



Thai dogs rescued from traffic to Vietnam. (Khun Bee/Soi Dog Foundation)

Opposition to dog meat traffic rises in China, Thailand, and Vietnam

BEIJING, BANKOK, HANOI—Public outrage on September 21, 2011 brought the abrupt cancellation of the eighth annual dog meat festival in Zhejiang, China, which had been scheduled for October 18.

From five to ten thousand dogs were to have been caged in the streets of Jinhua City, Zhejiang province, to be killed and butchered to visitors' order. "Dogs' yelping

fills the air throughout the the festival," reported *The Shanghaiist*.

"Folklore holds that dogs in Qianxi," the name of a Jinhua township not to be confused with the city of the same name in Guizhou province, "were secretly killed by the troops of Zhu Yuanzhang, founder of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), before they

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Chiredzi River Conservancy elephants. (Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force)

Failing Zimbabwe farmers poison elephants

HARARE, Zimbabwe—Driven by drought and inability to farm on property seized a decade ago, desperate Zimbabweans have begun a second round of land invasions.

Land invasions during the first years of the 21st century left the Zimbabwean trophy hunting industry largely intact, but destroyed nonlethal wildlife watching and turned Zimbabwe from being one of Africa's major food exporting nations into requiring international food aid. Encouraging the land invasions kept the ZANU-PF party in power, extending the tenure of President Robert

Mugabe to 31 years. But Mugabe, 87, is suffering from advanced prostate cancer, according to leaked diplomatic papers.

The ascent of Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai's Movement for Democratic Change into a coalition government after a disputed 2008 election raised hope of eventual post-Mugabe reform and economic improvement. Before that can happen, however, Zimbabwe must survive a rush by ZANU-PF supporters to grab whatever more they can in the anticipated denouement of the Mugabe regime. The remaining Zimbabwean protected habitat and wildlife are among the most vulnerable targets.

"There are new land invasions in the Chiredzi River Conservancy," Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force founder Johnny Rodrigues e-mailed to supporters on August 30, 2011, adding details on September 26. "The Chiredzi River Conservancy, part of the Trans Frontier Conservation Area, is an internationally renowned wildlife conservancy in the South Eastern Lowveld," Rodrigues explained. "During the drought of 1991-1992," a time many Zimbabweans remember as relatively peaceful and prosperous, "a number of juvenile elephants were captured in Gonarezhou National Park and moved to the

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care

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About Animals

European Parliament adopts dog protocol, but backs away from farm animal welfare

BRUSSELS—The European Parliament on October 13, 2011 ratified a Written Declaration on Dog Population Management in the European Union which "calls on Member States to adopt comprehensive dog population management strategies," to "include measures such as dog control and anti-cruelty laws, support for veterinary procedures including rabies vaccination and sterilization as necessary to control the number of unwanted dogs, and the promotion of responsible pet ownership."

The declaration also seeks "to encourage Member States to introduce mandatory identification and registration of every dog, by means of European Union-wide compatible systems, in order to avoid the spread of diseases."

The preamble to the recommenda-

tions recognizes that "whereas, animals are sentient beings, the EU and Member States must pay full regard to the welfare requirements of animals," expressing concern that "in some Member States, stray animals pose a threat to public health and safety, and some Member States are taking extreme measures against stray animals."

Adoption of the Written Declaration required the signatures of 369 of 736 European Parliament delegates. The declaration was introduced by delegates Octavia Sarbu and Adina-Ioana Valean of Romania, Elisabeth Jeggle of Germany, Raul Romeva i Rueda of Spain, and Janusz Wojciechowski of Poland.

"The adoption of this statement is a very important step in stray animal welfare. The animals from the countries with dramatic situations like Romania can hope!" e-mailed Romanian animal advocate and nuclear scientist Carmen Arsene to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

"We are extremely grateful to the European Parliament for recognizing the current difficulties experienced by not having a coordinated approach to companion animals across the European Union," said Eurogroup for Animals director Sonja Van Tichelen, "It is vital," Van Tichelen said, "that we have a coordinated policy approach to prevent animal suffering and halt the spread of disease and illegal trade."

Farm animals

Eurogroup for Animals was "extremely disappointed" a day earlier when a published proposed revision of the EU Common Agriculture Policy "missed the opportunity to address the animal welfare problems caused by very intensive systems of agricultural production," said a Eurogroup media statement.

"No basic payment is foreseen to be given to farmers to improve animal welfare and in fact

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Pigs. (Kim Bartlett)

Why shipping live pigs to Hawaii did not end with the ancient Polynesians & Captain Cook

HONOLULU—Five years of advocacy appears to have ended most of the retail end of the live pig trade to Hawaii.

Now comes the hard part: ending the wholesale trade to hotels and restaurants that cater to tourists who visit Hawaii from all over the world, but are usually there for just a few days out of a lifetime. Hotel and restaurant demand accounted for more than 80% of live pig imports at the peak of the trade, and with the retail trade shrinking, may account for almost all of it now.

Ahead for live pig trade opponents is retooling campaign strategies to effectively address a much more diverse clientele than supermarket chains which each coordinate the purchasing for dozens of stores.

"Two supermarket chains in Hawaii—Foodland Super Market Ltd. and Times Supermarkets—have agreed to no longer purchase pork products from pigs transported live from the mainland U.S. to Hawaii for slaughter, citing animal welfare reasons," World Society for the Protection of Animals U.S. programs manager Sharanya Prasad announced on September 20, 2011.

Foodland operates 31 stores in Hawaii; Times Supermarkets operates 20.

WSPA issued a similar announcement on March 21, 2009, after Hawaii Food Products agreed to stop selling pork from live-imported pigs. All three major Hawaiian supermarket chains have now quit selling pork from live-imported pigs, along with most national chains with stores in Hawaii.

"The majority of Hawaii's luaus, retailers and supermarkets already import fresh chilled and frozen meat from the mainland U.S.," said the 2011 WSPA report *No Paradise for Pigs*. "These include Whole Foods Market, Safeway, CASH 'n Carry, Queens Supermarket, Palama Supermarket, Takamiya Market and Maui Oriental Market."

"California-based Safeway didn't respond to a request for information about pork sold in its Hawaii stores," reported Andrew Gomes of the *Honolulu Star-Advertiser*. "A spokesperson for Washington-based Costco said the chain's Hawaii stores sell pork slaughtered on the mainland and shipped chilled. Times, which acquired Honolulu-based Star Markets in 2009 and Big Save Value Centers on Kauai earlier this year, switched to chilled pork shipments last month," Gomes added.

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**The key players in factory farming call
The Humane Society of the United States**

**"Dangerous." "A wildfire."
"The 9-million-pound gorilla."
"Sophisticated and relentless."**

We say thanks for the flattery.

The key players are right to worry: Every day, The HSUS is working tirelessly to provide a voice for farm animals and alleviate their suffering.

With the backing of millions of voters, we've won victories at the ballot box to ban various factory farming practices. We've gained ground for farm animals in state legislatures, at regulatory agencies and, just as importantly, by advancing farm animal welfare in corporate boardrooms—from Burger King and Royal Caribbean Cruises to Ben & Jerry's. We're on the job today and we'll be there tomorrow.

Recently, we broke new ground to make life incrementally better for 250 million hens on large-scale farms in the United States. Through a historic agreement with the United Egg Producers to provide each hen essentially double her current space, some enrichments that allow these creatures to behave more like themselves, as well as a national egg labeling program to give consumers more information in the marketplace, we took a vital step for the welfare of animals on America's farms. It's a step that our allies in Europe took years ago—and we ask readers of *Animal People* to join us in urging Congress to ratify this agreement.

Unfortunately, while animal advocacy groups overwhelmingly support these urgent and real-life gains, one organization is emerging from the sidelines, opposing the measure as part of its fundraising

scheme. As many battle-hardened advocates know, the so-called "Humane Farming Association" sat on its hands in campaign after campaign to help farm animals—including Prop. 2 in California, and ballot initiatives in Arizona, Florida, and Ohio that banned various extreme confinement practices. While publicly criticizing regulations to ban gestation crates as not going far enough, HFA has regrettably never banned any confinement practice anywhere. HFA even actively opposed a successful bill in California that will ban force-feeding for foie gras (and the sale of foie gras) in less than a year from now. Now this group is trying to raise money by opposing the agreement between The HSUS and the UEP—never mind that the measure, if enacted, would improve the lives of more animals than any single agreement in the history of the modern U.S. animal movement.

It's par for the course for HFA, whose primary campaigns, it seems, are to attack other animal protection groups.

In the quest to alleviate animal suffering, the only way to lead is from the front. That's where you'll find The Humane Society of the United States. That's where we've been for decades.

Learn more about our work at humanesociety.org.



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

Editorial feature

More adoptions will not end shelter killing of pit bulls

Tangible progress on behalf of animals is often hard to recognize, amid paradoxes such as polling data showing that more people think about farm animal welfare even as world meat consumption is at an all-time high and rising.

Just about everyone agrees, though, that the past 25 years have produced unprecedented improvement in the human relationship with dogs, especially here in the United States. Americans keep half again more pet dogs than in 1986. Average spending per dog per year for food, toys, and accessories has increased from \$58 in 1986—with purchasing power worth \$114 today—to \$347. Yet sales of doghouses, once the most costly common dog accessory, have crashed, because most dogs today live indoors with their people.

The first legislation to ban prolonged dog tethering had just been introduced in 1986. More than 150 cities, counties, and at least four states now limit or ban tethering.

Average spending per dog per year for vet care has increased from barely \$50—worth \$98 today—to more than \$200. The percentage of dog keepers who spend more than \$1,000 per year per dog on vet care has quadrupled in only 10 years. Vaccination wholly eradicated canine rabies from the U.S. more than a decade ago. By 1995 more than 70% of the U.S. dog population had been sterilized.

A dog who was impounded or surrendered to a shelter 25 years ago had just a 10% chance of being rehomed. Dogs in shelters today have about a 60% chance of being rehomed—unless they happen to be pit bull terriers or close mixes of pit bull, whose sterilization rate is still barely 25%.

Only 3.3% of the dogs advertised for sale online are pit bulls, implying that only about 3.3% of all the dogs sold are pit bulls. Yet more than 16% of the dogs adopted from animal shelters since 2007 have been pit bulls, meaning that shelters are persuading adopters to choose pit bulls at about five times the rate that dog purchasers choose to buy pit bulls when they buy dogs from breeders. Despite that extraordinary rate of success in pit bull placement, however, about 75% of the pit bulls and pit mixes arriving at shelters are killed, either due to dangerous behavior or simply because shelters are receiving pit bulls in ever-escalating volume. Each year from a third to 45% of the total U.S. pit bull population enters an animal shelter, a phenomenon never seen with any other dog breed.

Of critical importance to realize is that there are very few accidental pit bull births. Because nothing resembling a pit bull occurs in nature, it is necessary to practice line breeding, mating pit bull to pit bull or a very close mix, to continue to have them. Almost every pit bull who contributes to the surplus is a product of deliberate breeding, sometimes by a dog-fighter, but most often just someone engaging in speculative backyard breeding, capitalizing on a perceived vogue for pit bulls created at least in part by the aggressive advertising of shelters and individual rescuers who hope to rehome more pit bulls instead of having to kill them from lack of other options. No dogs are shown more often in animal shelter adoption advertising, including in poses involving facial contact and small children—which contradict almost every tenet of education about avoiding dog bites.

There may now be more organizations focused on pit bull rescue and advocacy than rescue and advocate for all other specific breeds combined.

Pit bulls rarely arrive at shelters as unwanted litters. Typically they come to shelters at about 18 months of age, having already had at least three homes: their birth home, the home they were sold to, and one or more pass-along homes that took the dogs in after problems developed in the first home into which they were purchased. About two-thirds of the pit bulls entering shelters have been surrendered by their primary caretakers, but many were not voluntary caretakers. They simply ended up with an unwanted pit bull after a family member or friend abandoned the dog, or a tenant moved and left the dog behind.

The pit bulls who are surrendered to shelters tend to be the lucky ones. More than 5,000 pit bulls have been seized in dogfighting raids since 2000, a mere fraction of the numbers believed to have been killed either in dogfights, in connection with training dogs to fight, or in culling dogs who lose fights or show little promise of becoming successful fighters. Pit bull thefts by dogfighters looking for “bait dogs” are believed to be one of the major reasons why 19% of the dogs who have been reported stolen since 2005 have been pit bulls. About 21% of the dogs impounded in cases of severe and prolonged neglect since 2005 have been pit

bulls, and also 21% of the dogs impounded in cases of violent abuse—including 49% of the dogs set on fire and 14% of the dogs raped in bestiality cases.

But pit bulls are not just the victims of mayhem. Disfiguring and fatal pit bull attacks on humans have occurred during the past two years at the rate of two every three days, an unprecedented pace. Pit bulls and close pit mixes have since 1982 accounted for 45% of all U.S. and Canadian fatalities from dog attacks on humans, a total of at least 207; 51% of all dog attack disfigurements of children, a total of more than 850; and 66% of all dog attack disfigurements of adults, a total of more than 700. Since 2005 pit bulls have also accounted for 51% of all reported fatal dog attacks and disfigurements of pets and livestock.

The advent of online news media data bases going back into the mid-19th century has enabled several different researchers to establish that there has never been a time since 1851 when pit bulls did not account for more than half of all fatal dog attacks over any given 10-year interval, even though pit bulls—by all of the many names for them combined—never amounted to even 1% of the dogs in the U.S. and Canada until approximately 30 years ago.

ANIMAL PEOPLE editor Merritt Clifton began collating dog and cat theft data in 1980, dog and cat neglect data in July 1982, and breed-specific dog attack data in September 1982—all several years before pit bulls became a public issue. The consistently disproportionate involvement of pit bulls in fatal and disfiguring attacks was evident by 1988. Disproportionate involvement of pit bulls in theft and neglect cases took another five years to clearly emerge. In the interim, Patricia Curtis in her 1984 book *The Animal Shelter* issued a prescient early warning about an apparent resurgence of dogfighting and a rise in arrivals of pit bulls at shelters. Mike Oswald, the longtime director of Multnomah County Animal Services in Portland, Oregon, noted in 1986 that pit bulls had become disproportionately represented in shelter intakes and killing.

But no one appears to have imagined that pit bull proliferation would ever remotely approach the crisis that it has become.

Shelter killing accelerates

About 8.4 million dogs were killed in shelters in 1986, of whom about 168,000 (2%) were pit bulls, according to the limited available breed-specific data.

Alarmed by several serious pit bull attacks in New York City public housing, and by eruptions of dogfighting after it had been successfully repressed in New York City for almost a century, then-New York City mayor Edward Koch sought to ban pit bulls in 1987. The American SPCA and attorneys associated with the Animal Legal Defense Fund responded by initiating organized opposition to breed-specific legislation, against the advice of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and the Humane Society of the United States.

Though Koch was thwarted, legislation to restrain pit bull proliferation was adopted in several other cities. Denver in 1989 passed the strongest and oldest pit bull ban still in effect, emulated by some nearby suburbs. In May 2004 the Denver pit bull ban was overturned by state legislation that forbade breed specific ordinances, but it came back into force in late 2005, after Denver won a court ruling that the state law infringed rights specifically given to local governments in the Colorado constitution. The net result is that Denver is among the few major U.S. cities which have had no fatal dog attacks in the past 20 years, while killing fewer impounded dogs of all breeds per 1,000 residents than any other major city between the coasts, and killing less than half as many pit bulls per thousand human residents (.14) as Miami/Dade County, the animal control jurisdiction killing the next fewest pit bulls (.33). Miami/Dade also has breed-specific legislation prohibiting possession of pit bulls.

The total number of dogs killed in U.S. shelters fell by more than 40% between 1986 and 1993, but the number of pit bulls killed in shelters more than doubled, to about 358,000—15% of the total.

Striving to implement the 1994 Adoption Pact, which made San Francisco at least nominally the first U.S. “no kill” city, the San Francisco SPCA introduced free sterilization of pit bulls. When that did not stop the rising influx, the SF/SPCA in 1996 renamed pit bulls “St. Francis terriers,” in hopes that changing their image would make them more adoptable. More were adopted—but the original “St. Francis terrier” program was suspended within 60 days, as was a similar program introduced by the Wisconsin Humane Society, when several of the strenuously screened and rehomed dogs turned out to be cat-killers.

After retooling and relaunching the “St. Francis terrier” program several times, and having another fiasco in 2003 when an adopted pit bull attacked a police horse, leading to two human injuries, the SF/SPCA and San Francisco Department of Animal Care & Control between them reduced their pit bull killing to 450 per year. Then, against vigorous opposition from the SF/SPCA and local animal rights groups, the SF/DACC persuaded the San Francisco City Council to pass an ordinance requiring all pit bulls to be sterilized. Pit bull shelter killing in San Francisco fell to 300 in the first year after the ordinance passed. Within another year San Francisco shelters were killing fewer pit bulls than any cities except Denver and Miami.

Nationally, in absence of any effective brake on pit bull proliferation outside of the few cities with breed-specific laws, pit bulls by 2003 accounted for 23% of dog admissions to U.S. animal shelters and 50% of the dogs killed in shelters: upward of 900,000.

Echoing the “St. Francis terrier” program, the New York City Center for Animal Care & Control opened 2004 by announcing that pit bulls would henceforth be promoted as “New Yorkies.” That lasted just three days.

Ontario province, Canada, in 2005 adopted a law prohibiting possession of pit bulls, but allowing pit bulls already in Ontario to remain if they were licensed, sterilized, vaccinated, insured, and kept in a safe manner. The Toronto Humane Society howled that this legislation would introduce a pit bull holocaust. In truth, Ontario shelters now kill fewer pit bulls, cumulatively serving a population of 13 million humans, than the shelters in the Detroit metropolitan area, just to the south, which serve a human population of only 1.2 million.

U.S. shelters in 2006 killed approximately 967,300 pit bulls.

Impoundments of fighting dogs and impoundments of neglected pit bulls both soared after the April 2007 arrest of football player Michael Vick in connection with dogfighting. Twenty-six percent of the dogs entering U.S. shelters were pit bulls. Yet, for the first time in at least 20 years, the numbers of pit bulls killed in shelters actually dropped. The Best Friends Animal Society, already opposed to breed-specific legislation, ramped up efforts to block breed-specific laws, and redoubled promotion of pit bull adoptions. The American Humane Association also became active in opposition to breed-specific legislation.

The publicity boost from the Vick case and the investment of Best Friends *et al* in saving pit bulls appeared to pay off, for a time, as the numbers of pit bulls killed in U.S. animal shelters fell from 920,000 in 2007 to 825,000 in 2008 and 810,000 in 2009. But the U.S. economy turned bad in 2008, causing more people to surrender pets to shelters, more people to neglect pets, and more people to try to earn a few dollars through backyard breeding. Meanwhile, the vigorous pit bull promotion appeared to hit inherent limits on just how many dogs of any one type can be adopted out. Even if every pit bull had the positive qualities of Lassie, and no problematic behavior, there are only so many people who want big dogs.

Even the Los Angeles Department of Animal Services, which appears to rehome more pit bulls than any other agency in the U.S., kills about 40% of pit bull intake, and has reported increasing pit bull intake since 2008. More pit bulls have been rehomed in recent years than ever before, but as most of the U.S. still has no effective brake on pit bull breeding, pit bulls in 2010 rose to 29% of shelter dog admissions and 60% of shelter dog killing.

The 2010 U.S. shelter pit bull toll of 930,300 was the second highest yet.

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More adoptions will not end shelter killing of pit bulls *(from page 3)*

In view that the U.S. adoption capacity for pit bulls appears to have maxed out at about 320,000 (16% of total dog adoptions), there is no chance that the humane community is going to be able to adopt its way out of killing pit bulls in high volume until the numbers of pit bulls who are surrendered to shelters or are impounded, nationally, drop by nearly 90%.

That requires reducing the total pit bull population of about 2.4 to 3.5 million currently in homes at any given time to no more than the numbers who are now kept safely in stable homes. Since nearly 1.1 million pit bulls per year come to shelters, and the numbers who die from abuse and neglect also must be considered, as many as half of all pit bulls may have unsuitable homes.

Merely stabilizing shelter intake of pit bulls at the present level would require achieving the 70%-plus sterilization rate that keeps supply-and-demand for other dogs in the U.S. relatively balanced. This would mean nearly tripling the present pit bull sterilization rate of about 25%.

Going from 25% sterilization of all other breeds of dog to 70%-plus took about 15 years of aggressive promotion of sterilization surgery, from the mid-1970s to the early 1990s. Pit bull keepers during that time conspicuously ignored the messages that persuaded most other Americans who keep dogs.

Following that effort, we have now had more than 15 years of increasingly well-funded and well-promoted programs aimed specifically at sterilizing pit bulls. Hundreds of humane societies now sterilize pit bulls for free. The San Francisco SPCA has even paid pit bull keepers to have their dogs sterilized. Yet few cities, if any, have reduced pit bull intake at animal shelters without the help of breed-specific legislation.

Raising the pit bull sterilization rate to 70% would keep the annual shelter killing toll of pit bulls close to 900,000 per year. Reducing the pit bull population to the numbers kept safely in stable homes would require sterilizing 90%. A 90% sterilization rate has been achieved, so far, only among indoor pet cats in the more affluent parts of the northeast and west coast. Realistically, a 90% pit bull sterilization rate would be elusive, even if the entire U.S. adopted a pit bull sterilization requirement similar to the 2005 San Francisco ordinance.

Since dog licensing rates tend to run well below 25%, there can be little hope of enforcing pit bull sterilization through licensing enforcement alone. But, completely setting aside behavioral issues, looking just at the numbers, a 90% pit bull sterilization rate is necessary if no-kill sheltering for pit bulls is to become a theoretical possibility.

Only if that is achieved is the hope of achieving no-kill sheltering for all dogs possible.

Unfortunately, behavioral issues cannot be ignored—whether the focus is the behavioral traits of pit bulls or the attitudes and behavior of the people who tend to keep pit bulls.

Opponents of breed-specific legislation often argue that that disproportionately high rates of fatal and disfiguring

pit bull attacks on humans and other animals are the fault of the keepers of those particular pit bulls, and are not representative of typical pit bulls.

This overlooks that pit bulls, like other breeds produced for specific purposes, have been bred for the traits suiting those purposes. Pit bulls have been bred for the ability and the inclination to tear other animals to pieces. This has in turn made pit bulls attractive to the sort of people who have made them the dogs most likely to be violently abused and/or neglected: sadists, people with drug and alcohol addiction, people engaged in criminal activity, and people seeking tough surrogates to compensate for their own perceived inadequacies.

A hint as to how extreme that attraction may be came in a 2006 peer-reviewed study published in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* which discovered that among a sampling of 355 people who kept pet dogs, all who kept pit bulls turned out to have had some sort of trouble with the law. Wrote lead study author Jaclyn Barnes of the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, "Owners of vicious dogs who have been cited for failing to register a dog [or] failing to keep a dog confined on the premises...are more than nine times more likely to have been convicted for a crime involving children, three times more likely to have been convicted of domestic violence...and nearly eight times more likely to be charged with drug [crimes] than owners of low-risk licensed dogs."

Not "nature vs. nurture"

The central behavioral issue involving pit bulls is not a matter of "nature versus nurture," but rather a matter of inherently problematic dogs being acquired by inherently problematic people, who then keep and train the dogs in a manner that multiplies the risk factors.

The past 25 years of animal advocacy opposition to legislation to stop pit bull proliferation echoes mistakes which were behind two of the most catastrophic humane movement failures of earlier eras, each of which caused even more millions of animals to suffer and die, and die suffering. Each of these ancient mistakes has ongoing repercussions.

The first monster mistake came in 1923, when the American Humane Association rejected surgical sterilization of dogs and cats, endorsed for the first time by the American Veterinary Medical Association, as "vivisection"—even though the AHA did not actually oppose vivisection. The AHA, then the only national humane organization, did not accept dog and cat sterilization for more than 50 years. By then Friends of Animals, the ASPCA, and HSUS had long since reversed majority opinion within the humane movement.

The AHA, which for the first half of the 20th century operated the largest public orphanage in New York state, was in 1923 engaged in an ultimately successful fight against eugenicists who sought to impose forced sterilization of orphaned girls. The AHA board felt that approving dog and cat

sterilization would set a bad precedent.

Just as rejecting breed-specific legislation has obliged animal shelters to kill unadoptable pit bulls in volume unprecedented with any other breed, rejecting dog and cat sterilization forced the humane community to kill ever larger numbers of unwanted puppies and kittens. This led to the AHA vigorously promoting decompression killing from 1950 until it was abandoned by the last agencies using it in 1985, having been recognized as inhumane many years earlier by the AVMA and by almost every other humane society in the world.

(The AHA in 2010 began promoting decompression to stun chickens, using claims and language echoing those used to introduce decompressing dogs and cats 60 years earlier.)

Most of the longterm consequences of continued opposition to legislation mandating sterilization of pit bulls are still evolving, but educated guesses can be made about what those consequences might include.

Alexandra Semyonova, author of *The 100 Silliest Things People Say About Dogs*, suspects that the 2008 repeal of a 1993 Dutch ban on pit bulls is behind growing resistance in the Netherlands to admitting any dogs into apartment houses and places of business. The oversupply of housing on the U.S. market has worked against a similar trend developing here, but the momentum of past decades toward opening rental accommodations and condominiums to dogs appears to have slowed.

Political strategists for agribusiness in several states are believed to have weighed the advantages of preserving their longtime alliance with dog breeders against the possibility of using humane organizations' defense of pit bulls as a wedge issue to splinter off public support.

This may never happen, partly because PETA, one of the animal advocacy organizations most feared by agribusiness, is the only major national pro-animal organization to endorse mandatory sterilization of pit bulls. HSUS, the most prominent organization in advancing farm animal legislation, does not oppose mandatory sterilization of pit bulls.

Yet one scenario that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorially warned against in January/February 2004 has come to pass: in absence of laws that effectively reduce the numbers of fatal and disfiguring dog attacks, obtaining liability coverage for dogs is much more expensive, for both individuals and animal shelters.

According to the Insurance Information Institute, dog bites now account for more than one-third of all homeowners insurance liability claims, a recent average of about 16,000 per year. The average payout per claim rose 37% between 2003 and 2010, and is now \$26,166. Total payouts run more than \$410 million per year.

Since 2004, according to IRS Form 990 data, the insurance premiums paid by major shelters in cities which have legislation to reduce pit bull numbers have declined by an average of 20%; but the premiums paid by shelters which

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LETTERS

Donor mentality

Concerning your September 2011 cover article, "To feed or not feed at the Giza pyramids, having worked on international development projects for over 20 years, I can testify that the dilemma of how to avoid creating a "donor mentality" among assistance recipients is universal. A well thought out program is required to balance meeting current needs with producing a sustainable long-term solution. Often, however, those being ultimately helped have no control over their situation (e.g., children, war or disaster refugees, or in this case, animals). When we, as animal welfare people, have an animal right in front of us who is suffering or in need, can we say "We're not going to help you right now because we're pursuing a long term solution"?

We must accept that rarely will we find the perfect solution, or even a good solution. Sometimes we must allow for accepting some degree of "donor mentality" as the only way to help those who cannot help themselves while we strive, in parallel, to implement longer-term solutions. Often we must measure progress in inch-pebbles instead of milestones.

—Robert Blumberg, co-founder
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S/N guide en Español

We are pleased to inform you that, thanks to a grant received from the Marchig Trust, and together with our sister organization, Organización Nacional Protectora de Animales, we have recently published a manual in Spanish to help communities to organize low-cost mass spay and neuter campaigns.

This manual was greatly needed, especially in the most rural and remote communities of Central America.

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

Swiss may hunt cats

According to Article 5 of the Federal Game Law of Switzerland, feral cats can be hunted during the whole year. SOS Chats in June 2011 launched a petition calling for changing this law to ban hunting stray cats in Switzerland. More than 15,000 people signed, including Brigitte Bardot and Michel Drucker. This petition was submitted to the National Council of Switzerland by member of Luc Barthassat, a Christian Democrat.

SOS Chats says that shooting cats is a cruel and barbaric practice and could be even dangerous for people. In addition, a hunter is not able to distinguish if the cat in front of him is feral or a pet. Many pet cats do not wear a collar, but are microchipped. Pet cats can also be shot in Switzerland if they stray more than 200 yards from their homes.

It is not clear how many cats per year are shot. But certainly the trade in cat fur persists, even though SOS Chats in 2008 won a modification of the Federal law to forbid the import and export of cat and dog pelts. Before that, only the import of cat furs was illegal.

Unfortunately, the National Council has rejected our petition. Stray cats continue to be hunted in Switzerland!

Defenders of hunting cats say that it would be too costly to stop, and that it is necessary to regulate the stray cat population by hunting them, so that cats do not threaten the survival of indigenous birds, reptiles, and rabbits, and that do not mate with indigenous wild cats. Further, the National Council does not want to intervene in the sovereignty of the Swiss cantons.

—Tomi Tomek
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MEET MIRACLE

Miracle is a tiny, 6-month-old kitten who was left homeless after experiencing a severe trauma. She was abandoned after reportedly falling from a multi-story, high-rise building. She was found by a Good Samaritan and brought to a local shelter.

The Animal League made an emergency rescue of Miracle and immediately placed her into our Help Me Heal Program. Had we not rescued her, it is likely that she would have been euthanized due to the extent and expense of her injuries. Upon examination, it was clear Miracle was in extreme pain. She was bleeding, bruised, and broken.

Animal League veterinarians found that she had a fractured lower jaw, broken teeth, and lacerations on her feet from the impact. Although tests did not reveal further internal injuries, she was tender to the touch and very sore.

She was rushed into surgery where an acrylic splint was placed on her lower jaw. This splint, which is bonded to her teeth, needs to remain in place for 4 weeks in order for her jaw to heal. Since she still has baby teeth, however, there is potential for the splint to become unstable should her baby teeth fall out. If this happens, she may need additional surgery.

While she heals over the next couple of months, she will need constant care and close monitoring to ensure she is getting proper nutrition.

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

"North Shore Animal League
America's Help Me Heal Program
Cares for Pets in Need!"



www.AnimalLeague.org

The Emperor's New Agreement

Federal Legislation Would Keep Hens in Cages Forever



HSUS / UEP legislation would establish egg factory cages as a national standard that **could never be challenged or changed** by state law or public vote.

"Our public relations people and HSUS's public relations people are working together. Their legislative team is working with our legislative team. Wayne Pacelle and I have become pretty good friends."

– Gene Gregory, President, United Egg Producers

In response to ever-growing public support for the *banning* of egg factory cages – and to circumvent the actions of states that have passed laws intending to *outlaw* or otherwise regulate battery cages – the United Egg Producers (UEP) has hatched a devious new plan.

It is pushing federal legislation that, if enacted, would keep hens forever locked *in cages* – *regardless* of any state laws to the contrary.

Under the guise of "enriching" cages, the stated goal of the egg industry's federal legislation is to:

- **Block Ballot Measures:** UEP's legislation would **take away the rights of voters** to enact ballot measures outlawing battery cages and other specified egg industry cruelties.
- **Prevent Legislation:** It would **take away the rights of state legislatures** to enact such laws.
- **Preempt State Laws:** It would **nullify** all existing state laws (including California's Prop 2) which outlaw or restrict battery cages.
- **Federally Protect Cages:** For the first time in U.S. history, this bill would grant federal protection to factory farm practices.

The egg industry and its collaborators hope to advance this scheme by claiming that it represents "progress" for laying hens. In truth, the industry merely agreed to *slowly* (at the glacial pace of **18 years**) continue the *meager changes* in battery cage conditions that are **already occurring** due to state laws and public pressure. Making matters worse, UEP has co-opted the nation's wealthiest animal organization.

In the most far-reaching betrayal in U.S. animal protection history, HSUS's Wayne Pacelle has now pledged to *support* UEP's legislation in exchange for being able to claim victory in the event that it passes.

Indeed, the most accurate account of this collaboration comes from the egg industry itself:

"Opposing ballot measures is very expensive, and the only way we can avoid them is through federal preemption. That is the reason why we need federal legislation. What HSUS is going to get out of this is the ability to say that they were partners...."

– Gene Gregory, United Egg Producers

Most immediately impacted by this deal is California's Proposition 2. As many will recall, Proposition 2's landslide passage was followed by star-studded HSUS celebrations highlighting its "*success in outlawing cages for laying hens.*"

Flip-flopping entirely, HSUS is now partnered with the *opponents* of Proposition 2, the United Egg Producers. This insidious alliance has already enabled the egg industry to accomplish its most immediate goals:

- HSUS has *killed* the Ohio, Washington, and Oregon anti-cage ballot measures.
- Contradicting itself entirely, HSUS is now **endorsing cages as a national standard.**
- HSUS has instructed staff *not* to investigate, file lawsuits, or otherwise hinder factory farms run by members of the United Egg Producers.

Working directly with UEP public relations staff, HSUS is now attempting to demean and undercut activists who still oppose egg factory cages – even though *this was HSUS's own position just weeks ago!*

(Continued on Page 7)

More adoptions will not end shelter killing of pit bulls

(continued from page 4)

actively promote pit bulls have increased by an average of 33%. In response to complaints from keepers of pit bulls, Rottweilers, and other high-risk breeds that they cannot find affordable liability insurance, Michigan and Pennsylvania have passed laws to prevent insurers from charging breed-specific premiums, which are meant to reflect the true actuarial risk associated with each type of dog. Similar legislation has been introduced, but not passed, in at least 23 other states.

Credibility at risk

ANIMAL PEOPLE has warned, many times, that the trustworthiness of the humane community itself is at risk when animal advocates deny the realities of the pit bull crisis. One of these realities is that shelter and rescue dogs have disfigured 26 Americans since 2007 and have killed six—twice as many people in less than five years as were disfigured or killed by shelter and rescue dogs in the preceding 25 years. Sixteen of the dogs who inflicted disfiguring injuries since 2007, and four of those who killed people, were pit bulls. Another was a Presa Canario, produced by crossing a pit bull with a mastiff. The cumulative liability from attacks by dogs from shelters and rescues in lawsuits known to have been settled within the past year alone is in excess of the annual budgets of more than 93% of all U.S. humane organizations.

Another reality is that many of the statements repeatedly uttered by animal advocates on behalf of pit bulls are demonstrably false and easily exposed.

No, pit bulls were never “America’s favorite pet.” There is scant evidence that pit bulls were commonly kept anywhere as family pets until barely 20 years ago.

No, pit bulls were never “nanny dogs.” The sole known published reference to this notion, before the rise of opposition to breed-specific laws, came in a 1922 work of fiction, *Pep: The Story of A Brave Dog*, by Clarence Hawkes, a blind man who wrote by dictating his stories and—though able to spin a gripping yarn—routinely muddled his facts.

There is scant published reference to pit bulls as anything but fighting and pig-hunting dogs before recent decades. The most prominent news media mentions of pit bulls 50 years ago, in 1961, came in coverage of the purported centennial celebration of an annual dogfighting convention held in Lafayette, Louisiana.

No, bloodhounds as we know them today were not a feared breed in the 19th century. The much-feared “Cuban bloodhound” of the mid-19th century was a cross of pit bull with mastiff, much like today’s Presa Canario, bred to hunt and kill runaway slaves. The dissimilar and unrelated floppy-eared English bloodhound came to the U.S. decades later.

No, there is no evidence that if pit bulls were unavailable, some other type of dog would be comparably exploited. Dogfighters have been trying to produce more dangerous dogs for centuries. No breed not closely resembling a pit bull and derived from essentially the same lineage has ever succeeded as a fighting dog.

No, it is not true that breed-specific laws do not reduce bites, though the reduction is typically proportionate to the numbers of pit bulls formerly within the jurisdiction. The reduction in bites reported in Ontario after pit bulls were banned was 4%. However, the primary goals of breed-specific laws are to reduce dog attack fatalities and disfigurements, and to reduce shelter killing. These goals have been fulfilled wherever breed-specific laws have been brought into force.

No, breed-specific legislation is not inherently hard to enforce because of the difficulty of defining particular breeds of animal—so long as the definitions are written to be practical, instead of dwelling on the minutiae for which dog show breed standards are notorious. Many animal control agencies already enforce breed-specific regulations pertaining to what sorts of dogs and horses may be kept outdoors in freezing weather. Breed-specific rules have also long governed horse racing and livestock exhibition.

Yes, the “bad boy” comic strip and silent film character Buster Brown kept a pit bull named Tige. But the whole story is that Tige appeared in four films. His roles included attacking two humans and one other dog.

Egregious misrepresentation aside, the offense for which the humane community is most culpable is promoting pit bulls in a manner which provides free advertising to the pit bull breeding industry.

Paradoxically, some humane organizations recognized back in 1987, when Budweiser introduced the party bull terrier Spuds MacKenzie to promote beer, that this might lead to more people acquiring bull terriers on a whim and then dumping them at shelters. Spuds MacKenzie, though often remembered today as a pit bull, was actually a much smaller and facially different breed of dog—but his bodily resemblance to a miniature pit bull also produced some concern about him possibly helping to make pit bulls more popular.

But that concern was quickly forgotten in the rush during the next 10 years to condemn Walt Disney Inc. for popularizing Dalmatians by re-releasing the 1959 animated anti-fur classic *101 Dalmatians*, and then, at intervals of about three years, producing a live-action version plus a sequel. Indeed the popularity of the *101 Dalmatians* films did precede a surge of Dalmatian surrenders to shelters—which raised total Dalmatian intake at shelters to about 1% of all dogs. Pit bull intake at shelters during the same years doubled, to 15% of all dogs.

An even more dramatic demonstration of the influence of exposure on dog breed popularity came when Taco Bell in 1997 introduced a mascot Chihuahua. Chihuahua acquisitions soared sixfold in 10 years, making Chihuahuas the third most popular dog breed, and for the first time inundating animal shelters in parts of the U.S. with more small dogs than they could rehome. Shelters in California and elsewhere in the southwest are now exporting surrendered Chihuahuas to adoption agencies as far away as Vancouver, British Columbia.

But while blaming Taco Bell for the Chihuahua explosion, much of the humane community remains oblivious to the role of adoption promotions featuring pit bulls in expanding the market for pit bull breeders, leading inevitably to more pit bulls eventually coming to shelters.

It works like this: humane societies vociferously allege that pit bulls make wonderful pets. But shelter dogs of any breed have a reputation as damaged goods. The ever-increasing numbers of fatal and disfiguring pit bull attacks increase public apprehension of adopting an adult pit bull of unknown history, but the public tends to believe that pit bulls can make great pets if “raised right” from puppyhood.

However, shelters typically don’t have puppies these days. Pit bull puppies are in effect in the commodities speculation market, until they grow up and are dumped in shelters. So, persuaded by advertising meant to promote adoptions to acquire a pit bull, Joe and Josephine Q. Public buy a pit bull puppy from a backyard breeder. About one of those puppies in three will come to a shelter within less than two years.

Recommendations ignored

Had the recommendations of ANIMAL PEOPLE president Kim Bartlett to the 2002 Conference on Homeless Animal Management and Policy in Hartford, Connecticut been heeded, animal shelters since then might have killed between eight and nine million fewer pit bulls. Pit bull overpopulation would no longer be an issue.

“I believe that pitbulls have a more negative reputation than most members of the breed deserve,” Bartlett said. “I am not endorsing any arbitrary killing of dogs simply because they are of a particular breed, but I favor a ban on breeding of all pit bull-type dogs. I think it is unethical to breed any dogs, or cats, so long as they are being killed by the million for population control. I would rather dogs, as well as cats and other animals, were not bred at all for purely human purposes. Since pit bulls clearly can be more dangerous to humans and other animals, and are more difficult to handle than most other dogs, and—most importantly—since they attract ‘owners’ who may want to exploit and abuse them, then for the dogs’ own good, preventing further breeding should be a priority for the animal rights cause.

“I have an uneasy feeling that a lot of people claiming to be pitbull rescuers are actually pit bull breeders and even dogfighters in disguise,” Bartlett added. “Otherwise why would they oppose breeding bans that would not affect dogs already born? People who rescue feral cats want to see an end to their breeding. People who rescue exotic animals such as

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parrots, lions and tigers, and potbellied pigs would like to see breed bans on those species. Why not the so-called pit bull rescuers? Allowing people with commercial interests in companion animals to have a leading voice in setting policy on dog and cat issues is in my view like allowing chicken farmers to have a leading say in whether or not the animal rights movement advocates vegetarianism,” Bartlett continued.

“Public policy on animal welfare issues should not be set by breeders and fanciers, and certainly not by dogfighters who pose as breeders and even pretend to be rescuers. When so-called pitbull lovers and rescuers use language like ‘it is the right of Americans to buy [or breed] whatever kind of dog they want,’ then they are quite obviously not animal rights advocates,” Bartlett finished, pointing out that breeding, buying, and selling any animals is inconsistent with the goal of ending animal exploitation.

ANIMAL PEOPLE again reminds the humane community that an effective response to pit bull overpopulation must target breeding, and must be legislatively mandated, since pit bull breeders have proved intransigently resistant to any and all forms of gentle persuasion.

ANIMAL PEOPLE does not favor confiscating or killing any dogs who have safe and stable homes—but we would favor confiscating pit bulls and other dogs of “fighting” breeds from breeders, as well as from people who abuse and neglect them. ANIMAL PEOPLE believes active enforcement of breed-specific legislation would be most effective if enforcement is triggered by evidence of breeding, sale, or other exchange. The act of offering animals for sale constitutes an admission both that the animals belong to the would-be seller and that they are not considered members of the family.

Effective breed-specific legislation could stop the reproduction of pit bulls and other problematic breeds, stop dogfighting and speculation on fighting bloodlines, curtail shelter intakes of pit bulls and other “fighting” dogs, and reduce attacks on people and other animals.

In some communities, effective breed-specific legislation could not only reduce shelter killing of pit bulls, but also reduce killing of other shelter dogs, whose numbers often have to be reduced abruptly, if their legally mandated holding time has expired, to make room for incoming pit bulls.

“Anything that just brings a heap of dead dogs is another tragic failure—and is basically where we already are,” ANIMAL PEOPLE editorialized in December 2005. It is profoundly disappointing that six years later the heap of dead pit bulls is many times higher, while much of the animal advocacy community continues to promote the same policies and practice the same denial that for 25 years have contributed to manufacturing the pit bull crisis.

Starving Animals to Death

Is this all a humane society like America can offer?

Many jurisdictions are fining caring people for feeding dumped cats who are no longer wanted.

Bans exist everywhere with some suggesting shooting cats and catching them with cruel leg-hold traps.

Please contact your local officials and tell them to use nonlethal TNR for feral cats.

And contact Alley Cat Rescue for help with trap-neuter-return programs.



By helping just one cat, you will save the lives of many.
Alley Cat Rescue • (301) 277-5595 • www.saveacat.org

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IT'S YOUR FIGHT, YOUR REWARD

(Continued from Page 5)

Yesterday HSUS attacked AHA for *endorsing* egg factory cages. Today HSUS is attacking activists who *oppose* those cages.

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) hasn't always lobbied for *cages* as a national standard for laying hens. Until recently, HSUS's stated position was aligned with that of the Humane Farming Association (HFA) and others *opposed* to factory farming.

California's Proposition 2, in HSUS's own words, "**clearly bans cages for laying hens and requires cage-free conditions.**" Based on *that* understanding, the measure was overwhelmingly approved by voters.

Proposition 2 was *not* about modifying cages. It wasn't about instituting the industry's *existing standards* for ammonia levels and molting. And it wasn't about labeling egg cartons with the euphemistic term "enriched cages" in order to increase sales and alleviate consumer guilt.

It was about *outlawing* egg factory cages.

Not surprisingly, the United Egg Producers (UEP) would rather keep hens *in* cages despite Proposition 2 or *any* state law. And UEP is pinning its hopes on a classic divide-and-conquer strategy.

Among UEP's first steps following Prop 2's passage was to utilize its relationship with the American Humane Association (AHA). In coordination with UEP, AHA issued a press release endorsing the use of "enriched" battery cages. Having not yet endorsed such cages themselves, HSUS deemed that it was appropriate for activists to speak out.

Hypocrisy In Action – HSUS Asks Others to Condemn AHA's Position

Faced with UEP's efforts to undermine the "cage-free" intent of Proposition 2, HSUS approached HFA and asked if it would distribute a statement condemning AHA's endorsement of "enriched" battery cages.

HFA supported Proposition 2 even, among other things, participating in a Prop 2 promotion on *Oprah*. HFA had also offered HSUS assistance in fighting off industry legal challenges to Prop 2. And HFA was more than willing to help counter UEP's tactics.

(Next column, please)

Washington Ballot Measure Abandoned

Earlier this year, HSUS announced a ballot measure campaign to **outlaw** factory farm cages for laying hens in Washington State. Among the first contributors to the campaign was HFA, which donated funds for anti-cage television ads. HFA allocated additional funds to be contributed after the measure qualified.

Just before the deadline for submitting signatures, however, HSUS and UEP held a joint press conference. In it, HSUS announced its deal with the United Egg Producers to establish *cages* as a national standard – and its abandonment of the Washington ballot measure and all future efforts to outlaw egg factory cages. (Please see Page 5.)

Statement distributed by HFA *at the request of HSUS*:

"No humane organization worth its salt would ever endorse these abusive systems. Like conventional battery cages, modified battery cages are extremely restrictive and inherently cruel. Modified cages are nothing more than an attempt by the egg industry and its cohorts to circumvent anti-cruelty laws and the will of voters and lawmakers across the nation."

After thanking HFA for continuing to speak out, HSUS asked HFA to sign on to a joint press release:

Statement Against Modified Cages

"The major animal protection organizations in the United States and European Union that focus on the treatment of farm animals are opposed to modified cages, sometimes referred to as furnished, **or so-called enriched cages....**

"...these cages are unable to provide an acceptable level of welfare for hens. The egg industry, food companies, and other stakeholders within the food industry should do the right thing and **end the use of all cages** to confine laying hens." [Emphasis added]

– Signed, HSUS, HFA, and seven other organizations

These were tempered statements. For more explicit attacks, HSUS spawned a third-party website called "American Inhumane" which was devoted exclusively to attacking AHA. Once again, the focus of this attack was AHA's endorsement of "enriched" battery cages and its partnership with United Egg Producers. This, of course, was *before* HSUS decided to do the exact same thing.

Once HSUS itself had joined with the egg industry, the anti-AHA website suddenly *disappeared*. Along with it, any trace of HSUS credibility.

"We support this reversal by HSUS, which had previously opposed enriched cage systems."

– American Humane Association

"The deal saves cages...." "If the legislation does not advance... [industry] would return to an 'unsustainable' situation that would be headed toward cage-free production as the dominant, if not the only, form of egg production."

– Feedstuffs, report on HSUS deal

"This is a thrilling moment for us in egg production."

– United Egg Producers

* * *

HSUS, quite simply, has switched sides. And, working *directly* with the staff of the United Egg Producers, HSUS has now turned its attention and resources towards smearing the good name and reputation of animal activists who refuse to follow along.

HSUS does *not* speak for the animal protection movement. And it should not seek to trade away the rights of states to pass laws outlawing farm animal cruelty. We encourage activists to continue fighting *against* cages – and to *resist* agribusiness attempts to co-opt animal organizations. ♦

Hope the bear cub

I have never seen anything in **ANIMAL PEOPLE** about the North American Bear Center, in Ely, Minnesota. They are a group of scientists and researchers who study bears without sedating them by following them in the woods.

In January 2010 they put a camera into the den of a bear named Lily who gave birth to her first cub online. This was followed by people throughout the world. The cub was named Hope. Hundreds of teachers used the children's interest in Lily and Hope in their classrooms.

On September 16, 2011 a hunter shot and killed Hope. Her many fans have been devastated by her death. I can't imagine how the teachers are handling this. This is also a huge loss to the research project, as Hope was part of a rare mixed-age litter. Mixed-age litters had never been studied before. Although Hope was almost 20 months old, she and her eight-month-old sibling were both still nursing.

Updates, and more information about the North American Bear Center, can be found at <www.Bear.org>.

—Judy Meincke
Nellysford, Virginia

Pigeon shoot fracas

Thanks for the article "Shooter hits Hindi with car," in your September 2011 edition. Just a few corrections. We do not believe Frederick K. Campbell, who drove the vehicle, was a shooter. Rather, we believe he was an employee at the Wing Pointe gun club property. What his exact position is we do not know, but he was observed and filmed entering and leaving a number of times. Also, you referenced one octocopter damaged but not downed by shooters in August 2011. There were actually two, one hit the day after the other.

—Steve Hindi, founder
Showing Animals Respect & Kindness
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Phone: 630-557-0176
<SHARKintl@SHARKonline.org>
<www.SHARKonline.org>

Shares vision to help

I share your vision to help all animals in every corner of the world. You have become a powerful force in the animal rights and protection movement. This is the civil rights movement of the 21st century. You have been a major contributor to building the foundation for those who will follow us.

—Stephen Serota
Brooklyn, New York

Vancouver aquarium

Yet another baby beluga has died at the Vancouver Aquarium: Tiqa, born in June 2008, died on September 16, 2011. There have been three such beluga deaths in the past six years. Two were three years old; one was just a year old. Tiqa was the 37th known dolphin death at the Vancouver Aquarium.

The aquarium breeding programs have failed. There were never any successful orca births. The only two male belugas have now been sent to Sea World for breeding.

Lifeforce has been opposing the City of Vancouver's planned issuance of a permit for a proposed Vancouver Aquarium expansion. The city Parks Board did not hold hearings, claiming that the new plans are similar to plans approved in 2006, which did not proceed due to lack of government funding.

In addition to keeping more dolphins in captivity, Vancouver Aquarium plans include exhibiting river otters and beavers. Public opposition closed the adjacent Stanley Park Zoo, which would have had such prisons. Now there is now a live camera project to show the free-living beavers in Stanley Park's Beaver Lake. People can enjoy the diversity of wildlife found living freely in the park without animal prisons!

—Peter Hamilton, founder
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<www.lifeforcefoundation.org>

If you know someone else who might like to read **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, please ask us to send a free sample.

Failure to stop ivory trade threatens free-ranging elephants

The spotlight has again focused on Malaysia as a transit point for the illegal elephant ivory trade, after the seizure on August 29, 2011 of 695 bloodstained tusks hidden among a container of "recycled crushed plastic" bound for Penang and Johor for re-export to China. This seizure came 10 days after 664 tusks were seized from a cargo of anchovies.

Sahabat Alam Malaysia expresses concern that Malaysia is becoming a major hub for smugglers to transship wildlife products to neighboring countries. Where and how these elephants were slaughtered remains a mystery, but such large-scale killing, leaving countless young animals orphaned, has numbed conservation groups to the core.

The huge quantity of seized contraband was a striking indicator of the growth of the illicit ivory trade. Moving this much ivory requires expertise in commodity trading, international finance, and other commercial disciplines. The ultimate responsibility for this wholesale destruction of species is due to rising demand for wildlife products in countries like China, Vietnam, and Thailand.

The illegal wildlife trade involves a complex and diverse set of actors. These include illegal hunters—both traditional and professional—plus layers of middlemen, top-level traders and organized crime, launderers of wildlife products (such as corrupt officials, captive breeding farms and private zoos) as

well as consumers, both affluent and poor.

In Southeast and East Asia, government policies to prevent illegal trade in wildlife continue to be generally characterized by weak laws, limited enforcement and low penalties. Government efforts to inform the public—who are largely unaware of and often indifferent to how their consumer behavior contributes to the devastation of ecosystems—are immensely inadequate. Monitoring of captive breeding is often poor, thus facilitating the laundering of illegally sourced wildlife and undermining the capacity to curb illegal and unsustainable wildlife trade. Trade through web sites whose location is difficult to detect and who operate beyond the current realms of wildlife legislation and enforcement is a further challenge. Wildlife traders are adept at changing routes and modes of operation, working through routes where there is lack of enforcement. Wildlife officials are often outwitted by sophisticated wealthy smugglers who employ the latest technology, techniques, and corruption to avoid arrest.

As the recent seizures came to light, wildlife police from 11 African nations were meeting in Botswana to learn new strategies to combat poaching. Unfortunately there are no easy solutions to the problem. At the rate things are going, wildlife will go extinct. The survival of elephants, tigers, rhinos, and innumerable other species depends on law

enforcement, the judiciary, governments, nonprofit organizations, and the public coming together to tackle the problem seriously.

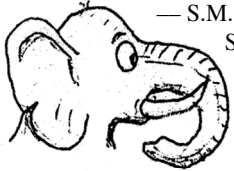
It is high time that wildlife authorities refocus their efforts on the wholesalers and traders, who often escape prosecution, and even if convicted, are given lenient penalties.

The authorities need to track the traders, arrest them, check their mobile phones to retrieve numbers, and arrest more people in the wildlife network. Old-fashioned enforcement needs to be updated to challenge the ever-increasing sophisticated methods of smuggling. This requires an increased number of highly trained and well-equipped staff along key trade routes and in the end markets, where many wildlife parts are sold openly.

Another concern is achieving cooperation and coordination among agencies such as the army, forestry department, police, marines and customs.

If the ivory trade in particular is not brought under control soon, most countries will lose their free-ranging elephants.

—S.M. Mohd Idris, President
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Animal shelter killing terminology debate rages on

We must be on a free subscription list for **ANIMAL PEOPLE** because I'm quite sure no one here is paying for it.

I have been disgusted by some of your articles in the past, but your response to Doug Fakkema's letter in your September 2011 edition was "the straw." Try walking a mile in our shoes before casting stones. I've been busting my ass to improve conditions in my community for years. We do not euthanize (or "kill" as you put it) for space—and I resent the implication that those of use who do have to euthanize for whatever reason are doing it out of laziness.

Take us off your mailing list. I'm too busy saving what animals I can to read your garbage, and so is my staff. We want you to realize that any form of shelter-bashing is only making it harder for us to save animals. It's not helping the animals!

—Monica Gardner, operations manager
Humane Society of
Waupaca County
P.O. Box 145
Waupaca, WI 54981

Praises donor letter

Your donor letter received in September is one of the finest pieces of work on the subjects dear to us (to which we're locked into a relentless struggle...embraced for a lifetime) that I have read in the years I've been in the anti-vivisection and humane/animal rights movements. That goes back to 1972. It is such a superb statement, so beautifully crafted that I'm filing it away with my most important writings about animal issues, that provide inspiration via the written word.

And no, you do not have "too much coverage of international issues." Cruelty and suffering touches all shores.

As to people who cancel their subscriptions because they feel **ANIMAL PEOPLE** is "extremist": I say to hell with 'em, cut 'em loose!

—Richard Abbott
Santa Paula, California

Live cattle sent to Indonesia

Re "Australia halts 'six month' suspension of live cattle exports to Indonesia after 30 days," in the July/August 2011 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, people from all walks of life across this nation are still angry and grieving over the merciless cruelty. This means that the issue lives on.

There is a Senate enquiry, Senator Tony Zappia and Members of Parliament Andrew Wilkie and Adam Bandt are seeking votes on legislation to at least require pre-stunning, the media are still showing interest, and Meat & Livestock Australia and LiveCorp have been investigated at a separate enquiry. Organizations continuing to campaign and support Animals Australia and the Royal SPCA include PETA, Humane Society International, Live Export Shame, and Compassion in World Farming. Additional international agitation is most welcome.

Thank you for your continued professional commitment to the alleviation of animal suffering across the world. You really do a superb job!
—Cheryl Forrest Smith
Mona Vale, Australia

I just received the September 2011 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and was so astonished at Doug Fakkema's letter headlined "Animal shelter killing terminology" that I feel compelled to respond. Your response, printed under Fakkema's letter, broached some of what I think, but I want to add a few thoughts.

There are several critical problems with the distinctions that Fakkema wants to make. First is his definition of "killing" in only the aggressive and violent senses of the word—"murder, slaying, executions and the like"—as if these were complete. The basic meaning of killing is quite simple: it means to end a life, to cause a death. Since Fakkema has been involved in shelter euthanasia for 40 years, we cannot avoid that he has killed a great many animals, regardless of his undoubted humane motivation. Only rhetorical sleight-of-hand could allow denial of this fact.

Similarly, Fakkema goes on to speak, strangely I think, of having "a relationship with euthanasia," but doesn't define it, except by implication as always compassionate and gentle, which it no doubt is intended to

be. But "euthanasia" has a very specific meaning, despite constant misuse by shelters to label the killing they do. Euthanasia is a painless death administered to a suffering creature who has no hope for remission and for whom death is a gift of mercy for the sake of the creature who is killed. Euthanasia is also killing, but of a specific sort. Most killing in shelters is not euthanasia, even though it may be a humanely administered death.

Using language accurately is one of the ways that truth is expressed and shared. To mask reality with euphemism and misuse of words is simply untruthful. And in the case of the animals who die in shelters, the use of euphemism helps to mask the injustice that they suffer, first at the hands of the people they once lived with or among, and then finally at the hands of people in shelters.

—Craig Brestrup, development associate
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Editor's note:

Craig Brestrup previously served as executive director of the Progressive Animal Welfare Society, in Lynnwood, Washington, the Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, The Association of Sanctuaries, and San Antonio Animal Services. In the latter capacity Brestrup on arrival in May 2006 made implementing reforms to the killing protocol recommended earlier by Doug Fakkema one of his first priorities—and achieved the most dramatic drop in the numbers of animals killed in the history of the agency.

ANIMAL PEOPLE president Kim Bartlett comments:

Craig Brestrup also puts his own spin on the word euthanasia, as we all tend to do. It means "good death"—that's all. "Good death" would have to refer to a death that is as pain-free as possible, but the recipient of the "good death" would not have to be suffering hopelessly. It is really up to everyone involved in decisions of life and death to carefully craft a policy on euthanasia that specifies under what conditions it should be performed, or under what circumstances the word "euthanasia" might be applicable. But even if it is "euthanasia," it is still killing. It is hard for people trying to help animals to accept the word "killing" because of its sinful connotation, whereas "euthanasia" is perceived as an act of mercy.



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Opposition to dog meat in China, Thailand, Vietnam (from page 1)

seized the town, as the barks would expose their every maneuver,” explained Xinhua News Agency editor Liu, who uses only one name. “After the conquest, dog meat was served at the victory feast,” Liu continued.

“Thereafter, local people began to eat dog meat as a special snack during a temple fair held at a shrine for the emperor and his empress. The ancient fair was replaced by a modern commodity fair in the 1980s,” Liu said, “but dog-eating was kept as a tradition. However, vendors began to butcher dogs in public a few years ago to show their dog meat is fresh and safe,” Liu narrated.

In response, Liu wrote, “Hundreds of thousands of netizens posted criticisms of the carnival on forums and social networking sites, slamming the tradition and calling on the local government to intervene. Ninety one percent of over 12,000 users said ‘No’ to the carnival in a vote on Weibo.com, a popular microblogging site.”

“It was part of our cultural history, but not all culture should be inherited,” Small Animal Protection Society Rescue of Hangzhou director Chen Manhong told Barbara Demick of the McClatchy-Tribune news service.

In Thailand, meanwhile, calls for stiffer anti-dog trafficking legislation rose in response to the August 11, 2011 seizure of more than 1,000 dogs from trucks on route to Vietnam via Laos. At least 300 dogs died from neglect and abuse inflicted before the convoy was intercepted. Accused trafficker Noppadon Chaiwangrot, 40, allegedly released another 600 dogs into a forest as police closed in on him.

The Nakhon Phanom Animal

Quarantine Station housed 967 surviving dogs in facilities built for 500.

“The Soi Dog Foundation and Worldwide Veterinary Service have arranged for an experienced volunteer veterinary staff to help the surviving dogs,” Soi Dog president John Dalley told ANIMAL PEOPLE. “Soi Dog in conjunction with Khun Bee and Khun Kharn of Bangkok are taking the most vulnerable dogs to our shelter in Phuket, where they receive treatment. Seventeen dogs have been brought to Soi Dog,” Dalley said.

“As of October 7,” Dalley added, “726 dogs remain alive in Nakhon Phanom, where authorities are building additional enclosures to reduce the overcrowding. With winter approaching, overcrowding presents serious health issues. It is impossible to remove all the dogs,” Dalley said, “due to lack of accommodations for them elsewhere.”

Reported *The Bangkok Post* on September 26, 2011, “Five members of a gang believed to supply dogs to restaurants across Asia have been sentenced to eight months in jail for attempting to smuggle more than 1,200 dogs across the Mekong river to Laos in August. The jail term was reduced to four months because they pleaded guilty.”

The Bangkok *Nation* added that the Nakhon Phanom Provincial Court also fined the five convicted traffickers, and “seized four trucks and 200 cages used in the crime.”

The biggest previous interception of dogs en route from Thailand to Vietnam via Laos came in November 2003, when 802 caged dogs were seized from four fishing boats anchored in the Mekong River. Both King Bhumibol Aduladej, in 2002, and Queen Sirikit, in 2003, had asked in birthday speech-

es for Thailand to take better care of street dogs and crack down on animal trafficking.

Offensive to the majority of Thais, dog trafficking and consumption within Thailand have historically been practiced mainly by ethnic Chinese refugees from Vietnam, who settled in northeastern Thailand after the Vietnam War. Alleged dog thefts for consumption and sale abroad have at times sparked ethnic riots.

But some Thai officials, nominally opposed to dog trafficking, have tended to look away while traffickers have captured as many as 30,000 dogs per year from the streets of Bangkok, and have performed similar “animal control” in other cities.

There are hints from Vietnam that the non-dog-eating majority of the public there may be losing their tolerance of dog-eaters. Medical doctors at the National Institute of Infectious & Tropical Diseases and the National Institute of Hygiene & Epidemiology in Hanoi reported in 2009 that dog-eating was associated with two recent human rabies deaths, but thefts of pets by dog meat suppliers have provoked more furor.

“Fights have erupted across Vietnam between dognappers and fed-up villagers, who have increasingly turned to vigilante justice, because there is little that police can do,” reported Mike Ives of Associated Press from Hanoi on October 3, 2011. Ives reported one incident in which two men on a motorbike snatched a dog belonging to a man named Nguyen Van Cuong. The thieves threw a brick at Cuong and a neighbor who joined the pursuit. The brick killed a bystander.

“In Nghe An province,” Ives added, in June 2011 “a dognapper was chased and

Live market victory

RICHMOND, Calif.—The Richmond, California city council on September 27, 2011, voted to end live bird sales at the city farmers’ market, effective November 1. “Two years ago, live birds were sold at four Bay Area farmers’ markets. Now, they are sold at none,” exulted Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transsexual Compassion founder Andrew Zollman. “Further,” Zollman said, “the Richmond city attorney confirmed our position that a new state law taking effect on January 1, 2012 will ban live poultry sales at farmers’ markets operating on any street, highway, public right-of-way, or parking lot. We hope to use this to end live poultry sales at all other California farmers’ markets.”

clubbed to death by a mob who then torched his body, leaving the charred remains as a warning on the roadside. Seven villagers were hurt in other incidents there when they pursued thieves who retaliated with knives, bottles and slings.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE has found record of only one other lynching linked to alleged dog theft, anywhere, ever. The pretext for that lynching was murder. On January 1, 1926, newly sworn in sheriff’s deputy William Henry Nicks O’Berry, 36, of Elfers, Florida, was reported to have been fatally shot while trying to arrest dog theft suspect Charles Davis in Richloam, near Ocala. Davis, whose motive for the alleged dog theft was not recorded, was wounded in an ensuing shootout with police. The *Dade City Banner* on April 30, 1926, reported that Davis, who was of African ancestry, was believed to have been lynched while being transferred from the Ocala jail to Brooksville for trial.

Wins for apes

CAIRO, DUBLIN—Egyptian animal advocate Dina Zulfikar and John Carmody, founder of the Animal Rights Action Network in Limerick, Ireland, agree that their longterm goal is not bigger cages but no cages. Yet both were ecstatic in September 2011 over winning larger cages for several chimpanzees and gorillas for whom there is little hope of life outside of zoos.

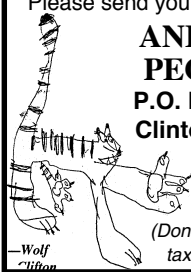
Zulfikar learned in June 2010 that the Giza Zoo in greater Cairo had for some time kept an elderly female chimp named Moza in solitary confinement, deeming her unsuitable for display because of unsightly benign tumors, which could not be safely removed. After more than a year of campaigning, Zulfikar persuaded the zoo management to accept the help of Phoenix Zoo behavior manager Hilda Tresz in introducing Moza to new quarters shared with Kuku, a chimp formerly kept alone at the Fayoum Zoo.

Carmody in late 2010 distributed photos to media showing “a family of gorillas languishing at the Dublin Zoo in a dull, cramped metal enclosure,” he recalled. After almost a year of exposés and follow-ups, the zoo on August 26, 2011 unveiled plans for a new enclosure with “streams, dense vegetation, small hills and rocky outcrops, and forest paths with hidden viewing points for visitors,” Carmody told ANIMAL PEOPLE.

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Shipping live pigs to Hawaii *(continued from page 1)*

WSPA joined Animal Rights Hawaii and other animal advocacy groups to form the Handle With Care Coalition in 2008, after the German organization Animals' Angels exposed the suffering of live pigs in transport from British Columbia, Canada. "The coalition produced a public awareness campaign that included posters displayed in more than 500 Honolulu buses in 2009," recalled Gomes.

Triggering the campaign was the finding that 218 pigs died en route to Hawaii between September 1, 2006, and August 31, 2007—a 1.4 percent mortality rate. Pig industry spokespersons responded that this was 87% of total pig-shipping mortality en route to Hawaii between 2002 and 2007.

But mortality was hardly the whole issue. Alleged Animals' Angels in September 2009, "Each week, 400 Canadian pigs are exported from Alberta to California, then to the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative on Oahu in conditions which violate Canadian law. Animals' Angels and Animal Rights Hawaii, with support from the Canadian Coalition for Farm Animals, submitted extensive proof of [alleged] violations to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and the USDA," but to little avail.

The live pig trade to Hawaii exists, Animals' Angels and Animal Rights Hawaii suggested, because "Hawaii regulations allow pigs who arrive alive on Hawaiian soil to be considered 'local.' This allows the Hawaii Livestock Cooperative to market thousands of Canadian pigs as 'island fresh.'"

"The animals' suffering begins," Animals' Angels said, "even before the long-distance transport to Hawaii. Animals' Angels documented dead pigs at collection and loading points in Lethbridge, Alberta. No veterinarian was present to check the pigs' condition and health and to certify their fitness to travel."

Animals' Angels representative Lesley Moffatt tracked pigs en route from Lethbridge to Oakland, California. The drive would normally take at least 42 hours on the road, but by using two drivers per truck, one of whom rests in a sleeper cab while the other is behind the wheel, the pigs reach Oakland within the 28-hour limit for livestock to be in transport without an off-vehicle break.

"Once the trucks reach California, the animals are not unloaded, as required," Animals' Angels reported, "but are moved to shipping containers for 36 hours. The containers sit in the blazing sun without adequate ventilation. The animals have no chance to recuperate, with high outside temperatures and even higher inside temperatures. The pigs are then reloaded to new containers and transported to the Port of Oakland, where they wait among other containers for approximately six hours," until loaded.

"Rough seas cause further suffering," Animals' Angels continued. The pigs are fed for the first four days at sea, but are not fed on the final day, after entering coastal Hawaiian waters where fecal matter may not be discharged.

"At unloading," Animals' Angels charged, "Animals who cannot walk are dragged out. To speed unloading, port operators use stressful electric prods. The surviving pigs spend their last days or weeks, depending on demand, on hard concrete flooring, next to a pile of the skins of already dead pigs; food is thrown onto the floor where it is trampled and contaminated with feces.

"This occurs," the report finished, "at a taxpayer-financed slaughterhouse at Kalaeloa that was supposed to provide more humane handling and slaughter."

The only USDA-certified pig and cattle slaughterhouse on Oahu, the facility was built on state land in 2004 by



Pig. (Kim Bartlett)

the nonprofit Hawaii Livestock Cooperative. It kills about 850 pigs and "fewer than a dozen cows a month," Pacific Business News reported in April 2011. Animal Rights Hawaii, WSPA, and the Humane Society of the U.S. later in 2011 blocked a bill that would have allocated \$1.6 million to purchase and upgrade the slaughterhouse. The Hawaii legislature then allocated \$750,000 to install a photovoltaic generating system to cut the slaughterhouse's electricity bills.

"I started the current campaign when I was program director at WSPA-USA," Animal Welfare Institute farm animal program manager Dena Jones told ANIMAL PEOPLE. "Animals' Angels campaigned on the route prior to that. Animal Rights Hawaii has worked this issue for many years, helping both Animals' Angels and the WSPA coalition. The route has been in existence for at least two decades. The number of pigs transported has dropped about 20% over the last

(continued on page 11)

Events

Oct. 23: Farm Sanctuary Walk for Farm Animals, Seattle. Info: <seattle@walkforfarm-animals.org>.

Oct. 24: World Go Vegan Week. Info: 4 1 5 - 4 4 8 - 0 0 5 8 ; <hope@idausa.org>.

Oct. 24: Black Cat Ball for Tree House Humane Society, Chicago. Info: <www.TreeHouse-Animals.org>.

Oct. 27-29: Natl. Conf. to End Factory Farming, Washington D.C. Info: 607-583-2225, x221 or <www.factory-farmingconference.org>.

Oct. 30: Animal Rights Action Network march & rally, Dublin, Ireland. Info: <www.Aran.ie>.

Nov. 2011: FAO/WSPA consultation on Animals in Emergencies. Info: <www.fao.org/ag/animalwelfare.html>.

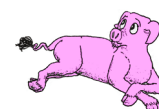
Nov. 3: Animal Cafe Affair Fifties Gala, New York City. Info: NYC Animal Care & Control, <www.nycacc.org>.

Nov. 6: Kenya SPCA Shaggy Dog Show, Nairobi. Info: <info@kspca-kenya.org>.

Nov. 14-17: Pan African Sanctuary Alliance Vet. Health Workshop, Entebbe, Uganda. Info: <www.pasaprimates.org>.

Nov. 21-23: 3rd Intl. Conference on Wildlife Rescue in East and Southeast Asia, hosted by Wildlife Friends at Kaengkrachan National Park, Thailand. Info: <edwin.wiek@wfft.org>; <www.wfft.org>.

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



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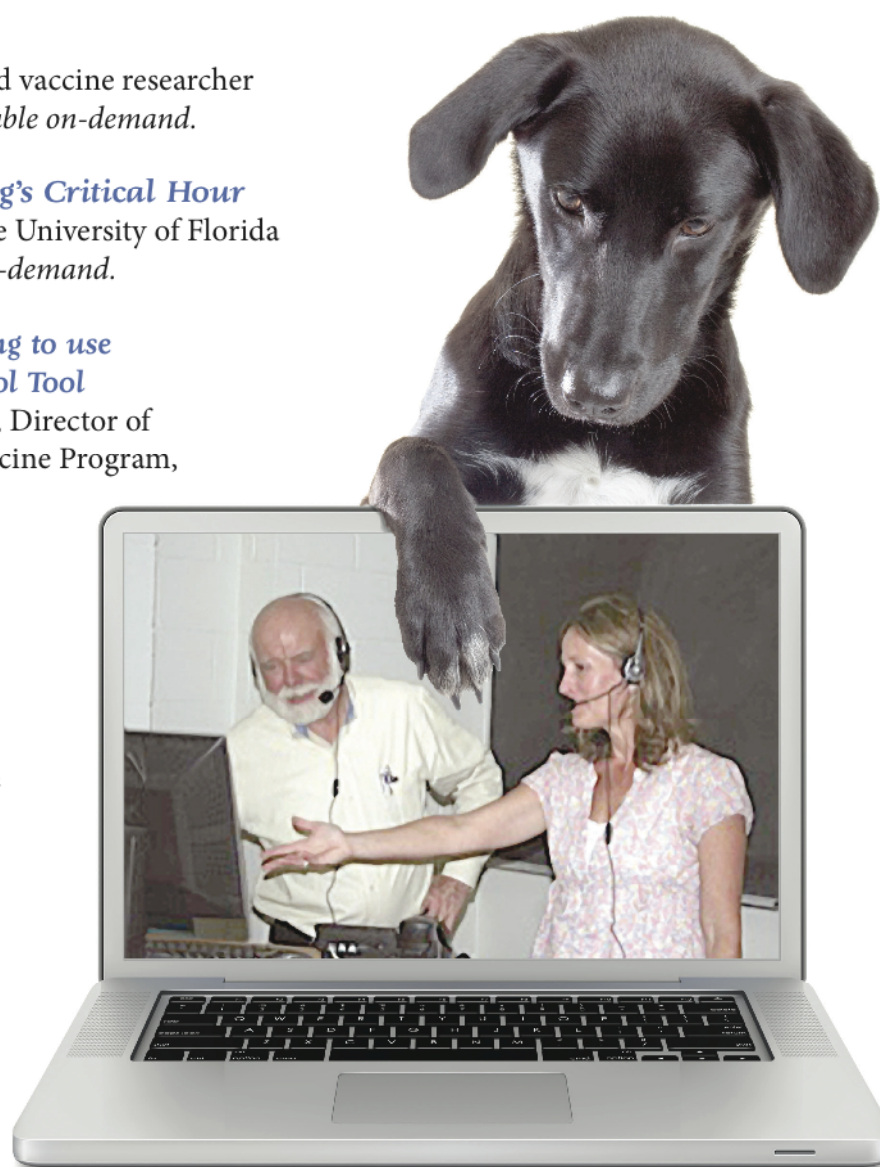
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Why shipping live pigs to Hawaii did not end with the ancient Polynesians (from page 10)

three or four years as a result of the WSPA-led campaign,” Jones said. “The recent decision by two more supermarkets to stop selling products from imported animals should decrease transport by another 15% or so. The problem in ending the route is the demand for fresh or ‘hot’ pork on Oahu,” Jones opined. “Getting the mainstream stores to stop selling the meat is one thing,” Jones said, “but getting the ethnic markets and restaurants to stop is quite another.”

Industry sources agreed with Jones that the exit of Foodland and Times Supermarkets from the live pig import business will cut the trade by 15%. The Hawaii Livestock Cooperative suggested that it might have to lay off four of the 14-member Oahu slaughterhouse staff.

But ethnic markets and restaurants, *per se*, do not appear to be the major source of demand for “hot” pork, except to the extent that they participate in presenting tourist-oriented luaus. Despite the WSPA *No Paradise for Pigs* claim that “the majority of Hawaii’s luaus” now use frozen carcasses, the sum of live pig imports, Hawaii pig farm production, and hunted pigs has remained close to estimated use in tourist luaus for more than 40 years.

Few visiting luau attendees ever know that the word “luau” originally referred to the octopus fare served at traditional Hawaiian beach parties, whose menus were first documented by missionaries in 1856. The typical visitor to Hawaii imagines that luaus have always featured pit-roasted whole pigs. But Princess Danielle Kealoha and Stephanie Ikaika performed the first known kalua-style pig roast shortly after 1900.

Perpetuating the kalua pig-roasting “tradition” that

probably never existed appears to be by far the biggest reason why Hawaii now imports 10,000 to 12,000 live pigs per year, to augment the 16,500 pigs who are raised and slaughtered in Hawaii and the hunting take, now below 1,500 per year.

Of course Hawaiians eat a lot more pork than that—more, in fact, than any other Americans. Current U.S. per capita pork consumption is about 48 pounds per year. Hawaiian per capita pork consumption is upward of 60 pounds, the equivalent of more than 337,000 pigs. Included is consumption of about seven million cans of Spam per year, six per Hawaiian resident. But almost all of the pork consumed by Hawaiian residents, like the Spam, arrives on refrigerator ships, and has since before Hawaii won statehood. Relatively few Hawaiians eat pork of Hawaiian origin.

Hawaiian live pig imports, pig farming, and pig hunting, other than for trophy mounts, supply the demand for whole carcasses. Other pig meat comes to Hawaii split into sides and frozen. That serves the supermarket demand, but roasting a frozen side does not look “traditional”—as if the pig was just speared that day in the nearby rain forest.

But, contrary to public image, pig-spearing and hunting pigs with dogs are perhaps even less authentic to Hawaiian traditional practice than kalua-style pit roasting.

Singapore pig ecologist Cheong H. Diong produced probably the most comprehensive of all studies of Hawaiian feral pigs as his 1982 Ph.D. thesis—a 284-page tome entitled *Population Biology & Management of the Feral Pig (Sus Scrofa L.) In Kipahulu Valley, Maui*. Cheong H. Diong demonstrated that the Polynesian pigs introduced to Hawaii

circa 400 A.D., after nearly 2000 years of being translocated from island to island across the Pacific Ocean, rarely go fully feral. Rather, Cheong H. Diong argued, archaeological evidence suggests that because pigs were highly valued and hard to transport by outrigger sailing canoe, the Polynesians at each island initially kept translocated pigs as confined livestock.

Inevitably some pigs escaped, but tended to form pariah populations, still semi-dependent on human food waste and cultivation, close to human settlements, where the pigs mingled with pariah dogs as in rural villages and pre-automobile city streets all over the world. “Native forest deterioration by pigs was probably insignificant in Polynesian times,” wrote Cheong H. Diong. “Events in the postcontact era contributed to and accelerated the feralization process. These included forest clearing, introduction of agriculture, ranching, and uphill recession of the forest line.”

Sea captain James Cook introduced European pigs to Hawaii, releasing several in 1777 with intent to establish a feral population huntable by future sailors. By 1853 colonists routinely released pigs into the wild to augment and expand the feral population. Though the European pigs hybridized to some extent with the smaller Polynesian pigs, European traits became dominant, including the ability and inclination to live in the forest without routinely associating with humans.

“Thus, while pariah states of existence during Polynesian times may have delayed the feralization process, it was accelerated by postcontact events,” Cheong H. Diong continued. “Native forest deterioration is therefore, in my view, a (continued on page 12)

Horse whipping

LONDON—The British Horseracing Authority on September 27, 2011 ruled, after a 10-month review of whipping rules, that jockeys who whip a horse more than seven times in a flat race, more than eight times in a jumping race, or more than five times down the home stretch, will after October 10, 2011 be suspended for at least five days and forfeit their riding fees plus prize money (if any). The rule change came three weeks after University of Sydney professors Paul McGreevy, David Evans, Andrew McLean, and Bidda Jones won the Australian Museum Eureka Prize for scientific research that contributes to animal protection by showing that race horses run faster when they are not whipped.

Horse hauling

WASHINGTON D.C.—A new USDA rule amending enforcement of the Commercial Transport of Equines to Slaughter Act to cover horses at every stage of transport to slaughter took effect on October 7, 2011. The old rule, in effect since 2001, prohibited hauling horses to slaughter on double-decked trailers, and required that horses going to slaughter must receive food, water, and six hours of rest before each travel segment, but horses “never move directly to slaughter,” USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service farm animal welfare coordinator Gary Egrie told Heather Johnson of the *North Platte Telegraph*. “Buyers move them to feedlots or other assembly points until they have a full truck,” Egrie explained. The rule now covers collecting horses to be slaughtered, as well as the final haul.

TRIBUTES

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






Photo by John Hyde

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Feral animals in Hawaii: pig hunting leads to dog abuse Commentary by Kim Bartlett

Visiting Hawaii in early 2011, I was driven around the island of Hawaii 1.5 times and the island of Oahu once, but I never caught sight of one of the pigs who are said to be wreaking so much havoc.

Feral pigs are blamed for nibbling crops, including macadamia nut trees, and also for eating from people’s garbage cans. On a bus tour of the island of Hawaii, in a forested stretch of highway north of Hilo, the driver called out that a pig was crossing the road ahead of us, but the pig was gone before I saw him. The driver seemed surprised to have spotted one.

One evening, en route from Hilo to

the volcano viewing site on the coast, we passed a small pickup truck. Three or four pit bull-type dogs were chained in the back of the truck. They all had wide collars with metal spikes or studs. There was one man driving the truck and another man outside the truck who seemed to be closing a gate to a dirt road into the forest. The truck was facing the road. The men did not appear to be native Hawaiians. The driver looked Filipino. The other was probably Euro-caucasian. One of the other passengers of our tour van pointed out the dogs, saying something like “Look, doggies!” The van driver said they had been hunting pigs. I did not see a pig carcass; if a

pig carcass had been in the back of the truck, the dogs would have been sitting on it.

The passenger who called attention to the dogs was sitting directly in front of me. I had argued with him and the driver earlier about the alleged need and morality of killing the pigs. The driver claimed the pigs were doing major property damage; the passenger said the pigs would starve if not hunted. I said the pigs had been brought to Hawaii by people, and should not be blamed for simply existing. I noted that people were starving, had starved in the past, and would probably be starving even more in the future, and I asked if the people should be killed to save them from starving. Of course there was no response.

What will etch the scene into my memory forever will be the utterly brutalized look of the dogs. They had the same beaten-up and savaged expressions that one sees on the faces of dogs used for dog-fighting.

I could sense that the dogs were extremely abused, but also extremely dangerous—like hardened criminals, and yet whatever cruelties they had been forced to perpetrate were no fault of their own.

People obviously exaggerate the damage the pigs do in order to have an excuse to hunt the pigs, and to hunt them with little or no regulation and no restriction on the cruelty with which the pigs are killed.

If there were a fraction of the number of pigs in Hawaii that are claimed to be there, it would not be necessary to go deep into the forest with dogs to hunt them: one could simply put out a garbage can and then shoot (with gun or arrow) any pigs who showed up to eat from it.

I think it is odd that in North

America, mainstream environmentalists want to return “nature” to pre-1492 when Columbus arrived, and yet in Hawaii, they want to return “nature” to a time before the Polynesians arrived with the pigs they intentionally let loose on the islands—more than a thousand years before Columbus arrived in North America. I guess it is the same logic as enviros wanting to eradicate the Australian dingoes as an invasive species because they were let loose by early Asian sea-farers who reached Australia circa 4,000 years ago.

All the land animals and many, if not most, of the bird species in Hawaii were introduced by either Polynesians or people who began arriving in the 18th century. Much is also said in Hawaii about rats who are supposedly destroying crops.

The mongoose was introduced to control the rats, but the mongoose is a diurnal species whereas the rat is nocturnal, so that didn’t work as planned. However, I heard it claimed that it had been proven that snakes who happened to be released in Hawaii (accidentally or deliberately) would starve to death because there was no prey for them, so the rats cannot really be that numerous or the snakes would have plenty to eat.

People also complain about feral cats, but—as a longtime cat rescuer, used to finding feral cats despite their nocturnal and furtive habits—I only saw one cat, on the grounds of a hotel in Kona.

There are humane societies in the Hawaiian islands, but they do not seem to be willing to speak out about the pig killing—regarding either the cruelty to the pigs or the abuse of the pig-hunting dog packs—probably because they fear loss of community support.



Feral pigs. (Kim Bartlett)

Why shipping live pigs to Hawaii did not end with the ancient Polynesians (from page 11)

post-contact rather than a pre-contact phenomenon,” he concluded.

And so was Hawaiian pig hunting, which caught on slowly despite the ambitions of Captain Cook. Because feral pigs had become recognized as agricultural pests, and were not hunted enough for meat or sport to hold their numbers in check, the Hawaii Board of Agriculture & Forestry introduced the Eradication of Destructive Wild Stock Program to kill feral pigs in 1910. From the beginning of formal program record-keeping in 1917 through 1924, the pig toll on all islands combined averaged fewer than 250 per year. But Hawaii then had few tourists, and hunting pigs was difficult in the swampy and densely overgrown habitat that pigs favor.

Also, the alleged pig proliferation may have existed more in perception than reality. Cheong H. Diong found among Hawaiian feral pigs a pre-weaning mortality rate of 70% and a post-weaning piglet mortality rate of 40%. This would normally be enough to hold the Hawaii pig population in check, even without the presence of pig predators other than pigs themselves, who often practice cannibalism.

Introducing a bounty on pigs stimulated pig hunting—and apparently stimulated pig reproduction, too, as the surviving pigs compensated for losses by rapidly breeding back up to the carrying capacity of the habitat. The pig killing toll during the first two years of the Great Depression soared to about 5,700 per year, but declined during the next 10 years, and fell to 1,250 per year during World War II.

Hawaii before World War II had barely 400,000 residents, with little tourism despite enthusiastic descriptions by Mark Twain in 1866 and Jack London in 1907.

Twain made passing reference to pigs as an offering to Hawaiian royalty. London wrote that he and his wife Charmian attended “a real, untarnished-by-hoale [persons of European descent] luau,” which was organized by hosts of European descent.

At the luau, London observed, “sucking-pigs were barbecued in native fashion, wrapped in ti-leaves among hot roasting-stones in the ground.” This, just a few years after the first such pig roast on record, appears to have been approximately the beginning of the tradition of visitors participating in a quasi-traditional luau, something which had not been part of Twain’s experience.

Most U.S. troops who served in the Pacific theatre during World War II passed through Hawaii at some point—and many returned on vacation. Hawaiian tourism boomed to 240,000 visitors per year by statehood in 1958, received a big boost from James Michener’s 1959 best-selling historical novel *Hawaii*, which featured pig roasts at luaus, and reached one million visitors in 1967; two million in 1972; four million in 1979; five million in 1986; and currently runs close to 7.5 million per year.

Pre-statehood, rural Hawaiians often kept a pig or two, like other rural Americans. That, plus hunting 7,500 to 11,000 pigs per year, was sufficient to serve local demand for pork and the luau demand as well.

Kemo’o Farm introduced commercial pig farming to Hawaii Island in 1909 to serve Schofield Barracks, but diversified into the dairy business by 1919. The commercial pig farming industry revived during World War II to serve military demand, producing 90,000 pigs in 1945; but by the end of the war, refrigerated transport from the mainland—and the introduction of canned Spam—had already put pig farming into a tailspin.

But as the postwar luau demand climbed, the pig hunting toll rose too, averaging 20,000 per year from 1960 to 1970—about 25% of the estimated pig population. By then, though, rapid development of coastal swamps into hotels, housing, and golf courses had cut deeply into the most abundant pig habitat. From 1970 to 1982, the pig hunting toll returned to the range of 7,500 to 11,000, and then dropped lower.

Today pig hunting is permitted on the islands of Hawaii, Maui, Molokai, Oahu, and Kauai, but not on Lanai. Where hunting is allowed, licensed hunters may use rifles, muzzleloaders, handguns, shotguns, spears, knives, or archery. The bag limit is one pig per day, except on Molokai and Maui, where it is two pigs per day.

Almost all of the money in pig hunting now is in the fees paid by hunters for land access and guided trophy hunts, at prices ranging from about \$550 to more than \$1,500 per pig killed. The pig hunting toll in recent years has been about 1,250 per year, all islands combined, with not more than 570 including estimated poacher kills on Hawaii Island and no more than 300 on Oahu. The two biggest recent year-long pig extermination

projects on the smaller islands, undertaken in the name of protecting native birds and plants, killed only 53 and 37 pigs, respectively.

Vocal support for pig extermination in recent years has come mainly from birders, who blame pigs and feral cats for the decline of many species whose habitat has been developed, from macadamia nut growers concerned about pigs beating them to fallen ripe nuts, and from marijuana growers, who frequently stake out pit bull terriers to protect their crops from both porcine and human intruders.

Pig hunters have complained about the recent scarcity of pigs; some have even sought

closed seasons and stricter bag limits.

The collapse of hunting as a source of supply for luau pigs contributed to the revival of commercial pig ranching, for a time, but the economics of importing grain worked against the ranchers. Commercial pig production in Hawaii dropped from 23,500 in 2004 to 16,500 in 2009, with declines of more than 1,000 in every year.

This leaves the luau trade more and more open to live imports, until and unless pig roasts at luaus fall out of fashion, or animal advocates succeed in stopping the live trade.

—Merritt Clifton



Calves pastured in rainforest. (Kim Bartlett)

Shipping live calves from Hawaii is twice as big a trade as shipping pigs to Hawaii

HONOLULU—The Hawaiian live calf export trade may have become the world’s largest seagoing trade in calves almost without notice. Though most of the calves move through U.S. and Canadian west coast container ports almost under the windows of major animal advocacy groups, there appears to have never been an undercover investigation of the trade, never a protest, never a lawsuit, and never a mailing.

By contrast, the most comparable live export trade, the shipment of 300,000 to 400,000 calves per year from Britain to be raised as crated veal in The Netherlands and Belgium in the early 1990s, produced the Battle of Brightlingsea, as the British newspaper *The Independent* dubbed it. Protesters and livestock transporters fought almost nightly from January 1995 until the end of October 1995, when the transport routes were changed. Demonstrator, Jill Phipps, 31, was crushed by a cattle truck in February 1995.

The Brightlingsea furor faded after British calf exports were suspended in February 1996, due to concern about spreading “mad cow disease.” Live calf exports from Britain resumed in 2006, but since shipping 76,000 calves in 2007, the British trade has dropped back to the current Hawaiian volume of about 61,000 calves shipped per year.

Beef ranching, 20 years ago, appeared to be almost history in Hawaii. About 750 farmers sold cattle for slaughter, but as University of Hawaii at Manoa agricultural economist Linda J. Cox observed in a 2006 paper, “Since 1986, Hawaii’s market share of the local beef market has decreased from about 30% to less than 10%. Hawaii cannot compete,” against beef imports from the U.S. mainland, “because of the high cost of inputs here,” Cox wrote. But by the time Cox assessed the post-1986 transition of the industry, it was already well underway.

(continued on page 13)





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Shipping live calves from Hawaii is twice as big a trade as shipping pigs to Hawaii (from page 12)

Parker Ranch

“Hawaii’s medium-and small-scale cattle ranchers were nearly jolted out of their boots in 1991 when they heard that Parker Ranch—the state’s cattle-producing giant—would no longer be feeding and slaughtering livestock in Hawaii,” recalled the USDA publication *Farmer Cooperatives* in March 1995. “Instead, Parker would export live calves to the mainland for fattening and slaughter. Parker Ranch so dominated the cattle market in Hawaii,” *Farmer Cooperatives* noted, “that even the state’s smaller cattle producers depended on its infrastructure, which included a 15,000-head feedlot and associated packing plant. With 20,000 brood cows, Parker is the third largest producer in the United States,” *Farmer Cooperatives* added.

And Parker Ranch has grown since then. The ranch was founded in 1847 by John Parker Palmer, who jumped ship in Hawaii in 1809 and eventually won favor with King Kamehameha I by shooting feral cattle with a musket. This activity continues at Parker Ranch today, which has become the biggest hunting ranch in Hawaii as well as the biggest cattle ranch. For \$3,500, visitors may participate in a two-day “Big Island Grand Slam Hunt,” which includes shooting a cow, a goat, and a wild pig. But cow-shooting is little more than a sideline for Parker Ranch compared to selling cattle under the Ranchers Renaissance brand, marketed in partnership with Cargill Inc. through mainland supermarkets including the Kroger chain. Parker Ranch now produces 30,000 to 35,000 cattle per year—just over half of all Hawaiian cattle production, according to current USDA data.

But most cattle born at Parker Ranch are not actually raised in Hawaii, as consumers tend to believe. Since 2001, most Parker Ranch calves have been quickly weaned and shipped to the mainland. “The [Oahu] feedlot was closed [20 years ago] for a couple of key reasons,” explained Colleen Schreiber of *Livestock Weekly*. “One primary reason was that it is extremely expensive to feed cattle on the islands. It’s no secret that it makes more sense to take the cattle to the grain rather than the grain to the cattle.”

Could breeding calves in Hawaii for shipment to the U.S. mainland be profitable?

“A few mainland cattle buyers had long realized the opportunity available to them with the typically lightweight Hawaiian cattle and had been taking advantage of shipping Hawaiian calves over the ocean for several years,” Schreiber said.

After 1991 the commerce expanded.

“There are three ways to ship livestock from the Islands to the mainland: by ship, which ranchers refer to as a ‘floating feedyard,’ by ‘cowtainers,’ or on a 747 airplane,” Schreiber summarized. “For Parker, renting a 300-foot ship strictly for carrying livestock is the preferred method. The boat can carry roughly 3,300 calves at a time. The ship is four decks high and each pen holds 15 to 20 head. The journey by boat takes nine days,” taking the calves to port in British Columbia, for relay to U.S. destinations by truck and train. A more direct route is not possible because of the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, also called the Jones Act, which forbids the use of foreign-built vessels on journeys between U.S. ports. As there are no U.S.-built cattle transporting vessels, Parker rents vessels built in either Denmark or Belgium.

“The boat is cheaper than sending the animals in containers,” Schreiber said,

and Parker is able to move more calves at a time by transporter than in containers.

“The other advantage the floating feedyard offers,” Schreiber wrote, “is that sick cattle can be isolated and treated if necessary. That’s simply not feasible when the animals are shipped in containers.”

Parker Ranch vice president of livestock operations Michael Bryan told Schreiber that calves typically lose up to 3% of their weight in transit.

Cow-tainers

Other Hawaiian ranchers do not raise enough calves at a time to fill a transport vessel. The Hawaii Cattle Producers Cooperative Association, formed in 1984, responded to the Oahu slaughterhouse closure, *Farmer Cooperatives* recalled, “by purchasing eight 40-foot-long steel shipping containers which it retrofitted into ‘cowtainers’ capable of being loaded onto container ships. Each was customized for housing livestock,” with “ventilated windows and self-filling feed and water troughs. Total holding capacity of the coop’s eight cow-tainers was 550 head. Cattle had enough room to turn around and walk about inside,” *Farmer Cooperatives* said.

But according to Schreiber, each deck of the double-decked ‘cowtainers’ is only 52 inches high, obliging ranchers to ship calves before they reach that height. About 7,500 calves were exported in 1995; by 2000 the HCPCA shipped 15,000.

Altogether, wrote Jason Gerke for *www.CattleNetwork* in 2001, “Beef producers on the islands of Hawaii ship approximately 60,000 to 70,000 calves to the mainland to be backgrounded and finished each year.”

“Calves are loaded onto a barge at the port in Kawaihae,” Schreiber wrote. “A tug pulls the barge to Honolulu, an 18-hour journey. On arrival they’re off-loaded and put on feed and water for a day and a half. From there the livestock are transferred to the ship for the journey to the mainland. The journey from Honolulu to [container ports on] the California coast takes four and a half days.

“Inter-island containers are not equipped with food and watering facilities,” Schreiber explained, “but the long-line ship containers are. Pollution laws, however, prohibit washing out the containers when the boat gets within 200 miles of the California coast. Therefore, for that last 200-mile stretch, cattle are not fed or watered.”

Calves shipped in containers typically lose up to 5% of their weight in transit, Kahua Ranch co-owner Tim Richards told Schreiber. “In real rough seas, if the cattle get seasick, shrink can be as high as nine percent,” Richards acknowledged.

HCPCA general manager Lani Cran Petrie predicted to *Farmer Cooperatives* in 1995 that “Transportation is in transition and will look very different three to four years from now. We won’t continue to ship cattle in cow-tainers.” But cow-tainers are still the most commonly used shipping method.

Flying calves to California, about 100 at a time, takes only five hours, plus the time needed to barge them to Oahu, but multiple flights are necessary to move as many calves as would typically be transported on either a “floating feedlot” or a container ship.

By any transport method, “Two to three percent death loss isn’t unheard of,” Schreiber wrote, “but most times, no matter the method, death loss is well under a quarter of one percent. Even when the cattle reach California, their journey is seldom over,”

Scheiber continued, since “Hawaiian ranchers have grazing leases all over the country. Many [Hawaii-born calves] end up in Texas.”

“The primary feedyard locations Hawaiian producers now use are in the Pacific Northwest, such as Oregon or Idaho,” Tim Richards told Gerke, but others go to “Corn Belt locations such as Kansas, Nebraska and Texas,” Richards acknowledged.

Shipping Hawaii-born calves to the U.S. for finishing and slaughter proved economically viable, but Hawaiian ranchers were still at a competitive disadvantage against mainland producers, because of the expense of ocean transport.

Whole Foods Markets

But Linda Cox—with the help of Whole Foods Markets—in 2003 directed Hawaiian producer attention to the possibility of grabbing a big share of the high-end natural and organic beef market. Whole Foods Markets research furnished most of the substance of *The Market for Hawaii-Grown Natural and Organic Beef*, a marketing analysis Cox produced for the University of Hawaii at Manoa Cooperative Extension Service. The analysis was distributed to Hawaiian ranchers in September 2003.

“The average annual growth rate for the sale of organic products from 1998 to 2001 was 24.1 percent,” Cox noted. “The Hawaii beef industry may conclude that this is a growing market. Sixty-three percent of consumers in 2001 were buying organic and natural products at mainstream grocery stores,” Cox continued, “compared with 56% in 1999,” according to Whole Foods Markets data.

“This trend,” Cox continued, “has led to the development of major food chains that specialize in natural and organic foods. For example, Whole Foods Markets, founded in 1980 in Texas, is now the largest retailer of natural and organic foods in the world.”

Cox acknowledged that some farmers had been raising natural and organic beef for local consumption since 1992, but pointed out that these producers had priced their meat to be as competitive as possible with imports from the mainland and New Zealand, instead of seeking a high-priced market niche.

Based on survey data obtained from 50 stores retailing natural beef on the mainland

during the summer of 2003, Cox reported that, “Fifty-seven percent of store managers said that Hawaii beef could be sold at a higher price than their local beef, given identical quality.” Another 36% were undecided.

“Given the success of private beef brands such as Oregon Country Beef, a targeted production-marketing strategy can be an effective means of selling beef,” Cox concluded. Oregon Country Beef, founded in 1984 as a 14-ranch marketing consortium, had grown by 2003 to include more than 70 ranches, in half a dozen western states, and now includes more than 120 ranches from 13 states.

Barely three months after Cox helped to introduce the major players, the Hawaii Cattle Producers Cooperative Association in early 2004 contracted to sell 2,700 cattle to the company formerly known as Oregon Country Beef. The HCPCA now promotes itself as Hawaii Ranchers, while Oregon Country Beef became Country Natural Beef, believed to be the largest Whole Foods Markets beef supplier.

Country Natural Beef executive director Dan Probert is on the board of directors of the Global Animal Partnership five-step livestock certification scheme introduced by Whole Foods Markets in November 2010, and Country Natural Beef is listed as a Step Five (top level) GAP-certified producer. As GAP limits cattle transport to 16 hours, and Step Five limits transport to eight hours, Hawaii-born calves in the GAP program would have to be flown to the mainland.

Hawaii Ranchers now sells about 10,000 cattle per year to County Natural Beef—about 25% of all Country Natural Beef production. But the biggest Country Natural Beef supplier in Hawaii has become Parker Ranch.

Far more cattle were raised to slaughter weight in Hawaii before the recent growth of natural and organic market. In 2004, when Hawaii Ranchers first sold cattle to County Natural Beef, 9,000 cattle of more than 500 pounds and 34,000 calves were shipped alive to the mainland, according to USDA data. By 2008, the live traffic included only 2,000 cattle of more than 500 pounds, plus 41,000 calves. Over the five years 2004-2008, calves accounted for slightly more than 90% of all live cattle shipments from Hawaii.

—Merritt Clifton

Correction re which Pohlmann son was fined

ANIMAL PEOPLE has learned, 11 years after publication, that the November 2000 article “Million hens killed in Ohio—twister hits like forced molt” conflated the identities of two sons of Anton Pohlmann, who built battery egg production complexes in both Lower Saxony, Germany, and Ohio.

Both complexes have been in frequent legal difficulty for decades over a variety of labor, occupational safety, and environmental quality issues.

The Pohlmann complex in Croton, Ohio, was initially called AgriGeneral Co., and later became Buckeye Egg Farm.

Sold in 2004 to investors funded by Austin “Jack” DeCoster, believed to be the most often fined entrepreneur in agribusiness, the facility was doing business as Ohio Fresh Eggs when in November 2010 it recalled 280,000 eggs due to salmonella contamination. Other DeCoster egg farms were earlier in 2010 linked to separate salmonella outbreaks that sickened more than 1,600 people.

One of Anton Pohlmann’s sons, Marcus Pohlmann, was president of Agri-

General Co. during 1994-1996. Marcus Pohlmann during that time issued media statements defending the Pohlmann operations in both Ohio and Germany, while seeking permits to expand the Ohio facilities.

Another Anton Pohlmann son, Stefan Pohlmann, was involved in the German operations. *Toledo Blade* reporter Kelly Lecker recounted in a November 1999 investigative series, summarized by ANIMAL PEOPLE, that in 1994 Anton Pohlmann “used an illegal drug [in Germany] to treat salmonella...Court records state that when [a poisoned] worker went to the hospital, Pohlmann’s son did not at first tell doctors what had happened. Records state that the worker could have died from damage to the diaphragm, heart failure, or aspiration.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE in November 2000 misidentified that Pohlmann son as Marcus; the son was actually Stefan.

Associated Press reported that a charge of failing to provide medical aid against Stefan Pohlmann was dropped on condition that he pay a \$65,000 fine.

YES! I'M AN ANIMAL PERSON!



—Wolf Clifton

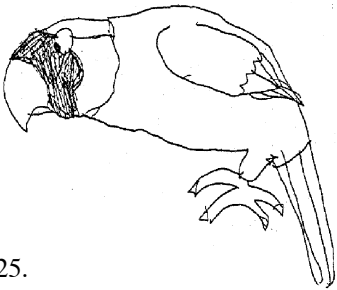
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Rick Perry appears to dance a little sidestep on wild burro shootings

AUSTIN—What Texas governor and candidate for the Republican U.S. presidential nomination Rick Perry knows about wild burros under fire from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department in Big Bend Ranch State Park is uncertain.

But some of Perry’s online backers have made what they know clear: burros are emblematic of the Democratic Party, the party of incumbent U.S. President Barack Obama, and for that reason alone should be shot, along with “Liberals in Big cities,” as one poster to the *Drudge Report* web site put it.

The burro issue ignited after an August 26, 2011 address by Wild Burro Protection League founder Marjorie Farabee to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Commission.

“Earlier this year, I made a trip to Big Bend Ranch State Park and Big Bend National Park to investigate the ecosystems of these parks with Craig Downer, a well known wildlife ecologist,” Farabee began. “After 71 burros were inhumanely gunned down in 2007,

it was widely believed that the shootings had stopped. Unfortunately, we discovered that at least 46 more of these remarkable animals have been wasted.”

Karen Van Atta Luce posted an online petition on behalf of the burros in early September 2011, attracting more than 60,000 signatures within the next 30 days. “Less than 300 wild burros remain in Big Bend Ranch State Park,” Luce wrote in the petition preamble. “They are protected on federal land, but Texas Parks & Wildlife intends to kill them on state park lands. The Parks Department states that wild donkeys harm the resources of the park,” contrary to the findings of Farabee and Downer that the net contribution of burro activity is positive.

“In addition,” Luce continued, “Parks staff have stated on the record that they need to kill the wild burros to ensure that they can restore ‘native’ bighorn sheep to the park. Bighorn are a high profile species prized by big game hunters. Their restoration is heavily

subsidized by private individuals who believe that the wild burro is an ‘enemy’ of the bighorn. Hunting permits for bighorn are sold at auction format, with the highest recorded winning bid being \$152,000.”

Added Change.org animal causes organizer Pamela Black, “Not only does the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department have an agenda to bring in bighorn sheep for hunting; they are allowing the Desert Bighorn Council to dictate the terms. They refuse to release the sheep into Big Bend Ranch State Park as long as the wild burros are there. How can Texas get away with killing off a species that would be protected on federal land? A technicality. Ignoring that wild burros are a restored native species that has existed in Texas for 500 years, Texas Parks & Wildlife designates wild burros under the vague definition of ‘invasive species.’ There is a solution: change the policy,” Black continued. “Rick Perry can sign off on a new Texas Parks & Wildlife policy to protect wild burros, or to more clearly define invasive species.”

“Asked about the petition drive,” reported Peggy Fikac of the *Houston Chronicle*, “Perry spokesperson Lucy Nashed said by e-mail that ‘The governor expects Parks & Wildlife to act in the best interest of Texas’ land and species. Would refer you to them for any other questions.”

While Perry himself has not spoken about feral burros, in June 2011 he signed a bill that allows any licensed hunter to shoot feral pigs from helicopters

Elected lieutenant governor in 1998, Perry ascended to governor in December 2000 when then-governor George W. Bush was elected U.S. President. Re-elected three times since, Perry has signed bills introducing felony cruelty penalties to Texas, initiating state oversight of commercial dog breeding, extending the coverage of humane laws to feral cats and stray dogs, reinforcing the laws prohibiting dogfighting and cockfighting, creating penalties for prolonged dog tethering, requiring that pets be included in protective orders issued in domestic violence cases, and requiring that disaster planning must provide for service animals and household pets.

But Perry is also “an avid hunter,”

who “has the heads and the pelts mounted on the wall to prove it,” Perry campaign spokesperson Robert Black told media during his 2006 election campaign. Rock star and hunting advocate Ted Nugent campaigned for Perry. “Using machine guns as props,” Associated Press reported, “Nugent appeared onstage as the final act of the inaugural ball wearing a cutoff T-shirt emblazoned with the Confederate flag and shouting offensive remarks about non-English speakers, according to people who were in attendance.”

Responded Perry spokesperson Scott Haywood, “Ted Nugent is a great American patriot. The governor is proud to have his support.”

Running for re-election against then-Houston mayor Bill White, Perry reinforced his hunting credentials in April 2010 by telling Associated Press that two months earlier he shot a coyote while jogging near his Austin home, after the coyote allegedly menaced his daughter’s Labrador retriever. Perry jogged with a handgun, he said, because “I knew there were a lot of predators out there. You’ll hear a pack of coyotes. People are losing small cats and dogs all the time out there.”

Pointed out R.G. Ratcliffe of the *Houston Chronicle*, “Austin has ordinances against discharging firearms within city limits and hunting fur-bearing animals such as coyotes. But police spokesperson Sergeant Keith Bazzle said Perry’s actions would not be a violation of the firearms ordinance because the incident was ‘self-defense.’ There were 19 reports of coyotes in Perry’s ZIP code between January and March,” Ratcliffe continued, “but none involved threatening activities or attacks on domestic animals. In the entire city, there were only five reports of aggressive coyotes. Texas Parks & Wildlife in 2007 issued a release advising urban dwellers who encounter coyotes to scare them off by shouting or throwing something at them.”

“With all due respect to his manhood, 90-pound women in tennis shoes effectively scare 30-pound coyotes away with a sharp shout,” said WildEarth Guardians spokesperson Wendy Keefover-Ring. “We’re sending Governor Perry a plastic whistle,” she added, “so he can leave his gun at home.”

European Parliament (from page 1)

animal welfare is no longer stated clearly as an objective of the Common Agriculture Policy, as it was previously in 2003,” commented Eurogroup policy officer Véronique Schmit.

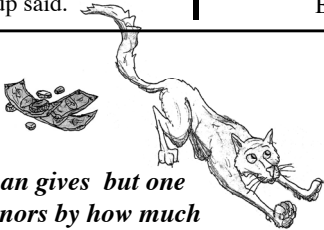
The proposed Common Agriculture Policy revision “doesn’t include any instruments to reward farmers who correctly apply animal welfare-related directives, and provides no sanction that is sufficiently dissuasive to those who fail to respect the European law,” Schmit said. Schmit further objected that “The future Common Agriculture Policy will continue to subsidise the export of live cattle, with the associated problems caused by long distance transport.”

The proposed new Common Agriculture Policy was released six days after European Parliament commissioner for health and consumer policy John Dalli, of Malta, said that as the commissioner who holds the animal welfare portfolio, he would not delay implementation of an EU rule which requires that battery cages for laying hens must be replaced by much larger “colony cages” by the start of 2012. At the same time, Dalli also

said that he is seeking a “solution” for producers who have not changed their cages to allow them to continue to sell eggs.

“Rewarding non-compliance in any form sets a dangerous precedent for future deadlines,” Eurogroup responded, “in particular the upcoming ban on the use of individual stalls for pregnant sows,” scheduled to take effect in 2013. “If producers can continue to make money with illegal production,” Eurogroup said, “it will reward non-compliance and will represent a *de facto* postponement of the ban.”

Recent figures show that 17 million European laying hens will still be in battery cages after January 1, 2012, Eurogroup said. Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, Poland, Portugal and Romania have reported to Dalli that their egg production industries will still be in transition to colony caging, despite the 12-year phase-in time provided by the EU legislation that nominally banned battery caging. Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Estonia and Greece “have not provided any information on the current situation,” Eurogroup said.



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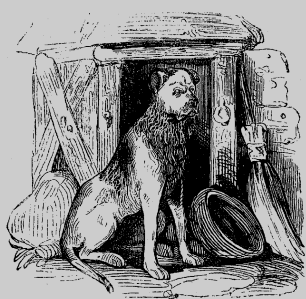
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Farm Sanctuary annexes Animal Acres as second California location

ACTON, California—The brief but eventful history of Animal Acres came around full circle when Farm Sanctuary on September 15, 2011 announced that the southern California farm animal sanctuary would become a third Farm Sanctuary location.

Animal Acres, located in Acton, an hour from Los Angeles, “is presently home to rescued cows, pigs, sheep, goats, turkeys, geese, and chickens,” the Farm Sanctuary announcement continued.

Struggling against a soft economy, “the Animal Acres board of directors reached out to us about a potential partnership,” in April 2011, Farm Sanctuary recounted. “In May, Farm Sanctuary staff began providing assistance at Animal Acres, performing daily animal care and maintenance. It became clear to both organizations that Animal Acres would be a welcome addition to the Farm Sanctuary national shelter and education programs,” the announcement said.

Animal Acres founder Lorri Houston cofounded Farm Sanctuary in 1986, with Gene Baur, who still heads Farm Sanctuary. They opened the first Farm Sanctuary site near

Watkins Glen, New York, later in 1986, and added a second location near Orlands, in northern California, in 1996.

Leaving Farm Sanctuary in July 2004, Houston founded Animal Acres in September 2005 as as “Peaceable Kingdom.” She changed the name due to objections from the New York humane education charity Tribe of Heart, which had titled a documentary about Farm Sanctuary *Peaceable Kingdom*.

“I believe Lorri is still alive and kicking, but haven’t been in touch with her,” Baur told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “She left Animal Acres before Farm Sanctuary was engaged to help out there. I think this makes long term sense,” Baur continued, mentioning that “our place and people in Orland can be there to support the Los Angeles operation.”

Animal Acres was involved in several efforts to expand law enforcement on behalf of farmed animals. The founding boards of directors of both Animal Acres and an organization called the Bureau of Humane Law Enforcement included both Houston and BHLE cofounder Brenda Carey. By 2006 their boards no longer had any common mem-

bers, but Animal Acres housed animals seized in cruelty cases by the BHLE, and the BHLE had hired caretaking help for the animals.

After the Los Angeles Police Department challenged the authority of the BHLE to operate as a humane law enforcement agency, the BHLE founders withdrew the applications they had filed to become California humane officers and refocused on distributing a downloadable *California Animal Law Enforcement Field Guide*.

Then-Animal Acres farm manager Frank Allen meanwhile formed Animal Cruelty Investigations, a nonprofit organization also located in Acton. Allen, no longer associated with Animal Acres, has led several noteworthy investigations of farm animal neglect and rough handling at stockyards.

Menaced by the September 2009 Station Fire, the largest wildfire in California history, Animal Acres evacuated all 125 resident animals and rescheduled a gala fundraiser, but escaped without major damage.

In April 2010 Animal Acres rescued about 150 animals from the defunct Purple Cow sanctuary in Valley Center, California,

including “110 goats, 30 or so chickens, seven cows, six pigs, two horses and a donkey,” according to the *North County Times*. Reportedly emaciated and suffering from parasites, the animals were left without care for some time after Purple Cow founder Tiffany St. Ives, 56, was in February 2010 charged with leaving the scene of a fatal accident. Pleading guilty, St. Ives was in June 2010 sentenced to serve a year in jail plus probation, and was subsequently sued by the victim’s family for allegedly causing the wrongful death of Marlene Resendiz, 17. Resendiz, of Escondido, a high school senior who was engaged to be married, was reportedly carried about 300 feet on the hood of St. Ives’ car.

“During her criminal proceedings, evidence showed that St. Ives had gone to elaborate lengths to cover up the crash. She was arrested more than two years after Resendiz’s death after a tipster called police,” summarized *San Diego Union-Tribune* reporter J. Harry Jones.

Animal Acres reportedly spent more than \$62,000 to treat, transport, and house the Purple Cow animals.

Tight funds close animal shelters & an MSPCA clinic

BOSTON, INDIANAPOLIS, IQALUIT—With annual income of more than \$40 million, assets of more than \$62 million, and a chief executive salary of \$476,000, the Massachusetts SPCA is a long way from Putnam County, Indiana, where the Putnam County Humane Society closed because of a \$30,000 deficit; Boynton Beach, Florida, where the last city shelter in Palm Beach County closed to save \$19,356; and Iqaluit, Nunavut, Canada, where the only shelter serving the region was unable to stay open on an annual budget of just \$50,000.

But, downsizing for the third time in seven years due to continuing investment losses, the MSPCA on October 4, 2011 announced that it will close the Angell Memorial Animal Hospital branch clinic in Nantucket at the end of the year. “Based on the number of animals seen and treated at the facility, versus the amount of money the organization has spent to maintain the building and staff, it’s clear that the right decision for the organization is to close the hospital,” MSPCA president Carter Luke told *Boston Globe* correspondent Amanda Cedrone. The MSPCA will continue to operate Angell Memorial clinics in Boston, Barnstable, and Methuen.

The MSPCA in 2009 quit operating shelters in Brockton, Martha’s Vineyard, and

Springfield, which had together handled more than 11,000 animals per year. The Springfield shelter was sold to the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society for \$1.2 million. The former Martha’s Vineyard shelter was leased to a new charity called Animal Shelter of Martha’s Vineyard. The former Metro South adoption center was leased to the Animal Protection Center of Southeastern Massachusetts.

The Putnam County Humane Society shelter closed on September 30, 2011. Board members and volunteers expressed hope of eventually reopening, but anticipated at least a year of work just to pay down the debt. Operating costs were about \$100,000 per year.

The Boynton Beach Animal Control shelter closed on August 1, 2011, two years after the Delray Beach shelter, leaving the Palm Beach County Animal Care & Control shelter as the only animal control facility in the county of 1.3 million people.

The Iqaluit Humane Society shelter closed on August 9, 2011, due to lack of funding to hire staff and insufficient volunteer help to maintain regular hours. The closure came one day after Quebec prime minister Jean Charest and Quebec native affairs minister Geoff Kelley visited to

deliver an apology and a settlement of \$3 million for claims resulting from massacres of sled dogs conducted by the Quebec and Canadian federal governments between 1950 and 1970. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police reported to the federal government in 2006 that the dog killings were necessary to control rabies.

The dog killings forced the Inuit into dependence upon government aid. A less recognized effect was that the relatively docile Malamutes traditionally used by Inuit mushers were replaced by huskies. As huskies, unlike Malamutes, would run off if left untethered, the previously unheard of practice of keeping dogs chained spread into Inuit territory. Since the advent of chaining, fatal attacks on humans by non-rabid dogs, once extremely rare in the Far North, have occurred at the rate of about one every other year.

Retired Quebec judge Jean-Jacques Croteau recommended in 2010 that compensation for the dog killings should be used “to promote Inuit art, culture and language as well

Wim De Kok to head new U.S. Vier Pfoten office

VIENNA—Helmut Dungler, chief executive of the Austrian-headquartered international animal welfare charity Vier Pfoten (Four Paws), on September 26, 2011 announced that Vier Pfoten is soon to open a U.S. office in Boston, under Wim De Kok. De Kok in 1982 cofounded the Dutch antifur society Bont Voor Dieren (Fur is for Animals) as the Anti-Bont Comité. It took the present name in 1988.

Relocating to Boston to work for the World Society for the Protection of Animals, De Kok founded and directed a global campaign to halt dancing bear acts and place dancing bears in sanctuaries. Vier Pfoten, the Australian charity Free The Bears, and the Indian charity Wildlife SOS, among others, now operate bear sanctuaries whose organizational impetus came in part from De Kok’s campaign under WSPA auspices. WSPA continues to operate a sanctuary for bears rescued from use in bear-baiting spectacles in Pakistan. The first WSPA Pakistan sanctuary flooded in 2010, killing 20 bears. Three survivors are now housed at a new location.

De Kok, after leaving WSPA, cofounded World Animal Net, a online global directory of animal charities and animal help agencies, based in part on the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** institutional mailing list. World Animal Net also does research and training in support

of international animal charities.

Vier Pfoten, founded by Dungler and three friends in 1988, now has more than 220 employees at offices and other facilities in Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Romania, South Africa, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. Among the largest Vier Pfoten programs are mobile dog-and-cat sterilization clinics working in many of the former Communist nations of eastern

Europe; the Belitza bear sanctuary in Bulgaria, opened in 2006; and the Lionsrock big cat sanctuary in South Africa, opened in 2007.

Another Vier Pfoten cofounder, Egyptian veterinarian Amir Khalil, in early September 2011 led the first international relief mission to the Tripoli Zoo after the fall of former Libyan dictator Muammar Gaddafi. Khalil made a follow-up visit in early October.

People & positions

Dick Green, who formerly headed disaster relief operations for the **American Humane Association** and **International Fund for Animal Welfare**, was on October 10, 2011 named director of disaster response for the **American SPCA**. After helping in the 2005 Hurricane Katrina rescue effort, Green in 2006 founded the 13-organization **National Animal Rescue & Sheltering Coalition**. The coalition has helped to coordinate response to about two dozen disasters. Green has led disaster relief missions to India, Japan, and Pakistan.

Liam Hughes, 40, in September 2011 succeeded Maine state **Animal Welfare Program** founding director **Norma Worley**, who retired in January 2011. Hughes was previously director of animal control field services and interim shelter director for the

Washington Humane Society in Washington, D.C.; animal care supervisor at the Cheyenne Animal Shelter in Wyoming; and an animal control officer and cruelty investigator for the Ocean City Humane Society in New Jersey. Hughes, often photographed with his pit bull terrier, “is a carnivore and says he doesn’t have an opinion on whether animals have rights,” reported Beth Quimby of *Maine Today*.

Andrea Kilkenny, formerly employed by the **Animal Farm Foundation** pit bull sanctuary in Dutchess County, New York, was on September 15, 2011 hired to manage the **John A. Bukowski Shelter for Animals** in Bloomfield, New Jersey. Kilkenny succeeds **Romel Fernandez**, who resigned after months of conflict with volunteers and the city board of health, which has oversight of the shelter.

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

Sealing verdict

LUXEMBOURG—The European General Court on September 14, 2011 ruled that the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, representing Canadian indigenous sealers, lacks standing to challenge the 2010 European Union ban on imports of seal products. The Fur Institute of Canada is reportedly pursuing a similar case, targeting the seal import ban enforcement regulations, while the Canadian government is appealing the ban to the World Trade Organization. The 2011 Atlantic Canada sealing quota was set at 400,000, the highest since 1971, but only 38,000 seals were killed, according to the Canadian Department of Fisheries & Oceans.

to organize dog team races, such as the annual Ivakkak race, which Makivik launched in 2001,” reported Sarah Rogers of *The Nunatsiak News*.

Musher Allen Gordon of Kuujuaq told Rogers of *The Nunatsiak News* that at least some of the money should be used instead to provide humane services, including vaccinations and dog sterilization.

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Failing Zimbabwe farmers poison elephants (from page 1)

Chiredzi River Conservancy to save them from starvation. There are now approximately 70 of these elephants,” Rodrigues recounted, “who have been under constant pressure from land invaders over the past 11 years, but have learned to co-exist with them.

“However,” Rodrigues continued, “there has been a new influx of people cutting down trees, poaching, and destroying the already damaged environment. The wildlife has already been suffering in these areas due to poaching—two months ago two young elephants were decapitated—but at least they had somewhere they could stay and feed. The territory which had been set aside for the elephants has now been invaded and they have nowhere else to go. In order to reach water holes and dams, they have to pass through settled areas where they are harassed and chased by the invaders.

“The invaders are people who have already taken or been given land elsewhere in the Conservancy,” Rodrigues emphasized. “After 11 years of settlement and attempted farming, the settlers are still relying on food aid, because this area is too hot and the rainfall too low to grow crops, no matter how much vegetation they destroy, or how many animals they kill.

“Minister of environment and tourism Francis Nhema was asked if the elephants could be moved to a safer area,” Rodrigues said, “but he was adamant that they stay in the conservancy. Whilst he acknowledged that the invaders were there illegally, he has made no attempt to have them removed. Game scouts are employed to patrol the area,” Rodrigues added, “but they live under constant threat from poachers, politicians and invaders. They are continually assaulted and abused.” Rodrigues expressed concern that what little protection for wildlife Zimbabwe still offers may be failing nationwide. “We have received reports recently of South African hunters allegedly being given permission by National Parks to

shoot buffalo in the Kariba area—apparently for rations,” Rodrigues said. “Only about 32 buffalo are left there, out of an original herd of 650. We have been informed that National Parks have authorized shooting leopards in Matopas National Park, a protected wildlife area. It is extremely distressing to note that the guardians of our wildlife appear to be partially responsible for its demise.”

Since the first wave of land invasions began, Rodrigues and the Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force have emphasized protecting and restoring wildlife waterholes, but now, said Rodrigues, “We have received reports of poachers poisoning waterholes in some of the biggest game reserves in the country, such as Gonarezhou, Mana Pools, Zambezi, Matusadona, Charara, and Hwange.

“In Hwange National Park, seven waterholes have allegedly been poisoned,” Rodrigues said. “The poison used is known as ‘Two Step,’ apparently because the animals who consume it take two steps and die. Then scavengers who feed off the carcass, such as hyena and vultures, also die. The only way to get rid of the poison,” Rodrigues speculated, “would be to drain the water holes and then dig them up and dispose of the soil where it won’t be a danger to any animals or humans.”

Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority spokesperson Caroline Washaya-Moyo affirmed that watering holes in the five national parks have been poisoned, killing nine elephants, five lions, two buffalo, and several vultures.

“The elephant tusks were taken, leaving the carcasses. Lion skins were not taken,” Washaya-Moyo said.

But the government-controlled *Harare Herald* preferred to emphasize the September 13 shooting of three suspected rhino poachers in the Chipangayi Safari Area near Chiredzi. “Rangers, acting on a tip, wylaid the suspected poachers and killed them in a pre-dawn ambush after exchange-

WTO orders change in “dolphin safe”

GENEVA, Switzerland—A World Trade Organization panel on September 15, 2011 ruled that the qualifications required for “dolphin-safe” tuna certification, enforced by the U.S. Commerce Department, “are more trade-restrictive than necessary” to inform buyers as to whether dolphins were harmed in tuna fishing.

The WTO panel “said the labels protect dolphins in U.S. waters, but ‘only partially fulfill’ that goal elsewhere,” summarized John Heilprin of Associated Press. “But the panel rejected Mexico’s claim that its tuna products are treated differently than those of the U.S. or other nations,” Heilprin said. The U.S. dolphin-safe tuna standard was set by Congress in 1990. Several U.S. Commerce Secretaries have sought to weaken it, following a similar ruling by a predecessor to the WTO panel, but U.S. District Judge Thelton Henderson of San Francisco ruled five times between 2000 and 2004 that as Congress stipulated, “Dolphin-safe shall continue to mean that ‘no tuna were caught...using a purse seine net intentionally deployed on or to encircle dolphins, and that no dolphins were killed or seriously injured,’” on the voyage that caught the tuna.

ing gunfire,” wrote Isdore Guvamombe for the *Herald*. “Two others were arrested and their vehicle impounded, while another suspect escaped,” Guvamombe said.

The incident occurred in the vicinity of the Chiredzi River Conservancy Black Rhino Foundation. At least 10 rhinos were poached in Zimbabwe during the first nine months of 2011, but 279 were poached in neighboring South Africa, including 169 in Kruger National Park. A record 333 rhinos were poached in South Africa in 2010, up from just 17 in 2007. The entire rhino population of Zimbabwe, wild and domestic, is believed to be fewer than 500; two years of poaching at the South African intensity would extirpate the species.

Humane Trends: Measuring the Status of Animal Protection in the U.S. Humane Research Council (P. O. Box 6476 • Olympia, WA 98507), 2011. Download from <www.HumaneResearch.org>.

Humane Trends, compiled by the Humane Research Council, “is a barometer of the status of animal protection in the U.S.,” begins the introduction. “This study brings together a collection of 25 diverse indicators to assess the status and progress of animal well-being, providing a comprehensive view of animal use and abuse in the United States.”

HRC founder Che Green anticipates that this will be the first edition of many updates, to be produced “at least bi-annually, as new data become available,” published on the HumaneTrends.com web site.

The HRC approach is to first produce numeric scores on a scale of from zero to 100 for progress in each of five areas of concern, within five broad topic headings: companion animals, animals used in science, wildlife/exotics, farmed animals, and general indicators. Meeting all animal advocacy goals, as recognized by HRC, is defined as 100%. The scores are then averaged to produce the conclusions.

Some of the scores are simply percentages of Americans who practice certain activities or lifestyle choices, or respond to opinion surveys with answers within a certain range: proportion of new companion animals who are purchased, proportion of U.S. states regulating companion animal breeders, and proportion of adults who say the welfare and protection of companion animals is important.

How some of the other scores are derived is explained, but often not very clearly. Within the companion animals category, for instance, HRC assigns values for “Number of animals killed in the shelter system” and “Number of animals entering shelters.” **ANIMAL PEOPLE** is credited as the original source of much of the input data, and was also the original source of data that HRC acquired elsewhere. Though I personally compiled the data, how it translates into *Humane Trends* scores of 15 and 19, respectively, eludes me.

As with any attempt to reduce broad and complex topics to single numeric values, the methodology may in some areas obscure as much as illuminate longterm trends.

In the companion animal category,

despite some occasional short-term upward blips, the numbers of animals admitted to shelters and killed in shelters have declined for about 40 years. Public recognition of the need to sterilize pets became ubiquitous more than a generation ago.

Because the numbers are so much lower now than then, and because there is no further change in public attitudes or behavior than can accomplish as proportionately great a reduction as sterilizing 70%-plus of the pet population already did, progress today seems relatively slight, especially when measured over just a few years.

A second example involves hunting. Because total U.S. hunting license sales blipped upward in 2008, HRC awards a score of zero for progress in this area. But the blip was because of the reopening of dove hunting in Iowa and the sale of wolf-hunting licenses for the first time in Idaho and Montana. The longterm trends are that hunting license sales have declined by about a third over the past 30 years, while the number of hunting seasons for which licenses are sold has nearly doubled, along with the number of men of age to hunt.

The *Humane Trends* methodology assigns equal weight to indicators as diverse as “Proportion of U.S. universities with human-animal studies courses or animal law programs,” “Proportion of states with laws that limit owning or keeping exotic animals,” “per capita consumption of animal products,” and “Number of Animal Welfare Act covered animals used in animal experiments.”

One especially problematic indicator, “Acreage of protected land, oceans, and reservoirs,” presupposes that approximately tripling the amount of protected habitat in the U.S. to about 10% of the whole of the U.S. is—or should be—an animal protection goal. Ironically, though, more “protected” habitat is open to hunting in the U.S. than private property. Indeed, more than half of the National Park system has been opened to hunting during the past 20 years, in response to hunter complaints about diminished access to privately owned land. More accurate indicators of public attitudes toward wildlife would

pertain to participation in watching animals and to tolerance and encouragement of wild animals on people’s own land. Watching wildlife is now part of the recreational activity of about a third of Americans, up from about 25% circa 1990, while soaring sales of bird feeders and squirrel feeders attest to increasing tolerance of wildlife in yards.

The *Humane Trends* use of a broad range of indicators helps to iron out some of the inherent problems of equivalency, and of course it is possible that what is taught in universities may in the long run affect animals as much as what is going on today in slaughterhouses and laboratories. Yet it is inescapable that HRC is having to compare apples, oranges, and watermelons to assess the condition of the fruit basket.

HRC assigns progress scores of 47

Fifty Animals that Changed the Course of History by Eric Chaline

Firefly Books (P.O. Box 1338, Ellicot Station, Buffalo, NY 14205), 2011. 224 pages, hardcover. \$29.95.



The title of *Fifty Animals that Changed the Course of History* will jar **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers even before they open the book. Both the title and text retain the convention, fading out in recent decades, of referring to animals as inanimate objects. *Fifty Animals Who Changed the Course of History* would be biologically accurate.

Offered as a “guide to the animals that have had the greatest impact on human civilization,” *Fifty Animals that Changed the Course of History* includes species who are often considered edible, are disease vectors, or are used for transportation, as a source of materials for making clothing, or for other economic purposes.

Humans and animals, including insects and fish, share the earth, but as author Eric Chaline’s categorizations of human/animal relationships indicate, much of the sharing is involuntary on the part of the animals, and involves suffering and exploitation. Chaline describes human/animal relationships as he finds them, mostly without question or challenge. The chief value of Chaline’s research may be in illuminating aspects of the animal/human relationship which have been influential, yet are often not widely known.

The Spanish fly, for example, is not a fly but a beetle. This species and many others have been imagined over the ages to have properties which “stimulate the human sexual appetite,” as Chaline puts it. Countless species have been hunted and killed for this purpose. But the so-called Spanish fly could be said to have retaliated. Found on shrubs and trees in central Asia and southern Europe, the Spanish fly belongs to the blister beetle family. These beetles secrete a chemical called cantharidin, which upon contact with human skin can cause blister-like lesions.

and 44, respectively, to companion animal and wildlife issues, but farmed animal issues score just four.

The most encouraging numbers are that 91% of adults “say the welfare and protection of companion animals is important,” and that 69% of adults “agree with overarching animal protection goals.” But scores based on actual behavior fall far behind those based on attitude. A somewhat surprising number offered by *Humane Trends* is that the average “Humane Scorecard” rating for members of the U.S. Congress is a relatively robust 47.

“The average of all indicators was 34 out of 100,” Humane Trends concludes. “One way to think about this number is to say that the animal protection movement is about one third of the way to meeting its goals, as they are defined by this report.” —Merritt Clifton

The crushed and powdered remains of Spanish flies have long been alleged to have Viagra-like qualities. Yet a dose of cantharidin large enough to arouse symptoms of sexual passion can also kill the users. Unhappy wives in Renaissance Italy are said to have resorted to Aqua Tofana, a liquid including an overdose of Spanish fly, to poison their husbands.

The rat section caught my notice, as a former resident of New York City. In the 1970s New York City subway trains were consistently late. The trains and their tunnels were covered with graffiti. Rats were everywhere. However, though rats can spread disease, fleas were actually the primary vector for the Black Death during the Middle Ages. Rats were among the most ubiquitous hosts for infected fleas, but so were other rodents. Panic-driven purges of cats encouraged rodents of all sorts to proliferate.

The cow is “probably the most important edible, practical and commercial species featured in this book,” says Chaline. If cows suddenly disappeared, life for millions of people around the world would turn upside down. Cattle appear to have been domesticated separately in Africa, India, and China, thousands of miles and years apart, but all domestic cattle nonetheless trace their ancestry to the now extinct auroch, which originated in India before spreading into Europe. The last known auroch died in Poland in 1627.

Fifty Animals that Changed the Course of History also includes fascinating investigations of animals such as the leech and their relationship with humans. Each section briefly explains the history and current status of the animal, with photos, key dates, and mentions of people associated with the animal. —Debra J. White

In a Dog’s Heart by Jennifer Arnold

Random House (1745 Broadway, New York, NY 10019), 2011. 256 pages, hardcover. \$25.00.



Not another dog book, I said. The market is flooded with dog books. Send me cat, horse, or elephant books, but not another book about dogs. But *In a Dog’s Heart*, Jennifer Arnold’s latest, perked me up.

Arnold gets to the point and tells the reader, from her experience as a trainer and founder of Canine Assistants, what to expect when living with dogs. She shares her talents to prepare dog owners for the challenges of puppyhood, including what to expect from a veterinarian, how to decipher dog food labels, and coping with separation anxiety.

Arnold includes a helpful section on thunderstorm phobia. Many a fearful dog has ripped through screen doors or even crashed through windows to escape during thunderstorms. This type of phobia can be harmful to the dog and Arnold suggests ways to make the fearful dog safe. Arnold also discusses the options involved in seeking a responsible breeder or adopting a rescued dog. Do your homework, she says, because the dog you bring home should be part of your family for the dog’s lifetime. —Debra J. White

HUMANE EDUCATION CLASSIC: Time Is Short And The Water Rises

by John Walsh with Robert Gannon

E.P. Dutton & Co., 1967. 224 pages, hardcover.

One can still find battered copies of *Time Is Short And The Water Rises* through online book search services, often selling for less than the original cover price of \$6.95, plus postage. The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** review copy was discarded years ago by Central School District #1, in the Town of Rockland, New York.

Time Is Short And The Water Rises ought to be reprinted and returned to school libraries, not only as a great animal rescue story but also as an unrecognized classic of the integration era—with a preface pointing out that the Surinamese descendants of escaped slaves whom John Walsh and co-author Robert Gannon described as “Bushnegroes” were at the time usually called much worse. Politically incorrect as “Bushnegroes” is today, it was at the time of publication in 1967 a euphemism used with polite intent.

John Walsh, age 23 when the story began in March 1964, was a young Boston Irish cruelty investigator employed by the Massachusetts SPCA. The height of career ambition for many of his schoolmates was to become a police officer or firefighter, but because Walsh loved animals—all animals—he became an “animal cop” and rescuer instead. Walsh worked mostly with dogs, cats, and “nuisance wildlife” such as raccoons and skunks. In a neighbor’s basement Walsh kept pet snakes. That made him the closest approach to a jungle wildlife expert that the International Society for the Protection of Animals could find on short notice.

ISPA was formed in 1959 by a merger of programs of the MSPCA, Royal SPCA of Britain, and Humane Society of the United States. Another merger, in 1981 with the Dutch-based World Federation for the Protection of Animals, created the World Society for the Protection of Animals.

Walsh became perhaps the most renowned hands-on animal rescuer of his time. He was the public face of WSPA from inception until his retirement, after he helped to lead a rescue mission to the beleaguered Kabul Zoo following the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan in 2003.

In early 1964, however, Walsh was among the junior members of the MSPA staff. He had investigated dog thefts for use in laboratories and had assisted in cockfighting raids that led to more than 200 arrests, but was nonetheless a bit surprised to be summoned to the office of Eric H. Hansen, then president of both the MSPCA and ISPA.

Hansen had studied medicine until, as he put it in 1937, he was advised at age 20 that he showed more promise of becoming a successful undertaker. A chance encounter in 1923 while swimming at the New York City YMCA led to a job in the dog licensing office of the American SPCA. Then-ASPCA president Sydney Coleman eventually recommended Hansen to head the Humane Society of Missouri. In that capacity Hansen in 1937 frustratedly witnessed catastrophic flooding along the Mississippi River, unable to do much to help the thousands of animal victims due to lack of funding, equipment, and trained rescue personnel.

Hansen in an article for *The National Humane Review*, published by the American Humane Association,

Little noticed Operation Noah inspired Operation Gwamba

Before there was Operation Gwamba, documented by John Walsh and Robert Gannon in *Time Is Short And The Water Rises*, there was Operation Noah, a five-year rescue begun in 1958 by Rhodesian chief ranger Rupert Fothergill.

Fothergill, 46, began relocating animals from the Zambezi Valley to Matsudona National Park and other habitat near Lake Kariba in 1958, after the Kariba Dam on the Zambezi River was closed. Fothergill was still at it in 1964, to little outside notice, when Operation Gwamba began.

The Kariba Dam, then the biggest in the world, impounded water for 174 miles below Victoria Falls.

“To save the trapped game and reptiles, the Southern Rhodesian government assigned three game wardens and eight native trackers,” the February 23, 1959 edition of *Time* magazine noted, in one of the few media notices of Operation Noah. “The government of Southern Rhodesia is being censured for having done too little too late to save the Kariba animals,” *Time* continued. “But the government of Northern Rhodesia, across the lake, has done less. It has sent a single warden. His duties are to kill two elephants each week to provide meat for the Batonga tribesmen evacuated from the lake site. The Northern Rhodesia Game Preservation and Hunting Association has appealed to members to devote their holidays to rescue work. It is unlikely that either the holidaying hunters or the exhausted eleven-man team from Southern Rhodesia can save more than a tiny fraction of the valley wildlife.”

Equipped with only two boats, Fothergill’s team rescued more than 5,000 animals. A Northern Rhodesian team, headed by Tad Edelman, saved more than 1,000. Among the rescued animals were 1,866 impala, 585 warthogs, 200 buffalo, 43 rhino, 23 elephants, and at least a dozen lions.

The critical difference in media notice of Operation Noah and Operation Gwamba, and in public support for the two rescues, may have had to do with perceiving the value of nylon stockings. Fothergill recognized that they had multiple uses in capturing and safely translocating animals, but Massachusetts SPCA fundraiser Bob Smith, assigned to help the International Society for the Protection of Animals for the duration of Operation Gwamba, took the matter to another level by appealing to women to donate used stockings. The appeal attracted global publicity. When thousands of women

envisioned the humane community coming together to create a national or even international disaster relief service to rescue animals from hell and high water. Coleman by then headed the AHA, and hired Hansen as general manager, in part to revitalize the long dormant AHA Red Star Relief Service as an all-animals disaster relief agency. But World War II interfered. Formed during World War I to help horses, the Red Star Relief Service helped horses and war dogs during World War II, then fell semi-dormant again for decades.

Moving on to head the MSPCA from 1945 until his death in 1965, Hansen resurrected his ideas about disaster relief after receiving a desperate appeal from Jan Michels, secretary of the Surinam SPCA. Michels described how the completion of the Afobaka Dam on the Upper Surinam River had begun to inundate 870 miles of dense rainforest, leaving thousands of animals stranded on fast-disappearing small islands and in the tops of trees. Michels sought funding help for an animal rescue operation modeled after Operation Noah, a now little-remembered and even then obscure rescue operation conducted after the 1958 closure of the Kariba Dam on the Zambesi River in what is now Zimbabwe. Concluded Michels, “Time is short and the water rises.”

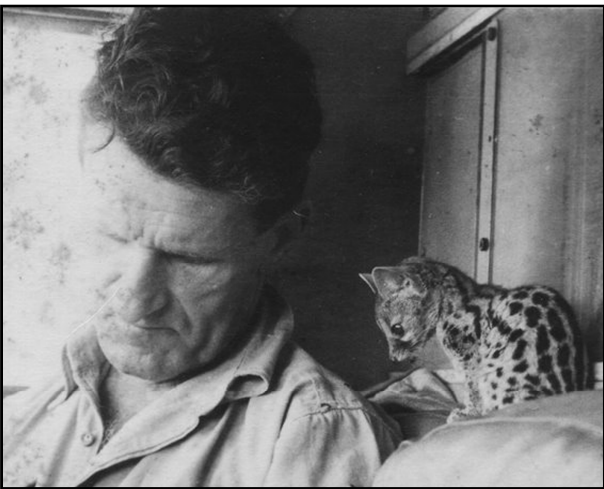
Hansen dispatched Walsh with multiple purposes in mind. One of them was to establish the global reputation of ISPA. Another was to demonstrate to the world the feasibility of large-scale animal disaster relief.

Hansen’s final instruction to Walsh: “You’re not God. You can’t determine what animals should or should not exist. Every animal—I don’t give a damn whether it’s a snake or a deer or a vulture—plays its role in the balance of nature. If we go into this project, you’re to save everything. Pull ‘em out—every living creature. Draw no lines. If they’re there, save them. The only question is whether you can do it.”

Walsh recalls a meeting not unlike the famous meeting in 1946 at which then-Brooklyn Dodgers general manager Branch Rickey hired Jackie Robinson to desegregate major league baseball. Asked for his opinion, then Dodgers field manager Leo Durocher responded, “I don’t care if the guy is yellow or black, or if he has stripes like a goddamned zebra. I’m the manager of this team and I say he plays.”

Assigned to help all animals, Walsh soon discovered that this would require working with all sorts of people, too. His first impression of Surinam was that everyone he met upon arrival at the Zanderji Airport was “non-white in one way or another, with somehow surprising mixtures of Chinese, Negro, White, Indian, and Amerindian stirred up together,” speaking a language which was “a fascinating mixture of Dutch, English, and Portuguese, with a smattering of Yiddish, Spanish, French, West African, and imagination.”

Walsh was of the same background and generation as the parents who stoned black children a decade later during the 1974 court-ordered desegregation of the South Boston and Roxbury public schools. But, after a chapter exploring the often violent racial history of Surinam over the preceding several centuries, Walsh praised how the nation now “revels in



Rupert Fothergill naps in his truck during Operation Noah.
(Fothergill family photo.)

responded, they were thanked promptly and were later asked for donations of money. Many became regular donors not only to Operation Gwamba but also to the other work of ISPA.

Fothergill documented much of Operation Noah on 16-millimeter film, but except for four half-hour documentary episodes distributed by the Rhodesian government, little of the film ever reached an audience. Fothergill died in 1975. A biography, *Rupert Fothergill; Bridging a Conservation Era*, by Keith Meadows, was published in Zimbabwe in 1996, but is not easily found to buy. A project history, *Animal Dunkirk*, by Eric Robbins, publication date unknown, is even scarcer.

“I never met my maternal grandfather,” recalled his grandson Piggy, in a series of 2007-2009 blog postings. “He died ten years before I was born. But I grew up watching him chase rhinos, nurse baby kudu, hold eight-foot pythons and coax porcupines out of their burrows. For almost half a century, his footage of charging rhinos, drowning monkeys, netted antelope and caged lions sat in boxes in our family home. Mum and Dad used to dig out the four half-hour episodes edited by the Rhodesian government and project them at our childhood birthday parties, or invite the neighbors over for screenings in the garage on rainy Sunday afternoons. But the bulk of the raw footage has not been seen for almost fifty years.”

Rediscovering the footage in 2007, Fothergill’s grandson has begun digitizing it, reel by reel, while pursuing his own career in media work in Brisbane, Australia.



John Walsh checks a brocket deer before release.
(From the cover of *Time Is Short And The Water Rises*.)

happy miscegenation, resulting in a handsome group of Surinamers.” At the time of publication, seventeen U.S. states still had laws against interracial marriage. *Time Is Short And The Water Rises* was already in pre-press production when the U.S. Supreme Court on June 12, 1967 struck down the miscegenation laws in *Loving vs. Virginia*—and the last of those laws remained on the books, though unenforced, until 2000.

Walsh, meanwhile, observed that in Surinam, “Usually the white man stands there and waits until everything is loaded and a place is made for him to sit down.” This struck him as wrong. “I decided,” he recounts, “that first, I wouldn’t ask the men to do anything I wouldn’t do and second, I’d have to surpass them in courage to gain their respect.”

Walsh with effort learned to speak enough of the two local languages, Taki-Taki and Saramaccan, to direct multiple crews eventually including 246 people. Many of them were hired from the 43 human communities that were inundated as the dam impoundment filled. Over the next 18 months Operation Gwamba (“*gwamba*” is a local corruption of “game”] rescued more than 10,000 animals, of whom the participants remembered to count 9,737, constituting the first comprehensive species inventory of the Surinam lowland rainforest.

Most numerous were the 2,104 three-fingered sloths, 1,051 nine-banded armadillos, 973 tortoises, 927 tree porcupines, and 840 two-fingered sloths. There were 671 deer and 528 monkeys. Rarest were a margay and a domestic cat. Walsh *et al* also rescued only one capybara, but capybara are semi-aquatic and usually swam to safety without human help.

Relocating the animals to suitable new habitat was apparently not a problem, as wildlife in highlands surrounding the dam impoundment had been hunted to scarcity, and the rising water mostly just moved the marshy water’s edge habitat favored by most of the animals to a slightly higher elevation.

“The Bushnegroes ate rice with fish,” Walsh wrote. “I didn’t allow them to eat any of the [rescued] animals. Compassion for wild things was a wholly new experience for them, and I didn’t want to push my luck too far. For the first time in their lives they were being forced to think of *gwamba* as something other than food...If the men really wanted meat, they could get it when they visited their home villages, every second or third weekend. In camp, they were vegetarians,” except when they caught fish.

Walsh himself also became quasi-vegetarian, since “meat just wasn’t readily available,” except for dried pigs’ tails. Having apparently never known a vegetarian to that point in his life, he observed with evident surprise that “My health suffered not at all.”

Vistors included Hope Ryden, then a young journalist who became a distinguished author of nature books; Queen Juliana of The Netherlands, and her husband, World Wildlife Fund cofounder Prince Reinhard.

Operation Gwamba began winding down coincidental with Hansen’s death at age 62 in June 1965. The Afobaka Dam reservoir would continue to fill until 1971, but after the first phase of the impoundment the water rose relatively slowly, allowing animals more opportunity to relocate themselves. Rescuing more than 100 animals a day at peak, Walsh and crew by September 1965 struggled to find even one animal per day in need of their help. Wrapping up the project, Walsh was pleased to overhear some of his employees explaining to their uncomprehending countrymen the ethical motivations for the rescue efforts. “Maybe the sons of Tony, and Wimpy, and Sime, and the other couple of hundred men will have compassion passed on to them,” Walsh hoped.

“The words ‘primitive’ and ‘uncivilized’ don’t mean what they seem to,” Walsh concluded of his work in Surinam. “I refused to accept the maxim that ‘civilization,’ or rather, white-manization, automatically is good.”

Those were radical words in 1967, expressing an idea still difficult for many people to accept.

Walsh returned to Boston with a dog found in a flooded village. Walsh had nursed the once emaciated and parasite-ridden dog back to health, but Walsh himself suffered from a misdiagnosed case of “rabies” contracted from a vampire bat. His recovery took months. Within the next two years, however, Walsh led an early seal hunting protest in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, a rescue of starving huskies inside the Arctic Circle, and a flood relief mission to Italy.

In 2000 Susan E. Goodman reprised Walsh’s adventures in Surinam in *Animal Rescue: The Best Job There Is*, a Simon & Schuster “Ready to Read” book for young children. Goodman also summarized Walsh’s work in relief of the Kuwait Zoo, where only 29 of 442 animals survived the 1990 Persian Gulf War, and in Japan after the 1995 Kobe earthquake. But there is as yet no comprehensive John Walsh biography or autobiography.

—Merritt Clifton

Big Cat Rescue seeks enforcement of 2007 Florida captive wildlife bonding requirement

TAMPA—Contacted by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** about a flamboyant but ill-informed September 28, 2011 “exposé” of Big Cat Rescue by Mike Deeson of WTSP-TV, Big Cat Rescue founder Carole Baskin seemed only transiently interested in defending herself and her organization.

Her husband, attorney Howard Baskin, posted an extensive response and rebuttal to Deeson on the Big Cat Rescue web site, including a detailed summary of why he advised his wife against going on camera with Deeson for what appeared to be an “ambush interview.” Carole Baskin did e-mail to Deeson an extensive written response to the allegations against Big Cat Rescue.

To **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, Carole Baskin most wanted to talk about the failure of the Florida Wildlife Commission to implement a 2007 state law requiring all keepers of large carnivores, venomous reptiles, and nonhuman primates to post a liability bond of \$10,000.

Obtaining the FWC list of 238 keepers who should be subject to the bond requirement, Baskin learned that 69 of them have yet to comply. “The FWC changed their rules to exempt owners who were not exhibiting, after the legislature mandated the bond,” Baskin told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “but I contacted every member of the state house and senate to let them know that the FWC had circumvented their 111-4 decision. The legislature came back in 2009 and amended their language to rope back in all of the people the FWC had exempted,” Baskin continued—but the FWC is still not enforcing the law.

“While the Florida issue is local,” Baskin said, “it shows that regulation [of possession of wildlife, anywhere] can’t work, because there will never be enough money to fund enforcement. A ban on the private possession of wild animals is the only thing that can work.” Also, Baskin said, “It illustrates how the fox is guarding the hen house when

the people in charge of protecting wild animals kill them for sport. All of our wildlife commissioners are hunters. At their meetings they openly state that their main concern is to be sure they have lots of places to hunt.”

As to Deeson’s “exposé,” the 2011 edition of *The ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on Animal Charities* summarized the issues six weeks before the “exposé” aired. Like many other sanctuarians, Baskin began in 1992 as an exotic animal breeder, but soon reversed directions, and as well as sheltering about 140 rescued exotic cats, began educating and lobbying against the exotic pet industry. Baskin pushed the 2007 law and 2009 reinforcement through the Florida legislature by sending letters to more than 1,500 Floridians telling them that they live near a potentially dangerous wild animal held in captivity. She also began aggressively exposing animal exhibitors who may work in the name of rescue, with nonprofit status, but whose practices in her view differ little from those of carnival exhibitors and roadside zoo owners.

Baskin has especially singled out Joe Schreibvogel, who has used as many as 30 aliases since 1997, including Big Cat Rescue Entertainment, while exhibiting lion and tiger cubs under pretexts including running an exotic pet store, a wildlife rescue service, and a sanctuary. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** published an exposé of Schreibvogel’s activities in 2002.

His history since then fills most of an 8,200-word exposé posted to several web sites by Howard Baskin. Schreibvogel has also been extensively exposed by PETA. Responding to exposure on the Big Cat Rescue web site by picketing Big Cat Rescue, Schreibvogel was Deeson’s primary source.

Said Howard Baskin, “The WTSP story noted that Schreibvogel was fined \$25,000 by USDA, but dispensed with this by repeating Schreibvogel’s claim that it was ‘when he first started out.’ The fine was in 2006 for violations that took place continuously from 2000-2004. The WTSP report omitted that Schreibvogel is now under investigation by USDA for the deaths of 23 tiger cubs in 2010, a fact the reporter knew.”

Another frequent target of Carole Baskin’s criticism, mentioned on the Big Cat Rescue web site 30 times since 2005, “must pay a penalty of \$2,786 for February 2010 incident in which a jaguar bit off part of a visitor’s thumb,” reported David Fleshler of the *South Florida Sun-Sentinel* on September 25, 2011. The Panther Ridge Conservation Center “neither admitted nor denied the allegations in the settlement agreement” with the USDA, Fleshler wrote.

Panther Ridge founder Judy Berens was herself injured by two cheetahs at a 2008 fundraiser, “suffering wounds to her back, neck and limbs,” Fleshler remembered.

OBITUARIES

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

Maggie Houlihan, 63, died on September 16, 2011 in Encinitas, California, after a long battle with endometrial cancer. An 11-year Encinitas city councilor and two-term mayor, Houlihan in 1991 cofounded the San Diego Spay & Neuter Action Project, with Candy Schulmann and others, and was also a cofounder of the Wee Companions small-animal rescue organization and the off-leash dog advocacy group People and Dog Zones, remembered Barbara Henry of the *North County Times*. Encinitas city official Peder Norby recalled Houlihan as “the one person he knew he could call at 6 a.m. when he discovered an injured pelican,” wrote Henry. Houlihan was also remembered as a longtime ally by Jane Cartmill of San Diego Animal Advocates, and by the Rancho Coastal Humane Society, which hosted a tribute to Houlihan’s life less than two weeks before her death.

Patricia Eleanor Blum, 66, died in Honolulu on August 11, 2011. A dressage, cross-country, and show-jumping equestrian competitor in her youth, Blum lost her vision to a genetic eye disease in her mid-thirties. At the time, recalled Gary T. Kubota of the *Honolulu Star-Advertiser*, the Hawaii requirement of a four-month quarantine for all dogs arriving in the state “effectively prevented blind people from traveling with their service dogs between Hawaii and other states and countries. Blum and other disabled people charged,” in a 1993 lawsuit, “that the rules ruined the service dogs’ expensive training and violated the Americans with Disabilities Act. The state Board of Agriculture eventually changed the rules,” to allow five days or less of quarantine for dogs and cats, if they have been vaccinated, have had a blood test to screen for various diseases, and have microchip identification.

Zephania Mbuso Myeni, 39, a multi-time decorated 18-year ranger for the Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife department in South Africa, was on September 10, 2011 accidentally shot by colleagues during a twilight gun battle with three suspected rhino poachers at the Umfolozi Game Reserve in Zululand. The suspected poachers escaped.

There is no better way to remember animals or animal people than with an ANIMAL PEOPLE memorial. Send donations (any amount), with address for acknowledgement, if desired, to P.O. Box 960 Clinton, WA 98236-0960

Jagjit Singh, 70, died of a brain hemorrhage in Mumbai on October 10, 2011. “Widely credited for reviving the popularity of classical Hindustani love songs in Urdu, known as ghazals,” recalled *New York Times* correspondent Neha Thirani, Singh was also remembered “for using his voice to speak up for elephants needlessly being killed by speeding trains on railway tracks,” said PETA/India manager of media and celebrity projects Sachin S. Bangera. Singh wrote to former Indian railways minister Mamata Banerjee in September 2010, after a train moving at 70 miles per hour killed seven elephants in the Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal, asking her to “limit the speed of trains running through elephant corridors and to use speed-detection guns to monitor train speeds.” The use of speed guns to clock train speeds was introduced in October 2010 by Azam Siddiqui, a TV news camera man who first wrote to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** about road and railway threats to elephants in 2004. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** helped Siddiqui to collect the information he needed to apply for the PETA/India grant that funded the acquisition of a speed gun used to demonstrate the efficacy of the technique—but while the speed gun easily passed all tests, train speeds are still not routinely monitored. Three elephants were injured in July 2011 near the site of the collision that killed the seven, and another was killed in October 2011. More than 150 elephants have been killed by trains in India since 1987.

More about Joseph V. Brady

We conducted several demos at Johns Hopkins Bayview National Institute on Drug Abuse, where Joseph V. Brady, whose obituary appeared in the September 2011 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, was long the principal investigator in drug addiction experiments. Brady spent at least 20 years repeating the same experiments on a variety of animals. To this day, Johns Hopkins has animals addicted to heroin, cocaine, barbituates in all varieties, amphetamines, and alcohol.

—William H. Morrison, treasurer Maryland Animal Advocates
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Editor’s note:

This aspect of Brady’s career, easily verified, should have been mentioned. We received and confirmed extensive obituary information about Brady’s role in preparing rhesus macaques and squirrel monkeys for space flight, but none of it mentioned his separate and much longer involvement in pharmacological experiments on animals.

Nobel Prize winner Wangari Maathai, 71

Wangari Maathai, 71, winner of the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize, died of cancer on September 24, 2011, in Nairobi, Kenya.

Maathai “won a scholarship to study biology at Mount St. Scholastica College in Atchison, Kansas, receiving a degree in 1964,” wrote *New York Times* obituarist Jeffrey Gettleman. “She earned a master of science degree from the University of Pittsburgh. She went on to obtain a doctorate in veterinary anatomy at the University of Nairobi, becoming the first woman in East or Central Africa to hold such a degree,” Gettleman continued.

Maathai taught veterinary anatomy at the University of Nairobi for many years, while becoming increasingly active in environmental and social justice causes.

“Her quest to see fewer trees felled and more planted saw her face off against

Kenya’s powerful elite,” recalled Jason Straziuse and Tom Odula of Associated Press. “At least three times she was physically attacked, including being clubbed unconscious by police during a hunger strike in 1992. In the summer of 1998,” Straziuse and Odula continued, “the Kenyan government was giving land to political allies in a protected forest on Nairobi’s outskirts. Maathai began a campaign to reclaim the land, culminating in a confrontation with 200 hired thugs armed with machetes and bows and arrows. When Maathai tried to plant a tree, she and her cohorts were attacked with whips, clubs and stones. Maathai received a bloody gash on her head,” but the incident was the beginning of the end for the 30-year regime of former Kenyan president Daniel arap Moi, and inspired the United Nations Environmental Program’s Billion Tree Campaign. Since 2006 the UNEP program has helped to plant 11 billion trees.

“A true heroine and a champion of animal welfare, wildlife and environmental conservation, she was a great inspiration to many of us,” e-mailed Africa Network for Animal Welfare founder Josphat Ngunyo to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Illness prevented Maathai from attending the September 2010 Africa Animal Action conference in Nairobi, organized by ANAW, but she sent a statement that was read aloud to the delegates.

“As environmentalists whose main preoccupation has been to rehabilitate and conserve natural habits and landscapes, we have placed the welfare of animals at the center of our thinking and work,” Maathai said. “We humans share a strong evolutionary link with animals...Poverty, underdevelopment, and ostensibly other urgent issues may make us neglect the welfare of animals. But that is precisely why you have all convened at this conference—so that we can all remind ourselves of the important responsibility we share towards ensuring that animals are treated humanely.”

Maathai often told about a hummingbird who carried one drop of water at a time to fight a forest fire. Asked by an elephant why she was wasting her energy, instead of fleeing, the hummingbird responded, “I’m doing the best I can.” Said Maathai, “That to me is what all of us should do. I will be a hummingbird. I will do the best I can.”

ANIMAL OBITS

Pocho, 50, a Costa Rican crocodile famed for performing with Gilberto “Chito” Sheedan, 54, died on October 11, 2011 at Sheedan’s home in Siquirres. Sheedan found Pocho on the bank of the Parisnina River in 1994, close to death from a bullet wound to the left eye. Sheedan and friends took Pocho to Siquirres by boat. Sheedan nursed Pocho back to health, swam with him as he recovered, and taught him several basic tricks, including allowing Sheedan to put his head within Pocho’s mouth. Initially they performed only for friends, neighbors, and passers-by, but a video of a performance first aired on Costa Rican television in 2000 eventually made celebrities of Pocho and Sheedan. For more than a decade they performed weekly at Finca Las Tilapias, an artificial lake in Siquirres that was built as a fish farm.

Sugar, 11, a whitetailed deer featured in *Deer Companions*, by Thomas Lee Boles, died in early August 2011 “following a brief illness. Heat stroke is suspected,” Boles told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Sugar left a son, Ulysses, and a daughter, Penny, “who is as sweet as her mother,” Boles said.



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

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