



SeaWorld trainers have not been allowed to enter the water with orcas since 2010. (Kim Bartlett)

Blackfish bites, but SeaWorld isn't tanking

ORLANDO—SeaWorld Entertainment, Inc on November 13, 2013 reported partial recovery from a year-long attendance slide, plus record third quarter revenue of \$538.4 million.

The financial data cooled speculation that the July 2013 theater release of the award-winning documentary *Blackfish* might have marked the beginning of the end of profitable marine mammal exhibition. *Blackfish* had won increasing critical acclaim since debuting at the Sundance film festival in January 2013.

Influenced by *Blackfish* or not, SeaWorld attendance slipped 9.5% in the second quarter of 2013, 5.7% in July, and 1.8% in August and September, for a total dip of 3% in the third quarter.

SeaWorld said the numbers showed audiences returning to the 11 SeaWorld-owned

amusement parks, including marine mammal parks in Orlando, San Antonio, and San Diego, after a drop in early 2013 due to bad weather.

But trainers and orcas interacting in the SeaWorld tanks, long the SeaWorld top draw, have been suspended for nearly four years, and may be history. SeaWorld halted in-the-water interactive performances immediately after trainer Dawn Brancheau, 40, was killed in February 2010 by an orca named Tillikum at the SeaWorld park in Orlando. Tillikum had in 1991 killed trainer Keltie Byrne, 20, at the now closed Sealand of the Pacific marine mammal park in Victoria, British Columbia, and killed a night intruder at SeaWorld in 1999.

Whether the interactive performances ever resume well depend on the outcome of (continued on page 8)



Israeli feral cat drinks from a leaking pipe. (Kim Bartlett)

Israel commits \$1.27 million to fix feral cats

TEL AVIV—The Israeli Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development has committed 4.5 million New Israel Shekels, equivalent to \$1.27 million U.S., to an effort to sterilize 45,000 feral cats before the end of May 2014—the anticipated peak of the next “kitten season.”

Subsidies of up to 200,000 NIS (\$56,000) will be offered to each municipality on a matching basis to help underwrite neuter/return programs. Additional funding may be made available to larger cities with more cats and to poorer communities that have difficulty meeting the matching requirement.

Cats eligible for subsidized sterilization must be at least four months of age, must be held for 24 to 48 hours after surgery for observation, must be vaccinated against rabies, and must be returned to the point of capture.

“As a result of a multitude of feeders and food offerings in the streets, stray cats have multiplied significantly,” Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development chief animal welfare officer Dganit Ben-Dov told media. “On one hand, this is a severe problem of animal welfare, since street life results in cats suffering. On the other hand, in many cases, the cats become an environmental hazard.”

Because feral kittens are born at (continued on page 7)

ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

October 2013
Volume 22, #7

China drops animal testing rule for cosmetics, shampoos & perfumes

BEIJING—Effective on June 1, 2014 China will no longer require that cosmetics, shampoos, and perfumes be tested on animals, the China Food & Drug Administration announced on November 5, 2013.

Instead of having to submit products to CFDA laboratories for testing, Chinese manufacturers will be allowed to submit the product safety data compiled to demonstrate the safety of raw ingredients, which may include data from past animal testing. Alternatively, the manufacturers may submit the data from non-animal safety testing methods accepted by the 27-nation European Union.

The policy change will initially apply only to products made within China, but may be extended later to imported products.

Word of the Chinese policy change reached the west on November 8, 2013 via Hu-

mane Society International. HSI is the global arm of the Humane Society of the U.S. The HSI “Be Cruelty-Free China” campaign and the Human Toxicology Project consortium at the same time announced an \$80,000 grant to the Institute for In Vitro Sciences to train Chinese regulators and scientists to do non-animal product safety testing.

“We will meet with Beijing officials in the coming days to look closely at the detail of this cosmetics announcement, but it looks like there could at last be a bright future for cruelty-free companies in China and hope on the horizon for an end to cosmetics cruelty,” said Be Cruelty-Free director Troy Seidle.

HSI campaigns parallel to Be Cruelty-Free China are underway in Australia, Brazil, New Zealand, Russia, and South Korea.

The European Union completed a 15-year phase-out of animal testing requirements for

cosmetics and cosmetic ingredients on March 11, 2013. India banned animal testing of domestically produced cosmetics in June. China was among the last major markets for cosmetics and personal care products that continued to require animal testing.

HSUS president Wayne Paccelle welcomed the CFDA decision to end mandatory animal testing of cosmetics and personal care products made in China, but emphasized the need to “make sure that those regulations are expanded to apply to foreign companies as well. This would enable cruelty-free companies worldwide to sell their products in the Chinese market without compromising their ‘no animal testing’ policies.”

The Leaping Bunny cruelty-free cosmetics certification program, administered in the United Kingdom by the British Union Against Vivisection, and in the U.S. by the American Anti-Vivisection Society, and a similar certification program managed by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, have both lost corporate participants in re-

(continued on page 7)



Macaque rescued from street show by the Jakarta Animal Aid Network. (JAAN)

Jakarta and other Indonesian cities move against monkey acts

JAKARTA—It's curtains for street corner monkey acts in northwestern Java, hopes Jakarta Animal Aid Network founder Femke Den Haas. Locally called *topang monyet*, meaning “masked monkeys,” the acts have proliferated over the past decade, becoming a JAAN campaign target in 2009.

Crackdowns ordered by Jakarta governor Joko Widodo and Surakarta mayor F.X. Hadi Rudyatmo in late October and early November 2013 sent some monkey handlers into hiding. Others collected compensation of about \$90 per monkey surrendered to wildlife officials and hoped that official pledges of job training for former handlers would be fulfilled.

“Tied to leashes and forced to wear doll masks and beg for money as they totter along on their hind legs, the performing monkeys have long been a common sight in Jakarta,” reported the *South China Morning Post*. “But in recent years authorities and animal-rights groups have been stepping up efforts to crack down on the practice. Widodo has now announced a plan to get the animals off the streets by 2014.”

Jakarta code enforcement officers

during the last week of October 2013 impounded 22 monkeys. The monkeys were to be quarantined by the Jakarta Marine & Agriculture Agency, preliminary to transfer to the Ragunan Zoo in South Jakarta.

The monkeys “were stressed. Some tried to attack and some recoiled when we approached them,” city veterinarian Valentina Aswindrastuti told the *South China Morning Post*. “They also had swollen gums and rotten teeth.”

Some handlers contended that the monkeys had cost them as much as \$135 apiece, far less than the offered compensation, but Jakarta Public Order Agency chief Ipih Ruyani said *topang monyet* monkeys actually sell for \$20 to \$30.

“We estimate that there are 60 exploited monkeys in the capital, mostly in North and East Jakarta,” Ipih Ruyani told Sita W. Dewi of the *Jakarta Post*.

JAAN had projected that there might be from 200 to 350 *topang monyet* monkeys in Jakarta, but many may have been abruptly hustled away to other cities.

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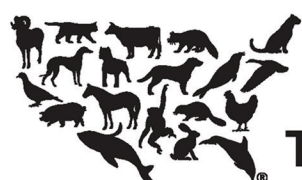
The version of the Farm Bill passed by the House of Representatives includes the dangerous and overreaching "King amendment," which threatens to repeal dozens of animal protection laws. It could nullify not only measures relating to animal welfare—like farm animal confinement, horse slaughter, puppy mills, shark finning, and even dog meat—but a wide range of other concerns, including food safety, child labor, and the environment.

A House-Senate conference committee will now negotiate the final Farm Bill, and the animals need your help to keep the King amendment out!

TAKE ACTION

Please contact your U.S. Representative and two U.S. Senators today, at (202) 224-3121. Ask them to help remove the King amendment from the final Farm Bill and oppose this radical attack on animal protection and states' rights.

For more information, or to take action online, visit:
humanesociety.org/king



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

Editorial feature

Stop dogfighting by addressing supply side economics

Police in Montgomery, Alabama on October 1, 2013 took custody of the last 16 of at least 386 pit bulls who were impounded after raids in August 2013 on an alleged multistate dogfighting ring. Thirteen defendants, from Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, and Texas, are facing related charges.

Initiated by the Auburn, Alabama police department, the investigation and impoundments were assisted by at least 15 humane organizations, both locally and nationwide.

Few dogfighting cases have ever apprehended either more dogs or more alleged dogfighting trainers and organizers. The pit bull impoundments in this case brought the 2013 total seized in connection with dogfighting, throughout the U.S., to 803—on a pace to approximately equal the average of about 950 per year since 2000.

The numbers of pit bulls seized in dogfighting raids have soared as high as 1,612 in 2002 and 1,589 in 2009.

Just how much more dogfighting is done than law enforcement agencies are able to interdict is difficult to assess. Estimating the frequency of commission of any type of crime that often goes undetected and unreported is problematic, but criminologists have developed formulas that usually put the incidence of unreported crime at anywhere from ten to 100 times the reported amount, depending on the type of offense. For crimes such as dogfighting, which involve multiple participants and the use of animals and facilities built or modified for the purpose, the volume of unreported incidents is believed to be much lower than for crimes such as rape and assault, which most often involve only one criminal and one victim at a time.

Thus the numbers of dogs actually used in dogfighting in the U.S. per year may be as low as about 16,000, or as high as 160,000, but is usually guesstimated by veteran dogfighting investigators to be in the range of 40,000—about double the number estimated by the American SPCA in April 1961, when humane investigators found themselves unable to do anything more about a dogfighting convention held openly at Ruston, Louisiana than to deplore it to the *Ruston Daily Leader* and United Press International.

To put the currently estimated numbers of fighting dogs into context, more dogs appear to have been used in dogfighting in the U.S. in each of the past 13 years than the annual total of dogs impounded in all but a few of the biggest U.S. cities, and in forty of the fifty states.

Worse, despite all the difficult and often very dangerous investigative work done to bust dogfighters, the few possible hints that dogfighting might be declining are ambiguous. The one verifiable fact about dogfighting is that the volume of related arrests and impoundments has hovered in the same all-time high range for 13 consecutive years—a fact which may reflect the limitations of the resources available to combat dogfighting more than the amount of dogfighting actually going on.

Dogfighting today appears to be more culturally prominent than at any time since British queen Elizabeth I openly attended dogfights and bear-baiting events, more than 400 years ago. Dogfighting imagery is used to sell trucks, tools, beer, brands of apparel, popular music, and even, in the case of Sarah Palin, a presidential candidate—albeit a candidate whose campaign failed early in the 2012 race.

Some observers were surprised that football player Michael Vick was caught in 2007 running a dogfighting ring in an upscale residential neighborhood in Surrey County, Virginia, but many other dogfighting busts in recent years have occurred in affluent suburbs, from New Hampshire to Southern California. This is a relatively recent development. Before circa 2000 there was little precedent for dogfighting in “good” neighborhoods since the Puritan regent Oliver Cromwell drove dogfighting and baiting underground in England a generation after Elizabeth I.

British sailors and soldiers in the next few centuries introduced dogfighting to port cities worldwide, including in India, where the “bully khutta” pit bull variant

emerged in the 19th century, and to Crete. *The New York Times* in 1857 “credited” British dogfighters with bringing rabies to Crete and perhaps to India.

Dogfighting in the U.S. in the 18th and 19th centuries occurred mostly in waterfront taverns. Eradicated from most of the U.S. by the rise of the humane movement in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, dogfighting persisted chiefly in the rural South. Dogfighters, along with cockfighters, moonshiners, and promoters of other vices, donated heavily to fraternal lodges fronting for the Ku Klux Klan. Klan influence in turn ensured that relatively few dogfighters were ever raided.

There were exceptions. The Humane Society of Greater Birmingham broke up the World Series of Dogfighting in 1935, though the alleged dogfighters escaped. Carey H. Falwell, father of evangelist Jerry Falwell, was in 1938 twice convicted of hosting dogfights in Lynchburg, Virginia. But the inability of humane societies to raid the 1961 dogfighting convention in Louisiana was more the norm.

Following the break-up of the Klan by law enforcement pressure in the 1960s and 1970s, one might have expected dogfighting (and cockfighting) to disappear even from the South. Instead, motorcycle gangs, skinheads, drug dealers, and marijuana growers—who documentedly began using pit bulls to guard their plots in California in the late 1970s—re-introduced dogfighting to most of the rest of the country.

By the mid-1980s dogfighting had crossed over into inner city African-American and Hispanic street culture, via prison gangs, and had begun to be celebrated in “rap” music lyrics. Gradually thereafter U.S.-style dogfighting became visible in association with vice, especially the drug traffic, in Britain, the Netherlands, Germany, eastern Europe, and much of Southeast Asia, India, and Pakistan. The Taliban suppressed the relatively non-lethal Central Asian version of dogfighting in Afghanistan between 1996 and 2001, but over the past decade U.S. troops have helped to replace the traditional body-slammng matches between working sheep dogs with American-style pit bull fights to the death.

But with the resurging magnitude of dogfighting duly acknowledged, animal advocacy attention to dogfighting tends to invert the economic realities of the pit bull industry as it exists today—and, in so doing, fails both to suppress dogfighting and to effectively address the other consequences of pit bull proliferation.

The “status dog” market

The “blame-the-deed-not-the-breed” narrative often amplified by humane organizations holds that the many issues associated with pit bulls, beyond actual use in dogfighting, are primarily the result of misuse of pit bulls by dogfighters. Suppress dogfighting, the narrative goes, and pit bulls will become safe dogs, the pit bulls now flooding shelters will all find homes, and all will live happily ever after.

Indeed, dogfighters can be blamed for quite a lot. Pit bulls are the products of extensive line breeding in a multi-century arms race to develop the most deadly fighting dogs, dogs who will maim pigs in so-called hog/dog rodeo, bull-and-bear-baiting dogs, dogs who would kill rats in a pit in great numbers without pausing to eat any, dogs who would attack and kill Native Americans, and dogs who would dismember runaway slaves as a warning to others.

Reflecting the differing specialities for which pit bulls were bred, as well as the differing bloodlines developed by fighting breeders, diversity in pit bull appearance often confounds would-be regulators who seek to regulate by form, or breed standard. The multitude of names used by pit bull fanciers to distinguish among the range of pit bull types adds a further confounding factor

The common traits of pit bulls, regardless of other aspects of appearance and behavior, are that they are mesomorphic muscular dogs, disproportionately large-jawed, inclined to explode from calm demeanor to idiopathic rage without going through a long repertoire of warning signals first, and inclined to attack and continue attacking, without relent and regardless of injury to themselves, until their target is dead and dismembered.

With the role of fighting dog breeders in developing these traits acknowledged, the narrative that dogfighting underlies all present pit bull issues is at best a half-truth. Dogfighting provides imagery that helps to promote pit bulls, much as NASCAR auto racing provides imagery that helps to sell cars. Also, the big money in dogfighting, as in just about every other competitive pursuit that involves animals, is in breeding the winners and selling their offspring. But this is nothing new. As of 1961, dogfighting had been technically illegal in every state for 40 years, yet dogfighters still openly advertised their “champions” and “grand champions,” listing by name the dogs they had defeated.

What has changed are the proportions of the pit bull breeding industry. The 20,000 pit bulls per year believed to have used in dogfights in 1961 were about 10% of all the pit bulls in the U.S., then barely 200,000. This was a number low enough that practically the whole pit bull population could be traced back a generation to actual fighting dogs or culls sold as pets.

The 40,000 pit bulls per year believed to be used in dogfights today are about 1.2% of the present pit bull population. Breeders advertising “champions” and “grand champions” through electronic media have become ubiquitous, but unlike in 1961, they rarely post details that might lead to indictments. Relatively few pit bulls today can be verifiably traced to recent fighting ancestry.

Dogfights among high-priced pedigreed pit bulls may still be held. Certainly there is plenty of evidence of high-end speculative pit bull breeding—but those customers who can be identified tend to be affluent outsiders trying to buy their way into the inner circles of dogfighting, like Michael Vick. Reputed high-end fighting dog breeders, meanwhile, are rarely caught actually fighting their dogs. Several have been brought to a semblance of justice in recent years, but on charges other than dogfighting; the biggest names to be charged with dogfighting were acquitted.

Historically, pit bulls sold as pets were castoffs from fighting dog breeders. Today, however, most of the dogfighting industry thrives on the seemingly endless supply of low-end cast-off pit bulls bred to be pets.

Unlike 50-odd years ago, when authentic fighting dogs were often identified with long pedigrees in dogfighting newsletters, most of the 10,000-odd pit bulls seized in raids over the past dozen years have been about as anonymous as dogs could be, often not even having names until names were assigned by rescuers. Frequently the dogs were stolen, acquired free-to-good-home after having failed as pets, or were bought cheaply from backyard breeders who had already sold their most impressive-looking pups to people who wanted them to guard drug-dealing operations, as adjuncts to other criminal activities, or just to show off.

Dogfighters have often been caught operating bogus “rescues” to obtain cast-off pit bulls. Dozens more may still be in the false-front “rescue” business.

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News for People Who Care About Animals

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

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

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

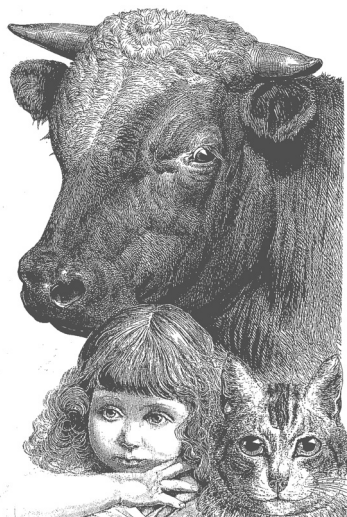
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Stop dogfighting by addressing supply side economics (from page 3)

While the numbers of pit bulls used in dogfighting appears to have doubled since 1961, shelter pit bull intake has soared from less than 1% of the dogs received to 37% in 2013, and from less than 2% of the dogs killed in shelters to upward of 60%. Shelters have since 2000 received more than a million pit bulls per year, killing an average of about 930,000: nearly 1,000 times more than the numbers seized from dogfighters.

Most of these dogs have been bred by suppliers of what the British call the “status dog” market, meaning people who want to show off possession of a scary dog, but usually do not want the dog to do anything actually scary—at least not spontaneously, independent of a command to attack.

Nearly a third of the total U.S. pit bull population are surrendered to animal shelters, or are impounded for dangerous behavior, each and every year. About a third of the pit bull population are under a year of age, while half of all adult pit bulls now in homes will not be in those homes a year later.

Typically these dogs lose their homes because of traits inculcated by dogfighting breeders, but usually several generations after actual fighting dogs were part of their ancestry. Often the people surrendering pit bulls to shelters had no intention that they should ever be fighters, and no expectation that they might ever become dangerous.

If treated well, people acquiring pit bulls tend to believe today, pit bulls will respond as if ancestrally bred as pets or as reliable working dogs. This is a very different set of expectations from those of 50-odd years ago when hardly anyone acquired a pit bull except to fight or keep chained as a guard dog.

Overwhelmed by the pit bull influx at the same time that public expectations have risen that shelters should be “no kill,” the humane community has made unprecedented efforts to avoid killing pit bulls, including promoting the very myths—such as the fiction that pit bulls were ever used as “nanny dogs”—that tend to lead to fatal and disfiguring accidents.

Shelter adopters have in recent years been persuaded to take home pit bulls at

Fix pets first, says founder of successful neuter/return projects in Turkey & Romania

I read the September 2013 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial feature “Successful neuter/return must recognize reality” with interest and agree with much of what you say, especially the bit about how difficult it is, probably impossible, to transfer a privately funded neuter/return project successfully to municipal funding and management, as we tried to do here in Oradea, Romania. But one important point occurs to me.

You write about the difficulty of returning loose dogs to public areas, as illustrated by the six starving dogs who killed 4-year old Ionut Anghel in Bucharest on September 2, 2012, mentioning that “Neuter/return programs for street dogs were successful in Oradea, in the northwestern corner of Romania,” but did not mention that 90% of the “return” part of our project in Oradea was to return dogs not to public spaces, but rather to the factories, petrol stations, hospitals, car parks, disused buildings with guards, army barracks, hotels, farms and private homes and blocks of flats where they are to a greater or lesser extent fed and cared for by their keepers.

As you know, the most reproductively successful dogs are those with people who feed and to some extent shelter them. At least 90% of “pet” dogs in Romania live in yards or gardens where they can copulate at will if not sterilized. We were successful in Oradea because we concentrated on door-to-door canvassing and on sterilizing, free of charge, every female dog with a keeper. We did not spend all day scouring rubbish dumps looking for “stray” dogs.

In Romania almost all dogs, even pet dogs, are “stray” in the sense that they are inadequately supervised and if on heat will copulate. Having said that, we have noticed in Oradea in recent years that far more dogs are on leads, or are closely supervised on the streets, probably a positive consequence of our work.

Although I agree with you that it is often impractical, irresponsible and potentially cruel to return dogs to public spaces, especially recently dumped rather than indigenous dogs, there were until recently many harmless, neutered and vaccinated dogs on Oradea’s streets, with regular feeders, who caused no problems. Nature abhors a void. If there is a food source, there will be dogs. In order eventually to have

Economics & truth

I am delighted that Edwin Wiek and his wife Jansaeng Sangnanork of the Bangkok charity Wildlife Friends have been cleared of all of the spurious charges pending against them since February 2012, as reported in your September 2013 edition.

That the first court to hear the case could automatically believe that the words of a government official could be assumed to be true without checking is indeed laughable.

Here in India the police, wildlife officials, and other government officials, including the Central Bureau of Investigations have been found to be economical with the truth on many occasions.

—S. Chinny Krishna, vice chair
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no dogs on the streets, first the streets have to be full of sterilized but well-fed and harmless dogs.

The alternative is to repeat the constantly failing catch-and-kill policies which have already been tried at vast expense in Bucharest and elsewhere. Catch-and-kill is doomed to failure because it does not target the source of the problem. It targets loose dogs in public spaces, rather than kept dogs on private property.

More optimistically, you may remember that I have been visiting Turkey regularly since 1980, began doing neuter/return there in 1998, after “inheriting” several loose dogs when I opened a factory there in 1997, and still have two homes and an animal shelter there.

Back in 2003 the Turkish government issued an animal welfare law incorporating neuter/return, to be implemented by municipalities. Implementation has been patchy, inefficient, and sometimes cruel. Nevertheless, in the areas of Turkey I regularly visit, around Istanbul and Izmir, I now almost never see the remains of dead dogs on the roads. And the roads are far better, and therefore for dogs more dangerous, than the roads in Romania.

Turkish roads were littered with dead bodies in the 1980s and 1990, as Romanian roads are now. Nowadays in Istanbul I regularly see healthy, obviously well-fed street dogs with ear tags, indicating that they have been sterilized and vaccinated. Even business people I know, who are not in the slightest bit interested in dogs, know that they have nothing to fear from ear-tagged street dogs.

So surprisingly, despite their ineptitude, at least some Turkish municipalities have succeeded with neuter/return. Turkey has made huge economic progress in the last 20 years, far more than Romania, one reflection of which is that I always feel uplifted when I drive from one side of Istanbul to the other and on to my house near Sapanca, 130 kilometers to the east, and do not see a single dead dog.

I can also drive, and often have in the last 10 years, from Oradea west to the U.K. or northern Germany or Holland without seeing a single dead dog on the roads, but I cannot drive even five kilometers within Romania without seeing one.

I used to say my life’s ambition was to drive from Istanbul to Ankara or Izmir without seeing a single dead dog. I haven’t been to Ankara recently, but have driven several times from Istanbul to Izmir and can say that I have more or less realized that ambition. Now I want to drive from Oradea to Bucharest without seeing one. But in Romania I am as far away as ever from success.

Romania’s ignorant, short-thinking politicians are responsible for Ionut Anghel’s death, and will be responsible for more deaths to come. The way officialdom works (or rather doesn’t work) in Romania is little changed from Communist times. Ordinary people in Romania exist to serve the officials and politicians, not the other way around.

—Robert Smith
Foundation for the Protection
of Community Dogs
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about three times the rate at which people who buy dogs from breeders choose pit bulls. But this has had consequences. Only two dogs rehomed by U.S. animal shelters had ever killed anyone as recently as 2000, a pair of wolf hybrids who were rehomed in 1988 and 1989. Thirty-one shelter dogs have participated in killing people since 2010, 18 of them pit bulls and nine of them mixes of pit bull with mastiff. Not surprisingly, a recent survey funded by the Best Friends Animal Society found that public confidence in shelters as a good place to get a dog has declined.

The shelter record in rehoming pit bulls is in microcosm the experience of the nation. As of 1961, pit bulls had killed nine of the fifteen Americans who had been killed by dogs in the preceding 30 years. The number of pit bulls in the U.S. is now about 12 times greater, but pit bulls since 2010 have killed an average of 27.5 people per year, a more than 60-fold increase in the rate of fatal attacks. Along with the rising fatalities, pit bulls disfigured more than 400 Americans in the first 10 months of 2013, twice as many as in any previous year. In all the 31 years that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton has logged fatal and disfiguring dog attacks, only one of the 265 human fatalities inflicted by pit bulls and just a handful of the more than 3,000 disfigurements have involved dogs kept by people who were ever charged with dogfighting.

Of further concern to people who care about animals, there have been about 20 reported pit bull killings of other pets thus far in 2013 for every human fatality. If this attack ratio extends to disfigurements, and there is every reason to believe it does, pit bulls have in 2013 killed or disfigured at least 8,000 other pets—over and above whatever number have been killed in dogfighting and training fighting dogs.

Though the pit bull problem began with dogfighters, it is today mostly an exceptionally problematic aspect of pet overpopulation, perpetuated primarily by the low rate of sterilization among pet pit bulls—less than 25%—and by backyard breeding, not by people trying to produce “grand champions” so much as by people hoping to make a few hundred bucks selling “status dogs” around their neighborhoods.

Contrary to common belief, there is no documentation to support the notion that sterilization makes pit bulls, or any dogs, significantly safer. In 1960, when only 1% of all the dogs in the U.S. were sterilized, most pet dogs were not kept leashed or confined, and canine rabies had not yet been eradicated from the U.S., only 611,000 Americans required medical treatment for dog bites. Hardly any dogs run free today, no dog has contracted canine rabies in the U.S. in 15 years, and more than 70% of all dogs are sterilized, despite the low rate of pit bull sterilization. Yet 4.7 million Americans per year now seek medical attention for dog bites.

Serious bites have increased eightfold while the U.S. dog population has only doubled.

But though sterilization does not make dogs safer, it does make them less numerous. Mandatory pit bull sterilization, in effect in San Francisco since 2006, could prevent the impoundment and subsequent deaths of more than 900,000 pit bulls per year nationwide; end the desperation of shelter management to avoid killing pit bulls which has led to so many deaths and disfigurements by pit bulls who have been rehomed, eroding public trust of shelter adoption; and cut off the flow of cast-off pit bulls to dogfighters via bogus “rescues.”

With pit bull proliferation curbed, identifying and successfully prosecuting dogfighters should be considerably easier. And throwing the book at pit bull breeders would shut down those who trade on their reputations for producing “grand champions,” whether or not they can be caught at the pits.

New Life for Puppy with Skin Disease



When North Shore Animal League America rescued this tiny Chihuahua mix puppy from a municipal shelter in Los Angeles, he was suffering from one of the worst cases of Demodex that our veterinary team had ever seen.

The poor pup was in horrible shape. His skin was red, raw and bleeding and he had absolutely no fur. Because of the intense itching caused by his skin disease, he was gnawing at every part of his body. That wasn’t all. He also had conjunctivitis (better known as pink eye), coccidiosis (an intestinal parasite that is potentially fatal if untreated), as well as an upper respiratory infection. He was also missing half of one ear.

Given the severity of his condition, if he had remained in the municipal shelter, he most certainly would have been euthanized. Through our Humane Relocation Program, we were able to team up with the Jason Debus Heigl Foundation to bring the puppy to the safety of our no-kill headquarters in New York, where he was immediately given medication to relieve his pain and itching. He was also given antibiotics designed to cure his many infections.

Our staff fell in love with the sweet puppy, and they named him “Valentino,” which means brave and strong. After surviving such neglect and trauma, he had earned it. Our veterinary team has been giving him special baths, multiple medications and very gentle handling, and he’s responding with kisses and cuddles. Valentino is being monitored around-the-clock as he recovers from his many ailments, and he will require ongoing personalized care and rehabilitation. Once he is recovered, we will find Valentino a loving, permanent home.

The dedicated support of the life-saving Help Me Heal Program allows Valentino – and other innocent animals like her – receive the treatment needed that will save their lives.

To learn more about 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!”



AnimalLeague.org
1.877.4.SAVE.PET



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SUWANNA RANCH: COMPASSION IN ACTION



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

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

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

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

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

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



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

Please email us at SuwannaRanch@HFA.org for information about our next open house. To our friends, supporters, and animal activists everywhere, we wish you the best for the holiday season. May the New Year bring peace and happiness to *all* beings.



Letters

Gadhimai 2014 looms

In 2014 thousands of animals will be butchered at the Gadhimai festival, held every five years in Nepal. As many as 50,000 goats, 16,000 buffalo, and thousands of other animals including sheep, poultry, and rats were killed at Gadhimai in 2009.

The Asia for Animals coalition is writing to the Nepalese government in support of the campaign by the Animal Welfare Network Nepal and other Nepalese and Indian NGO's to end this slaughter.

For details of the festival and the unregulated killing, click on <<http://stopanimal-sacrifice.org/index.php>>.

We would like to show the Nepalese government the strength of support for an end to this suffering.



—David Neale
Animal Welfare Director
Animals Asia Foundation
P.O. Box 374
General Post Office
Hong Kong
Phone: 852-279-2225
<info@animalsasia.org>

NSPCA of South Africa stops pigeon race

An urgent application was lodged in the North Gauteng High Court, South Africa, on October 17, 2013 by Dean Jooste and Johannes Joubert of the Pretoria Pigeon Racing Combine against various respondents, including the National Council of SPCAs, seeking to set aside a warning issued by the NSPCA stating our opposition to a pigeon race that was to take place from Matjiesfontein in the Western Cape to Pretoria.

The NSPCA is of the opinion that such a race would be cruel and inhumane. The race exceeds 1,000 kilometers. The distance factor is compounded because the pigeons would have to fly across drought-stricken areas, especially in the Northern Cape, to reach their destination.

Judge Brian Spilg found no reason for urgency and dismissed the matter. An order was made that no race was to take place from Matjiesfontein and that the warning issued by the NSPCA would not be set aside. A cost order

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.

Is Audubon for the birds?

I'm contacting **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on behalf of the environmental advocacy group ForestEthics regarding the National Audubon Society. Audubon in June 2013 accepted \$60,000 from the Sustainable Forestry Initiative—founded, funded and governed by logging corporations including Weyerhaeuser and Plum Creek. SFI provides certification for ostensibly 'green' wood and paper products, but allows irresponsible forestry practices that put wildlife at risk. ForestEthics, the Sierra Club, the Natural Resources Defense Council, Greenpeace, and many other environmental organizations have denounced SFI, but SFI is now using the Audubon logo and name to promote itself.



—Jazmín Rumbaut, for
ForestEthics
One Haight Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: 415-863-4563
<www.ForestEthics.org>

was awarded to the NSPCA. On October 18, 2013 the NSPCA ensured that the order was complied with and that no pigeons were liberated from Matjiesfontein.

The NSPCA opposes animal racing in any form.



—Christine Kuch
National Council of SPCAs
P.O. Box 1320
Alberton 1450
Gauteng, South Africa
Phone: 27-11-907-3590
Fax: 27-11-907-4013
<pr@nspca.co.za>

Editor's note:

*This is the first time to the knowledge of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that a pigeon racing event has been cancelled—anywhere—due to humane concerns.*

“Dog laundering” violates ethical duties of shelters

I believe animal shelters have a moral and legal duty to investigate, record and report about the behavior of every dog put up for adoption. I have created materials for them to

Ban horse-tripping & steer-tailing

Two more states passed laws banning horse tripping in 2013: Oregon and Nevada. Sadly, of the 14 states which have now outlawed this cruelty, only one state got the language right. Nebraska's 2009 law specifically bans “roping the legs of any equine,” thereby banning, by definition, three of the charreada's nine events. These are the two forms of “manganas,” in which horses are roped by the front legs both from horseback and on foot, and “piales,” in which a running horse is roped by the hind legs. The “piales” horses usually do not fall, but often suffer leg injuries.

The rules of the Charros Federation USA have since 1995 prohibited intentionally felling horses. Nonetheless, horses can still become entangled in the ropes and fall, risking serious injury. The Nebraska language makes moot any argument about “intentional” or “accidental” tripping, and should be the model for all other states.

Nebraska also banned “steer tailing” in 2009, the only state to have done so. In steer tailing, a mounted cowboy or charro grabs a running steer by the tail, wraps the tail around his boot and stirrup, then drags or slams the animal to the ground. Tails and horns may be broken, and horses sometimes break their legs when the steer runs the wrong way. I worked on a case three years ago in Denver in which, besides suffering a broken leg and pelvis, seven steers had their tails stripped to the bone (“degloved”). Alameda and Contra Costa counties in California banned this brutal event in 1993.

Neither “horse tripping” nor “steer tailing” is a standard ranching practice anywhere in the U.S., nor is either sanctioned by any U.S.-style rodeo association. Ask your state legislators to introduce bills in 2014 to ban this cruelty. I can help.



—Eric Mills, coordinator
Action for Animals
P.O. Box 20184
Oakland, CA 94620
Phone: 510-652-5603
<afa@mcn.org>

do it, including written policies and procedures, as well as forms. The kit is called *Avoiding Liability When You Train, Shelter or Adopt Out a Dog*, available via <www.dogbitelaw.com>.

I coined the term “dog laundering” to describe the intentional breach of an animal shelter's duties that takes place when a vicious dog is transferred from one group to another for the purpose of disguising its history and placing it in an unsuspecting new home. I believe that such conduct on the part of the groups is both a tort and a crime. Just as bad, it is harmful to the honest adoption/shelter groups and to good dogs who need homes, because as the public becomes aware of the practice of dog laundering, people will return to the pet stores.



—Kenneth M. Phillips
Attorney at Law
Los Angeles, California
<kphillips@dogbitelaw.com>

ANIMAL PEOPLE

thanks you for your generous support

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

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ANIMAL PEOPLE holiday nut roast

Mix together:

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

Thoroughly blend in:

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

(Seasonings may be altered to choice.)

For example, a teaspoon of sage may be added, or you may add more garlic)

Finally, add:

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

Mix all ingredients well. Turn into oiled pan(s) and form into a 1-inch thick loaf. Rub the top of the loaf with a very thin coating of olive or other vegetable oil. Cover the pan(s) with foil, and bake for one



hour at 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Take the foil off the pan and cook about 10 minutes longer, until the top of the loaf is browned. The loaf tastes best when crispy.

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

Vegan cornbread

Mix dry ingredients:

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

Mix wet ingredients:

1 cup of soy milk
1/4 cup vegetable oil

Stir the two mixtures together until fully moistened. Turn batter into oiled square or round cake pan. Bake 20-25 minutes, until just brown, at 350 degrees.

ANIMAL PEOPLE festive tofu roast (serves 15-20)

Start with six pounds (96 ounces) of extra firm tofu—the type sold in plastic wraps, not in tubs of water. If you can only obtain tofu that is sold in tubs of water, you will have to mash it up well, put it in a cheesecloth-lined colander, put a heavy (5-pound) weight on it, and leave it for several hours (or overnight) so that as much water as possible drains out of the tofu.

Do not freeze the tofu, as that will change the texture of it so that it will not bind to the oil and soy sauce that will be mashed into it.

Finely mash the tofu with your hands along with 10 fluid ounces of toasted sesame oil and 6 fluid ounces of soy sauce.

Lightly oil the bottom of a large baking pan with toasted sesame oil (pan size at least 12" wide by 17" long and 3" deep).

Shape the tofu mixture into a 2" deep loaf in the baking pain, leaving enough room between the tofu mixture

and the sides of the pan for a quantity of the oil to cook out.

Place the pan in the top half of the oven so that the bottom of the roast does not become overly crisp. Do not cover the pan.

Baste the top and sides of the roast with a mixture of two fluid ounces of toasted sesame oil and 4 fluid ounces of soy sauce three times, at intervals of 30 minutes (in other words, after the roast has baked 30 minutes, then after it has baked 60 minutes, and then after it has baked 90 minutes, after which it will bake a final 30 minutes).

Bake a total of two hours in a preheated 350 degree oven.

After taking the roast out of the oven, let it cool for about 10 to 15 minutes and then lift it out of the baking pan using spatulas and a cookie sheet to slide under it so that the roast doesn't break up while being lifted. You can serve the roast on the cookie sheet or slide it onto a more elegant platter.

—Kim Bartlett

Removed charities that promote pit bulls from will

I enclose a donation in memory of my 23-year-old dog Penny, whose last year of life was very difficult after a pit bull attack. I lost a finger while trying to rescue her.

Yours is the only publication I know where one can read the truth about pit bulls. I appreciate your courage.

I hope your readers will stop donations to all six animal charities listed in Jeff Borchardt's letter “Who killed Daxton Borchardt?,” published in your September 2013 edition. I phoned three of those charities after my dog and I were attacked and told them I was removing them from my will because they are pushing the adoption of pit bulls, while wonderful friendly dogs of other breeds are being euthanized.

I have volunteered for animals for 43 years, including at county shelters and humane societies. I took many abused and neglected dogs

into my home. Not once was I bitten. Yet, while walking Penny on a leash in a park, we were attacked by three pit bulls who were up for adoption! These same dogs were being taken into classrooms full of small children. I stopped that.

In memory of 14-month-old Daxton Borchardt, I encourage **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readers to write letters to their local newspapers and contact the staff of their local schools to make sure they are not brainwashed into believing that pit bulls are “nanny dogs.” Perhaps we can prevent another precious life from being taken from us.

—Hazel Mortensen
Solvang, California



BE THE SQUEAKY WHEEL

Tell your local shelter you support
Trap-Neuter-Return.

Alley Cat Allies

For tips on talking to shelters:
www.alleycat.org/HelpShelters

China drops animal testing of cosmetics, shampoos & perfumes (from page 1)

cent years because the companies wanted to sell products in China.

The 1.3 billion Chinese people, nearly 20% of the world's population, spent \$24 billion on personal care and cosmetic products in 2012, about 18% of the global total. The Chinese personal care and cosmetic product market is projected to grow to \$34 billion by 2015.

India has 1.1 billion people, but the Indian market for cosmetics and personal care products, though growing at 13% per year in the

present decade, is worth barely \$8 billion a year.

The Bureau of Indian Standards voted unanimously on June 28, 2013 to discontinue animal testing requirements for cosmetic products, consistent with European Union policy. In place of animal testing, India now requires manufacturers to use the EU-approved tests.

The Indian policy change was also pushed by HIS, with the endorsements of both former prime minister Sonia Gandhi, representing the secular Congress Party, and her ex-sis-

ter-in-law, former federal minister for animal welfare Maneka Gandhi, who is affiliated with the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Dal party.

Testing on humans

The Bureau of Indian Standards acted amid a hue-and-cry for general revision of the 2007 Drugs & Cosmetics Amendment, which encouraged more use of human subjects in product safety testing. Government data released in April 2013 showed that as many as 2,644 peo-

ple had died since 2005 during clinical trials of 475 new drugs, only 17 of which were eventually approved for marketing in India.

"Eighty deaths were found to be attributable to the clinical trials," said health secretary Keshav Desiraju in an affidavit submitted to the Supreme Court of India. "Around 11,972 serious adverse events, excluding death, were reported during the period from January 1, 2005 to June 30, 2012, out of which 506 events were found to be related to clinical trials," Desiraju added.

Israeli ministry of agriculture commits \$1.27 million to fix feral cats (from page 1)

large, they are always a fiscal responsibility of local authorities from day one, Ben-Dov said, unlike stray dogs, who in Israel are usually abandoned pets.

Much larger neuter/return programs for street dogs have been subsidized by both federal and municipal governments in many parts of the world, most prominently India, whose national Animal Birth Control program has now operated for more than a decade. Turkey and Costa Rica also have had federally subsidized street dog sterilization programs for more than 10 years. The Israeli program, however, is believed to be the largest for feral cats yet undertaken by any government.

"We bless any effort and any resources that anyone can make available to help us address the feral cat problem," Jerusalem SPCA chair Varda Linett told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "We welcome this, and only fear that it will be a drip in the bucket because the numbers are so huge."

The potential impact of the Israeli program is hard to assess. Media reports allege that Israel has as many as two million

feral cats, an extreme unlikelihood since the Israeli human population is barely eight million. Only the U.S. verifiably has as many as one cat for every four people, counting both pet cats and ferals.

The Tel Aviv metropolitan area of about 3.6 million people is more credibly said to have about 39,000 feral cats; shelters serving the Tel Aviv region reportedly receive more than 20,000 cats and kittens per year.

Whatever the number of cats in Israel, rabies cases among them are rare. Rabies outbreaks recurring among cattle in the Golan Heights since 2009 have been traced to street dogs and jackals wandering in from Syria.

The subsidized neuter/return program "is welcome news and I hope it will make a dent in the severe overpopulation problem," longtime Israeli cat rescuer and animal advocate Ellen Moshenbourg told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "In addition there is a need for more intensive public education. Many people still object to neutering, and/or are unwilling to spend the money to do it. There also needs to be supervision of the municipal programs to be

sure minimum professional standards are met," Moshenbourg said.

Nonprofit organizations have practiced neuter/return in Israel for decades, including the Israel Cat Lovers' Society, founded in 1966 to serve the street cat population of Haifa and northern Israel, and the Cat Welfare Society, formed by Rivi Meyer in 1990.

Some neuter/return campaigns have previously received government subsidies. "Since 1995 we have received some funding from the Ministry for Environmental Quality, and since 1998, a small amount from Haifa municipality," acknowledges the Israel Cat Lovers' Society web site. The Haifa funding enables the Israel Cat Lovers' Society to spay nearly 2,000 cats per year, the web site says.

The Israeli Agriculture Ministry Veterinary Service, as it was then called, formerly poisoned feral cats with strychnine. The Israeli Supreme Court ruled against this practice in June 2004.

"The killing of street cats...must be the last step, taken only when the public cannot be protected by other reasonable means," wrote Justice Dalia Dorner.

Where are cats in Jewish tradition?

The ancient Hebrews mentioned neither the name of God in the Torah, nor that of cats, who were revered in neighboring Egypt as incarnations of the goddess Bastet.

Cats appear in the Bible only in the book of Baruch, not considered part of the Torah but included in many versions of the Bible. In Baruch, the prophet Jeremiah denounces the idols worshipped by corrupt priests by alleging "Bats and swallows alight on their bodies and heads—any bird, and cats as well."

"If I asked you to tell me, off the top of your head, where cats appear in Jewish tradition, you would probably giggle and say, 'Nowhere!'" acknowledged Rabbi Laura Duhan Kaplan of Or Shalom Synagogue in Vancouver, British Columbia, on World Cat Day 2013.

But "The Talmud honors cats as teachers of virtue," Kaplan continued. "Rabbi Yochanan observed, 'If the Torah had not been given, we could have learned modesty from the cat.' In *Perek Shira*, the 'Song of Nature,' cats teach the world humility."

Says the cat in *Perek Shira*, "If you rise up like a vulture, and place your nest among the stars, from there I shall bring you down."

Explained Kaplan, "Often the vulture is a metaphor for imperial power. Through the cat, God teaches that even the most militarized empire is vulnerable to rebellion and decay."

Tributes

In honor of animal-loving guitar masters Tom Scholz and Jeff Beck.

—Brien Comerford



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Peter Singer speaks against cruelty to fish

PRINCETON—Princeton University bioethicist Peter Singer, whose 1975 book *Animal Liberation* helped to ignite the animal rights movement, recalled in a 2010 guest column for *The Guardian*, of London, that some of his first awareness of animal suffering came during childhood walks with his father. “My father told me that he could not understand how anyone could enjoy an afternoon spent taking fish out of the water and letting them die slowly,” Singer wrote, discussing a report by Alison Mood of the British organization FishCount.org entitled *Worse Things Happen at Sea: the Welfare of Wild-caught Fish*.

“There is no humane slaughter requirement for wild fish caught and killed at sea, nor, in most places, for farmed fish,” Singer wrote. “Fish caught in nets by trawlers are dumped on board the ship and allowed to suffocate. Impaling live bait on hooks is a common commercial practice: long-line fishing, for example, uses hundreds or even thousands of hooks on a single line. When fish take the bait, they are likely to remain caught for many hours before

the line is hauled in. Likewise, commercial fishing frequently depends on gill nets—walls of fine netting in which fish become snared, often by the gills. They may suffocate in the net, because, with their gills constricted, they cannot breathe. If not, they may remain trapped for many hours before the nets are pulled in.”

Mood estimates that humans kill about a trillion fish per year—about 150 per human, 17 times more than the sum of mammals and birds raised for slaughter.

“Let’s assume that all this fishing is sustainable,” Singer wrote, “though of course it is not. It would then be reassuring to believe that killing on such a vast scale does not matter, because fish do not feel pain. But the nervous systems of fish are sufficiently similar to those of birds and mammals to suggest that they do.”

Concluded Singer, “We need to learn how to capture and kill wild fish humanely—or, if that is not possible, to find less cruel and more sustainable alternatives to eating them.”

Georgia Aquarium appeals NOAA ruling against proposed first beluga whale imports since 1992

ATLANTA— The Georgia Aquarium on September 30, 2013 appealed an August 6, 2013 ruling by the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration that it had not satisfied the requirements to import 18 beluga whales from Russia.

The appeal put the future of beluga whale exhibition before the U.S. District Court in Atlanta at the same time that the future of orca exhibition is before the U.S. District Court in Washington D.C., as result of a SeaWorld appeal of an OSHA order.

But the cases differ in that the issue for SeaWorld is how orcas are exhibited, while the issue for the Georgia Aquarium is whether beluga whales may be imported for exhibition at all.

“The Georgia Aquarium clearly worked hard to follow the required process and submit a thorough application, and we appreciate their patience and cooperation as we carefully considered this case,” acting assistant NOAA administrator for fisheries Sam Rauch said when the import permit was denied. “However, under the strict criteria of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, we were unable to determine if the import of these belugas, combined with the active capture operation in Russia and other human activities, would have an adverse impact on this stock of wild beluga whales.”

Captured in the Sea of Okhotsk in 2006, 2010 and 2011, the belugas have been held pending sale at the Utrish Marine Mammal Research Station in Russia, along with eight orcas captured in 2012 and 2013.

The Georgia Aquarium applied to import the belugas in June 2012, after investing about \$2 million over five years to study the Sea of Okhotsk beluga population. Much of the research was produced by a consortium also including Sea World, the Mystic Aquarium, Kamogawa Sea World in Japan, and Ocean Park in Hong Kong. Four of the five partners already exhibited belugas. Ocean Park announced in 2010 that it would exhibit dolphins from the Sea of Okhotsk, but cancelled the plan under public pressure in August 2011. No belugas have been captured in the wild and brought to the U.S. for exhibition since 1992, when the John G. Shedd Aquarium in Chicago imported four from the vicinity of Churchill, Manitoba, Canada.

Five beluga subpopulations inhabit Alaskan waters. The best known group, at Cook Inlet, are protected from capture by the Endangered Species Act as well as the Marine Mammal Protection Act. As of May 2013, 284 belugas remained at Cook Inlet, down from an estimated peak population of about 1,300.

Blackfish bites, but SeaWorld Entertainment Inc. isn’t tanking (from page 1)

a SeaWorld appeal of an August 2010 order by the U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration that the trainers and whales must be physically separated during performances.

The SeaWorld appeal was heard by a three-judge panel of the U.S Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on November 12, 2013, one day before SeaWorld released the third quarter revenue figures. Eugene Scalia, son of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, was among the five-member legal

team representing SeaWorld.

As well as prohibiting further interactive performances, OSHA in August 2010 fined SeaWorld \$75,000, but SeaWorld on appeal won a reduction of the fine to \$12,000.

The federal Occupational Safety & Health Act includes a “general duty clause” which requires employers to protect employees from recognized hazards. SeaWorld contends that performances in which trainers and orcas interact in the water are “integral to its mis-

sion,” and are therefore beyond the scope of OSHA to regulate.

The SeaWorld brief to the U.S. Court of Appeals argues that “The [general duty] clause cannot be used to force a company to change the very product that it offers the public, and the business it is in. The clause is no more an instrument for supervising the interactions between whales and humans at SeaWorld, than it is a charter to prohibit blocking and tackling in the National Football League or to post speed limits on the NASCAR circuit.”

“The nature of SeaWorld’s show is waterwork,” asserted SeaWorld lead attorney Carla Gunnin after appealing the OSHA ruling in September 2011.

Added SeaWorld corporate curator of zoological operations Julie Scardina, “It’s something that we’ve been successful doing throughout our history. We know it inspires people, and we know that it allows us the best access to the whales.”

“SeaWorld has continued allowing close contact between orcas and trainers during ‘drywork,’ when staff interact closely with the whales at the stage or in the slide-out area during a show,” observed David Kirby, author of the 2012 hardcover bestseller *Death At SeaWorld*. “And, the company let it be known, it wanted trainers to resume waterwork as soon as possible.”

But SeaWorld on the eve of the appeal hearing appeared to hedge its bets, Kirby noted. “Our trainers have not entered the water for performances since February 2010 and we have no plans for them to return to that kind of interaction with our whales,” SeaWorld spokesperson Fred Jacobs told CNN in a written interview soon after CNN broadcast the *Blackfish* documentary.

“It was the first time I can recall SeaWorld saying it had no intention to resume water work during shows,” Kirby wrote.

Directed by Gabriela Cowperthwaite, *Blackfish* centers on the death of Brancheau. Featuring several generations of former trainers, mostly for SeaWorld, who have come to question the ethics of marine mammal exhibition, *Blackfish* structurally parallels *Death At SeaWorld*.

The paperback edition of *Death At SeaWorld*, released in June 2013, went to a second printing in only 16 days. Yet despite

The Boise Aquarium was incorporated as a nonprofit organization. Ammon Covino and his brother Vincent in December 2012 opened the for-profit Portland Aquarium in Milwaukie, Oregon, a Portland suburb. They also planned to open a for-profit aquarium in Austin, Texas.

The Portland Aquarium was investigated by the Oregon Humane Society in August 2013 after media in both Boise and the Portland area—and **ANIMAL PEOPLE**—received “death logs” purporting to be from one aquarium or the other.

The dates on the pages that **ANIMAL PEOPLE** received cover the time from February 16 to May 16, 2013 when the Portland Aquarium reportedly had no regular vet care. The most often stated probable causes for animal deaths were starvation, electrical failures, getting caught in drains, and attacks by other animals.

Responded Vincent Covino in a prepared statement, “The death log submitted appears to be fabricated, or to be skewed by such deaths as dozens of snails, baby damsel fish and others.”

KGW-Portland and KTVB-Boise meanwhile reported that Vincent Covino had been told to remove fish from the proposed Austin aquarium site because the site was not licensed to house animals.



Beluga at the Mystic Aquarium. (Kim Bartlett)

Illegally captured Korean dolphins freed



Korean Animal Welfare Association

The Korean Animal Welfare Association in July 2013 celebrated the successful release of the bottlenose dolphins Sampal and Chunsam, shown en route to release, and Jedol, who were the survivors among 11 dolphins who were illegally captured in 2009 for the Jeju Pacific Land marine park.

Jeju District Court Judge Kim Kyeong-seon in April 2012 fined Jeju Pacific Land \$9,000, issued suspended jail sentences to the company president and one employee, and ordered that the five dolphins from the illegal capture who were still alive and still at the marine park be released. Five dolphins had died. Jedol had reportedly been traded to

the Seoul Grand Park Zoo for two sea lions.

The release order was upheld by the Korean Supreme Court. Seoul Mayor Park Won-soon ordered that Jedol should be released as well. KAWA and Dolphin Project founder Ric O’Barry in May 2013 moved the dolphins into a sea pen to rehabilitate them for release.

Escaping on June 22, 2013, Sampal rejoined her wild pod within five days. Chunsam and Jedol, were freed on July 18, 2013. Chunsam, a female, soon joined two female dolphins and a calf from her wild pod. Jedol, a young male, has socialized with other dolphins, but has not rejoined a pod.

Taiji plans swim-with-dolphins attraction

TAIJI, Japan—Notorious as scene of the dolphin massacres shown by the Oscar-winning documentary *The Cove*, Taiji “has begun researching a plan to section off part of a cove and turn it into a place where people can swim in the water and kayak alongside small whales and dolphins,” Agence France-Presse reported in October 2013, confirming rumors circulating since March 2012.

“We already use dolphins and small whales as a source of tourism in the cove where dolphin-hunting takes place,” city official Masaki Wada told AFP. “But we plan to do it on a larger scale. This is part of Taiji’s long-term plan of making the whole town a park, where you can enjoy watching marine mammals while tasting various marine products, including whale and dolphin meat.”

Wade said the proposed swim-with-dolphins attraction would be at Moriura Bay, separate from Hatakejiri Bay, where dolphins are killed and captured for sale to marine parks, as detailed in *The Cove*.

Taiji killed or captured 1,277 dolphins in 2012-2013, and has a quota of 2,026 for 2013-2014.

Proposed poultry slaughter line speed-up would boil more birds alive

WASHINGTON D.C.—Fast-moving poultry slaughter lines cause nearly a million chickens and turkeys per year to be boiled alive when workers miss killing them, according to USDA data.

Yet, reported Kimberly Kindy in the October 29, 2013 edition of the *Washington Post*, “The USDA is finalizing a proposal that would allow poultry companies to accelerate their processing lines.”

The proposal is touted as part of a plan to make poultry slaughterhouses more hygienic and efficient. “But that would also make the problem of inhumane treatment worse,” Kindy wrote. “USDA inspectors assigned to the plants say much of the cruel treatment they witness is tied to the rapid pace at which employees work,

flipping live birds upside down and shackling their legs. If the birds are not properly secured, they might elude the automated blade and remain alive when they enter the scalding.

“Over the past five years, an annual average of 825,000 chickens and 18,000 turkeys died this way, USDA public reports show. Government inspectors assigned to the plants document these kills, which are easily spotted because the birds’ skin becomes discolored.”

The proposed new USDA rules would accelerate the line speeds in the evisceration phase of poultry processing, not the killing phase. “But if plants wish to boost production by speeding up the processing of birds,” Kindy noted, “more would have to be slaughtered.”

The USDA data was obtained by the

Government Accountability Office at request of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand.

“Poultry is not covered by the Humane Slaughter Act,” elaborated Humane Farm Animal Care founder Adele Douglass. “However, food safety regulations require USDA inspectors be at poultry slaughter plants to inspect and identify contaminated poultry and diseased carcasses. The proposed USDA plan would cut the number of USDA inspectors who are there to examine the birds for diseases by 40%, replacing them with poultry company or processing plant employees. In addition, this plan allows the increase of the line speeds. The line speeds must be slow enough for the inspectors to visually examine the birds. This proposal would increase the line speeds dramatically to

about 3 birds per second. That does not bode well for even a trained USDA poultry inspector to examine the birds, let alone for the ability of an untrained poultry company employee.

“Most industrial poultry plants shackle only one of the bird’s legs, causing the bird pain and distress,” Douglass continued, “in order to process more birds in less time.”

Even at the present line speeds, Douglass said, “Industrial poultry slaughter plants can’t meet the HFAC standards because of their line speeds. The HFAC standards require that chickens be hung in shackles by both legs, with each leg placed in a separate shackle. An appropriate line speed is required in order to do this carefully. Any plant that sent live birds into the scalding would never pass our inspection.”

Jakarta & other Indonesian cities move against monkey acts (from page 1)

But the two nearest cities of size, Surakarta and Bandung, also moved against *topang monyet*.

The Surakarta Public Order Agency did not immediately impound any monkeys, reported Kusumasari Ayuningtyas of the *Jakarta Post*, but warned monkey handlers that their animals might be impounded for violations of municipal bans on *topang monyet*.

Afterward, wrote Kusumasari Ayuningtyas, “no *topang monyet* handlers were seen operating on the city’s streets. Surakarta Mayor FX Hadi Rudyatmo said his administration was ready to help the handlers if the *topang monyet* shows were their only source of income.”

“We will find solutions to help them earn a living,” the mayor said. “The most important thing is they no longer torture animals.”

Monkeys impounded in Surakarta were to be transferred to the Taru Jurug Animal Park.

JAAN began working to end *topang monyet*, according to the JAAN web site, after learning that “The increase in the use of dancing monkeys in Jakarta’s streets could be blamed on three big ‘monkey bosses’ who rent out the monkeys to street children. The children have to pay per day an amount to the boss, and any money they make above this amount is for them. The children fall into debt with the bosses and therefore after a short while are forced to ‘work for free.’ The monkeys are kept under extreme cruel conditions, chained in small dark cages.”

Events

Dec. 14: **Performing Animal Welfare Society sanctuary open house**, San Andreas, Calif. Info: 209-745-2606

2014

January 13-17: **Asia for Animals** conf., Singapore. Info: <www.asiaforanimals.com>.

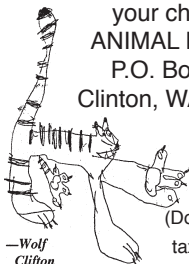
March 17-18: **The Science of Animal Thinking & Emotion** conf., Washington D.C. Info: <sentientanimal@hsus.org>.

July 21-23: **Summer School on Religion & Animal Protection**, Oxford, U.K. Info: <www.oxfordanimaethics.com>.

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Canada prohibits puppy imports by animal welfare agencies

OTTAWA—Responding to rising concern about what dogs are being imported into Canada, in what health under what conditions, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency on November 1, 2013 rescinded a 2005 rule that allowed animal charities to import puppies almost without restriction.

The rule has been blamed for outbreaks of heartworm, the arrival of dangerous dogs from U.S. shelters, and for harming the chances of Canadian shelter dogs to be adopted, though Canadian shelters currently rehome more than 85% of the dogs they receive.

Ironically, rescinding the 2005 rule may reduce accountability for puppy imports into Canada by encouraging rescuers to import dogs as individuals, rather than under organizational umbrellas.

“In 2005 the CFIA introduced a special policy to assist animal welfare organizations that were rescuing displaced dogs from the U.S. in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Effective November 1, 2013 this policy is no longer required and has been discontinued,” said the CFIA announcement.

The Canada Border Services Agency enforces Canadian import laws, but the CFIA prescribes the animal import requirements and inspection fees.

“Rescued dogs under eight months of age and destined for an animal welfare organization are no longer eligible for import,” the CFIA announcement added. “Rescued dogs eight months or older and destined for an animal welfare organization are eligible for import, provided they meet import requirements for resale. Rescued dogs of any age may still be imported by an individual, provided the animal is able to meet Canadian import conditions.”

Imports of dogs by animal welfare organizations are defined by the CFIA as a category of commercial import, since the collection of adoption fees or donations in lieu of set fees legally constitutes a form of sale.

Commercially imported dogs must be accompanied by certification of having been vaccinated against rabies, and must be microchipped for identification. Importers are also required to pay inspection fees of \$30 for the first dog and \$5.00 for each additional dog in the shipment.

Some of these requirements are waived for puppies imported by individuals as their own, depending on the puppies’ ages.

“Wild west sphere”

The immediate catalyst to the CFIA rescinding the 2005 rule may have been a March 2013 exposé by Charlie Gillis of the Canadian national news magazine *Maclean’s*.

“Canada has become a refuge to the huddled masses of the canine world, as thousands—perhaps tens of thousands—flood into the country each year,” Gillis wrote.

“It’s a wild west sphere, with no one tracking the number of rescuees entering the country, nor their countries of origin. The CFIA has recorded a spike over the past five years in the number of adult dogs imported annually for commercial use, from 150 to 922. But that represents a fraction of the inflow, because some rescuees enter the country designated as pets rather than commercial-use animals, and because border officers don’t keep count of the dogs they inspect for proof of rabies and for general health.

“One Calgary-based agency contacted by *Maclean’s*, Pawsitive Match Inc., says it trucked in about 800 dogs from the southwestern U.S. and Mexico in 2012 alone.”

Added Gillis, “As many as 80 new Canadian groups join Petfinder each year, and while not all import their dogs, enough do that a few mouse clicks can raise the profiles of canines from such far-flung locales as Greece, Taiwan, and Iran.”

Gillis approvingly profiled the work of Adopt an Indian Desi Dog founder Barb Gard, who since 2009 has imported about 250 dogs to British Columbia from Delhi, India, and Tails from Greece founder Diane Aldan who has imported about 300 dogs to Ontario from Greek rescuers since 2001.

Considerable adoption transport goes on within Canada, as well as into Canada from international destinations. The 43 shelters operated by the British Columbia SPCA, for example, annually transport more than 5,500 animals among themselves to maximize adoption opportunities. The volume amounts to nearly a third of the total of about 16,400 animals per

year whom the BC/SPCA rehomes.

About 230 rescuers reportedly participate in the Rescuing Dogs in Canada adoption transport network, which requires that “All dogs in need of rescue must be within Canada.”

But Gillis also recognized the criticisms voiced by Canadian Federation of Humane Societies chief executive Barbara Cartwright.

“We need to direct Canadians to adopt here,” Cartwright told Gillis. “It can be very frustrating for a local humane society that has a dog overpopulation problem, and is looking at euthanizing animals, while dogs are being brought in from a different continent.”

Disease transmission

Added Gillis, “Cartwright also raises concern about the potential for imported dogs to carry pathogens like rabies or the deadly parvovirus—though that concern seems minimal, given the CFIA requirements for canines entering the country.”

But the 2005 CFIA rule had come under increasing criticism for allegedly allowing the import of diseased dogs since 2009, when the Hamilton Academy of Veterinary Medicine reported a tenfold surge in heartworm cases around Hamilton, Ontario. The Toronto Humane Society had already noticed that heartworm cases throughout Ontario had increased from 258 in 2002 to 676 in 2008. The Ontario Veterinary Medical Association reported a 280% increase in heartworm from 2005 to 2008.

“The prime reason is abandoned dogs imported from Louisiana into Canada by the Hamilton SPCA after Hurricane Katrina in 2005,” alleged *Toronto Sun* columnist Peter Worthington in October 2009. “In 2008 some 600 dogs from Louisiana reached the Hamilton SPCA, most under eight months old, supplied by the Louisiana dog rescue firm Bordeaux Animal Rescue Krewe. Forty-five of 63 heartworm cases around Hamilton were dogs who had been imported from Louisiana and the southern U.S.,” according to Hamilton veterinarian Randy Stirling.

BARK director Jillian Donaghey told Tiffany Mayer of the *St. Catherine’s Standard* that the BARK dogs sent to Ontario had all been tested for heartworm. But Donaghey acknowledged that other rescuers had sent dogs from the New Orle-

ans area to Canada before BARK formed in 2006.

Lincoln County Humane Society executive director Kevin Strooband and Welland SPCA manager Ted Bettel also denied Worthington’s claims. Wrote Mayer, “Strooband said only two Louisiana dogs out of hundreds the shelter has helped have been infected.”

Suggested Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases moderator Tam Garland, of Texas A&M University, “It may not be that there is an epidemic of heartworms, but rather an epidemic of diagnosis as veterinarians are more sensitized to the heartworm issue. It is likely that mosquitoes carrying heartworm were already in Canada before the displaced dogs arrived. Infected displaced dogs may not have helped, but they have not been shown to have caused an epidemic of heartworm.”

But Worthington (1927-2013) was for 57 years among the most widely read journalists in Canada, widely syndicated in the U.S. as well, and his charges had lasting influence.

Dogs from Los Angeles

Further objections to transportation of dogs from the U.S. to Canada emerged after the *Vancouver Sun* in January 2011 reported that Better Life Dog Rescue had imported about 200 dogs from the Los Angeles Department of Animal Regulation.

Opposing Views blogger Phyllis Daugherty, a longtime outspoken critic of Los Angeles city animal control director Brenda Barnette, wrote that the transports were part of “a shell game to avoid being the one who may ultimately have to euthanize the animals who break down under the stress of long-term confinement and/or repeated relocation.”

The major concern on the Canadian side of the border, suggested *Humane World* blogger Thomas Mair, was that pit bulls from Los Angeles might help to fuel recent increases in both dogfighting and dog attacks in the Lower Peninsula of British Columbia.

“Rescued” pit bulls from the Los Angeles area were reportedly impounded from an alleged dogfighting operation near the B.C. border on the U.S. side in May 2013, but have not actually been identified in connection with any of the Canadian incidents. —Merritt Clifton

Pigeon shoots done at Wing Pointe?

HAMBURG, Pennsylvania—Cancelling three pigeon shoots in six weeks, the Wing Pointe Hunt Club appears to have quit hosting pigeon shoots, Showing Animals Respect & Kindness founder Steve Hindi announced on October 24, 2013.

Protesting against pigeon shoots at Wing Pointe since 2010, SHARK arrived for a scheduled shoot on September 20, 2013, Hindi said, “to document and expose it, and to rescue and treat as many victims as possible. A few hours into our wait for any activity, a Wing Pointe worker told us that there was no shoot, and that there would be no more pigeon shoots. He said the shoots are moving to the northern part of the state. Wing Pointe pigeon shoot attendees used to number over 100,” Hindi added, “but in recent times it has fallen to about a dozen hardcores.”

California bans lead ammunition

LOS ANGELES—California Governor Jerry Brown on October 11, 2013 endorsed into law a total ban on the use of lead ammunition for hunting—the first adopted by any state, though use of lead ammunition is regulated in at least 30 states. The California Fish & Game Commission will have until July 1, 2019, to fully enforce the lead ban.

Lead poisoning is the leading cause of death of endangered California condors. California in 2007 banned use of lead shot in eight counties to protect the condors, but a record 21 condors, 9% of the total wild population, were treated for lead poisoning at the Los Angeles Zoo &

Pigeon shoots continue at the Philadelphia Gun Club and the undisclosed upstate location.

An October 2013 poll by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research found that 75% of Pennsylvanians would like to ban pigeon shoots, with only 16% opposing a ban.

“That majority extended across men, women, Democrats, Republicans and independents,” wrote Alex Wigglesworth for *Philly.com*. “When asked whether live pigeon shoots were ‘a tradition that should be preserved’ or ‘an unnecessary form of animal cruelty,’ 83% agreed with the latter. Bills have been reintroduced during every state legislative session in the past 26 years to ban live pigeon shoots,” Wigglesworth recalled. “but the legislation hasn’t been voted on as a free-standing bill since 1989.”

Botanical Gardens in October 2013.

The last 22 California condors then living were trapped in 1982 for captive breeding. Restoration of California condors to the wild began in 1997. The current wild population is 231. About 170 are at zoos and breeding centers.

California condors ingest lead while scavenging the remains of animals who have been shot by hunters. About half of the free-flying California condor population have been treated for lead poisoning at least once. Trapped twice a year for blood testing, about a third of the condors show elevated lead levels; about 20% per year require treatment.

FoA sues again to stop hunting of ranched oryx

NORWALK—Friends of Animals on October 16, 2013 sued the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Interior Secretary Sally Jewell for continuing to issue permits that allow hunters to kill ranch-raised scimitar-horned oryx, dama gazelle, and addax.

All three are endangered species, but have been raised on hunting ranches in Texas and New Mexico for more than 50 years, beginning decades before passage of the Endangered Species Act.

Extirpated from the wild by the mid-1970s, scimitar-horned oryx have been reintroduced to several parts of their former range in the Middle East, but the reintroductions have used zoo stock, not oryx from the hunting ranches. Some of the zoo oryx, however, may be descended from hunting ranch stock. Ranchers and hunters claim that this demonstrates that raising oryx to be shot has conservation value.

Previous FoA litigation obliged the Fish & Wildlife Service

Closing live markets stopped killer flu

HONG KONG—Closing 780 live poultry markets in the Chinese cities of Shanghai, Hangzhou, Huzhou and Nanjing stopped an April 2013 outbreak of a deadly new subtype of the H7N9 avian flu strain, confirmed Hong Kong University researchers Hongjie Yu, Joseph T. Wu, Benjamin J. Cowling with data published in the October 31, 2013 edition of *The Lancet*.

Founded in 1823, *The Lancet* is the world’s oldest and arguably most prestigious medical journal.

First identified in humans in

to recognize the hunting ranch oryx, gazelle, and addax in 2005 as part of the endangered populations. The Fish & Wildlife Service had recognized all three species as endangered in the wild for nearly 15 years, while exempting the ranched populations from the listing. When the Fish & Wildlife Service failed to prevent the ranched oryx from being hunted, FoA sued again in 2006, winning a court order in 2009 that compelled the Fish & Wildlife Service to enforce the endangered species listing.

A countersuit seeking to overturn the listing followed from Safari Club International, representing trophy hunters, and the Exotic Wildlife Association, representing hunting ranch owners. Denver U.S. District Court Judge Beryl A. Howell on August 9, 2013 rejected the countersuit in a 105-page ruling, setting up the case filed by FoA in October.


“The federal defendants have demonstrated a pattern and prac-

February 2013, the new H7N9 virus has killed about 30% of the human victims in laboratory-confirmed cases, according to the World Health Organization. H7N9 avian flu viruses were previously considered relatively harmless.

The live market closures reduced the mean daily number of human infections 99% in Shanghai and Hangzhou, and 97% in Huzhou and Nanjing, Yu, Wu, and Cowling found. Poultry marketers claimed losses of \$9.35 billion because of the closures, which they contended were unnecessary.

tice of non-compliance with the Endangered Species Act when it comes to processing permits for hunting ranches,” FoA said in a prepared statement. “Today, addax and dama gazelles are nearly wiped out in Northern Africa due to hunting, war, desertification of habitat, human settlement and agribusiness. FoA has facilitated the reintroduction of these antelope within Ferlo National Park in northwest Senegal. In fiscal year 2013, \$66,000 [from FoA] went toward expanding the Oryx Fence Project,” which protects about 120 oryx and 20 dama gazelles.

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More & stronger warnings about antibiotic use by factory farmers

BALTIMORE, BEIJING, BOSTON, SEATTLE, TORONTO—No one is trying to raise healthier crows by feeding them antibiotics, yet Tufts University researcher Julie Ellis has discovered antibiotic-resistant bacteria in crow guano in four states.

“We’ve documented human-derived drug resistance where it shouldn’t be—in wildlife and the environment. But we know very little about how this may impact public health,” Ellis told *Environmental Health News* staff writer Lindsey Konkel.

Genes for antibiotic resistance have also been found in gulls, foxes, frogs, sharks, whales, insects, and sand and coastal water samples from California and Washington, Konkel noted.

“Microbes connect the planet. The danger is that we are entering a post-antibiotic era in which even our last-line drugs won’t work and routine infections can become life-threatening,” said George Washington University professor of environmental and occupational health Lance Price.

Ellis revealed her findings from crow guano six weeks after a 114-page report from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention concluded that antibiotic-resistant bacteria infect about two million Americans per year, killing at least 23,000. The report evaluated infections from 17 drug-resistant bacteria and one fungus.

“Much antibiotic use in animals is unnecessary and inappropriate and makes everyone less safe,” the CDCP report said.

The CDCP study appeared only days before Donald Low, M.D., 68, died of a brain tumor on September 18, 2013 in Toronto. An expert on antibiotic-resistant streptococcus bacteria, Low headed a Canadian government advisory committee that warned in August 2002 that routine use of antibiotics in animal agriculture could incubate antibiotic-resistant disease.

The committee recommended that antibiotic use in livestock should be restricted to treating actual infections, and that antibiotics should not be given routinely to prevent infections that might inhibit rapid growth to slaughter weight.

The committee recommendations drew worldwide news coverage, but at the political level the influence of agribusiness ensured that they went ignored.

CRE & MRSA kill

Agribusiness has continued to kill similar warnings, including on repeated occasions from CDCP director Tom Frieden, M.D., who has diplomatically avoided addressing the role of antibiotics in agriculture while warning about antibiotic resistance.

Already, “Our strongest antibiotics don’t work and patients are left with potentially untreatable infections,” Frieden told a media conference on March 5, 2013.

Friedan specifically cited the spread of *Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae*. Causing about 600 human deaths per year, CRE has now been identified in 4% of the hospitals in the U.S. and 18% of the hospitals providing specialty care. Of the 37 forms of CRE known when Frieden spoke, fifteen had

been discovered in the preceding nine months.

Congressional Representative Louise Slaughter, of Rochester, New York, on March 17, 2013 cited a different antibiotic-resistant bacterium in appealing to U.S. Food & Drug Administration commissioner Margaret Hamburg to unilaterally use her authority to restrict the use of antibiotics in livestock.

Slaughter, the only microbiologist in Congress, called to Hamburg’s attention a study published in the journal *EMBO Molecular Medicine* whose authors used genetic markers to identify the passage of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, called MRSA, from livestock to humans.

“Currently, MRSA kills more Americans each year than HIV/AIDS,” said Slaughter. “The extreme overuse of antibiotics in livestock is endangering human health. Eighty percent of all antibiotics sold in the U.S. are sold for agricultural use. Most often, these antibiotics are distributed at sub-therapeutic levels to healthy animals as a way to compensate for crowded and unsanitary living conditions or to promote growth. Any effort to stop the growth of antibiotic-resistant bacteria must address the overuse of antibiotics in food-animals.”

Earlier, Slaughter introduced into Congress a proposed “Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act.” Though endorsed by the World Health Organization, American Medical Association, National Academy of Sciences, and more than 450 other organizations, the bill failed to advance even to a committee hearing.

British researchers in December 2012 reported finding MRSA in bulk milk tanks from five widely separated dairy farms, indicating that the antibiotic resistant bacteria may be ubiquitous among the British milking herd. “Although pasteurisation of milk should ensure that MRSA will not enter the food chain, our finding of MRSA in dairy cattle has clear public health implications,” they summarized in *Center for Infectious Disease Research & Policy News*. “Workers on dairy farms, or individuals with regular contact with dairy cows, are likely to have a higher risk of colonization or infection.”

A study by Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health researchers published on September 16, 2013 reinforced the British findings. Approximately 11% of MRSA infections, the Johns Hopkins researchers found, could be attributed to exposure crop fields fertilized with pig manure. The study appeared in the Journal of the American Medical Association online periodical *JAMA Internal Medicine*.

The science, simplified

University of Washington microbiologist and immunologist Marilyn C. Roberts outlined the science of the problem as a guest columnist for the *Seattle Times*. “Worldwide, the livestock industry consumes approximately twice the amount of antibiotics as are prescribed for humans, usually administered in

food and water to the entire herd or flock,” Roberts explained. “This practice employs smaller concentrations of antibiotics than are typically used to treat bacterial infections. Low concentrations of antibiotics, whether in animals or people, kill the susceptible bacteria, but select for bacteria that survive because of genetic changes. This leads to the selection of antibiotic-resistant and multidrug-resistant bacteria, also known as superbugs.

“The FDA began to limit the use of penicillin and tetracycline in animal feed as growth promoters 35 years ago,” Roberts continued, “but the U.S. House and Senate budget committees passed resolutions against the ban.”

By contrast, Roberts wrote, “Europe banned antibiotics as growth promoters in 2006. In Denmark, antibiotic usage dropped 50 to 60% in livestock production. Denmark also prohibits veterinarians from profiting from the sale of antibiotics to farmers, which is a practice that continues in the United States. The Danes found no negative impact on production or feed quantities used. Danish pork production has increased.”

Multisite production

National Public Radio reporter Dan Charles explored how that happened on February 11, 2013. Antibiotics “used to deliver a boost in growth, but that effect has disappeared in recent years or declined greatly,” Charles began. “Researchers think the antibiotics used to work by suppressing low-grade infections. In recent years, however, pork producers have found ways to accomplish the same thing through improved hygiene. This has occurred even while swine operations grow. As a result, the drugs have become largely superfluous—yet many farmers still use them.”

Sixty years ago, explained Kansas State University swine nutrition specialist Steve Dritz, administering prophylactic antibiotics was found to accelerate the growth rates of pigs, poultry, and cattle by up to 15%.

Beginning about 20 years ago, however, factory farming began transitioning to an approach called multisite production.

“Previously, pigs were born and raised in one barn or in several barns close together,” Charles summarized. “Infections could easily pass from one generation to the next. Under the new system, when piglets are weaned, they move to a whole different place. That new site is carefully scrubbed and free of disease.” Each group of pigs remains together from weaning to slaughter, and is kept isolated from all other pigs. Workers moving from one barn to another must change their boots and clothing.

Dritz did research establishing that multisite production keeps pigs as healthy and promotes rapid growth as effectively as antibiotic use, but found, Charles reported, that U.S. farmers and agricultural veterinarians are reluctant to quit dosing livestock with antibiotics. Partly this is from fear of losing a perceived competitive edge, and partly, Dritz suggested, just from reluctance to change an established method. —Merritt Clifton

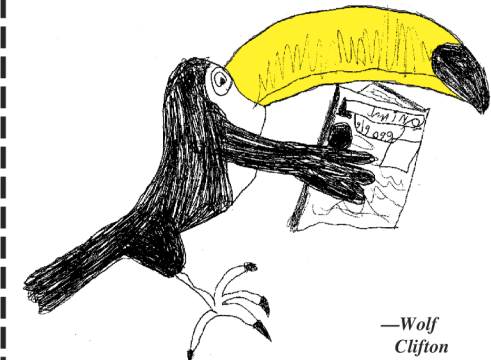
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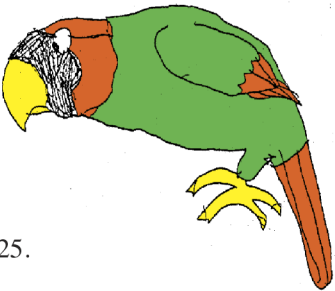
—Wolf Clifton

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Who made Barcelona one of Europe’s most animal-friendly cities?

BARCELONA—Enjoying a reputation as one of the most animal-friendly cities of Europe, Barcelona did not disappoint the more than 320 animal welfare workers drawn to the city for the 2013 International Companion Animal Welfare Conference.

Bullfighting ended in Barcelona, after a five-year phase-out, at the beginning of 2012. Selling captive birds was prohibited in June 2010. And Barcelona, with 1.6 million inhabitants of the city proper, and 4.5 million within the metropolitan radius, has since 2003 been among the biggest jurisdictions in the world to practice no-kill animal control, claiming one of the biggest feral cat neuter/return programs.

At least eight animal protection organizations are headquartered in Barcelona, four of which operate animal shelters that augment in various ways the work of the municipal animal control agency, the *Centre d’acollida d’animals de Companya de Barcelona* (CAAC).

Condé Nast Traveler gives rave reviews to five vegetarian restaurants in the Old City tourist district, the oldest of which, Teresa Carles, was founded in 1979. The vegetarian restaurants appear to be popular with downtown office workers as well as tourists.

Asociacion Defense Derechos Animal vice president Manel Cases, 83, traces the rise of an animal-friendly atmosphere in Barcelo-

na to the 1944 formation of the *Lliga per a la Protecció d’Animals i Plantes de Barcelona*, or Animal & Plant Protection League. This was reputedly the first humane society in Spain, and is certainly the oldest still operating. The seven staff of *La Lliga*, as it is usually called for short, currently house about 100 dogs and 150 cats in a large indoor shelter not far from the CAAC, but lower in the hills to the west of the city, behind the University of Barcelona.

ADDA

But *La Lliga*, focused on rehoming, has historically kept a low political profile. ADDA, by contrast, was founded by Barcelona railway worker Benito de Benito in 1975 to make noise for animals, as one of the first activist organizations in any cause to emerge in Spain after the death of dictator Francisco Franco, who ruled from 1939 to November 1975. Winning nonprofit status in 1981, ADDA pushed through to passage the first animal protection law in the autonomous region of Catalan (and the first in Spain) in 1988, ADDA won strengthening amendments to the Catalan law in 2003.

ADDA is now seeking further amendments to prohibit hunting with greyhounds. “Spain is the only country in Europe which still allows hunting with these dogs,” Cases told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in July 2013.

The signal triumph of ADDA, however, was the abolition of bullfighting, achieved 70 years after Ernest Hemingway in *Death In The Afternoon* (1932) described Barcelona as perhaps the only city in the world where bullfights could be watched all year round. Barcelona in Hemingway’s time, and until more than 20 years after the death of Franco, had three of the world’s biggest bull rings. But they catered mainly to tourists. Franco promoted bullfighting and suppressed Catalan language and culture to try to unify the Spanish national identity. As Catalanian identity and a Catalonia independence movement rose post-Franco, opposition to bullfighting rose with the cause.

ADDA in early 2004 presented a petition signed by 250,000 Barcelona citizens to the city council. In April 2004 the Barcelona city council adopted a non-binding resolution stating “Barcelona is an anti-bullfighting city.” Opinion polls showed that 63% of Barcelonians had come to disapprove of bullfighting; 55% favored banning it. The ban, passed by the regional government of Catalan, was

approved three years later, though an exemption remains for participant bullfighting events held in connection with village festivals.

Currently ADDA is defending the Catalanian ban on arena bullfighting against the efforts of Spanish prime minister Mariano Rajoy and his majority Popular Party to undermine it by protecting bullfighting as a cultural heritage. But legislation recently passed by the national legislature to defend bullfighting did not attempt to overturn the ban, which would have further inflamed the already growing feeling in Catalan that the region would be better off without Spain. Economic data shows why: while Spain as a whole is mired in debt, with an unemployment rate approaching 25%, Barcelona has the fourth highest municipal gross domestic product in the European Union, and enjoyed annual economic growth of up to 17% per year through 2009.

Two days before ICAWC 2013 convened, traffic in downtown Barcelona was paralyzed for hours by a street demonstration seeking Catalanian independence, some of which I observed *en route* to Teresa Carles for lunch with Manel Cases and ADDA staff member Montse Ong.

Cases and his wife, ADDA president Carmen Mendez, were architects, building successful careers in the post-Franco construction boom that saw Barcelona more than double in size, when in 1980 they learned of the existence of ADDA, and learned that the young organization was at risk of collapse from lack of business management knowhow. They have been involved ever since as fulltime volunteers, establishing an international support base that has enabled ADDA to continue high-profile activity with influence throughout Spain, even as other Spanish nonprofit organizations have economically collapsed.

ADDA has not been immune to the effects of the bad economy. A branch office in Madrid was closed to cut costs, and other activities have suffered. But ADDA has had the advantage of owning a small but strategically located three-story office outright, inherited from a female United Nations official whom no one in the organization had ever met, or known to be a supporter. The building affords working space to a staff of six.

Cats & dogs

Focused on animal advocacy, ADDA has not become involved in sheltering, because as Cases puts it, “If you do that, you can do nothing else.” But, perhaps inspired by *La Lliga*, Barcelona has attempted for more than 30 years to meet

European Union standards for animal care and control. The municipal shelter, built in response to a 1972 rabies outbreak, much resembles U.S. shelters of the same vintage, except that it has a commanding view of the entire city. The facilities, now surrounded by a nature park, have several times been expanded and renovated, but the staff cheerfully acknowledge deficiencies including a lack of adequate isolation-and-quarantine areas to facilitate effective disease control.

Rabies was officially eliminated from Spain in 1978, though a pet dog from Toledo who was taken to Morocco with his family was found to have become rabid in June 2013. The 2003 amendments to the Catalanian animal protection law introduced mandatory pet identification and registration, and prohibited cities from killing dogs and cats for population control. The CAAC currently takes in about 1,200 dogs and cats per year, returns about 400 to their homes after identifying them through microchips, adopts out 650, and tries to maintain a population of not more than 150 dogs and 150 cats. On the day that ICAWC attendees visited the CAAC, however, the shelter housed 176 dogs, about 40% of them pit bulls, and around 200 cats.

About half of the pit bulls may not be adopted out, having previously attacked someone and been designated too dangerous to rehome.

The CAAC avoids becoming inundated with cats through the work of the feral cat advocacy and colony management organization Plataforma Gatera. Plataforma Gatera president Agnes Dufau told the ICAWC conference that volunteers look after 8,515 cats in 598 managed colonies, few of which appear to be very visible despite Dufau’s insistence that the volunteers should feed cats by daytime, “so that we don’t look like terrorists.”

In the U.S. this would be a prescription for conflict with birders, since cats who are fed by day tend to turn from hunting rodents for sustenance, by night, to recreationally hunting birds.

But despite daytime feeding, the Barcelona feral cats seem to keep a low profile. I observed only four feral cats in six days and nights of walking, jogging, and driving around Barcelona looking for them: one near food kiosks at the beach, two near restaurants uptown, and one in a neighborhood of residential high-rises. Birds, however, were plentiful, especially around the El Prat de Llobregat airport, adjacent to the Espai Natural del Remolar-Filipines reserve in the Llobregat river delta. Harboring about 350 species, the reserve is considered one of the best birdwatching sites in Europe. —Merritt Clifton



ADDA president Carmen Mendez, staff member Montse Ong, and vice president Manel Cases.

Veterinarian Jeff Young seeks to sell the world on “Spay-It-Forward”

DENVER—Jeff Young, DVM, one of the star speakers at ICAWC 2013, wants to sell the veterinary and humane communities on the concept he calls Spay-It-Forward.

Young, an animal control officer before becoming a vet, has demonstrated Spay-It-Forward in his own career since soon after graduating from the Colorado State University veterinary school in 1989. Founding the Planned Pethood Plus high-volume dog and cat sterilization clinic in Denver in 1990, Young became legendary for converting an old school bus into a mobile clinic and doing high-volume sterilization surgery on vacations and weekends on Native American reservations throughout the west.

Finding the mobile clinic approach inefficient, Young went on to pioneer mobile animal surgical hospitals, MASH units for short, which could be set up in any vacant building with running water and electricity.

Teaching expeditions abroad showed Young the need to promote dog and cat sterilization surgery in the developing world. He founded a high-volume sterilization clinic in Bratislava, Slovakia in 2004, and another in Merida, Mexico, in 2007. Through Planned Pethood Plus, Young has subsidized internships for young veterinary surgeons from Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Mexico, Panama, and Romania.

Yet, though Young has often partnered with nonprofit programs, he has always worked on a for-profit basis. Young argues that the for-profit model is much more efficient for veterinarians, even if they donate between 1,300 and 2,700 free

sterilization surgeries per year, as he does.

Though Young himself is a sterilization specialist, he does not recommend that other vets should specialize to the same extent—although he does recommend that young vets should learn how to perform spay surgeries and castrations with the speed and attention to avoiding complications of a specialist. Every vet, Young believes, should be able to do quick, clean early-age sterilization surgery.

“When starting into veterinary work,” Young advises, vets should pursue a “basic health care model,” to “build sustainable income,” by doing vaccinations, parasite control, boarding, and other routine care. Having a full-service veterinary hospital should be the goal, Young believes, with additional income streams available from selling food and toys, offering behavioral training and training classes, and participating in humane adoption programs, which directly benefit the partner humane societies and rescues, but also bring the vet more clients.

Young sees providing free and low-cost sterilizations as not only a public service but also an effective “loss leader” for promoting veterinary care. “We are working for a paradigm shift in how animals are cared for,” Young emphasizes. Reducing the numbers of homeless and free-to-good-home animals is the first step toward increasing the value of each dog or cat, and therefore toward increasing the pet keeper’s investment in the animal—and this occurs in the developing world as well as in the U.S., Young has seen.

“My goal for the last 20 years is to find a sustainable way to provide low-cost veterinary care,” Young told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “I really think Spay-it-Forward works, and can work on a global basis to provide jobs, careers, and real opportunities for vets. I have two great examples [Bratislava and Merida], just doing it myself.”

The Spay-It-Forward concept, as Young advances it, is a veterinary version of an idea that can be traced as far back as *The Grouch*, authored by the Greek playwright Menander circa 317 B.C. The idea was popularized in the U.S. in 1784 by Benjamin Franklin. As Franklin explained it, “I do not pretend to give a good deed; I only lend it,” obligating the recipient to do a similar good deed when able. Ralph Waldo Emerson gave Franklin’s explanation an extended economic foundation in his 1841 essay “Compensation.” Lila Hardy Hammond finally gave it a name in *The Garden of Delight* (1916), writing “You don’t pay love back; you pay it forward.”

Pay-it-forward appears to have come into humane work after the release of a film called *Pay It Forward* in 2000, starring Kevin Spacey and Helen Hunt. Several hundred humane organizations now have programs called Spay-It-Forward, the earliest of which emerged while the film was still in theatres. Some Spay-It-Forward programs subsidize sterilizations for the pets of low-income people. Some target feral cats. A few do overseas outreach. Many appear to have been inspired, influenced, or mentored by Jeff Young.



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Ethicist addresses making euthanasia decisions in a no-kill context

BARCELONA— Among the more unusual and useful offerings at the 2013 International Companion Animal Welfare Conference was a session entitled “Ethical decision making,” presented by Dorothy E.F. McKeegan, British Veterinary Association Animal Welfare Foundation senior lecturer at the University of Glasgow.

The session was unusual because it focused on making the decision to euthanize a dog at a no-kill shelter; useful because the problems that McKeegan confronted are at once difficult, often encountered, and yet seldom forthrightly raised at animal welfare training conferences, due to the political and emotional overtones that tend to enter any discussion of euthanasia.

Conferences hosted by traditional animal welfare organizations have often included diagnostic evaluation of health and behavioral reasons that may require euthanasia, technical instruction on how to perform euthanasia with minimal stress for the animal, and counselling for coping with the psychological effects of killing animals. Yet at the point of making a euthanasia decision, shelter personnel have typically been left with simplistic dichotomies, such as maintaining a uniform “no kill” policy versus accepting wholesale the arguments offered by the late Phyllis Wright in her 1967 essay “Why We Must Euthanize.”

Philosophy first

Acknowledging that there may be other equally valid philosophical frameworks for making euthanasia decisions, McKeegan led the ICAWC audience through a model apparently based mostly on the utilitarian arguments of *Animal Liberation* author Peter Singer, who has also written extensively about euthanasia for incurably ill and painfully suffering human beings.

For McKeegan, the choice to euthanize begins long before contemplating the condition of an individual animal. To be resolved first, as the context for making ethically consistent decisions, are such questions as whether animals have moral standing, what interests animals have in life, what human actions toward animals are acceptable or unacceptable, and whether administering a painless death to an animal constitutes doing harm.

“For most of us,” McKeegan said, “the conscious mental experiences of animals lie at the heart of our concern for their welfare. The capacity to feel pleasure and suffering is the basis of moral status. If animals have a mental life and feelings, if they can feel pain, then interests flow from these feelings, such as the interest in avoiding pain. Others,” if behaving ethically, “are obliged to respect such interests.”

Animal interests, McKeegan outlined, include quality of life issues such as alleviating hunger and thirst; fear and distress; pain, injury, and disease; discomfort; and behavioral restriction. Animals have further interests in pursuing pleasure, play, happiness, and the activities specific to their species.

“Animals also have *quantity* of life interests,” McKeegan continued, “with a shortened life normally considered a bad thing compared to an extended life. Can and should we prioritise these interests? I would argue that we can and that quality of life is the most important. This is reflected in animal welfare legislation which only covers quality of life. However, there is lots of evidence that people do value quantity of animal life, such as support for moral vegetarianism, the popularity of animal rehoming centers, and the desire for heroic treatments for companion animals” who might otherwise not survive.

“Do animals matter as much as humans?” McKeegan asked.

Instead of offering a single simple answer, McKeegan presented two common perspectives in animal advocacy and shelter work.

One is that “Animals deserve equal consideration. For example, a cat’s suffering matters as much as a human’s suffering.”

The other is what McKeegan termed a “sliding scale,” whereby “Humans deserve full, equal consideration,” relative to each other, “but other animals deserve consideration in proportion to their cognitive, emotional, and social complexity. For example,” from this point of view, “a monkey’s suffering matters less than a human’s suffering, but more than a rat’s suffering.”

Noted McKeegan, “Sentience does not always relate to moral status—context is important.” A mouse may be considered either vermin, with no moral status; as a laboratory animal, with value for the value the mouse has to humans; or as a pet, whose life has intrinsic value.

“People rate animals as morally more or less important, and therefore more or less worth protecting, according to factors including how useful the animal is, how closely one collaborates with the individual animal, how cute and cuddly the animal is, how harmful the animal can be, and how ‘demonic’ it is perceived to be (including historically). Use of these criteria as a basis for animal protection can be criticized on both scientific and ethical grounds,” McKeegan acknowledged, but societal values must be recognized nonetheless.

The three major ethical frameworks governing the animal/human relationship, McKeegan explained, are contractarian, utilitarian, and “animal rights.” Contractarians hold that “Only humans are morally relevant; animals have no moral status so do not create moral duties.” Utilitarians believe that “animals deserve equal moral consideration,” and that therefore “in deciding what to do, we must consider welfare consequences for animals as well as potential benefits, and try to achieve the greatest good for the greatest number.” The animal rights framework, McKeegan continued, applies fixed ethical rules to human treatment of animals, holding that individual rights cannot be violated to benefit others.

“Hybrid views”

“Most of us hold hybrid views containing elements of each framework,” McKeegan said. “This may also depend on context.”

Most people accept, to varying extent, killing animals for food, pest control, and research. Many accept some forms of hunting, if not all. But acceptance of other reasons for killing animals does not always coincide with accepting euthanasia of companion animals.

While there is wide agreement that animals’ quality of life is important, McKeegan pointed out, and quality of life considerations are enshrined in law, there is no legal protection of an animal’s right to longevity. As to whether death is a harm, McKeegan said, “Death,” as a state of being, “is distinct from dying, which may involve suffering. Death itself precludes all experiences, positive or negative. Death is ordinarily considered to harm humans. But does a painless death harm animals?”

Arguments that administering a painless death does not constitute harming animals include the view that “Our only duty to animals is to ensure they live good lives, as long as those lives last,” that “Animals cannot perceive or anticipate death,” that “Animals don’t have long term plans, hopes or desires that can be thwarted by death,” and that “Animals are replaceable in a way that humans are not.”

Contrary arguments are that “Death forecloses valuable opportunities that continued life would give,” McKeegan continued, noting that this implies greater harm is done by killing younger animals. “Animals have a strong moral claim to continued life, regardless of their ability to perceive death.”

In addition, McKeegan said, “If animals are thought of as replaceable, this may negatively affect the way they are treated.”

The British Veterinary Association, McKeegan pointed out, distinguishes among “Absolutely justified euthanasia,” when there is no better option for the animal; “Contextually justified euthanasia,” when “There is at least one better option, but the circumstances are such that it could not be taken,” leaving euthanasia as the best available option; and “Non-justified euthanasia,” when better alternatives are available.

Real-life case

With the context for making euthanasia decisions established, McKeegan proceeded to reviewing an actual case in which she advised Dogs Trust. The subject, Jasper, was a four-year-old male Staffordshire bull terrier, at the shelter for seven months, friendly toward adult humans but “very aggressive towards other dogs,” McKeegan recalled. “After many appeals, finally a man put in a request to rehome Jasper. A single man in his thirties, the man had previous experience with Staffordshire terriers. He also had a six-year-old daughter, who did not live with him but often visited.

“A meeting was arranged between Jasper and the daughter and it did not go well,” McKeegan recounted. “Jasper showed very obvious signs of aggression. It was clear that the adoption could not go ahead.”

Arguments for euthanizing Jasper included that Jasper presented a danger to children and other dogs; a painless death would not harm

Jasper; Jasper’s quality of life in kennels might be suboptimal; Jasper occupied space at Dogs Trust that could have been occupied by another dog with a better chance to be rehomed; and the shelter’s reputation for safety needed to be protected.

Arguments against euthanizing Jasper included that he had a right to life, was young and healthy, and could perhaps eventually be rehomed and have a good life with someone. A veterinarian would have to do the unpleasant work of euthanasia. The kennel staff were very attached to Jasper. And Dogs Trust’s reputation as a no-kill shelter needed to be protected.

Of the arguments for euthanasia, one represented a societal interest, two represented interests of concern to Jasper, and two represented interests of Dogs Trust.

Of the arguments against euthanasia, three represented interests of the animal, two represented interests of Dogs Trust, and one represented the interest of the veterinarian in not wanting to kill a healthy dog.

“These influences provide arguments on both sides and some are probably more important than others,” McKeegan continued. To make a decision, “We need to *weight* the influences, or at least identify the most important ones.”

Assigning each factor a numerical weight, on a scale of one-to-ten, Dogs Trust added up the scores. The scores tipped against Jasper, 26-22. Jasper was euthanized.

McKeegan advised shelter directors to prepare their euthanasia criteria in advance.

“Ethical reasoning is a skill which can be practiced and improved,” McKeegan concluded. “Reasoning through ethical decisions eliminates guilt, resulting in better decisions and happier decision makers. It generates justifications and arguments which can be discussed with others. But some ethically problematic outcomes are beyond your control,” McKeegan advised. “You can only choose from available options.”

—Merritt Clifton

Battling multiple sclerosis, volunteer rescue driver Nathalie Klinge became street dog population ecologist

BARCELONA, BUCHAREST— “Stray Dog Ecology: Back to the Basics” is for Dutch humane volunteer Nathalie Klinge not just the title of a talk, but a summary of her way of life.

Addressing the 2013 International Companion Animal Welfare Conference, the ninth Klinge has attended but the first at which she has spoken, Klinge brought to her presentation the experience of 13 years on the road in Romania, Bulgaria, and Turkey, observing the lives and sometimes the deaths of street dogs from an actuarial perspective.

Diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 2000, at age 30, Klinge resolved to spend the rest of whatever time she had left to live working for animals. Klinge left her career in the life insurance industry to become a driver for eastern European animal charities, helping to relay dogs to western Europe for adoption.

At first Klinge just drove, looked, and listened. But eventually Klinge realized she was recognizing realities that seemed to elude the credentialed experts, government officials, and directors of animal charities who kept failing to resolve street dog issues.

Neither catch-and-kill nor catch-and-impound animal control was lastingly reducing the numbers of dogs at large—but neither were neuter/return programs that failed to focus their efforts so as to maximize the population

control benefit from each sterilization surgery.

Klinge became an international ambassador for the Foundation for the Protection of Community Dogs, founded by British garment maker Robert Smith.

Initially funding a conventional shelter on the outskirts of Istanbul, where he had garments manufactured, Smith later developed a mega-sized “open shelter” in the same neighborhood. Coming to realize that no shelter could ever be big enough to impound every dog on the streets, Smith moved his manufacturing operations to Romania and made his first large-scale effort to do neuter/return in Campina, encountering conflict with municipal officials who preferred to try to impound all of the strays.

Smith then relocated to Oradea, in far northwestern Romania. There, beginning in 2004, Smith developed the most successful neuter/return program in eastern Europe, the most successful local adoption program, and a 400-dog open shelter, for dogs who could neither be returned to wherever they were captured, nor be adopted into suitable adoptive homes.

(Smith’s own description of his work appears in his commentary on page 4.)

But when political balance of the Oradea city government changed in 2012, the neuter/return program was dismantled in favor of catch-and-kill. The street dog population began

(continued on page 14)

Battling MS, volunteer rescue driver Nathalie Klinge became a street dog population ecologist (from page 13)

to rebound from about 250 back toward the estimated carrying capacity of the habitat of 7,000.

Klinge debuted as a public speaker in October 2010 at a seminar in Sofia called “Implementation of sustainable practice in solving the dog overpopulation in Bulgaria.”

Charged Klinge, detonating controversy in Bulgarian media, “The existing stray dog problem is caused by lack of proper governmental support. The Ecoravnovesie Sofia Municipal Animal Control neutering activities fail because they do not return the dogs to their original community. Ecoravnovesie doesn’t educate children, promote responsible dog care, or offer low cost neutering...From 1998 to 2008 Sofia wasted over four million Euros on dog population management.”

Romania

Klinge spoke about Sofia at ICAWC 2013, pointing out that seven years of intensive culling had reduced the dog population by only 32%. But Klinge centered her discussion on Romania, which may have more animal charities than the rest of eastern Europe combined, has received more western humane investment, and yet is commonly believed to have made little progress toward reducing the largest stray dog population in Europe.

First Klinge outlined the reasons why municipal governments and most of the public want the stray dog population to be eliminated. These include avoiding road accidents, reducing barking and fecal deposits, controlling zoonotic diseases (especially rabies), avoiding bites, protecting livestock, and protecting wildlife. Also, residents and visitors dislike seeing hungry dogs and dead dogs.

Animal advocates are concerned that stray dogs may be starving, diseased, suffering from human abuse and untreated injuries, and

subjected to cruel control measures.

Municipal governments and the public tend to be concerned that stray dogs exist at all, Klinge explained, while animal advocates are concerned chiefly about the dogs’ quality of life. This frequently leads to people involved in dog population control talking past each other, advancing proposed solutions which seem to meet their own interests without meeting the concerns of other stakeholders.

Experts in dog population management distinguish among free-roaming dogs who have homes, abandoned dogs, “community” dogs, feral dogs, and family dogs who are kept at home, Klinge continued, but reality is that all of these categories of dog may have approximately equal roles in filling the carrying capacity of the habitat. For example, the dog who is fed at home and never goes out on the street may nonetheless become table scraps which would otherwise be discarded to become part of the sustenance of street dogs.

Only when the carrying capacity of the habitat for dogs is fully reached, Klinge demonstrated with diagrams, will the dog population stabilize and drop. Improved sanitation and competition from other scavenging species may reduce the carrying capacity for dogs. Sterilization slows the rate at which dogs can reoccupy habitat vacated by culling or impounding dogs, and buys time to reduce carrying capacity; but abruptly removing dogs altogether, whether by culling or impoundment, just creates a vacuum that attracts dogs from elsewhere to take advantage of whatever food sources remain.

Both catch-and-kill and catch-and-kennel policies fail, Klinge explained, because they tend to capture the friendliest and least problematic dogs, leaving the most evasive to refill the habitat. Either killing the dogs or

impounding them in ever-growing canine concentration camps is inhumane, ineffective, and destabilizes the street dog population, causing more dogs to migrate from place to place, increasing nuisance to the public and the risk of spreading disease.

But scattered neuter/return programs also fail, Klinge emphasized, because if they do not sterilize at least 70% of the dog population, they achieve no visible reduction in the numbers of free-roaming dogs, and amount to merely choosing that the most evasive dogs will reproduce. Though scattered neuter/return programs are perceived as humane, superficially satisfying the concerns of people who care about animals, they fail to resolve public complaints about the numbers and behavior of dogs and provide no practical evidence that neuter/return works. This eventually enables politicians to revert to pursuing catch-and-kill or catch-and-kennel, either of which can become a pretext for putting friends and relatives on the public payroll.

Based on the Oradea experience, Klinge estimated that in a city of 200,000 people, with 8,000 dogs, or one for every 25 people, the cost of catch-and-kill projected over 10 years at current municipal operating costs would be about 1.8 million euros, and would achieve a net population reduction of only about 25%. An effectively targeted, sustained neuter/return program would cost only about 995,000 euros over the same 10 years, projecting from the cost of the Oradea program over the seven years it was sustained.

The initial outlay for either approach would be similar—but catch-and-kill would cost the same amount every year, while an effective neuter/return program would cost less each year, and would level off after eight years at an annual outlay of about 20% of the cost of catch-and-kill.

—Merritt Clifton

What do horses & donkeys tell us about dogs in Romania?

Two days after Dutch animal advocate and rescuer Nathalie Klinge addressed the ICAWC conference in Barcelona about her observations of dog population control in Romania, I tested her findings by doing 1,500 kilometers of dog-censusing in Romania myself.

I covered a route from Bucharest to Cernavoda and Medgedea, by way of Brasov, Galati, Braila, and many smaller communities in southeastern Romania. Along the way I visited five animal shelters operated by nonprofit organizations, two large municipal shelters, three mostly vacant boarding kennels formerly used as dog pounds, and a zoo that temporarily housed dogs from the surrounding rural area.

I had previously visited three of the five nonprofit shelters and both large municipal shelters in 2004 and 2010, so could compare populations and conditions over time.

As a benchmark for measuring changes in the carrying capacity of the Romanian habitat for dogs, I looked at the horse and donkey population, for which annual counts are published by the United Nations Food & Agricultural Organization. The horse and donkey population does not have any discernible relationship to the dog population in developed nations, where equines are kept mainly for recreational use and dogs are kept mainly as pets. In nations where horses and donkeys are still heavily used for work, however, and most dogs are free-roaming, the dog population and the numbers of working equines are integrally related. Dung from working equines is a filler food source for street dogs. Street dogs also get much of their

protein by hunting rodents who feed on grain stored for horses and undigested grain in dung. In addition, dogs may consume dead horses.

Finally, as communities become more mechanized, roadkills of dogs soar, and the street dog population declines, even as greater affluence enables more people to keep dogs as pets.

Romania at the fall of Communism in 1990 had about 705,000 working equines and probably about 2.9 million dogs, despite government culling. Among the first effects of increasing entrepreneurship post-Communism was that the working equine population jumped to 897,000 by 2001, peaking at 925,000 in 2004. By then the societal transition from equine to automotive transport was well underway, and Romania became a leading exporter of horses for slaughter in western Europe. Romania had only 611,000 working equines by the end of 2011, the most recent year for which the FAO has data.

The Romanian dog population rose to 3.7 million by 2001, parallel to the rising numbers of working equines, despite sporadic culling. The dog population dipped to 3.2 million after Vier Pforten, the Brigitte Bardot Foundation, and other western charities introduced high-volume sterilization between 2001 and 2004, and appears to have fallen to 2.3 million by the end of 2006.

In 2007 Romania outlawed killing impounded dogs. Culling had achieved little toward reducing the street dog population, but had limited the numbers in pounds. Post-2007, the impounded dog population rose to about 20% of all the dogs in Romania—as many as 500,000—and the total dog population is now about 2.7 million.

Similar to U.S. in 1950

Currently Romania has about 4.1 dogs for every equine, and one car per 7.4 people, with urban areas still heavily reliant on public transit. This indicates that the habitat niche for street dogs in Romania today is about the same as it was in the U.S. circa 1950.

The U.S. in 1950 had 3.9 dogs for every equine, according research done by National Family Opinion Survey founders Howard and Clara Trumbull. The U.S. in 1950 had one car per 3.9 people, with use of public transit in steep decline. By 1960 the numbers of cars in the U.S. would triple, equines would all but vanish from farming and transport use, and street dogs would all but disappear as well.

Romania now has about five dogs for every 40 people, including one pet, one shelter dog, and three strays. The U.S. in 1950 had about eight dogs for every 40 people, with about five pets or working dogs and three strays. The resident shelter dog population was negligible, but the U.S. killed about three dogs for every 40 people. The U.S. still had about eight dogs for every 40 people in 1960, but by 1960 all eight of those dogs were pets or working dogs.

Klinge was correct that neither culling nor impounding nor scattered sterilization programs have had any lasting effect in Romania, much as they had little effect in the U.S., where the numbers of impounded dogs began to drop only after the introduction of large-scale sterilization programs focused on specific cities.

But there have been significant changes over the past decade in the distribution of Romanian dogs. In 2004, and probably historically, dogs congregated around inner city marketplaces, parks, and residential refuse disposal areas—just as researcher Alan Beck found that about 80% of the free-roaming dogs did in the U.S. circa 40 years ago. Some Romanian dogs still congregate in such areas, but as traffic has increased and sanitation has improved, most of the free-roaming dog population has either migrated to the outskirts of cities or has been dumped there—and, if dumped, the dogs have chosen not to make their way back to their former habitat.

In all five cities where I counted dogs in October 2013, about a third of the free-roaming dogs were not only at the outskirts of development, but were within a kilometer of a shelter, perhaps attracted by the barking of dogs who were being fed. More dogs were to be seen on the road approaching each shelter, without exception, than anywhere in the interior of any of the cities.

Observed roadkill mortality, projected over a full year, appeared to be so high as to equal the total dog population at any given time. But the roadkills are offset by a continuing high birth rate.

Street dog & feral cat population modeling: catch & kill vs. TNR

Nathalie Klinge offered the 2013 International Companion Animal Welfare Conference a model of street dog population management based on real-life experience in Romania that paralleled a model I have used for about 15 years to project the probable outcomes of neuter/return programs for either street dogs or feral cats in many different communities and parts of the world.

Assuming a situation in which no newcomer dogs or cats can enter a specific habitat occupied by 100 street dogs or feral cats, the first column below shows the expected population changes if 70% of the animals are killed each year. The second column shows the expected changes if 70% are sterilized in a one-time sweep, with no follow-up. The third column shows what happens if 70% of the animals are sterilized each and every year.

Each model presumes 1.5 surviving offspring per surviving adult of either gender per year, and 25% mortality among the adult animals. Street dogs on average have fewer but larger litters than feral cats, and more pups survive, so that the net rate of population increase per year is roughly the same for either dogs or cats.

| | | Kill 70% | 70% s/n once | 70% s/n |
|---------|----|----------|--------------|---------|
| Start | | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Year 1 | 1 | 25 | 77 | 76 |
| Year 2 | 2 | 28 | 63 | 63 |
| Year 3 | 3 | 32 | 56 | 49 |
| Year 4 | 4 | 36 | 51 | 41 |
| Year 5 | 5 | 41 | 48 | 31 |
| Year 6 | 6 | 46 | 44 | 24 |
| Year 7 | 7 | 52 | 45 | 18 |
| Year 8 | 8 | 59 | 46 | 9 |
| Year 9 | 9 | 66 | 49 | 6 |
| Year 10 | 10 | 74 | 55 | 2 |
| Year 11 | 11 | 83 | 60 | 1 |
| Year 12 | 12 | 93 | 67 | — |
| Year 13 | 13 | 105 | 74 | — |
| Year 14 | 14 | 118 | 84 | — |
| Year 15 | 15 | 133 | 95 | — |
| Year 16 | 16 | 150 | 107 | — |

The population in the killing model takes 13 years to rebound, but begins rebounding immediately.

The population in the one-time sterilization sweep model declines until the number of reproducing animals exceeds the number of survivors in the treated population. Then the population recovers. However, because the breeding portion of the population for several years remained less than was needed to replace mortality, the dog or cat population in the one-time sterilization sweep model never catches up to the rate of population growth in the killing model.

The third column above shows what happens if the sterilization rate is kept at 70% by sustaining the program year after year.

In real life, immigration of animals facilitates faster population recoveries, but the trends are similar, just over a shorter time span. Taking this into account, Klinge compressed her model into an eight-year time frame, instead of the 16-year time frame above, and did not project that the street dog population could ever be reduced to zero.

—Merritt Clifton

All five nonprofit shelters that I visited are sterilizing significantly more dogs each year than they impound—but not enough, after losses of sterilized dogs to roadkill, to reach the 70% level necessary to stabilize the dog population of their respective cities.

I found two hints that roadkills are not the only factor driving dogs out of Romanian inner cities. Another factor may be more aggressive rodent control, including extensive use of animal-proof dumpsters, becoming standard throughout Europe.

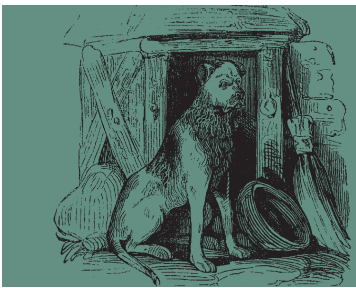
As of 2004, the interiors of many the same cities that I visited in 2013 hosted spectacular numbers of hawks and owls, who could be seen hunting mice and rats at dawn, in competition with street dogs. Urban birds of prey in 2013 appeared to be far fewer—although birds of prey are still easily seen in the rural Danube delta region, long known as a birding hotspot.

Usually, as the numbers of free-roaming dogs in a habitat decline, the numbers of cats tend to increase, a trend that I have seen everywhere else that I have extensively counted animals. In Romania, though, the ratio of cats to dogs appears to have slipped from about one cat for every 25 dogs in 2004 to only one cat for every 33 dogs in 2013. Only one shelter I visited had many cats in custody. Three others had nearly empty cat facilities.

—Merritt Clifton



Ecocal #1 in Galati is typical of Romanian municipal pounds. (Merritt Clifton)



The Watchdog

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

Attempt to make Delaware a no-kill state fails with dissolution of Safe Haven

GEORGETOWN—A nationally heralded attempt to make Delaware a no-kill state ended ignominiously on November 14, 2013 with the closure of the Safe Haven no-kill shelter in Georgetown, the euthanasia of 19 pit bulls who flunked behavioral screening, and the evacuation of 22 more dogs, mostly pit bulls and pit mixes, by the American SPCA.

The Safe Haven shelter just 17 months earlier had taken over the biggest animal control contract in Delaware, accounting for more than half of the total impoundments and killing in the state.

“We were contacted in October by Safe Haven to help care for dogs put in jeopardy by the facility’s imminent closing,” ASPCA president Matt Bershadker told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “We addressed basic needs that were not being met, including feeding and providing clean water, cleaning cages, and exercising the dogs. We also evaluated each of the 105 dogs so that Safe Haven’s board of directors could make educated and informed decisions about their placement options, or lack thereof. Importantly, these animals and more had been available for adoption from Safe Haven for the past year and a half.

“With help from Delaware’s sheltering and rescue community,” Bershadker said, “the ASPCA assisted in placing 86 dogs through adoption and relocation to other shelters and rescue groups. Some dogs had behavioral issues so severe, and so potentially dangerous to other animals and humans, that adoption was simply not an option. Therefore 19 were euthanized. As the owner of these animals, Safe Haven was responsible for the ultimate decisions regarding each dog. It was their responsibility to make the right decisions, and they did.

Afterward, said Bershadker, “Two dogs were adopted directly from the facility. The remaining 22 dogs were transported to shelters and rescue groups throughout Delaware, and in Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire, and New Jersey, where they can be housed, cared for, and eventually be made available for adoption.”

Three pit bull rescuers who tried to adopt some of the dogs who were euthanized said they were turned away by police. Delaware State Police master corporal Gary Fournier told media that the ASPCA called them to keep the peace.

2010 law boosted no-kill hopes

On July 24, 2010 Delaware Governor Jack Markell endorsed into law the Delaware Companion Animal Protection Act. Creating a set of operating standards for animal shelters, the act was authored by state senate majority leader Patricia Blevins of Elsmere and pushed through the state house of representatives by Melanie L. George of Bear. The Companion Animal Protection Act established a minimum 72-hour holding time for impounded animals, required that photos of impounded animals be posted on websites, and obliged shelters to submit to the state agriculture department annual reports detailing their animal intake, numbers of animals killed by species, and numbers of animals sterilized, lost or stolen, returned to homes, and transferred to other agencies.

The Delaware Companion Animal Protection Act was hailed by Nathan Winograd, founder of the No Kill Advocacy Center in Oakland, California, as “The most sweeping, progressive companion animal protection legislation in the United States. The law was modeled on the No Kill Advocacy Center’s Companion Animal Protection Act,” Winograd blogged.

The CAPA draft promoted by the No Kill Advocacy Center evolved out of the 1998 California legislation called the Hayden Act, drafted by Winograd when he was director of law and advocacy for the San Francisco SPCA. Never fully funded or implemented and now suspended, the Hayden Act required California animal control shelters to make healthy animals available to rescue groups, regardless of whether the animals were deemed adoptable.

Winograd credits the Hayden Act with a substantial role in reducing shelter killing in California from 588,000 in 1997 to 410,739 in 2012. However, as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** spotlighted in April 1993, many California animal control shelters had already been partnering with nonprofit agencies to rehome animals in rapidly increasing numbers for at least 10 years before the passage of the Hayden Act. In addition, the annual volume of shelter killing in California had already been falling for 25 years.

The Hayden Act did not require nonprofit shelters to meet any animal care inspection standards before receiving animals from animal control agencies. This

weakness of the Hayden Act was exposed when the operators of three California “no-kill” rescue networks were convicted of running dogfighting rings soon after it passed. At least 20 nonprofit “no kill” animal shelters and rescues in California have been successfully prosecuted for mass neglect just since 2010.

Meanwhile, the No Kill Advocacy Center promoted a similar bill in New York state in 2010 and 2011 called Oreo’s Law, after a pit bull who was thrown from a building in New York City, rehabilitated by the ASPCA, and then eventually euthanized by the ASPCA after intensive attempted behavioral intervention failed to remediate a tendency to attack his trainers without warning or provocation. Oreo became a cause célèbre for the No Kill Advocacy Center and pit bull advocates, but Oreo’s Law was almost unanimously opposed by New York state humane societies and animal control agencies, and was also influentially opposed by pro-pit bull and pro-no kill Change.org senior campaigner Stephanie Feldstein.

“Like Oreo’s Law sought to do,” Winograd blogged, “the Delaware Companion Animal Protection Act mandates collaboration between shelters and rescue groups. A shelter cannot kill an animal if a rescue group is willing to save that animal’s life. But that is just the beginning. It also makes convenience killing illegal—shelters can no longer kill an animal when there are available cages, or the animals can share a cage or kennel with another one.”

The Delaware Companion Animal Protection Act was endorsed not only by the No Kill Advocacy Center, but also by all four major nonprofit animal sheltering organizations then operating in the state, and by Safe Haven, whose \$4.1 million shelter was then under construction on a 13-acre site.

Animal control killing in Delaware had dropped from 13,500 in 2005, a rate of 15.8 animals per 1,000 human residents, to 4,929 in 2011, a rate of 5.4 per 1,000 people. Total animal control intake had dropped to 15,388.

Safe Haven won & lost contract

The Delaware Humane Association and Faithful Friends, both of Wilmington, were already no-kill, as was Safe Haven, which had originated as a fostering network. The Delaware SPCA, with shelters in Stanton and Georgetown, had announced intent to go no-kill in 2009, but had agreed to continue to house animals for the city of Wilmington, as it had since 1892, until mid-2012. When Wilmington was unable to find another animal control housing contractor by mid-2012, the \$345,000-a-year contract was extended to mid-2013.

The Kent County SPCA, of Camden, the last open-admission animal shelter left in Delaware, held the animal control sheltering contracts for all three Delaware counties. But Safe Haven, a month after opening in mid-2012, won the Kent County contract with a bid of \$868,000, reportedly about \$130,000 more per year than the Kent County SPCA had received.

Safe Haven supporters believed that they could increase dog adoptions and the use of neuter/return feral cat population control enough to permit doing animal control on a no-kill basis.

Safe Haven already provided food for about 600 cats in managed colonies, executive director Anne Gryczon told James Fisher of *Delaware OnLine*. But the Kent County SPCA received about 7,000 cats per year, of whom nearly half were killed. To accommodate an additional 3,500 cats in neuter/return programs would have required increasing the Safe Haven neuter/return outreach effort almost sixfold.

To increase adoptions enough to rehome all incoming dogs, Safe Haven would have had to achieve a higher dog adoption rate per 1,000 people in Delaware, above 10, than any city or state ever has. And that would have had to be accomplished irrespective of whatever behavioral or physical problems the dogs had.

Executive director Gryczon had in 2005 left the Humane Society of Henderson County under fire from PETA over alleged overcrowding. The Safe Haven debacle seemed to follow much the same script.

“In the first six months, animal control officers brought in 140 dogs and Safe Haven just couldn’t keep up,” reported Shirley Min of *NewsWorks*. As fundraising and adoptions fell far short of hopes, overcrowding at the shelter increased, and the Safe Haven board and staff turned over repeatedly. Gryczon was replaced by Cindy Woods; Woods was replaced by Bob Burakiewicz.

“Board member Rick Kirchhoff said the shelter was not prepared for the influx of animals and the associated costs,” wrote Rachel Swick Mavity of the *Cape Gazette*. “When the shelter opened last year,” Mavity continued, “it received an \$800,000 donation from the estate of a no-kill supporter. Kirchhoff said that

an unnamed lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserve told the FBI he had heard about the alleged plot from an unidentified source who claimed to have links to PETA.

The investigation of PETA came four years before five people were killed and 17 others fell ill in October 2001 after opening anthrax-filled envelopes. The FBI in August 2008 identified U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases anthrax researcher Bruce E. Ivins as the probable sender of the envelopes. Ivins, 62, had committed suicide on July 29, 2008, after learning he was likely to be indicted for murder.

FBI probed PETA over alleged anthrax plot

NORFOLK—Documents received by PETA in February 2013 through a Freedom of Information Act request show that the FBI investigated the organization in 1997-1998 for allegedly plotting to release anthrax at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases in Fort Detrick, Maryland.

Norfolk *Virginian-Pilot* reporter Corinne Reilly obtained copies of the FBI documents from PETA after PETA founder Ingrid Newkirk mentioned the investigation in a letter published in the November 2013 edition of *Harper’s* magazine. The investigation apparently began, Reilly wrote, after

money paid for the first year of operation, but is now gone.”

“We are paying a lot to kennels for dogs that we don’t have space for at the shelter,” admitted newly appointed board member Rich Garrett. “We are up against a big challenge to keep the doors open and the lights on.”

Safe Haven lost the Kent County animal control contract on June 30, 2013. “Prior to making a motion to cancel the contract,” effective September 30, 2013, “Kent County Levy Court commissioner Eric Buckson told Safe Haven representatives he thinks the problem is their business model,” wrote *Sussex Countian* reporter Sarah Lake Rayne.

“It doesn’t work. It’s not going to work. The numbers don’t lie. You have to acknowledge it’s not going to add up,” Buckson told his fellow commissioners. “You can’t plan a budget around what you hope will come in.”

Continued Rayne, “According to Dave Hughes, a long-time volunteer and husband of board member Rita Hughes, there are currently about 170 dogs in the shelter’s care, most of them pit bulls and almost all of them were picked up by dog control in Kent County. Hughes also said after the meeting that Safe Haven’s 86 cats are gone, as the shelter’s former interim director Cindy Woods moved them all to a new location on Saturday night without notifying the board. Hughes said Woods also fired seven employees under the assumption they would all receive unemployment. Hughes said Woods quit the next day and some of the fired employees have returned to work.”

The Kent County SPCA was hired to resume doing animal control housing for Kent County, effective October 1, 2013, but Safe Haven notified county administrator Mike Petit de Mange at 3:30 in the afternoon on September 19 that it would not accept any more dogs after 4:30 that day.

“There needed to be an immediate change so there wasn’t a gap in dog control service, so we called the KC/SPCA, which wasn’t supposed to start for more than a week,” Petit de Mange told Ashton Brown of the *Delaware State News*.

Noted Brown, “Safe Haven’s dog control contract specified a monthly payment of more than \$72,000, paid at the start of every month, so Safe Haven had already been paid for September. When the contract was terminated, about \$24,000 should have remained. Safe Haven did not report if there was any money from the contract remaining.

“We paid them for a full month of services which we didn’t receive. It remains to be dealt with, but there are legal courses of action to solve these problems,” Petit de Mange told Brown.

“They actually carried out the contract longer than I expected,” said KC/SPCA executive director Kevin Usilton. “I knew this was coming. The millions of dollars spent on this shelter could have saved thousands of animals.”

The Safe Haven board by the end was down to just two members, Lynn Lofthouse and Beth West, who become board president just a month earlier.

“We’re very sad,” West told Shirley Min of *NewsWorks*. “It was very sad to let the employees go because they were so dedicated to what they were doing. A lot of the donations dried up with all the bad publicity that we got,” West said, “and we had so many dogs in here it was unbelievable. A whole series of factors ultimately led to this, but it’s just not feasible to continue.”

Wilmington left scrambling

The city of Wilmington, meanwhile, was to have taken over animal control duties from the Delaware SPCA on July 1, 2013, but at the last minute persuaded the Delaware SPCA to remain on the job for another six months. Delaware SPCA executive director Al Mollica told Andrew Staub of the *Wilmington News Journal* that the charity would lose money on the deal. Mollica told Staub that the Delaware SPCA could house 80 to 90 dogs at a time, and that more than 90% of the dogs filling that space were pit bulls impounded from Wilmington, who would remain at the shelter for an average of 75 to 80 days, at average cost of about \$1,200 apiece.

“John Matlusky, chief of staff to Mayor Dennis P. Williams, said the city will begin taking over enforcement duties in September and hopes to have a temporary shelter set up by the start of 2014,” wrote Staub. The city actually began taking calls to animal control on November 1, 2013.

Marian’s Dream chief executive Esther Mechler, who founded Spay USA in 1990, was a close observer of the Safe Haven attempt to lead Delaware to no-kill animal control.

“The no-kill movement has denied the existence of overpopulation and downplayed the importance of prevention of unwanted litters, focusing all their attention on adoptions,” Mechler told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “Anyone who wants to get to true no-kill, or as close as is feasible, should watch what is happening in Delaware.”

—Merritt Clifton

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Ignoring Nature No More: *The Case for Compassionate Conservation*
Edited by Marc Bekoff

The University of Chicago Press, Ltd. (427 East 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637), 2013.
456 pages. Paperback \$38.00. Kindle \$19.89.



When I was a child, the Earth seemed huge and full of exciting places where wild animals roamed, where as yet no human had set foot. There were only three billion of us back then. Feeding us all seemed to be the main problem.

Our population has now more than doubled, and all seven billion of us want a lot more than just adequate food. The exciting places of my childhood reveries are now tiny corners. The animals there are in dire straits. “Simply put, there are too many of us,” writes Marc Bekoff in his introduction to *Ignoring Nature No More*, “and we overconsume in the most selfish and unjust ways, influencing both nonhumans and humans.”

As concern for our exhaustible planet has grown, so have the divides among those who see nature as a mere provider of services to humans; those who see ecosystems, populations, and species as things with value in their own right; and those who focus on the rights and/or welfare of individual animals.

Bekoff in *Ignoring Nature No More* has gathered 26 essay by scientists from all these factions and from many fields, including biology, psychology, sociology, social work, economics, political science, and philosophy. As we look for solutions, Bekoff argues, we must include compassion for the animals concerned—not just as populations and species, but also as individuals.

The first section of the book explores ethics. Eileen Crist’s “Ecocide and the Extinction of Animal Minds” takes us through 17th century philosopher Rene Descartes’s supercilious view of animals as mere machines, and the disastrous consequences this has had for animals. Crist rebuts Descartes with strong arguments for regarding animals as “acting meaningfully,” with qualities of what philosophers call “agency.” Crist’s essay illustrates a paradigm shift that Bekoff, primatologist Jane Goodall, psychologist Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson and others have been arguing for decades, advancing some of the less noticed contentions of Charles Darwin. It is not the scientist who claims animals have thoughts and feelings who is non-scientific, in the Darwinian view, amplified by Crist, but rather those who claim otherwise.

“Talking About Bushmeat,” by Dale Peterson, takes us on a stroll through an African bushmeat market, analyzes how many humans bushmeat could sustainably support, and discusses the ethics of eating animals who are “significantly aware or [have] a clear psychological presence.” Peterson refuses to eat them.

Responding to the reproach that he is a rich westerner criticizing the African poor, Peterson makes the point that the

bushmeat industry has become commercialized and no longer serves the ordinary African. Rather, the bushmeat industry is removing animals from local peoples who subsisted modestly on them for millennia, in order to cater to urban elites with a hankering for nostalgic luxury food.

“This reverse Robin Hood scheme—stealing subsistence wealth from the rural poor to give monetary wealth to the urban elite—is nowhere more obvious than among the most dispossessed of all, the forest specialists sometimes known as pygmies,” Peterson says. Peterson describes how pygmies starve in their villages as professional traders sell chimp hands and heads in cities for up to \$5 per kilo (2.5 times the average daily income in central Africa).

“Choice, not hunger, sustains the bushmeat industry,” Peterson writes. He concludes that giving people some other way to earn a living is the only solution that will really work for the animals concerned.

How conservation works

Part II of *Ignoring Nature No More* discusses how conservation works in practice. There are detailed examples of how removing or adding one species to an ecosystem can result in a cascade of unintended consequences. One essay explains how non-lethal coyote control reduced predation on livestock without poisoning the environment. Another argues that it is essential to understand the social structure and individual personality traits of animals if reintroduction or translocation projects are to be successful. Other essays compare the effects of human hunting on animal populations to the effects of predation by wolves, and on a broader scale, discuss the evolutionary impact on wildlife of human hunting preference.

Phillip J. Seddon and Yolanda van Heezik discuss what they call the “shifting baseline syndrome” as an explanation for public indifference to the loss of biodiversity. “We now realize that the environment encountered in childhood becomes a baseline against which future degradation is assessed,” they write. “This shifting baseline syndrome leads to a ratcheting down of expectations as people don’t realize what has been lost but accept the highly modified and depauperate environment that surrounds them as normal.” Seddon and van Heezik argue for wildlife reintroduction programs, but favor a shift in the focus of conservation programs from protecting large charismatic species to protecting keystone species, including honeybees and beaver. At the same time, Seddon and van Heezik remind us that we must

accept inhabiting a human-modified world, that there can be no return to an imagined pre-human pristine state.

Sarah B. King expands on the shifting baseline syndrome in her piece, commenting that “The current generation of young scientists has been referred to as ‘afraid of nature.’ Due to their being brought up in an environment where most play was indoors, they have had little exposure to wilderness, and so perhaps they have a magnified view of its inherent risks.” King says we need to revive direct field observation, in place of addiction to the use of collar tracking and trail cameras, which capture only geographical movement, not fine details of behavior. King moves to the concrete, contrasting failed and successful reintroduction projects for wolves and for Przewalski’s horses. Successes came only after scientists accepted the need to observe individual animals and their personal narratives, and to understand subtle behaviors such as mate choice, dispersal, and the social structure of groups.

Liv Baker picks up on this thread in “Why Individuals Matter.” There is a reason why natural selection has given animals individual personalities. Since affective states and learning both influence an animal’s behavior, individual personalities and narratives have survival consequences. Baker writes, “Mortality, breeding, dispersal and partner preference, as well as disease risk and vulnerability to parasites, are correlated with individual personality differences. The low success rates of reintroduction projects have likely been shaped by a lack of attention to individuals.” Baker gives the examples of how individual personality differences made the difference in actual animal reintroductions.

Part III of *Ignoring Nature No More* covers economics and politics; Part IV the human dimensions of psychology, social justice, empathy and compassion for animals; and Part V how local culture, religion, and spirituality have affected human dealings with wildlife in various countries.

All are rich in insight and detail. All of the authors display a level of intellectual integrity that springs, methinks, from genuine concern for combining preservation of biodiversity on our planet with compassion for the animals who live here too. The authors appeal to the best in us without being soft on our kind, and there is nary a sign of the political correctness (amounting to outright dishonesty) that is rife in so many other writings on animals.

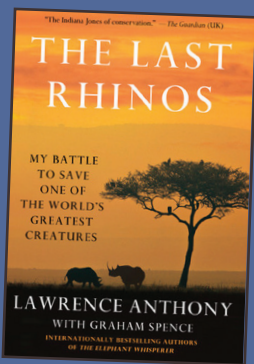
—Alexandra Semyonova

The Last Rhinos: *My Battle to Save One of the World’s Greatest Treasures*
by Lawrence Anthony with Graham Spence

Thomas Dunne Books, c/o St. Martin’s Griffin (175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010), 2012.
333 pages, paperback. \$16.99.

Kony’s Ivory: *How Elephant Poaching in Congo Helps Support the Lord’s Resistance Army*
by Kasper Agger and Jonathan Hutson

Co-produced by the Enough Project, The Resolve, Invisible Children, & the Satellite Sentinel Project (with DigitalGlobe), January 2013.
16 pages. Free download from Enough, 1333 H St. NW, 10th floor, Washington, DC 20005; <www.enoughproject.org>.



The Last Rhinos, by the late South African conservationist Lawrence Anthony and his brother-in-law Graham Spence, and *Kony’s Ivory*, by Enough Project staff members Kasper Agger and Jonathan Hutson, offer superficially opposite perspectives on the role of the Lord’s Resistance Army in poaching, particularly of elephants for ivory, in Garamba National Park in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

But perhaps these opposing views can be reconciled.

Anthony, who died on March 2, 2012, soon after completing *The Last Rhinos*, believed that the LRC had legitimate grievances against the several African national governments and international forces they are fighting. He argued in *The Last Rhinos* that all sides in the 15-year-old conflict are culpable for atrocities including the recruitment and use of child soldiers and sex slaves, that the LRC genuinely wanted peace but had good reason to not trust their foes, and that

the LRC could become a key ally in the effort to save the Garamba National Park wildlife—especially northern white rhinos. Barely surviving when Anthony began negotiations with the LRC in 2006, northern white rhinos are now officially extinct in the wild, surviving only in captivity.

Counter Kasper Agger and Jonathan Hutson, “The LRA is now using elephant poaching as a means to sustain itself. LRA leader Joseph Kony—wanted by the International Criminal Court for war crimes and crimes against humanity—has ordered his fighters to bring him elephant tusks. Eyewitnesses report that the LRA trades tusks for much-needed resources such as food, weapons and ammunition, and other supplies.”

Both perspectives may be accurate. Anthony approached the LRA at a time when a ceasefire was in effect, the LRA had been encamped for long enough in relatively secure locations to support itself by growing crops, and

Kony’s second-in-command was Vincent Otti, whom Anthony found to be sympathetic toward wildlife. Anthony never met Kony. Anthony brokered a deal with Otti that he hoped would save the northern white rhino and various other species, and hoped would become the framework for peace in the Garama region, too.

But Anthony also encountered a mysterious rumor that he was expected to deliver \$500,000 in cash to Otti. This became part of his discussion with Otti only when Otti asked Anthony if he had the money. Otti apparently was not actually expecting the money, and did not mention it again when Anthony explained that he knew nothing about it and had no access to such a large sum anyway.

Soon after Anthony and Otti reached agreement, and Anthony was assured that Kony would support it, Kony captured Otti—who was supposedly his oldest friend—and had him shot.

It is plausible that Kony already had

in mind supporting his continued insurrection through poaching, and planted the rumor about the \$500,000 as a pretext to kill Otti, lest Otti’s negotiations with Anthony lead to a peace settlement which would depose Kony, or at least weaken his position.

Anthony acknowledged that he never really knew what happened, or why.

Anthony’s mission to Garamba came soon after the adventures that he and Spence recounted in their first collaboration, *Babylon’s Ark: The Incredible Wartime Rescue of the Baghdad Zoo* (2007). Anthony was already struggling to prevent rhino poaching at the 5,000-acre Thula Thula wildlife reserve in Zululand when he journeyed to Garamba, and was again fully preoccupied with battling poachers, along with trying to prevent government elephant culls at Kruger National Park, by the time his deal with Otti fell apart. *The Last Rhinos* brackets the Garamba saga with episodes from the anti-poaching efforts at Thula Thula.

The Last Rhinos has been criticized for alleged lack of focus, and for meandering away from animal issues into regional politics, but such criticisms miss Anthony’s thesis, also expressed in *Babylon’s Ark*, that while wildlife perhaps cannot be saved without solving issues of sociopolitical and economic justice, mutual concern about animals can sometimes bring warring factions to agreements which might, with good faith effort, lead to solving the apparently intractable big problems. This argument would have been stronger if the deals Anthony brokered in both Iraq and the DRC had not quickly fallen apart when he left.

—Merritt Clifton

A Man of His Own by Susan Wilson

St. Martin’s Press (175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010), 2013. 358 pages, hardcover. \$24.99.



A Man of His Own is a novel based on the origins of the U.S. Army K-9 program during World War II.

The original purpose of the “Dogs for Defense” program, as it was originally called when begun in 1942, appears to have been to increase the feeling of U.S. civilians that they were participating usefully in the war effort by asking them to volunteer their dogs for military duty.

At the same time, conscripting dogs was expected to reduce grumbling about dogs getting meat scraps while meat was rationed. Britain had already addressed an anticipated critical shortage of pet food by killing as many as 750,000 dogs and cats in 1939-1940, against the opposition of the Royal SPCA, People’s Dispensary for Sick Animals, Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, and the National Ca-

nine Defence League, now called Dogs Trust.

At first the U.S. Army did not really know what to do with all of the dogs who were offered for service. Many were put through basic obedience trials, given a biscuit, and sent back home. But eventually many German shepherds, Labrador retrievers, collies, and mixed breeds of similar conformation were extensively used for scouting, guard work, and carrying messages. (Contrary to current myth, bully breeds were not used.)

A Man of His Own begins with minor league baseball player Rick Stanton going to war, leaving behind his new bride Francesca and Pax, a stray German shepherd puppy. Pax becomes a steady source of comfort and support to Francesca, but eventually she enlists him in “Dogs for Defense.” Pax is trained by Keller Nicholson, an orphan who has had multiple

homes, and serves with Nicholson in combat.

Gravely injured, Stanton comes home paralyzed and emotionally broken. Pax is returned after the war to the Stanton family, but Nicholson also wants him. Eventually Francesca invites Nicholson to moves in to help her care for Stanton, who is confined to a wheelchair and rarely leaves his room.

A Man of His Own has been critically acclaimed, but to me the true story of “Dogs for Defense” was more interesting, detailed in *Loyal Forces: The American Animals of World War II*, by Toni M. Kiser & Lindsey F. Barnes.

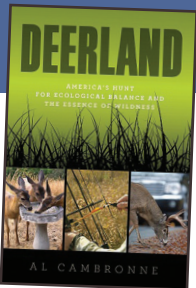
The sad story of British dogs during World War II is detailed in *Bonzo’s War: Animals Under Fire 1939-1945*, by Clare Campbell.

—Debra J. White

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

Deerland: America's Hunt for Ecological Balance & the Essence of Wilderness

by Al Cambronne • Lyons Press (246 Goose Lane, Guilford, CT 06437), 2013. 263 pages, paperback. \$18.95.



Opens Al Cambronne, “We live in Deerland. The U.S. now has over 30 million deer, a hundred times more than a century ago. They routinely disrupt entire ecosystems. They ravage our gardens and suburban landscaping, and every year they kill and injure hundreds of us on our highways...Still, deer are magical. Their mere existence makes the woods feel wilder. They signify far more to us than just meat, antlers, or a graceful, mysterious creature slipping through the shadows...We commute farther and borrow more so that we can live beside them. If money remains, we buy vacation homes where we’ll see even more of them. A few of us happily spend two or three years’ salary for a small piece of untillable land on which we can hunt them...Regardless of how you may feel about hunting, in many parts of America we now have a very real problem with too many deer. In some of those places, hunting is a big part of the solution. It’s also, some would argue, a big part of the problem.”

That, in 12 sentences, is *Deerland*. The rest of the book fills in the details.

The first half may be the most informative to non-hunters, exploring what Cambronne calls the “Deer-Industrial Complex,” the competition among hunters to kill deer with ever-larger antlers, and hunters’ feeding and baiting strategies.

Along the way, Cambronne describes an ongoing transition he perceives in the culture of deer hunting, from the pretense that it’s all about getting meat to near disinterest in venison among many hunters, who focus instead on shooting a spectacular trophy. In areas easily accessible from big cities and known for producing deer with big antlers, such as Buffalo County, Wisconsin,

hunting as part of a rural lifestyle has given way to hunting as a pursuit of affluent urbanites.

Hunters today are older, richer, more politically organized, and more influential than ever before, but hunters are also less numerous. From being a pastime of average rural Americans a generation ago, hunting has evolved toward the European model, as a pursuit of a landed gentry [hereditary in Europe, merely wealthy in the U.S.], their guides, and their gamekeepers. Cambronne details the transition in Buffalo County at considerable length, noting similar trends in many other parts of the U.S.

The second half of *Deerland* is less expository and more contentious. Cambronne would probably rather be called a nature writer than a hunting writer, but he is chiefly a hook-and-bullet writer, whose arguments tend to be less about deer than about what would be most likely to boost hunting participation.

Central to Cambronne’s case is the idea that we currently have “too many” deer. Indeed, we have more deer than ever before, including large herds in some highly problematic places. Almost a century of “buck laws,” which encouraged hunters to shoot bucks but spare does, manufactured unprecedented deer abundance to the point that many states now aggressively promote doe hunting instead.

Yet, unlike in the mid-20th century, when the U.S. had less than half as many deer but had frequent mass losses to starvation, mass starvations in recent decades have been vanishingly few. Factors from maturation of the suburban tree canopy (now providing more browse and acorns) to the effects of climate change appear to have significantly increased the carrying capacity of the habitat.

Indeed, deer in much of North America have depleted the forest understory that is the breeding habitat for many neotropical migratory bird species. But that same understory can fuel wildfires, which also deplete breeding habitat. Whether the net effect of deer on birds is positive or negative is accordingly unclear.

Abundant deer have meanwhile facilitated the recovery of pumas in the western half of the U.S., and of wolves in the upper Midwest and Maine, and have helped the recovery of alligators in the Deep South.

Claims about deer overpopulation, usually voiced as arguments for more hunting or culling, tend to be about the population levels that the public will tolerate, called “cultural carrying capacity” in wildlife management jargon—rather than about the actual needs of nature.

Options

If as a society we decide we want fewer deer, we have six options, which are not mutually exclusive. We can let the situation take care of itself, through disease, predation, and the effects of vehicular collisions; we can amend our own habitat preferences to make our yards and urban green spaces less attractive to deer; we can let our dogs habitually run at large to harass deer, as was customary until under 40 years ago; we can accept the use of contraceptives for deer; we can hire shooters to cull deer, already widely practiced in Northeastern and Midwestern cities where recreational hunting is impractical; or we can revitalize recreational deer hunting, now primarily practiced mostly by men over the age of 50.

The latter option, favored by Cambronne, includes encouraging more bow-

hunting, using pulley-drawn bows and perhaps crossbows rather than the recurve bows of a generation ago. While arrows shot from recurve bows kill deer outright barely half the time, bowhunters using current weapons have a killing rate comparable to that of firearms, Cambronne argues.

Another possibility, discussed by Cambronne and favored by Jim Sterba in his 2012 opus *Nature Wars*, would be to allow hunters to sell venison, thereby encouraging them to kill deer in greater numbers.

Alternatively, we can develop increased tolerance of deer. We can learn roadkill avoidance, for example, learning to look for a second deer after seeing one deer cross a road.

Accepting that we live in “Deerland” and behaving appropriately could go a long way toward mitigating deer/human conflicts.

For much of the public to accept the presence of deer predators in suburban neighborhoods might, however, be a tall order. Pumas, wolves, and alligators passing quietly through in the wee hours of the morning may be ignored, but those same animals feasting on a deer carcass within sight of a school bus stop are another matter.

We cannot pretend that deer populations will regulate themselves in absence of predators. Deer do regulate their numbers to some extent in harsh winters, when starvation causes some does to reabsorb their fetuses, bearing only one fawn in the spring, or none, after having conceived two. But that does not happen often in most North American deer habitat, and will happen less as climate change makes winters milder.

Neither can we pretend that denying the grievances of people who believe we have too many deer will make those grievances disappear. Landscapers in new suburbs may be able to plant trees and shrubbery that deer don’t like, but people whose trees and shrubbery are already decades old will mostly not find that an attractive option, while orchardists need to be able to grow the trees that bear fruit. Market gardeners and floralists likewise have valid reasons for wanting to minimize deer depredation while growing what they want to grow.

Deerland spotlights the problems associated with what Cambronne calls the “hunt for ecological balance and the essence of wilderness.” *Deerland* does not offer perfect solutions, certainly not from a humane perspective. But perfect solutions, at present, do not yet exist, and maybe never will. For now, we can only seek the approaches to deer management that do the least harm. —Merritt Clifton

Wolves in Ireland: A Natural and Cultural History

by Kieran Hickey

Four Courts Press (7 Malpas Street, Dublin 8, Ireland); in U.S. c/o ISBS, 920 NE 58th Ave., Suite 300, Portland, OR 97213, 2011. 155 pages, hardcover. \$45.00.



National University of Ireland geography lecturer Kieran Hickey in *Wolves in Ireland* assembles apparently every extant scrap of information available in ancient manuscripts and public records to make a case that wolves had a formative role in shaping Irish culture.

Written documentation is surprisingly slim, in view that Ireland has had a literate culture for more than 1,600 years: Hickey records just 129 references to wolves between circa 500 and 1786, when the last Irish wolf was killed. Wolves are remembered, however, in traditional place names in 18 of the 32 Irish counties.

Only a bare dozen Irish historical references to wolves predate the reassertion of British rule that began in 1494, 325 years af-

ter the Norman conquest of Ireland and several generations after the Norman links to Britain were weakened by the Black Death.

From then to the final extirpation of wolves, however, British rulers—especially Oliver Cromwell—viewed killing wolves as part and parcel of subjugating Ireland itself. The Normans bred Irish wolfhounds to hunt wolves, but later British landlords more aggressively used them, and hunted wolves’ prey such as red deer and hares to scarcity too.

Still, wolves might have persisted if their forest refuges had. Most of Ireland in 1490 remained shrouded in dense oak, pine, and birch. By 1786 little dense forest remained. Irish wolves made their last stand scavenging human and live-

stock dead during the famine years of 1739–1741. Rebuilding depleted herds of sheep and cattle, the human survivors afterward made short work of any wolves they could find.

With only about 12% of Ireland reforested, and most of the rest of the countryside used for grazing or cultivation, Hickey doubts that wolves could be reintroduced successfully. Circa 250 individuals would be needed to ensure a self-sustaining population. Even at peak, Hickey calculates, the Irish wolf population probably never topped 1,500, and usually ranged between 500 and 1,000, in just a few hundred packs.

—Merritt Clifton

Weekends with Daisy by Sharron Kahn Luttrell

Simon & Schuster (1230 Ave. of the Americas, New York, NY 10020), 2013. 311 pages, hardcover. \$26.00.



Weekends with Daisy is a journey into the care and training of puppies who will be placed with disabled people. Before service dogs enter advanced training, they live with foster parents for socialization, housebreaking, and introduction to public places including airports, bus stations, and shopping centers.

Founded in 1976 as Dogs for Deaf & Disabled Americans, National Education for Assistance Dog Services trains mostly shelter dogs. The oldest continuously operating hearing dog program in the U.S., NEADS was more-or-less the model for the better known San Francisco SPCA hearing dog program, which operated from 1978 to 2008. Since finding dedicated and reliable foster families is not always easy, NEADS operates a Prison Pup Partnership. This program places puppies in 10 New England pris-

ons where inmates raise and train them for assistance work. More than 90% of the 1,400 dogs who have been trained by NEADS have come through the prison program.

After losing her beloved family dog, *Weekends with Daisy* author Sharron Kahn Luttrell volunteered with NEADS, training dogs with inmates under outside supervision on weekdays, hosting the dogs at her home on weekends.

Luttrell extensively describes her time with service-dog-in-training Daisy, but I would like to have heard more from Keith, the inmate who kept Daisy during the week at the J.J. Moran Medium Security Facility in Rhode Island. What was living with a dog inside a penitentiary like? How did Keith spend his days with a dog in training? Did he become emotionally attached to Daisy?

Only two-thirds of the way through the book does Luttrell learn that Keith is incarcerated for murder. As a nosy ex-New Yorker, and a person concerned about who looks after a dog I am responsible for, I would have checked sooner.

Luttrell and Keith are equal partners in Daisy’s training. Both have feelings about Daisy and how she is trained. Keith’s voice might have made *Weekends with Daisy* stand out among the ever-growing library of books about working dogs and dog training. —Debra J. White

The Second Chance Dog by Jon Katz

Ballantine Books (1745 Broadway, New York, NY 10019), 2013. 267 pages, hardcover. \$25.00.



The Second Chance Dog may be the last of Jon Katz’ many successful dog stories written from Bedlam Farm in Hebron, New York, on the far side of a couple of hills from the original ANIMAL PEOPLE office near Shushan; Katz in mid-2013 listed his renovated 1862 farmhouse and acreage for sale at \$450,000.

Katz moved to upstate New York, shortly after ANIMAL PEOPLE relocated, because there he felt “spectacularly disconnected from the world.” But he did not stay disconnected. Looking for barn windows in nearby Queensbury, Katz met a woman named Maria and her dog Frieda, a Rottweiler/shepherd mix adopted from a shelter.

That began a new chapter in Katz’s life, both with Maria and with Frieda. Katz felt “something very warm” about Maria, but wasn’t sure he needed Frieda, a dog who didn’t like men

or other animals. Frieda meant the world to Maria. Around her, Frieda was a love sponge. Otherwise, she lunged at just about everyone, chased other animals, barked, and growled.

Frieda came from an Adirondack breeder who sold guard dogs raised in puppy mill-like conditions. Kept outdoors, subjected to brutal training methods, Frieda received no socialization or veterinary care. Abandoned in the woods, she scraped out a living for almost a year until students and staff at a local community college rescued her.

Katz, with his own canine family, fell in love with Maria, but to make the relationship work, Frieda had to become part of the relationship, and there lay the challenge, which Katz addressed with snacks, behavior training, patience, and affection. —Debra J. White

Carol Jodar, key figure in 1984 City of Hope case

Carol Williams Jodar, 66, of Bozeman, Montana, died on September 21, 2013 after fighting multiple sclerosis for more than 30 years while raising two children, serving with her husband Bruce on the boards of the Williams Foundation and Jodar Family Foundation, and supporting many animal, environmental, and performing arts charities.

Recalled People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals founder Ingrid Newkirk in *Free The Animals: The Amazing True Story of The Animal Liberation Front* (2000), “The Jodars were young, ethical, and had family money. When they first heard about the Aleutian Island seal kill, they went there to document it...When they returned, they moved closer to the marine mammal protection organizations in the San Francisco Bay area. Bruce volunteered for Greenpeace, helped out at the California Marine Mammal Center, and financed a newsletter,” but Carol was stricken with MS.

Based on a remark Carol allegedly made to a babysitter, Newkirk wrote, “Bruce was charged with the December 9, 1984 burglary of the City of Hope National Medical Research Center, as well as one count of receiving

stolen property. Their lawyers convinced them to refuse all offers of support from the animal protection community, fearing that such associations, although already well established, might turn the judge against them. Stress aggravated Carol’s condition and she worsened steadily. When she could no longer walk, and attorney’s fees had topped \$50,000, Bruce took his lawyers’ advice and accepted a plea of *nolo contendere*, or ‘no contest.’ He trusted the judge would allow him to remain free to care for Carol and the children. Judge Scott Snowden did just that, fining Bruce and Carol \$10,000 each and giving them probation for three years, during which time they could not be involved in animal rights.”

Relocating to Bozeman in 1992, the Jodars became active for several years in support of the Gallatin County Humane Society, which later merged with the Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter to become the Heart of the Valley Humane Society.



Carol Jodar

Obituaries

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

John C. New Jr., 65, died of a sudden heart attack on October 15, 2013. Originally from Little Rock, Arkansas, New earned his veterinary degree from the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine in 1970, served as a captain in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps., obtained a masters degree in public health from the University of Minnesota, and joined the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine faculty in 1977, where he spent the rest of his life. New either founded or cofounded the UTCVM Veterinary Public Health Program, the Human Animal Bond In Tennessee animal-assisted therapy program, Vets for Pets of Homeless People, and Companion Animal Initiative in Tennessee. Working on behalf of the National Council on Pet Population Study & Policy, New co-authored seven influential studies on dog and cat birth rates and the various factors involved in pet relinquishment, published in the *Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science* between 1998 and 2002.

Kevin Wright, DVM, 50, of Mesa, Arizona, died after a brief illness on September 26, 2013. A 1988 graduate of the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine, Wright worked for the Philadelphia, Miami, Phoenix, and National zoos before cofounding the Arizona Exotic Animal Hospital in 2008. He left the hospital practice in 2012 to start Wright Bird & Exotic Pet House Calls. Credited with writing more than 300 articles on exotic pet medicine, Wright co-authored the manual *Amphibian Medicine and Captive Husbandry* in 2001.

Avedis Ghazarian, 46, a Bucharest economist active in animal welfare, reportedly died of heart failure on October 24, 2013 after lobbying unsuccessfully against ratification of a new Romanian law that allows pounds to kill dogs after a two-week holding period.

Death of RSPCA critic is ruled a suicide

Dawn Aubrey-Ward, 43, hanged herself on May 8, 2013 in her home in Martock, Somerset, U.K., coroner Tony Williams ruled on October 14, 2013.

A Royal SPCA animal welfare officer from 2008 to 2010, Aubrey-Ward was among the three named sources for allegations published by Nick Craven and Lynne Wallis of *The Daily Mail* on December 29, 2012 that the RSPCA unnecessarily kills animals and inappropriately pursues prosecutions. The RSPCA countered that, “Dawn Aubrey-Ward is a disgruntled former employee who was subject to a disciplinary investigation for alleged theft of animals,” who “left with matters still pending.”

Wrote Luke Sakald of *The Daily Mail*, “While details were not heard in the inquest, it was reported that Miss Aubrey-Ward was rebuked for refusing to issue a formal ‘caution’ to a devastated pensioner whose cat had contracted emphysema and was dying in his lap. She was also allegedly reprimanded for the theft of a tortoise, which she claimed to have taken home for safekeeping.”

Wrote Guy Adams of *The Daily Mail*, “Over the days that followed [publication of her criticisms of the RSPCA], Aubrey-Ward went on to endure a torrent of abuse on Twitter and Facebook, telling friends that she was struggling to cope with the tide of hate mail, death threats, and abusive telephone calls. On her own Twitter feed, she claimed that the RSPCA had ‘ruined my life.’”

Aubrey-Ward and her two youngest of four children later moved into the home of former police officer Rob Colclough, 44, who on October 7, 2011 committed suicide after a bout with depression.

Continued *Daily Mail* writer Sakald, “The inquest heard that [on the day of her death] Aubrey-Ward’s car broke down. She called her daughter from her first marriage, Aimee Redfern-Ward, and asked her to pick up her two younger daughters from school. Meanwhile a friend gave her a lift home. When Aimee arrived at the house with her two half-sisters, she discovered her mother’s body. Community mental

Iris Gallegos, 62, died on November 6, 2013 in Lussac-Les-Eglises, France, after a five-year battle against breast cancer. Gallegos circa 2002 founded the Bright Eyes Society in Marbella, Spain, initially to transport rescued Spanish street dogs to other European nations for adoption. With a Dutch husband, Frans Koene, and a Danish e-mail address, Gallegos started out with an international perspective and multilingual capabilities, and soon expanded her work into rallying activists outside of Spain against bullfighting, abuse of animals practiced as part of Spanish village festivals, hare coursing, greyhound racing, and any other cruelties that came to her notice. In turn, she helped Spanish activists to address cruelty outside of Spain.

Sue Brown, 65, founder and president of the Little Victories Animal Shelter in Huntington, West Virginia, died on October 21, 2013 after a six-month struggle with pancreatic cancer. Housing about 200 dogs and cats, the no-kill shelter opened in 2003. Little Victories previously operated as a fostering network.

Sarah Jane Orton, 5, of Finksburg, Maryland, died from a sudden illness on October 10, 2013. For her fifth birthday, on May 15, 2013, she had requested that all gifts be given to the Baltimore Humane Society. Her dog Scooter had been adopted from the Baltimore Humane Society before she was born.

Kevin Johnson, 59, a plant nursery worker in Puckeridge, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, England, was on October 16, 2013 acknowledged for bequeathing his entire estate—worth £364,569—to Friends of the RSPCA Southridge, Potters Bar. Johnson died of a heart attack two months after the death of his German shepherd Chelsea, who was adopted from the RSPCA Southridge.

health nurse Dee Holbourne said Aubrey-Ward was struggling with bereavement, her finances, alcohol issues, and a lack of sleep and appetite. She also thought Aubrey-Ward might have been suffering from bi-polar disorder.”

Adams of *The Daily Mail* noted that several other people have committed suicide in recent years after public conflicts with the RSPCA, including pig farmer Stephen Brown, 52, of Norfolk, who shot himself in February 2012. Brown came under investigation by the RSPCA, Vanessa Allen and Nick Craven of *The Daily Mail* reported earlier, after “An undercover animal rights activist secretly filmed a worker on his Norfolk farm beating a pig to death with an iron bar, kicking piglets and smashing a live animal’s head on a concrete floor.”

Believed to have killed himself, though remains have not been found, was horse breeder Clwyd Davies, 69, of Wrexham, who was last seen on April 7, 2013, two days after he was sentenced for severely neglecting six horses. Pleading guilty to the six counts of neglect in October 2012, after having initially been charged with 18 counts, Davies was in January 2013 profiled as “The Horse Hoarder” in a BBC 4 documentary.

Other suicides linked to RSPCA investigations were those of Cumbria pony breeder Alan Brough, whose animals were impounded in 2010; gamekeeper Graham Key, who took strychnine in a jail cell after he was convicted of firearms offences in 2008 as result of an RSPCA raid on his home; and Cornish farmer Richard Barrett, whose 2008 death the day after the RSPCA visited his property was called a suicide by police but left open as to cause by the coroner.

Also in 2008, Adams remembered, former RSPCA inspector Dimity Crowley “was paid £30,000 by the charity after saying she was driven to attempt suicide by ‘bullying’ and ‘sexual harassment.’” Crowley left the RSPCA in 2006, two years after the suicide attempt.

At least nine U.S. cruelty case defendants and 15 humane workers are known to have committed suicide during the same 10-year time frame as the six cases linked to the RSPCA.

James Harlan Steele, 1st U.S. public health vet

James Harlan Steele, DVM, 100, died on November 10, 2013. Earning his veterinary diploma from Michigan State University in 1941, and a masters degree in public health from Harvard a year later, Steele served in the U.S. Public Health Service during World War II, stationed in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

Steele in November 1945 recommended to U.S. Surgeon General Thomas Paran Jr. and assistant Surgeon General Joseph Mountin that an office be formed to further veterinary public health. They assigned Steele to investigate veterinary issues for the National Institutes of Health. Steele went on to create the veterinary public health agency at the Centers for Disease Control in 1946, became the first U.S. Public Health Service chief veterinary officer in 1950,

and late helped to form the first World Health Organization Expert Committee on Zoonosis. Joining the University of Texas School of Public Health faculty in 1971, Steele remained actively involved in veterinary public health issues as a professor emeritus until his death.

Recalled Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases animal disease assistant moderator Peter Cowen, “Bill Foege, the former director of CDC, said at Jim’s 90th annual birthday lecture that Jim’s seminal contribution was that the health of humans and the health of animals are inseparable. This allowed us to develop a more rational public health future, because you cannot consider the health of people without considering the health of animals.”

Patti Scheimer Bednarik, 56, of Enola, Pennsylvania, died of ovarian cancer on October 26. A former prosecuting attorney in Alleghany County and for the Disciplinary Counsel of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Bednarik was founder and first chair of the Animal Law Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, taught animal law at Pennsylvania State University at Dickinson, and as a member of the state Dog Law Advisory Board, appointed by Governor Edward Rendell in 2005, helped to rewrite the regulations for dog breeders.

Renee Radizwon-Chapman, 36, was killed on November 9, 2013 in a cage containing two pumas while working alone at the Wildcat Haven Sanctuary near Sherwood, Oregon. Housing about 60 wild and exotic cats, the sanctuary was founded by Michael and Cheryl Tuller in 2001. Radizwon-Chapman had been the Wildcat Haven Sanctuary head keeper for about eight years. Her husband Aaron Chapman is a Wildcat Haven volunteer.

Martin Hammerstein, 56, a senior keeper at the Allwetter Zoo in Munster, Germany, was killed on September 13, 2013 by a 10-year-old Siberian tiger named Rasputin. Hammerstein reportedly forgot to lock Rasputin behind a gate before turning his back to put down food for the tiger.

Nate Lewandowski, 36, of Elmhurst, Delaware, on November 9, 2013 escaped from his burning home but was killed when he returned inside to try to rescue his two pit bulls and their six puppies. The mother pit bull survived.

Angela Cope, 97, senior RSPCA volunteer

Angela Cope, 97, died in London on October 28, 2013. “She was a lifelong animal welfarist of the practical rather than the sentimental type,” former Royal SPCA director general Peter Davies told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, recalling that one of her projects was organizing a working horse show to benefit the Battersea Dogs & Cats Home. “She was involved with the Central London Branch of the RSPCA for many years,” Davies continued. “When the RSPCA Putney Animal Hospital was created, she formed the Friends of Putney Animal Hospital Committee, which raised substantial sums for the hospital, largely through the onsite shop that she ran with volunteers selling donated goods. She was a long-serving member of

Ohio activist kills herself plus 31 dogs

Sandra Lertzman, 62, was found dead with 31 dogs on November 8, 2013 in a running car in the garage of her home in Moreland Hills, Ohio, six days after she was last seen. Said to have been involved in animal rescue for 45 years, Sandra Lertzman styled herself executive director of the Animal Rights Foundation, but Guidestar, contracted by the IRS to share IRS Form 990 filings, shows no record of ARF.

“Detectives found several prescription vials in the vehicle and a suicide note inside the house,” WOIO reported. Police said most of the dogs who died with Lertzman were puppies, and that one puppy survived. Lertzman also left 20 cats, who were taken in by Gina Lutes-Finley of Dogs Unlimited Rescue, said Kristin Anderson of WKYC. A posting to the ARF web site, how-

the RSPCA Council,” but was retired in 2001, along with fellow RSPCA vice presidents William Jordan and Dame Janet Fookes, who were replaced on the council by celebrities Geri Halliwell, Elton John, and Cliff Richard.

Wrote Valerie Elliot, countryside editor for the *London Times*, “Some members believe the move was an attempt by Davies to silence Jordan,” who as founder of both Care for the Wild and the Captive Animals Protection Society was an outspoken critic of the RSPCA policies on animal research and circuses.

Cope was then elected to be an RSPCA honorary vice president, and “continued to be active in fundraising initiatives until the end,” Davies told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

ever, said the dogs were all over eight years old and that Lertzman left only 10 cats.

Lertzman’s husband Rick Lertzman, in January 2006 spoke for ARF in opposition to deer culling. Earlier, both Lertzmans were apparently associated with the Public Animal Welfare Society of Cleveland; Rick Lertzman was in January 2005 identified by the Cleveland *Plain Dealer* as the PAWS board president.

Rick Lertzman has sought unsuccessfully since 1993 to introduce casino gambling to various sites around Ohio, including in connection with building a proposed horse racing track in Mahoning Valley, near Youngstown.

A son, Thomas Lertzman, 20, also involved in animal issues, was killed in a June 2001 car crash. A second son, Matthew, survives.

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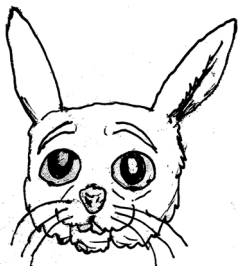
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