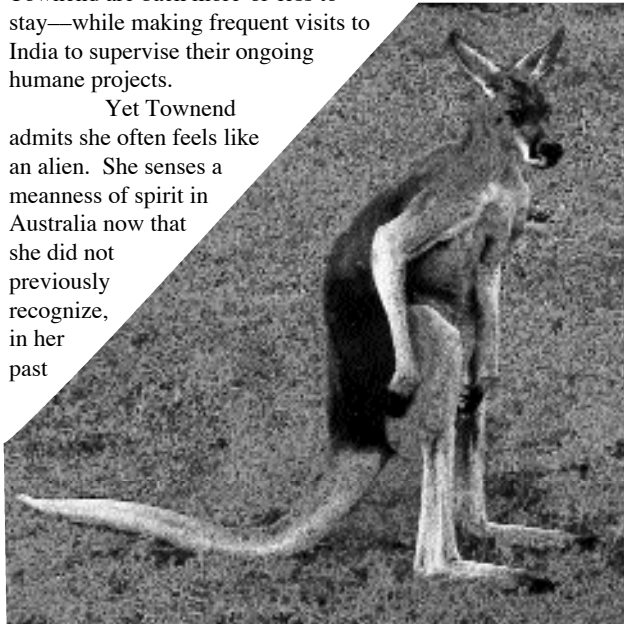


# Down Under bioxenophobia intensifies Aliens in their native land

**100TH  
ANIMAL PEOPLE  
EDITION**

**LEURA, New South Wales, Australia**—Twenty-six years after convening the first meeting of Animal Liberation Australia, 12 years after venturing to India, Christine Townend has returned home. She and her retired lawyer husband Jeremy Townend are back more-or-less to stay—while making frequent visits to India to supervise their ongoing humane projects.

Yet Townend admits she often feels like an alien. She senses a meanness of spirit in Australia now that she did not previously recognize, in her past



Red kangaroo. (Kim Bartlett)

careers as activist, teacher, poet, short story writer, and investigative author, whose 1985 book *Pulling The Wool* remains the classic expose of the Down Under sheep trade.

Then, Townend believed, rough Australian treatment of animals was mainly from ignorance. Behind the Aussie swagger and bluster, she believed, were good hearts, who could be brought around to treating all animals with kindness. She has become less optimistic.

"I feel that morals in Australia as regards animals have gone backward since I left," Townend told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "Every day there is something in the news about mass slaughters of animals. There seems to be an orgy of killing underway, with absolutely no consideration about the ethics of taking of life. Today it is camels, yesterday it was brumbies (wild horses), and on Friday it was foxes. Animal protection people are really struggling to get any publicity at all."

Townend finds that a sad contrast to India.

"It is hard to reconcile myself to moving from the philosophical and spiritual respect for all life which has existed in India for thousands of years, to immersion in the Australian attitude of unthinking slaughter and killing of animals," Townend wrote.

The Indian literacy rate is half that of Australia, but even Indians who are not kind to animals know that the Hindu, Jain, and Buddhist cultural traditions require that they should be—and so did Islam, as interpreted by the 16th century Mogul emperor Akbar the Great, who first united much of India.

Indian newspapers are thin beside those of Australia, yet animal advocacy and protection rate regular coverage. There is editorial agitation from some papers, notably *The Times of India*, to amend the national animal control policy so as to resume killing street dogs—but even *The Times of India* does not pretend that there are no credible opposing views.

Kerry Lonergan, executive producer of the Australian TV news magazine show *Landmine*, by contrast curtly and completely dismissed Townend when she pointed out to him after a July 20 episode promoting fox hunting that, "It is not efficacious to remove some of a population of introduced animals if conditions are favourable to their survival. This is because the remainder who have not been removed continue to breed, often at an increased rate due to lack of competition for food and cover. Therefore killing foxes," as Lonergan favored, "is carried out for commercial rather than ecological purposes, and at best can only temporarily reduce the fox population."

The basic principles of wildlife ecology favored Townend, but Lonergan shot back, "Foxes kill native fauna as well as domesticated animals like sheep, cattle, and horses," disregarding that there seems to be no case on record anywhere of foxes ever attacking either cattle and horses except when rabid—a non-issue in Australia, which has no rabies.

"Environmentalists will tell you foxes are responsible for the extinction or near extinction of many of our smaller ground-dwelling animals," Lonergan continued, equally obli-

(continued on page 16)

## ANIMAL



## PEOPLE

*News For People Who*

*Care About Animals*

September 2002

Volume XI, #7

### WOMEN'S HEALTH INITIATIVE WARNING ON ESTROGEN THERAPY MAY HELP HORSES

**ATLANTA, WASHINGTON D.C., WINNIPEG**—The beginning of the end of keeping pregnant mares standing from October to March of each year on urine production lines, and auctioning their foals to slaughter, may have come with a July 9 scientific warning that, on balance, estrogen supplements made from pregnant mare's urine do menopausal women more harm than good.

The Women's Health Initiative, an unprecedentedly large scientific investigation of the effects of taking hormonal supplements, monitored the health of 16,000 women for nine years, beginning in 1993.

The study found that for each 10,000 women who take the Wyeth Pharmaceuticals estrogen-plus-progestin drug Prempro for one year, there are eight more cases of invasive breast cancer than among women of the same age range and state of health who do not take the drug, along with seven more heart attacks, eight more strokes, and eight more cases of blood clots forming in the lungs.

There are six fewer colorectal cancers and five fewer hip fractures.

Funded directly by Congress, through a special allocation to the National Institutes of Health requested by then-HIH director Bernadine Healy, the Women's Health Initiative study of Prempro concluded by advising each of the participants by mail that their health would be safer if they quit taking it.

The study was to have continued for longer, but lead researcher Nanette K. Wenger, M.D., and team decided that the risks to the participants of continuing to take Prempro were

too high to allow them to go on unawares. Wenger is chief of cardiology at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta.

A part of the Women's Health Initiative monitoring the health of women who have had hysterectomies and are taking estrogen without progestin is still underway, producing as yet inconclusive findings.

The trading price of Wyeth stock fell 24% within 24 hours of the Women's Health Initiative warning, but investment advisors suggested that it would rebound from the initial panic even if the longterm trend is downward due to decreased Prempro sales. The health care information company IMS Health said the retail value of Prempro sold in 2001 was approximately \$732 million. Wyeth also sold \$1.3 billion worth of Premarin, the estrogen supplement without progestin which was the original form of the drug, and is reputedly still the top-selling prescription drug worldwide.

Including estrogen supplements produced from sources other than pregnant mares' urine, the total retail value of the estrogen replacement industry in the U.S. alone was \$2.75 billion in 2001.

Retail sales trends will take longer to become apparent than the effect of the Women's Health Initiative on stocks.

As the Women's Health Initiative focused on longterm effects, short-term use of estrogen drugs to ease severe symptoms of menopause may still be widely recommended by physicians. Use by women who have had hysterectomies may also still be recommended

(continued on page 8)



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data indicates that animal advocates may be ahead of child advocates in getting across the message that neither children nor animals should be left alone in cars—whether the windows are up or down. Details on page 7. This dog was actually under supervision. (Photo by Dana Forbes)

### Maneka Gandhi of India loses animal welfare ministry, keeps lab oversight

**NEW DELHI**—"What I expected has finally happened. I have lost the Ministry today," People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on July 2, nearly four years after becoming the first Minister for Animal Welfare in the cabinet of any nation.

Elected as an independent member of the parliament of India, Mrs. Gandhi asked Prime Minister A.P. Vajpayee to create the animal welfare ministry for her in 1998 as the price of her joining the ruling coalition led by the Hindu nationalist Bharitya Janata Party. Vajpayee complied by making animal welfare part of the mandate of the Ministry for Social Justice and Empowerment, the portfolio Mrs. Gandhi held from August 1998 until early 2001.

Mrs. Gandhi had previously distinguished herself as a mover, shaker, and implacable foe of corruption during two terms as Minister of Forests and the Environment while serving in Congress Party governments, before her final rift with Congress in July 1996 over leadership failures to address bribe-taking by prominent politicians and public officials in connection with a dam-building project.

Her reputation for incorruptibility

served the BJP coalition well during an April 1999 crisis over corruption that briefly toppled the government. Walking into countless remote villages where no other prominent member of the government would go, while battling the after-effects of tuberculosis, Mrs. Gandhi was among the top vote-getters for the coalition nationwide during the September 1999 election campaign that returned the Vajpayee government to office with a stronger majority.

She attributed her surprising stamina to practicing veganism, in a nation where approximately half the population are vegetarians but the overwhelming majority use dairy products.

As Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Mrs. Gandhi routed unprecedented amounts of funding and ambitious young talent into animal welfare projects, anti-poverty projects, and efforts to politically and economically empower women.

Her decline in political fortune began after she was reassigned the Ministry for Culture, as part of a larger cabinet shuffle. The animal welfare portfolio moved to the culture ministry with her, and was relatively unaffected, but in her new position

(continued on page 12)

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Imagine if  
you could  
go back in  
time and  
change  
one thing  
—



July 2002

Dear Partner,

I have a HUGE surprise for you! It's fantastic . . . and I guarantee it will make you think . . . about what is, what might have been, and what the future will hold . . .

A couple of months ago I told you about the impossible rescue of a scruffy little poodle that we named "Fiona."

For at least a month, Fiona hid from predators in the wilderness. Then somehow, she came out of the forest near a freeway and was laying there, all curled up in the cold . . . as I happened to pass by that same freeway. And when I pulled off the road to help her, Fiona ran all over on a grassy island between the on-ramp, a busy street, and the four-lane northbound freeway . . . at rush hour!

Taking a deep breath, I cut across two ramps, driving over curbs onto the island . . . something dangerous I'm warning you not to do.

Then I got out of my truck and I called to Fiona. She took one look at me and she bolted from the island into four lanes of two way traffic that was speeding to the freeway entrance. Somehow, as if all the dog angels were helping her, Fiona made it across and back into the brush.

All I could do was block her from running back into the street, but she got past me. I just knew she would be killed right in front of me.

With that sickening feeling of utter despair in my stomach, I watched this tiny, frightened poodle running blindly down the street's yellow lines into

more rush hour traffic.

And again, all I could do was follow her in the truck, just a few feet behind her, dangerously cutting off the traffic as Fiona cut across the lanes back onto the island where I first saw her.

I did NOT know what to do next. I had to rescue Fiona before dark, which was an hour away, or she'd be blinded by headlights and killed for sure. My trap failed to work and she was too afraid to come near me. And it was getting colder.

As darkness fell, I stood guard at the far end of the island in case Fiona charged the road again. Behind her was the freeway and a crushing death, so I couldn't approach her from the front. It was a stalemate.

Then, if you remember, my daughter was with me. And hours later, she made her way to Fiona on her hands and knees. When my daughter reached her, Fiona rolled over and hoped that whatever was coming it might be mercifully quick . . . as my daughter carried Fiona back to our truck.

When I wrote to you about Fiona, she was my "miracle rescue." And the more I cuddle Fiona, drowning in a sea of her thank you kisses, the more I can't imagine life without her. And when I think of her being one spinning tire from death, it's like waking up from a bad dream with a hole in my aching heart.

Then, the surprise happened . . . we didn't save only one life, we saved EIGHT! Weeks after her darkest hour, Fiona had seven children. And if not for us, they would have all died together under one crushing tire.

She had been running not only to save her own life, but theirs too. And she knew that all of her unborn children would die with her if she failed. That's what kept her going, a tiny dog hiding from predator attacks in the forest. She must have been frightened out of her wits.

They were seven precious beings, each wanting to live and love like all of us. And thanks to your love, they can.

Le

Leo Grillo, founder

**D.E.L.T.A. Rescue**

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

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

## Editorial

# No-kill success and fiscal reality collide in Reno

Succeeding the No-Kill Conference, after seven annual events that transformed the ambitions of the global animal care and control community, will be the much less provocatively named Conference on Homeless Animal Management and Policy, convening in Reno on August 22, 2002. Retiring the term "no-kill" in deference to the sensitivities of conventional shelter directors, CHAMP hopes to attract a broader constituency to learn new approaches, and join the worldwide trend away from accepting high-volume killing of homeless animals as an inevitable part of animal control and humane work.

At the first No-Kill Conference, in Phoenix in 1995, dinner speaker Richard Avanzino outlined how he had come to realize as then-president of the San Francisco SPCA that accepting the job of protecting humans from animals tends to inhibit a humane society from devoting adequate effort to protecting animals from humans. Avanzino explained how giving up animal control duties, always conducted at a loss, enabled the SF/SPCA to sterilize enough dogs and cats to end population control killing in San Francisco since April 1994.

Hardly anyone imagined in 1995 that many city animal control agencies would now be well ahead of local humane societies in promoting no-kill methods, such as high-volume adoption through the visitor-friendly PETsMART Luv-A-Pet boutiques, neuter/return to reduce feral cat populations, and providing low-cost sterilization service.

Neither was there talk of global ambition at the No-Kill Conferences, until the first foreign delegations arrived in 1998 with things to teach as well as learn.

Today some of the most enthusiastic boosters of no-kill tactics and goals are animal control directors like Ed Boks, of Phoenix/Maricopa County Animal Services, who has cut the rate of shelter killing and increased adoptions each year since he took the job.

Today the no-kill community extends to every continent. CHAMP delegations are even expected this year from Pakistan and Ethiopia, where until a few years ago no humane societies were known to exist. Much of the most useful instruction in recent years has come from representatives of the British-based National Canine Defence League, which also partners with the primary sponsor, the North Shore Animal League America, in presenting the biennial International Companion Animal Welfare Conference in eastern Europe.

Humane agencies from the Pennsylvania SPCA to the Hong Kong SPCA are following the San Francisco blueprint. But now there are almost as many examples of agencies finding ways to cut shelter killing while keeping their animal control contracts—or taking on animal control, as the Visakha SPCA did in 1998 to introduce no-kill to Visakhapatnam, India.

Examples of low-budget animal control agencies continuing to shoot, club, drown, electrocute, or gas animals with car exhaust are still common enough to suggest good reason for humane societies to keep or seek animal control contracts, if they can do so without jeopardizing the services and support that will keep the volume of homeless animals going down.

Accordingly, there is good cause for the CHAMP conference to court animal control providers. There is also good cause for no-kill proponents to undertake significant tactical reappraisal—but the fundamental issue is *not* whether conventional shelter directors like being seen on the unpopular end of the kill/no-kill dichotomy, which matters much more to the people involved than to the success of programs.

Of much greater importance is whether the no-kill community is making effective use of the momentum, goodwill, and assets gained over the past eight years, chiefly from sources not previously supporting humane work.

Expanding the pool of shelter donors and adopters by about 33% in 10 years, the no-kill movement enjoyed seemingly limitless growth until September 11, 2001. Giddy hopes of quick success were especially palpable at the 1998 No-Kill Conference, as Richard Avanzino announced his move from the SF/SPCA to Maddie's Fund, formed by PeopleSoft founders Dave and Cheryl Duffield to underwrite collaborative efforts to achieve no-kill animal control.

The 1998 No-Kill Conference also heard from Christine Townend, trustee of the India-based sheltering organization Help In Suffering, about the December 1997 commitment of the government of India to achieving no-kill control of street dogs by 2005, and about the reinforcement of that commitment when in August 1998 People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi was made the first cabinet-level minister for animal welfare anywhere in the world.

No-kill had seemingly attained, almost simultaneously, both mega-bucks financial backing and political prestige.

As anticipated, Maddie's Fund now distributes more money each year than all other animal welfare foundations combined—but it has not enabled anyone to stop fundraising.

The programs Maneka Gandhi advanced met bitter resistance from politicians used to using catch-and-kill dog control to make patronage jobs for their supporters. In July 2002 Mrs. Gandhi lost her cabinet post, leaving the Indian no-kill goal somewhat weakened.

Everywhere, no-kill proponents are now expected to do much more, in a hurry, than just fix feral cats and street dogs and find homes for puppies and kittens. The no-kill community is now asked to address the reasons why animal control agencies exist in the first

place: not just to deal with dog and cat overpopulation, *per se*, but to protect the public from dog attacks, all-night barking and howling, feces in gardens, dismembered birds at the backyard feeder, tigers in the yard next door, and alligators crawling out of the storm sewers.

Fundamentally, achieving no-kill animal control in either the U.S., India, or anywhere else requires successful public education, on multiple fronts. People have to be taught about preventing pet overpopulation, finding and adopting pets at shelters, avoiding acquisition of exotic animals who never should have been brought into private possession, and the need to support life-affirming alternatives with generous cash donations.

Conventional shelters have promoted these same ideas for decades. To successfully present an alternative, no-kill shelters must do a better job of it.

The economic shakeout accompanying the stock market slide that accelerated after September 11, 2001 challenges the entire sheltering community, but challenges no-kill shelters and sanctuaries most, because they have made the farthest-reaching promises.

No-kill and low-kill humane societies as long established and reputedly wealthy as the SF/SPCA and the Animal Foundation of Nevada have had to lay off staff and cut back programs. Smaller dog-and-cat-oriented organizations are typically struggling from day to day. Some have already closed, or have given up their shelters to return to fostering animals in yards, to get out from under mortgage payments. Care-for-life sanctuaries are hardest-hit, however, because their work tends to be most capital-and-labor-intensive, and most reliant on big donors and bequests, having little or no income from animal adoption.

Almost every day since spring, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has received calls and e-mails going more-or-less like this: "We are a nonprofit sanctuary housing 12 tigers and 40 dogs. Our sponsor recently died / went broke / fled the country / went to jail, and we cannot feed the animals. Who can save us with an enormous grant, or take the animals off our hands?"

Usually the answer is, "No one." Usually the lack of realistic planning is so obvious that a grant-giver who could save the animals would be foolish to try to save the organization.

In one recent case, trying to help a failing sanctuary with the fundraising advice now available at the <[www.animalpeoplenews.org](http://www.animalpeoplenews.org)> web site, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** learned that the sanctuary directors had invested \$31,000 in a chili cookoff that netted just \$3.41.

Providing an even more bizarre example, the *Washington Post* reported on May 7 that Bill Smith of Main Line Rescue, in Wayne, Pennsylvania, paid one-time Hollywood sex symbol Bo Derek \$21,402 in fees and expenses to attend a fundraiser, which she then skipped. We asked Smith why an organization with total income of just \$94,381 in 2000 and fundraising expenses of \$31,916 would shell out that kind of money to a former star with no known history of helping animals, but we did not get an answer.

## Moral and economic challenge

The larger, more numerous, and more dangerous the animals in custody, the greater the cost of keeping the vow to provide quality care for them through sickness and health, in rich times and poor. Conversely, the fundraising opportunities tend to be more limited, not least because sanctuaries tend to be located off main-traveled roads, and—except for dogs and cats—sanctuary animals are usually not easily or ethically transported anywhere that prospective donors might see them, fall in love with them, and be persuaded to help them.

Direct mail substitutes for direct contact in soliciting donations to some extent, but requires investment and know-how. By the time an animal care organization is in financial trouble, it is typically too late for a start-up direct mail campaign to save the day—and using lists rented from other shelters and sanctuaries just cuts the existing donor pool more ways, as **ANIMAL PEOPLE** explained in our July/August 2002 editorial, with proportionally more money going to printers, mailing companies, and the post office, leaving less for the animals.

Accepting the start-up cost of doing direct mail as a high-interest loan from a fundraising company, as some do, virtually ensures that a shelter or sanctuary will never pull investment in fundraising back into reasonable proportion to returns—while typically still existing on the verge of collapse, unless bailed out by major bequests, which no shelter or sanctuary should gamble on receiving.

Even when a shelter or sanctuary is written into numerous wills, the authors of the wills may change their minds, their estates may be eroded by bad investments or the cost of a terminal illness, taxes may take much of the remainder, and relatives may contest the soundness of mind of the deceased.

Among high operating expenses, unsuccessful and shortsighted fundraising ventures, and ill-advised dependence upon bequests, sanctuaries all over the world but especially in the U.S. have been collapsing lately like so-called "fainting goats," a fad pet of the 1980s known for falling over when stressed because of an inbred weak heart.

As Enzo Giobe of the International Generic Horse Association/HorseAid observed several years ago after rescuing the horses from the failure of a nearby sanctuary, "If you can't afford to keep racehorses or polo ponies, you can't afford to rescue horses."

Similar could be said of providing care-for-life to almost any other kind of animal.

One does not actually have to be filthy rich to get involved and help a little, but to do sheltering or sanctuary work on a serious level, it is absolutely essential to own the site where the animals are kept, free and clear, and to have an outside source of support.

The most common mistake we see is that underemployed people start shelters or sanctuaries on a hope and a promise, using leased or borrowed premises. Often they have been short-time employees or volunteers with other sanctuaries, shelters, or foster/rescue programs, but not for long enough to discover the immense differences between doing hands-on animal care and actually running a successful, self-sustaining nonprofit organization. They don't have a prayer of being able to raise enough money, fast enough, to secure property, pay themselves, and do effective rescue all at the same time.

The second most common mistake we see is that would-be sanctuarians get started because they want to spend their time alone with animals, instead of in contact with the public. That sort of sanctuary, besides being practically assured of economic failure, helps relatively few animals while providing speculative breeders of animals with a pressure relief valve—a way to pretend that someone somewhere is looking after the surplus, even as most homeless animals go to slaughter in one manner or another.

Unfortunately, the would-be shelter operators and sanctuarians at greatest risk of failure will not be at the CHAMP conference, the Pasado's Safe Haven "Sanctuary 101" course, the American Humane Association Training Conference, the No More Homeless Pets conference, or the International Companion Animal Welfare Conference, among other learning opportunities now available to those willing to take a realistic approach.

Instead, the people who are building viable no-kill shelter and sanctuary options, and taking them mainstream, will be obliged to put some of their plans and programs aside in order to accommodate animals previously "rescued" by failing shelters and sanctuaries, but now homeless again, in large numbers.

It is a sign of the success of no-kill concepts that the boxes of puppies and kittens who once overwhelmed the humane community are seen less now than the much smaller but no less problematic influx of unsocialized feral cats, unpredictable pit bull terrier mixes, backyard-bred exotic carnivores, potbellied pigs, ball pythons, and horses gathered by quasi-rescuers who have become quasi-hoarders.

The arrival of all these hard-to-handle animals in ever-growing volume also indicates the educational work yet to be done—and presents a challenge to the notion that every animal can be rescued, somehow, which must be answered.

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

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## ANIMAL PEOPLE

News for People Who Care About Animals

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# LETTERS

## Education

It occurred to me that math should be part of the humane education curriculum.

For example, if there are 500 female and 500 male dogs in a town whose mayor kills 499 of the females and 499 of the males, and the surviving female and her female offspring have two female and two male puppies twice a year, who survive disease, accidents and the mayor's death squads to reproduce at the same rate, how many dogs will there be after five years, assuming that there is plenty of edible rubbish for the dogs to eat and plenty of water to drink?

If the carrying capacity of the habitat is 3,000 stray dogs and the mayor hires someone to kill 2,500 of them each winter, how many dogs will there be within six months?

Another question could be on rabies: if 70% of the dogs in town are vaccinated against rabies, and a rabid dog is dumped on the edge of the town, will rabies spread throughout the town?

If we can communicate to the next generation the basic math of animal population control and disease control, we will have much less difficulty in advancing sterilization and vaccination in the future, in place of the present endless cycle of cruel and ineffective killing.

—Robert Smith  
<Robert.Smith@TangoFashions.com>

## Editor's note:

Robert Smith, a British citizen, funds major street dog sterilization, vaccination, and rescue projects in Turkey and Romania.

An easy demonstration of the need to vaccinate and sterilize 70% of a street dog and/or feral cat population can be done with dice.

Throwing a pair of dice gives you 19 possible number combinations adding up to 11 possible totals. Designate the combinations adding up to 2-7 and 12 as "immune" or "sterile" (68%) and the rest as "vulnerable" to either disease or pregnancy.

Explain to your audience that you are now going to show them how far rabies can spread and how large the street dog and/or feral cat population can grow if 70% of the dogs are vaccinated. Ask for 10 volunteers to pretend to be 10 of the community's dogs and/or cats, to act out the demonstration as a skit.

Throw the dice 10 times, once for each person, to represent any random group of 10 dogs or cats who may be attacked by a rabid animal or may become pregnant.

If the dice show 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 12, the "dog" or "cat" is sterilized and vaccinated. She will neither get rabies nor become pregnant. Have those volunteers step back.

If the dice show 8, 9, 10, or 11, the "dog" or "cat" has a litter, gets rabies, and can spread it.

Each time you get 8, 9, 10, or 11, ask for another volunteer to step forward from the audience, to represent the surviving offspring from the litter who may also breed and/or get rabies, and throw the dice again. Continue until all of your volunteers have stepped back.

Results will vary, but almost always you will end "dog" and "cat" reproduction and halt the "rabies outbreak" within fewer than 10 throws after your initial 10—which at the normal rate of street dog or feral cat mortality would be the replacement population level.

To check the results, you can decrease the numbers of "immune" combinations. The importance of reaching 70% should soon manifest itself.

## World Cup

As a big Belgian soccer fan I followed my favourites during the World Cup. As the World Cup tournament was held in South Korea, we learned a lot about the South Korean way of life.

After seeing a BBC documentary about the Moran dog and cat meat market, near Seoul, I was pleased to see South Korea not become the world champions.

I did not know that human beings could be so cruel.

The pictures I saw at <<http://www.koreananimals.org>> made me very sad the whole day long, as I thought about what I saw. I could not believe my eyes.

The cats, the dogs...These poor animals are in hell. What a difference from the two cats we have here running free in our house!

I send you this note to say how glad I am to know there are people like you who care a lot about what is happening over there.

—Marc Michiels  
Bruges, Belgium  
<marcmic1@planetinternet.be>

## Denial

I just yesterday read the July/August 2001 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, which I'd somehow missed before. I got a lot out of the article "Gains and casualties in the no-kill revolution." I also really enjoyed the editorial, "Dealing with denial in human/animal relations." I've been known to practice a little denial myself, and find it a fascinating subject. I was a nanny for years as a teenager, and I remember explaining to Katie, a four-year-old, why I didn't eat meat. I told her that I didn't like the way animals are treated who are used for meat. She absolutely would not accept that meat comes from animals. ("It does NOT! It comes from the store!"). She just could not accept the connection. And that from a young person who was not nearly so developed in the art of denial as most adults!

—Karen Green  
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## Brutal cop

We want the world to know what happened on June 8 in Rio de Janeiro. While searching for the murderer of reporter Tim Lopes in the shanty town Morro da Caixa d'Agua, a police officer smashed a kitten. The report and photos published in the *O Globo* newspaper speak for themselves. In the first photo the police officer looked at the poor animal, and in next photo, smashed her with his boot. Without international protest, probably nothing will happen to this individual.

—Preci H. Grohmann  
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—Ana Yates  
President  
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**ANIMAL PEOPLE** has electronic copies of the photo sequence, which thoroughly documents an act of deliberate cruelty.

## And raise hell

A few months back, *Animals' Agenda* referred to you as the Jerry Springer of animal rights. I expressed my view of you as analogous to *60 Minutes*, *Dateline*, or something like that. In hindsight I was incorrect and I apologize. Those programs are overly simplified, superficial, sometimes sensationalized, and skimpy compared to you. You are, rather, the H.L. Mencken of animal rights, for as he referred to himself in the fictionalized *Inherit The Wind*, his/your job is to afflict the comforted, and comfort the afflicted.

—Gene Schmidt  
Newburyport, Massachusetts

## The Editor replies:

Thanks for the quote and praise. The film *Inherit The Wind* did put those words into the mouth of H.L. Mencken, but the original author was Finley Peter Dunn, another newspaper columnist of the same era. The phrase became the credo of animal-loving newspaper baron William Randolph Hearst, and was most memorably uttered, in extended form, by Orson Wells in the role of Charles Foster Kane, modeled on Hearst, in *Citizen Kane*: "The purpose of a newspaper is to comfort the afflicted, afflict the comfortable, print the news, and raise hell."

## House calls

I didn't realize until I called to try to get help talking some sense into my neighbor that the Arizona Humane Society no longer will send staff out to talk to people about animal care!

Is this happening everywhere when cruelty becomes a felony? That suddenly only the police or sheriff will go out to talk to people? You know how hard it is to get the police out for anything, unless you are very sure a crime is being committed!

I rode along with the officers back when I worked for the Arizona Humane Society, in the early 1990s, and most of the cruelty calls then were remediable through humane education. For instance, it is not illegal to not provide shade for a horse here in Arizona, but we would go talk to someone who left a horse out to bake, or talk to someone whose dog was having her 14th litter. Now no one does this.

—Patty Finch  
Phoenix, Arizona  
<pfinch@Vview.org>  
<<http://humanelink.org>>

## Editor's note:

Humane societies in many cities seem to have curtailed making humane education house calls, but primarily, we understand, because of budget cuts and personnel reductions necessitated by the current fundraising slump and investment fund slide. Humane education house calls are effective, but labor-intensive, and therefore are often among the first programs to be axed—a matter of being penny-wise but pound-foolish. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** believes, since an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

## Loss of Maneka Gandhi

The animal welfare movement in India will suffer a lot with the exit of Maneka Gandhi from the post of Minister for Animal Welfare, Statistics & Programme Implementation. She was instrumental in providing grants to animal welfare organizations for purposes such as building animal shelters, purchasing animal ambulances, and operating Animal Birth Control programs. She also provided funds through the Animal Welfare Board of India and helped in rehabilitation of animals rescued from laboratories. She did more for the animals of India, by creating the Animal Welfare ministry, than anyone else in government had done in the past 50 years.

She was ousted because she took a tough stand on behalf of enforcing the rules and regulations which are supposed to govern the care of animals who are subjected to biomedical research. This is a great loss for the animal protection movement, as well as to the poor creatures for whom a lot of work remains to be done.

She had already vigorously enforced the various rules and regulations pertaining to horse racing, and animal exhibition, had banned the use of wild animals in circuses and oversaw their confiscation, pursued strict regulation of slaughterhouses, and made the Animal Birth Control program for street dogs a matter of national policy. She also inhibited the transportation of animals by train to West Bengal and Kerala for illegal slaughter.

It is also said that Maneka Gandhi was removed from office due to pressure from her estranged Sister-in-Law, who is Leader of the Opposition in India.

Whatever may be, animal welfare will be in doldrums.

—Dr.Sandeep K.Jain

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## Animal Welfare Act

The July/August 2002 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial, "Congress delivers 9/11 to the Animal Welfare Act," stated that the USDA in truth never actually did protect rats, mice, and birds as the law directed.

We would add that the USDA is not required to enforce any regulation under the current Animal Welfare Act.

During the federal lawsuit, the out-of-court settlement of which briefly appeared to require the USDA to protect rats, mice, and birds, the court stated that due to how Congress wrote the Animal Welfare Act, the USDA is not required to enforce their own standards, and failure to enforce the standards cannot be challenged.

The wording cited was Title 7, Chapter 54, Section 2146, Administration and enforcement by Secretary, (a) Investigations and inspections, which states that "The Secretary shall make such investigations or inspections as [he deems necessary] to determine whether any dealer, exhibitor, intermediate handler, carrier, research facility,

or operator of an auction sale subject to section 2142 of this title, has violated or is violating any provision of this chapter or any regulation or standard issued thereunder."

The phrase "as he deems necessary" apparently makes rigorous enforcement optional.

Also, I-SPEAK and the Humane Farming Association were the only humane societies openly against the Senate-corrupted downed animal bill. That bill would have allowed the farm industry to just supply one-time treatment "intended" to get a downed animal up, with no further care, to be in compliance. A few well-known humane societies supported this bill and attacked our concern by saying anyone against the bill must be working with the animal industry. These same societies then came out in support of its defeat.

As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** noted, there was silence on the bill disallowing protection for rats, mice, and birds.

Maybe if all the different organizations were not busy pursuing their own individual agendas, more could be accomplished.

—Marc R. Jurnove  
Executive Director  
International Society for the Protection of Exotic Animal Kind & Livestock, Inc.  
998-C Old Country Road, #142  
Plainview, NY 11803  
Phone: 516-935-4607  
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The 800 animals at Primarily Primates survived the July 9 flash-flooding without escapes or deaths, but we all had some scary moments. We lost power, water, and telephones for two days. Big trees were uprooted and surged through the property like battering rams. Your cash contributions to help with the clean-up and fix-up are deeply

*HFA*

## Sanctuarions respond to July/August features

### Dharma donks

Thank you for including an item about our Dharma Donkey Sanctuary activities in Sagroli vil- lage, south Maharashtra, India, in your July/August 2002 edition.

On June 28, the day before our third annual donkey health care and education camp, the police of nearby Biloli village apprehended and jailed six men who were allegedly stealing donkeys for slaughter at an infamous slaughter- house just across the state border in Andra Pradesh. As soon as we heard the news, we went to meet the police. They were very excited that we came, and I took lots of photos of the police captain, his staff, and the two policemen who actually caught the donkey-nappers.

As they told the story, at 4:30 in the morning a policeman and his driver saw the six men lifting donkeys up into a truck, even moms and babies. Since donkeys are normally never lifted into trucks, the police stopped and found out they had no bill of sale. The suspects were immediately arrested. The 24 donkeys were taken into custody for three days, the maximum allowed by law, while the village people were notified that if anyone was missing a donkey, he or she should describe the missing animal in detail, along with describing where and when the animal was last seen.

We already had seven don- keys, our original permanent resi- dents, but accepted from the police 10 more donkeys, who were walked to the sanctuary after the three-day waiting period. Seven of the 10 were females, for whom we had to make a separate shelter and corral,

as our males cannot be castrated until after the monsoon season, toward the end of August or in early September.

—Bonny Shah  
AHIMSA of Texas  
1720 E. Jeter Road  
Bartonville, TX 76226  
<ahimsatx@aol.com>

### Sanctuaries

The July/August feature 'Is 'sanctuary' an illusion?' was informative. Thank you for calling attention to the distinctions between animal care centers which can truthfully be called "sanctuaries" and those which are nothing of the sort.

I must take issue with your comparison of the growth of the American Zoological Association as a representative body and that of the two recognized sanctuary accredita- tion organizations in the U.S., the American Sanctuary Association and The Association of Sanctuaries.

You wrote: "...neither TAOS nor the ASA has ever even approached the membership reach of the AZA, which from the very beginning included the majority of the biggest, best-known, and most influential zoos in the U.S."

This seems to me an unfair comparison.

Of the AZA, you reported that, "20 years ago there were bare- ly 50 AZA-accredited zoos. There are now more than 180."

The AZA was incorporat- ed in 1972, TAOS in 1992, and the ASA barely three years ago.

Currently, there are 45 TAOS-accredited sanctuaries and 39 ASA-accredited sanctuaries. Fifteen sanctuaries have dual accreditation,

for a total of 69 sanctuaries accredi- ted between them.

Regardless of how you do the math, the sanctuary accredita- tion associations include more than half again as many members as the AZA had at a similar point.

The sanctuary accredita- tion associations are perhaps being "exclusionary," as Animal People claims. If this is the case, they are merely doing their jobs. It is neces- sary for them to set and maintain high standards which distinguish sanctuaries giving quality lifetime care from scam-tuaries, dealers, breeders, and roadside zoos.

—Linda Howard  
AESOP Project  
511 Beryl Drive  
San Antonio, TX 78213  
Phone: 210 349 4649  
<lindajhoward@earthlink.net>

### Standards

I enjoyed your article "Is sanctuary an illusion?" very much, but there are a couple of things I would like to address:

First I would like to make it clear that the recommended stan- dards in discussion at this time per- tain only to big cats, wolves and their hybrids, foxes, coyotes, bears, and all primates.

If one believes an animal will die or suffer without handling, then handling should be kept out of public view with the ultimate goal of un-imprinting the animal and intro- ducing it to others of its own kind.

My experience has been that many animals are heavily imprinted on humans upon arrival, but I have never had any die, or

show extreme anxiety and suffering when being rehabilitated and placed with others of their own kind. Sometimes one must seem a little cruel to be kind. The ending product is by far better for any exotic cat or primate than being treated as a household pet and kept in solitary confinement in a sanctuary.

There is no educational value to children seeing these ani- mals on leashes or being cuddled by humans. This promotes the false idea that they are cute and stay cute and cuddly, and can always be han- dled safely, if one spends time nur- turing and handling them.

When we used to take ani- mals off premise, the statement we heard most was, "I want one," no matter how many times we stressed that they don't make good pets.

If the animals are taken out of their enclosures and used to entertain attendees in return for donations, then this without a doubt is commercial activity. No matter how you look at it, it is a way of making money by using animals. If we condone this activity for credible sanctuaries, what gives us the right to condemn the many pseudo-sanctuaries for allowing photo opportuni- ties with cubs and other animals? And how can we honestly say it is wrong for animals to be used in the entertainment industry?

Sanctuaries and the ani- mals we serve cannot afford the effects of these double standards.

—Carol Asvestas  
P.O. Box 690422  
San Antonio, TX 78269  
Phone: 210-688-9038

### Building vegetarian reference library

AR Media, also known as The ARMEDIA Institute, is seeking to build a comprehensive set of research relating to vegetarianism, veganism, and farm animals, from which to draw broad conclusions for vegetarian advocacy and to avoid redundancy in future research. Examples of such work include polling data from the Vegetarian Resource Group <www.vrg.org/nut- shell/poll2000.htm>, and AR Media's focus group report <www.armedia.org/focus.htm>,

## Malaysia

Greetings! We met in Manila at the 2001 Asia for Animals conference. We were the only Malaysian representatives.

We have begun a trap/ neuter/release and spay/neuter sub- sidy program for low-income pet owners. We are preparing a fundraising food fair to support this, and would also greatly appre- ciate any donations from ANI- MAL PEOPLE readers.

Thanks. We look for- ward to seeing you at the next Asia for Animals conference.

—Lily Leng  
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Penang, Malaysia 11600  
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<www.spcapenang.com>

<www.primatesanctuarynsrrp.org>

### ASA resigna- tion

Your July/August 2002 article "Is sanctuary an illusion?" stated that Carol Asvestas resigned from the American Sanctuary Association board of directors when the standards that she proposed were rejected. This is not entirely true. Asvestas resigned when reminded by ASA president Tippi Hedren that she had circulated the draft standards through the Internet and presented them to federal agencies before the ASA board had either discussed or approved them.

—Wallace W. Swett  
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American Sanctuary Association  
and President  
Primarily Primates  
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Fax 830-755-2435  
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<www.primarilyprimates.org>

### "Speak truth to power" and the "suffering angle"

I strongly agree with ANIMAL PEOPLE publisher Kim Bartlett and director Patrice Greanville that downplaying the "animal rights angle" is counterpro- ductive when it comes to enacting laws to help animals. In the legisla- tive arena, however, I would prefer to call it the "suffering angle," as the label "animal rights" raises unnecessary flags.

A political axiom worth heeding is, "Speak truth to power." First, you cannot build a political constituency and lobbying presence on vagueness, nor can you get respect and familiarity with your ideas. Second, if politicians do not know clearly what you really want, they do not know when not to com- promise. Add subsidiary reasons, but do not lead with them. Subsidi- ary reasons can help pro-animal

legislators or county or municipal officials who feel they need a "cover," and they may pick up a couple of votes that will bring you to a winning margin. But you will not win with them.

In Connecticut, the orga- nized opponents of our anti-dog chaining bill managed to spin the focus away from the "suffering angle," enabling Governor John Rowland to veto it even though it was overwhelmingly approved by both houses of the state legislature. Hunters and dog breeders were able to do this because they remain far better organized politically than ani- mal advocates. Together they can swing elections. We cannot—yet.

Animal advocates will continue to fail the animals until we understand that it is essential to focus on political organizing, and

not to think of political awareness and action as optional.

—Julie Lewin  
President & Lobbyist  
Animal Advocacy Connecticut  
and Director  
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*The National Institute for Animal Advocacy's debut political training workshop will be held October 19-21 in Madison, Connecticut. Says Lewin, "Seasoned and successful political organizers from other issue groups and top political aides will instruct you in how to think politically and how to establish your own voting block and political lobbying organization."*

### Robert Smith, (R-N.H.)

I recently received a brochure from Senator Robert Smith, (R-N.H.), who is run- ning for re-election to the U. S. Senate in the September 10 New Hampshire primary against Representative John Sununu (R-N.H.).

Senator Smith helped to ban the sale of dog and cat fur items priced over \$50 in the U.S., helped to pass a bill to promote the adoption of retired military dogs, has helped lead efforts to ban federal subsidies to the mink industry, and has worked to stop space research involving primates.

—Carole L. VaJames  
Ipswich, Massachusetts  
<caroleandchris@juno.com>

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### ANIMAL ADVOCATES LEAD IN PREVENTING HOT CAR DEATHS

ATLANTA—The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported on July 3 that at least 78 children died in accidents associated with parked cars during 2000 and 2001, more than a third of whom died from heat trauma.

The CDCP data indicates that animal advocates are doing a much more effective job of communicating the risk of leaving pets alone in cars than child protection agencies are accomplishing in reaching parents.

The dangers to either animals or small children are the same: heat trauma is the most common cause of death or injury, followed by accidents when a child or animal accidentally puts the car in gear, accidents in which the child or animal escapes from the vehicle, and cases of kidnapping or pet theft.

However, the number of reported deaths of children is more than twice the number of deaths of individual pets, even though there are more than six times as many owned pet dogs and cats in the U.S. as children under age five, and more than 2.5 times as many dogs, the pets most often taken in vehicles.

#### Murder #1

The CDCP report was issued four days after Tarajee Maynor, 25, of Southfield, Michigan, was charged with murder for leaving 10-month-old Acacia Darcell Maynor and three-year-old Adonnis Dominique Maynor unattended in her car for three hours while visiting a hair styling salon.

"I'm going for Murder #1," said Southfield police chief Joseph E. Thomas.

At least two 2001 murder convictions resulted from similar cases. Christine Hayes, 34, of Lafayette, New Jersey, drew seven years for reckless manslaughter after leaving her 13-month-old son Jack in her car to die from severe sunburns and heat exhaustion while smoking marijuana and drinking beer in a nearby house. Paul Wayment, 37, of Weber County, Utah, drew 30 days in jail for negligent homicide after leaving his two-year-old son alone in a pickup truck while deer hunting. Reversing the usual outcome, the boy escaped from the truck and froze to death while trying to find Wayment in deep snow. Instead of reporting to jail, Wayment returned to the scene and shot himself.

Humane Society of the U.S. director of sheltering issues Diane Pullen told Associated Press reporter David B. Caruso in June 2002 that "hundreds" of dogs die in hot vehicles each summer, but cruelty case reports collected by ANIMAL PEOPLE since 1992 indicate that the number of documented cases per year involving individual petkeepers is at most in the dozens.

Most of the documented deaths involve large numbers of animals in transit by

truck or aircraft from breeders to pet stores—like the April 24 deaths of four puppies among a group of 38 found in a van in a parking lot at a beachside motel in Daytona Beach, Florida. Drivers Jeffrey Wayne Hoover, 29, and David Benjamin McCord, 27, on June 17 pleaded innocent to first degree misdemeanor cruelty charges.

In a parallel case involving other species, U.S. Airways on June 25 settled USDA charges pertaining to the deaths of 46 ferrets at an Evansville cargo handling facility during December 2001 by paying a fine of \$50,000. The ferrets died after spending eight days lost in transit. The USDA investigation discovered more than 1,700 other alleged recent U.S. Airways violations of federal animal transportation rules, often resulting in the deaths of small mammals from heat stress.

In another commercial transport case, wallaby breeder Melinda Morgan of Marion County, Florida, on July 1 sued the Lowry Park Zoo in Tampa for allegedly causing the deaths of three wallabies she loaned to the zoo in February 2002 by allowing the back of the unventilated rented truck used to pick them up to become overheated. Six kangaroos survived the two-hour trip.

#### Iowa rap sheet

The recent "hot spot" for individual neglect cases seems to be Iowa. Darren Hertzler, 24, was charged on June 29 for leaving his brother's beagle named Wilson in a plastic carrier inside a hot car without water, as punishment for urinating in Hertzler's apartment. Wilson died. Johnson County attorney J. Patrick White said he had received more than 300 e-mails urging that Hertzler be given the maximum possible sentence.

In Nevada, Iowa, meanwhile, the Story County Sheriff's Department charged Iowa State University zoology professor Joseph Viles, of Ames, with neglect of two Malamutes he allegedly left chained together in his car while inside the Story County Courthouse to answer an earlier neglect charge. Assistant city attorney Judy Parks said Viles had been charged with breaking animal care ordinances at least 16 times since 1995.

For decades, animal advocacy groups warned petkeepers each summer about the dangers of leaving pets alone in hot cars—but cruelty prosecutions of people who did it were almost unheard of. That changed in 1991 when the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department prosecuted Cynthia Boot Binewicz for leaving a Lhasa apso named Maxine locked in her Mercedes-Benz in a West Hollywood parking lot on a 100-degree Fahrenheit day. Sheriff's deputy Kristin Aggas broke a window to rescue Maxine. Boot-Binewicz tearfully pleaded no contest. As Aggas, Boot-

Binewicz, and Maxine all proved photogenic, the story drew national attention.

By April 1999, enough people were aware that confinement in a hot car could kill a dog that more than a dozen strangers gathered around the vehicle of one Alfred Yaghoubi, 31, in Oxnard, California, and demanded that police arrest him for leaving a puppy in the trunk. Yaghoubi was arrested, and the police towed the car away too.

#### Famous perps

In June 1999 the risks to dogs in hot cars drew further notoriety when former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Jeanne M. Kirkpatrick was fined \$45 for leaving her poodle Jasper in her car with windows tight shut on a 90-degree day in Bethesda, Maryland. Just a week earlier, then-Republican candidate for the U.S. Presidency Elizabeth Dole, a longtime animal welfare advocate, had named Kirkpatrick as her chief foreign policy advisor.

The mythical "Famous Persons Act" did not spare the Lady Bute, Diane Percy, 33, of Edinburgh, Scotland, either. Percy was fined \$1,500 in February 1999, and was prohibited from keeping pets for five years, after her mother's Rottweiler and Finn spitz died in her car from heat exhaustion even though Percy had left a window three inches open.

"It was a just sentence," Percy said.

Prosecutions are still relatively rare: ANIMAL PEOPLE received documentation of just eight U.S. cases in 1999, 15 in 2000, nine in 2001, and five in the first half of 2002. Prevention, however, is getting attention going beyond just warnings. Terry Radigan, manager of safety communications for General Motors, announced in April 2001 that GM expects to begin offering an alarm linked to a heat sensor as an option on 2004-model minivans which would go off if a sleeping child or animal remained in a vehicle after the interior temperature exceeded a dangerous level.

"GM also is testing a device to sense the breathing of a child or animal trapped inside a car trunk and spring the trunk lid," wrote Bob Golfen of the *Arizona Republic*.

#### Police dogs

In June, Philadelphia philanthropist Kal Rudman paid for installing the Rescue Coolguard alert system in all 12 Philadelphia police cruisers used by K-9 units, at cost of just under \$400 per car, after a five-year-old German shepherd named Woodrow baked to death in the cruiser used by Joseph Arrison, 49. Arrison, a 28-year police officer and 15-year member of the K-9 unit, forgot to remove Woodrow at the end of their May 24 shift.

"The Rescue CoolGuard alert system, manufactured by American Aluminum Accessories of Perry, Florida, uses sensors to



This dog was at risk. (M.C.)

monitor temperature inside the cruiser," explained David B. Caruso of Associated Press. "The system is tripped when the interior hits 88 degrees. Once tripped, the system rolls down the cruiser's windows, activates a cooling fan, and sounds a horn or siren. Similar systems have been available since the late 1970s," Caruso wrote, "though sales have accelerated in recent years. Janet Worsham, president of Criminalistics Inc. of Miami, said her company has sold 3,000 to 4,000 heat monitors to police departments in the U.S. and Canada," at \$305-plus apiece.

Five of the 29 most recent dog-in-hot-car death cases known to ANIMAL PEOPLE have involved dogs in police custody. The other victims were:

- Dar, a three-and-a-half-year-old Czechoslovakian shepherd trained for drug-sniffing, who died on June 7, 2002, from heat stroke in a portable kennel in the vehicle of former Scott City, Kansas, police officer Doug Haire, even though Haire left him with water and left the car windows down. Haire subsequently resigned from the Scott City Police Department.

- Two English bulldogs, who died from heat exhaustion in Greene County, Illinois, in July 2001, as the U.S. Secret Service, Green County Sheriff's Department, and Springfield city police arrested owner Edward Clyde Allen Sr. and his son, Edward Clyde Allen Jr., for alleged counterfeiting. The three agencies searched the Allen premises, seized \$440,000 in purported bogus bills, and kept would-be rescuer Patty Hon, a neighbor, from approaching. The investigating officers believed the dogs were dangerous. Three hours elapsed before they resolved who had jurisdiction to seize them.

- Lady, a drug-sniffing beagle handled by an undercover detective assigned to the Metro Narcotics Task Force in Salt Lake City, Utah, who died when left in a car during July 2000. The detective was charged with negligent cruelty. Details of the disposition of the case were withheld to protect his identity.

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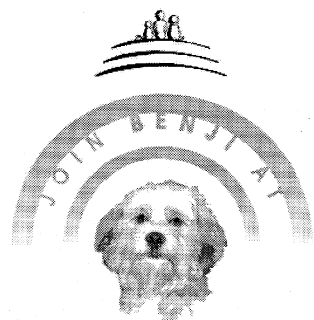
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## Estrogen warning may help horses *(from page 1)*

—though perhaps only until the results of the ongoing portions of the study are in.

The July 9 warning to the study participants confirmed reports circulating since the April 2002 preliminary release of findings as part of an International Position Paper on Women's Health and Menopause. Women's Health Initiative lead researcher Nanette K. Wenger, M.D., edited the paper, to which an international panel of 28 scientists contributed.

Rating front-page coverage by *The New York Times*, but lightly covered—if at all—by other news media, the position paper was jointly funded by the U.S. National Institutes of Health and the Giovanni Loren Zini Medical Science Foundation of Italy.

### Ups and downs

Wyeth has managed to keep the pregnant mare's urine industry profitable through bad-news cycles before, and may yet find another way to do so.

"The use of horse urine in hormone replacement therapy for menopausal women was first introduced in 1930 when the German newspaper *Zondeck* published a study showing that equine urine was a rich source of estrogen," summarized Robin Gaby Fisher of the *Winnipeg Star-Ledger*. "Two years later, scientists at Ayerst Pharmaceutical in Montreal began to develop a hormone replacement drug. Early research had relied on the urine of nuns and pregnant women, but the supplies were limited, so the scientists at Ayerst began testing the urine of livestock. Ten years later, in 1942, Premarin was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration."

The major market for estrogen supplements during the next three decades was in connection with making birth control drugs. Ayerst Pharmaceutical became Wyeth-Ayerst, and cashed in.

The pregnant mare's urine industry of that era was centered in Quebec and Ontario, with other producers scattered about New England. The product was refined in Montreal, trucked in bulk to Rouse's Point, Vermont, and packaged there for global distribution.

The surplus foals produced by keeping tens of thousands of mares almost continuously pregnant made Quebec the center of the North American horsemeat export industry, as well, selling mainly to customers in continental Europe.

As other estrogen formulations gained ascendance in the birth control field, Wyeth-Ayerst found a new profit center in menopausal symptomatic relief. In 1966 Wyeth-Ayerst funded Robert Wilson, M.D., to write and extensively promote a book called *Feminine Forever*, extolling the benefits of estrogen therapy in keeping women physically youthful. The book became a bestseller, Wilson developed a fashionable private practice on Park Avenue in Manhattan, and by 1975 Premarin was the fifth best-selling prescription drug in the U.S.

In 1975, however, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration ordered that women taking estrogen supplements must be warned that the supplements may be linked to a higher risk of uterine cancer. The NIH dealt another blow to the estrogen supplement industry in 1979 by reporting that the supplements were demonstrably medically useful only in treating hot flashes and vaginal dryness.

But Wyeth rallied during the 1980s after additional studies indicated that combining Progestin with Premarin offset the uterine cancer risk. Then in 1984 the National Institutes of Health added to previous findings the observation that women taking estrogen supplements seemed to have less bone loss and fewer fractures associated with osteoporosis.

Premarin sales accelerated despite a 1990 Nurses Health Study report

that women using estrogen for a prolonged time appeared to have a 36% greater chance of developing breast cancer. The same year, the FDA denied Wyeth-Ayerst permission to advertise that Premarin could help post-menopausal women to avoid heart disease.

Aging production facilities, investor anxieties about Quebec nationalism, and the rise of concern about the treatment and fate of the horses meanwhile combined to push the pregnant mares' urine industry westward.

Of the 419 ranches currently keeping urine-producing mares under contract to Wyeth, as the firm is now called, 248 are in Manitoba, 93 in Saskatchewan, 56 in Alberta, and 22 in North Dakota.

### Renewed protest

Humane organizations have scant presence in most of the region. After the pregnant mares' urine industry left Quebec, Ontario, and New England, the plight of the horses was almost entirely overlooked until in early 1993 Canadian Farm Animal Care Trust founder Tom Hughes shared with **ANIMAL PEOPLE** his findings from visits to Manitoba pregnant mares' urine farms in 1991 and 1992.

Hughes, of Barrie, Ontario, was among the Ontario Humane Society inspectors whose earlier reports drove the pregnant mares' urine industry west, after producers failed to meet basic horse care standards. Hughes found that the western producers were somewhat less inhumane than their eastern predecessors of a generation earlier, but argued that their methods could still use improvement.

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** put a summary of the Hughes findings on page one in April 1993, along with more critical commentary by other horse experts.

At that time, pregnant mares' urine producers were sending an estimated 70,000 foals and "retired" mares to slaughter each year, and the industry was expanding production facilities, anticipating a surge of demand as the Baby Boom generation hit menopause.

The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** coverage was amplified within the next several months by three of the five biggest newspapers in New York City, received the International Generic Horse Association/HorseAid "Equine Awareness in Media" award, and was amplified again through special mailings of the coverage to lists of potentially concerned recipients.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Friends of Animals, the Animal Protection Institute, the World Society for the Protection of Animals, and Animal Rights Mobilization all started anti-Premarin campaigns that fall.

### Fewer horses

Other animal advocacy groups followed. The number of pregnant mares' urine producers—485 as of 1990—began to decline. Countering boycotts eventually called by more than 50 national and international animal advocacy organizations, Wyeth funded formation of the North American Equine Ranching Information Council, based in Lexington, Kentucky. NAERIC pushed the idea that there might be destinations for the foals of urine-producing mares other than slaughter and/or replacing their mothers on the production lines.

Currently, NAERIC claims, mares bred to produce estrogen-rich urine under contract to Wyeth give birth to about 35,000 foals per year—half the estimated volume in 1990.

"Last year, in Manitoba alone, 21,000 Premarin foals were born, based on statistics collected by the Manitoba government from Wyeth's Ayerst Organics Division," wrote Robin Gaby Fisher of the *Winnipeg Star-Ledger*. "Of

those foals, 30% to 40% were sentenced to slaughter, said Janet Honey, manager of market analysis and statistics for the Manitoba agricultural and food division."

Other industry observers including longtime horse rescuer Ray Kellosalmi, M.D., of British Columbia, International Generic Horse Association/HorseAid cofounders Enzo Giobe and Stacy Wilson, and Robin Duxbury of Project Equus believe from their personal investigations in western Canada that at least twice as many foals are slaughtered.

"The lowest number that I have ever seen sold to slaughter" at auction "was 52%," Kellosalmi told Fisher. "The highest was 99%. At least 70% to 80% go to slaughter" overall.

Said Equine Advocates president and founder Susan Wagner, "We have always hoped that the treatment of the horses in the pregnant mares' urine industry would stop people from taking these drugs, but the reality has always been that medical consequences would be the thing to do it. Now, with these new studies, we think we may finally see an end to a 60-year catastrophe for horses."

But even if Wagner is right, the catastrophe may get worse, in the short run, United Pegasus Foundation president Helen Meredith told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Preparing to make her annual pilgrimage of recent years to the Manitoba foal auctions to buy Premarin foals for adoption and sanctuary placement in southern California, Meredith anticipated that ranchers may breed fewer mares for urine production after this year, but will also retire more mares.

The full-grown mares, mostly of big draft breeds, will fetch a higher price from slaughter buyers at auction, and will be much more expensive and difficult to try to reroute to any other fate.

"The good news," Meredith agreed, "is that once the ranchers sell their mares, they won't be breeding any longer."  
—M.C.

CHAMP 2003

*Premarin mares in Manitoba. (Tom Hughes)*

## Veggies and soy cut breast cancer risk—new studies

**LONDON, NEW YORK**—Frequent consumption of soya milk and tofu, the curded form of tofu favored in cooking, may reduce the risk of breast cancer, the British charity Cancer Research U.K. announced on July 6, 2002, citing findings from a study of 406 women living in Singapore.

Working in partnership with the U.S. National Cancer Institute and the National University of Singapore, Cancer Research U.K. scientists found that the women who ate the most tofu were 60% less likely to develop the forms of high-density breast tissue most associated with developing breast cancer. The findings were reported in the peer-reviewed journal *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers and Prevention*.

Often used in place of cow's milk and meat products, soya milk and tofu are staples of vegan and vegetarian diets in the U.S. and Britain.

The study was the second in recent months to link vegetarianism with reduced risk of breast cancer.

The *International Journal of Cancer* in May 2002 published a study of 717 South Asian women who had emigrated to Britain, 240 of whom subsequently developed breast cancer while 477 did not.

Isabel dos Santos Silva, M.D., and colleagues at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine found that "lifelong vegetarianism may be associated with a reduction in the risk of breast cancer through its association with a higher intake of vegetables and (legumes)."

Download your *free* HANDBOOK ON RABIES by Maneka Gandhi and **ANIMAL PEOPLE**:  
<http://207.36.248.191/rabiesEN.html>

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*En Français:*

[http://207.36.38.241/FR/FR/rabies\\_FR.html](http://207.36.38.241/FR/FR/rabies_FR.html)

## U.K. Mammals Trust says "Yankee animals, go home!"

LONDON—Great Britain from the time of Queen Elizabeth I through the reign of Queen Victoria energetically exported favored livestock and wildlife species throughout the British Empire.

Rabbits and foxes were sent to Australia and New Zealand, starlings and house sparrows to the U.S.—but now Britain is on the receiving end of introductions, especially from the U.S., and some conservationists view the new arrivals as threats to the national character.

David Macdonald and Fran Tattersall of the Mammals Trust reported in May 2002 that the population of native English water voles fell by 90% during the 20th century, due to habitat competition and predation by introduced American mink.

Macdonald and Tattersall also blamed the recent decline of native red squirrels on the success of introduced American grey squirrels, and lamented that DNA analysis of native British pine martens showed the presence of at least two American pine martens in their gene pool.

"The discovery of this species in northern England is a depressingly early fulfillment of our prediction last year that numbers of alien species are likely to increase," Macdonald and Tattersall warned.

In other words, Macdonald and Tattersall found that the Yanks are "Oversexed, overabundant, and over here," as British soldiers complained of U.S. air crews stationed in England during World War II, who were notorious for increasing the genetic diversity of both the British and

American human populations, at expense of notions about cultural purity.

Ruddy ducks, native to the U.S. but introduced to Britain in 1950, have already been subject of an extermination campaign since 1999, specifically because they migrate to Spain and hybridize with whiteheaded ducks, a close relative. Genetically "pure" whiteheaded ducks are now scarce.

A quiet cull of 2,600 ruddy ducks by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in July 2002 was denounced by Animal Aid director Andrew Tyler as a "callous, cynical, anti-democratic and sick genetic cleansing operation."

The same week, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed a cull of domesticated mallards from Florida waters to keep them from hybridizing with mottled ducks. The gist of the issue on both sides of the Atlantic is that differently colored ducks simply do not recognize "species" differences among themselves defined by 19th century taxonomists, that in actuality are no greater than the genetically minute differences among humans of different race and dogs of different breed.

The British government has also made sporadic efforts to cull mink and grey squirrels, but both are already broadly distributed and are evidently better adapted to the present British environment than the natives, possibly as result of climate change and, in the case of the squirrels, changes in the predominant types of forest.

"The big issue now is the eradication of mink. There are probably millions of mink," Mammals Trust chief executive Valerie

Keeble told *Daily Telegraph* environment editor Charles Clover.

"People are unwilling to make this a very high profile issue," continued Keeble. "Everybody is afraid of a backlash," should the British government encourage mink hunting and trapping after abolishing mink ranching under animal rights movement pressure.

The conservation organization Scottish Natural Heritage meanwhile announced a plan to try to extirpate an estimated 5,000 hedgehogs from the Uists islands in the Outer Hebrides, to protect nesting seabirds. Introduced in 1974 as an attempted biological control on garden-damaging slugs and snails, the hedgehogs prey upon the eggs of dunlin, lapwing, redshank, and snipe.

By July 10, Scottish Natural Heritage was in retreat, as the British Hedgehog Preservation Association, British Hedgehog Conservation Society, Advocates for Animals, and Kirkcudbright Hedgehog Rescue mobilized to demand the opportunity to repatriate the animals to Britain alive.

"English gardeners are crying out for hedgehogs to predate on slugs," the Baroness Miller of Chilthorne Damer told James Freeman of the *Glasgow Herald*, in her capacity as environment spokesperson for the Liberal Democrat Party.

"We have an army of volunteers willing to travel to the islands to pick up the animals. There is no way we will allow the hedgehogs to be culled," declared Les Stocker of St. Tiggywinkle's hedgehog hospital and sanctuary to Paul Kelbie, Scotland correspondent for *The Independent*.

## Prairie dogs

WASHINGTON D.C.—The National Wildlife Federation on June 26, 2002 asked the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to protect blacktailed prairie dogs throughout its holdings, but continued to withhold any denunciation of the 2002 Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation "gopher" derby, which killed more than 63,000 blacktailed prairie dogs and Richardson's ground squirrels.

The SWF is an affiliate of the Canadian Wildlife Federation, which shares programs and policies with NWF.

Seven other U.S. conservation groups in early July asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list whitetailed prairie dogs as a threatened species. Utah and Mexican prairie dogs are already listed as a threatened species, and the Fish and Wildlife Service has acknowledged that blacktailed prairie dogs are eligible for listing, but has not assigned them a high priority on the waiting list of candidate species.

Pressured by ranchers and prairie dog shooters, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission on July 24 voted 5-1 against protecting prairie dogs on state lands.

"We have the expertise in dealing with projects like this one," Stocker continued, "as we are regularly involved in wildlife cleanup operations. Hedgehogs are probably one of the easiest species to relocate, and when the time comes, we are prepared to relocate many of them to the south of England, where the climate and habitat are ideal."

(Related articles on pages 1, 19.)

## Events

**August 22-25: Conference on Homeless Animal Management and Policy**, Reno. Info: <www.CHAMPconference.org>; 516-883-7767; fax 516-944-5035.

**August 24-Sept. 2: Natl. Primate Liberation Week**. Info: <saen@worldnet.att.net>.

**Sept. 14-15: Sanctuary 101**, Pasado's Safe Haven, Sultan, Wash.. Info: 360-793-9393; <susan@pasadosafehaven.org>.

**Sept. 19: Connecticut Animal Control Officers Assn. conf.**, Cromwell. Info: 860-423-7195.

**Sept. 19-22: National Humane Conf.**, Denver. Info: American Humane Assn., 1-800-227-4645.

**Sept. 21: 75th anniversary**, Humane Society of Baltimore County, Reisterstown, Md. Info: 410-833-2387.

**September 23-28: International Orca Symposium**, Chizli, France. Info: <www.cebc.cnrs.fr>.

**Sept. 26-28: Pacific NW Animal Care & Control Conf.**, Seattle. Info: Paul Delgado, 425-745-6175; <paul@cityofmillcreek.com>.

**Sept. 27-28: Critter-Aid Conf.**, Penticon, B.C., Canada. Info: <catbud-dy@quadrant.net>.

**Sept. 28: Charlottesville Vegetarian Festival**, Lee Park, Charlottesville, Va. Info: 434-823-1200 or <cvillevegfest@aol.com>.

**Oct. 3-6: Southern Regional Leadership Conf.**, New Orleans. Info: Spay/USA, 1-800-248-SPAY, or <www.spayusa.org>.

**Oct. 4-6: Compassionate Living Festival**, Raleigh, N.C. Info:

(continued on page 11)

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



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Since 1967, The Fund for Animals has been providing hard-hitting information to the public and crucial resources to grassroots organizations and activists. Cleveland Amory's landmark book, *Man Kind? Our Incredible War on Wildlife*, launched the American anti-hunting movement. And today, The Fund carries on Cleveland Amory's legacy by launching campaigns, lawsuits, and rescue efforts to stop animal abuse around the nation. Please visit The Fund for Animals online at [www.fund.org](http://www.fund.org), where you can find the following information and resources.

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## Islamic zoos & Chinese ani-

**DEN HAGUE, JAKARTA, KABUL, AMMAN, LAS VEGAS**—Mohammed, reputedly fond of cats, might have given his special blessing to a cat who found herself locked inside a minaret at a mosque in Den Hague, The Netherlands, on July 26 after Friday prayers. The cat summoned help by somehow switching on the minaret sound system and amplifying her meows along with Turkish music throughout the downtown area, the newspaper *Algemeen Dagblad* reported. Her people recognized her voice and called the police, but the key to the minaret was not found until Sunday.

The episode demonstrated that even on the rare occasions when animals' distress is broadcast from on high, and all are agreed that relief is overdue, mustering an effective response can still be painfully slow.

Determined efforts are underway in many different parts of the Islamic world, with international help, to bring the zoos and educational programs that were considered the best of their time for more than 400 years back to their former glory.

"Can zoos of the Islamic world live up to the legacy of Akbar the Great?", **ANIMAL PEOPLE** asked in a June 2002 progress report, referring to the 16th century Mogul emperor of India whose zoos' gateway inscriptions admonished, "Meet your brothers. Take them to your hearts, and respect them."

### Malaysia

Malaysian minister for science, technology, and development Seri Law Hieng Ding moved in that direction on July 3, issuing animal care and safety guidelines to take immediate effect at all 44 public and private animal exhibition sites in the nation.

Law told Sim Leoi Leoi of the *Malaysia Star* that the guidelines were "drawn up following a series of meetings and consulta-

tions with the various zoos and with the Malaysian Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums. Some zoos are managed very well," Law continued, "but there are some zoo operators whose policies and procedures lead to cruel treatment of their animals," or to health and safety risks to visitors.

Law suggested that better zoos would mean more visitors. That lesson was learned in the U.S. nearly 30 years ago, and leading zoos discovered that borrowing money to improve animal exhibits rapidly pays for itself, and that upgrading at least one major exhibit per year is not only best for the animals but best for income, as more people come, stay longer, buy more from the concessionaires, and make more return visits.

### Indonesia

Zoos in the poorer parts of the world have been cautious about following the U.S. model, favoring the older and less costly approach of trying to lure more visitors by obtaining ever more exotic species.

The Ragunan Zoo in South Jakarta, Indonesia, on July 8 received four male gorillas from the Howletts & Port Lymphne Animal Park in Kent, England. Food and care for the gorillas was guaranteed for three years by the Gibbon Foundation, headed by renowned orangutan rehabilitator Willy Smits. Originally set for 2001, the transfer was delayed after members of the zoo administration allegedly tried to bill the city for food costs already paid by the Gibbon Foundation.

The gorillas arrived just one day after *The Jakarta Post* reported that "Dozens of elephants at the Elephant Training Center in the Way Kambas Nature Reserve, East Lampung, are in danger because their trainers are unable to provide them with sufficient food. Several years ago, a number of elephants at the center died because of insufficient food. Making the situation worse, some of the elephant trainers have not received their full salaries, and are threatening to quit."

Diversions of funding were suspected. Indonesia has repeatedly been identified by economic analysts as the major nation most hindered by corruption—but among other recent hints of growing public interest in reducing corruption on every front, the organization Animal Conservation for Life on July 4 distributed to news media a printed report and accompanying video called *Flying Without Wings*, documenting the involvement of Indonesian naval officers in the illegal parrot trade. Made in May 2001, the video showed "hundreds of parrots on board the warship *Teluk Manado #537*," wrote Rita A. Widiadana of *The Jakarta Post*. The year-long Animal Conservation for Life probe was funded by the Royal SPCA.

### Humane education

The Kabul Zoo, in the capital of Afghanistan, was built by the Koln Zoo in Germany in a deliberate effort to evoke the atmosphere of the great Islamic zoos, combined with modern European-style veterinary facilities, and was meant to be a model for zoos throughout Asia. The idea was to encourage public appreciation of native wildlife by exhibiting rare Afghan species. The educational mission of the zoo was to include discouraging poaching and wildlife trafficking, encouraging better care of work animals, training veterinarians, and promoting anti-rabies vaccination of dogs and cats.

Twenty years of civil war killed most of the 400-plus Kabul Zoo animals, wrecked the site, and by the early 1990s had forced the Koln Zoo to withdraw from active involvement. The idea remained alive, however, and has been pursued on a small scale by German donors elsewhere in the region.

The German Agency for



*Mandalay Bay may pay five times the San Diego Zoo price for a panda. (Kim Bartlett)*

Technical Cooperation, for instance, headed by Jasmin Sadoun, on July 10 granted 84,000 euros to the Humane Centre for Animal Welfare in Amman, Jordan, directed by Margaret Ledger. According to Jumana Heresh of *The Jordan Times*, the funding is to help Ledger expand her humane education program by forming animal care clubs in schools, and starting extra-curricular activities such as guided nature walks and a volunteer program at the HCAW clinic and shelter.

Eventually, Heresh indicated, Ledger hopes to add in-service training to improve the skills of local veterinarians.

### Kabul & China

The grand ambitions for the Kabul Zoo, meanwhile, were never entirely forgotten, as the long unpaid zookeepers reportedly continued doing some wildlife rehabilitation and rescue and public education, as best they could, throughout the six years of Taliban rule. Despite the devastation and deprivation felt throughout the nation, Afghans themselves repeatedly told foreign correspondents during the war against the Taliban that restoring the zoo would be a cultural priority.

North Carolina Zoo director and Brooke Hospital for Animals board chair David Jones raised \$530,000 from the international zoo community to get the work started. World Society for the Protection of Animals program director John Walsh led an advance team to assist the surviving animals in January 2002, and U.S. and European zoos have subsequently sent rotating teams of experts to keep the work going.

The biggest problem the Kabul Zoo has now is that the China Wildlife Conservation Association, eager to help, on July 12 donated two three-year-old African lions from the Beijing Badaling Safari World to replace Marjan, the symbol of Afghan hardihood who survived the two decades of fighting by just a few days.

In addition, the CWCA reportedly promised Abdul Basir Hotak, the senior Afghan diplomat in China, that the Badaling Safari World would send along a wolf, two deer, several bears, and a variety of wild pigs, chickens, and peacocks, plus a keeper to stay with them for a month as they adjust to their new surroundings—all to arrive by air and rail in early August, Hotak proudly announced.

"The most important thing is that Kabul is ready to receive the animals," Hotak said. "Preparations have been made to restore electricity and water, and to repair the cages. Everything is ready," Hotak insisted to

Agence France-Presse.

"This is not welcome news," contradicted Jones. "We have made some progress in providing properly for the animals who have survived the war, but the Kabul Zoo is in no condition to take on additional animals. It is still not easy for the staff to provide for the few animals they have, and to bring in more now would simply complicate and delay the rehabilitation efforts. We hope to persuade both the Afghan and Chinese authorities," Jones said, "to delay this generous gift until the restoration of the Kabul Zoo is complete. There is nothing wrong with the offer, but it is the wrong time to put these animals in place."

### Las Vegas & China

It was an awkward issue for Jones, and an awkward time for the American Zoo Association, whose spokesperson Jane Ballentyne distributed Jones' remarks to media just one day before *Washington Post* staff writer Eric Planin disclosed that the Mandalay Bay Resort, of Las Vegas, was working in cooperation with the AZA to acquire a pair of panda bears from China.

Mandalay Bay in 2001 sent Sig Rogich, a public relations consultant and former U.S. ambassador to Iceland, to China "to confer with government officials and submit a letter of intent, declaring the resort's interest in acquiring two pandas," Planin wrote.

"While the Chinese have routinely charged zoos \$10 million for the use of two pandas over 10 years," Planin continued, "Mandalay Bay officials have strongly hinted that a panda exhibit in Las Vegas might generate as much as \$50 million a year, and that they were prepared to give all of it to China."

Said AZA executive director Sydney J. Butler, "One might initially question, as I did, what a Las Vegas casino has to do with conservation, but I found the Mandalay Bay folks to be committed and willing to do what is professionally necessary."

The proposed panda exhibit would be managed by the Vancouver Aquarium, whose personnel already manage the two-year-old Shark Reef aquarium at Mandalay Bay.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service assistant director for international affairs and three staff members examined the proposal and the panda exhibit site in June, Planin said.

Responded World Wildlife Fund vice president for species conservation Ginette Hemley, "At first blush, I find it hard to imagine how housing pandas under the same roof with showgirls and blackjack tables furthers panda conservation. It smacks of com-

## One orca freed, ten to be caught and sold

**VANCOUVER, B.C.; SEA OF OKHOTSK**—The orphaned orca A-73, who followed the Seattle/Vachon Island ferry boats throughout the spring in southern Puget Sound, was captured, treated for minor ailments, taken back to the A-pod home waters in the Johnstone Strait, and reunited with the pod in mid-July 2002, at total cost of \$800,000.

The greatest part of the expense was borne by the Nichols Brothers boatyard in Freeland, Washington, whose jet catamaran did the hauling.

By July 18, A-73 was often seen with A-51, a 16-year-old orphaned female, among the 60-to-70-member A-pod.

The A-73 rescue came just as Russia authorized hunters along the remote Sea of Okhotsk permission to capture up to 10 orcas for sale to aquariums. The newly opened Port Nagoya Public Aquarium in Japan is expected to be the top bidder.

Russia already routinely exports beluga whales and dolphins for exhibit.

The Alaskan subsistence whaling season brought the June 25 death of Melton Ozenna, 41, of Little Diomed, when his boat was overturned by a harpooned gray whale. The village was notified by the International Whaling Commission that it will be fined for hunting grey whales without a quota.

The IWC is to hold a special fall meeting to consider reinstating the Alaskan subsistence quota of 50 bowhead whales to be killed over the next five years, Barrow Whaling Captains Association president Eugene Brower told the *Arctic Sounder* in mid-July, after Japan withdrew opposition to the quota. Japan blocked the quota at the May 2002 IWC annual meeting, in retaliation after the U.S. blocked a Japanese application for a "subsistence" quota on behalf of coastal villages in the Japanese north.

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## UNITED STATES LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

**California Governor Gray Davis** in mid-July signed into law a bill by state assembly member **Virginia Strom-Martin** (D-Duncans Mills) which encourages human services personnel to report any suspected cases of animal abuse they may encounter on the job. Animal cruelty investigators are already required to report any suspected cases of child abuse that they discover. The Strom-Martin bill was introduced to mandate cross-reporting, but was amended to be non-binding after child welfare agencies testified that the cumulative cost of the extra paperwork would be about \$200,000 statewide per year.

**On July 7, Governor Davis signed into law a bill introducing criminal penalties for falsely representing foods as meeting Muslim dietary standards**, such as misidentifying a pork product as another type of meat, failing to identify the use of alcohol as a food ingredient, or misrepresenting conventionally slaughtered meat as having come from halal slaughter. Similar laws already exist in New Jersey, Minnesota, and Illinois, with bills pending in New York, Texas, and Virginia. The Illinois law may have some value in helping to accurately identify vegetarian foods, and in ensuring that halal butchers are registered and inspected. One reason for the introduction of such bills is the reported proliferation of unlicensed, uninspected backyard slaughtering businesses, operating in disregard of any animal welfare standards, in

some cities with large Muslim populations. Similar legislation in many states has for decades governed kosher slaughter and distribution of meat killed by sport hunters.

**Nebraska Governor Mike Johanns** on July 5 signed into law a set of regulations prohibiting the capture and sale of any of the 62 native Nebraska reptiles and amphibians. Adopted by the **Nebraska Game and Parks Commission** in January 2002, the regulations implement a 1993 law—and fulfill a 30-year quest by **Angie Byorth**, of Lincoln, who changed her middle name to “Turtle Lady” and sought election to public office to publicize the plight of Nebraska herps. Similar regulations are under consideration in Maine, where the **Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife** in May 2002 proposed a limited turtle-trapping season, then withdrew that proposal to recommend no legal turtle-trapping.

**The Arkansas Secretary of State** on July 23 certified that a proposed citizen initiative to create felony penalties for animal cruelty and cockfighting has been endorsed by enough registered voters to qualify for the November 2 state ballot.

**Illinois Governor George Ryan** in July signed into law three bills which prohibit awarding rabbits, ducklings, or chickens as prizes in fairground games, make bestiality a felony, and increase the penalties for injuring a police, search-and-rescue, or service dog.

**Floridans for Humane Farms** on July 23 turned over to the Secretary of State for validation 690,749 signatures on petitions seeking an initiative ban on raising pigs in close-confinement sow stalls.

**The Kentucky Department of Agriculture Animal Control Advisory Board** has set an August 30 deadline for submissions of designs for a special license plate to be sold to fund a pet sterilization program, recently authorized by the state legislature and endorsed by **Governor Paul Patton**.

**Tennessee Governor Don Sundquist** on July 15 signed into law a bill creating a felony penalty for aggravated cruelty to animals and establishing additional non-criminal punishments for persons convicted. The law exempts “dispatching wild or abandoned animals on a farm,” anything done to “horses and livestock,” and “applying methods and equipment used to train animals,” as well as “lawful hunting, fishing, or trapping,” “bona-fide scientific tests,” and “engaging in normal practices accepted by colleges of agriculture or veterinary medicine.”

**New Jersey Governor James E. McGreevey** on July 25 signed an executive order creating a state task force to examine means of implementing changes to the state anti-cruelty laws recommended in 2001 by the **State Commission of Investigations**, after a three-year probe of alleged misconduct by some chapters of the **New Jersey SPCA**.

## New laws abroad

**The Bulgarian Parliament on July 10 declared brown bears a protected species**, who may no longer be hunted, bought, sold, or displayed to a paying audience. About 800 bears inhabit the Bulgarian mountains, 30 bears are in zoos, 21 are kept by gypsy exhibitors of “dancing bears.” 11 are in breeding colonies set up to maintain the zoo population, and four belong to circuses, according to the **International Bear Foundation**. The Dutch-based IBF in 2000 paid for microchipping all 66 captive bears, while the **Fondation Brigitte Bardot** and the Austrian group **Vier Pfoten** founded a 2.7-acre bear sanctuary near the Rila monastery, founded in the 13th century at the reputed site of the grotto of the 10th century animal-loving vegetarian saint **John of Rila**.

**The Singapore Parliament on July 8 passed a new Animals and Birds Bill**, which increases the maximum penalty for cruelty to a fine of \$10,000 and a year in jail, and empowers the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore to enter and search any premises where cruelty is believed to have occurred. The new Animals and Birds Bill also defines abandoning an animal as a criminal offense. The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority and the Singapore SPCA have been frustrated by a decade of failing to reduce shelter killing below plateaus of about 9,000 dogs and 12,000 cats per year.

### Events

(from page 9)

<njregan@nc.rr.com>, or  
<www.cultureandanimals.org>

**October 2: World Farm Animals Day.** Info: 1-888-FARM-USA; <www.wfad.org>

**Oct. 4-6: The Culture of Whales,** American Cetacean Society conf., Seattle. Info: <www.acsonline.org>

**October 16-18: North Carolina Animal Rabies Control Assn.** conference, Boon, N.C. Info: <www.ncarca.com>

**October 18-21: National Institute for Animal Advocacy** training course. Info: 203-453-6590; <jlewin@igc.org>

**October 23-25: Virginia Animal Control Association** conference, Virginia Beach. Info: Mark Kumpf, 757-441-5503; <Mark.kumpf@norfolk.gov>

**October 25-27: No More Homeless Pets** conference, Atlanta. Info: Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, 435-644-2001, x129; <info@bestfriends.org>

**November 6-8: Intl. Conf. on Animal Protection in Spain,** Barcelona. Info: <www.altarriba.org> or <ciplae@altarriba.org>

**November 11-13: Texas Animal Control Association** conf., Abilene. Info: <laural@ci.brownsville.tx.us>

**Nov. 11-13: Australian Koala Foundation** conf. Info: <www.savethekoala.com>

**November 13-15: International Companion Animal Welfare Conf.,** Prague, Czech Republic. Info: <www.icawc.org>

**Nov. 13-16: Florida Animal Control Assn.** conf., Indian Rocks Beach. Info: <asshq@t-graye.com>

**Nov. 17-20: Carnivores: From the Mountains to the Sea,** hosted by Defenders of Wildlife in Monterey, Calif. Info: 202-789-2844, x315.

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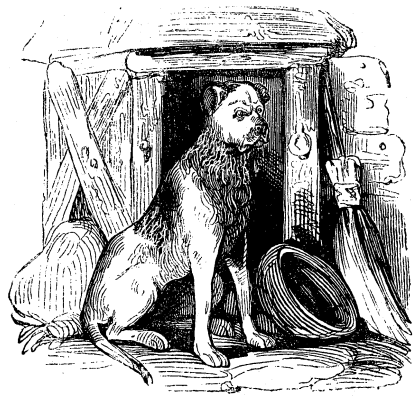
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# The Watchdog

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

## Maneka Gandhi of India loses animal welfare ministry (from page 1)

Mrs. Gandhi inherited responsibility for oversight of several cultural projects begun by the preceding Congress Party regime, in memory of her former mother-in-law, the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, and former brother-in-law, Rajiv Gandhi, who succeeded Indira Gandhi as Prime Minister. Both were assassinated by Sikh militants.

Maneka Gandhi had feuded with both, accusing Rajiv Gandhi in particular of corrupt political dealings. His Italian-born widow Sonia is now titular head of the Congress Party, which now leads the parliamentary opposition.

Trying to restrain alleged cost overruns and misappropriations in connection with the memorial projects, Maneka Gandhi soon clashed with Sonia Gandhi, with whom she never got along, and when Maneka Gandhi was transferred again in November 2001 to head the comparatively small and obscure Ministry for Statistics, most Indian news media agreed that Prime Minister Vajpayee had demoted her in deference to Sonia Gandhi.

Sonia Gandhi was sensitive enough about the allegation of having conspired with BJP leaders to oust Maneka Gandhi that after Maneka Gandhi was dropped from the cabinet, Congress spokesperson Jaipal Reddy immediately denied that either Congress or Sonia Gandhi personally had anything to do with it.

Meanwhile, another explanation had emerged for the November 2001 demotion. According to the news magazine *India Today*, "Mrs. Gandhi caused a diplomatic incident" earlier in 2001 by scolding the South Korean ambassador to India over the Korean practice

of eating tortured dogs and cats.

"When contacted, Mrs. Gandhi confirmed" having contacted the ambassador three times in recent weeks, *India Today* continued. "The first was a phone call 'when we discovered that a Korean-owned restaurant in Chennai was serving dog meat. I told him this was illegal,' Mrs. Gandhi affirmed. Soon afterward, residents of the south Delhi neighborhood where Mrs. Gandhi lives complained that the food habits of a Korean diplomat were causing stray dogs to disappear. Mrs. Gandhi was again on the phone, and 'The ambassador didn't deny the allegations.'"

South Korea is among India's most important trading partners and sources of outside investment capital.

### University at risk

Again Mrs. Gandhi took the animal welfare portfolio to her new post. Subsequently, with fewer other ministerial duties, she escalated her work on behalf of animals. As well as promoting enforcement of long-neglected animal welfare laws, and funding Animal Birth Control programs to help Indian cities meet the 1997 goal of achieving no-kill control of street dogs by 2005, Mrs. Gandhi founded the National Institute of Animal Welfare on an eight-acre site in Faridabad, a Delhi suburb.

Conceived as the first animal welfare university in the world, offering a four-year degree, the institute was to train personnel to carry out the ABC programs, other projects of the constitutionally created Animal Welfare Board of India, and the administration of

zoos, which in India must be accredited by the Central Zoo Authority.

The campus was 40% completed, and Mrs. Gandhi was recruiting staff in anticipation of enrolling 200 students in residence by fall, when she lost the animal welfare ministry—and probably lost funding for the university—as apparent result of a high-profile confrontation with the Indian biomedical research establishment.

### Fought labs

"I am again in a battle for my life!" Mrs. Gandhi e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on May 24. "We raided the premier AIDs research lab in India last week and found a chamber of horrors, rescued the animals, and took them away. Now Health Minister C.P. Thakur and many scientists and journalists are denouncing me all over the place.

"There is a cabinet reshuffle coming up, and this is perfectly timed for that," Mrs. Gandhi continued, recognizing the possibility that she might soon be politically sacrificed.

She was, but Thakur lost his job too.

Indian news media were mostly sympathetic to the cause of scientific research. Most were sympathetic as well to the production of vaccines and snakebite antivenins from blood serum drawn from horses, another branch of the biomedical industry that Mrs. Gandhi kept under close surveillance.

At the same time, there was widespread revulsion at some of the laboratory conditions exposed by the Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals, appointed by the Animal Welfare Board and chaired by Mrs. Gandhi since February 1996.

The abuses were documented in a 110-page *Pictorial Guide on the Status of Animals in the Animal Houses of Indian Laboratories*, compiled by Dharmesh M. Solanki of the CPCSEA and published by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals/India, based in Mumbai, on June 8.

### Challenged king

The biomedical industry, "sacrificing" animals in the name of science, might not have had the clout to oust Mrs. Gandhi if she had not simultaneously been conflicting prominently with devotees of religious animal sacrifice, including King Gyanendra Bir Bikram Shah of Nepal, who visited the Goddess Kamakhya temple in Guwahati, Assam, on June 27 to sacrifice a buffalo, a goat, a sheep, a duck, and a pigeon.

Gyanendra was in India primarily to discuss national defense with BJP leaders. Told that the sacrifices were planned, Mrs. Gandhi informed his entourage and news media that they would be illegal under the

1960 Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. People for Animal Rights applied for a restraining order against the sacrifices, but the Jhalukbari police detachment, asked to enforce it, failed to do so, citing an exemption in the 1960 law for sacrifices conducted "in a manner required by religion."

Most Hindu religious scholars agree that animal sacrifice "is forbidden in the Hindu scriptures for the modern age," as Brahmin teacher Vasu Murti explained in a recent Internet denunciation of the practice. Yet sacrifices are still routinely performed by Nepalese Hindus, whose rituals and teachings were long isolated by geography from the mainstream of Hindu belief, by members of the relatively large and influential Kali cult, and by scattered rural communities.

Among the practitioners of animal sacrifice are many members of regional Hindu fundamentalist political parties, who at the national level support the BJP coalition.

Heavy military security kept animal welfare inspectors and advocates at a distance from the Goddess Kamakhya temple while the animals were killed by royal priest Acharya Raguhunath Aryal. Aryal flew in from Kathmandu especially to do the ritual bloodletting in front of Gyanendra, his wife Queen Komal Rajya Laxmi, and his daughter Princess Perna.

As protest erupted from animal advocates around India, Gyanendra returned to the temple on June 28 to sacrifice a goat.

"The king has committed an unpardonable crime by showing utter disrespect to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act," said PFA spokesperson Sangeeta Goswami. "The king and the priest should be booked and punished."

### Gains vs. sacrifice

Although Maneka Gandhi was sacrificed on the altar of political expedience, Bihar and Jharkhand state governor V.C. Pande on June 4 ruled via his Principal Secretary, Mithilesh Kumar, that animal sacrifice is not "required by religion" for Hindus, and should therefore be halted within Bihar and Jharkhand.

Pande moved at request of Acharya Kishore Kunal, vice chancellor of the Kameshwar Singh Darbhanga Sanskrit University.

Bihar and Jharkhand formed a regional Animal Welfare Board only this year, the last state in India to do so.

The Madras High Court during the last week in July ordered Tamil Nadu state authorities to show cause why they should not be enjoined from allowing any animal sacrifices to occur within Tamil Nadu. First Bench

(continued on page 15)

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## Latest U.S. data shows shelter killing down to 4.4 million a year

Rapid progress against pet overpopulation in some of the fastest-growing parts of the Sunbelt and the Midwest combined with continued low shelter killing volume in the Northeast and Northwest to bring estimated total U.S. shelter killing in 2001 down to 4.4 million—the lowest toll on record.

Our 2001 estimate is projected from data covering every major shelter in cities and states including 42% of the current U.S. human population of 281 million. The shelter tolls in 1999 and 2000 were almost identical, at 4.5 million and 4.6 million, with the difference being in how numbers were rounded off.

**ANIMAL PEOPLE** has produced annual estimates of U.S. shelter killing, projected from the most recent available state and city data, since 1993. We used all data available in 1997 and 1998. Otherwise, we have used only data tabulated during the three most recent fiscal years.

Estimated U.S. shelter killing in 1992 was 5.7 million—about a third of the 17.8 million annual toll estimated in 1985 by the American Humane Association. Although the AHA estimate in hindsight seems to have been too high by about five million, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has assembled historical data which suggests that it would have been accurate circa 1980, and that U.S. shelter killing probably peaked at about 23.4 million in 1970.

Evaluating the data fairly and in context requires taking into account the evident

regional differences. Most of the lowest rates of shelter killing per 1,000 humans are clustered in the Northeast, with the highest in the South, except around Washington D.C. and in some of the more affluent parts of Florida.

The low Northeastern and D.C. area figures appear to result from high-density living, associated with low rates of pet-keeping; cold winters, the D.C. area excepted, which inhibit the survival of late-born feral kittens and suppress estrus in dogs and cats, decreasing their litter frequency; a relatively strong humane infrastructure to encourage neutering; and animal control agencies which have historically not picked up free-roaming cats.

The high Southern figures conversely reflect suburban populations, high pet ownership, warm winters, and a general lack of access to low-cost neutering.

Animal population analysts Peter Marsh and Bob Christiansen have found in separate studies of data from California, Georgia, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and North Carolina that the poorest counties in each state kill dogs and cats at up to four times the rate of the richest.

|               | Animals killed per 1,000 people | YEAR | 1,000s of people | Animals killed |
|---------------|---------------------------------|------|------------------|----------------|
| NEW HAMPSHIRE | 2.2                             | 2000 | 1,201            | 2,575          |
| San Francisco | 2.6                             | 2001 | 747              | 1,942          |
| Ithaca NY     | 3.9                             | 2001 | 96               | 373            |
| New York City | 5.2                             | 2000 | 8,009            | 41,207         |
| NEW JERSEY    | 5.8                             | 2000 | 8,414            | 48,551         |
| San Diego     | 5.8                             | 2001 | 2,820            | 16,463         |

|                |      |                 |       |         |
|----------------|------|-----------------|-------|---------|
| MAINE          | 6.3  | 2001            | 1,275 | 8,000   |
| Rochester NY   | 6.3  | 1999            | 716   | 4,511   |
| COLORADO       | 8.3  | 2001            | 4,301 | 119,340 |
| Missoula       | 8.4  | 2000            | 89    | 748     |
| Buffalo/Erie   | 8.5  | 2000            | 926   | 7,871   |
| Lawrence KS    | 8.6  | 2000            | 78    | 671     |
| MARYLAND       | 8.7  | 2000            | 5,172 | 45,000  |
| Milwaukee      | 10.5 | 1999            | 912   | 9,576   |
| Seattle        | 11.2 | 1999            | 1,655 | 18,536  |
| Anchorage AK   | 11.6 | 1999            | 255   | 2,958   |
| OREGON         | 11.8 | 2000            | 3,421 | 40,505  |
| Chicago        | 11.8 | 2001            | 2,800 | 33,098  |
| ContraCosta CA | 11.8 | 2000            | 931   | 11,000  |
| Orlando/Orange | 12.6 | 2000            | 896   | 11,290  |
| St. Louis      | 13.4 | 2001            | 1,631 | 21,855  |
| St. Petersburg | 13.7 | 2001            | 922   | 12,600  |
| Las Vegas      | 13.9 | 1999            | 1,162 | 16,152  |
| Ft. Laud/Miami | 14.1 | 2001            | 5,007 | 70,514  |
| Stillwater OK  | 14.3 | 1999            | 39    | 558     |
| Los Angeles    | 14.4 | 1999            | 9,214 | 132,681 |
| Ft. Lauderdale | 14.6 | 2000            | 1,623 | 23,696  |
| Riverside CA   | 15.0 | 2001            | 1,531 | 23,000  |
| Sacramento     | 24.9 | 1999            | 1,647 | 41,000  |
| Reno/Washoe NV | 15.2 | 2000            | 320   | 4,864   |
| U.S. AVERAGE   | 15.7 | (sample of 42%) |       |         |
| Lincoln NE     | 15.3 | 2001            | 263   | 4,018   |
| Carson City NV | 15.5 | 1999            | 49    | 760     |
| Pittsburgh     | 15.8 | 1999            | 341   | 5,388   |
| Clark Cnty WA  | 17.4 | 2001            | 345   | 6,000   |
| Columbia SC    | 17.6 | 2001            | 321   | 5,666   |
| Honolulu Cnty  | 17.7 | 2000            | 865   | 15,309  |
| UTAH           | 17.8 | 2002            | 2,233 | 39,772  |
| Austin TX      | 19.6 | 1999            | 731   | 14,328  |
| New Orleans    | 20.0 | 2000            | 485   | 9,700   |
| Phoenix/Mesa   | 20.3 | 1999            | 2,784 | 56,515  |
| VIRGINIA       | 20.9 | 2000            | 6,873 | 143,850 |
| Knoxville      | 20.9 | 2001            | 382   | 8,000   |
| Tucson/Pima    | 21.3 | 2001            | 844   | 18,000  |
| Volusia FL     | 21.6 | 2001            | 443   | 9,563   |
| Houston        | 22.0 | 2000            | 3,400 | 74,825  |
| Baton Rouge    | 22.3 | 2000            | 212   | 4,728   |
| Atlanta region | 22.4 | 2001            | 4,152 | 94,256  |
| Sioux Falls SC | 22.6 | 2001            | 148   | 3,345   |
| Indianapolis   | 22.7 | 2001            | 860   | 19,603  |
| Pasco Cnty FL  | 22.8 | 2001            | 345   | 7,880   |
| Richland OH    | 23.1 | 1999            | 127   | 2,933   |
| Birmingham     | 26.3 | 2000            | 662   | 17,400  |
| Little Rock    | 28.4 | 1999            | 178   | 5,055   |
| Shelby Cnty AL | 28.4 | 1999            | 141   | 4,004   |
| El Paso TX     | 29.4 | 2001            | 680   | 20,000  |
| Evansville IN  | 29.2 | 2001            | 121   | 3,561   |
| Dearborn IN    | 29.7 | 2000            | 14    | 416     |
| Jefferson LA   | 30.8 | 2000            | 448   | 13,786  |
| Chillicothe MO | 31.1 | 2001            | 15    | 453     |
| Oklahoma City  | 31.6 | 2001            | 506   | 16,000  |
| Dallas         | 31.9 | 2000            | 2,062 | 65,810  |
| San Antonio    | 33.0 | 2001            | 1,393 | 46,000  |
| Jacksonville   | 34.0 | 2000            | 779   | 26,486  |
| Wichita        | 34.9 | 1999            | 448   | 15,635  |
| Lake County FL | 35.0 | 2000            | 210   | 7,345   |
| NORTH CAROLINA | 35.0 | 1999            | 7,547 | 26,415  |
| Chatanooga     | 36.1 | 2001            | 308   | 11,112  |
| Charleston SC  | 36.4 | 2001            | 549   | 20,000  |
| Hutchinson KS  | 37.1 | 2001            | 41    | 1,521   |
| Merced CA      | 37.9 | 2001            | 211   | 8,000   |

## STATUS-OF-ANIMAL VERDICTS IN U.S., BRITAIN

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled on July 9 that a 10-year-old dog named Barney may not be subject of a suit seeking visitation rights, filed by **Anthony De-Sanctis** against his ex-wife **Linda Hurley Pritchard**, as the dog is not a legal person.

**San Diego Superior Court Judge Lillian Y. Lim** on July 5 ruled that jurors may be told that a 38-year-old pony named Lucy who was euthanized in 2000 by the **San Diego Humane Society** had no market value, but may not hear about her emotional value to Herb Niederheiser, of Ramona, California, who is suing the humane society for allegedly

unlawfully seizing her. Niederheiser had Lucy for 25 years.

**Judge Paul Singleton of Gloucester County Court, Britain**, on July 4 accepted the testimony of trainer **Richard Richardson** that a horse named Tilly kept by dressage competitor Gill James suffered mental trauma from being hit by a car driven by **Louise Cox**, a neighbor of James, and awarded James £2,712 in compensation and damages. The **Royal SPCA** and the **British Horse Society** agreed that it was the first case they knew of in which a British court recognized compensable psychological harm to an animal.

## Look at what sea otters & dogs eat

**SAN FRANCISCO, LONDON**—Cats were accused of spreading toxoplasmosis to California sea otters and dogs were accused of spreading campylobacter bacteria throughout Britain in new studies released in early July 2002—but while the allegations were quickly amplified by mainstream news media and picked up by anti-feral cat and anti-street dog activists, the research behind each study overlooked key dietary factors in the transmission of the diseases.

Marine biologist Melissa Miller and colleagues with the Wildlife Health Center at the Davis campus of the University of California claimed in the July edition of the *International Journal for Parasitology* to have traced an ongoing seven-year decline in the population of endangered California sea otters to the fecal parasite *Toxoplasma gondi*. They found the microscopic parasite in 66 of the 107 sea otter carcasses they examined.

As domestic housecats are the only animal known to transmit *Toxoplasma gondi* in oocyst form, the form in which it could infect sea otters via water pollution, Miller *et al* concluded that the sea otters are in effect being killed by surface runoff contaminated by outdoor cats and/or untreated sewage containing feces from litterboxes.

However, *Toxoplasma gondi* is most often transmitted by ingesting raw meat from another infected animal. Cats typically acquire *Toxoplasma gondi* from eating mice and birds. Gulls may be the most voracious major mouse predator along the California

coast, and California sea otters routinely kill and eat gulls they stalk from underwater, as well as scavenging fresh gull carcasses.

Miller *et al* did not even mention the possibility that the sea otters, like cats, may be infecting themselves through their own predatory habits.

Aberdeen University professor of microbiology Hugh Pennington meanwhile told a committee of the British House of Lords that about half of the estimated six million dogs in Britain appear to be at least seasonal carriers of campylobacter, and can transmit it to humans just by being petted.

Confirmed human cases of campylobacter infection in England and Wales have surged from 25,000 in 1986 to 56,000 in 2001, overtaking salmonella and listeria as the most common forms of food poisoning in Britain, Pennington said. He estimated that only 10% of all cases are detected.

Untreated severe cases can occasionally trigger Guillan-Barre syndrome, a form of creeping paralysis that starts in the hands and feet, moving slowly toward the neck.

Campylobacter poisoning was previously most closely associated with consumption of contaminated poultry. As dogs' saliva has potent antiseptic qualities, the association of campylobacter with dogs is a surprise, Pennington acknowledged—but he apparently did not consider that the dramatic global rise in human poultry consumption over the past 20 years has coincided with a steep rise in the use of poultry byproducts in dogfood.

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| Inland Emp. CA | 39.5 | 1999 | 3,114 | 123,003 |
| Lafayette      | 40.7 | 1999 | 189   | 7,692   |
| Corpus Christi | 46.3 | 2001 | 314   | 14,541  |
| Augusta        | 56.9 | 1999 | 191   | 10,868  |
| Hamilton IN    | 60.5 | 2000 | 172   | 10,406  |
| Hidalgo Cty TX | 63.6 | 1999 | 535   | 34,026  |
| Mobile Cnty AL | 70.0 | 1999 | 399   | 27,930  |
| Gulfport MS    | 73.9 | 2001 | 190   | 14,000  |
| Valencia NM    | 75.8 | 2001 | 66    | 5,000   |
| Thomas Cnty GA | 81.0 | 2001 | 43    | 3,476   |

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—Denise Hark, Tucson, Arizona

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—Amanda Banting and Steve Talenti, Ontario, Canada

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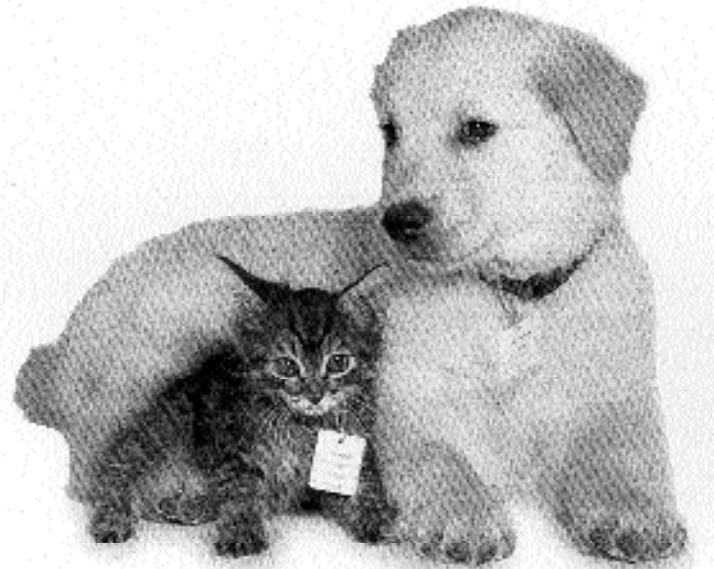
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## Maneka Gandhi of India loses animal welfare ministry (from page 12)

chief justice B. Subhashan Reddy and Justice D. Murugesan acted in response to a petition brought by A.V. Krishna Moosad of Trivandrum, who cited the Tamil Nadu Animals and Birds Sacrifice Prohibition Act of 1957, the Tamil Nadu Animal Preservation Act of 1958, and the 2001 Slaughter House Rule, an amendment to the act, all of which forbid animal slaughter or sacrifice outside of a designated, licensed, and inspected slaughtering facility.

### Butchers

Mrs. Gandhi had also recently clashed with the federal Ministry of Agriculture over a five-year plan which according to the *Times of India* called for lifting the national ban on beef exports, removing restrictions on buffalo slaughter, allowing bullocks to be killed at any age, weakening the federal Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, opening more authorized slaughterhouses, moving jurisdiction over slaughterhouse zoning from the local level to the state level, and forming a national Meat Board, with a mandate to double Indian per capita meat consumption.

After stripping Mrs. Gandhi of the animal welfare portfolio, Prime Minister Vajpayee gave it to the agriculture minister. Vajpayee soon found himself compelled to rescind it, however, because of the conflict of interest widely perceived in India between promoting animal welfare and promoting beef consumption. Rumors were already flying that at least one senior agriculture ministry official had taken a bribe for nonenforcement of animal welfare laws.

U.S. legislative bodies have never seen a conflict in assigning enforcement of the federal Animal Welfare Act to the USDA and putting state agriculture departments in charge of enforcing humane laws, but rather than cite the U.S. example to defend the initial reassignment, Vajpayee passed the animal welfare portfolio next to current Minister for Forests and the Environment. T.R. Baalu, of Chennai.

Mrs. Gandhi told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that she was not well acquainted with Baalu, but knew the ministry, having held the same post herself and having handled animal welfare matters from that office under the Congress regime.

It was as Minister for Forests and Environment that Mrs. Gandhi in 1989 initiated legal action to enforce a long neglected provision of the 1972 Indian Wildlife Act, allowing confiscation of all lions, tigers, leopards, nonhuman primates, and bears from traveling shows and circuses, and it was in cooperation with the present ministry staff that Mrs. Gandhi finally started the confiscations in May 2001, after winning a decade-long court battle with representatives of the circus industry.

"Over the past year, the ministry's

Central Zoo Authority has, with the help of state police and nongovernmental organizations, seized and relocated 158 lions, 38 tigers, six bears and two panthers," the *Times of India* said. "Under the new notification, Baalu will now look after prevention of cruelty to animals, matters relating to pounds and cattle trespass, and the administration of 'gaushalas' and 'gausadans' (cowsheds and houses)."

### "Sister Maneka"

Baaluu was expected to be mainly a caretaker for the animal welfare portfolio, which political analysts suggested would soon fade to obscurity—but he had other ideas.

If the biomedical industry really hoped they were rid of Mrs. Gandhi, Baalu had a surprise for them.

"Asked on Tuesday about former minister Maneka Gandhi continuing as chairperson of the Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals, environment minister T R Baalu said, 'Let her continue,'" *The Times of India* reported on July 23. "Gandhi's term as chairperson is till 2004. 'It's a sensitive matter,' said Baalu. 'I have just taken over. Sister Maneka is more knowledgeable than me, and there is no confrontation between us.'"

With Mrs. Gandhi removed from the animal welfare ministry, other opponents of her policies emerged to pursue their special interests—among them Minister of Textiles Kashi Ram Rana, who sought to lift a national ban imposed on the trade in shahtoosh, a fabric made from the fur of endangered chiru antelope. International traffic in shahtoosh is forbidden by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Noisiest, however, were foes of street dogs, seeking to replace the ABC sterilization and vaccination programs with poisoning or catch-and-kill. Though poisoning and catch-and-kill neither lastingly reduce the street dog population, nor control rabies, still a relatively common disease in India, they do create patronage jobs for poorly skilled supporters of local politicians. Demands for dog-killing, amplified nationally by the *Times of India* and the *Deccan*

*Herald*, were especially prominent in Surat and Bangalore.

Surat, as Mrs. Gandhi often mentions in explaining the ABC approach, aggressively poisoned street dogs in August 1994. After the dog poisoning, when the Surat rat population predictably exploded, the city poisoned rats. Fleas carrying bubonic plague then leaped from dying rats to humans, the most accessible alternate hosts. The result was the deadliest outbreak of plague anywhere in the world in half a century. At least 693 people were infected; 57 people died.

### Rabies panic

C. Dhananjay, secretary for a group called Stray Dog Free Bangalore, meanwhile drummed up public panic by asserting that because rabid dogs sometimes bite cows, "Unless milk is well-boiled, there is a risk of exposing children to rabies."

*The Hindu* called Dhananjay's claims "bizarre," which was something of an understatement.

Reporter K. Satyamurty of *The Hindu* also described a case in May 2002 in which Harish Prasad, 11, was "rushed to a private nursing home with sudden convulsions and high fever. He was diagnosed as having rabies in the basis of a 'water test,' as narrated by his father, Gopal Krishna. On the advice of the doctors at the nursing home, the boy was removed to the Isolation Hospital where, after showing a glass of water to the boy, the doctors confirmed the diagnosis. The doctors had the boy's arms and legs tied, and told the

distraught father that 'If he is still alive, we will treat him tomorrow.'"

Employed by the National Tuberculosis Institute, Gopal Krishna told institute director P. Jagota, M.D., what had happened.

"On learning that the boy was never bitten by a dog, Dr. Jagota had him shifted to Manipal Hospital," Satyamurty continued, where he was found to be suffering from viral meningitis, was properly treated, and fully recovered within a month of treatment.

Dr. Jagota told Satyamurty that most cases of alleged rabies she hears about turn out to be misdiagnosed cases of other diseases causing raging fever, and most cases of dog-bite she hears about result from people keeping purebred pet dogs tied up at their homes or shops most of the time, resulting in excessive territoriality.

Street dogs who "survive the cruelty of nature, traffic, and starvation," Dr. Jagota said, tend to be "affectionate and always eager to make friends with humans." She strongly endorsed the ABC approach to street dog population control, and recommended adopting street dogs as pets.

Of her dismissal, Mrs. Gandhi herself wrote that, "A Zen story may be applicable: A crow had a piece of meat in his beak and as he flew, he was pursued by hundreds of other crows. He tried to elude them and went up and down and sideways and whatever. Finally, he let the piece of meat go, and the other crows sped after it. Said the crow in relief, 'I may have lost the meat, but I have gained the sky.' But is there anything to eat in

## Emergency post-flood appeal

The deluge that hit central Texas on July 9 sent a four-foot wall of polluted water sweeping through the Wild Animal Orphanage. The flash flood immersed the enclosures of 16 big cats and five wolves. All survived. Their fencing



withstood the torrent—but the sanctuary was cut off from the world for over a week, the grounds were saturated with contaminated water washed in by the flood, and more than 20 big cats and five wolves are now under special care for symptoms of stress and exposure to the pollution. All of the enclosures have required special cleaning and sterilization. All of the animals have needed antibiotics.



In addition, our office and clinic area were flooded, leaving a nasty mess. The roof needs repair. A 300-square-foot freezer full of food for the big cats and wolves was ruined. Newly bought building materials were washed away, some fencing was lost, and an 18-wheel truck trailer used for storage was literally tossed into a tree.

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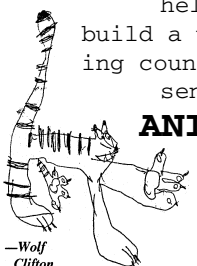
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ious to the actuality that the major prey of foxes in Australia, as elsewhere, are rabbits, mice, and rats.

Like the foxes of Australia, rabbits, mice, and rats are non-native, introduced during the mid-19th century. Like the foxes, they too are blamed for extirpations and extinctions of native marsupials. Reality, however, is that ground-dwelling marsupials lost their habitat to fires set to clear land, lost their burrows to the pounding of sheep's hooves, and their lives by the millions to recreational shooting, trapping, clubbing, and hunting with dogs, beginning to disappear from the first-farmed regions decades before the rabbits and foxes arrived. Sheep came to Australia in 1788. Rabbits and foxes were brought 70 years later, as deliberate imports to be hunted—because the native prey had run thin.

Rabbits and foxes knew how to live in deep warrens at the edges of sheep pastures and, like the mice and rats, were able how to outbreed human depredation. They moved into the vacated habitat niches and thrived—just as did the transported British convicts who built the Australian nation, conquering a largely uninhabited continent.

## Help In Suffering

In Jaipur, India, the Townends live in two cluttered rooms on the grounds of the Help In Suffering animal shelter and hospital they built in 1991, after taking over the organization from the late Crystal Rogers, who founded it in 1978.

The garden is pleasant, the resident beasts of more than a dozen species are mostly well-behaved and appreciative, and the Townends' work is highly regarded throughout the nation. Yet the noise, dirt, heat, chaos, crowding, and constant exposure to poverty and suffering animals and humans who also sometimes get emergency aid from Help In Suffering are scarcely what most former westerners would retire to.

The open flames of the traditional Hindu crematorium next door provide a constant reminder of mortality which alone might daunt the typical retiree, even without a daily influx of road-injured dogs and cats, lame horses, wormy goats, and sometimes even an abandoned, inarticulate, desperately ill mentally handicapped person with nowhere else to go.

After 12 years of putting Help In Suffering on its feet, directing a successful city-wide street dog sterilization campaign, eradicating canine rabies locally, opening a second Help In Suffering shelter and hospital in the far-off Himalayan foothills city of Darjeeling, encouraging expansion of Jaipur human as well as humane services, and gradually transferring the day-to-day Help In Suffering management responsibilities to hired staff, the Townends' visits back home to Australia are stretching from the few brief weeks they dared to take off at first, to as long as four months at a stretch, allowing their handpicked and long trained successors the opportunity to grow into the job.

But now Townend, as a former member of the New



(Robert L. Harrison)

South Wales government animal welfare advisory council, is beginning to feel compelled to resume struggles in Australia that she had hoped would be resolved for the better by now.

Instead, the current government of New South Wales recently liberalized the NSW hunting rules to encourage more killing of feral species. Twenty-seven organizations promoting animal rights, animal welfare, environmental concerns, and gun control opposed the bill, to almost no visible effect.

## Few voices

Influential defenders of non-native wildlife are scarce these days in both Australia and neighboring New Zealand, where the purging is as vicious.

What defense of non-natives is accomplished is mostly done by small advocacy groups formed on behalf of individual charismatic species. Among the species having some vocal champions are wild horses, rare breeds of livestock, feral cats, rabbits, flying foxes, and dingoes, often called non-native despite a history of 20,000 to 60,000 years in Australia.

Their defenders express two separate dimensions of concern: the right of nonnative animals to survive at all, wherever they hold a niche, and the cruelty of many of the means used to kill them.

The right to exist might be seen as an animal rights issue, while preventing cruelty, even in connection with extirpation, is an animal welfare issue.

Neither the Down Under animal rights community nor the animal welfare community, however, makes the plight of non-native wildlife a focal concern. There may be many reasons for this, including a feeling that defending non-natives may be seen as indifference toward the many native species now on the verge of extinction; desire to avoid conflict with the many Australian organizations dedicated to protecting native species; the hope of avoiding the label of "bunny-hugger," which carries even stronger pejorative connotations of irrational sentimentality Down Under than elsewhere in the world; and simple preoccupation with other issues demanding time and resources.

Echoing a global trend, and following Townend's own example in writing *Pulling The Wool*, the Down Under animal rights community has shifted gradually from an early focus on antivivisectionism to a current emphasis on behalf of farm animals. The best-known Australian activist since *Animal Liberation* author Peter Singer took a professorial post at Princeton University in New Jersey may be Patty Mark, who has campaigned across the spectrum of animal issues for decades, but became prominent for recent rescues of sick and injured hens from factory farms.

The Royal SPCA of Australia and the New Zealand SPCA, though critical of overt cruelty to non-natives, tend like the SPCA organizations of other nations to focus on dog-and-cat issues, with some attention to farm animals and native species. As in other nations with national SPCAs, the Australian and New Zealand SPCAs strive—not always successfully—to maintain political alliances with organizations of comparable size and vintage specifically dedicated to protecting birds and native wildlife.

The strongest organization Down Under making defense of non-native wildlife a priority is the Australian Wildlife Protection Council. Founded by Arthur Queripel in 1969, now headed by Maryland Wilson, and also very active on behalf of native Australian wildlife, the Australian Wildlife Protection Council lists Peter Singer and legislator Richard Jones as patrons. Both were involved with Townend in forming Animal Liberation Australia.

Though dynamic, the Australian Wildlife Protection Council is smaller than most of the leading organizations seeking to purge feral species, and often has difficulty making itself heard. It advances the views that wildlife of all species is best served by the perspective that all life is sacred; culling of any species, regardless of the frequent pretense to ecological necessity, tends to serve human economic interests more than the purported animal beneficiaries; and that Australian native species tend to hold their own against the less well climatically adapted non-natives, contrary to common impression, when allowed to do so. Any real threat to native species attributed to non-native animals, the Australian Wildlife Protection Council argues, is primarily the result of introduced habitat change, and it is restoring habitat, not killing non-natives, which is



Kangaroos run for it. (Kim Bartlett)

most essential to enabling rare native species to recover.

The Australian Wildlife Protection Council seems to be the only prominent organization in either Australia or New Zealand to recognize that introduced wild species chiefly fill vacant habitat niches, and survive, when they do, only as part of re-establishing a lost ecological balance.

## New Zealand

The major voices for non-native wildlife in New Zealand appear to be Betty and Walter Rowe, American emigrants who founded the Arapawa Wildlife Sanctuary in 1986, 15 years after settling on Arapawa Island in East Bay, South Island. The sanctuary maintains three pigs, 85 goats, and 12 sheep who are descended from animals left on Arapawa by Captain James Cook and others prior to 1839, whom the Rowes and allies protected from extermination efforts.

Longstanding New Zealand government policy is to extirpate non-native wildlife wherever possible. The only mammals considered native to New Zealand are bats.

The Arapawa Wildlife Sanctuary also protects resident native birds, leads efforts to save the small East Bay population of endangered Hector's dolphins, whose plight the New Zealand government has been very slow to address despite international pressure, and also leads a related campaign to rid the East Bay of floating mussel farms—allegedly a threat to the dolphins, a source of pollution, and an industry built around a species introduction.

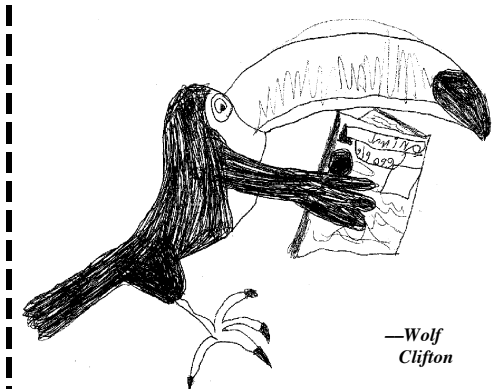
A small endowment for the sanctuary, incorporated as the Arapawa Wildlife Trust, was recently provided by the estate of former *Marlborough Express* chief reporter Jim Kidson. The survival of the Arapawa Wildlife Sanctuary is now somewhat more assured than before, especially in the immediate aftermath of a March 1999 fire that razed the Rowes' home and killed their dog.

Yet the struggle against lethal wildlife management is not over, Betty Rowe told *ANIMAL PEOPLE* in mid-July 2002. Drifting aerial sprays apparently directed at nearby gov-

(continued on page 17)

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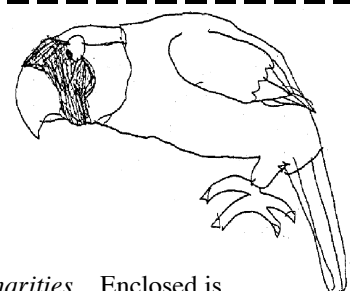
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ernment land had just caused four goats to lose their hair, two to go blind, two to die, and many to spontaneously abort.

"We have lost four baby goats in three days, and a third buck is about to die," Betty Rowe said. "The symptoms are scouring, loss of fitness and weight, bulging eyes, crying out, and inability to walk or stand, followed by wasting away. The goats seem to be more the victims than the sheep or pigs."

Betty Rowe was not certain what was sprayed, or what the target species was, but her description of the unusual "web-like" texture of the spray sounded like the shredded beets and carrots steeped in Compound 1080 that the New Zealand Conservation Department has used intensively to kill introduced species including feral pigs, deer, and brush possums.

In fact, New Zealand reportedly uses 90% of global production of Compound 1080. Also widely used in Australia, Compound 1080 was banned from general use in the U.S. in 1972, although USDA Wildlife Services is allowed to use sheep collars containing it to kill coyotes.

Brush possums, brought from Australia in the early 20th century to start a fur-trapping industry, have recently been targeted in New Zealand with escalating intensity because they are believed to harbor endemic reservoirs of bovine tuberculosis, much like badgers in Britain and Ireland.

Similar spraying on the North Island brought 170 protesters to the Department of Conservation field office in Whakapapa in April 2002, led by Joss Richardson of the Ruapehu Action Group. They brought with them dead birds supposed to have been protected by the sprays but allegedly killed by Compound 1080 instead.

The major defenders of non-native wildlife in the mountainous interior of the North Island are remote private landowners whose chief concern seems to be keeping feral deer and pig populations to hunt. Rising European demand for venison recently stimulated outside hunter interest in shooting feral deer from helicopters and airlifting out the carcasses. Residents of an area called White's Clearing in March 2002 responded by stringing wires across a popular helicopter landing zone.

"At least two helicopters have been shot at in the area this year, and numerous hunters have been confronted," Jo-Marie Brown of the *New Zealand Herald* reported on June 5, after a 46-year-old Ruatahuna man was charged with disarming four helicopter passengers at gunpoint.

## Enviros favor killing aliens

Except for the Australian Wildlife Protection Council and Arapawa Wildlife Sanctuary, the leadership of Down Under advocacy groups for native wildlife now almost unanimously favors the extirpation of non-native wild species by any means possible. This in itself reflects a hardening of attitudes.

The Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia, for instance, founded in 1909, has always emphasized protecting native species, albeit without objection to hunting and trapping those who are abundant. One early president was actually a fur dealer. The Wildlife Preservation Society has also long favored extirpating introduced wildlife.

Yet the Wildlife Preservation Society journal, *Australian Wildlife*, took a somewhat gentler tone than recently during much of the 16-year editorial tenure of Vincent Serventy, and his subsequent 36 years as president—if only, perhaps, from hesitation to offend members and donors.

Under Patrick W. Medway, who succeeded Serventy as president in February 2002, *Australian Wildlife* has become more overtly hostile toward non-native wild species, including the feral dogs called dingoes, who have roamed Australia for at least 20,000 years. *Australian Wildlife* has also become downright combative toward any critics of what is done to the non-natives, as it defines them, including in the continuing contributions of Serventy himself.

The first edition of *Australian Wildlife* published since Serventy retired ripped the Royal SPCA of Australia for making an unsuccessful attempt to prosecute National Parks and Wildlife Service personnel who shot 600 wild horses from the air in October 2000 at Guy Fawkes National Park, New South Wales, and left them to die slowly of their wounds. The charges were dismissed in early July 2002.

The Colong Foundation for Wilderness and the National Parks Association of NSW promptly asked the NSW government to lift a moratorium on shooting wild horses from the air, to expedite annihilating the estimated 3,000 who inhabit



Wallaroo. (Kim Bartlett)

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Tasmanian devil. (Kim Bartlett)

the upper elevations of Kosciuszko National Park, allegedly trampling and eating 21 rare plant species.

In the next edition of *Australian Wildlife*, Serventy and Medway opposed environmentalists who objected to the use of the poison Compound 1080 to kill dingoes and foxes in northern New South Wales, including Kosciuszko National Park, the major purpose of which was to prevent predation on domestic sheep. The strategy includes trapping and radio-collaring 10 tiger quolls within the Byadbo and Pilot Wilderness Area of Kosciuszko National Park to find out whether they are "killed by aerially delivered poison balls."

Compound 1080 is already known to kill tiger quolls who ingest it in other forms.

The same edition of *Australian Wildlife* endorsed a scheme to export the meat of feral camels to Islamic nations. Doing business as the Central Australian Camel Industry Association, one Peter Seidel in late June 2002 reportedly exported more than 100 camels from Darwin to Saudi Arabia. An estimated 500,000 camels now roam the Outback, descended from 10,000 imported from Palestine and India as work animals between 1860 and 1907.

Under Medway, the Wildlife Preservation Society has so far not been consistent in defense of native species, either. Just as the British-based vegetarian advocacy group Viva! launched a boycott of kangaroo leather soccer boots, coinciding with the World Cup soccer tournament held in Japan and South Korea, Medway went on television to advocate kangaroo culling and the use of kangaroo leather for soccer boots.

A philosophically consistent position might endorse the view of some Australian environmentalists that the sheep industry should be replaced entirely with a kangaroo industry. Kangaroo culling, however, like killing dingoes and foxes, is mainly done to make more grass available to sheep.

The pace of culling has intensified in recent months because of prolonged drought in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia.

"We have friends who are going out with rifles each evening and shooting kangaroos because they are eating all the grass," sheep farmer Vikki Gibbling of Gulargambone, New South Wales, told Nick Squires of the London *Sunday Telegraph*.

"Another farmer found that emus were eating all the grain he was putting down for his sheep. He rounded up a big herd, shot them, and burnt them," Gibbling added.

## Paucity of predators

Replacing sheep with kangaroos on the 42,000-hectare Puckapunyal army base in Victoria state recently brought calamity, in an experiment seemingly designed to fail, because it included no brake on the kangaroo population beyond starvation and disease. Dingoes and foxes, who prey on kangaroos, had already been extirpated to protect the sheep. Neither were the kangaroos subject to culling for commercial slaughter like a sheep herd.

After the sheep were removed in 1999, the kangaroo population leaped from 47,640 to 81,175 in just two years. Eventually the kangaroos spread to neighboring farms, whose predator control efforts continued to keep dingoes and foxes off the base. The Australian army responded by fencing the kangaroos in, leading to a situation that Royal SPCA of Australia president Hugh Wirth eventually called the most "appalling situation for animals that we have seen in 30 years." Still without predators, the kangaroos continued to breed, despite expert estimates that they had already reached twice the maximum population density that Puckapunyal could sustain. By May 2002, many were verifiably starving, and they numbered up to 100,000.

As the kangaroos again invaded nearby farms, breaching the fence, sharpshooters were hired to kill 15,000. Another 25,000 were scheduled to be shot later in 2002.

The hides and carcasses are not being sold, in potential competition with the market for sheep byproducts. Hides and meat are a lucrative byproduct of kangaroo culling elsewhere in Australia, where the current kangaroo quota is 6.9 million, but Victoria state does not allow commercial exploitation of native wildlife.

As debate explodes over whether or not

to permit the sale of culled kangaroo hides and meat, no one even appears to be mentioning that what the kangaroos really need, to keep an ecologically appropriate population balance, are dingoes and foxes in the numbers that the prey abundance permit.

Between the opposition of the sheep industry and that of native wildlife advocates like Medway, Serventy, and the Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia, introducing "non-native" kangaroo predators would be politically unviable.

Instead, Victoria state on July 1, 2002 introduced a bounty of \$10 per tail on foxes. Hunters turned in 8,227 tails during the first week of the program and 25,000 through the first month, thereby practically guaranteeing resurgences of the kangaroo, rabbit, mouse, and rat populations.

Introducing native kangaroo predators to Australia, if one considers dingoes to be non-native, would be impossible, since the only large native Australian terrestrial predator, the marsupial thylacene, was officially extirpated from the mainland before 1900, and has been officially extinct since the last documented member of the species died at the now defunct Hobart Zoo in Tasmania in 1936. Sporadic claims of sightings have emerged from remote parts Tasmania since then, along with at least two inconclusive video clips, but if any do survive, they might be jeopardized by deployments of Compound 1080 meant to eradicate foxes.

Seemingly oblivious to the controversy over poisoning tiger quolls with Compound 1080 in Kosciuszko National Park, NSW, Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment zoologist Sally Bryant insisted to Brett Stubbs of the *Hobart Mercury* in June 2002 that the poison drops in Tasmania would not affect tiger quolls and Tasmanian devils.

"We are confident that the dosages of 1080 that are put into our baits are far, far less concentrated than what is needed to kill a native species," Bryant said. "One bait with a dose of 1080 is enough to kill a fox, but an eastern quoll would need to eat three or four a night to get a lethal dose, and a devil would need 13 to 14."

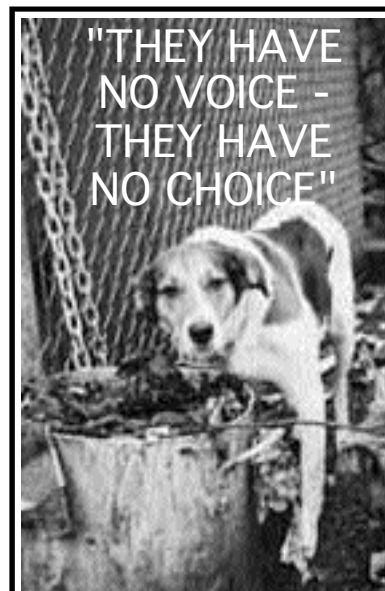
Her assurance was enough to win the endorsement of the Tasmanian Conservation Trust, but not that of Malamute breeder Claire Macfarlane, who lost her fourth-generation prize female Mooshi to a 1080 bait allegedly put out by a cattle rancher to kill wallabies.

Amid the controversy over 1080 use was doubt as to whether there are still any foxes in Tasmania, after past purges. Disability pensioner Eric Bosworth, 51, touched off the present fox extermination campaign when he claimed to have shot a fox on September 13, 2001, and produced the remains 10 days later. Bosworth mistakenly thought he was eligible for a reward of \$5,000 offered by a hunting magazine, but the offer had been withdrawn. A necropsy found that the dead fox had eaten native Tasmanian prey.

Fox tracks and scat were found at two other locations, according to government fox task force manager Terry Reid, but state senator Shayne Murphy, an independent, released to media correspondence among police and other public officials casting doubt on the validity of the evidence.

## Native "aliens"

While Tasmania tries to kill foxes, whether they exist  
(continued on page 18)



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or not, the New Zealand Department of Conservation, Auckland Regional Council, and Kawau Island Pohutukwa Trust have embarked on a three-year effort to eradicate an estimated 4,500 to 8,500 brush-tailed wallabies, introduced from the Australian mainland in 1870. A few will be captured alive, for export to zoos and to help replenish the depleted population of their original habitat, in the Blue Mountains, west of Sydney. The remainder will be poisoned.

Pohutukwa Trust founder Ray Weaver indicated to Anne Beston of the *New Zealand Herald* in March 2002 that about 90% of the funding for the poisoning would come from private property owners, who consider them a pest.

Back in Sydney, there seems to be more excitement recently about an estimated 15,000 protected silver gulls nesting on Cockatoo Island and pooping on outdoor restaurant-goers than about the decline of wallabies. Clamor to cull the gulls rose in May 2002 after a report by Ian Tenby of Deakin University in Melbourne attributed millions of dollars worth of damage per year to their highly acidic droppings.

Objected Birds Australia conservation manager Michael Weston, to Peter Munro of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, "It is not as if they are evil by nature and have decided to wage a waste war. They are more a part of Australian beach culture than a guy on a surfboard."

That does not mean the silver gulls are not at risk of being labeled "alien" and "invasive" to rationalize killing them. Grey-headed flying foxes are not only native to Australia but also federally listed as vulnerable to extinction. Yet the Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne managed to kill 12,000 of a resident population of 20,000 in 2001, arguing that the flying foxes were not found in large numbers in Melbourne before 1983.

The Royal Botanic Gardens flying fox colony was eventually federally protected. In June 2002, however, the Australian Research Center for Urban Ecology, based at the Botanic Gardens, found a new way to attack the presence of the flying fox colony: instead of asserting that the flying foxes are non-native, the argument now is that their habitat is alien, created by the planting of 315,000 trees native to New South Wales and Queensland many years ago to shade Melbourne-area streets.

Anything animals do that costs anyone money can become a pretext for killing them, and almost any government expenditure on alternative strategies may be politically vulnerable in the present atmosphere.

## Koalas too

Economic hard times are even hardening attitudes toward koalas, the teddy-bear-like marsupials who to much of the world symbolize Australia. Struggling on the mainland, koalas were introduced to Kangaroo Island, north of Adelaide, in 1923, with the idea in mind that the island might form a sort of Noah's Ark for the species. Koalas are still struggling to survive on the mainland, where their preferred habitat has tended to conflict with development, or lies in the paths of forest fires, and they are notoriously often roadkilled.

The Kangaroo Island koala population has reportedly increased from 5,000 as of 1996 to an estimated 27,000 to 33,000, however, and Adelaide University ecologist David Paton and Nature Conservation Society of South Australia president Robert Brandle now argue that at least 20,000 koalas should be killed. Sterilizing 3,700 koalas since 1996 and relocating 1,380 to the mainland has not been cost-effective in bringing about a population decline, they say, although the sterilization and relocation efforts have never been big enough to be reasonably expected to produce visible results.

The South Australia state Wildlife Advisory Committee agreed in October 2001 that, "Continuing to adopt the soft approach of sterilization and translocation may well establish a precedent in wildlife management that is not in the best interests of conservation. The committee believes that these high-cost management options are driven by socio-economic and tourism needs rather than sound ecological management and conservation principles."

Translation: admitting the validity of any nonlethal wildlife management approach could weaken public support for the lethal approaches that traditional wildlife managers favor.

Tests of a contraceptive vaccine that could provide a nonlethal alternative to culling the Kangaroo Island koalas are underway at the Marsupial Cooperative Research Centre on

Snake Island. Versions of the vaccine based on a protein from brush possums are reportedly not preventing pregnancy, but versions based on a protein from pigs are "promising," MCRC director David Kay told Melbourne *Herald-Sun* environment reporter Sarah Hudson in late July 2002.

The experiment is opposed, however, by Australian Koala Foundation executive director Deborah Tabart, in part because up to 15 of the 30 koalas in the test group will be killed and necropsied to ensure that the vaccine was the reason why they did not conceive.

## "White Australia" resurges

Medway, Serventy, and the Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia, like other native wildlife advocacy groups in Australia and New Zealand, may merely take their cue from the increasingly xenophobic national moods.

Indeed, recent *Australian Wildlife* commentaries about human population growth have been downright restrained compared with the editorial pages of some major newspapers and speeches of leading politicians. Amid a tide of denunciations of Asian immigration, *Australian Wildlife* pointed out, for instance, that Great Britain and New Zealand still send 13 times as many immigrants to Australia as China sends.

Australian prime minister John Howard and the Labor Party won re-election in November 2001, despite a slumping economy, after taking an even harsher position against illegal immigration by Asian refugees than was urged by opponents.

The issue came to a head in August 2001, after a leaky Norwegian freighter, *The Tampa*, rescued 421 refugees from a sinking Indonesian ferry off Christmas Island, an Australian possession where they were believed to be hoping to make an illegal landing. As the refugees were picked up in Indonesian waters, Australia forced *The Tampa* to head on to New Zealand, and then New Zealand sent the refugees on to Nauru, a remote Pacific atoll.

Reported Grant Holloway of CNN, "For a country whose European settlement was pioneered 213 years ago by a fleet of decrepit boats carrying the human cargo of an English penal colony—and prides itself on its relaxed, multicultural society—the ironies abound."

The popularity of the Howard position remained high after another 356 would-be immigrants to Australia drowned in the Java Sea on the night of October 21. There were 65 survivors—21 who were dropped off on an island when they demanded to leave the ship before it sank, and 44 found alive by fishing vessels the next morning.

Then, on the eve of the election, two women were killed and 160 would-be immigrants were rescued by Australian Navy and Customs Service vessels, after another Indonesian ship, the *Sumbar Lestari*, ignored warnings to turn back, caught fire, and sank as some of the passengers tried to fight off a boarding party.

Accordingly to Grant Holloway, the Australian Navy said "the asylum seekers deliberately destroyed the vessel to prevent the Navy returning it to Indonesian waters. The incident came as accusations flew over whether the government misled the public in claiming that an earlier boatload of asylum seekers deliberately threw their children overboard in order to blackmail the Navy into taking them to Australia. Conflicting claims from Australian naval officers suggest no such actions occurred. A Navy video that the government earlier said supported the child-throwing claims proved inconclusive, although it did clearly indicate the boat was distressed and sinking, and that those on board had to abandon ship."

Former Australian prime minister Malcolm Fraser called the government claims overtly false.

Thirty years after the "White Australia" policy was dismantled, which from 1945 to 1973 virtually prohibited non-Caucasian immigration, some minor political parties with elected representatives still advocate restoring it.

Their rhetoric is at times almost indistinguishable from that of spokesmen for eradicating non-native species—which are often identified by name with the places whose human immigrants Australians tend to find most threatening.

"Certainly reports from areas where they come from in Africa and southern Asia indicate that they will form very large populations," a Western Australia state agriculture department official explained recently of his hope of eradicating Indian ringnecked parakeets.

## Are Chinese "walking catfish" positioned to invade D.C.?

WASHINGTON D.C., BALTIMORE—The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on July 26, 2002 proposed a permanent rule against the importation and interstate transport of and species of snakeheads, also known as "walking catfish."

A scientific panel on the same day advised Maryland Department of Natural Resources secretary J. Charles Fox to authorize exterminating a small local snakehead population immediately, even at cost of killing their whole habitat.

The recommended strategy would begin with using the herbicide glyphosate, better known under the brand name Roundup, to kill all vegetation in the pond where the snakeheads were discovered. The water would then be poisoned with rotenone.

Maryland Department of Natural Resources staff pulled about 100 juvenile snakeheads of a variety native to the Yangtze River in China out of the pond within a week of the first confirmed report of their presence, about a year after a local fish hobbyist released several snakeheads there who had outgrown his tank.

The pond is not quite the length of a football field from the Little Patuxent River. The scientific panel suggested that since the fish can slither for short distances over land, they might invade the river if flooding ever closes the gap.

*Washington Post* staff writer Anita Huslin reported, however, that "E-mails from scientists in Hawaii, where snakeheads were introduced more the 200 years ago, indicate that the fish there are not particularly fleet of fin," and are therefore relatively unlikely to wander successfully.

Even if they did, snakehead experts around the world suggest that an established snakehead population would probably just become another of many popular introduced "pan fish" species.

Poisoning the pond, on the other hand, could do permanent ecological damage, and might not even succeed in killing all the snakeheads.

The California Department of Fish and Game has been spending \$500,000 a year since 1994 on thus far unsuccessful efforts to extirpate introduced northern pike from Lake Davis. A 1997 attempt to kill the pike with rotenone cost \$2 million, plus \$9.2 million in mitigation costs after the scheme contaminated local drinking water sources.

Currently the California DFG is trying to kill the pike by setting off underwater explosions, and is reportedly sensitive about editorial cartoons depicting them as the hapless Hanna-Barbera television cartoon character Wiley Coyote attacking the Roadrunner Fish.



Koala. (Kim Bartlett)

Australian National University scientists a few weeks earlier offered parallel reasons for introducing a species-specific method of trapping and gassing Indian mynahs. Brought in 1862 to eat crop-damaging insects, the ancestors of the mynahs arrived with Indian immigrant laborers.

The most openly xenophobic and bioxenophobic of all prominent Australian wildlife advocates is probably John Wamsley. Known for his catskin cap, boasting of killing his neighbor's cat at age 10, and outspoken denunciations of all feral wildlife, also espousing misanthropic views of humanity, Wamsley claims to have achieved unparalleled success at breeding rare marsupials by completely clearing their captive habitat of non-native flora and fauna.

Whether or not Wamsley's results have been as unique and spectacular as he says, however, is disputed by some mainstream zoological conservationists.

In 2000 Wamsley declared his intention of showing up all rivals and critics by founding Earth Sanctuaries, a 10-site for-profit eco-tourism venture. By February 2002, however, Earth Sanctuaries was insolvent, and Wamsley resigned as managing director, having refused to go nonprofit to avoid having to cater to "bunny-huggers."

The Wamsley approach continues in concept, however, as in April 2002 the Australian Wildlife Conservancy bought four of the biggest Earth Sanctuaries, enabling Wamsley and his wife Proo Geddes to try to regroup and continue with several of the smaller sites, closer to population centers and more likely to attract tourists.

Not yet demonstrated is that xenophobia in any form can be successfully combined with ecotourism.

## Raising killers

There are signs that some thinking people Down Under outside the animal advocacy community are beginning to question the promotion of violence toward non-native wildlife. *The New Zealand Herald* on June 15 shocked readers used to thinking of their nation as a bastion of peace and harmony with a profile of the rural New Zealand hunting culture, as viewed by British newspaper correspondent Kathy Marks, who now lives in Sydney, Australia.

"New Zealand is a nation hooked on blood sports," wrote Marks. "One million people—a quarter of the population—hunt, fish, and shoot," she continued, explaining that the hunters' targets are almost exclusively introduced species. "Attitudes toward animals are robustly unsentimental," she added, "and there is only a tiny anti-blood sports lobby."

Conversely, there may be thousands of youngsters like Teira Gill.

"With his blue eyes and curly blond hair, Teira Gill is a picture of cherubic innocence," observed Marks. "Suddenly he points a toy gun at the visitor. 'Bang! Bang!' he declares. Just two years old, Teira already knows what he wants to be when he grows up: a pig hunter. He has experienced the thrill of the chase with his father Jimmy. 'He had his first kill before the age of one,' says his grandfather, Alan Gill. Jimmy Gill says, 'He runs around the house with his toy knife, stabbing the dog in the ear. He's a natural-born killer.'"

Later, Jimmy Gill beat a dog in Marks' presence for chasing a feral goat instead of a pig.

The *Melbourne Age* just one day later published and syndicated a feature about a four-year study by Griffith University professor Mark Dadds of children who lack empathy. His focus is "whether children who are cruel to animals may be predisposed to commit serious violent crimes as adults." Dadds cited "kicking cane toads," encouraged by some native wildlife advocates, as an example of the sort of behavior he is looking at.

Dozens of U.S. studies have long since linked violence toward animals with violence toward humans, but Dadds is reportedly the first Australian researcher to do such a study.

"We looked at the literature and there was a lot of evidence that cruelty to animals seems to be a really reliable prognostic factor for later violence in humans," Dadds said.

# "Invasive" means any species that somebody hates

WASHINGTON D.C.—Australia and New Zealand may be the most bioxenophobic of nations, with Britain (page 9) not far behind, but environmental eugenics have a strong following in the U.S. as well.

Attempting to eradicate non-native species from land holdings is in fact official policy of the U.S. National Park Service, The Nature Conservancy, and many other government agencies and non-governmental organizations involved in conservation.

Paradoxically, some government agencies and nonprofit hunting clubs are still translocating and introducing populations of the same species that others are attempting to get rid of. Even as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service moves to reclassify nonmigratory giant Canada geese in the Great Lakes region as an "invasive" pest species, for instance, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources translocated 4,100 of the geese from the Detroit area to Chelsea, Iowa, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources translocated 262 geese from Horicon to Black River Falls.

The object of each translocation was to increase hunting opportunities.

The object of redefining nonmigratory giant Canada geese as an "invasive" pest is to exempt them from coverage by the 1916 Migratory Bird Treaty Act. This would allow states to expand their nonmigratory giant Canada goose hunting seasons without obtaining federal permission.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reclassified the Atlantic coast population of nonmigratory giant Canada geese in 1994.

## Birds have friends

But excluding either goose population from the Migratory Bird Treaty Act may soon be challenged in court under a precedent won by mute swan defender Joyce Hill in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Washington D.C. Circuit in December 2001.

The appellate court held that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service does not have the authority to exclude species listed under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act from continued protection. The Fish and Wildlife Service had excluded mute swans to help state wildlife agencies expedite extirpation efforts, notably in Connecticut, Maryland, and Virginia, where the presence of small but growing mute swan populations is blamed for the slow recovery of trumpeter swans, who were hunted to the verge of extinction in the 19th century.

The appellate court verdict is poorly enforced, Save Our Swans USA founder Kathryn Burton, of Old Lyme, Connecticut, told ANIMAL PEOPLE on July 26.

"I have reviewed more than 45 applications and permits to kill mute swans on National Wildlife Refuges, destroy their eggs, and destroy their nests," Burton said. "All are out of compliance with the [Migratory Bird Treaty Act] regulations, leaving more than half of each form incomplete, including the portions for descriptions of the damage" that

the swans are supposedly doing.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources on July 18 introduced a new plan to exterminate the estimated 4,000 mute swans now inhabiting Chesapeake Bay.

"If these were French poodles, there would be protests," Burton said.

There were protests on behalf of nonmigratory giant Canada geese in June and July in the Seattle area, however, as USDA Wildlife Services implemented an annual cull of about 4,000. Activist Bob Chorush, 55, was charged with assault on June 21 after braking suddenly in front of a USDA Wildlife Services truck, resulting in a low-speed collision near the Renton Municipal Airport.

The protest group Give Geese A Chance claimed a victory on July 9 when the Seattle Parks and Recreation Department announced that no more geese would be killed within Seattle during 2002. Sixty-four geese had been killed, out of an anticipated total of 1,000. The geese are killed each year not for doing biological harm, but rather because of citizen complaints about goose poop on park lawns, ballfields, and golf courses.

## Nutria bounty

Repelling an alien invader has become a catch-all rationalization for almost any kind of high-volume killing.

The current U.S. federal budget, for example, includes \$12.8 million in subsidies for Louisiana fur trappers, tucked into the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act to encourage killing nutria.

The nutria was introduced to the U.S. from Argentina during the early 20th century as an intended replacement for beaver, who had been trapped to the verge of extinction. Though beaver eventually recaptured much of their former habitat, after decades as a protected species, nutria thrived especially in Louisiana, where they were reputedly introduced by tabasco sauce baron E.A. McIlhenny in 1938, five years after a previous attempted introduction failed. The McIlhenny nutria escaped from captivity in 1940, proliferated, and became a staple part of the American alligator diet, as alligators followed beavers in recovery from endangerment.

The state of Louisiana collected trapping royalties on more than a million nutria pelts per year from 1962 until fur sales crashed in the late 1980s. Since 1988, Louisiana Fur and Alligator Advisory Council manager Greg Linscombe has tried to rebuild the nutria trapping industry, but pelt demand has not recovered, and promoting nutria cuisine attracted more skeptical publicity than customers.

Linscombe hit the jackpot, however, by promoting the notion of nutria as introduced destroyer of bayou wetlands—although the major sources of bayou destruction are subsidence, caused by pumping oil out from underneath Louisiana; navigational improvement and flood control projects which accelerate the flow of water and increase erosion; and tropical storms, which keep the Louisiana

coast in a state of constant change.

Blaming nutria for the damage deflects blame from major industries. Louisiana trappers are now offered a bounty of \$4.00 per tail for each nutria they kill, up to 400,000 per year. The bounty is comparable to the current market value of nutria pelts. The bounty will enable the trappers to sell nutria pelts at below the cost of acquisition. Linscombe reportedly hopes this will rebuild market demand in eastern Europe and Asia.

Even with the subsidy, however, Louisiana trappers will have a hard time underselling fur entrepreneurs in Southeast Asia, who started their own nutria ranching industry during the mid-1990s.

## Liming tree frogs

Pursuing a scheme of similar scope and probable futility, USDA Wildlife Services has already committed \$200,000 to a pilot study of ways and means to eradicate coqui tree frogs from an estimated 300 sites on the four biggest islands of Hawaii. The pilot study is to precede a three-year attempted extermination, for which USDA Wildlife Services hopes to get \$10.8 million from Congress.

Native to Puerto Rico, the tiny tree frogs were first apparently documented in Hawaii in 1997, but may have come several years earlier, probably as stowaways in some sort of cargo. They reportedly hatch in concentrations of 8,000 to 20,000 per acre, eating about 46,000 insects and other very small creatures per acre during their first few hours, but are rapidly depleted by birds and other predators. The only significant harm they seem to do is keeping residents awake with their shrill mating calls. Puerto Ricans, however, do not seem to find the coqui mating calls problematic, and Puerto Rican editorialists have expressed surprise and shock that anyone should wish to eradicate the coqui, viewed in Puerto Rico as something of an island symbol.

Because coqui are so small and so prolific, finding a way to kill them without killing everything else in the Hawaii rainforest has proved problematic. Originally USDA Wildlife Services proposed intensive spraying, using a mixture of concentrated caffeine, the pesticide pyrethrum, and hydrated lime. Because of the difficulty of establishing that the caffeine and pyrethrum would not harm native species, the current plan reportedly calls for using only the hydrated lime.

## Cabinet agencies

The attempted nutria and coqui eradications are legacies of the pledge to "mobilize the federal government to defend against aggressive predators and pests" issued by former U.S. President Bill Clinton on February 2, 1999, on the eve of his impeachment trial before the U.S. Senate. Creating the cabinet-level Invasive Species Council, Clinton pleased Senators from ranching states that heavily rely on USDA Wildlife Services for predator control by requesting that the Wildlife Services budget be doubled, just six months after the House of Representatives briefly cut the agency out of the federal budget entirely.

The Clinton anti-invasive species strategy, believed to have been engineered by then-Vice President Albert Gore, included implied promises of funding for other pest control projects all over the country. Many were advanced on the premise of protecting endangered species.

The Invasive Species Council has lapsed from prominence under President George W. Bush, whose biosecurity concerns center on germ warfare. The work of the Invasive Species Council itself seems likely to be subsumed into the mandate of the Department of Homeland Security that Bush is trying to create by merging programs from other agencies, including USDA Wildlife Services, which would come into the Department of Homeland Security as part of the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

What that will mean in terms of con-



Giant Canada geese. (Robert L. Harrison)

tinuing the federal mobilization against "invasive species" remains as unclear as what it might mean in terms of USDA-APHIS enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act.

## Blackbirds

Recent history suggests, however, that any species may be labeled "invasive" if someone influential wants to kill it.

USDA Wildlife Services in late 2001, for example, sought U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service permission to poison as many as six million allegedly overabundant blackbirds in spring 2002, at request of sunflower growers in the Dakotas—whose major customers are sellers of seeds to keepers of backyard bird-feeding stations.

USDA Wildlife Services had already killed 230,000 blackbirds for the sunflower growers in 1993, and had gradually increased the total to 500,000 a year through 1999, when a court verdict halted the program pending U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service authorization, as required by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Birds of as many as 294 other species were jeopardized by the poisoning, documentedly eating from some of the baited sites.

The poisoning was also opposed by Canadian authorities. Explained Kate Jaimet of the *Ottawa Citizen*, "There is no undisputed proof that the birds passing through the Dakotas in the spring are the same birds causing the damage in the fall. Scientific studies by Agriculture Canada, among others, show that while some of the birds remain to nest in the Dakotas, others migrate onward to Montana and the Canadian prairie provinces. In Canada, blackbirds are not considered an agricultural pest, and perform the beneficial service of eating insects."

Even in the Dakotas, Jaimet continued, "The overall damage they do amounts to only one or two percent of the value of the crop, compared with 6% lost to disease and 7% lost to insects."

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in January 2002 ordered an impact study that will delay any further blackbird poisoning at least until 2003.

## Learned lingo

As the proposed massacre was in the headlines of leading Canadian newspapers, Quebec population minister Remy Trudel and nine friends flew to Argentina to shoot birds at a Cordoba Valley hunting ranch owned by Quebecois expatriate Serge Dompierre. They killed 18,000 doves in just six days.

Grilled by the *Journal de Montreal*, *Montreal Gazette*, and Canadian Press, Trudel asserted that, "I did it in respect for the environment. There are 20 million of these birds that harm agriculture."

But the hunting ranches of the Cordoba Valley work to keep the doves abundant, to keep customers like Trudel coming.

And if local farmers really wanted to be rid of abundant doves, they would rely on poison, like USDA Wildlife Services, not the often inaccurate shotguns of tourists.



Mute swans. (Robert L. Harrison)


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## The Ghosts of Tsavo

by Philip Caputo

Adventure Press (c/o National Geographic Society, 1145 17th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036), 2002. 275 pages, hardcover. \$27.00.

## The South & South East Asian Ivory Markets

by Esmond Martin & Daniel Stiles

Save the Elephants (c/o Ambrose Appelbe, 7 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3RA, U.K.) 88 pages, paperback. No listed price.

## Wild Orphans

by Gerry Ellis

Welcome Books (588 Broadway, New York, NY 10012), 2002. 136 pages, illust., hardcover. \$24.95.

## Travels With Tarra

by Carol Buckley

Tilbury House Publishers (2 Mechanic Street #3, Gardiner, ME 04345), 2002. 40 pages, illustrated, hardcover. \$16.95.

Save The Elephants ivory trade investigators Esmond Martin and Daniel Stiles, circus elephant trainer turned sanctuararian Carol Buckley, and Daphne Sheldrick, whose elephant orphanage in Nairobi National Park, Kenya, is subject of photojournalist Gerry Ellis' *Wild Orphans*, each grasp and have devoted much of their lives to addressing different parts of the mystique of elephants—and the dilemma of how best to save them from extinction and abuse.

Ellis recently joined them by forming the Foundation for Global Biodiversity Education for Children, Globio for short. Globio assists six animal orphanages on five continents, including the Sheldrick orphanage.

Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter and novelist Philip Caputo contributes to the direct discussion of elephant conservation only "three silent cheers for Daphne Sheldrick, though I know she would despise me because I hunt and approve of hunting," after a wildlife biologist complains about being denied permission to tranquilize and radio-collar lions in Tsavo National Park, Kenya.

Focusing on the lions of Tsavo, Caputo several times digresses to defend hunting in passages which outside of the opening few chapters, about three other men's hunt for a human-eating lion, seem chiefly defensive and irrelevant.

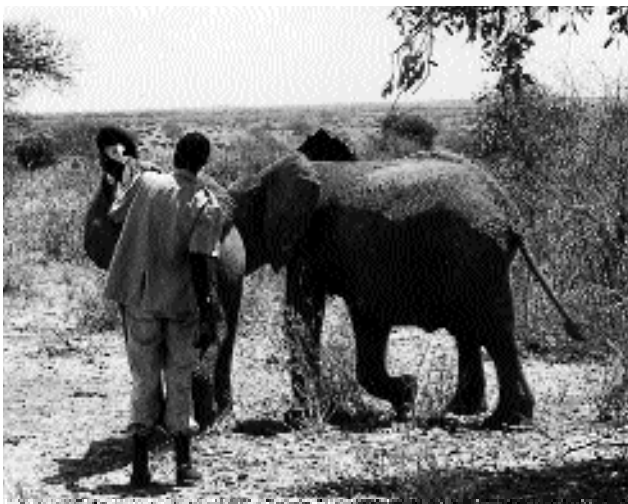
Yet Caputo's nonfiction book *The Ghosts of Tsavo* offers vital context to the work of all the others, albeit more in the factual information he provides than in what he makes of it. Despite Caputo's anachronistic opinions about hunting, his ability as a reporter and suspenseful author must be appreciated—along with an increasingly strong parallel between his narrative and the stories of Ernest Hemingway about lion hunting in many of the same locations.

Caputo is too grounded a reporter to liken himself to Hemingway, which would come across as fatuous, but both men made their names writing of a foreign war they had experienced in youth, became distinguished journalists as young men, enjoyed early success in writing fiction, cultivated a macho image that helped them sell books, and from time to time revealed a sensitivity toward animals which might have made animal rights activists of them if they had not grown up as hunters, in families of hunters.

Hemingway rediscovered his own mortality and limitations during the Kenyan safari that inspired *The Green Hills of Africa* and *The Snows of Kilimanjaro*. Caputo endured a similar experience. Neither found wisdom, nor any remarkably deep insights, but such were not what either one sought.

Exactly what they were seeking remains as mysterious as the motivation of the leopard whose frozen carcass Hemingway described as visible near the summit of Kilimanjaro. Why, Hemingway wondered, did the leopard climb so high into habitat where he could not survive? Hemingway and some of his characters imagined that the quest of the leopard and their own futile quests had something in common, but they never did quite articulate whatever it was.

As Caputo mentions in passing, modern elephants



Reintroducing an orphaned elephant to the wild at Tsavo National Park, Kenya. (Kim Bartlett)



Voi Lodge waterhole, Tsavo National Park, Kenya. (Kim Bartlett)

and lions arrived in southern Asia first, and later Africa, by way of escaping snow and ice. Glaciers covering most of the northern hemisphere drove elephants, lions, elk, antelope, ancestral zebras, cheetahs, and many other species now considered "Asian" and "African" far south of the regions where they evolved.

Much later, the glaciers carved out bodies of water as they melted and retreated that kept many of the animals they pushed south from returning to the northern hemisphere. Pumas evolved from smaller cats to fill the vacated niches of lions and cheetahs in the Americas, their apparent place of origin. Elephants, after the extinction of the woolly mammoth, lived nowhere above the 30th parallel north latitude.

How biologically diverse lions were before the ice ages is still unclear and much disputed, as is their route of descent from either sabre-toothed ancestors or common ancestors of both lines.

Elephants, however, were for millions of years hugely diverse and abundant. They were the dominant northern hemisphere land mammal throughout most of that time, with the most ability to transform habitat, but had begun their global decline long before modern humans emerged to hunt them.

Indeed, for the first six million years of human evolution, humans and protohumans seem to have been no threat to elephants, who by then were the dominant mammals in the same habitat that produced the human species. Human ancestors who conflicted with elephants got stomped, as appears to have been the fate of some of the *Australopithecus robustus* specimens now in museums.

Humans eventually helped to kill off the woolly mammoth, but it was not until the 19th century European colonization of Africa and Southeast Asia that hunting began to significantly impact either African or Asian elephant populations.

## The Ghost & The Darkness

Having depleted the elephants of the most easily accessible parts of Africa, British ivory traders prevailed upon the British government in 1898 to build a railway from Mobassa into the Congo by way of Nairobi, to haul ivory from interior Africa. But the railway was extended less than half the distance to Nairobi when work was virtually halted by the Ghost and the Darkness, as terrified East Indian railway workers named a pair of lions who documentedly killed at least 28 of them, and were believed to have killed 135 people in all, including local Africans.

Both the Ghost and the Darkness were eventually shot by British military officer John H. Patterson. Their carcasses have been displayed since 1907 at the Field Museum in Chicago. Thrilled at observing the lions' mounts as a boy, Caputo half a century later explored their story and, with biologists examining the lions' behavior from opposing points of view, explored their habitat as well.

Lions have always eaten humans from time to time, as predators of opportunity, but if humans had ever been their preferred prey, our ancestors might never have survived long enough in Africa to eventually conquer all the world. The particular mystery about the Ghost and the Darkness has always been why these two lions became preferentially hunters of humans, when nothing about their skeletons suggests infirmity obliging them to focus on weaker and smaller prey.

Caputo concludes their environmental factors were mostly to blame, but the theory he pursues most avidly is the hypothesis advanced in the mid-1990s by Thomas Gnoske of the Field Museum that African lions are not one but two subspecies. According to this theory, the maned lions, who live mainly at higher elevations where prey is abundant, have evolved as the subspecies whom humans best know and understand. Maned lions live and hunt in prides typically including two males and four females, and preferentially kill large prey, such as buffalo and zebra. They relatively rarely hunt humans, as one human is not big enough to feed a pride.

Male lions with small manes or none, on the other hand, live at low elevations, often in sparse desert habitats like Tsavo. Their prides typically consist of no other adult males but up to seven females. That gender ratio leaves most males of small mane or none to hunt alone, or with other bachelors. These lone males are far more likely to kill humans. To them, a human is fast food.

The Ghost and the Darkness were maneless.

But it seems there is a simpler explanation for the behavioral difference than a subspecies differentiation, now accepted and voiced by Gnoske: maneless lions are the poor cousins of African lion society. They occupy the most inhospitable habitat. The females, who do most of the hunting for prides, cannot support as many males as their upland kin, and the males they do support have to fight twice as often to hold

their status against bachelor challenges. Constantly fighting keeps their systems suffused with testosterone, making them more aggressive but inhibiting hair growth. Removed to zoos, their testosterone levels decrease and their manes grow thick.

Over time, distinct family traits have emerged among the upland and lowland lions. These are, however, much below the subspecies threshold. Maned and maneless lions are not so different, for example, as the African plains elephant and the smaller African forest elephant, nor as different as the common Southeast Asian elephant and their mammoth-like Himalayan kin.

## Trumpets for help

Caputo considers that his narrative of Tsavo may be in part a plea for help on behalf of African wildlife. Martin and Stiles, Buckley, and Ellis each unabashedly trumpet for help on behalf of elephants of all kinds, wherever they are.

Martin and Stiles directly address the proposal going before the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in October 2002 to reopen the global ivory traffic. Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, and Tanzania all claim to have ivory poaching under control, have immense ivory stockpiles from "culled" elephants, those dead of natural causes, and confiscated from poachers, and are eager to cash in by selling ivory to Japan and other Asian nations, where ivory products are still coveted.

The Thailand Forestry Industry Organization on July 17 announced that it, too, wants to sell stockpiled ivory, to help erase debts resulting from government restrictions on logging. The FIO ivory comes from former log-hauling elephants, some of them dead for more than 40 years.

Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Namibia were already allowed to sell some ivory, however, after the 1997 CITES meeting—and that limited opening coincided with increased elephant poaching wherever elephants occur, exactly as is happening now that another opening is anticipated.

Yet Martin and Stiles in interviews with Southeast Asian ivory sellers did not find a direct relationship between the legal African ivory sales and the ongoing Asian ivory trade. That may be in part because African ivory is only part of the supply stream. Most of the ivory in the eight nations whose ivory markets Martin and Stiles surveyed may be either of local origin, or laundered through China.

"Wild elephant populations in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam from 1988 to 2000 have declined by over 80%, largely due to the trade in ivory and other elephant products," Martin and Stiles offer in an Executive Summary. "Myanmar," they continue, "with the largest wild elephant population left" in Southeast Asia, "estimated to be 4,820, has suffered a net loss of over a thousand elephants since 1990."

From India east, Martin and Stiles believe, the total elephant population has declined from about 17,400 when the CITES ivory embargo took effect in 1989, to 10,550 and dropping as of 2000.

Martin and Stiles report many indications that the ivory trade is declining.

"Because the craftsmen do not see much of a future for their profession, they are not encouraging younger members of their families to learn the art," Martin and Stiles write. "In Nepal, the few remaining ivory craftsmen doubt that any market will remain for their pieces in another ten years. In Vietnam, many craftsmen have already given up, and in Sri Lanka, where the government has cracked down, ivory carving definitely seems to be a dying profession. In Thailand some of the craftsmen are worried about obtaining adequate supplies of tusks in the future. Only in Myanmar, where there is currently a healthy ivory market and active government support to ivory crafting, is there any optimism about the future of the ivory industry."

Nonetheless, Martin and Stiles found, "None of the governments for the countries surveyed has control over the ivory trade. The governments of these countries need to improve their domestic legislation, and enforce it, which has been done quite successfully in India. A public awareness campaign aimed at ivory traders and their customers is also required. It is much more economical," Martin and Stiles argue, "to control the marketing side of the ivory industry than to prevent the illegal killing of elephants."

Both elephant advocates and would-be legal ivory traders claim to have conservation arguments on their side.

Zimbabwe and allies argue that elephants can and should be raised more-or-less like livestock, on hunting preserves. Trophy hunters and ivory traders will ensure their survival as species, this position holds, by purchasing their

(continued on page 21)



## In memory of Samuel

Samuel was born into the research colony at the Coulston Foundation on August 1, 2000. He was the only baby chimpanzee ever diagnosed with hypothyroidism. Although he was wanted for research, Professor Gary Francione, Primarily Primates, and Dr. Frederick Coulston developed a collaboration through which Dr. Coulston voluntarily retired him to sanctuary at Primarily Primates. He died on December 12, 2001.

He is sorely missed.

Memorial contributions to help other primates like Samuel are appreciatively received at

## Primarily Primates

### The Ghosts of Tsavo, Ivory Markets, Wild Orphans, and Tarra (from page 20)

remains at prices high enough to guarantee continued supply.

The Zimbabwean argument tends to appeal to free marketers, including within the White House under Safari Club International life member George W. Bush. Yet the price of any legal commodity can be undercut by people willing to sell stolen goods, which in turn is a disincentive to conservation.

That is only the beginning of the case against Zimbabwe-style elephant management.

Even if elephants could persist entirely as a quasi-domesticated farmed species, as the Zimbabwean position postulates, which seems doubtful in view of their poor reproductive record in captivity, they would no longer be wildlife. Elephant evolution, except perhaps in a test tube, would cease.

### Daphne Sheldrick

Daphne Sheldrick, whom the biologist Caputo quotes dismisses as a "bunny-hugger," came to take a diametrically opposite view during her nearly 30 years in Tsavo with her late husband David Sheldrick, the first warden of Tsavo National Park, and has eloquently shared her perspective with anyone who would listen since the Sheldricks and their elephant orphanage were forcibly relocated to Nairobi in 1976.

Sheldrick argues that free-roaming elephants are absolutely and indispensably essential to creating and sustaining the habitat that virtually all other large, charismatic African megafauna—and smaller species, too—must have to survive. Sheldrick believes the tree damage and other alleged symptoms of overabundant elephants that Zimbabwe *et al* use as pretext for culling is grossly misunderstood and misrepresented. The purported damage, according to Sheldrick, is much like the so-called damage done by beavers when they flood a meadow with their dam: it is this very action that diversifies the habitat, opening niches to countless other animals and plants.

Daphne Sheldrick tends to be underappreciated by academic researchers because she has spent her whole life nurturing orphaned elephants instead of earning a Ph.D. and a professorship, then formulating opinions on sabbatical visits to Africa between years of sitting in an office or standing in front of a blackboard.

However, people of authentically deep expertise about African wildlife inevitably find that they have much to learn from her. This includes Gerry Ellis, whose *Wild Orphans* is a photographic representation of a few memorable weeks at the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust elephant orphanage and the Tsavo site where the orphans are returned to the wild.

Although *ANIMAL PEOPLE* did not encounter Gerry Ellis during our own visit to the same locations in late 1999, we must have just barely missed him, as his photos and text show exactly the same elephants and people, and tell some of the same stories that we related in reporting about our trip in

our January/February 2000 edition.

Daphne Sheldrick receives elephants orphaned by poaching, accidents, illness, and many other circumstances mostly resulting from elephants and humans conflicting over habitat. As she and her hired handlers demonstrate, however, it is possible for humans and elephants to form genuine and enduring bonds—and elephants can learn to behave themselves, too, in a manner generally considerate of human interests.

Sheldrick believes that elephants and humans can and must learn to co-exist in Africa, and Asia too, with greater effort at communication and less misdirected effort at trying to govern elephant conduct through blind force.

As the subtleties of elephant intelligence, capacity for abstract thought, and ability to communicate become better understood by scientists, Sheldrick seems ever more strongly supported in many of the things she has been saying for years.

### Carol Buckley

But she has not been altogether alone in saying them. Other people who work closely with elephants have also come to feel that they can be coaxed to behave well, most of the time, with no use of force and with only the possible exception of males in musth, the testosterone-saturated condition that typically precedes an effort to find a female and mate.

Carol Buckley became an elephant person more-or-less by accident, when in 1974 a tire dealer in her neighborhood in the Simi Valley of southern California imported a baby elephant from Burma as a promotional gimmick, just before the Endangered Species Act and CITES cut off elephant imports for private possession.

Buckley, then a college student, volunteered to help look after the elephant, named Tarra, and soon became her fulltime companion and caretaker.

Eventually Buckley bought Tarra. She taught Tarra to roller-skate, on skates specially made to support Tarra's weight. They performed together in circuses and at amusement parks for nearly 15 years.



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Along the way, however, Buckley developed reservations about the quality of life of a performing elephant. Even though Tarra was an enthusiastic performer, Buckley longed to return her to at least a semi-wild way of life. This was at last accomplished when Buckley founded the 800-acre Elephant Sanctuary at Hohenwald, in Tennessee.

*Travels With Tarra* is a picture-book written mainly for children, documenting the intertwining lives of Tarra, Buckley, and the sanctuary, which now hosts six Asian elephants. Whether or not Buckley ever achieves her hope of bringing together all the Asian elephants of North America to live as an extended family in almost wild habitat, she has made a dramatic start, and has already occasioned other handlers of captive elephants to rethink what they are doing.

Some have even advanced the idea that a wild elephant range should be created in North America as a "lifeboat" to protect Asian elephants from extinction, should they be poached entirely out of their native habitat. The extinction of North American elephants was, after all, something of a historical accident rather than a matter of inevitability, and Asian elephants are their closest living kin. Zoos have claimed the "lifeboat" role, but have not done well at it. A facility like The Elephant Sanctuary at Hohenwald, or The Wilds, a zoo-operated breeding ranch in Ohio, might be more successful.

Yet the idea of rescuing Asian elephants, as a species, by breeding them within a limited habitat, somewhat resembles the Zimbabwean notion of farming elephants to be shot and dismembered for profit. If there is no wilderness for elephants to return to, maintaining them in captivity is essentially hospice care.

Presently, the most important role of The Elephant Sanctuary at Hohenwald is that it obliges humans to think about the future of elephants, both individually and collectively, in

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## MEMORIALS

In memory of Jayne Paulette.  
—Wally Swett

In memory of Armand, beloved canine companion to the Washington household, at approximately 16 years.  
Honeyboy, you are deeply missed.  
—Mindy & the Washington Pack

In memory of Jasmine.

In memory of Moira, 1997-2002, a dog of the St. Francis Sanctuary, in Camden, S.C.

In memory of Purr Box (12/3/87), Prometheus (3/21/81), Friendl (10/30/87), Lizzie (5/8/84), Boy Cat (12/26/85), Miss Penrose (11/18/98), Duke (11/1/98) and Blackie (9/9/96).

## ANIMAL OBITs

**Qi Qi**, 25, a male Yangtze River dolphin who was the only member of his species ever kept successfully in captivity, died from conditions of age on July 14 at the Wuhan Institute of Hydrology in China, his home for 22 years. Three attempts to provide a mate for him failed, when all three females died soon after capture. Fewer than 100 Yangtze River dolphins are believed to remain in the wild.

**Phang Dok Khoon**, 35, a female Asian elephant, died on July 22 at the Khamphaeng Saen Animal Hospital in Hakhon Pathom, Thailand, from complications resulting from a calf dying in her womb. Like Phang Jampa, 27, who died on June 9 from the same cause, Phang Dok Khoon worked giving rides to tourists. After the deaths were publicized by the *Bangkok Post*, a veterinary team from the Kasetsart University Animal Hospital gave ultrasound examinations to 17 other pregnant elephants in the Ayutthaya area to try to avoid any more such cases.

**Phang Khammee**, a female work elephant who had suffered severe neck injuries from hauling logs and was addicted to methamphetamines by her owner, reportedly also a drug user, was euthanized on July 7 after five years of unsuccessful treatment at the Friends of Asian Elephants Foundation hospital in Thailand.

**Haji**, 3, the first Asian elephant born from artificial insemination, died on July 17 from elephant herpesvirus at the Dickerson Park Zoo in Springfield, Illinois, her lifelong home. Thirteen zoo elephants have contracted elephant herpesvirus since 1983, four of them at the Dickerson Park Zoo. Only two elephants have survived the disease, one of whom was Haji's elder sister Chandra. Successfully treated in 1997, Chandra now lives at the Oklahoma City Zoo with her half-sister Asha.

**Jayne Paulette**, 84, died on June 5 from cardiac arrest in St. Louis, Missouri, where she was born and lived for most of her life. "Jayne served for many years as secretary of the Simian Society of America and was among the first to advocate that Simian Society members should not acquire individual monkeys as pets, while still helping primates in private hands," recalled Primarily Primates president Wally Swett. "She was a staunch supporter of Primarily Primates," Swett added, "for all of its existence, and served as Primarily Primates vice president for several years preceding her death."

**Charles Vorhees**, 85, died on June 10 in Hopedale, Ohio. Brother of Helen V. Brach, who married into the Brach candy fortune, Vorhees served as vice president when she formed the Helen V. Brach Foundation, a major funder of animal welfare projects, and succeeded to the chair after she disappeared in 1977 while personally investigating a gang who killed horses to enable the owners to collect insurance. The case was finally cracked in 1994. The ringleader, Richard Bailey, was convicted of killing Helen Brach, other ring members were convicted of four previous murders, and at least 25 other people were convicted in connection with the horse killings. Charles Vorhees' son Charles Allen Vorhees is also a longtime Brach Foundation board member.

**Bryan Nel**, 72, died on February 18 soon after finishing a volunteer shift at the Kwekwe SPCA Centre kennels in Zimbabwe. Nel chaired the Kwekwe SPCA, served as a representative on the National SPCA Council, and chaired the Zimbabwe National SPCA itself from July 1999 until August 2000, when he was re-elected but soon resigned due to failing health.

**Maria Durin Chamber**, 76, a British citizen living in Paranaque City, the Philippines, died in a housefire along with her three poodles on July 4 when she ran back into the blazing building to try to save them.

**Hafiki**, 20, an African elephant kept at the Toledo Zoo in Ohio, died on July 27 while unsuccessfully attempting to deliver a 350-pound male infant. Toledo Zoo elephant manager Don RedFox reportedly tried from 1987 through 1999 to mate her successfully, then resorted to artificial insemination in 2000.

**Mackle**, 25, believed to be the world's oldest Indian panther, died on July 22 at the city zoo in Bhopal, India.

—Wolf Clifton

## HUMAN OBITUARIES

**Frank Inn**, 86, whose given name was Frank Freeman, died on July 27 in Sylmar, California. As a child, Inn was hit by a car, pronounced dead, and survived only because an embalming student detected a faint heartbeat before injecting him with formaldehyde. Confined to a wheelchair while recovering, he amused himself by training a puppy named Jeep with food rewards. As a young "gopher" for MGM Studios, Inn impressed animal trainer Henry East when Jeep quickly learned a stunt sequence that East could not get a dog to do. East hired him as an assistant. Inn hit the TV bigtime training Cleo the basset bound on the Jackie Cooper show *People's Choice* during the 1950s, and trained Arnold Ziffel the pig for the 1960s sitcom *Green Acres*, along with nearly 500 animals used in episodes of *The Beverly Hillbillies*, but he enjoyed his greatest success with Benji, a charismatic little mutt he adopted from the Burbank Animal Shelter in 1960. Benji initially performed in the 1960s TV series *Petticoat Junction*, but leaped to stardom 14 years later in first of the series of eight hit movies and 13 episodes of a TV show bearing his name. Karl Lewis Miller, trainer of the animals used in the *Babe* films, was among many Hollywood trainers taught by Inn, who when not training animals to perform, trained dogs to help the disabled and promoted shelter adoptions.

**Karen Vowell**, 35, of Lynnwood, Washington, was killed near the Edmonds beach on July 19 when she tried to pull her dog Betty Boop from in front of an Amtrak train. Betty Boop survived uninjured.

**James Karaffa Gregory**, 50, a priest of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Indiana Province, Kenya, and formerly a priest in South Bend, Indiana, U.S., was trampled on June 25 by a giraffe while hiking at the Aberdare Country Club, 100 miles north of Nairobi. The giraffe believed to have attacked him later leaped off a cliff and died when approached by investigators.

**Hawkeye**, a 150-pound hawksbill sea turtle kept at the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago since his 1977 confiscation from a smuggler, died on July 26. The Shedd has returned more than 60 confiscated sea turtles to the wild, but deemed Hawkeye unreleasable, as no one knew where he was from.

**Ron**, 34, for 13 years the leader of the Japanese macaque troupe at the Ueno Zoo in Tokyo, died on July 27.

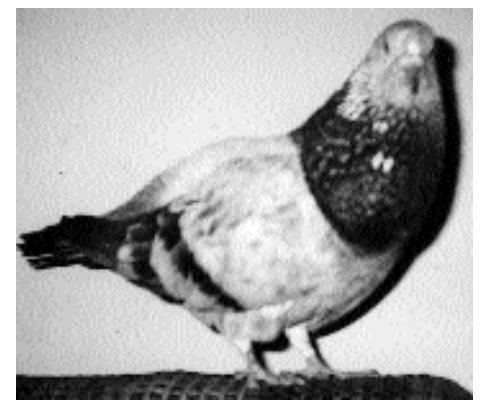
**'Scuse Me**, 22, a former champion show-jumping horse who was donated to the State University of New York at Morrisville in 1994 and sold to slaughter in 1997, died on July 5. 'Scuse Me escaped slaughter because SUNY-Morrisville student Tracy Percival found out what had happened just in time, paid \$750 to buy him from the horsemeat dealer who had acquired him, and raised \$3,000 on short nose to retire him to pasture. But 'Scuse Me still wanted to perform. Percival nursed him back to health, and he reportedly became a consistent winner at small shows throughout central New York state.

**Sean Mckeown**, 58, died on July 11 in Stanford, California. As reptile curator for 20 years at the Chafee Zoo in Fresno, California, and the Honolulu Zoo in Hawaii, Mckeown was distinguished as the first person ever to breed endangered Madagascar ploughshare tortoises in captivity, and started the first breeding program for Madagascar boas. He wrote numerous books and more than 100 published articles about reptile care.

**Elizabeth Yunker Hilton**, 49, was found shot to death on June 6 near the body of her husband, Jack Lacy Hilton, 56, a former patrolman for the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department, whom the Madison County Sheriff's Department believes killed her and then himself at their home in Little Sandy Mush, North Carolina. A registered nurse, Mrs. Hilton kept more than 120 pets, including dogs, cats, chickens, geese, a peacock, a turkey, two donkeys, and several llamas, cows, pigs, goats, horses, and sheep. Most were rescue cases. The animals are believed to have been auctioned off by the court-appointed executor of the Hiltons' estate.

**Priscilla Chemutai Aiyebi**, 24, a game ranger at Lake Nakuru National Park, was killed by a lion on July 8 near the staff quarters. Fellow rangers tracking the lion found the remains of a male ranger who was believed to have returned home on leave on June 28, but was apparently killed and eaten instead. The lion was shot.

**Jarso Dima**, a security officer at the Mount Kenya Game Ranch, and father of six children, was trampled by an elephant on June 24 near the Kenya Army barracks in Nanyuki. Farmer Stephen Ruiru was trampled nearby a few days earlier.



**Cheery the Pigeon**, 20+, one of the best-known birds in Manhattan, died on June 17, 2002. "I found him with a broken wing on 2nd Avenue in 1983," recalled his person, Sheila Dines. "He never flew well enough to be released, but adapted well to apartment life. I often felt that we lived in his apartment, and I was just the housekeeper. He became quite indignant when a dog visitor tried to invade his space, and retaliated by taking a bath in the dog's water."

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