from ending up on foreign dinner plates."

Markarian also noted "great news for horses also contained in the 'mini-bus' bill," in the form of increased funding for enforcement of the Horse Protection Act, "which has been stuck at the woefully inadequate ceiling of \$500,000 since 1976. The minibus provides \$696,000 for the Horse Protection Act—almost a 40% jump." The Horse Protection Act prohibits horse exhibitors from soring show horses' hooves to produce a coveted high-stepping gait. As outcome of a plea bargain settling one recent case, horse trainer Barney Davis, 38, and three of his former staff are to be sentenced in January and February 2012. The maximum penalty for Davis could send him to prison for 20 years.

ANIMAL PEOPLE

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Honoring the parable of the widow's mite—in which a poor woman gives but one coin to charity, yet that is all she possesses—we do not list our donors by how much they give, but we greatly appreciate large gifts that help us do more for animals.

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The 2011 ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on 174 Animal Charities is now available: \$25/copy, from www.animalpeoplenews.org or ANIMAL PEOPLE, POB 960, Clinton, WA 98236 or call 360-579-2505 to order by MasterCard or VISA .

THE HUMANE FARMING ASSOCIATION'S SUWANNA RANCH: COMPASSION IN ACTION



The Humane Farming Association's overall campaign against factory farming – groundbreaking legal actions, anti-cruelty investigations, National Veal Boycott, and campaign against slaughterhouse abuses – continues to be a leading force against cruel agribusiness practices. There is, however, another aspect of our work that is equally meaningful: HFA's hands-on emergency care and refuge for abused animals.

HFA's SUWANNA RANCH – the world's largest farm animal refuge – provides over seven square miles of land for rescued victims of animal cruelty. SUWANNA RANCH provides rescue assistance and refuge to hundreds of abused and neglected animals each year.

HFA has never turned away farm animals seized as a result of a cruelty case. The fact that HFA stands ready to provide both temporary and permanent care encourages law enforcement agencies across the country to use their legal authority to rescue farm animals from criminal neglect and cruelty.

The cows, sheep, pigs, chickens, geese, ducks, turkeys, goats, burros, llamas, emus, and other animals HFA cares for each year arrive with their own tragic stories.

But at HFA's SUWANNA RANCH, these victims of cruelty find kindness they had never before experienced. For the first time in their lives, they find compassionate and caring people who are there to help them rather than to harm them.

In addition to providing care and shelter to abused animals seized in cruelty cases, SUWANNA RANCH also functions as one of the region's largest wildlife sanctuaries.



Several areas within SUWANNA RANCH are maintained as protected habitats for deer, bear, coyote, bobcat, raccoon, possum, owl, otter, eagle, hawk, beaver, quail, wild turkey, egret, pheasant, great blue heron, and other wildlife.

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If you would like to be notified about our next open house or other opportunities to visit, please email us at SuwannaRanch@HFA.org.

To all of our friends, supporters, and animal activists everywhere, we wish you the best for the holiday season.

May the New Year bring peace and happiness to *all* beings.



Cockbreeders may lose Honolulu contract to control feral chickens & noisy roosters

HONOLULU—New Honolulu mayor and former city prosecutor Peter Carlisle is expected to end a city contract which since 2005 has paid cockbreeders Pat and Jose Royos of Royos Farm in the Waiahole Valley \$480,000 to field complaints about feral chickens and roosters crowing.

Pat and Jose Royos, with fellow cock breeders Bernie and Joe Panoncial, began trapping feral chickens in 2005, wrote *Honolulu Advertiser* staff writer Eloise Agular, after city council hearings on a 2003 bill to ban roosters from Pearl City to Hawai'i Kai. The Hawaiian Humane Society had stopped responding to complaints about feral chickens, instead providing traps and instructions on how to use them, Agular explained.

"Members of the Hawaii Game Breeders Association urged the council to hold off on the ban and to allow them to educate rooster owners," Agular wrote. "That's when Pat Royos and Bernie Panoncial stepped in and offered their services." Pat Royos is the longtime first vice president of the Hawaii Game Breeders Association.

After catching 733 chickens in 18 months, claiming expenses of \$40,000, Royos and Panoncial sought compensation. The \$60,000-a-year contract became controversial in 2008, when the Hawaiian Humane Society objected to it. "The Royos family raises about 100 fighting roosters and brood fowl per year whom they ship to Guam and Saipan," reported Associated Press.

"We cannot mix the feral chickens with the ones on our farm or crossbreed because they are not game chickens," Pat Royos told Associated Press. "The majority of the wild roosters that are captured are given to families to eat," Pat Royos said.

The contract remained in effect, wrote Humane Society Legislative Fund president Mike Markarian, "despite the fact that cockfighting is a crime in Hawaii, a felony in 39 other states, and it is a federal felony to possess or transport birds for fighting. These same city contractors," Markarian continued, "are leaders of the Hawaii state affiliate of a cockfighting front group called the United Gamefowl Breeders Association, and led [unsuccessful] efforts in 2010 to introduce a bill to recognize cockfighting as a cultural activity. Now these same individuals have been profiled," Markarian said, "in the newest issue of *Pit Games*, a glossy cockfighting magazine published in the Philippines.

"It's the same thing as hiring dog-fighters to run an animal shelter or handle loose dog complaints. It's analogous to asking a pedophile to oversee a child daycare center," Humane Society of the U.S. senior law enforcement specialist Eric Sakach told Tim Sakahara of KHNH/KGMB-TV.

"Pat Royos says she was told to hold off on submitting a renewal bid for the contract," reported Sakahara on October 31, 2011. "Instead the city may go in another direction." The contract expires at year's end.

People & positions

Tony LaRussa, 68, celebrated his fourth World Series victory in 35 years of managing major league baseball teams by retiring from baseball. The Performing Animal Welfare Society reportedly offered LaRussa a job as an elephant keeper, but he has a fulltime volunteer job at Tony LaRussa's Animal Foundation, begun with his wife Elaine in 1991.

Director Phillip Noyce has reportedly hired actress **Nicole Kidman** to play **David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust** founder **Daphne Sheldrick** in a film biography titled *My Wild Life*. David Sheldrick, who died in 1977, was in 1949 the founding warden of Tsavo National Park in Kenya. Daphne Sheldrick pioneered the rehabilitation of elephants and rhinos orphaned by poachers, and in her husband's memory was architect of the 1977 Kenyan ban on sport hunting.

The Sierra Club on November 18, 2011 announced that chairperson **Carl Pope** will retire to a position as senior strategic advisor. A Sierra Club employee for nearly 40 years, Pope as executive director from 1992 to 2010 aggressively courted alliances with hunters. He was succeeded in January 2010 by **Michael Brune**, who had headed the **Rainforest Action Network** since 2003.

Dewey's Nine Lives:

The Legacy of the Small-Town Library Cat Who Inspired Millions

by **Vicki Myron with Bret Witter**

Penguin USA (375 Hudson St., New York, NY 10014), 2010. 320 pages, hardcover. \$19.95.



Dewey the library cat, formally named Dewey Readmore Books, is famous worldwide. Dumped in the book return chute at the Spencer Public Library in Spencer, Iowa, on a blustery winter night in January 1988, the fluffy red and white kitten was adopted by the library staff. Reeling from unemployment, factory closures, and depressed property values, Spencer found in Dewey a symbol of resilience. People came to the library just to meet and greet Dewey.

"The cat's celebrity brought him pen pals in England, Canada, South Africa, Belgium and France," recalled *Sioux City Journal* correspondent Russ Oechslein. A film crew from Tokyo came to profile him. At least 275 newspapers and television stations reported Dewey's death in 2006.

I read the original book, *Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World*, the 2008 first collaboration by retired Spencer librarian Vicki Myron and Bret Witter, and Dewey's daily adventures tickled me. Since then, however, Myron and Witter have cranked out *Dewey: There's A Cat in the Library!* (2009); *Dewey the Library Cat: A True Story* (2010); *Dewey's Christmas at the Library* (2010); and now *Dewey's Nine Lives: The Legacy of the Small-Town Library Cat Who Inspired Millions*, anthologizing nine of the stories that Myron received from readers about their own pets, after publication of her first book with Witter.

This latest is a weak effort to keep the Dewey magic alive when it should be left at rest, like the cat. Dewey was sensational. Every day he charmed residents and visitors. Playful and gentle, Dewey brought smiles to haggard old factory workers looking for jobs, calmed agitated children dealing with hyperactivity, and made the library a more pleasant place to work. But Dewey is gone now.

The cats in *Dewey's Nine Lives* help

lonely people, cancer patients, and in one case, help to bring together an entire church congregation, but—as described—they are not as charismatic or unique as was Dewey. Anecdotes which might have entertained for a few pages become tedious at book length.

The Dewey books have cumulatively gone through 88 printings. A Dewey film is reportedly in the works. Dewey merchandise, including t-shirts, postcards, and puzzles, appears to be selling well. Thus it is no surprise that Myron and Witter continue to exploit Dewey's fame and their own past success.

But there are relevant issues that they have not addressed that might fill a more interesting sequel.

For example, Dewey was declawed, front and back. At the time, more than 20 years ago, this was not yet widely recognized as inhumane. Has Myron changed her perspective about declawing?

The Dewey story has reportedly helped to inspire many other rescues of kittens who were similarly abandoned, including at other libraries, but has publicity about the rescues contributed to abandonment, too, with the notion of dumping kittens at a public building perhaps superseding the idea of dumping them in the countryside to "give them a chance," instead of taking them to an animal shelter where they might be killed?

What does the Dewey story and the similar stories of other kittens, including Myron's current cat, say about the public image of humane work and the need to extend free and low-cost pet sterilization services?

Is Myron herself involved in organized humane work? Is she a donor to any humane society? What is Myron's view of neuter/return feral cat population control?

Dewey's legacy could and should extend to much more than successful exploitation of a popular "brand." —*Debra J. White*

Rotary Club investigation finds links to dogfighting at Memphis Animal Shelter

MEMPHIS—A report to Memphis mayor A.C. Wharton, Jr. by the Memphis Rotary Club Animal Shelter Evaluation Committee on October 26, 2011 affirmed longtime activist suspicion that dogfighters are operating with impunity within the city animal control department.

Opened the report, "A review of the labor contract would show no articles that would interfere with or hinder the appropriate and efficient operation of the facility. The interpretation of the contract, and more important, the interference of city hall in this interpretation, is a different matter. Some of this direction has been resolved by a change in the leadership of the personnel division, but there remains the clear understanding, on the part of all employees, that certain individuals are exempt from the rules."

"Employees at every level," the Rotary Club investigation found, "while not willing to say so on the record, will readily volunteer that there has been a relationship between certain individuals and illicit dog fighting rings. This is particularly true where those who are perceived to be in a protected status are concerned. The vast majority of dogs brought in to the shelter are pit bulls," the Rotary Club noted. "Therefore, the potential for criminal activity is very real, and checks for criminal background must be made. Under no circumstance should any employee, regardless of rank, be allowed to conduct viewing and adoption off the books."

"I'm going to turn the report over to the district attorney immediately," Wharton told Amos Maki of the *Memphis Commercial Appeal*. "She has subpoena power. She can compel the employees to talk."

Finding serious flaws in the Memphis Animal Shelter tracking system, the Rotary Club said "We strongly recommend a dedicated internal video system that records every step of the system."

Earlier, "The city announced that it

would no longer use web cameras," after moving into a new shelter in September 2011, reported Maki. "Web cameras were installed at the old shelter, built in 1972, after an October 2009 raid by the Shelby County Sheriff's Office found abused or neglected animals, including evidence that three dogs at the shelter starved to death," Maki summarized. "Former shelter director Ernest Alexander, veterinarian Angela Middleton, and administrative supervisor Tina Quattlebaum were indicted on charges of aggravated cruelty to animals. This year, former Memphis Animal Services officer Demetria Hogan was charged by Memphis police with three counts of animal cruelty," Maki added. Under criticism for actions shown by the web cameras, including alleged dogfighting within the kennels, "Employees had asked that the web camera transmissions stop immediately," wrote Maki.

"The last point," concluded the Rotary Club, "is the overriding community-wide issue of pit bulls, dogfighting, and the attitude that animals are disposable. Until this is addressed, the shelter will continue to be not logistically capable of approaching any semblance of becoming no-kill."

"I think the last paragraph of the report summary is spot on," Humane Society of the U.S. anti-animal fighting campaign director John Goodwin told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "We are working with the mayors office to address shelter protocols and community engagement," said Goodwin, a Memphis native. "I feel the best case scenario would be if this leads to more than just a vastly improved shelter, but also to improved attitudes toward animals in Memphis."

The new Memphis shelter "is a major improvement over the existing building," found the Rotary Club, except that "There are not nearly enough employees to make effective use of it, and there will be a real need to increase volunteer efforts to make it run correctly."

AWARDS & HONORS

The Animal Welfare Institute has honored Wayne County, Michigan assistant prosecutors **Raj Prasad** and **Amy Slameka** with the **Albert Schweitzer Award** for sending two men who burned a dog alive to prison. The Nobel Peace Prize-winning humanitarian Albert Schweitzer, 1875-1965, in 1951 authorized AWI to present the annual award.

Ric O'Barry, who on Earth Day 1970 switched from training dolphins to campaigning against dolphin captivity, on

November 10, 2011 received a Bambi Award for media accomplishment. Founded in 1948, the Bambi Award program is in Europe comparable to the Oscar program in the U.S.

The American SPCA on November 17, 2011 honored **Mittens**, a cat who returned to her kittens after two teenagers set her on fire; a therapeutic surfing dog named **Ricochet**; and **Stevie Nelson**, a six-year-old who raised \$28,000 for the **Northeast Nebraska Humane Society**.

Animals and the kids who love them:

Extraordinary true stories of hope, healing and compassion

Edited by **Allen & Linda Anderson**

New World Library (14 Pameron Way, Novato, CA 94949), 2011. 194 pages, paperback. \$14.95.



Take out a hanky because some of the stories in *Animals and the kids who love them: Extraordinary true stories of hope, healing and compassion* choked me up.

Among my favorites is "Childhood Horses Saved My Life." Nanci Falley, now president of the American Indian Horse Registry, always wanted a horse. At ten years old she finally got her wish, an aged mare named Molly. The horse became a trusted companion as Falley struggled to cope with her affluent but alcoholic parents. Molly "was my rock, and I felt more secure with her than I had in years," recalls Falley. She "kept me sane and distracted me from thoughts of killing myself." A fifth-generation Texan, Falley has made room at her Rancho San Francisco, near Lockhart, for rescued animals including dogs, cats, donkeys, horses, geese, ducks and chickens.

Another story in *Animals and the kids who love them* begins with an Alzheimer's disease victim named Dan, who frequently forgets having let his dog Maya outdoors and neglects to let her back in during a frigid Minnesota winter. Adopted by Pam Thorsen, Maya at first followed her everywhere, fearful of being shut outside again. Soon, however, Maya reattached herself to Thorsen's 18-year-old daughter Britty, who is autistic and mentally challenged with Down's syndrome. Maya accompanied Britty to the school bus and greeted her in the afternoon when she returned home. "The kids on the bus and the driver loved it," says Thorsen.

If Britty plays on the swing set, Maya is there too. Maya and Britty watch TV

and listen to music together. At night they sleep in the same bed. Britty sneaks food scraps to Maya, who waits underneath the kitchen table for her handouts. "She has added an amazing dimension to our family as our daughter's constant companion," concludes Thorsen.

Simon, a kitten born with severe abnormalities, was abandoned under a dumpster in Rifle, Colorado. A shelter volunteer responded to a call about Simon and begged the caller to refrain from stomping on him. Instead the shelter treated his numerous congenital deformities, including pectus excavatum or funnel chest, depressed sternum, and abnormal curvature of the spine. His hind legs are paralyzed and he cannot urinate on his own. Caretaker Dianna Richett says she expresses Simon's urine three times a day and that "he proved to be good natured and patient" about the procedure.

An attorney and shelter volunteer, Richett eventually took Simon to classrooms as part of a humane education program. In 2009 they became a registered therapy team serving a Denver facility that provides after-school education for children in public housing. There Simon connected with Clara, a shy girl who had protected her dog from a menacing group of teens who tried to shoot him. As Clara and Simon spent time together, Clara opened up. She told Simon about her hope of becoming a lawyer to help protect people and animals from abuse.

Each story in this book celebrates a special relationship. —*Debra J. White*

Legislative & regulatory options for animal welfare by Jessica Vapnek & Megan Chapman

for the Development Law Service, FAO Legal Office. FAO Legislative Study 104.
Free download from: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i1907e/i1907e00.htm>

“Because food animals are important to human welfare—as a source of nutrition and income—concern for animal welfare is inextricable from concern for human needs,” open United Nations Food & Agricultural Organization researchers Jessica Vapnek and Megan Chapman in *Legislative & regulatory options for animal welfare*. “This is particularly the case in countries with developing economies,” Vapnek and Chapman continue, “where current and expected population increases are putting pressure on food security and economic growth. Increased food animal production,” Vapnek and Chapman assert, “is often a necessary part of attaining both goals...The key challenge is to find ways to increase food animal production while simultaneously improving or ensuring good animal welfare and protecting food security.”

This preface could as easily have been written by the animal agribusiness boosters at Heifer International, or any of dozens of other livestock gift charities and development funding agencies—or, more recently, by the authors of appeals from the World Society for the Protection of Animals. The preface to *Legislative & regulatory options for animal welfare* is, in gist, a succinct summary of conventional thinking about animal agriculture, introducing a resume of ideas about how to bring animal welfare considerations along for the ride.

Conventional thinking is often not really thinking at all, as the presumptions recited by Vapnek and Chapman illustrate. Reality is that the drought and desertification resulting from global warming are already imposing limits on animal agriculture in much of the developing world. These limits are violated at risk of inviting the collapse of the ecosystems that feed both humans and livestock.

An example occurred in Pakistan in 2010 when melting Himalayan glaciers and intense monsoons produced catastrophic floods. Deforestation and loss of topsoil associated with overgrazing left the dry foothills above the Indus River unable to absorb the fast-flowing water, which carried away much of what topsoil remained.

A second example, in the form of drought, struck Ethiopia, Somalia, and Kenya in mid-2011. The numbers of livestock in the region, reduced by past droughts, had been rebuilt to numbers beyond the longterm carrying capacity of the available forage and water. About 12 million people were and are at risk of famine, in a region with water and crop potential sufficient to feed the human residents, barely, but insufficient to feed both the human population and livestock, if livestock are kept at anywhere near the abundance of recent decades.

The authentic key challenge is to persuade the world to recognize that increasing livestock production “while simultaneously improving or ensuring good animal welfare and protecting food security” is an oxymoron—and this is not just the perspective of animal advocates. Wang Qian, editor of the Chinese agricultural trade journal *Livestock & Poultry*, argued at the June 2011 Asia for Animals conference in Chengdu that concerns about food security, the environment, and animal welfare too could all best be served in China by reducing pig production by a third, making pork much more expensive.

Laws follow technology

Despite starting from false albeit widely accepted premises, Vapnek and Chapman offer a useful review of how livestock welfare is presently regulated, to the limited extent that it is. As concern for the well-being of livestock expands, usually driven by recognition of threats to human health if animals are raised in unhealthy conditions, “Some countries use or adapt pre-existing legislation on the prevention of cruelty to animals,” Vapnek and Chapman summarize, “while others draft new animal welfare laws, blending national and local concerns with international animal welfare principles.

“Because the earliest animal welfare legislation was developed in countries where industrialized production is the norm,” Vapnek and Chapman continue, “these legislative instruments tend to focus on farm animals housed, transported and slaughtered in high-technology environments designed to intensify production.”

Even the Twenty-Eight Hour Law of 1873 passed by the U.S. Congress at the dawn of the U.S. humane movement fits into this category. While livestock slaughter methods have been regulated since the time of Moses, in the developed world the remnants of pre-industrial livestock housing and transportation methods have usually come under the scope of animal protection laws only after producers using pre-industrial methods have lost most of their market share.

“However, animal welfare legislation need not be limited to industrialized production,” Vapnek and Chapman argue. “Well-drafted legislation can and should apply to other types of production such as subsistence farming and small-scale commercial production. Different scales of production raise different concerns, but the basic animal welfare principles are common to all. What people understand by animal welfare,” Vapnek and Chapman continue, “depends in part on values that differ between cultures and individuals. These differences lead people to emphasize different elements of animal welfare that can be summarized under three broad headings. The first is an emphasis on the physical health and biological functioning of animals...Disease, injury and malnutrition are more or less universally regarded as animal welfare problems. The second is concern about the ‘affective states’ of animals, especially negative states such as pain, distress and hunger. These are common concerns in many cultures, but in some cases they are de-emphasized by certain people—often animal producers and veterinarians—who may, for example, regard the short-term

pain of castration as not important enough to warrant pain management. The third is a belief that the welfare of animals depends on their ability to live in a reasonably ‘natural’ manner, either by being free to perform important elements of their natural behavior or by having natural elements (such as daylight and fresh air) in their environment. This last belief arises especially in industrialized countries and is common in critiques of industrialized forms of animal production. It generally has less currency in cultures that have not undergone industrialization of their economies or animal production systems.

“In general,” Vapnek and Chapman believe, “reducing disease, injury, malnutrition and death improve the efficiency of animal production and help reduce production costs. In contrast, measures to allow natural behavior and natural environments generally require that animals in confinement systems be given more space and other amenities; they may also require animals to be kept partly outdoors, potentially compromising control over pathogens and harsh weather effects.”

Accordingly, introducing measures to reduce disease, injury, malnutrition, and death of livestock is often achieved without legislation, though laws may be introduced to ensure compliance with best practice. Introducing other animal welfare measures, by contrast, typically encounters resistance rooted in both perceived economic necessity and rural tradition.

GATT, WTO, & animals

The FAO, as an arm of the United Nations, is primarily concerned with international regulation, which has evolved largely to regulate commerce. In particular, international regulation seeks to ensure that the rules of commerce are not manipulated by national laws to the unfair advantage of the producers and sellers of particular nations. This is the primary concern of the World Trade Organization, established under U.N. auspices, and of the U.N.-brokered General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which is administered by the WTO.

“Article XX of GATT lists trade-restricting measures that can be exempted from WTO rules,” Vapnek and Chapman explain, “including measures ‘necessary to protect public morals’ and measures ‘necessary to protect human, animal or plant health.’ Legal arguments have been framed to justify an exemption for animal welfare trade restrictions under both paragraphs, although it is generally agreed that animal welfare issues can more easily be justified as protecting human or animal health than public morals,” since cruelty to animals is not yet universally recognized as a moral issue.

Acknowledge Vapnek and Chapman, “because the WTO has not yet directly addressed the issue [of animal welfare], the arguments themselves and the likelihood that they might succeed are all speculation.”

Legislative & regulatory options for animal welfare was published shortly before a WTO panel on September 15, 2011 ruled that the qualifications required for “dolphin-safe” tuna certification, enforced by the U.S. Commerce Department, “are more trade-restrictive than necessary” to inform buyers as to whether dolphins were harmed in tuna fishing.

The verdict, however, did not hold that informing buyers about whether dolphins are harmed by tuna fishing methods is in itself a violation of the GATT rule against any WTO member nation using “process standards” to exclude imported merchandise. “Process standards” are standards governing how an item is produced, rather than whether it meets considerations of safety and quality.

The Canadian government contends in a pending appeal to the WTO that the 2010 European Union ban on imports of seal products violates the GATT prohibition of “process standards,” because the ban is based on the assessment of the EU that the process of obtaining seal products is unacceptably cruel. The Canadian appeal may be the most difficult test yet for international animal welfare regulation. The outcome may influence whether the EU moves ahead with a ban proposed in October 2010 on animal cloning for food production.

“At the second special session of the WTO Committee on Agriculture in June 2000,” Vapnek and Chapman recall, “the European Union submitted a proposal on animal welfare and trade in agriculture, arguing that the WTO should directly address animal welfare standards. The EU has more stringent animal welfare regulations, and therefore higher production costs in certain cases, than some of its trading partners. The EU expressed concern that its animal welfare standards could be undermined and that it could suffer negative trade effects, since agricultural products produced to meet high EU animal welfare standards would run the risk of being edged out of the market by cheaper imports produced under lower standards. The EU agreed in its proposal that animal welfare provisions must not be used for protectionist purposes, but argued that greater international efforts are needed to win recognition for EU animal welfare standards and to ensure that they are not undermined by WTO trade obligations.

“The EU proposal set out several potential ways to address animal welfare standards within the WTO,” Vapnek and Chapman continue. “The first suggestion was the creation of a new multilateral agreement on animal welfare. The second was to establish a labeling regime pertaining to animal welfare standards for imported foods,” similar to the U.S. tuna labeling that was the subject of the September 2011 WTO verdict, “enabling consumers to make informed choices. Third, the EU proposed a compensation scheme to enable producers to meet the additional costs of producing food to meet EU animal welfare standards. The proposal did not receive widespread support among other WTO members,” Vapnek and Chapman

Our Lives Have Gone to the Dogs

by Audrey Spilker Hagar & Eldad Hagar

Hope For Paws (8950 W. Olympic Blvd. #525,
Los Angeles, CA 90211), 2010.

Free download from <www.eldadhagar.com/>.

An anonymous caller pleads with *Our Lives Have Gone to the Dogs* author Audrey Spilker Hagar and photographer Eldad Hagar to help a dog crouched beneath an abandoned house in a gang-infested Los Angeles neighborhood. Drug dealers threaten to kill the dog. But this dog escapes. So does a kitten who appears on the scene. They are eventually rescued and adopted. The Hagars are the founders of Hope For Paws, one of several hundred animal rescue charities in Los Angeles whose work augments that of the Los Angeles city and county animal control agencies.

Many of the perky dogs pictured in *Our Lives Have Gone to the Dogs* were rehomed after being claimed from the community shelters. For example, Eldad was at a shelter to bail out a dog when a woman walked in holding a cardboard box that someone tossed into her yard. A four-pound scruffy puppy sat inside. Eldad left that day with two dogs.

Every rescue and shelter digs dogs and cats out of trash bins, but Hope For Paws once housed a needy owl. Lost in downtown Los Angeles, far from her natural habitat, the owl was rescued by a Good Samaritan who called Hope For Paws. Named Junior, the owl recovered after receiving fluids and rest inside a warm box. Junior now lives and hoots comfortably at a southern California wildlife sanctuary.

Outstanding color photography made the original printed edition of *Our Lives Have Gone to the Dogs* an ideal coffee table gift book. Sold to benefit Hope For Paws, that edition is long gone, but the free download edition is easily shared with friends.

—Debra J. White

observe. “A number of countries, including Bolivia, India, Pakistan, Thailand and Uruguay, indicated that although they were not indifferent to animal welfare, the priority for their resources was the alleviation of human poverty and suffering. Argentina and India stressed that countries should be left to set their own standards. Colombia and again India rejected the labelling proposal as simply a disguised barrier to trade. The debate over these issues continues.”

Until the WTO definitively addresses animal welfare, Vapnek and Chapman write, “the common consensus is that for the time being animal welfare-based restrictions are not permitted under the WTO trade regime.”

The European Union, however, has moved toward adopting common standards for animal welfare since 1992, when a non-binding Declaration on the Welfare of Animals was adopted which asks member nations to “pay full regard to the welfare of animals” when drafting and implementing legislation. In 1997 the EU added a Protocol on Protection & Welfare of Animals that recognizes animals as “sentient beings.”

This, note Vapnek and Chapman, is “a status distinct from property or agricultural products.” The protocol introduced “legal obligations to consider animal welfare in the formulation and implementation of European Community agriculture, transport, internal market and research policies.”

Ritual slaughter

Vapnek and Chapman return to their argument that “animal welfare legislation need not be limited to industrialized production” by comparing slaughter regulations in the U.S. to those of Tanzania. “In the U.S.,” Vapnek and Chapman declare, “the abrogation of slaughter requirements is complete and unconditional for ritual or religious slaughter.”

This is not strictly accurate. As attorneys Gary Francione and Anna Charlton pointed out in a July/August 1993 guest column for *ANIMAL PEOPLE*, following the June 1993 U.S. Supreme Court verdict that overturned a ban on animal sacrifice in the city of Hialeah, Florida, “The Court did not hold animal sacrifice to be protected; rather, the Court held that these practices could not be prohibited by legislation that was specifically intended to target religious practices alone. A municipality may still ban animal sacrifice, so long as these prohibitions are in accordance with neutral and generally applicable rules, such as state anticruelty statutes. Moreover, a municipality may still ban all slaughter outside of licensed packing houses or prohibit completely the keeping of certain types of animals.”

However, U.S. regulation of ritual slaughter exists within a muddle of jurisprudence. In Tanzania, by contrast, where 40% of the population are Muslim and mostly observe hallal slaughter, the Tanzania Act reinforces the intent of hallal by giving the force of secular as well as religious law to five specific requirements of hallal meant to reduce animal suffering. One of these requirements is that animals must not be slaughtered within sight of other animals. Poland has since 1997 had a similar law, but most European nations do not.

Assert Vapnek and Chapman, who perhaps have never witnessed animals being killed, “There is no scientific evidence that animals react to the sight of another animal being slaughtered, so long as the animal is slaughtered properly—e.g., immediately losing consciousness and collapsing and therefore not being able to vocalize or otherwise manifest fear. The concern for animals’ sensory experience immediately prior to slaughter is mainly responding to philosophical and religious beliefs.” Slaughterhouse designer Temple Grandin disagrees, having introduced curved ramps for animals going to slaughter to help ensure that they do not ever see others being killed.

“Despite being perhaps the most important areas of animal welfare,” Vapnek and Chapman conclude, “since housing and management issues affect animals’ day-to-day existence up until the point of transport and slaughter, housing and management are not extensively regulated either at international or national level.”

—Merritt Clifton

OBITUARIES

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

Sue Farinato, 61, died on October 25, 2011 at her home in Damascus, Maryland. Born Sue Lunson in Portsmouth, Virginia, she became involved in bird rescue in childhood and continued to do wildlife rehabilitation throughout her life, founding an organization called Wildlife Aid Brigade in 2007 to help train wildlife rescuers. She met her husband Richard Farinato in 1972, when both were employed by the Franklin Park Zoo in Boston. While Richard Farinato developed his career as a wildlife specialist with the Humane Society of the U.S., Sue Farinato in 1987 founded the South Carolina animal advocacy group Peaceable Kingdom, challenging hunters, trappers, the fur industry, roadside zoos, and traveling animal shows, most prominently the notorious Tim Rivers Diving Mule Act. Joining her husband at HSUS in 2003, she "served in a number of capacities including as outreach coordinator for the Wildlife Land Trust, issues information specialist for Animal Research Issues, animal services coordinator at the Black Beauty Ranch, membership manager for the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association, and for the past three years as program assistant for Pet Care Issues in Companion Animals," recalled HSUS president Wayne Pacelle. Among the last animals Sue Farinato handled was an injured pigeon whom Pacelle and his fiancée Lisa found on a Washington D.C. street.

Gautam Barat died of brain cancer on October 30, 2011 in New Delhi, India. "Gautam was a little boy when I met him," recalled Geeta Seshamani, who with Barat and his sister Sreelata cofounded the Friendicoes Society for the Eradication of Cruelty to Animals in April 1979. The three—and People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi—became acquainted as volunteers for the Animals Friend shelter founded by Crystal Rogers, who later founded the animal charities Help In Suffering in Jaipur and Compassion Unlimited Plus Action in Bangalore. Encouraged by Rogers' example, the Barats and Seshamani opened the first of two Friendicoes shelters in 1980. Gautam Barat spent the rest of his life as the shelter manager.

Another Burton Sipp fire raises questions

SPRINGFIELD, N.J.—A three-alarm fire killed two giraffes, three dogs, four cats, and 15 parrots at the Animal Kingdom Pet Store & Zoo on October 31, 2011 in Springfield Township, New Jersey. About 20 puppies were reportedly rescued. Owner Burton K. Sipp, 67, told George Mast of the *Cherry Hill Courier Post* that he was in Arizona on horse racing business at the time of the fire. The fire started at about 8:45 p.m., about half an hour after Sipp's brother George said a Halloween party in the store had ended.

"Some kind of explosion must have ignited it," George Sipp told *Philadelphia Inquirer* staff writer Darran Simon.

The fire came four days after the Animal Kingdom Pet Store & Zoo was cited by the USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service for 19 alleged violations of the Animal Welfare Act.

Burton Sipp was also in Arizona on horse racing business on April 11, 2011 when his wife Bridget Sipp, 43, was killed when she rushed back into her blazing log house to try to rescue her mother, Lenore Edwards, 68, not knowing Edwards had already escaped.

Burton Sipp told Lisa Coryell of the *Trenton Times* that the house and store were underinsured, at about \$300,000 for the house and \$150,000 for the store.

Burton Sipp started the Animal Kingdom Pet Store & Zoo with his first wife Carol in 1985, while under indictment for allegedly submitting inflated insurance claims on nine horses who died in his care between

Susan Hagood, 54, died of cancer on November 8, 2011. A Defenders of Wildlife issues specialist in the mid-1980s, Hagood became acquainted with then-Defenders of Wildlife executive vice president John Grandy, who in 1985 became senior vice president for wildlife and habitat protection at the Humane Society of the U.S. In July 1991 Hagood followed Grandy to HSUS. "In Susan's early years here, she worked on predator control and wild horses, and helped to build a documentary photo library," recalled HSUS president Wayne Pacelle. "She also did extensive research into the funding of state wildlife agencies. I carried her report around the country, arguing that the deck was stacked against wildlife because of the composition of the agencies. In subsequent years," Pacelle said, "Susan pursued her passionate interest in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflict, especially in the areas of development and transportation." Hagood earned a Ph.D. in 2009 with a dissertation on "Genetic Differentiation of Selected Eastern Box Turtle (*Terepene carolina*) Populations in Fragmented Habitats, and a Comparison of Road-Based Mortality Rates to Population Size."

Alan Richard Mootnick, 60, died on November 4, 2011 from complications after heart surgery. A dental technician turned welder, painter, and remodeler, Mootnick adopted a gibbon in 1976 when a previous keeper gave her up. He formed the nonprofit Gibbon Conservation Center in Santa Clarita, California, to house her, and acquired a mate for her from a zoo in Rhode Island in 1978. Then the owner of several classic Jaguar automobiles, Mootnick sold them to build the present Gibbon Conservation Center in 1980. The center houses 44 gibbons. "Completely self-taught in primatology, Mootnick was one of a team responsible for identifying and naming the highly endangered Hoolock Gibbon. He published more than 30 articles in peer-reviewed journals and was the studbook keeper for five species and husbandry advisor for the [American Zoo Association] Gibbon Species Survival Plan," recalled Julie D. Taylor in a death notice.

1980 and 1984. Burton Sipp in 1986 settled the charges by plea-bargaining a five-year suspended sentence for witness tampering.

"Initiated by the FBI, the investigation centered around the allegation that [Burton] Sipp had killed 41 horses in an insurance fraud scheme," according to an affidavit filed by then-New Jersey attorney general Edward Rudley. Burton Sipp denied any part in killing horses. Rudley prepared the affidavit for jockey John D'Agusto, who sued Burton Sipp in connection with an attempted sting Sipp allegedly helped to arrange, involving a scheme to fix races. Four jockeys were indicted, but the indictments were thrown out of court as alleged entrapment.

The attempted sting came after Burton Sipp allegedly forged a scratch card at a race in Atlantic City in 1980, causing another trainer's horse to be withdrawn from the race. Sipp was suspended from racing for 60 days, but was not criminally charged.

"His record is believed to include more violations than any trainer in the history of racing," wrote Bill Finley of the *New York Daily News* in 1993. Burton Sipp surrendered his licenses to race horses in 1994, but returned to racing in 2005.

Meanwhile a bull belonging to Burton Sipp fatally gored passer-by Stanley Parker, 21, in 1986. In 1990 Burton Sipp was indicted for allegedly staging a 1988 burglary at his pet store to collect insurance on two purportedly stolen birds. Burton Sipp repaid the insurance money.

Elsie P. (Johnson) Mitchell died on October 17, 2011. "One of the pioneers of American Buddhism," recalled a family death notice, "Mrs. Mitchell co-founded the Cambridge Buddhist Association in 1957. Her recordings of Buddhist chants are housed at the Smithsonian. She wrote extensively about her experiences following the Buddhist path as well as a family history about 19th century Boston." Her best known book, however, may be *The Lion Dog of Buddhist Asia*, a 1991 history of the Lhasa Apso breed. With her husband John Mitchell, Elsie Mitchell founded the Ahimsa Foundation in 1981, which makes grants to animal charities. "When I was sued in 1984 by the Austrian multinational Immuno AG for attempting to block its plans to set up a chimp lab in Sierra Leone," International Primate Protection League founder Shirley McGreal told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, "John and Elsie hired an expensive New York attorney to keep me out of the slammer. Later, when I heard that Cathy Blight of Howell, Michigan, was at risk of losing her home just before Christmas as a result of a libel suit filed against her by a dog dealer, I contacted Elsie. The Mitchells hired a bankruptcy specialist attorney for Cathy. They knew Cathy had two young daughters. One day several huge boxes arrived at the Blight home addressed to the girls. Elsie and John had bought huge stuffed animals for the children. The kids re-packed the stuffed toys and re-opened them again and again. And the Mitchells saved their home."

Erich Klinghammer, 81, died on October 6, 2011. Born in Kassel, Germany, Klinghammer credited his German shepherd, Edda, with saving him from a house fire in his youth. Emigrating to the U.S. in 1951, Klinghammer returned to Europe as a U.S. soldier, stationed in Austria 1953-1955. "In his first years in the U.S., Erich spotted his first wild wolves during a horseback ride across the Winnebago Reservation in Nebraska," recalled the German Wolf Association. "Later, at the University of Chicago," where Klinghammer also met ethologists Eckhard Hess and Konrad Lorenz, "he met a hand-reared wolf for the first time and was impressed at how different the wolf was from all the dogs he knew." Klinghammer earned a Ph.D. with a dissertation on the imprinting of mourning doves and African collared doves, but developed ornithosis and turned to studying wolves. He acquired his first two wolves in 1972, and founded his Wolf Park research-and-education center, currently housing 14 wolves, in 1976. Klinghammer later added a herd of bison and studied the interaction of the wolves and bison, who could see each other but were physically separated. For more than 25 years Klinghammer spoke out often against keeping wolves and wolf hybrids as pets. His ashes were spread in the bison pasture.

MEMORIALS



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

SIGN THE PETITION TO THE UNITED NATIONS to adopt the Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare:
www.animalsmatter.org



Marti Kheel

Marti Kheel, 63, died of leukemia on November 20, 2011 in New York City. Born in New York City, though she lived most of her life in the San Francisco Bay area, Kheel recalled that she "performed her first protest on behalf of animals when she turned her back to the camera in a family photograph that excluded her beloved cat, Booty-tat." Becoming a vegetarian in 1973, Kheel in 1977 joined the Animal Liberation Collective, an early Montreal animal rights group, while earning an M.A. in sociology at McGill University. Relocating to California in 1982, Kheel and Tina Frisco cofounded Feminists for Animal Rights, which established a national presence for about 20 years, but became legally dormant in 2004. Completing a Ph.D. in religious studies at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California, Kheel was in recent years a visiting scholar in the Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management at the University of California in Berkeley. Her Ph.D. thesis evolved into her 2008 book, *Nature Ethics: An Ecofeminist Perspective*. Among the many people Kheel influenced was her first cousin, Cass Sunstein, six years younger, who with Martha C. Nussbaum in 2004 co-edited the anthology *Animal Rights: Current Debates & New Directions*. Sunstein has since 2009 headed the Office of Information & Regulatory Affairs, a senior position within the Barack Obama administration. Recalled **ANIMAL PEOPLE** president Kim Bartlett, "Marti and I were at Green Party conventions in 1987 and 1988. With the late Henry Spira, and longtime Feminists for Animal Rights board member Batya Bauman, we co-authored an animal rights political agenda for the future that is still being posted online and critiqued."

Nguyen Thao Anh, 11, on October 16, 2011 in Lao Cai, Vietnam, offered sugar cane to a chained circus elephant who had been teased by other children. The elephant picked her up, slammed her to the ground, and fatally trampled her, Vietnam Circus Federation deputy director Nguyen Xuan Quang told Agence France-Press.

Joao Chupel Primo, 55, a car repairman in Itaituba, Para state, Brazil, was shot by two gunmen inside his repair shop on October 20, 2011, just hours after reporting illegal logging in the Riozinho do Anfriso reserve and Trairao national forest. Primo was the eighth opponent of illegal logging in the region to be assassinated since May 2011.

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Dear Friends,

We take this time to reflect on the amazing milestones we have achieved in 2011 and look forward to even more for 2012.

It is with a great sense of excitement that I am able to say, to date the Animal League has saved over 1,000,000 dogs, cats, puppies and kittens. This incredible milestone would not have been possible without our supporters. The amount of hands-on work that is required to save over 1,000,000 lives is tremendous, and this achievement is a testament to the love you and so many others have for the animals.

This year, our five-week national cross-country Tour For Life® successfully visited 36 cities in 20 states across America. The tour helped more than 100 shelter and rescue groups find homes for 1,490 orphaned animals, by hosting pet adoption and educational events in their own communities, utilizing two of our mobile adoption units.

Pet Adoptathon® 2011 was very successful with over 1,000 shelters and rescue groups around the world participating. This annual worldwide event has been the successful model for many organizations and retailers around the country. During our Kick-Off Weekend, April 30 – May 1, we found homes for 607 homeless animals at our Port Washington adoption center alone.

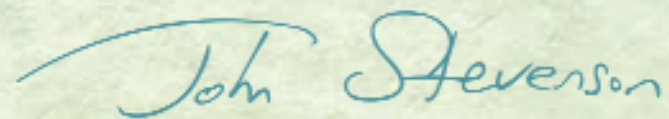
Our Mutt-i-grees® Movement continues to expand. At the heart of the Mutt-i-grees Movement is the Mutt-i-grees Curriculum – an initiative which begins with very young children and continues through high school. The Mutt-i-grees Curriculum is now being taught in Grades Pre-K – 6 in over 1,000 schools in 33 states. The Middle and Jr. High School curriculum will be published in January, followed by the High School phase. Through this innovative curriculum, children are taught crucial social and emotional skills while learning about shelter pets. The Mutt-i-grees Curriculum was featured in USA Today and on CNN. It was also a lead focus of the recent “Victory Over Violence” National Education Conference, attended by over 700 educators from across the US.

World Mutt-i-grees Rescue Day, commemorated with a press conference on August 1st, kicking off World Mutt-i-grees Rescue Month, highlighting the tragic reality that millions of animals enter shelters each year and so many of them are needlessly destroyed. Americans are being asked to adopt a pet from a shelter, where wonderful, healthy, and happy animals are available nationwide.

These milestones are possible thanks to the efforts and dedication of so many passionate people. Your support and devotion to homeless animals is invaluable. Together we are able to move closer to one day seeing zero homeless pets.

To all of our extended family, our supporters, we wish you and your family a joyous holiday season and peace throughout the New Year.

Warm Regards,



J. John Stevenson, President
North Shore Animal League America

