

Guest columnists:

SUNNAN KUM ON SOUTH KOREA (Page 5)  
CHRIS MERCER ON SOUTH AFRICA (Page 6)  
PETER LI ON FAST-CHANGING CHINA (Page 8)

## Four shelters serve Beijing

**BEIJING**—What Beijing dog and cat rescuers need most may be PETsMART and a coordinated master plan like those required of U.S. humane coalitions before they can apply for a Maddie's Fund grant.

The U.S.-based PETsMART animal supply store chain does not yet do business in China, despite persistent rumors that executives are looking in that direction, and Maddie's Fund does not fund projects outside the U.S.

Just a few well-located adoption centers like the PETsMART Luv-A-Pet adoption boutiques, however, could rehome almost every animal now entering the four major Beijing shelters. Even if each adoption center placed dogs and cats at just a fraction of the typical U.S. volume, the cumulative effect would be to undercut the pet breeding industry before it becomes big enough to produce a greater surplus.

A Maddie's Fund-like incen-

tive, meanwhile, might encourage the Beijing shelters to cooperate to maximize their strengths and opportunities.

Among them, the China Small Animal Protection Association has the only centrally located shelter. It is relatively small, but could serve as the primary collection point for lost animals, rescued animals, and animals surrendered by the public.

From there, the animals could be relayed for long-term care and rehabilitation, if necessary, to the outlying facilities of the Beijing Human & Animal Environmental Education Center, the Animal Rescue Branch of the Environmental Protection Association, or the Association for Small Animal Protection. Each could then furnish pets to the adoption centers.

Beijing is big enough to need all of them, and to support them all when they develop more fundraising

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White Pekinese are the most common dogs in Beijing shelters. (Kim Bartlett)

## Mute swan defenders make their voices heard in court

**WASHINGTON D.C.**—The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on September 17, 2003 agreed to withdraw all permits allowing state and federal agencies to kill mute swans, settling a lawsuit brought by the Fund for Animals.

The settlement agreement also requires the Fish & Wildlife Service to withdraw the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact that endorsed killing mute swans in 17 states.

"It began with an ill-conceived permit to kill mute swans in Maryland's Chesapeake Bay, but now the outcome has national implications for tens of thousands of these graceful and majestic birds," Fund for Animals president Michael Markarian said. "The federal government has pulled the plug on Governor Robert Ehrlich's attempt to bow down to Maryland's corporate polluters and the massive factory farms—the real causes of damage to Chesapeake Bay—and to turn defenseless swans into corporate patsies."

The Ehrlich administration in July 2003 proposed opening a hunting season on mute swans, which would require U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service approval. Meanwhile, characterizing the allegedly non-native mute swans as a threat to the ecological integrity of Chesapeake Bay, Maryland obtained U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service permission to kill up to 3,000 mute swans during the next 10 years. That authorization is now revoked.

"As U.S. District Judge Emmett Sullivan pointed out in granting a preliminary injunction to block the killing of hundreds of

mute swans in Maryland," Markarian continued, "the state's own experts have characterized the bay-wide impact of mute swans as negligible."

Mute swans have also long been blamed for allegedly displacing trumpeter swans from parts of their range. The Fund for Animals and the Biodiversity Legal Foundation have contended in a series of lawsuits in recent years that the real problem is failure to adequately protect trumpeter swans from being killed accidentally by tundra swan hunters, especially in the Yellowstone region.

"In 1978, at a Trumpeter Swan Society conference held in Anchorage, Alaska," recalls mute swan defender Kathryn Burton, of Old Lyme, Connecticut, "a plan was begun to supplant the mute swan in the wild with trumpeter swans, coast to coast," including the introduction of trumpeter swans to "areas far outside its historic range. Trumpeter swans were never further east than Wisconsin in modern times, certainly never in New England or Pennsylvania," according to the conferees' own published proceedings.

"Within a short time," Burton continues, "park staff were breaking the necks of mute swans at Yosemite," waterfowlers were encouraged to shoot mute swans nearby, and an effort was also begun to extirpate mute swans from Yellowstone.

"Note," says Burton, "that trumpeters were introduced to Yellowstone. Mute swans arrived there naturally." Participants in the "war on mute swans" (declared in so many

(continued on page 9)

## Bush policy & bushmeat

**WASHINGTON D.C., NAIROBI**—

Wildlife policy changes proposed in both the U.S. and Kenya—and backed by much of the same money—threaten to replace the principle of protecting rare species with the notion that even endangered wildlife should "pay for itself" by being hunted or captured alive for sale.

The proposed amendments represent such an extreme interpretation of the "sustainable use" philosophy advanced since 1936 by the National Wildlife Federation and since 1961 by the World Wildlife Fund that even WWF endangered species program director Susan Lieberman was quick to denounced the U.S. versions.

"Money doesn't always mean conservation," Lieberman told *Washington Post* staff writer Shankar Vedantam. "To me, the theme is allowing industry to write the rules."

"The George W. Bush administration is proposing far-reaching changes to conservation policies that would allow hunters, circuses and the pet industry to kill, capture and import animals on the brink of extinction in other countries," Vedantam warned on October 11, 2003—less than a week before the public comment period was to expire on the first of a series of pending amendments to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service regulations for enforcing the Endangered Species Act.

Together, the amendments would "open



Squirrel monkeys. (Bonny Shah)

the door for American trophy hunters to kill the endangered straight-horned markhor in Pakistan, license the pet industry to import the blue fronted Amazon parrot from Argentina, permit the capture of endangered Asian elephants for U.S. circuses and zoos, and partially resume the trade in African ivory," Vedantam revealed.

"This will mean it will be possible to shoot any endangered animal and just say the money goes to conservation," wild chimpanzee researcher Jane Goodall told the Wildlife Conservation Expo in Los Altos Hills, California. "It stinks, quite honestly."

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service assistant director for international affairs Kenneth Stansell "said there has been a growing realization that the ESA provides poor countries no incentive to protect

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# ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

October 2003

Volume XII, #8



Sleeping lion at Tsavo National Park, Kenya. (Kim Bartlett)

## Wild lions hunted to the verge of extinction

**LONDON**—Wild African lions have been hunted to the brink of extinction, warn researchers Laurence Frank of the University of California and David Macdonald of the Oxford University Wildlife Conservation Research Unit.

Frank, writing in the September 18 edition of *New Scientist*, has investigated African lions, hyenas, and other large predators in Kenya for more than 20 years. Macdonald, editor of the *Encyclopedia of Mammals*, directed a recent five-year study of lion conservation in Zimbabwe and Botswana.

The wild African lion population has fallen from 230,000 to 23,000 in under 20 years, said Frank. Cheetahs have fallen to 15,000 and wild dogs to 5,500 over the same time, but were far fewer to begin with.

All are in trouble, Frank explained, but lions are declining the most rapidly, as the most dangerous of the large African predators and the species most coveted for a trophy.

"People know about elephants, gorillas, and rhinos," Frank told Robert Uhlig of the *Daily Telegraph*, "but they seem blissfully unaware that these large carnivores are nearing the brink. People have always killed predators," for defense of lives and property, and for status, "but there is only so much damage you can do with spears and shields. Now everyone has rifles and poison. The problem is not so much that predators kill peo-

ple," Frank continued, "but that they kill livestock. Bullets and poison are always cheaper than good husbandry," while selling the right to kill a so-called problem lion can become a windfall for whoever brokers the deal.

Macdonald, lecturing at the Zoological Society of London three weeks later, strongly reinforced Frank's message with his own findings and those of associates.

"Of the adult males his team tagged or collared," summarized BBC News Online environment correspondent Alex Kirby, "63% were shot by hunters. The resulting low density of male lions is exacerbated by the hunters' habit of shooting juvenile males when they find no mature adults. This means males move widely, and may have ranges about three times the size of a lioness's range. So it is likelier they will leave the protection of a park and move into hunting areas."

Macdonald *et al* found that there are about 42 male lions within their Zimbabwe research area, but the hunting quota for the region from 1998 to 2000 was set at 63 lions.

"This unprecedented decline of lions is devastating!" commented Youth for Conservation cofounder Joshat Ngonyo. "In Kenya we are battling to keep ours alive."

Ngonyo was able to confirm the bad news, however, from direct observation.

"Nairobi Park has lost 47 lions since (continued on page 13)

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“Lacey” tried to  
hike back to her  
home--  
but she kept  
going in circles.



August, 2003

Dear Partner,

Unless it's happened to you, you can't IMAGINE how devastated Lacey was when someone kicked her out of a car in the middle of nowhere.

When I first meet an abandoned dog in the wilderness, she is so frightened at all that's happened to her in a few short hours, that she bolts for cover when she sees me.

So many times I've made impossible rescues of animals who didn't co-operate in the least . . . because of their shattered trust in humans.

And then, once she is back at our Supershelter and I feed her, hug her . . . and talk to her . . . sometimes the most skittish of animals settles into my lap . . . and even kisses me.

I'm amazed at the irony. This lap-dog is usually the one who drove me insane in the field, whose rescue was an obsession for days or weeks . . . the one for whom I told my wife over and over, "I'm going after her again." These are the truly sensitive ones, who feel everything.

Lacey is like this. Whatever happened to this old dog, nobody knows . . . except that she was skin and bones 7 months ago, when she was dumped in the mountains heading out of Los Angeles.

I couldn't get to Lacey for so long because she didn't show up to eat regularly. Maybe she was trying to find her way back home but she kept hiking in circles instead . . . ending up back at our feeding spot.

I just can't help piecing it together . . . whoever Lacey lived with, I'm sure it wasn't that person who tossed her out.

Maybe a kind old widow loved Lacey since she was a puppy. And when the lady died, a grandson inherited some money and "the dog."

And once the check is cashed, out goes poor Lacey! (I've heard this one before, many times.)

So after nearly a lifetime of being secure, safe, and loved . . . Lacey's heart breaks one morning when she can't find her human parent.

Then that afternoon Lacey is taken from everything she knows, everything familiar, and she's tied up on a rope outside a strange-smelling apartment building . . .

. . . and later that night someone lifts Lacey into a truck and she goes for a ride, at a time when she's usually sleeping on her widow's bed.

Higher and higher the truck ascends the steep highway at 20 miles an hour as it curves into the desolate mountains at the 4,000 foot level. Then it comes to a stop, Lacey is pulled out, the driver runs back around the other side, jumps back in, and slams the door fast.

Then he leaves a black cloud of diesel exhaust on the road, and dirt in Lacey's face, as he speeds off . . . forever rid of "the dog."

Hours after I took Lacey to our Supershelter hospital, my wife came out of our Observation Room and said, "She's a great dog. She's really happy to be here. She puts her head in your lap and gives you her paw. Are you sure she was so hard to rescue?"

All I can do is chuckle at the irony, and thank people like you who make all this possible. Without you, Lacey's story would be a tragedy.

For the animals,

Le

Leo Grillo, founder

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



# Attention: Rescuers and Shelters

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

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

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

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

Editorial

Seeing what is wonderful through the darkness

This edition of ANIMAL PEOPLE is three weeks late because we have just spent 26 out of 40 days on the road in China and South Africa, gathering so much information that fully reporting our findings will take months.

We flew first to Beijing, where we explored the increasingly positive attitudes toward animals in the national capital of the world’s most populous nation.

We obtained perspectives on wildlife and natural habitat by visiting the Beijing Raptor Rescue Center, the Natural History Museum, the Chinese Ethnic Culture Park (which is among the major Beijing urban green spaces), and the Great Wall, surrounded since ancient times by a semi-protected national forest.

Background about dog and cat issues came from visiting the intensely motivated Animal Rescue Branch of the Environmental Protection Association, the offices and shelter of the enterprising Association of Small Animal Protection (with whom we collaborated to rehome a kitten), and the Beijing Man & Animal Environmental Education Centre, whose shelter in the former officers’ quarters of a decommissioned air force base is among the best-managed and most attractive we have ever seen.

Alerted by colleagues within the official Chinese news media, introduced to us by ARB founder Wu Tianyu, we sat up late one night working the Internet to relay information about a dog massacre that was understood to be impending in Henan province, as result of a rabies outbreak, and to share expertise about stopping rabies through vaccination. We pointed out the absurdity of an exemption reportedly given to dog meat farmers, and the possibility that the massacre was really meant to suppress petkeeping, lest growing sympathy for dogs tends to undercut the dog meat trade.

No one seemed to favor the killing in lieu of vaccination, when questioned. Eventually the Henan authorities denied that a dog massacre had actually been planned.

We also visited the Beijing Agricultural University veterinary school; Lu Di, the founder of the China Small Animal Protection Association; and Gongdelin, a Buddhist vegetarian restaurant that is globally noted for such offerings as “Roasted Vegetarian Hedgehog.”

From Beijing we flew to Chengdu to catch up on progress at the China Bear Rescue Center, operated by the Animals Asia Foundation. The Chengdu facility houses more than 10 times as many bears as the prototype we visited at Panyu in late 2000, and is eventually to hold five times more bears than now. The prototype, built by the International Fund for Animal Welfare, has since been returned to IFAW.

Meeting us at the Chengdu airport and sharing a ride out to the China Bear Rescue Center were Geeta Seshamani and Kartick Satyanarayan, cofounders of the Wildlife SOS bear sanctuary in India. That project was still just a dream when we previously met them, in 1997. Today it is among the best-regarded bear sanctuaries in the world.

Seshamani and Satyanarayan also joined us in a side trip to the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding. Designed with technical advice from the San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park, it exhibits only giant pandas, red pandas, rare native birds, and water-fowl. A stocked fishing pond was the only reminder that Chinese zoos often fall short of U.S. standards—and fishing ponds were common at U.S. zoos too just a generation ago.

Like ANIMAL PEOPLE, Seshamani and Satyanarayan took the opportunity to do relevant research on their way to the Asia for Animals conference in Hong Kong.

Postponed from May due to the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome panic that briefly closed even the notorious live wildlife markets of Guangdong province, the Asia for Animals conference was cohosted by the Animals Asia Foundation and the Hong Kong SPCA.

ANIMAL PEOPLE, the Best Friends Animal Society, and the International Division of the North Shore Animal League America were among the cosponsors.

Animals Asia Foundation founder Jill Robinson delivered her usual rousing speeches. ANIMAL PEOPLE publisher Kim Bartlett moderated an intensive panel on zoonotic disease prevention. McKee Project veterinarian Gerardo Vicente, of Costa Rica, sponsored by ANIMAL PEOPLE on a speaking tour of Hong Kong and India, explained the “No-kill, no shelters” approach to animal control.

The real stars, however, were Asians helping Asians to recognize and put to work their own insights and expertise. Blue Cross of India founder Chinny Krishna detailed the success of the Animal Birth Control programs in many Indian cities, nearly 40 years after he first proposed them. Hong Kong SPCA president Lisa Tsui explained that vegetarianism is imperative for animal advocates because moral authority comes from visibly living one’s convictions. Sunan Kum of South Korea and Nina Hontiveros Lichauco of the Philippines described their long struggles to educate their nations away from eating dogs and cats.

Horror stories were told, and were at times gruesomely illustrated with slides of rabies victims taken by Hong Kong SPCA chief surgeon Hugh Stanley, dog butchery in China photographed by Asian Animal Protection Network founder John Wedderburn, M.D., and factory farming, presented by Compassion In World Farming director Joyce D’Silva.

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Yet attitudes of hope and empowerment prevailed. Planned Pethood Plus founder Jeff Young, a veteran of U.S. and European conferences, contrasted the “gripping and complaining we always hear from rescuers and shelter people about how we don’t have this, we don’t have that, and nobody cares, with this guy who spoke this morning,” who was Compassionate Crusaders Trust founder Debasis Chakrabarti. “He comes from Calcutta, one of the poorest cities in the world,” Young continued, “but he never stops smiling. I look at him, and what he’s doing with his people, and can’t help but feel inspired. We came to teach you,” Young said, “but what I’m finding out is, we have a lot more to learn from you.”

Humane education

We were barely home before it was time to leave again to attend the All-Africa Humane Education Summit in Cape Town, prefaced by a brief visit to the Helderberg Nature Reserve on the city outskirts; three days at the Kalahari Raptor Center, far to the north; and a two-day drive with KRC cofounder Chris Mercer back to Cape Town through the Kalahari and Karoo deserts. Just south of Springbok we rescued a tortoise whose lower carapace had been cracked by a car. The tortoise is now recovering with Stephanie Woolf at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Somerset West.

The WRC facilities are still under construction on land donated by Pat O’Neill, who has gradually transformed the renowned Broadlands equine stud farm next door into a wildlife rescue center recently incorporated as the Kalu Animal Trust.

O’Neill invited us to lunch. In her twenties, she recalled, she lived in Kenya, near Joy Adamson. About two years before Adamson rehabilitated and released the lioness Elsa, about whom she authored *Born Free*, O’Neill successfully released a lioness named Tana.

Nearly 70 animal advocates from 19 African nations met in Cape Town, most of them previously unacquainted and many attending their first-ever conference. Humane Education Trust founder and Compassion In World Farming regional representative Louise van der Merwe exhausted all funds available to her in order to pay for the air fare, meals, and lodging of participants from economically disadvantaged nations.

Beyond facilitating introductions, the All-Africa Humane Education Summit was held to introduce the new South African national humane education curriculum, to be taught in all South African schools beginning in 2004, with the dual aim of improving animal welfare and reducing domestic violence. Recognition of the need for humane education fulfills one of van der Merwe’s most cherished ambitions, and is a first in Africa, if not the world.

The summit was also meant to share the curriculum concept (the materials are still in development) with the rest of Africa.

Declared UNESCO Project Officer Ben Boys in an opening day address, “I believe that global sustainable development cannot be achieved without justice and peaceful co-operation...Humane education encourages compassion and respect for people, animals, and the environment...Thus, it is the basis for respect and understanding for other human beings and all life. Cruelty to animals is definitely not part of sustainable development.”

Boys did not just speak and leave. Carefully listening much more than talking, Boys participated in every possible workshop during the next two days.

M.H. Nthaga, of the Botswana ministry of economic and industrial development, considered attending the conference such an urgent priority that when his superiors refused to send him, he took vacation time and attended anyway.

Sorghum farmer Mustafa Bakrawi of Sudan managed to attend even though Sudan has no diplomatic relations with South Africa. Obtaining a visa through the assistance of the Homeless Animal Protection Society of Ethiopia, whose three cofounders all attended, Bakrawi arrived with a mandate from the Sudan government to introduce himself to as many South African officials as possible, toward helping to facilitate diplomatic recognition.

Youth for Conservation founder Josphat Ngonyo, of Kenya, rose from the floor at the first question period to distinguish between animal exploitation and authentic sustainable development. He drew some of the strongest applause of the day.

Later Ngonyo, Mercer, and others organized an informal Pan-African network to respond to animal exploitation in the name of development. Bakrawi and Vegetarian Society of Uganda cofounder Dr. Wabbi Leonard joined ANIMAL PEOPLE in expressing their views about trophy hunting as the new colonialism to the *Gulf News*, the leading English newspaper serving the United Arab Emirates—a major source of hunters who visit Africa.

Unfortunately, as Bakrawi and Leonard borrowed the ANIMAL PEOPLE laptop at the guest house where we all stayed, Zimbabwean activist Bigboy Musemwa, 28, reportedly became intoxicated at another of the three guest houses that hosted conference delegates. Annoyed that other participants did not share his enthusiasm for Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe, whose supporters have caused enormous animal suffering while seizing farms and wildlife parks for land redistribution, Musemwa apparently shouted praise of Mugabe until he was asked to leave the guest house bar. He fell and broke his jaw after he was escorted out; wandered across the street in search of the delegates he had been arguing with; and when not admitted to their rooms, smashed numerous windows with an iron table.

Louise van de Merwe is likely to be held financially responsible for the damage.

The episode, at a glance, could scarcely be a worse advertisement for humane education. Yet it demonstrated the need for humane education to counter the violent role models provided by the Zimbabwean “war veterans,” most of whom are too young to have actually fought in the 1965-1987 insurgency that toppled the apartheid regime of the former Rhodesia.

None of the other delegates in any manner broke decorum.

“To compare Africa’s problems to Asia’s, very superficially,” concluded Kim in a note to political scientist Peter Li, an Asia for Animals keynote speaker, “there is a similarity in the Congo region to south China, in that they eat every kind of wild animal, and wildlife is disappearing fast. Animal agriculture is industrialized in the wealthy countries. Dogs are eaten in isolated regions, and are killed in the rituals of voodoo and similar religions in the former slave-trading nations of western Africa. These rituals go uncriticized by the politically correct because they are ‘culture,’ even though their whole purpose is to do evil to others or to gain power over them. Dogs are beloved among many tribal Africans, however,” as the traditional first defense of herders and villagers against lions, leopards, hyenas, and many of the other hazards of life on the veldt.

For ANIMAL PEOPLE artist Wolf Clifton, who celebrated his 13th birthday at Asia for Animals, the highlight of the South Africa trip was the opportunity to befriend two orphaned jackal puppies, Bonnie the bat-eared fox, and a fearless troupe of meerkats at KRC.

Merritt learned that though abandoned dens of aardvarks are easily found, aardvarks themselves are so extremely nocturnal and change dens so often that even many locals have never seen one. Intensively studying former dens and tracks for two days, he identified several places where active dens might be, hidden under brush, and rose at 2:30 one morning to seek an aardvark in earnest. An hour later he came upon an aardvark at the second of the sites.

“He was making so much noise as he snuffled up truffles that I was able to stalk within 20 feet of him,” Merritt e-mailed to friends. “There I stopped, as he turned toward me, and held completely still. He snuffled to within touching distance before he sniffed my sneakers, gave a squeal-grunt, and ran away. He looked like a longnosed, long-eared pig from in front, but more like a bear from behind. I could easily see why the locals call them ‘antbears.’

“Before leaving, I bent down and marked my exact location in the dirt, and wrote ‘Ant Bear.’ Then I verified the sighting from the tracks the following day.

“Sometimes it takes some effort to see what’s wonderful through the darkness, but it was definitely worth it.”

## LETTERS

### Chimp rescue

Thank you for "Chimp sanctuaries save evidence of human origin," in your July/August edition.

The last sentence, explaining that Bala Amarasekaran and the Tacugama Chimp Sanctuary survived in Liberia because the sanctuary was "viewed as an authentically valuable community institution," is the crunch: without local backing, we are wasting our time.

With this in mind we in Gambia are becoming more and more involved in peripheral work which might seem to have no bearing on the chimp project. For example, we now operate a small medical clinic. We provide assistance with schooling, including financial aid for the students and for maintaining the school building with volunteer staff. Currently there are only two teachers for 300+ kids. We also help to look after draft animals (for which purpose the Gambian Horse & Donkey Trust is now up and running). We are emphasizing the entrepreneurial opportunities arising from a visitor camp, including for suppliers of fresh food from local sources.

These activities are undertaken because we recognise that unless the community sees the chimps as a stimulus to improved human welfare, the chimps and possibly the national park have no longterm future.

The fact that some of our staff have been with us for almost 30 years indicates the kind of relationships we are building, but it is always difficult. A group from one of "our" villages recently hired a hunter to shoot a hippo who was damaging a rice field. We now employ men to stay in the rice fields all night to scare the hippos away. But we are fairly sure that it was not just a case of the villagers wanting to protect their rice. Hippo meat has financial value, and this was an excuse to shoot the hippo so as to be able to sell the meat.

Obviously we still have to push the message that if there are no hippos and other wildlife to see, there will be no visitors, and no visitor-related employment.

—David Marsden  
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### Burmese pythons

A while back I asked for your advice about finding an appropriate home for two large Burmese pythons. You advised networking through local herpetological societies, and guess what? It worked!! Our veterinarian friend contacted the Seattle Herp Society, and they hooked her up with a private reptile rescuer who took both. Our veterinarian delivered the snakes in person, and seemed to be impressed with the individual and his knowledge of reptiles. Evidently his rescue operation is not yet 501(c)(3), but he is thinking about it.

Thanks once again for your expert advice. In this case, it helped to facilitate a good result in a very difficult and potentially tragic situation. You're a treasure!

—Marilee Meyer  
Seattle, Washington  
<machines@interisland.net>

Thanks for the good words. Very few herpetological rescuers have 501(c)(3) status because practically nobody donates to help snakes. These folks usually fund their rescue operations strictly out of their own pockets.

### Culture Vulture.



She may not commit the  
atrocities herself, but she  
will swallow anything --  
no matter how vile.

### Mobile clinics

Our county animal control agency is thinking about buying a mobile sterilization clinic, but we have heard that other locales have abandoned such projects.

Do you have any information about this?

—Catherine E. Boyett, DVM  
Estero, Florida

### The Editor replies:

After more than a dozen years of using mobile clinics to facilitate dog and cat sterilization in communities with limited access to veterinary services, many pioneers of the approach are rethinking it.

Arnold Brown, DVM, of Trumbull, Connecticut, was among the first dog-and-cat vets in the U.S. to use a mobile clinic. As early as 1992, however, Brown observed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that having volunteer shuttle drivers bring feral cats to his fixed-location clinic is much more cost-efficient than taking the mobile clinic to the cats.

Spay/Neuter All Pets, started in 1994 by Sean Hawkins, has a fixed-site clinic in Houston, mobile clinics in Houston and San Antonio, a mobile clinic serving Native American communities, and a mobile clinic in Mexico. The fixed-site clinic does more sterilizations by itself than any three of the four mobile clinics, even though the mobile clinics perform at high levels.

Jeff Young, DVM, of Planned Parenthood Plus in Denver, a decade ago became the first vet to sterilize more than 5,000 animals in a year using a mobile unit. Then Young realized that he could become even more efficient if instead of using his mobile unit as a surgical theatre, he used it to haul surgical supplies plus a portable field hospital, which he can set up within minutes.

"I can work anywhere with a roof, water, and electricity," Young told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "I can set up a tent and use my own generator and pump if I have to. Even then, it is more efficient to use my van for hauling. In the field, resupply is often a bigger problem than finding a place to improvise a surgical theatre, and the best way around it is bringing more supplies."

### CORRECTIONS

The print version of the September 2003 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial misstated, in summarizing commentary by *Judaism & Vegetarianism* author Richard Schwartz, that "The vegetarian Abel eventually murdered Cain, the herdsman favored by God."

Actually, it was the vegetarian Cain who eventually murdered Abel, the herdsman favored by God.

On page 20, Shiprock, New Mexico, was mentioned as "capitol of the Navajo nation." Shiprock is the largest city in the Navajo nation, but the capitol is actually Window Rock, Arizona.

The July/August 2003 edition mentioned on page 13 that the former South Texas Primate Observatory "became the Texas Snow Monkey Sanctuary in 1991 when the Animal Protection Institute assumed responsibility for funding it. Founding director Lou Griffin was fired in early 1992." API actually took over the sanctuary in 2001; Griffin was fired in early 2002. Related litigation continues.

### Gaps in law

I hope you will take up the matter of birds and other animals who are nominally protected under CITES regulations but not under national laws. These creatures are often exported to countries where there are no rules governing their treatment. Parrots, lovebirds, macaws, cockatoos, and even chimpanzees and hippos are brought to India, for example, by circuses and bird sellers. When there is a case of maltreatment, our forest and wild-life agency personnel say that these are not protected under our Wildlife Protection Act, so they cannot seize the animals or take any other action.

Similarly there are no recommendations about cage size and their upkeep in the Indian rules governing zoos.

—Sandeep Kumar Jain  
Ahimsa International  
C-III/3129, Vasant Kunj  
New Delhi 110 070, India  
<jeevdaya@rediffmail.com>

### Veggie dining

We're launching a vote for Vegetarian Restaurants of the Year and would appreciate if you could help us get the word out. Votes for favorite restaurants in city categories from Adelaide to Zurich can be submitted online at VegDining.com until December 31. Restaurant winners will be announced in early January 2004.

Keep up the great work !

—Dennis Bayomi  
Winnipeg Vegetarian Association  
P.O. Box 2721  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Canada  
<info@VegDining.com>  
<www.VegDining.com>

### Vegan dog food

In August of 2002 my dear canine companion of 14 years, Lotus, died. To honor her memory, I donated 1,000 cans of vegan dog food to her veterinarian's practice (for the most part, Lotus had been a lifelong vegan). I arranged to buy the food at wholesale cost from a local store in exchange for the publicity that the store would receive. The veterinarian agreed to set up a display rack in his waiting room, where interested clients could read a brochure on vegetarianism and take a free can of food for each dog they had. I produced the brochure myself. It may be downloaded at <www.Understanding-Prejudice.org/pdf/lotus.pdf>.

I would like to recommend this idea to other readers of *Animal People*. I would be happy to let others adapt the brochure for their own purposes.

—Scott Plous  
Middletown, Connecticut  
<splous@splous.mail.wesleyan.edu>

### Foie gras banned

We would like to inform you that recently, the Israeli Supreme Court has made a strong statement concerning the production of liver paste in Israel.

On August 11 the court outlawed the practice of force-feeding geese and ducks for the production of liver pâté, a practice that the justices said was unnecessarily cruel. The Israeli animal rights group ANONYMOUS was instrumental in bringing the case before the Supreme Court.

—Bob and Roberta Kalechofsky  
Jews for Animal Rights  
255 Humphrey Street  
Marblehead, MA 01945  
<micah@micahbooks.com>

## Wyeth takes Premarin to India

In April 1993 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** brought the attention of the world to the prolonged cramped confinement of the pregnant mares whose urine is collected to make the hormone drug Premarin. You exposed as well the sale to slaughter of most of their offspring.

In September 2003 you reported about the momentous decision of the U.S. National Institutes of Health to end studies of the Premarin-based drug Prempro, due to an increased incidence of life-threatening diseases among participating women.

While we commend the NIH for their decisive and timely action, we are concerned that Wyeth Pharmaceuticals continues to market a drug that is linked to health hazards such as breast cancer, heart disease, blood clots, strokes, ovarian cancer, and dementia.

It was reported in October 2002 that Wyeth launched its Premarin brands, Premelle and Premelle Cycle, in India. The impact of this campaign remains to be seen.

While sales have dropped in North America, Prempro and related products continue to be prescribed by physicians.

The Women's Health and Ethics Coalition has formed to bring further attention to the health, humane, and environmental concerns surrounding the use of Prempro and Premarin, and to ask governmental agencies and the medical community to initiate an end to the manufacture and export of Premarin and its related products—on the grounds that continued production of these drugs is damaging to human consumers, the environment, and horses.

We welcome alliances with organizations and concerned individuals from around the world.

—Sinikka Crosland, R.N. (Retired) and  
Ray Kellosalmi, BSc., M.D., L.M.C.C.  
Women's Health and Ethics Coalition  
3430 Turnbull Road  
Westbank, B.C.  
V4T 1W3  
Canada  
Phone: 250-768-4803  
<whc@stoppremarin.org>

## CHRONOLOGY OF HUMANE PROGRESS

The long and difficult years of my advocacy for animal rights and welfare in my country, the Philippines, have been honoured and richly rewarded by the inclusion of my name and that of the Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) in the May 2003 installment of your prestigious and historic "Chronology of Humane Progress."

Although you listed the reorganization of PAWS in your entry for 1982, together with the formation by Sunnan Kum of the Korea Animal Welfare Society, I actually reorganized PAWS in 1986. Republic Act 8485, which protects all animals nationwide, was passed in 1998.

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** got me to Hong Kong, where at the recent Asia for Animals conference I was re-charged by people I wish I could be with every day. What those few days did for my sagging morale cannot be expressed in words.

—Nita Hontiveros-Lichauco, President  
Philippine Animal Welfare Society  
87 Small Horseshoe Dr.  
New Manilla, Quezon City 1112  
The Philippines  
Phone: 63-2-724-6395  
Fax: 63-2-724-1986  
<nitapaws@skyinet.net>

### Note from Rio

The Brazilian League of Animal Rights is deeply grateful for receiving **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, which is of great help to us. We do our best to expose abusive animal experimentation and other torturous exploitation of animals. Our vice president, Mrs. Anabella Linhares, has written on our behalf to Korea to protest against the sale of dog meat, and to China, complaining about bear bile farming. She is a teacher, and her pupils also read **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, inspiring them to express their opinions about what should be done in Brazil to prevent cruelty to animals.

—Daisy Muniz Barreto Mandim Serra  
Liga Brasileira dos Direitos do Animal  
Rua Barata Ribeiro 26, #804  
22011-000, Copacabana  
Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

His mother was  
killed.  
His family  
destroyed.  
Then came the  
long terrible  
journey trapped  
alone in a dark  
box... and he was  
only a few weeks  
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# Dog and cat eaters hide behind foreign media gullibility *by Sunnan Kum*

I recently received some photographs of dogs at a Korean market, courageously taken by Mark Lloyd of the London *Daily Mail*.

I have seen so many photographs of abused animals before these that I already felt wearied, and thought I had virtually no more capacity for sadness.

Once again I saw the eyes of the caged dogs, their faces full of sadness, fear and loneliness. Yet I also saw hope from the same eyes: hope that someone may one day bring them home and love them.

I told myself that these dogs were by now already at peace and had finally found the release they so deserved. I tried to console

## Dog butcher jailed

**BAGUIO CITY, The Philippines**—Municipal trial court judge Tomas Tolete on October 6 sentenced convicted dog butcher Enrique Palaque, 51, of San Pedro, to serve six months in prison.

Reported Agence France-Press, “Palaque was arrested while en route to another court hearing, where he is a defendant in a similar case. A lower court in Manila earlier fined Palaque \$54 for a similar offense,” according to regional police superintendent Marvin Bolabola.

The Philippines banned dog slaughter in 1996, but the law was rarely enforced before late 2002, after Baguio City journalist Freddie Farres and the anti-corruption group Linis Gobyerno made the non-enforcement a public issue.

## Bruce Eberle lawsuit

I am enclosing \$1,000 U.S. as my donation to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** to continue the wonderful work you are doing. The amount may be used as you deem fit, including to meet the costs of your defense against the legal actions brought by fundraiser Bruce Eberle.

—Chinny Krishna, Ph.D.  
Chennai, India

### Editor’s note:

*Chinny Krishna made this donation from his personal resources, not as managing trustee of the Blue Cross of India.*

*We have never solicited funds from developing nations, and urged Krishna to direct this contribution instead toward the excellent work of the Blue Cross of India and/or other Indian animal welfare organizations.*

*Krishna responded that it was not only his wish but also the wish of many other Indian animal advocates that they should assist **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in our effort to establish the principles outlined in our Code of Ethics for Animal Charities and Fundraisers (published in our May 2003 edition), and that he wished to make this gift on symbolic behalf of all of them.*

***ANIMAL PEOPLE** has since September 2000 repeatedly exposed the tactics and history of fundraiser Bruce Eberle, whose campaigns and the IRS Form 990 filings of the animal charities he represents have consistently failed to meet the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** standards and have often flunked the standards of the Wise Giving Alliance.*

*The June 2003 judicially encouraged settlement of a libel suit brought by Eberle required correction of two statements quoted and paraphrased from Wildlife Waystation founder Martine Colette, an Eberle client, which were never presented as anyone’s position other than hers, plus two brief garbled summaries that never actually appeared in the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** newspaper, nor at our web site. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** had long before corrected and clarified all of the items at issue.*

*Eberle received no retractions of his main coverage, no damages or costs, no admission of alleged libel and tortious interference in business relationships, and no apology.*

*Eberle has since then filed a series of motions seeking injunctions against distribution of the June 2003 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and accusing **ANIMAL PEOPLE** of contempt of court, for allegedly improperly disclosing proprietary financial data about his fundraising businesses in a table that accompanied our reportage of the settlement. Several of the Eberle motions have been dismissed by the court, but yet another was filed on October 6.*

*In addition to Wildlife Waystation, animal charities currently or recently represented by Eberle include the Elephants of Africa Rescue Society, Exotic Cat Refuge & Wildlife Orphanage, Great Cats In Crisis, Lifesavers Wild Horse Rescue, Noah’s Lost Ark, Peaceful Valley Donkey Sanctuary, Tiger Creek, and Tiger Haven.*

myself with this belief, but whenever I thought of their loving, trusting eyes, I dissolved into tears. I felt that their images were somehow urging me to do more for other animals still living.

When human rights are abused, many countries will strongly urge the offending nation to change.

They will not interfere, however, in response to animal abuse, such as the practice of eating dogs and cats. Yet the abuse of animals often leads to abuse of human rights too. Every nation must help each other to root out these evils.

Dog-eating and cat-eating by small but influential minorities in many Asian countries has for several years now been globally controversial. Dog-eating in South Korea is most widely known to the world, because the South Korean government refused to recognize the issue as animal abuse, and instead tried to justify dog-eating with the claim that dog meat is a traditional Korean food.

Because of this, many foreigners now believe that eating dogs is an established Korean tradition and that all Koreans enjoy eating dog meat.

I am outraged that the dog meat industry so distorts our history and culture, and am even more angered that some foreign media amplify the dog eaters’ lies.

Yes, we have dog meat eaters in Korea, but we also have many citizens who are opposed to dog meat, and the number of people opposing it is growing.

Foreign reporters and producers who appear to side with the dog eaters are in effect discriminating against the huge majority of

Koreans who do not eat dogs, and especially those Koreans who are actively trying to protect animals.

The gullibility of foreign media may be the most frustrating obstacle we face in our effort to establish a positive environment for animals in Korea.

Thanks to misinformed reporting, the dog meat industry now shamelessly promotes dog meat to visitors as a traditional Korean food and urges the entire world to eat it. On July 31, 2003, for example, the Korean daily newspaper *Jungang Ilbo* published a photograph of German Taegundo players eating dog meat with smiling faces—which the Germans probably would not have done, certainly not on camera, if they knew that to many Koreans this was an obscenity.

Some of our ancestors did eat dog meat, but purely to avoid starvation in times of famine. The authentic traditional cuisine of Korea is vegetarian, based on barley, rice, kimchi, bean sauce and seasoned vegetables. Most of our ancestors did not enjoy dog meat. On the contrary, Buddhism was the Korean state religion from circa 350 B.C. until the Mongol invasion of 1231, and emphasized compassion toward animals. The traditional Korean teaching was that one should never eat animals who display affection.

All Koreans should have inherited such kind and compassionate dispositions from our ancestors, with the potential to be compassionate.

Undoubtedly, some Koreans are today eating dogs out of ignorance. If we can correct this fault, Korea shall no longer cause shame to our ancestors, as well as interna-

tional embarrassment, and our country will once again become a nation of animal lovers of whom we can all be proud.

While our sister organization, International Aid for Korean Animals, campaigns abroad, the Korean Animal Protection Society has always worked almost entirely within Korea. We continue our public education and sanctuary work in Daegu and Seoul. Much of our activity parallels that of humane societies in other nations, for instance informing the public about spaying and neutering. A recent rapid rise in petkeeping means this work is increasingly important to prevent Korea from developing dog and cat overpopulation. Thanks to generous support from caring people both at home and abroad, we have also begun building a new sanctuary, which will double as an animal welfare education center.

After more than 20 years of effort to eradicate the dog and cat meat industry, we have no illusions that it will be ended easily, or that a humane future for Korean animals can be secured overnight. However, we dare believe that by employing a realistic and persistent approach, allied with caring people from all around the world, we can one day achieve our dream of a compassionate Korea, for both its animals and its people.

*[Adapted from Sunnan Kum’s address to the Asia for Animals conference on September 4, 2003., in Hong Kong. Contact Sunnan Kum c/o <kaps0127@hanafos.com>. Tax-deductible donations to KAPS may be sent c/o IAKA, P.O. Box 20600, Oakland, CA 94620; 510-271-6795; fax 510-451-0643; <kkum@koreananimals.org>; <www.koreananimals.org>.]*

HFA pig ad

# The apartheid legacy in wildlife conservation

by Chris Mercer, co-director, Kalahari Raptor Centre

Twelve years after Nelson Mandela walked to freedom, South Africa is still struggling to overcome the crippling legacy of apartheid in environmental affairs.

Affirmative action appointments are intended to transform and democratize nature conservation, but the awaited transformation is slow in coming—and one of the most unfortunate aspects of the delay is that some of our most ruthless people are meanwhile exporting the canned hunting industry, which is a legacy of apartheid, throughout Africa.

Desperately poor nations are too often seduced by the promise of the money to be made from hunting, demonstrated by some of the same South African entrepreneurs whose involvement in gun-running and ivory and rhino horn poaching helped to uphold the apartheid regime by destabilizing much of the black-ruled portion of the continent.

The apartheid regime instituted three goals for wildlife management, each directly contributing to the growth and profitability of the hunting industry, to the detriment of almost everyone else. These goals were:

- a) Excluding the public from participation in environmental governance;
- b) Exterminating predators in the name of problem animal control; and
- c) Enslaving and exploiting those forms of wildlife which could be used as alternative livestock by the hunting industry.

These goals were pursued behind a facade of “conservation.”

The South African nature conservation establishment became, in effect, a protection racket supporting the landowner rancher/hunters.

Five decades of cruel apartheid rule in South Africa poisoned everything, and nature conservation was no exception. Animal welfare considerations were omitted from all aspects of wildlife management.

Our conservation regime today perpetuates the policies of one of the worst governments in modern political history.

Critical to realize is that economically motivated destruction of wildlife, as exemplified by the South African hunting industry, represents not conservation but colonialism. Organizations such as Safari Club International export U.S. dollars and colonialism to Africa, and they import misery and bloodshed in the form of trophies.

Similar entities export similar pollution from Europe and the Middle East.

Their dollars are a corrupting influence, perverting conservation policies away from the preservation of authentic natural cycles, toward cruel exploitation.

The colonizers are not all rich whites. The forests of Indo Asia are looted to procure tiger bones for the Chinese traditional medicine trade. The African lion is already being used for the same purpose. The fate of the tiger will be the fate of the African lion if we do not act now to stop it.

Speaking of lions, the South African philosopher and author Credo Mutwa wrote:

“No one in their right mind would ever travel to India to massacre the white Brahmin cattle that roam the crowded streets of India’s cities. No one in their right mind would travel to Siam and there murder the rare white elephants that we find in that country. But people come to my motherland, people come to South Africa, to brutally murder lions in the name of manliness and in the name of sport. The sacred icons of other races and

nations in this world are respected, revered and protected. But the icons of Africa are massacred with cold impunity, sometimes with the connivance of some of Africa’s own children.

“In the past 200 years or so, the human race has lost much which is of importance in Africa. And it continues to lose much. But what is most terrible, what is most tragic, is that it does not realize what it has lost.

“One day, in the dark valleys of the future, people will try to turn back, people will try to investigate, to look into the past of African humankind with wide open eyes, but they will find very little because much has been obliterated.”

## Jackals & caracals

Few people in South Africa know what hideous cruelty lies behind the placing of meat and milk upon the supermarket shelf. As well as the ongoing cruelty to animals raised in unnatural conditions, we should recognize the unspeakable cruelty practiced routinely upon so-called problem wild animals, such as jackals and caracals.

The Problem Animal Control Ordinance of 1957 is a chilling reminder of the days when all laws and policies were framed to protect the narrow commercial interests of the white livestock-farming community, at the expense of all others.

The ordinance specifically excludes blacks. Twelve years after apartheid officially ended, our government continues to enforce a law which begins: “Any six persons who are not black may form a hunt club.”

The Problem Animal Control Ordinance of 1957 declares war upon any species of wildlife which affects the farming community. Whole species are arbitrarily and unscientifically positioned outside the boundaries of moral and legal concern. Hundreds of thousands of animals, mostly non-target species, have been slain in the hunts that the ordinance authorized. Targeting bat-eared foxes, the Orangje jag hunt club alone killed about 106,000 other animals, including 65,415 harmless Cape foxes, 4,892 equally harmless little African wild cats, and 56 brown hyenas.

In what other sector of South African society would such a blatantly racist and destructive law continue to be enforced? What kind of mentality framed such a law? And what kind of democratic government continues to enforce it?

The treatment of problem animals by farmers, facilitated and approved by conservation officials, involves lifting all controls on inhumane hunting. Leghold traps, snares, and indiscriminate poisons are used routinely. A favorite method of getting animals out of burrows is to feed barbed wire into the hole and then twist it until the barbs catch in the coat of the trapped animal. The twisting continues until the animal’s coat has been rolled around by the barbs. Once impaled in this manner, the animal is hauled out of the burrow, into the jaws of waiting dogs.

The public never sees the cruelty behind the euphemism of “problem animal control.”

In our whole approach to problem animals, we are morally

depraved and environmentally delinquent. There is no such thing as a problem animal—only problem farmers, as I can testify from my own history of 11 years as a sheep farmer who found no need to kill wildlife in order to maintain my own profits.

Let us examine the most extreme form of trophy hunting to see how ethical illiteracy about wildlife manifests itself.

Canned lion hunting is not an event, but a process, in which wild animals are taken out of their natural environment and bred in close confinement like broiler chickens for slaughter. It is a process through which our wildlife heritage is transferred out of the public domain into the hands of hunters for business purposes. It is the privatization of our national heritage for cruel profiteering.

Consider the <www.africancats-hounds.co.za> promotional web site. J.S. Safaris announces that it will hunt any predators, large or small, with dogs. Photos show a leopard being savaged by dogs. Photos also show lions who have been shot with bow and arrow, after being hunted with dogs.

What has conservation come to when tame lions can be turned out after a life of imprisonment to be set upon by a dog pack and then used for archery targets?

Our government has swallowed the arguments that “Hunting pays for conservation,” “If it pays it stays,” and “Give it a value and it will be preserved.”

Big game hunting will save the safari parks of Africa, so the hunting industry says—and some of their international political allies also expect us to believe that only whaling will save the whales.

Giving animals a cash value merely intensifies commercial exploitation until wild populations can no longer support the industry, which then turns to captive breeding to meet the market demand.

The end is inevitable: we lose our wildlife heritage, while the hunting industry whacks the animals and stacks the profits.



Caracal at KRC. (Kim Bartlett)

Do decent Africans like visits from foreigners whose sole purpose is committing grossly inhumane acts that often they could not legally commit in their own countries?

The present conservation regime in South Africa represents an unholy alliance between some of the worst elements of the previous government and a new government which continues to demonstrate a deplorable lack of compassion.

A stupefying indifference to the suffering of animals may be acceptable in Kimberley and Nelspruit, but it is not acceptable to hundreds of millions of people. It will become unacceptable to even more as awareness of the cruelty of predator control and canned hunting spreads.

[Adapted from Mercer’s September 24, 2003 address to the All-Africa Humane Education Summit in Cape Town. Contact Mercer c/o Kalahari Raptor Centre, P.O. Box 1386, Kathu, Northern Cape ZA 8446, South Africa; <krc@spg.co.za>; <www.raptor.co.za>.]

## Spay USA

Church Times, the 140-year-old newspaper of the Church of England, concluded a July 4 editorial endorsing the current Parliamentary attempt to abolish fox hunting by noting that, “However humane it attempts to be, the meat industry causes more animals to suffer than do a few roving bands of horsemen and women. An increasing number of people would argue that since meat-eating is no longer a necessity, slaughtering animals for food comes under the same heading of causing unnecessary suffering.”



Farmers and predator control agents commonly hunt jackals with dogs resembling this bull mastiff, one of a pair who share lookout duty at the Kalahari Raptor Centre—but this dog prefers to play with orphaned jackal pups. —Kim Bartlett

# D.E.L.T.A. Rescue's Extensive Training Program for Foreign Shelter Professionals *Worldwide!*



*DELTA Rescue founder Leo Grillo and friend*

## Focus:

To provide specialized training in the United States in all aspects related to operations, structure, and veterinary medical care, for all short and long term residents in a no-kill, care-for-life shelter environment.

## Trainee Requirements:

The trainee must have shelter experience with basic skills in animal husbandry and knowledge of animal health care. (S)he must be of a total no-kill mind set with the fortitude to commit to "care for life" if necessary. The individual must demonstrate a staunch desire to make a career of working in the field of humane sheltering, ultimately contributing to the abolition of senseless killing, suffering, cruelty, starvation, and abandonment of helpless animals. Trainees must speak English.

We feel that just to be exposed to our way of medicine will take at least one month. You will be overwhelmed. To learn just the basics will take 3 - 6 months. The longer you stay, the more we will be able to teach you. And when you go back to your country we will consult with you from there. While you are here, we will put you in touch with suppliers and wholesalers. We will provide dormitory housing. Trainees will be working/learning 40+ hours per week. We will provide whatever documentation is needed to present with your visa application.

## Purpose of this Program:

D.E.L.T.A. Rescue is the largest no-kill, care-for-life sanctuary of its kind in the world.

Our technologically advanced veterinary hospital and our clean and efficiently run sanctuary grounds are a wonderful prototype for shelters throughout the world!

Our goal is to teach our no-kill, care for life philosophy to countries throughout the world, showing them that this is a successful alternative to euthanasia.



*Swathi Buddhiraju of the Visakha SPCA in Visakhapatnam, India, cleaning a dog's teeth during her training at D.E.L.T.A. Rescue.*



*Dog quarters at DELTA Rescue*

## Health Care Training includes (*but is not limited to*):

- Observing and triaging patients
- Identifying primary concerns and complaints
- Identifying disease, infection, and injury
- Learning treatment plans and protocols for presenting illnesses and injuries
- Indication/usage of the latest pharmacology products and homeopathic remedies and learning various methods of administering medications
- Behavior assessment: normal vs. abnormal emotional and physiological patterns
- Obtaining urine, blood, fecal, and skin samples for laboratory testing
- Surgical procedures and sterilization
- Dental procedures
- Anti-parasite treatments
- Proper restraint methods
- Vaccinations
- Physical therapy
- Proper and efficient recording in medical chart
- Wound treatment
- Intravenous catheterization
- Blood transfusion
- Chemotherapy
- Emergency medical care
- ECG
- X-Ray
- Ultrasound



*Inside one of the DELTA Rescue cat facilities*

## Shelter Management Training Includes (*but is not limited to*):

- Scheduling and effectively managing staff for hospital and kennel
  - Maintaining shelter grounds and equipment
- Scheduling of daily animal care including feeding, cleaning, playing, and exercise
  - Ordering and stocking of hospital and kennel supplies
- Accurate and efficient business and shelter record keeping
  - Fundraising techniques



Applicants must submit a full letter explaining their current shelter jobs and how much this opportunity would mean to them and the animals in their care.

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# ANIMALS IN CHINA: FROM THE “FOUR PESTS” TO TWO SIGNS OF HOPE

*by Peter Li*

In February 2002, a college student in Sichuan province microwaved a four-week old puppy, reportedly in retaliation against his wayward girlfriend.

Five zoo bears were at the same time viciously assaulted with sulfuric acid at a zoo in Beijing. The perpetrator, Liu Haiyang, was a student at Tsinghua University, whose alumni include President Hu Jintao, former Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, and Chairman of China’s legislature Wu Bangguo.

The public was outraged in each instance, but found solace in the belief that these were isolated cases.

The subsequent outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome awakened China to the cruel reality of wildlife exploitation across the country—and put the acts of deranged individuals into the uncomfortable context of being not far different from business as usual at live markets and in the traditional medicine trade.

Wildlife has been used in China for human benefit for more than two thousand years. Because wildlife use is part of the Chinese culture, it has been widely viewed as politically untouchable.

Yet culture is neither an excuse nor an adequate explanation for the unscrupulous wildlife traffic now afflicting China.

First, no culture is static. A powerful state has a great capacity to reshape culture. Second, Confucian culture is not unique to the Chinese mainland. For example, the legacy of Confucianism has not kept Taiwan and Hong Kong from banning dog-eating. Third, the current volume of state-sanctioned wildlife exploitation has no precedent.

Environmental devastation was a common legacy of socialism in Eastern Europe. Similar development strategies attempted in China during the Pre-Reform Era, 1949-1978, comparably harmed Chinese ecosystems and wildlife.

For example, to implement the “grain production first” policy introduced in 1950, the central government decommissioned entire army corps to clear forests, level mountains, drain lakes and wet lands, and cultivate grasslands for grain production.

Short-term gains in grain production, however, were soon swallowed by population growth. By 1957, with grain harvests stagnant, 30 million urban youth were sent to the countryside to join in land conversion.

The increase of human activity in areas that were once sparsely populated caused the flow of the Talimu River in Xinjiang to shrink by a third. Along the lower reaches, the bones of wild animals littered the once lush banks. Siberian tigers, bears, river deer, red-crowned cranes, swans and sturgeons disappeared from the Great Northern Wilderness in Heilongjiang. Asiatic elephants were driven from the Xishuangbanna rainforest into neighboring Burma, Laos and Thailand.

In 1958 Chinese Communist leader Mao Zedong initiated the “Great Leap

Forward” with a plan to double steel production in only one year. Huge swaths of forest were cut to feed millions of backyard smelters. Among the enduring effects of the Great Leap Forward was the fragmentation of panda bear habitat into widely separated tracts within which the remaining small bear populations may lack the genetic diversity to survive.

Mao blamed rats, flies, mosquitoes, and sparrows for the failure of the 1957 grain harvest. Mao ordered the massacre of 1.96 billion sparrows between March and November 1958, despite the objection of experts that sparrows were actually the major defense of the grain fields against insects. The killing culminated on December 13, 1958, when Shanghai residents reportedly destroyed 194,432 sparrows.

## The great disaster

Like the sparrow extermination order issued by a Prussian ruler in the late 18th century, Mao’s sparrow-killing campaign had two serious consequences.

First, insects destroyed more of the grain harvest than ever in 1959. Second, a generation of the Chinese youth internalized violence against the weak and defenseless as an acceptable behavior in the name of serving the interest of “the people.”

The policy-induced famine of 1960-1962 killed 40 million Chinese. The survivors ate rats, birds, worms, and insects. Dogs virtually disappeared. Cannibalism broke out. Soldiers were sent to Northeast China and Inner Mongolia to hunt. One such expedition brought back seven train cars of Mongolian gazelles, reducing the species to the verge of extinction for at least the next 20 years.

Pets were not just incidental casualties of the famine. Chinese Marxist ideology identified anything allegedly associated with the “bourgeois” lifestyle as an obstacle to revolution and social progress, including the use of make-up, growing flowers, listening to Western music, and keeping dogs and fondling cats. The official ideology not only authorized violence against demonized “bourgeois” humans and their pets but praised it as heroic. Sympathy toward the condemned was construed as a sign of weakness and questionable political loyalty. Enemies of the state were described as “drowning dogs,” “cunning foxes,” “ox ghosts,” “snake spirits,” and “dog sons of bitches.”

To this day Communist Party ideologues detest petkeeping and portray petkeepers as soulless beings who imitate the “Western decadent lifestyle” out of mental emptiness. Animal lovers are even smeared as “the fifth column” of Western “new imperialism,” who allegedly hate their own country and delight in discrediting their own government by fabricating accounts of cruelty.

Deng Xiaoping introduced the economic reform era in 1978. He announced that the work of public officials would begin to be appraised in terms of their ability to create



*Two employees of the Animals Asia Foundation at the China Bear Rescue Project in Chengdu exercise Sack, a dog rescued by AAF founder Jill Robinson from two men who had him in a sack and were beating him.*  
[Photo by Annie Mather/AAF]

The growth of commercial exploitation of wildlife, concentrated in the tourism, entertainment, and pharmaceutical industries, started then.

The exploitation of wildlife as the basis for a cuisine that attracts tourists is concentrated in Guangdong and Hainan provinces, in south China, but their wildlife restaurants and live markets are globally depleting many species. The restaurants and live markets serve not only affluent local residents but also visitors who come from Hong Kong on “gourmet tours,” or from the north to seek business connections. If enough visitors develop a taste for wildlife, there is risk that the wildlife exploitation seen in Guangdong and Hainan could spread. Already, Shanghai is believed to consume as many live snakes per year as Guangzhou.

To sustain the orgy of wildlife-eating, as populations of wild-caught animals are exhausted, factory farms have begun raising “wild” species including fox, marten, and masked palm civets, whose fur may fetch a high price along with their meat.

Before SARS, the live market wildlife traffic was reportedly worth close to \$100 million per year.

## Traditional medicine

While SARS was a setback for the wildlife meat industry, wildlife use in pharmaceutical products continues to have strong government backing. The central government has banned the use of internationally protected species such as tigers and rhinoceros in traditional medicine, but there are still as many as 400 bear bile farms in northeastern and southwestern China, with—according to widely varying estimates from different government departments—7,000 to 9,000 bears living in anguished life behind bars.

The use of traditional medicine has declined in other nations, but continues to grow in China, where traditional medicine schools are still training thousands of practitioners per year. In 1997 the government sponsored the publication of a new and authoritative *Complete Collection of Chinese Materia Medica*. Among 8,980 listed prescriptions, 1,050 prescriptions use human and non-human animal parts. Among the species protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species whose parts are listed are wild horses, leopards, Asiatic elephants, and golden monkeys.

Entrepreneurs have also opened entertainment facilities using animals in various parts of China, but many of them are not making the profits that the owners expected.

In Guangxi, for example, a businessman is reportedly using revenue from three other businesses to maintain “Bear and Tiger Mountain,” a breeding farm with 600 tigers, bears, lions and other large animals. The facility was intended to simultaneously entertain tourists, provide tiger parts to pharmaceutical companies, and breed wildlife for live sale. Crowded conditions and encouraging tigers to fight to entertain visitors has reportedly led to the death of 40 tigers.

Live feeding and animal fighting at many wildlife parks, and the sale of wildlife meat and products to visitors, has been extensively criticized by both Chinese and foreign media. Asian Animal Protection Network founder John Wedderburn, M.D., of Hong Kong, detailed some of the worst abuses in **ANIMAL PEOPLE** as far back as 1996.

too, the animals may starve to death while the owners seek buyers who will help to recoup their losses.

Efforts to improve animal welfare in China encounter enormous difficulties. Politically, the People’s Republic remains a closed society. Animal welfare organizations must cooperate with the Chinese authorities. Criticizing the wildlife traffic is difficult because of the economic influence of the wildlife use industries, especially at the local level. The Chinese public has been warned for decades about the alleged vicious designs of western imperialists. Foreign animal activists are easily accused of wanting to stop Chinese economic growth.

Questioning Chinese wildlife consumption and the use of wildlife in traditional medicine can also be construed as an exhibition of western contempt for Oriental culture.

## Hope & opportunity

There are two recent signs of hope.

Pro-animal organizations are still operating in an uncongenial environment, but a 1999 survey of Beijing and Shanghai residents conducted by the China Office of the International Fund for Animal Welfare discovered, as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** reported in March 2000, that public attitudes toward animals are on the whole very similar to those prevailing in the U.S. about 10 to 15 years earlier, when the U.S. animal rights movement was just beginning to achieve some successes.

The public upset over Liu Haiyang’s attack on the Beijing zoo bears confirmed this year that sympathy for animals is residually strong, especially where the levels of education and affluence are relatively high and eating wildlife is still uncommon.

In addition, the initial success of the Animals Asia Foundation bear rescue campaign in Sichuan is changing the official perception of international pro-animal organizations, helping to open the way for further involvement in China.

Touched by the sincerity, hard work, and selfless sacrifice of AAF founder Jill Robinson on behalf of the more than 100 bears she and her staff have so far rescued from bile farms, China Wildlife Conservation Association secretary-general Chen Run Shen recently declared his confidence that “Bear farming will eventually be ended.”

As important as this statement may have been for bears, the greater vote of confidence was for the concept and principle of nonprofit enterprise on behalf of animals.

Economic reform and the national drive for modernization have resulted in state-sanctioned commercial exploitation of wildlife to a degree unprecedented in Chinese history. Since this industry is widely seen as part of the Chinese economic miracle, contributing to the glorification of Chinese culture, combatting it presents a comprehensive challenge.

Yet as China becomes better educated and economically empowered to choose morality over expedience, there is opportunity for Chinese people who care about animals to work to persuade fellow citizens that cruelty has no place in the better world that all Chinese are striving to build.

There is also now opportunity for sympathizers abroad to help them.

*Peter (Jianqiang) Li is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Houston, downtown campus. “I am from mainland China,” he wrote to ANIMAL PEOPLE in 1998.*

*“In 1993 I came to the U.S. for my Ph.D. studies, and brought my cat Mimi—perhaps the first immigrant cat from China. He is so attached to me that he might have crossed the Pacific to look for me if he had been left behind. He was almost thrown to the cold street in the biting wind of a Beijing winter by my neighbor. The next year, when my wife came to join us, she brought our other three cats. We had managed to feed them all, even though there is no pet food produced or sold in China, and spayed or neutered them all. Each has a unique story. Since then, we have adopted three American cats, who at first had some difficulty communicating with the immigrants.*

*“We don’t just love cats, but love all other animals,” Li continued. “It is very sad for us to see inhumane treatment of animals, particularly in our homeland.”*



*This essay is adapted from Li’s keynote address to the Asia for Animals conference on September 3, 2003, in Hong Kong.*  
[Photo by Kim Bartlett]

# Mute swan defenders make their voices heard in court *(from page 1)*

words by then-University of Montana biologist Ruth Shea) have included the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the Canadian Wildlife Service, the National Audubon Society, the World Wildlife Fund, the National Park Service, and many other government agencies, nonprofit groups, and universities.

The entire scheme, Burton believes, was hatched chiefly out of the frustration of restoration biologists that for more than 50 years they had failed in their efforts to rebuild trumpeter swan populations, which had been hunted to the verge of extinction.

Trumpeter swans were brought from Alaska and released near Bend, Oregon, as early as 1929 in hopes of saving the species,

but the total number of trumpeter swans in the continental U.S. fell as low as 70 circa 1935 before there was any turnaround.

There are now about 24,000 trumpeter swans in the Lower 48, outnumbering mute swans by about 4,000.

Maryland has the most mute swans—but the Maryland mute swan population fell from circa 4,000 in 1999 to 3,600 in 2002 without lethal control, Markarian pointed out.

Nonetheless, the Atlantic Flyway Council, representing the wildlife departments of the 17 states that claim to have mute swan problems, has urged that the regional mute swan population be cut by 75%.

Most states with mute swans contend

that their populations grew from accidentally escaped swans who were kept for ornamental purposes in relatively recent times. Maryland, for example, claims the Chesapeake Bay population grew from just five who escaped in 1962. Officially, mute swans are classed as a species introduced from Europe.

Burton, however, argues that mute swans historically were native to both sides of the Atlantic. They often appear in the backgrounds of old paintings, and were certainly common in North America by 1900.

## Pheasants

Ironically, it was the Fund for Animals that won a September 25 verdict from U.S. District Court Judge Patti B. Saris against the release of non-native ring-necked pheasants at the Cape Cod National Seashore.

To stimulate interest in sport hunting, Massachusetts wildlife officials had reportedly released cage-reared pheasants on Cape Cod, as well as elsewhere around the state, each fall since 1906.

The Fund, Humane Society of the U.S., and the Massachusetts SPCA sued to stop the pheasant releases in 2002, pointing out that they contradict the National Park Service policy—the strictest of any federal agency—against the introduction of non-native wildlife. Saris refused to halt the 2002 pheasant releases, but stopped them this year when the plaintiffs sued again, seeking an environmental impact review of the entire Cape Cod National Seashore hunting program.

“The Park Service says it is examining options for phasing out the pheasant hunt,” reported Theo Emery of Associated Press.

## Canada geese

Also fighting the biggest proposed massacre of introduced birds in U.S. history, the Fund for Animals and HSUS on October 8 jointly declared their intent to oppose a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service plan to give the responsibility for managing non-migratory Canada geese to state wildlife departments.

“The Fish & Wildlife Service estimates that there are roughly 3.2 million geese nationwide—about 30% higher than it believes are acceptable,” explained Edward Ortiz, environment writer for the *Journal-Bulletin* of Providence, Rhode Island. “The agency wants to thin the resident goose population by as much as 35%,” which would require killing from 400,000 to 800,000 geese per year for the next 10 years.

State wildlife agencies could expedite the killing by expanding their goose hunting seasons. But perhaps of chief interest to the Fish & Wildlife Service is just getting rid of an embarrassing controversy.

Most non-migratory Canada geese in the U.S. are descended from hybrids of wild-caught Canada geese with domestic geese, raised by hunting clubs in the early 20th century to be live decoys.

Banning live decoys in 1936 to protect the then-steeply declining migratory Canada goose population, the Fish & Wildlife Service seized some of the hybrids, and for more than 50 years worked with state agencies to stock them wherever the habitat seemed favorable, in hopes of rebuilding huntable numbers. Suburban sprawl, however, over-

*(continued on page 10)*

## Navy agrees to restrict use of SURTASS-LFA sonar

**SAN FRANCISCO**—U.S. Magistrate Elizabeth D. Laporte was at press time for the October 2003 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** expected to ratify an agreement by the U.S. Navy that will restrict peacetime use of Surveillance Towed Array Sensor System-Low Frequency Active (SURTASS-LFA) to protect whales.

Settling a lawsuit brought by the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Humane Society of the U.S., the pact follows a permanent injunction issued by Laporte on August 26 against any use of the new sonar system within a 14-million-square-mile area, constituting 40% of the Pacific Ocean.

“Under the injunction,” said *Washington Post* staff writer Marc Kaufman, “the Navy can use the new sonar—which emits low-frequency sound waves that travel for hundreds of miles—only off the eastern

seaboard of Asia, an area of about 1.5 million square miles. Both sides said they could not discuss the reasons for that exception. The agreement prohibits the use of SURTASS-LFA within 30 to 60 miles of the coastlines of the approved area, including China, Korea, Japan and the Philippines. In addition, the sonar cannot be used when marine mammals are migrating through.”

This is about 1% of the range within which the Navy was authorized to use the sonar by the National Marine Fisheries Service, under a permit granted in mid-2002.

New research published in the October 9 edition of *Nature* reinforces the theory that tests of mid-range and low-frequency sonar have caused numerous whale strandings since the early 1980s. Surfacing rapidly to try to escape the noise, the victims apparently die from internal decompression.

## Events

**October 24-26: No More Homeless Pets** conference, Philadelphia. Info: 435-644-2001 X129 or <nmhp@bestfriends.org>.

**October 25-November 2: National Primate Liberation Week.** Info: <www.saenonline.org>.

**October 27: Adoption Options Utah**, seminar, Provo. Info: <outreach@petfinder.com>.

**October 29: Adoption Options Montana**, seminar, Missoula. Info: <outreach@petfinder.com>.

**Nov. 7-9: Natl. Student Animal Rights Conf.**, Wash., D.C. Info: <libnow@defendanimals.org>.

**November 10: Home 4 the Holidays 2003** begins. Info: 858-756-4117, x302; or <patd@animalcenter.org>.

**Nov. 12-13: Minnesota Public Health & Statutes School**, Bloomington. Info: 952-563-4940 or <maca@minnesotaaanimal-control.org>.

**Nov. 13-14: Representing Animals** conference, St. Catherine's, Ontario. Info: <Sorenson@brochu.ca>.

**Nov. 21: ACES Shelter Planning & Capital Campaigns** seminar, Orlando, Florida. Info: <nick@animal-care.com>.

**Nov. 22: ACES Chemical Capture Certification** course, Orlando, Fla. Info: <nick@animal-care.com>.

**Nov. 23: Thanksgiving banquet for the animals.** Info: Touched By An Animal, Inc. Chicago, IL 773-728-6336.

**Nov. 23: Thanksgiving banquet for the animals.** Info: Touched By An Animal, Inc. Chicago, IL 773-728-6336.

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Mute swan defenders (from page 9)

took most of the stocked sites. Some states are still moving program descendants to new habitat, but most long since classed non-migratory “Canadas” as an invasive nuisance. The Fish & Wildlife Service in 1994 removed non-migratory Canada geese from the protection of the 1918 Migratory Bird Treaty Act, contending that since they do not migrate, they should not be covered.

Cormorants

Also on October 8, even as the Fund and HSUS denounced the goose killing plans, the Fish & Wildlife Service extended to 24 states a 1998 rule that allows wildlife agencies to kill double-crested cormorants without first getting a federal permit. The 1998 rule applied to 13 states. Like the proposed transfer of authority over non-migratory geese, the new cormorant policy amounts to exempting the target species from the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, after 85 years of coverage. Opposition to cormorants comes chiefly from sport fishers and fish farmers.

Less eager to kill popular bird species, the Fish & Wildlife Service in June 2003 refused to pay for a proposal by Hawaii state wildlife biologist Fern Duval to kill about 200 mitred conure parrots who have become established during the past 20 years in northern Maui. Duval in August told Timothy Hurley of the Honolulu Advertiser that she would seek USDA funding instead. The World Parrot Trust and Maui Animal Rescue & Sanctuary in 2001 announced a plan to capture the conures, but failed to secure needed permits and funding.

Ruddy ducks

Bird massacres in the name of conservation are scarcely just a U.S. phenomenon. Clydesdale Animal Action and Animal Aid, of Scotland, in August 2003 organized two days of protest against British efforts to kill non-native ruddy ducks, whose alleged offense is hybridizing with whiteheaded ducks during their migrations to Spain. Waterfowling enthusiast and wildlife painter Peter Scott introduced ruddy ducks to



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before he founded the World Wildlife Fund. The British population of ruddy ducks is now between 3,000 and 6,000. Birders dismayed at purportedly declining numbers of whiteheaded ducks have fulminated against ruddy ducks for decades. Spanish whiteheaded duck enthusiast Jose Antonio Torres Esquivia has reportedly spent up to \$250,000 a year since 1984 to find and kill a total of 122 ruddy ducks plus 58 hybrids. British officials persuaded by his example purged 2,651 ruddy ducks in 1993, 1994, and 1999, before instituting the current scheme to eradicate ruddy ducks from Europe. The killing is decried by Tom Gullick, 72, of La Mancha, Spain, whose life list of more than 8,250 species of birds seen, out of some 9,600 recognized species, is among the longest of any living birder.

“Genetic purity is a sort of a bug that some biologists have in their heads,” Gullick told David Sharrock of the London Times in July. “They would rather have no whiteheaded ducks than ‘impure’ ones from abroad.” In any event, Sharrock wrote, “It is now more than 20 years too late to worry about impurity, since by Gullick’s calculations the more than 3,000 whiteheaded ducks now thriving in Spain are descended from just 19 pairs, nearly half of whom came from Asia. Gullick’s involvement began in the late 1970s, when he counted only 23 whiteheaded ducks—a quarter of the official estimate.” Recounted Gullick, “Hunters were shooting the ducks, and I reckoned that one more winter would have been the end of the Western European population.” Therefore, Gullick leased the hunting rights to the whiteheaded ducks’ last habitat, hired a guard to keep hunters out, bootlegged whiteheaded duck eggs in from Pakistan, hatched them, and released 16 whiteheaded ducklings at La Mancha. “Whiteheaded ducks are now regularly seen in La Mancha, where they never

“Eco-fascists” On the far side of the world, the New Zealand Fish and Game Council in August authorized farmers to massacre black swans near Canterbury and Lake Ellsmere, lest they become established in pastures, consuming alfalfa instead of water weeds. “They’re doing massive damage,” complained silage grower Brian Goddard. “They pollute the pastures and they eat so much grass it’s shocking.” Goddard did not mention how much he spends per year for phosphate fertilizer. Waterfowl are among the most effective and prolific distributors of phosphates in nature. In Singapore the National Environment Agency was reportedly investigating an allegation that three members of the Singapore Gun Club have been collecting double bounties on Indian house crows. The trio claimed to be killing 50-70 crows per day. Since 2001 the NEA has paid bounties on about 110,000 crows, asserting that this has cut the Singapore population from more than 120,000 to barely 30,000. The crows are much hated as a noisy “alien” species—and are likely to reclaim the habitat just as soon as the shooting stops, since food sources remain abundant and no other species appears likely to move in. Richard Mabey, author of the plant encyclopedia Flora Britannica, denounced “ecological fascists” who massacre non-native wildlife in a June column for BBC Wildlife magazine. Mabey called terms such as “alien” and “invasive” reminiscent of Nazi propaganda for eugenic genocide. “Nature hasn’t the slightest regard for species and racial barriers,” Mabey said. “Evolution has always been a matter of change, moving on, miscegenation, symbiosis, and partnerships of all kinds.” —M.C.

## Horse farmers lose PMU contracts

**BRANDON, Manitoba**—Five hundred representatives of the 409 farms that produce pregnant mare’s urine for use by Wyeth Organics on October 10, 2003 were notified in person at the Keystone Center in Brandon that the PMU industry may be just about finished. A third of them were told during the following weekend—Thanksgiving weekend in Canada—that their services will no longer be required. Leaving 30 seasonal jobs unfilled due to plummeting demand for PMU products, Wyeth plans to buy only half as much PMU as last year. PMU sales fell after publication of a series of studies during the past year by the U.S. National Institutes of Health which documented that hormonal therapy harms menopausal women’s health more than it helps. Sales had already contracted somewhat under boycott pressure from animal rights groups. The boycotts began about five months after ANIMAL PEOPLE in April 2003 exposed the close confinement of the PMU-producing mares and the sale to slaughter of most of their foals. The ANIMAL PEOPLE report was based on investigative findings by Canadian Farm Animal Trust founder Tom Hughes. E-mails from well-informed sources indicated that Wyeth, trying to consolidate to a more defensible position, dropped any PMU farmers who had violated the company code of humane husbandry, had difficulty maintaining herd health, resisted the recommendations of company inspectors, and/or simply sold foals to slaughter instead of trying to adopt them out. The PMU farmers, 244 of them in Manitoba and the rest in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and North Dakota, will be paid the sum they were promised when they contracted to provide PMU during the 2003-2004 PMU collection season, Wyeth Canada spokesperson Theodora Samiotis said. Samiotis also promised “additional compensation to affected producers to assist with the care and feeding of their mares,” wrote Marcy Nicholson of the Brandon Sun. “Wyeth is working closely with the North American Equine Ranching Information Council, which aims to assist financially with transport costs for horse owners” who are sending their horses to auction, Nicholson added. The mares who were expected to have produced PMU this winter were impregnated during the summer.



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- 11/10 – 11/14 Could you start a “Friends of the Shelter” group?**  
Julie Bank of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control and Rich DuCharme of First Coast No More Homeless Pets will answer your questions about why and how you could launch a program to support the shelters in your community.
- 11/17 – 11/21 Internet adoptions. How can they work for you?**  
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# SARS spread from live markets, but when?

**BEIJING**—Blood tests indicate that about 1% of the children in 17 provinces of China were exposed to Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome before the outbreaks of 2002-2003 that hit 24 of the 31 provinces.

Evidently passing from animals sold in filthy live markets to humans working in food preparation, and then spreading from human to human, SARS eventually killed 916 people in 32 nations, with about 650 of the deaths occurring in mainland China and Hong Kong.

The blood study was conducted by the Beijing Military Zone Air Force Logistics Sanitation Unit, using samples taken from healthy children before SARS appeared.

In a parallel study, the Beijing Capitol Pediatrics Research Institute found that among 77 children hospitalized for various reasons in 2001, 42% had antibodies to SARS. Among 92 children hospitalized during the SARS outbreak, 40% had the antibodies—but none had SARS symptoms.

Both studies indicate that the coronavirus responsible for SARS was already widely distributed among the human population—at least among children—well before it turned deadly. The findings may explain why relatively few children developed the deadly strain of SARS, but confounds the mystery of how SARS originated, since children are also less likely than adults to consume wildlife products.

One possibility is that children receive antibodies to SARS via mothers' milk. Chinese women may be more likely than men to be exposed to SARS through food preparation and tending farmed wildlife, but men are the major wildlife eaters.

A Beijing University Hospital study meanwhile confirmed that SARS is not easily transmitted to people who take precautions against the it, finding no evidence that SARS ever passed from patients to the health workers who treated them.

The three new studies by Beijing institutions were

released three weeks after Hong Kong University gene sequencing expert Guan Yi and team reported in *Science* that they discovered antibodies 99.8% identical to the SARS-like virus antibodies found in four masked palm civets and a raccoon dog last May in eight of 20 wildlife traders, three of 15 slaughterers, and one of 20 vegetable sellers tested at the Guangdong market where the exposed animals were found.

None of the market workers actually had SARS.

"Our investigation clearly shows that the SARS-like virus comes from the SARS-like virus in the wild animal market," Guan Yi said. "But we still have no direct evidence that the viruses in the markets can attack humans directly."

Harvard Medical School scientific reviewer Henry Niman, MD., told Mary Ann Benitez of the *South China Morning Post* that the Guan Yi team also found a direct link between a masked palm civet and two infected Guangdong health workers.

In mid-August 2003, four months after suspending wildlife sales, the China State Forestry Administration reauthorized the sale of 54 species of wildlife as live meat or pets, providing that the animals are captive-raised.

"Lifting the ban was a bit reckless," Niman said.

Maria Cheng, spokesperson for the Beijing office of the World Health Organization, agreed with Niman that, "Perhaps it would have been better to wait until we had more information for China to lift the ban" on wildlife consumption.

Hong Kong legislator for the medical sector Lo Wing-lok and legislator for food and hygiene Fred Li Wah-ming called for the ban to be reimposed.

Wary of protests that broke out in Guangdong in early summer, however, led by unemployed wildlife traders, an anonymous mainland State Forestry Administration official reportedly dismissed the new findings as inconclusive.

## SARS kills cat program

**SINGAPORE**—SARS seems to have killed the Singapore Stray Cat Rehabilitation Scheme.

Sponsored by the Agrifood & Veterinary Authority, the Stray Cat Rehabilitation Scheme has sterilized more than 3,000 homeless cats since 1998, but a four-month review of the project determined that barely 10,000 of the estimated 70,000 to 80,000 homeless cats in Singapore have been sterilized, between public and private efforts.

AVA chief Ngiam Tong Tau said on October 8 that "All but one of the 16 town councils [in Singapore] wanted the scheme stopped, and the holdout was halfhearted in support," wrote Sharmilpal Kaur of the *Straits Times*.

"The program was reappraised in the wake of fear that cats might spread SARS," Kaur continued. "Though tests found no such link, culling was stepped up because of a push to clean up public areas."

Instead of sterilizing cats, Ngiam Tong Tau said, the AVA would kill any cats turned in, without charge.

"He said that people who feed strays responsibly and clean up after them will be left alone," Kaur added, "but those who leave a mess can be charged with littering."

Cat Welfare Society operations director Dawn Kua argued that the Stray Cat Rehabilitation Scheme has been successful, since Singapore killed only 10,000 cats in 2002, down from a 10-year average of 13,000.

The Cat Welfare Society is trying to raise \$1 million to build its own sterilization clinic.

French epidemiologist Francois Moutou told Agence France-Presse in August that a 14-member team of United Nations and Chinese experts had found SARS-like viruses in a wide range of birds, reptiles, and mammals at markets and farms in south China. Their conclusions, however, have not yet been scientifically reported.

## Bangladesh tiger killers get hard time

**DHAKA, Bangladesh**—Five former Dhaka Zoo employees who allegedly poisoned four Bengal tigers during a 1996 labor dispute were on September 10, 2003 sentenced to serve 14 years in prison at hard labor.

*The Pakistan Daily Times* heralded "The first-ever verdict on the killing of animals in Bangladesh," which from 1948 until 1971 was East Pakistan, separated from the rest of Pakistan by India.

Published from the capital of Bangladesh, the *Dhaka Daily Star* did not call the case a first, but gave it prominent coverage on a day when the second anniversary of the September 11 *al Qaida* terrorist attacks on the U.S. dominated the news.

Metropolitan Sessions Judge Habibur Rahman acquitted nine co-defendants.

Rahman issued the stiff sentences to the remainder under the Special Powers Act of 1974, pertaining to crimes allegedly committed to destabilize the nation.

The tigers were allegedly poisoned between November 9 and 13, 1996, after zoo curator Ashraf Uddin transferred the defendants and 18 other staff members in a crackdown on corruption.

Invoking the Special Powers Act enabled Rahman to impose the death penalty, but he was lenient, he said, because the "neglect and indifference" of the prosecution had allowed the case to drag on for seven years.

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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.*

## Who killed activist Jane Tipson, and why?

**GROS ISLET, St. Lucia**—Jane Tipson, 53, cofounder of the St. Lucia Animal Protection Society, the Eastern Caribbean Coalition for Environmental Awareness, and the Caribbean Animal Welfare e-mail news-group, was fatally shot at close range at 1:20 a.m. on September 17 just yards from the gate of her home.

Tipson “was following her 50-year-old sister Barbara” in a separate vehicle, reported the *St. Lucia Star*, “after they had been trapping stray dogs and cats along the beach. Barbara had arrived at their house when she heard a loud noise from the driveway.”

Mistaking the noise for a tire blowout, Barbara Tipson “drove back to find her sister slumped over the wheel [of her vehicle], dead, the result of a wound to the neck,” the *Star* continued.

“This case does not appear to be a robbery,” police commissioner Ausbert Regis said, “because the person did the act and left. We are still trying to determine a motive but at this time it appears that the killing was targeted.”

Nicole McDonald and Christine Larbey of the *Star* wrote that, “Close friends of Jane Tipson (who prefer to remain anonymous) said she had confided in them about receiving threatening phone calls over the past few weeks. The police were not prepared to confirm the death threats.

“Another twist,” McDonald and Larbey added, “is that two days before Jane Tipson was fatally shot, the sisters’ Jambe DeBois restaurant at Pigeon Island National Landmark was burgled. On the day of Jane Tipson’s death two teenagers, 17 and 19, pleaded guilty to stealing \$1,958.75 in cash and cigarettes from the restaurant.”

The 19-year-old, upon arrival of an attorney hired by his mother, then changed his plea to innocent and requested a separate trial. Both suspects were released on bail.

The next afternoon, wrote McDonald and Larbey, “the 17-year-old, Jean Vascar Emmanuel, was fatally shot. He died Friday morning. But not before reportedly naming his attacker to police. The police are tightlipped,” McDonald and Larbey said, “on any possible connection between the deaths of Jane Tipson and Jean Emmanuel,”

but a police source apparently told them “that the police were in search of a 20-year-old gang member in relation to Emmanuel’s death.”

McDonald and Larbey wrote that “Maria Grech, Tipson’s friend for over 20 years, was trying to hold down the fort at the St. Lucia Animal Protection Society office.

“Nothing makes sense,” Grech told them. “It can’t have been a robbery because Jane never had much money on her. We have been in some heated arguments in the past while trying to save animals, but nothing that would lead to murder. There have been some raised voices in discussions over building the [Dolphin Fantaseas] dolphinarium, but it was always civil. I doubt Jane’s death had anything to do with SLAPS. Well, I hope not,” Grech concluded.

“She was our person on the ground in St. Lucia trying to help us stop the dolphin captures that were scheduled for Dolphin Fantaseas,” confirmed Dolphin Project founder Ric O’Barry, now working for the World Society for the Protection of Animals.

“I’m somewhat suspicious,” O’Barry continued, “because this looks like a hit. The Russian Mafia tried to kill me in Tel-Aviv, Israel,” O’Barry recalled of a similar incident in 1993. “Lucky for me, I passed out on a hunger strike and was hospitalized in protective custody. My colleague Jenny May started doing interviews for me, and she became the target. The Russians followed her down the beach as she took her usual nightly stroll,” O’Barry alleged. “She was found strangled with her own belt. I’m sure they really wanted me, but I was always in the company of the army.”

No one was ever charged with the Jenny May murder.

“The Israel Broadcasting Authority is now making a movie for TV about it,” O’Barry added.

### Watson posts reward

“I was quite shocked by Jane Tipson’s death, but not as much as I should have been, because there is so much hostility directed at conservationists,” commented Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson. Watson posted a reward of \$5,000 for

information leading to the conviction of her killer.

Watson had himself encountered hostility in St. Lucia.

“Watson was in St. Lucia before the 2001 International Whaling Commission meeting in London,” the *Star* recalled. “He was ordered to leave after he produced a picture of butchered pilot whales in a local fishing boat. He was accused of harassing the fishers. He suggested that St. Lucia’s pro-whaling vote at the IWC was dictated by the Japanese in return for funding.

“Watson was not prepared to say that Jane Tipson’s death had something to do with her work,” the *Star* continued. “But he added that it would not surprise him.

### SLAPS goes on

“We want the St. Lucia Animal Protection Society to continue,” SLAPS board member Angel Isaac told McDonald and Larbey of the *Star*. “Our dedicated members will get together and decide where we go from here.”

“The Pegasus Foundation helped fund several St. Lucia spay/neuter clinics through SLAPS partner, International Veterinary Assistance,” wrote Pegasus Foundation communications director and program officer Anne Ostberg. “Together with the local veterinary and business communities, SLAPS and IVA have made great progress in reducing St. Lucia’s stray dog and cat populations. Both organizations have indicated that they are determined to continue Jane Tipson’s legacy.

“Her family has requested,” Ostberg added, “that memorials be sent to SLAPS, P.O. Box 1114, Castries, St. Lucia, West Indies. IVA, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charity, has agreed to accept checks from U.S. donors on behalf of SLAPS c/o 1928 DuBay Drive, Mosinee, Wisconsin 54455. Checks should be made payable to IVA, with SLAPS noted on the memo line.”

As well as the Jambe de Bois restaurant, the Tipson sisters owned the Snooty Agouti jazz bar in Gros Islet, and were active in the Bahai religious community.

“Jane was from Devonshire, settling in St. Lucia some 30 years ago,” recalled Eastern Caribbean Coalition for Environmental Awareness head of operations Lesley Sutty, of Martinique.

In addition to the animal and environmental protection organizations Jane Tipson started, Sutty recalled, “she created the St. Lucia Whale and Dolphin Watching Association and promoted the development of the now flourishing whale watching industry in St. Lucia.”

The St. Lucia Whale and Dolphin Watching Association in a brief memorial saluted Tipson’s “enthusiasm and dedication to the cause.”



## Ferrets for Schwarzenegger

“Ferret owners are rejoicing,” American Ferret Association founder Freddie Ann Hoffman said of the October 7, 2003 election of actor Arnold Schwarzenegger to replace recalled California Governor Gray Davis.

Hoffman credited Schwarzenegger with helping to popularize ferrets in his 1990 film *Kindergarten Cop*, while blasting Davis for pledging to veto any bill to legalize the possession of ferrets that might clear the state legislature.

Ferrets and many other non-native predators have been banned in California for more than 70 years, initially as alleged threats to the poultry industry.

The PawPAC political action committee was less enthusiastic about Schwarzenegger.

“Like everyone else, we know nothing of Schwarzenegger’s positions on animals,” said a pre-election PawPAC release. “Former gubernatorial candidate Richard Riordan stated at a recent event that his friend Arnold ‘loves his dogs.’ Schwarzenegger has been endorsed by the California Farm Bureau, an organization that regularly opposes animal welfare legislation.”

## ORGANIZATION UPDATES

### NCDL becomes Dogs Trust

**LONDON**—The National Canine Defence League on October 9 renamed itself Dogs Trust. Founded in 1891 to oppose vivisection of dogs, NCDL for most of the 20th century focused on providing veterinary care to pets of the poor. Restructured in 1980, it is now the British leader in rehoming dogs, and since 1996 has cosponsored the International Companion Animal Welfare Conference, partnering with the North Shore Animal League International division.

### MSPCA kills *Animals* magazine

**BOSTON**—Promising to balance the Massachusetts SPCA budget in 2004, first-year president Larry Hawk in August 2003 terminated the money-losing *Animals* magazine, and in September laid off 19 employees.

The MSPCA closed facilities and sold property to reduce deficits at least twice during the long tenure of Hawk’s predecessor, Gus Thornton, who retired in April 2003. The layoffs, however, were reportedly the first in the 135-year history of the MSPCA. The cancellation of *Animals* was the first major program cut since the Bands of Mercy and Jack London Clubs begun by founder George Angell were axed approximately 75 years ago, as the MSPCA struggled with cost overruns after building Angell Memorial Hospital.

*Animals*, an award-winning slick successor to Angell’s *Our Dumb Animals* newspaper, reputedly never attracted enough paid subscribers and advertisers to pay for itself. “While *Animals* did serve an educational function,” Hawk told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “I believe that there are better uses for our tight budget dollars at this time. Our communications will become far more targeted to program needs.”

The budget trimming was necessary, Hawk told *Boston Globe* correspondent Vicki Croke, because “Between the stock market and spending more than we had, our endowment eroded from \$90 million to close to \$50 million.”

Raising about \$39 million a year, the MSPCA in recent years has spent circa \$45 million per year.

### AVAR names new president

**DAVIS, Calif.**—The American Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights board of directors on September 9, 2003 elected Paula Kislak, DVM, to succeed Nedim Buyukmihci, DVM, as president.

“Kislak, a vegan, has been an AVAR board member since 1996, and was on its advisory board before that,” said the AVAR announcement.

Buyukmihci had headed AVAR since cofounding it with Neil C. Wolfe, DVM, in 1981. Buyukmihci recently retired from teaching veterinary ophthalmology at the University of California at Davis and on June 18 was named director of the Animal Protection Institute Primate Sanctuary

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### Wild lions hunted to verge of extinction (from page one)

1998," he told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "From April 28 to June 2, seven Nairobi National Park lions were speared and mutilated," apparently by herders. "Only 10 to 12 lions remain in the park and surrounding area. Five are adults, the rest sub-adults and cubs. Human activities are threatening the survival of the park," Ngonyo continued. "The relentless increase in the Nairobi human population and changing land use patterns have blocked the migratory corridor to the park. The few remaining crossings cannot sustain a sizable population.

"The real problem," Ngonyo said, "is loss of prey. Lions prey on herbivores. The herbivore population in the park and surrounding area has dwindled due to poaching and game-cropping. Nairobi National Park once generated more revenue than all the other parks in Kenya combined," Ngonyo noted, "but one needs only to take a game drive to realize how barren it has become."

Kalahari Raptor Centre co-director Chris Mercer [see page 6] documented the extirpation of wild

lions from his part of Africa in the opening chapters of his 2000 book *For The Love Of Wildlife*.

The recent rapid growth of lion hunting within fenced enclosures of varying size in many African nations reflects the disappearance of wild lions. The proprietors have shown the ability to breed lions in volume, to demand, like puppy mill dogs.

But breeding lions in captivity from a limited gene pool does not fill the ecological niche of lions in the wild, the experts agree—and trying to restore wild populations, once lost, may not be successful.

Even if genetic diversity could be sustained within the captive population, the viability of wild prides depends not only on individual fitness, but also upon acquired knowledge about the habitat and prey transmitted chiefly by the females, who tend to remain within their birth-pride.

Already the knowhow that lions need to survive in much of their range may have been lost.

### Hindu nationalists hit animal sacrifice

**NEW DELHI**—"There is a great need to cleanse Hinduism" of animal sacrifice, "and the time is now," editorialized the October 2003 edition of *The Organizer*, the official publication of the hardline Hindu nationalist volunteer corps Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh.

The RSS is often described as the ideological arm of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party.

*The Organizer* strongly praised former actress Jayalitha Jayaram, now chief minister of Tamil Nadu state, for ordering police to halt animal sacrifices on August 28. After three men were arrested the next day for sacrificing goats and hens at Madurai, no more sacrifices were reported for a week.

Members of the People's Art & Literary Association and Revolutionary Students & Youth Front then defied Jayalitha (usually called by just her first name) by staging sacrifices in Tirunelveli and Tiruchirappalli. Police detained but did not charge the suspected leaders.

The RSS opposition to animal sacrifice came amid rising tension in India over cow slaughter. In Ahmedabad, where sectarian riots killed 100 Hindus and 2,000 Muslims in May 2002, police on September 6 fired tear gas to break up a stone-throwing mob who accosted municipal workers during a stray cattle round-up. The mob released eight of the 200 cattle who had been captured.

The *Hindustan Times* reported on the eve of the September 22 sentencing of the 13 convicted killers of U.S. missionary Graham Staines and his sons that the mob was motivated by seeing tribal Indians eating beef. Staines, 57, and the boys, 6 and 10, were burned

alive in 1999. Despite the hint that Staines had promoted beef-eating, there was no reported violence after the court ordered that instigator Dara Singh should be hanged, while the others are to serve life in prison. All 13 defendants have appealed.

Media commentators indicated that the RSS position against animal sacrifice may reflect an increasing sense of security among the BJP leadership.

In mid-2002, by contrast, after People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi clashed with both devotees of religious animal sacrifice and biomedical researchers over their "sacrifices" of animals, BJP Prime Minister A.B. Vajpayee took away the ministry for animal welfare that Mrs. Gandhi had held as an independent member of the government coalition since 1998.

*The Organizer* criticized King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah of Nepal. Four days before Mrs. Gandhi was fired, the king sacrificed five animals during a state visit to Assam. Told that the sacrifices were planned, Mrs. Gandhi warned that they would be illegal under the 1960 Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. PFA won a restraining order against the sacrifices, but the Jhalukbari police detachment refused to enforce it, citing an exemption in the 1960 law for sacrifices conducted "in a manner required by religion."

While criticizing the king would be risky within Nepal, a theocracy that practices a primitive form of Hinduism, Lucia de Vries of Friends of the SPCA-Nepal on September 28 appealed for international opposition to a web site which promotes to Nepalese living abroad the notion of buying a goat for sacrifice by relatives or friends at home.

### No happy endings likely in three-month sheep-at-sea saga

**KUWAIT**—The live-stock ship *Cormo Express* was to sail back to Australia on October 15 with 52,000 sheep who were refused entry into Saudi Arabia on August 22 after some were found to have scabby mouth disease.

The return voyage had been delayed for 24 hours by difficulty in obtaining enough fodder to sustain the sheep *en route* to a planned first stop for Australian veterinary inspection at the Cocos Islands, also known as the Keeling Islands, about 1,500 miles west of Australia proper.

Australian authorities had not yet decided what to do with the sheep. More than 100 nations had reportedly refused them, even as a gift that they were subsidized to take. Options included trying to slaughter the sheep at sea, disposing of their remains via the nine-story mincer used to dispose of animals who die individually in transit;

landing the sheep for slaughter on the Australian mainland, probably at Albany; and repatriating the sheep alive to the Outback, where they might still be killed and buried.

The Australian Meat Industry Council vehemently fought return of the sheep to Australian soil, on the pretext that they might bring back new infections after traveling halfway around the world twice, spending at least 11 weeks at sea by the time they reach the Cocos/Keeling Islands.

The *Cormo Express* left Fremantle with 57,937 sheep on August 5. Australian officials denied that the Saudi government rejected the sheep in retaliation for Australian support of the U.S. occupation of Iraq. The Australian government repurchased the sheep from the Saudi buyer for \$4.5 million U.S. and halted all further sales of livestock to Saudi Arabia.

Australian exports of live

sheep to the Middle East are worth just under \$100 million U.S. per year, a small yet politically volatile portion of the \$5.5 billion U.S. per year Australian meat industry. Saudi Arabia buys about two-thirds of the Australian live sheep exports.

All Australian livestock exports to the Middle East were suspended from 1989 until 2000 in a previous dispute over rejections of sheep by Saudis and others. Saudi Arabia responded then by banning sheep from Australia, 1991-1995, an action attributed by some sources to Saudi discontent over Australian support for the U.S. during the first Persian Gulf war.

Live sheep exports from Portland, Australia, were suspended in October 2002 by Australian agriculture minister Warren Truss, after five shipments in a row including one by the *Cormo Express* had deaths exceeding the Australian recommended ceiling of 2%.

### Veggie novelist Coetzee wins Nobel Prize

**STOCKHOLM**—South African novelist and advocate of vegetarianism J.M. Coetzee was on October 1 named winner of the 2003 Nobel Prize for Literature.

The award is to be presented in Stockholm on December 10 by Carl XVI Gustaf, King of Sweden. The date is the anniversary of the death of Alfred Nobel, who endowed the Nobel Prizes with his profit from inventing dynamite.

"Coetzee has long been hailed as a powerful and controversial, if often oblique, commentator on the ravages of apartheid," wrote Jennifer Schuessler, deputy editor of the Ideas section of the *Boston Globe*. But his most recent novel, *Elizabeth Costello*, raises "another unsettled and unsettling question," Schuessler continued.

"By raising billions of animals a year in often squalid conditions

before brutally slaughtering them for their meat and skin, are we all complicit in a 'crime of stupefying proportions'?" Those words are Costello's, whose two lectures on animal rights—"The Philosophers and the Animals" and "The Poets and the Animals"—make up the longest section of the book. The preoccupation is very much Coetzee's own, and has moved increasingly close to the moral center of his work."

"In 1997-98," Schuessler recalled, "Coetzee delivered these chapters as the prestigious Tanner Lectures in Human Values at Princeton. They were published separately in 1999 as *The Lives of Animals*."

Coetzee described his response to social pressure to eat meat in an essay called "Meat Country," published in the Winter 1995 edition of the British literary quarterly *Granta*.

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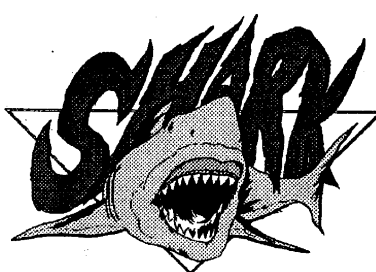
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## Pet Friendly Inc. royalty claim halts Illinois “pet friendly” license plate plan to fund sterilization

SPRINGFIELD—Sales of “pet friendly” license plates to raise funds for dog and cat sterilization remain suspended in Illinois due to a claim of trademark infringement made by the rope toy maker Pet Friendly Inc., and may be in “legal limbo” in several other states, American SPCA Midwest representative Ledy VanKavage told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** shortly before the October 2003 edition went to press.

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White confirmed on August 26 that sales of the Illinois plates reading “I am pet friendly” were halted after his office received a demand for \$563,000 in authorization fees and royalties from Pet Friendly Inc. vice president Charles W. Weinacker Jr.

Pet Friendly Inc. claims to have about 80 employees and sales of approximately \$10 million per year.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office records “show that the Alabama company applied for three trademarks in 1995, but the applications were abandoned,” wrote Dana Heupel of Copley News Service. “The company applied for a combined trademark for clothing, pet toys, and pet food in 1997. The mark was registered on January 8, 2002.”

Pet Friendly Inc. has applied to use the term on carpets and for hotels, but these trademarks have apparently not yet been granted, Heupel said.

Heupel also found that a New York firm registered “pet friendly” as a trademark in 1997 “on a component of a detector to distinguish between human and animal signals.”

Former Illinois Governor George Ryan on January 11, 2002 signed into state law a plan to finance the Illinois Pet Overpopulation Control Fund through the sale of license plates reading “I am pet-friendly.” The plates sell for \$118 the first year, \$105 per renewal, and provide \$25 per sale to the Overpopulation Control Fund.

Weinacker told Heupel that Pet Friendly Inc. sells vehicle plates bearing the words “pet friendly,” and that he had sent demands for authorization fees and royalties to the state of Missouri and the Humane Society of the U.S. as well.

Missouri responded, VanKavage told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, with a claim of sovereign immunity.

The earliest use of the term “pet friendly” discovered by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in web-searching was by the *Los Angeles Daily News* on June 12, 1988.

The earliest use of the term in connection with a product appeared to be by Pet Friendly Publishing Inc., of Scottsdale, Arizona, which in May 1995 issued the first edition of *Vacationing With Your Pet: Eileen's Directory of Pet-Friendly Lodging, U.S. & Canada*, by Eileen Barish.

## Regulations regarding dog & cat freedom

Persuaded by testimony from Peaceable Kingdom founder Liz Jones, plus about 20 other neuter/return practitioners, the **Pennsylvania Game Commission** on October 8, 2003 voted unanimously to drop a proposal to amend a regulation forbidding the “release of house cats” so as to prohibit the release of any dogs or cats, including ferals, “into the wild.” The amendment was pushed by the **American Bird Conservancy**.

**Palm Beach County, Florida**, on August 19 adopted a bylaw to prohibit tethering dogs outside from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., effective on September 1 and subject to review in early 2004 by the county animal control advisory board—which reportedly plans to recommend a total ban on tethering.

**Wichita, Kansas**, in early September became at least the 28th U.S. municipality to restrict dog tethering, adopting a bylaw that limits tethering to no more than one hour at a time.

**New York Governor George Pataki** in August vetoed a bill backed by the **Fund for Animals** and the **Humane Society of the U.S.** that would have prohibited hunting mammals within enclosures of any size, strengthening an existing law that prohibits hunting mammals who are enclosed within less than 10 acres. On September 24, however, Pataki signed a bill to require that dogs kept outdoors must have clean surroundings and freedom of normal movement, with access to a waterproof roof, shade, and insulation from extreme heat or cold.

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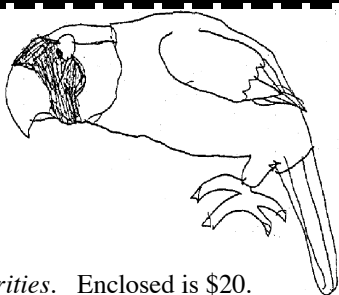
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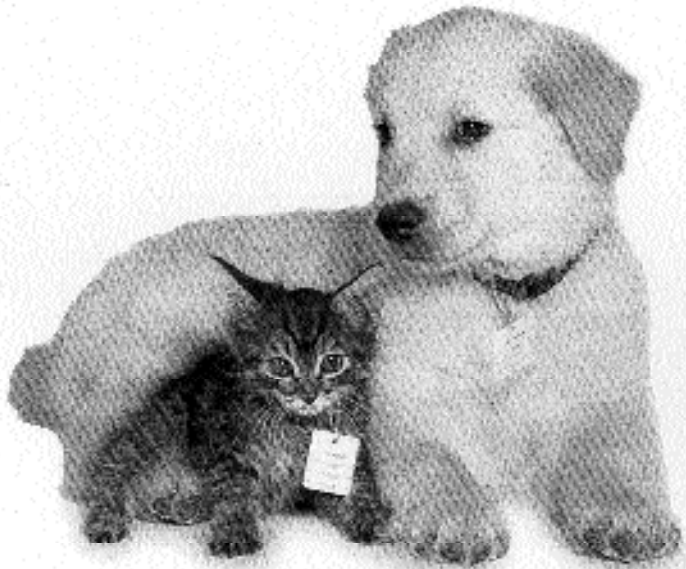
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FPO

## Yellowknife and Connecticut incidents feed the “humane relocation” debate

**YELLOWKNIFE, Northwest Territories, Canada**—Overcrowded with 64 dogs seized by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police from itinerant rescuers Harry and Pat Shermet, the 12-cage Yellowknife SPCA on September 16, 2003 sent 25 puppies to the Edmonton SPCA.

First Air donated the 650-mile flight. The Great Slave Animal Hospital donated the required vaccinations.

“We’re glad to help,” Melissa Boisvert of Edmonton SPCA told Nathan VanderKlippe of the CanWest News Service.

The Edmonton SPCA had only six dogs in its 60 kennels before the puppies arrived, a legacy of successful pet sterilization and rehoming.

The Yellowknife rescue exemplified both the promise and the problems associated with transferring shelter animals to match supply to demand. The Shermets actually had almost the same idea, after they were evicted from the cabin where they had amassed 66 dogs in three years. Loading all the dogs into a trailer on September 5, the Shermets hoped to find homes for them in Manitoba, but were

intercepted by the RCMP in Rae, just 100 miles down the road. Six dogs escaped and two were shot during the ensuing chaos.

“Humane relocation,” as long-distance transfers of animals are called, has proved highly effective in boosting adoptions and reducing shelter killing since the technique was pioneered about 15 years ago by the North Shore Animal League America.

But it remains controversial, a decade after **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in March 1993 documented the positive early results of the North Shore humane relocation program.

In May 2003 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** reported about opposition to humane relocation organized by the National Animal Interest Alliance, founded in 1992 by Oregon dog breeder Patty Strand, and noted the allegation of British quarantine kennel operators that recent relaxation of British quarantine standards may allow rescuers to accidentally import parasitic diseases.

Well-managed humane relocation programs help to put sterilized pets in homes, cut into pet store and breeder sales, and make funding available for pet sterilization in the

communities whose shelters provide the animals. Many shelter operators and breed rescuers, however, see humane relocation as unwelcome competition for chances to place older and/or behaviorally difficult animals.

The Foundation for Animal Protection in Brookfield, Connecticut, Animal Friends of Connecticut in New Britain, and New England Border Collie Rescue each vociferously opposed humane relocation in September statements, likening the practices of humane relocators to those of puppy mills.

Indeed, humane relocation by insufficiently trained people can have catastrophic consequences. Connecticut has seen two recent examples.

Rachel Witherspoon, 40, of Litchfield, Connecticut, volunteered for two local rescue/adoption groups, and was allowed to borrow a mobile adoption van from North Shore to help rehome animals. Unknown either to North Shore or to the local groups Witherspoon was working with, however, she had also imported nine puppies on her own from the Kentucky Humane Society, and was seeking homes for them without going through

the North Shore procedures that ensure the health of animals placed for adoption through their facilities. In March 2003 Witherspoon on two occasions allegedly adopted out sick puppies without issuing the health certificates that are supposed to accompany any animals who are adopted or sold in Connecticut. She was eventually charged with operating a pet shop without a license plus nine counts of importing dogs without a health certificate.

In August 2003 evangelist Ivan Truman, 65, of Smiths Grove, Kentucky, was charged with 10 counts of cruelty after police in Stratford, Connecticut, found 69 dogs packed into 12 carrying crates in his van. Three cats were reportedly loose in the van. Eleven of the 69 dogs were already dead from heat stress. Intercepted on his way from the Bowling Green-Warren County Humane Society in Kentucky to the Oronoque Animal Hospital, Truman told police that he was making his seventh journey as a pet relocater.

Legislation to regulate humane relocation was introduced into the Connecticut legislature after the Witherspoon episode, but was withdrawn pending revisions.

ASPCA

# Bush policy & bushmeat *(from page 1)*

species,” Vedantam wrote. “Giving Americans access to endangered animals, officials said, would feed the U.S. demand for live animals, skins, parts and trophies, and generate profit that would allow poor nations to pay for conservation.”

David P. Smith, Interior Department deputy assistant secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, insisted to Vedantam that, “This is absolutely consistent with the Endangered Species Act.”

Chiefly representing large landowners, the Kenya Wildlife Working Group used comparable language in an April 2003 set of policy recommendations to the Kenya Wildlife Service.

“Managing land to produce game birds...should be encouraged,” the KWWG said. “Game cropping to produce meat and other products is in principle no different from any other form of animal production...it should be encouraged.

“A prime objective of KWS is managing and conserving wildlife to yield optimum returns,” the KWWG asserted. “Worldwide, recreational hunting yields high economic returns. It did so in Kenya for both government and the private sector between 1900 and 1970...The circumstances existing between 1970 and 1977 that justified banning all hunting no longer exist. Given these facts, recreational hunting can be reintroduced to Kenya.

“Many trophies come into KWS hands annually and the hides and skins of animals cropped by landowners become available. Not allowing them to be processed and sold wastes millions of shillings. To optimize returns, trade in trophies should be permitted. Trade in live animals can be profitable and can help conserve biodiversity...Trade in live animals should be encouraged,” the KWWG added.

The likeness of outlook was no mere coincidence.

A leading proponent of the Bush administration proposals is John R. Monson, president-elect of Safari Club International and former chair of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Commission.

“In 1999,” Vedantam noted, “Monson applied for a permit to shoot and import a straight-horned markhor. He was turned down.

“Safari Club International gave \$274,000 to candidates during the 2000 election cycle, 86 percent of it to Republicans. It also spent \$5,445 printing bumper stickers for the Bush presidential campaign. Monson has made a variety of contributions himself, including \$1,000 to the Bush for President campaign.

The most influential voice within the KWWG is another big-time trophy hunter, Ian Parker, described by former KWS director Richard Leakey in his book *Wildlife Wars* as a former professional ele-

phant hunter and “outspoken opponent of efforts to give the elephants a total protection,” arguing that “commercial use should be a fundamental part of any policy on elephant management.”

The U.S. voted at the November 2002 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species triennial meeting to amend the 1989 global ban on ivory trafficking to allow Botswana, Namibia and South Africa to sell stockpiled ivory—in accord with the recommendations of Safari Club International and Ian Parker, but in opposition to the views of most conservation organizations.

## Cropping

Youth for Conservation cofounder Josphat Ngonyo disputes almost every KWWG claim. “Uncontrolled exploitation of wildlife forced the government to ban hunting in 1977,” Ngonyo explains. “There was no more formal consumptive use of wildlife in Kenya until in 1990 the KWS gave in to pressure from a few wealthy land-owners and allowed a five-year game cropping experiment in Nakuru, Laikipia, Machakos, Samburu, Kajiado, and Lamu. This project has continued for 13 years and was only reviewed in 2001.

“KWS was to monitor and evaluate the project. But KWS relied on the croppers and landowners for information. Driven by economic interest, landowners have at times given exaggerated figures [of wildlife abundance] to be allowed to continue to crop. Some croppers resort to poaching to meet market demand after exhausting their quotas,” Ngonyo charged.

“The rationale for cropping was to give the landowners an economic interest in conserving the wildlife on their land, thereby reducing human/wildlife conflict. This has not happened. Large landowners crop and benefit from the wildlife while their neighbors may be arrested if they hunt even a single dik-dik for domestic use. We are thus witnessing heightened animosity between the landowners and the communities. This has fueled poaching in some areas. In fact, cropping is compromising the gains made in anti-poaching campaigns. YfC in two recent three-day desnarving operations harvested 675 snares on just one ranch in Machakos.

“The pilot cropping project led to the emergence of the powerful cartels that are now lobbying for lifting the sport hunting ban in Kenya,” Ngonyo observes. “The ideals of conservation appear to be long abandoned. The goal is to maximize gains from wildlife.”

Michael Wamithi, KWS chief from November 2002 to May 2003, suspended the cropping permits. Wamithi soon afterward lost his job, and returned to work with his previous employer, the International Fund for Animal Welfare, but Ngonyo and fellow YfC officer Steve Itela, among others, have rallied sufficient opposition to cropping to forestall a resumption—at least so far.

“To YfC, the difference between bushmeat and game meat is a matter of semantics,” Ngonyo says. “Meat is all from the same source, the death of an animal, and

if anything, the licensed killer is doing more harm than the small-scale hunter or snarer because of the technological sophistication of the tools he uses.”

But Zoological Society of London conservation programs director Glyn Davies and researcher Guy Cowlshaw said at Salford University in Manchester on September 7 that conservationists should work to develop a sustainable bushmeat trade.

“A great many people depend on bushmeat for food and cash,” said Davies. “You can’t just waltz in and say stop.”

Agreed Cowlshaw, “It would be a crisis if the bushmeat resource disappeared. We have a duty to make sure it remains for local people and is sustainable for the future of the species affected.”

The Davies/Cowlshaw extension of the “sustainable use” concept to bushmeat could indirectly reflect the growing influence of funding from pro-hunting organizations on the zoo community. Ramona Bass, for example, wife of then-Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission chair Lee Bass, raised \$40 million for the Texas Wild exhibit opened in June 2001 at the Fort Worth Zoo. The exhibit glorifies sport hunting.

The Fort Worth Zoo was also the only animal-related charity named as recipient of a gift from George W. Bush in his presidential campaign disclosure statements.

Fort Worth Zoo director of animal collections Robert Wiese in 2000 projected that captive elephants could be extinct in North America by 2049 without an influx of young breeding stock. Elephants have not been imported into the U.S. since 1989, but under the Bush administration the Fish & Wildlife Service has agreed to allow the Lowry Park Zoo in Tampa, Florida, and the San Diego Wild Animal Park in California to import four elephants and seven elephants, respectively, from Swaziland.

The Save The Elephants Coalition challenged the import permits, but lost in U.S. District Court on August 8 and lost in the U.S. Court of Appeals on August 15.

## Parrots

The Bush administration via the Fish & Wildlife Service has also proposed creating a first-ever exemption to the 11-year-old Wild Bird Conservation Act to allow imports of blue-fronted Amazon parrots from Argentina.

“The proposal cites estimates by Argentine parrot biologist Enrique Bucher of how many birds could be safely captured,” Vedantam wrote. “But Bucher said his research actually showed that the proposal was poorly conceived.”

“It’s an extraordinarily bad idea,” World Parrot Trust director Jamie Gilardi told Vedantam, supported by the signatures of 88 parrot experts. “The quotas are based on poor or inadequate science. Sustainability is not addressed at all.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE in January 1999 journeyed up the Rio Tambopata in southern Peru to study parrot habitat in one of the most remote parts of the Amazon basin. We saw devastation wrought by conservation policies founded on “sus-



*Puerto Maldonado, a Peruvian Amazon boomtown. (Kim Bartlett)*

tainable use,” which were paradoxically defended by many of the biologists who were watching species disappear.

“The biologists acknowledged that human predation had significantly depleted parrots, monkeys, giant otters, and other animals captured or hunted for either cash or meat,” we wrote. “In almost in the same breath, however, the biologists at once denounced capturing wildlife for live resale and vigorously defended meat-hunting by indigenous people—even of some of the rarest mammals.

“First, they argued, the indigenous hunter/gatherers have protected and preserved rainforest biodiversity for centuries, and will continue to do so if they are allowed to go on practicing their traditional way of life. This was said while acknowledging that most of the indigenous people of the Amazon region are thoroughly intermingled with more recent immigrants, and that most of the people still classified as ‘indigenous’ have adopted modern ways and weapons to whatever extent they are able.

“Second, the biologists asserted, the hunter/gatherers have no choice but to hunt, as they have no other source of protein (though they export protein-rich Brazil nuts) and as the thin rainforest topsoil will not sustain farming.”

Our March 1999 rebuttal of the biologists’ belief that subsistence hunting and conservation are compatible was not well-received by sustainable use proponents.

But our observations were seconded by Lucy Molleson in the August 2003 edition of the International Primate Protection League magazine *IPPL News*.

“In recent years, immigrants seeking work have significantly increased the demand for food,” wrote Molleson, “Today there is more subsistence hunting in the tropics of Central and South America than in any other equatorial region. Conservative estimates suggest that 15 million animals are killed each year in the Brazilian Amazon. A study in the Madre De Dios region of Peru found that along the Las Piedras river,” which meets the Tambopata at Puerto Maldonado,

“more than 44 tons of bushmeat were consumed in logging camps last year alone, including 690 endangered white-bellied spider monkeys. Woolly monkeys may have been lost already.

“Combined with habitat loss and fragmentation of the forest,” Molleson concluded, “even light to moderate hunting can quickly reduce numbers to the point where they cannot recover.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE was also derided by mainstream conservationists for pointing out that the Amazon rainforest is not primeval old growth, as is widely supposed, but rather regrowth, covering the remains from cycles of use and exploitation that began long before the arrival of chainsaws.

University of Florida researcher Michael Heckenberger in the September 19, 2003 edition of *Science* presented archaeological evidence that the Amazon region was heavily populated and cultivated in pre-Columbian times. Heckenberger and assistants have unearthed the remains of 19 technologically advanced agrarian communities in the upper Xingu region of Brazil.

“The Upper Xingu is the largest tract of Amazonian forest still under indigenous management,” noted MSNBC science reporter Kathleen Wren. “This brings up the question of how to conserve the remaining Amazon. Should the goal be to preserve a pristine wilderness, or a working landscape that supports indigenous people?”

Heckenberger pointed out that “indigenous” and “primitive” are not necessarily the same thing.

“As we dig into the region,” he said, “we realize that 500 years ago it was very different. These people were involved in the same kinds of cultural innovation as elsewhere in the world. We’re not talking about the Incan or Roman empires, but in terms of the rest of Europe, Asia, Africa, the Americas and elsewhere, Amazonians were no less capable of human cultural innovation than anyone else.”

This suggests that their descendants should be no less capable of developing a way of life today that does not depend upon killing animals.

—M.C.

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knowhow. Each has unique qualities.

The Beijing Human & Animal Environmental Education Center, winning the most U.S. and European grant support, is among the most attractive shelters that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has ever visited, with good road access even though it is at the extreme northern edge of the city.

The Animal Rescue Branch of the Environmental Protection Association shelter, at the northeast corner of Beijing, and the Association for Small Animal Protection shelter, in Changping, even farther to the north, are relatively difficult to reach, over poorly marked dirt roads.

The Animal Rescue Branch, however, has made a promising beginning toward renovating property donated by the Beijing Sherwood International Equestrian Club into facilities much like those of the Beijing Human & Animal Environmental Education Center.

The Association for Small Animal Protection has made a comparably promising start at a former pig farm—including opening the first pet cemetery in the Beijing area.

Each shelter offers the resident animals more space, light, and companionship than most U.S. shelters, and each has room to grow.

The Animal Rescue Branch of the Environmental Protection Association has extensive experience at providing veterinary care to the public. Founder Wu Tianyu was originally an economist, but retrained as a veterinarian. Until mid-2003 her organization focused on providing pet sterilization and other out-patient pet care at a storefront hospital that was recently expropriated by a roadbuilding project.

With more than 100 active members, the Animal Rescue Branch has the largest and most active volunteer corps of any of the Beijing shelters, and would be the logical choice to operate a downtown animal hospital, if a site could be found, on behalf of all of them.

The Association for Small Animal Protection has the best downtown office suite, on the third floor of a midtown hotel, and has been the most successful at winning support from private enterprise.

Founder Betty Zhao, whose given name is Zhao Xiao Qin, is a non-practicing university-trained veterinarian, barely half the age of any of the other shelter founders. She has the disconcerting habit of saying “breeding” when she means “pet-keeping,” and **ANIMAL PEOPLE** observed that cat care under her direction was not as well-informed as dog care.

Among the few things that the founders of the other three Beijing shelters are unanimous about is that they conflict with Betty Zhao, mainly over “commercialism”—but **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found that Zhao seemed to be quick to learn, when given better information about how to group cats to improve sociability, how to treat feline conjunctivitis, how to treat and prevent mange, and how to keep a potbellied pig physically and mentally fit.

Most of these skills are simply not taught at the agriculture-oriented Chinese veterinary schools.

## Fundraising & outreach

None of the four Beijing shelters are financially secure. None have even begun to develop strong community support, and none are comfortable yet about soliciting funds from the public. China has little tradition of public charity, though the concept has been introduced to address other social problems, and the shelter founders worry that seeking funds to help animals may not be well-received. They fear that placing donation cans and mailing appeal letters, for example, might be misconstrued as begging, long decried by the Communist government as “parasitism.”

Yet the four shelters demonstrated their value to Beijing during the spring 2003 Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome panic. They were at the forefront of the public education effort, at least informally, answering thousands of calls from frightened petkeepers and accepting hundreds of dogs and cats who might otherwise have been dumped in the streets.

Everywhere in Beijing are fashion-oriented stores selling clothing and accessories, attesting by their presence to the growing economic strength and independence of young, mostly single or childless working women.



Wu Tianyu. (Kim Bartlett)

Around the world, ever since female donors including the future Queen Victoria helped to build the institution that became the Royal SPCA, the emergence of well-funded animal advocacy charities has always closely followed the economic emancipation of working women. Even when men held all the executive positions, women have historically constituted more than 80% of the animal protection donor base.

Women hold all the executive positions with the Beijing shelters.

Lu Di, 71 according to one published source and 76 according to another, founded the China Small Animal Protection Association in 1988, winning official nonprofit status in 1992. Reputedly the first Beijing shelter operator, housing more than 400 dogs and 100 cats at her shelter site, Lu Di is quoted often by news media, including *The New York Times*. *China Daily* reporter Ye Jun profiled her—and counted her animals—shortly before **ANIMAL PEOPLE** visited.

Lu Di is a retired professor of ancient literature at the Renmin (People’s) University of China. After deceased dictator Mao tse Tung took power, Lu Di—a generation younger—was for a time his teacher and associate. But she was imprisoned during the Cultural Revolution, with only a cat for company. When she was released and returned to teaching, she dedicated her life to helping animals.

Interviewing Li Du at her apartment on the Renmin University campus, listening to her recite a litany of unfounded allegations against the heads of other organizations, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** was alarmed at the conditions under which she kept more than 50 cats, 30 dogs, several caged birds, a chicken, and a monkey confined to a cage that is much too small—conditions much more like an “animal hoarding” situation than a reputable animal shelter.

Lu Di is reportedly heavily in debt to feed and care for all the animals, but there appeared to be two donated computers going unused as well as stacks of unopened boxes which might contain donated supplies. Lu Di told Ye Jun that she has attracted 1,600 dues-paying members over the years, who pledge \$7.22 annually, but most have dropped out after just one or two years.

Also in 1988, Wu Tianyu, 60, founded the Animal Rescue Branch of the Environmental Protection Association. Her impetus, volunteer Wu Haiyan told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, was her outrage at seeing wild birds netted for sale as meat and by seeing a friendly yellow dog being bludgeoned to death in front of her keeper.

Beijing Human & Animal Environmental Education Center founder Zhang Luping started her shelter more recently.

Wu Tianyu and Zhang Luping have in common that their facilities are conspicuously clean.

Wu Tianyu, called Miss Wu, is outgoing and revered by her growing numbers of volunteers, who say she is the only person Lu Di will ever listen to. Wu Tianyu herself is less certain of that.

Zhang Luping is contrastingly quiet. She smiles a lot. Like Wu Tianyu, she radiates strength of character, but while Wu Tianyu seems to be the human incarnation of one of the energetic white Pekinese dogs who fill the Beijing shelters, Zhang Luping is serenely feline.

## The price of petkeeping

Lu Di, Wu Tianyu, Zhang Luping, and Betty Zhao are agreed about the basic problems of petkeeping in Beijing.

Summarized Ye Jun in July 2003, “The city charges \$602 U.S. for a dog license, and an extra \$240 annual registration fee. This is simply too much for many residents. As of June 2003, there were about 130,000 licensed dogs in Beijing, according to the Beijing Dog Limitation Office, but according to one estimate 40% of the dogs in Beijing are not licensed.”

Even that estimate turned out to be wildly optimistic. In early September the Beijing Municipal Bureau of Public Security acknowledged that the actual city dog population is about 1.4 million, meaning that not even 10% are licensed.

“The fact that only rich people can afford to keep licensed dogs is not in line with the principle of social equity,” Lu Di told Ye Jun.

In September 2003 the Beijing municipal government agreed, in accord with Bureau of Public Security recommendations, to reduce the dog licensing fee to \$120, and to cut the annual registration fee to \$60.

At the same time the previous prohibition on keeping any dog more than 14 inches high was replaced with a ban on keeping any of 41 specific breeds that are officially believed to be dangerous or commonly problematic for other reasons, such as loud barking or boisterous behavior. Among the banned breeds are Dalmatians, German shepherds, pit bull terriers, collies, and Old English sheepdogs.

Beyond the legal and economic difficulties of pet-keeping, there are also logistic issues. Beijing, with 13 million human residents, has twice as many people as New York City, sprawling for more miles in all directions than Houston. Already Beijing may have as many petkeepers as New York City, though fewer than half as many pets because relatively few Beijing petkeepers have multiple animals.

The growing numbers of Beijing petkeepers urgently need support services of every kind, including pet care instruction, access to sterilization and vaccination clinics, and access to pet supplies. Limited selections of basic pet care supplies are available in most neighborhoods, but there are as yet no pet supply superstores.

Equally problematic from a humane perspective, in all of Beijing there is not even one centrally located and easily accessible place to adopt a pet.

That’s why Beijing needs PETsMART, or something like it.

Most pet dogs and cats in Beijing still come from



Zhang Luping. (Kim Bartlett)

backyard breeders or as giveaways. Some are sold by small conventional pet stores. The pet adoption concept is not unknown, but has barely begun to be promoted.

Beijing as yet has no pet overpopulation. More than fifty years of official discouragement of petkeeping, reinforced by frequent dog massacres, ensured that dog-keepers do not let their animals roam out of sight. Random breeding occurs, but at the end of a leash, and so far the supply of offspring has not markedly exceeded the fast-growing demand for pets to fill the empty spaces in homes and lives left by the one-child-per-family limit in effect since 1979.

The Beijing shelters do not receive many puppies. Mostly they take in poorly trained year-old dogs who have lost their homes in apartment blocks because too many neighbors complained. Even the influx during the SARS panic came largely by demand of apartment block managers or because pet-keepers feared harm to their animals from terrified neighbors.

Cats, officially better tolerated than dogs, are still allowed to roam for the most part, but cats who survive the heavy Beijing traffic are at constant risk from eating poisoned mice and rats. According to the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** counts, dogs with homes outnumber cats by about eight-to-one. The ratio drops to about five-to-one in older neighborhoods with less traffic, more open storefronts, and more garden space.

## Dog meat in Beijing

Theft of dogs and cats for human consumption occurs, but is rare enough that it shocked and outraged the Beijing public when exposed in early 2000 by one of the local television stations. The story spread to international print media. Zhang Luping told *London Daily Telegraph* correspondent David Rennie that she had lost six cats to restaurant suppliers who baited their traps with live sparrows. Lu Di told *New York Times* correspondent Erik Eckholm that cats had been stolen from 500 families in six months.

Most of the reportage associated the thefts with the recent influx into Beijing of job-seekers from the Cantonese-speaking south—and in particular, with the opening of Cantonese-style cat meat restaurants.

Recorded in Guangdong since the 14th century, cat-eating is relatively rare in the rest of China. Dog-eating occurs throughout heavily populated southern China, and in the north-eastern coastal regions, close to Korea, but is less accepted in the Mandarin-speaking northern interior.

“There are dog meat restaurants in Beijing, and some are famous,” Animal Rescue Branch volunteer Wu Haiyan told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, naming three. One restaurant specializes in southern-style dog meat. Another, specializing in the “northeast China cooking style,” Wu Haiyan said, operates at multiple locations, including as the house restaurant in several downtown hotels.

But not all dog meat restaurants profit. Wu Haiyan recalled one that opened in her own neighborhood last year. It was not popular, and within a few months dropped dog meat from the menu.

Beijing natives mostly speak Mandarin. Many associate dog-and-cat eating with rural poverty and backwardness.

Mandarin is the official first language of China, but Cantonese may be spoken at home by more people. Both are languages of the ethnic Han, who make up from 91% to 95% of the Chinese population.

The Korean people are also chiefly descended from the Han, but their language is farther removed from whatever origin it may share with Mandarin and Cantonese, and is disputedly placed by some linguists in the Altaic group, with the Turkish and Mongol languages.

The cultural differences among Mandarin, Cantonese, and Korean speakers might be compared to the differences among U.S. northerners, southerners, and Hispanics.

Which language or accent a person uses does not by itself define how that person views animals, but much as coon-hunters are more likely to be southern Americans and cock-fighters are more likely to be southern or Hispanic, the dog-eating minority of Chinese are more likely to speak Cantonese or Korean, while Mandarin speakers are more likely to keep a

(continued on page 19)

Along with almost every article from back editions, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** web site offers translations of key items into French and Spanish...the Lewyt Award-winning heroic and compassionate animal stories... veterinary info links... handbooks for downloading... fundraising how-to...our guide to estate planning... short biographies and photos of the people behind **ANIMAL PEOPLE** ... and more items added monthly!  
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pet dog or cat as a self-defining aspect of lifestyle, associated with affluence, independence, and sophistication.

To be sure, Cantonese and Korean speakers in Beijing are rarely from the best-educated and most affluent strata. Most are poor people who came to the big city to fill menial jobs that few urban-born people want.

About two-thirds of the Cantonese and North Korean influx are believed to be young men, often blamed by Beijing media for offenses from littering and public drunkenness to violent crime—not that disorder of any sort is conspicuous.

An indicative poster appeared in Beijing during the SARS panic: a warning against public spitting, showing a black cat running away from an expectorating youth. The public was meant to sympathize with the cat—which could not have happened in a city where cat-eating was acceptable. The poster equated spitting with mistreating cats, and associated both with uncouth behavior.

Whether eating dogs, cats, and wildlife is disfavored by most Mandarin speakers because it is seen as a Cantonese practice, or whether the Cantonese are disfavored partly because they eat dogs, cats, and wildlife, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** observed as far south as Chengdu, a two-hour flight from Beijing, that the mostly Mandarin-speaking residents often took pride in showing off a well-kept dog or storefront cat.

Those who knew that they were seen by westerners would often smile at the animal

and nod, or pet the animal if within reach.

An indicative incident occurred one evening in a restaurant district close to the Forbidden City, the ancient Beijing capitol district. The staff at a small bar had two six-week-old kittens in a cardboard box, taking care of them as best they could.

Found on the street earlier that day, one kitten was quite lively, but the other was dehydrated and listless. The bar staff explained that they could not keep the kittens at the bar for much longer. Our translator/guide, Irene Zhang, referred to us by IFAW, agreed to take the kittens home that night. We would then take them to Betty Zhao, whose shelter we were visiting in the morning.

A block down the street the female owner of a larger and more prosperous bar rushed out to ask if she could adopt one of the kittens as a companion to her older cat, who was wandering around the patio and obviously thought he owned the place, since everyone present paid him tribute with pats and treats.

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** publisher Kim Bartlett agreed that the bar owner could take the healthier kitten. When she did, all the people inside the bar came out to admire him.

A quarter mile beyond, across the chain of lakes that winds through central Beijing, in a mercantile neighborhood, Bartlett and Zhang entered a three-story grocery store to buy baby food for the remaining kitten. Wolf Clifton, 13, remained outside holding the kitten. If he had been able to speak Mandarin, he could probably have

**Contact info:**  
**Animal Rescue Branch of the Environmental Protection Association**, Attn: Ms Wu Tianyu, Room 4-4-101, Ta Yuan Xiao Qu, Haidian District, Beijing, Peoples Republic of China; telephone 86-10-6206-3662; fax 86-10-6204-0988; e-mail <arb\_welcome@yahoo.com.cn>.

**Association for Small Animal Protection**, Attn: Mrs. Betty Zhao, Rm 2688 Jing Min Hotel, No.10 Huayanli Changyang District, Beijing 100029, Peoples Republic of China; telephone 86-10-6204-8761; fax: 86-10-6204-8732; e-mail <bettyzhao@vip.sina.com> or <asap@chinapetzone.com>; <www.chinapet-zone.com>.

**Beijing Human and Animal Environmental Education Centre**, Attn: Ms. Zhang Lüping, No.22 XiSiBeiLiuTiao, Xicheng District; Beijing 100034, Peoples Republic of China; telephone 86-10-6178-6778; fax 86-10-6179-1906; e-mail <zhangyi45@mail.china.com>; <www.animalschina.org>.

**China Small Animal Protection Assn.**, Attn: Mrs. Lu Di, No.30, Building I, Jing Yuan, China Renmin University, Beijing

made the acquaintance of at least 50 people who stopped for an admiring look at the kitten, including many young women. Three young men in karate uniforms, carrying athletic bags, also seemed to be kitten-lovers.

No one acted alarmed or afraid. No one rubbed his own stomach and said “Good soup,” as a man pretending to be Chinese



*Betty Zhao. (Kim Bartlett)*

once did when **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton held a kitten in a similar situation in downtown Montreal. Whatever Chinese attitudes toward animals have traditionally been, in Beijing they are clearly changing. —M.C.

## Hong Kong evicts big dogs from public housing

**HONG KONG**—The Hong Kong Housing Authority on September 25, 2003 approved new rules, recommended by the regional government, that will ban from public housing any dogs weighing more than 40 pounds and any dogs acquired after August 1.

Possession of the dogs prior to August 1 must be verified by licensing, vaccination, or sterilization certificates. All dogs must be licensed, vaccinated, sterilized, and registered with the Housing Authority by the end of November.

Dogs will be excluded from elevators from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m., and will be evicted if they occasion two verified complaints.

Pigeons, wildlife, and domesticated farm animals remain excluded, as under the previous regulations.

Cats, cage birds, rabbits, turtles, and fish continue to be permitted.

About 30% of Hong Kong residents live in public housing.

Heatedly debated since May, the new rules represent the first significant update of the Housing Authority

provisions pertaining to animals in 40 years, Hong Kong legislator David Chu Yu-lin told the Asia for Animals conference in early September.

The original rules, Chu Yu-lin said, were written to address problems with peasants resettled from land expropriated for government projects in the New Territories, who were given apartments to replace their former homesteads, and would arrive with all their pigs, chickens, and sometimes goats.

Problems with dogs, Chu Yu-lin added, were never anticipated, because few Hong Kong residents kept dogs in those days.

The Housing Authority proposed banning all pets in May, at the height of the SARS panic, but scaled back the ban under sustained criticism from the Hong Kong SPCA and the Hong Kong Veterinary Association. Local singing star Karen Mok Man-wai recorded a song protesting the ban, authored by her brother Trevor Mok.

Hong Kong Dog Lovers’ Group president Ivy Chan told the *South China Morning Post* that a survey of 16

veterinarians found that 34 dogs and 17 cats had been killed at request of their keepers from fear that the keepers would be evicted.

Amid the debate, the Hong Kong SPCA reported a decrease of 15% in the number of healthy homeless animals it killed in the year since it began phasing out animal control duties, along with an increase of 250 in adoptions. What that meant overall, however, was unclear because statistics were not available from the Agriculture, Fisheries, and Conservation Department, which now has the primary responsibility for animal control.

The transition out of animal control, organizing the Asia for Animals conference, and contesting the new Housing Authority rules took a toll on the Hong Kong SPCA, including the March resignation of executive director Chris Hanselman and the September exit of his successor, Winnie Sek Wai-yu.

Veterinarian Pauline Taylor, who served as interim director between Hanselman and Sek Wai-yu, was named new executive director on September 10.

## Palau bans shark hunting at request of divers

**KOROR, Palau**—Shark-hunting of any kind is illegal within 50 nautical miles of any part of the western Pacific island nation of Palau, effective since mid-September 2003.

The shark-hunting ban is part of a new national marine conservation law that also “protects reef fish, sea turtles, rays, and any marine mammal from foreign fishing,” Agence France-Press reported.

“A bold move for a developing nation struggling to balance generating tax revenue with environmental protection,” Agence France-Press observed, the new law may prove difficult to enforce. Whether Palau has enough patrol boats and aircraft to intercept alleged violators remains to be seen.

However, the new law is a sweeping first victory for the Micronesian Shark Foundation, formed in April 2003 by Boston University marine biologist Philip Lobel in partnership with Fish ‘n Fins, a Palauan firm that outfits diving expeditions and promotes diving tourism.

Palauan native Francis Toribong opened Fish ‘n Fins as the first local dive shop in 1972, inspired by a visit to Palau several years earlier by the late Jacques Cousteau.

“Toribong and Fish ‘n Fins supported scientist Bill Hamner in researching Jelly Fish Lake and other marine lakes in Palau,” the Fish ‘n Fins web site recounts. “In 1996

Toribong starred in the IMAX documentary *The Living Sea*.”

Retiring in 1998, Toribong turned Fish ‘n Fins over to around-the-world sailors Tova Har-El and Navot Bornovski, who came to Palau in 1986.

Shark fishers typically keep only the fins, which sell for high prices in Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, and other affluent Pacific Rim cities. The rest of each shark is usually discarded, sometimes still alive, to avoid filling hold space with remains of relatively low commercial value. The harm to slow-reproducing shark populations is multiplied further by trans-shipment, the practice of transferring catches to transport vessels for relay to market when the fishing vessels are refueled and resupplied from islands closer to the fishing zones. This enables the fishing vessels to fish continuously.

Envirowatch, of Hawaii, and WildAid, of San Francisco, can also claim a share of the credit for the new Palauan marine conservation law.

Envirowatch founder Carroll Cox first challenged shark and turtle hunting, and other exploitation of Palau wildlife, in the early 1990s, as a then-special investigator for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. His photographic documentation of the trans-shipment of shark fins by Japanese vessels visiting Hawaii was instrumental in winning a June 2000 ban on

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—Wolf Clifton

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## China may push vaccina-

**BEIJING**—Appalled by the dog-killing they recently witnessed in eight provinces of southern China, officials of the China Health Ministry and Agriculture Ministry are recommending that future rabies control efforts should focus on vaccination, a well-placed source told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on October 10, 2003.

The *China Daily* on September 3 blamed “the increasing number of dogs and mismanagement of the canine population, including insufficient and improper vaccination against rabies” for the deaths of 550 people in the first six months of 2003, 90 more than in the first six months of 2002.

The most rabies deaths occurred in Guangdong: 74 total, 46 of them in the Maoming area. As many as 60,000 dogs were reportedly killed in a futile effort to contain the outbreak, which closely followed the SARS panic. At least 12 more Guangdong residents, including six children, died from rabies in August.

“Although there is demand for dog meat, only 20% of the dogs in Guangdong have been vaccinated against rabies,” Agence France-Presse noted, hinting thereby that the outbreak involved the dog meat farms and markets.

Earlier **ANIMAL PEOPLE** observed that the scale of the killing was far greater than was claimed during previous purges of pet dogs, and speculated that rabies had emerged at the dog meat farms and markets.

Relaying up-to-date information about vaccination to Chinese health officials and news media, as described in the October 2003 editorial (page 3), **ANIMAL PEOPLE** may have helped to avert a dog massacre that reporters told us was planned in Henan province in early September. Ostensibly meant to prevent the spread of rabies, the killing was to exempt dog meat farms and markets on the pretense that the unvaccinated dogs meant for human consumption were already “quarantined” in close confinement.

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** raised the possibility that the planned massacre was actually intended to discourage keeping dogs as pets, which could be expected to raise sympathy for dogs raised as meat.

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** was told that Henan then denied having planned to kill dogs. Whether any dogs were killed could not be confirmed from the available sources.

possessing shark fins without a shark carcass in any U.S. waters. This extended a 1993 ban which had applied only to the Atlantic coast and Gulf of Mexico.

Seeking to halt shark finning, especially in the western Pacific, is also a focal issue for WildAid, formed in late 1999 by Suwanna Gauntlet of the Barbara Delano Foundation, Steven Galster of the Global Survival Network, Environmental Investigation Agency cofounder Peter Knights, and Steve Trent, who started the Environmental Justice Foundation.

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# THE WILDERNESS FAMILY: *At Home with Africa's Wildlife* by Kobie Kruger

Ballantine Books (c/o Random House, 299 Park Ave., New York, NY 10171), 2001. 381 pages, hardcover, \$26.95.

*The Wilderness Family*, as published in the U.S. and Britain, is actually two former South African best sellers combined under one cover. The first book, *Mahlangeni*, appeared in 1994. *All Things Wild & Wonderful* followed in 1996.

Both are autobiographical accounts of the lives of Kruger National Park ranger's wife Kobie Kruger and family.

Inspired by *Born Free*, the autobiography of the late Kenyan wildlife advocate Joy Adamson, Koby and Kobie Kruger in 1980 took over management of the remote *Mahlangeni* ranger station, taking their three young daughters with them into the bush.

The half of *The Wilderness Family* that was originally issued as *Mahlangeni* covers the Krugers' 11 years at the station in

vignettes often centered around their relationships with local wildlife. They rescue, rehabilitate, and release various animals, tolerate some who make pests of themselves, shoot to scare rather than kill a potentially homicidal hippo, fight poachers, and Kobus is much distressed when he shoots a rampaging elephant to save himself.

He appears to have a very different outlook from much of the rest of the South African wildlife management establishment, whose heavy-handed support of trophy hunting, the sale of ivory from culled elephants, complicity with canned hunts, predator control killing of foxes, jackals, and caracals, and opposition to wildlife rescue are notorious.

After a November 1990 transfer to the Crocodile Bridge tourist camp area, the

Kruger family tried to reprise the *Born Free* story in earnest. *All Things Wild & Wonderful* closely follows their rehabilitation of an orphaned lion cub—and their discovery that there is no wild habitat available for captive-reared lions these days, nor many openings at reputable sanctuaries.

The usual fate of captive-reared lions, the Krugers learned, is death at a canned hunt.

The Krugers found a seemingly decent captive habitat for their young lion at the Pamuzinda Wildlife Park in Zimbabwe, a branch of the Lion & Cheetah Park founded by Viv Bristow and family in 1968. The Krugers' lion was used to breed more lions, however, and may have been among the 34 lions and hundreds of other animals who were seized in

early September 2003 by "war veterans" who overran the Lion & Cheetah Park. Previous seizures of similar facilities have almost always brought massacres of the animals.

The Krugers learn that *Born Free* cannot be reprised. *The Wilderness Family* spends little time drawing conclusions from their experience, yet the lessons between the lines are clear.

—M.C.



(Kim Bartlett)

## Living With Tigers

Discovery Channel Video  
(www.discovery.com), 2003.  
Two hours. \$19.95.

Among the many "sanctuary" projects involving tigers that appear to have more entertainment and fundraising value than either humane or conservation merit, possibly the most bizarre is the effort of South African wildlife film makers John and Dave Varty to "save" tigers by introducing captive-born specimens to the "wild" at their game ranch.

The idea, supposedly, is to prepare the tigers and their descendants to return to freedom in China, on the eve of the 2008 Olympic Games, if China can protect enough habitat and prey for the tigers to survive.

The Varty brothers call their 18-square-mile ranch the Tiger Moon Wildlife Sanctuary, but South Africa—like the U.S.—does not legally recognize sanctuaries as entities with a purpose distinct from keeping wildlife for hunting, meat, or exhibition. Unlike the U.S., South Africa even prohibits keeping some native species except for commercial use. The Kalahari Wildlife Center, Enkosini Wildlife Sanctuary, SealAlert, and at least three nonhuman primate rescue facilities have accordingly fought for years in court for the right to keep caracals, jackals, lions, fur seals, vervets, and baboons whose injuries or conditioned reliance upon human feeding preclude returning them to the wild.

In 2000 the Vartys imported two young tigers and trainer Dave Salmoni from the Bowmanville Zoo in Ontario.

Opened in 1919, the Bowmanville Zoo has received critical reviews from Zoocheck Canada since 1986, in part because it allows tigers—common in captivity—to breed.

The Vartys in early 2001 obtained \$4 million in funding from British philanthropists Li Quan and Stewart Bray, who founded an organization called Save The Tigers.

Quan and Bray "agreed to pay China \$100,000 a year until 2007," according to David Wilson of the *South China Morning Post*, in exchange for a "supply of cubs from Chinese zoos."

But the relationship among the Vartys, Quan, and Bray fractured before the end of 2002. Quan and Bray accused the brothers of fraud. In April 2003 the Vartys won a restraining order from the Johannesburg High Court against Quan, Bray, and four "strongmen" whom Quan and Bray allegedly hired to try to take control of the project back from the Vartys.

The Varty brothers continue to work with the Bowmanville Zoo tigers. Threatening to sue the brothers, Quan and Bray meanwhile started their own 500-acre tiger-rehab-in-South Africa project. On September 1, 2003, they received two tigers from the Shanghai Zoo.

Among the evident conceptual flaws in either version of the scheme are that tigers are not native to South Africa and not adapted to the dry South African climate; South Africa lacks adequate wild prey for native feline predators such as the lion, leopard, cheetah, and caracal, who need no added food competition; and tigers released in China would not occupy habitat even remotely resembling the veldt.

*Living With Tigers*, produced by the Vartys, demonstrates many reasons for skepticism about the Tiger Moon project, but presents each dubious aspect with a gush of enthusiasm which evidently kept the Discovery Channel executives from asking all the questions they should have.

Salmoni and Dave Varty are repeatedly shown cuddling and playing with the tigers in a manner opposite to standard wildlife rehabilitation technique, in which contact with humans is minimized and discouraged. They tow dead antelopes behind a truck for the tigers to pounce, conditioning the tigers to appear at the sound of vehicles—and perhaps, to stalk tourist jeeps. They keep the brother and sister tiger together until the female comes into her first heat. They teach the tigers to hunt as a pack, which no tigers do in the wild.

They repeatedly take meat from the tigers to "show them who is boss," feeding them later in camp. This teaches the tigers to associate human habitation with food.

Eventually the Vartys proclaim success in teaching the tigers to hunt, after the tigers kill seven springbok who have been released almost into their mouths. No wild tiger described by Jim Corbett, Billy Arjan Singh, Valmik Thapar, or even Rudyard Kipling ever did such a thing: wild tigers hunt to eat, not for sport, and do not risk goring or stomping to kill horned and hooved prey in excess. Indeed, no wild predator kills to excess, since this would lead to starvation.

The filming itself also raises questions. At one point a map of Tiger Moon shows that the Orange River bisects it. Later, the tigers "escape" across the river to attack cattle said to belong to a neighbor. But the tigers are shown in frontal view as they charge out of the river, up an embankment toward the cattle. Only if the camera was already between the cattle and the river could that shot have been obtained. If it was taken at another time, it is not so identified.

It is easy to see possible reasons why Quan and Bray withdrew from the partnership. The likelihood of the Bowmanville Zoo tigers ever surviving anywhere in a genuinely wild and self-sufficient state appears to be slim, though the illusion that they are living as "wild tigers" on the ranch may become a major magnet for photo safari visitors.

Why Quan and Bray are continuing their parallel project is harder to envision—because even if they avoid the mistakes shown in *LivingWith Tigers*, there still seems to be little reason to anticipate success.

A competitor project is underway within China. The official Xinhua News Agency announced on September 24 that the Northeast China Tiger Park in Harbin, Heilongjiang province, had released 30 two-year-old Siberian tiger cubs into a 40-square-kilometre "natural habitat" to "beef up their ferocity." This too is a highly artificial situation, but at least these tigers are in a semblance of their native habitat.

—M.C.

## Justice on Earth: *Earthjustice and the people it has served* by Tom Turner

Chelsea Green Publishing  
(distributed by Earthjustice,  
416 17th St., Oakland, CA  
94161), 2002.  
224 pages, hardcover. \$40.00.

Originating from a 1971 internal split within the Sierra Club, Earthjustice called itself the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund until 1997. Essentially an environmental law firm structured as a nonprofit activist group, Earthjustice mostly sues government agencies to seek enforcement of legislation including the habitat protection provisions of the Endangered Species Act and Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Facing controversy, bureaucrats often to do nothing until compelled by the courts to act—and sometimes, especially in ESA cases, political pressures all but prevent effective action until judges rule. Many organizations pursue such cases, but Earthjustice, now emulated by several others, was the first to file lawsuits as its chief program function.

While still called the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, the organization published a previous historical resume of its activities in 1989, entitled *Wild by Law*. *Justice on Earth* updates that volume and adds coverage of new issues.

Of particular note is that author Tom Turner describes labyrinthine court cases in a succinct and lucid manner. Justice on Earth is not quite a crime-thriller, but it won't lose anyone with a serious interest in the issues, especially the serious donors who are the target audience.

—M.C.

## Animal Control Management: *A Guide for Local Governments* by Geoffrey L. Handy

International City/County Management Association (777 North Capitol St. N.E., Suite 500, Washington, DC 20002), 2001. 107 pages. Order c/o <<http://bookstore.icma.org>>.

*Animal Control Management: A Guide for Local Governments* has been much expanded and updated since the 1993 report of the same title on which the current edition is based, but the most significant expansion is a broadening of mind, toward accepting the roles of privately funded no-kill animal shelters and neuter/return feral cat control.

Compiled by Geoffrey L. Handy and other personnel at the Humane Society of the United States, *Animal Control Management* is not an official HSUS publication, yet may be seen as the HSUS "gospel" on animal care-and-control. At least until the next edition appears, it will stand with the 2001 revision of the *National Animal Control Association Training Guide* as "the book" for the animal control field.

As such, *Animal Control Management* closely parallels the *NACA Training Guide*, but this is not to say that the two volumes are equal or identical. Compiled by a single author, *Animal Control Management* is a quicker read; the *NACA Training Guide*, anthologizing numerous well-respected experts, offers greater depth on focal topics. *Animal Control Management* is somewhat more preoccupied with regulation, and spends much less page space on actual animal handling and health care. Both books have added extensive sections on disaster preparation and relief. Neither is up-to-date in discussing shelter design, and neither even mentions the advantages of using storefront-grade plate glass rather than chain link to divide dog kennels. Among these advantages are easier sanitation and a vastly quieter shelter, since glass markedly reduces the tendency of dogs to become excited by odors.

Three noteworthy faults of *Animal Control Management* are holdovers of dogma

which should have been discarded.

The first is the argument that pit bull terriers are not uniquely dangerous. *Animal Control Management* on page 8 states that, "More than half of 20 pit bull-related fatalities investigated in detail by HSUS in recent years involved male owners associated with dog-fighting or other criminal activity."

This is misleading and disingenuous, since 20 is only a tiny fraction of the 770 life-threatening or fatal pit bull attacks logged by ANIMAL PEOPLE since 1982, among 1,660 total life-threatening dog attacks occurring in the U.S. and Canada over the same time, and is less than a third of the 65 pit bull-related fatalities, the overwhelming majority of which have involved dogs kept as pets under typical household conditions. In fact, the ANIMAL PEOPLE log excludes attacks by dogs trained for fighting, guarding, or police work, to avoid any breed-specific bias which might result from the predominance of any breed in a job using trained dogs.

Sooner or later, the animal care-and-control and animal advocacy communities must recognize that if pit bulls are to be saved as a breed, they will have to be regulated in acknowledgement that they are behaviorally different enough from most other dogs to pose a significantly higher risk to the public, along with Rottweilers, Akitas, and several lesser-known breeds that show up disproportionately often in the life-threatening attack data.

If government agencies and the non-profit sector lack the stomach to do this in a humane manner, the insurance industry will, in a dollars-and-cents manner, as many insurance carriers already have by refusing to insure homeowners if they keep any of a long list of dog breeds, many of them demonstrably not often appearing in the attack statistics.

The second fault of note in *Animal Control Management* is repeating unfounded praise of a 1991 breeding control ordinance passed in San Mateo County, California. Revolutionary in sweep when introduced, the San Mateo ordinance amounted to little more than ordinary differential licensing when actually passed.

"In 1999 the county's major shelter reported a 25% decline in the number of animals it has handled since passage of the ordinance and a 34% decline in the number of animals the shelter has euthanized," *Animal Control Management* gushes. But the same could have been said for the U.S. as a whole over the same years, and the neighboring city of San Francisco achieved even more remarkable drops in shelter intake and animal killing with no such ordinance in effect.

Finally, on page 48, *Animal Control Management* advises that "A shelter should encourage the public to bring stray and unwanted animals to its facility," adding that, "Some agencies provide drop-off boxes for use after hours. If the animal deposit area is properly designed and managed, it may prevent abandonment by allowing people to relinquish animals at their convenience and without question." True, but the passage should have described how a drop-off box should be designed and managed, since there have been so many problems with such facilities that NACA no longer recommends their use. *Animal Control Management* should further have noted that it is far preferable for a shelter to be open at all times to receive animals, if possible, and if not, to at least be staffed evenings and weekends.

Apart from these three weak passages, *Animal Control Management* is a useful and helpful handbook.

—M.C.

## Sea Turtles of the World *by Doug Perrine*

Voyageur Press (123 N. 2nd St., Stillwater, MN 55082), 2003.  
144 pages, 100 color photos, hardcover. \$29.95.

The Voyageur Press standard of accuracy applies even to back cover descriptions, to the point that improving on them can be frustratingly difficult.

“Through vivid photographs and engaging text, *Sea Turtles of the World* provides an in-depth look at the natural history and conservation issues of these prehistoric-looking reptiles,” says the back cover of this one, noting chapters on green sea turtles, loggerheads, hawksbills, olive ridley and Kemp’s ridley turtles, Australian flatbacks, and leatherbacks.

The only possible argument is that sea turtles are not just prehistoric-looking. They are in fact prehistoric. Ancestral sea turtles go back at least 200 million years, and many more varieties have come and gone than are still with us.

The youngest sea turtle variety, the Kemp’s ridley, apparently evolved in the Caribbean from olive ridleys who were trapped on the Atlantic side of the Isthmus of Panama after the shallow sea passage that formerly separated North and South America closed for the last time circa three million years ago.

That makes even Kemp’s ridley sea turtles markedly older than humans, whose predation and pollution have pushed all sea turtles far enough toward extinction that all are now globally protected, at least on paper.

In truth, as author/photographer Doug Perrine briefly discusses, even some sea

turtle conservation programs are contributing to the extirpation of sea turtles from formerly favorable habitat. The most conspicuous failures involve “regulated harvests” intended to achieve “sustainable use,” by way of preserving “cultural traditions” in parts of Malaysia and Mexico. Allowing any legal traffic in sea turtle parts gives cover to poachers, who inevitably quickly eradicate vulnerable populations in the belief that others will poach any turtles or eggs left behind.

Consistent with the library-oriented Voyageur Press format, Perrine provides only brief summaries of the many sea turtle-related controversies in the U.S. and abroad, and omits more than passing discussion of most of the personalities and organizations who have made sea turtles a global issue. The late Archie Carr rates a mention, but not Ila Loetscher, the late pioneer aviator who “retired” in 1958 and for the next 40 years was the Turtle Lady of Texas. She looked like a turtle, talked like a turtle, dressed like a turtle, and was almost singlehandedly responsible for the sea turtle protection program at Padre Island National Sea Shore.

Perrine notes that green sea turtle—who apparently grazed ancient sea grass in vast herds like aquatic bison—have shifted their feeding times in response to human predation, becoming nocturnal where they are heavily hunted, but reverting to diurnal feeding wherever they are not hunted. —M.C.

## The Pawprints of History:

### *Dogs and the course of human events*

by Stanley Coren

The Free Press (1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020), 2002. 322 pages. Hardcover, \$26.

Documentation of dogs’ roles in the course of human events rarely appears in school history texts.

Stanley Coren establishes in *The Pawprints of History*, however, that dogs have been enormously influential, not only in helping humans to survive in prehistoric times and perhaps in shaping our social structure, but also through interventions of various sorts in political and military affairs.

For example, dogs saved the lives of people of historical stature including Napoleon, the Fifth Dalai Lama, and Alexander the Great. Dogs also provided emotional support and encouragement at critical times to Abraham Lincoln, Isaac Newton and Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots.

Dogs were a source of inspiration to *Ivanhoe* author Sir Walter Scott and the composer Richard Wagner, Coren continues. Sigmund Freud’s dog led Freud to research the basics of what would later become the widely recognised technique of pet-assisted therapy.

Coren claims that the English civil wars of 1642-1646 and 1648, which ended the previously much greater power of English monarchs, were partially sparked by the bloodlust of pack hunters King James I and his son Charles I. Coren explains that James I ordered his envoys to confiscate from his subjects any dogs suitable for hunting and dog-fighting. To prevent other people from hunting in the royal forests, which were extended by expropriations of common holdings and sometimes the private property of others, hunting rights were withdrawn, and large dogs of both landlords and commoners were mutilated. The population was outraged.

Together with dissatisfaction over the kings’ other policies, the dog-related regulations led eventually to the execution of Charles I and to the regime of Oliver Cromwell, who attempted unsuccessfully to repress blood sports.

Dogs have often been misused by soldiers, Coren notes. The Spanish conquerors of the New World, for instance, trained mastiffs to hunt, subdue, and sometimes kill indigenous Americans, whose own dogs were much smaller.

Many U.S. presidents have been associated with dogs. Coren believes that some presidents used dogs to create a particular public image of themselves, among them Andrew Jackson, William Harrison, Warren Harding, Herbert Hoover, Richard Nixon, George Bush and Bill Clinton. The books *Fred’s Story* and *Millie’s Book*, by Barbara Bush, wife of the first President Bush, were supposedly written by the family spaniel and

pictured Bush as a loving family member and caring pet guardian, rather than as a life member of Safari Club International and former head of the CIA.

Dogs caused embarrassment to other presidents. Gerald Ford, a responsible pet-keeper, once took his dog Liberty for a night “business trip” around the White House lawn. Unfortunately Ford forgot to warn the Secret Service agents who were supposed to be guarding him about his late night walk. Meanwhile the security team locked the White House for the night. Dressed only in his robe, the President found himself locked out. He tried to draw the attention of the guards, and ended up under searchlights with federal agents pointing guns at him. Coren believes that the incident added to Ford’s image as a bumbler, contributing to his 1976 election loss to Jimmy Carter.

Particularly interesting is Coren’s research on dogs’ role in religions, for example in the formation of the Anglican Church. Most history books describe how Henry VIII sought divorce from Catherine of Aragón, and appealed to the Pope Clement VII, who refused to grant the divorce. Outraged, Henry VIII passed the Act of Supremacy (1534), thus denying the Pope any power or jurisdiction over the Church of England. He then reasserted the ancient right of the monarch to exercise supremacy over the Church. This event marked the beginning of the Anglican church as a national church independent of papal jurisdiction.

Coren believes that the Pope’s decision to decline Henry’s request of divorce might have been prompted by the escapade of a dog who accompanied Henry’s envoy to the

## Cull of the Wild: *The Truth Behind Trapping*

Animal Protection Institute (POB 22505, Sacramento, CA 95822), 2003.  
Video offered on each cassette in both 27-minute and 10-minute versions.  
\$10.00 each [\$7.50 each for 10 or more copies.]

For 12 winters, 1977-1989, I was volunteer assistant to a now deceased Quebec deputy game warden in a rural township whose farmers had virtually all posted their land against trapping. I combined my morning crosscountry runs with patrolling between 50 and 60 miles per week of woodlots, streams, and riverbanks, scouting for illegal traplines. The region was rich in fox, coyote, raccoon, muskrat, and sometimes beaver, and pelt prices were at their 20th century peak. Thus the farms continually attracted trappers, despite the posting signs. The trappers appeared to consider their trap losses to my patrols a routine cost of doing business.

Over the years I became familiar with standard trapping methods and equipment—and found that the cruelty of trapping was actually understated by animal rights literature. The late Animal Welfare Institute founder Christine Stevens, for example, claimed that cable snares are less cruel than leghold traps, having probably never seen real-life cable snaring.

Animal advocates finally got to see some of what really happens on traplines with the 2002 release of *Crying Shame*, a five-minute collection of clips from U.S. and Canadian government tests of standard traps and techniques produced by The Fur-Bearers (3727 Renfrew St., Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5M 3L7; <furbearers@ban-leghold-traps.com>), but *Crying Shame*, though suitable for airing on a portable monitor at a protest, is more intense and relentless in depicting animal suffering than most people will voluntarily watch, and barely delves into trapping issues other than cruelty, for example not offering much to refute the perpetual claim of trappers that furbearing animal populations must be lethally “managed.”

*Cull of the Wild* includes much of the same footage, but breaks it up with informative interviews. Missouri Department of Conservation furbearer biologist Dave Hamilton appears to make the same arguments that he used in 1995-1996 to roll back a ban on the import of trapped fur into the European Union. He is effectively refuted by Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights founder Ned Buyuchimici, DVM, who grew up battling the trappers who perpetually invaded the Unexpected Wildlife Refuge, founded by his late parents in central New Jersey. Other trappers, biologists, Animal Protection Institute wildlife expert Camilla Fox, and several past and present Members of Congress add to the discussion.

Apart from being well-edited and relatively easily watched, *Cull of the Wild* is the first anti-trapping video I have seen that adequately discusses the differences among cable snares, Conibear traps, and leghold traps, both with and without offset jaws and padding. A quibble is that it repeats the frequent misperception that leghold traps are the most common type. Actually, both cable snares, set mainly for coyote and fox, and Conibear traps, set mainly for muskrat, nutria, beaver, and otter, appear to be used in much greater profusion—and copper wire snares, not yet discussed by any anti-trapping video, may be more often used in some regions than all other trap varieties combined.

*Cull of the Wild* comes as a two-in-one package, containing both 27-minute and 10-minute versions. The short version includes everything that really packs a punch, but the long version should be required viewing for campaigners, as background they may find indispensable in debating trappers.

—Merritt Clifton

Vatican, Cardinal Thomas Wolsey. Coren writes that the Pope originally favored the divorce. During the decisive audience, however, before signing the papers, the Pope pointed his bare toe at Wolsey. Wolsey was to kiss the toe in obeisance and homage. Protective of his guardian, Wolsey’s dog mistook the Pope’s move as an act of aggression, rushed to the offender, and bit his foot. The Pope changed his decision on the spot.

In China under the rule of Tzu Hsi (1835-1908) the sacred dogs of Chinese Buddhism—the Pekingese—played an essential role in the choices of the empress, Coren continues.

“The birth of each litter of dogs was taken to have special significance that might reflect upon current or future events. The colors and markings of the litter were noted, as well as the number of puppies born, the order in which each puppy appeared, and the sex of each,” Coren explains.

These signs were vital for Tzu Hsi, and had a special meaning: black fur-color was associated with evil, red with happiness, yellow with death, etc. The combination of the signs was interpreted, and Tzu Hsi would often base her political decisions on these tokens of Buddha.”

Thus puppy litter signs encouraged a successful coup d’etat during the rule of Kuang Hsu (1871-1908), and helped to instigate the Boxer Rebellion (1900). The latter failed despite the initially favourable interpretation of the puppy-litter signs.

Dogs have lived with people for millennia, Coren notes, and despite the many historical incidents involving dogs in some manner, they have had a far greater influence on

human events through their daily interactions with us. Dogs had an essential role in the origin of civilization, by furnishing protection for crops, livestock, and permanent settlements.

Dogs also have their own history, much of it still unknown to humans. There is dispute, for instance, as to whether dogs evolved from wolves, or wolves evolved from dogs, and whether dogs were domesticated just once, in one place and time, or were domesticated and redomesticated many times in many places.

“Several wild species of *Canidae* have been tamed,” believed Charles Darwin. “Their blood, in some cases mingled together, flows in the veins of our domestic breeds.”

Although genetic research has now excluded jackals, coyotes, and foxes from the ancestry of domestic dogs, fossil evidence indicates that dogs already exhibited a variety of regional traits now identified as “breed” characteristics, including “Asian street dog,” “sight hound,” and “mastiff,” long before the human species emerged.

As to the time of domestication, opinions are also divided. Most experts believe dogs were domesticated between ten and twenty thousand years ago. However, some UCLA researchers claim domestication occurred as long as a hundred thousand years ago—or earlier.

Coren is a neuropsychologist and professor of psychology at the University of British Columbia. *The Pawprints of History* follows previous Coren titles including *The Intelligence of Dogs*, *What Do Dogs Know*, *Why We Love The Dogs We Do*, and *How to Speak Dog*.

—Tanja Maroueva



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OBITUARIES

**Sonora Webster Carver**, 99, died on September 21 in Pleasantville, New Jersey, one day after her lifelong friend **Josephine K. DeAngelis**, 92. Sonora Carver's father-in-law, W.F. Carver, started the diving horse act at the Steel Pier in Atlantic City, with her husband Al as one of the riders, but the act lastingly captured public interest only after Sonora Carver rode the horse through the 40-foot plunge in 1924. DeAngelis and Sonora Carver's sister Arnette Webster French then joined the act, which became a resident attraction at the Steel Pier in 1929. In 1931 Sonora Carver was blinded by detached retinas in a bad fall into the water with a horse named Red Lips, but continued to ride the diving horses for 10 more years. Her 1961 memoir *A Girl & Five Brave Horses* inspired the 1991 Walt Disney Inc. film *Wild Hearts Can't Be Broken*. The Carver act ended in 1978 when the original Steel Pier was closed. A parallel act at the Lake Compounce Amusement Park in Bristol, Connecticut, used a riderless horse. That act reportedly ended long before the park itself closed, after 146 years, in 1991. A similar riderless act started in 1977 at Magic Forest in Lake George, New York, and is now the target of protests led by Equine Advocates. Former Carver trainer Johnny Rivers started a traveling mule-diving act in 1957, taken over in 1983 by his son, Tim Rivers, of Animals In Motion in Citra, Florida. At first a monkey was chained to the back of the diving mule. Later the mule dived alone. Tim Rivers in 1993 briefly revived the Steel Pier act, at the new pier, using a mule and a miniature horse.

Rivers fled to evade cruelty charges at least five times in six states between 1979 and 2001. Brevard County, Florida, in 1994 passed an emergency bylaw to ban the diving mule act. A bill to ban the act statewide cleared the Florida House agriculture committee in 1998, but did not advance. In 1999 Rivers escaped cruelty charges brought by Justice for Animals in North Carolina when the veterinarian who was to testify against him did not appear. In November 2002, however, Rivers drew six months in prison after pleading guilty to illegally selling two black leopards, a Bengal tiger, an African lion, and a lion/tiger hybrid to a Chicago-based ring that set up canned hunts and sold meat from rare species. At least 14 of the 16 defendants in the case have now been convicted.

**Paula Barnard**, kennel manager for the Domestic Animal Rescue Society in Goodwood, South Africa, was ambushed and stabbed to death by two unidentified men as she returned to the kennel on October 9 after a shopping trip. The men also stabbed one of her two daughters. The daughter survived with reportedly minor back injuries. "There was no robbery—they were just stabbed," DARG managing director Joy Giovanini told *Cape Times* reporter Babalo Ndenze. There was no apparent motive for the attack, which resembled the September 17 murder of St. Lucia Animal Protection Society founder Jane Tipson (page 12). Thirty animals left without a caretaker were relocated to other kennels, including a DARG facility in Huot Bay.

**James Rachels**, 62, died of cancer on September 9 in Birmingham, Alabama. In 1975, at about the same time that Peter Singer published *Animal Liberation*, Rachels published an influential article entitled Active & Passive Euthanasia in *The New England Journal of Medicine*. "Along with *Animal Liberation*, the paper helped start an applied ethics movement in philosophy that focused on polarizing issues like abortion, animal rights, suicide, and cloning," remembered Anahad O'Connor of *The New York Times*. "In something of a role switch, Singer during the 1990s wrote less about animal issues and more about human euthanasia, while Rachels in 1991 published *Created From Animals: the Moral Implications of Darwinism*, his most successful of five books, which argued that human evolution from animals implies moral obligations of kinship toward animals.

**Roxie Laybourne**, 92, died on August 7 in Manassas, Virginia. Joining the staff of the Smithsonian Institution in 1944, after stints with the National Fisheries Laboratory and North Carolina State Museum, Laybourne became perhaps the world's leading expert on bird identification from forensic evidence. In 1960 she initiated the formal study of bird collisions with aircraft after finding that a flock of starlings who were sucked into an engine had caused a crash in Boston that killed 62 people. "Over the next decades," wrote Anahad O'Connor of *The New York Times*, "Laybourne helped identify thousands of birds involved in collisions with aircraft. Her work gave manufacturers information for designing engines that could fly after ingesting birds, and helped ornithologists to prevent flocks from gathering near airports." Laybourne also used her bird knowledge to help the FBI solve at least one murder. Retiring from the Smithsonian in 1988, she remained active as a consultant to the National Fish & Wildlife Forensic Laboratory, helping to convict poachers and bird smugglers.

**Nathan Tjiondo**, 36, in charge of feeding six lions at the Kavita Lion Lodge in Kamanjab, Namibia, was somehow pulled into the enclosure housing three young lions on September 2 and fatally mauled. The lodge is headquarters of the Afri-Leo Foundation, formed by Tammy and Uwe Hoth in 1997 to "protect and conserve lions in Namibia."

**Tshikani Nobela**, 9, was fatally mauled by a leopard on August 16 at Kruger National Park, South Africa, two years after surviving a leopard attack that severely injured his older brother Mothusi. The leopard who attacked the boys on that occasion killed Kotie de Beer, 49, about an hour later. The boys' father, Phineus Nobels, is a Kruger National Park wildlife management advisor.

**Timothy Treadwell**, 46, and **Amie Huguenard**, 37, both of Malibu, California, were on October 6 found mauled and partially eaten by grizzly bears at their campsite in Katmai National Park & Preserve on the Alaska Peninsula. A video camera captured the sounds of their last moments, indicating that Treadwell was attacked first, probably by an aged male who was one of two grizzlies shot at the scene by park rangers and state troopers. Huguenard was apparently killed while trying to save Treadwell. Their camp, investigators said, was directly on a heavily used grizzly corridor. A veteran of 13 summers of camping among the Katmai grizzlies, Treadwell was co-author of *Among Grizzlies: Living With Wild Bears in Alaska*, made three feature films about grizzlies and other Alaskan wildlife with Joel Bennett of Juneau, maintained an extensive web site about grizzlies, was subject of documentaries by the Discovery Channel and Dateline NBC, and was interviewed about his work with grizzlies by David Letterman and Rosie O'Donnell. Huguenard had camped with him each summer for three years. "I'm there to keep poachers and sport hunters away," Treadwell said in 1999. "I'm much more likely to be killed by an angry sport hunter than a bear."


**Tallifer Stanton**, 8, of Port Arthur, Texas, drowned on September 6 while trying to save his cat from a rain-swollen drainage ditch. The cat drowned with him. Jennifer Stanton, 9, was swept away by the current when she tried to grab both of them, but was seen by workers at a pumping station and was rescued by a fire department diver. Neither child could swim.

**Betty Clayton** died in late August in Atlanta. A longtime member of the Atlanta Humane Society auxiliary and the Atlanta Theosophical Society, Clayton was remembered by fellow activists for pushing a bill to ban leghold traps through the Georgia Senate in 1979, though the House killed it with a maneuver that was editorially denounced by the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, and for helping to win passage of the 1980 federal bill that created the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

**John Tucker**, 76, died on October 27 in Stuart, Florida. A retired Alaska pipeline worker, Tucker had been cited 16 times since 1997 for feeding feral cats, and left a backyard colony of about 40 cats who were trapped after his death by Martin County animal control. "He did a pretty good job with them," animal control officer Christine Polizzi told Palm Beach Post staff writer Pat Moore. "He had all of them vaccinated, and neutered all he could catch."

MEMORIALS

In memory of Cleone Bujalski,  
devoted animal lover and good friend.  
—Larry & Carolyn Emery  
—Bill & Judy Lindquist



In memory of Eddie  
who dreamed he could fly.  
—Everyone at Euro Co.

In memory of Matilda, the sweetest dog.  
—Kathy Ruopp


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Art, Shannon and Ashley.  
—Lewis Nierman & April Ponemon

In memory of William, most beloved kitty  
of Kristin Von Kreisler.

To Ken in memory of Rodger—the best little  
buddy in the world. We applaud the courage  
you both showed during this difficult journey.  
—Love, Lindy & Marvin Sobel

In loving memory of my angel, Koala Naomi.  
—Jamaka Petzak,  
"the cat woman of South El Monte"



In memory of Blackie,  
still in my heart, as ever.  
—Mary Vail

In memory of Purr Box (12/3/87),  
Prometheus (3/21/81), Friendl (10/30/87),  
Lizzie (5/8/84), Boy Cat (12/26/85),  
Miss Penrose (11/18/98), Duke (11/1/98)  
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