

ICELAND TO RESUME WHALING

(Page 10)

Spooked by SARS, China kills dogs to fight rabies & scare the monkeys

BEIJING—"Beijing has no more Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome patients," city deputy health chief Liang Wannian told the *People's Daily* on July 29.

Hu Jintao, President of China, one day earlier lauded the Communist Party leadership for eradicating SARS—nine months, more than 8,500 cases worldwide, and at least 789 deaths after the disease first appeared among food workers in Beijing and Guangdong. About half of the cases and deaths came in mainland China, with nearly 300 more deaths in Hong Kong. SARS also hit hard in Taiwan and Vietnam, afflicting people in more than 30 nations altogether.

Other informed observers were critical of the Chinese government response, as well as increasingly skeptical that Chinese authorities have the will to enforce the complete shutdowns of wildlife trafficking and live meat markets that could ensure no repetition

of the SARS outbreak and the economically devastating ensuing panic.

"It is now evident," editorialized the moderators of the ProMed online information network maintained by the International Society for Infectious Diseases, "that China's suppression of news about SARS helped fuel a global epidemic that could have been controlled more quickly, with fewer casualties and much less economic damage, if news of the outbreak had been reported rapidly and fully to the world."

Whether Chinese leaders had learned any of the evident lessons from SARS came into question when on July 17 the Guangdong provincial forestry department lifted a two-month ban on trade and transportation of more than 40 wild animal species commonly sold at live markets, including palm civets, the apparent primary hosts of the coronavirus that causes SARS.

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Hens at a Hong Kong live market. (Kim Bartlett)

Top U.S. & British medical journals report— *Hormone drugs from pregnant mare's urine can cost lives & minds*

LONDON—Sales of hormone supplements made from pregnant mare's urine, already down 65% in less than a year, may fall even faster after the August 9 publication by the British Medical Association journal *The Lancet* of new evidence that taking popular combinations of estrogen and progestin appears to produce a 66% greater risk of developing breast cancer within five years, and a 22% greater risk of dying from it.

Taking estrogen alone increased the risk of developing breast cancer by 30%.

The data came from clinical observation of nearly one million British women between the ages of 50 and 64, who were surveyed at annual mammogram appointments beginning in 1996.

The \$10 million study was directed by Valerie Beral, M.D., of Oxford University, with funding from the British government and Cancer Research U.K., a private charity.

Beral and team estimated that taking estrogen/progestin combination drugs could be linked to 15,000 more cases of breast cancer during the past 10 years than would otherwise have occurred. Taking estrogen alone could be associated with 5,000 additional cases.

Together with new findings published in recent editions of the *Journal of the American Medical Association* and *New England Journal of Medicine*, the British data may virtually halt consumer demand for drugs derived from pregnant mare's urine, called PMU for short.

JAMA on May 28 reported that women taking hormone supplements have a doubled risk of developing Alzheimer's disease and other forms of senile dementia.

The New England Journal of Medicine on August 7 reported that a woman's risk of a heart attack is 81% higher than the norm for her age in her first year of hormone therapy, and 24% higher over five years.

The PMU production process, which treats horses much like factory-farmed dairy cattle, became subject of a global boycott by more than 50 leading animal advocacy groups after it was exposed on page one of the April 1993 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

Based on investigative findings by Canadian Farm Animal Care Trust founder Tom Hughes, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** report was amplified by three of the five leading New York City newspapers, and won the International Generic Horse Association/ HorseAid "Equine Awareness in Media" award. The boycott was declared later in 1993 by PETA, Friends of Animals, the Animal Protection Institute, and the World Society for the Protection of Animals.

At the time, PMU producers in the prairie provinces of Canada and the Dakotas 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.

(continued on page 5)

No dogs or homeless humans allowed in Bangkok historic zone

BANGKOK, PHUKET, Thailand—

Street dogs and homeless humans are barred from the Rattanakosin historical district in central Bangkok, city governor Samak Sundaravej



—Eileen Crossman

declared on August 1.

Issuing an edict that would have excluded the Buddha and his followers from an area famed for its Buddhist temples, Samak spoke at a Thai Foreign Ministry meeting held to discuss plans for beautifying Bangkok before the October 21-22 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit.

Said Samak, according to Supoj Wancharoen of the *Bangkok Post*, "Our city is not Calcutta. We must not allow such an eyesore. They [street dogs and homeless people] must not be there at all times, not just during the APEC summit."

Continued Supoj, "A city hall source said the Livestock Department has set up a shelter in Sa Kaew for some 1,000 stray dogs," at estimated cost for feeding and vaccination of \$240,000 per year.

This confirmed earlier reports from Agence France-Press, the *Malaysia Star*, and *The Nation* of Bangkok, except that all of the previous reports agreed that budget would provide lifelong care to 3,000 dogs. The estimated street dog population of the neighborhoods involved was 3,000 when surveyed in 1999, or about 3% of the total estimated street dog population of Bangkok, but the numbers may have been reduced since 1999 by municipal efforts to sterilize and vaccinate the dogs, often interrupted by running out of money.

Many of the dogs are highly adoptable, by U.S. and European standards. An organization called Soi Dog Rescue, formed by British expatri-

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

September 2003

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Suzy the Pig and Missy Cow Cow at Wild Burro Rescue.

WHO gets the point about factory farming

GENEVA—The World Health Organization on August 13, 2003 recommended that national governments should phase out the addition of antibiotics to animal feed when the drugs are given to healthy animals "for the sole purpose of growth promotion."

"WHO's recommendation does not require nations to act," explained *Washington Post* agriculture writer Marc Kaufman. "But this will add to the movement to stop routine use of antibiotics on farms, and to the kind of public pressure that recently led the McDonald's fast-food chain to tell suppliers to cut back on antibiotic growth promoters."

"We have believed for some time that giving animals low dosages of antibiotics throughout their lives to make them grow faster is a bad idea," WHO antibiotic project leader Peter Braam told Kaufman. "Now we have solid scientific data," from a newly completed five-year study of the results of a voluntary phase-out of antibiotic growth promoters in Denmark, "that producers can terminate this practice without negative effects for the animals, and with good effects for humans."

The Danish producers found that the cost of raising pork increased 1% without routine use of antibiotics. The percentages of pigs and chickens carrying antibiotic-resistant bacteria, however, dropped from a range of 60%-80% to a range of 5%-35%.

Continued Kaufman, "WHO offi-

cials say that about half of the antibiotics used by livestock growers worldwide are low-dose growth promoters, the type that public health experts say are most likely to promote the growth of antibiotic-resistant bacteria."

The Animal Health Institute, representing agricultural drug makers, claims only 13% to 17% of the antibiotics used on U.S. farms are low-dose growth promoters, but the Union of Concerned Scientists has affirmed the WHO estimate.

"WHO's recommendation goes well beyond the steps taken by the McDonald's fast-food chain in June, when it told meat suppliers it wanted them to reduce or stop the use of some growth promoters by the end of next year," Kaufman noted. "McDonald's policy would prohibit the use of 24 antibiotic growth promoters, but would allow low-dose antibiotics that act to prevent disease rather than solely promote growth. The Danish ban is on all low-dosage antibiotics, whatever their purpose. A similar ban will go into effect across the European Union in 2006."

By going beyond McDonald's requirements, WHO reinforced McDonald's position that what it is asking is reasonable and easy for farmers to comply with.

National Pork Board spokesperson Cynthia Cunningham earlier complained to *New York Times* reporter David Barboza that,

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“Mavis”
had a
miserable
15 years
surviving
injury &
disease.
She’s safe
at last...
for her
final
chapter--



July 2003

Dear Partner,

In 1988, five years after we got our first shelter . . . a run down, condemned set of kennel buildings in the city . . . I moved all of our 250 dogs & cats out of there to our beautiful new sanctuary in the mountains.

During our stay at that old kennel, many feral cats from the surrounding industrial areas found their way to the food and water we left out for them.

They used to come through openings in our block walls all through the night, and be gone by daylight.

When I demolished that old kennel, I set up feeding stations for the feral cats who would continue to find a safe haven there.

Over these last 15 years, two of our over 30 catteries at our 94-acre Supershelter are exclusively for feral cats from this land.

But more feral cats keep finding their way to us, each with a tragic story.

Many times I have rescued infants who were the last survivors of some nearby disaster. Their mothers carried them into our haven and either died or got killed on nearby streets with heavy trucks quaking by every minute or so.

Most of these lone kittens had to be hand raised in an incubator, at home with me. So most of the cats who now live at home with us are these formerly feral rescued kittens all grown up! One of them, old Dinah, is on my

lap, sometimes pushing keys down herself, as I am writing this letter to you.

We’ve had offers from land developers to sell that miracle half-acre, but we can’t . . . dozens of hungry cats call this their home, even though they really live on the surrounding streets, in the alleys and under buildings.

Whenever I go down to visit the cats, I search for moms and kittens, or injured & sick cats. This last trip I found Mavis, staggering to her food dish.

She was an old never caught and seldom seen cat, and because years would sometimes pass without a sighting, I often thought we had lost her.

Try to remember for a minute . . . what was your life like back around 1988 when Mavis was born? What were you doing in 1989 when she was scampering around trying not to get hit by cars, ducking into our haven for the only food and water she could count on?

How about in 1990 when Mavis had her first near-fatal disease? Or 1993 when she had a painful abscess that burst on its own? Try to remember what you were doing, who your friends and relatives were, each year up to today.

I’ll bet a lot has happened in your life. And a lot has happened to Mavis in all that time too. But the only good thing that’s happened to her is that I rescued her, finally, when she came out in daylight to eat.

She could barely walk and she had a huge hole in her neck where yet another abscess had burst.

This poor old cat has had a terrible life . . . but she’s survived thanks to our feeding program at our first shelter.

As my wife said while she was holding Mavis for this picture above, “Here’s a cat nobody would want. Any other place would put her down.” Well, WE want her. And whatever time she has left, we will love and care for old Mavis . . . all the while wishing it were longer, so we could begin to make it up to her . . . for her lifetime of suffering.

For the animals,

Le

Leo Grillo, founder

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

Attention: Rescuers and Shelters

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

Here at D.E.L.T.A. Rescue, we invented a better housing system for our more than 859 dogs. Using 25 common bales of straw, and three sheets of plywood, two people can build a straw bale dog house in under 10 minutes! This is the same simple structure that withstood our terrible El Nino rains in 1998. The *simple* straw design can last 20 years, but because we are a permanent sanctuary, our houses must last longer.



Our dogs love to play on the straw ... before, during and after construction!



Simple straw house, 4x6 foot interior, 10 x10 foot rooftop play area, and steps!



Newly finished “deluxe” stucco version, which will last 100 years or more!



Our dogs climb their steps and play on top and inside their houses. They have a ball!



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

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

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

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

Editorial

The Buddha’s last lesson was for humane work

The **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial team will be traveling in China when most readers receive this edition. We will meet with many of the people who are building pro-animal institutions in the world’s most populous nation, will visit the Animals Asia Foundation sanctuary for rescued bile farm bears in Chengu, and will then join delegates from throughout Asia at the Asia for Animals conference in Hong Kong.

Hosted by the Hong Kong SPCA, Asia for Animals is to focus on dogs and cats—but dogs and cats are eaten in many parts of Asia, while the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome epidemic of 2002-2003 established the relationship of live markets selling dogs, cats, and wildlife as meat with the spread of human disease.

Any discussion of humane work inevitably circles back around to the first and biggest of all humane issues, and perhaps of all ethical issues: killing animals for meat.

“History’s first ideological and philosophical argument may have been the conflict between vegetarianism and carnivorism, depicted in the rivalry between Cain and Abel,” wrote Richard Schwartz in *Judaism & Vegetarianism* (1988).

The vegetarian Cain eventually murdered Abel, the herdsman favored by God. Scribes and scholars have struggled over interpretations of the allegorical story ever since, while affirming the importance of the ethical issues it raises by including versions in Jewish scripture, the Christian “Old Testament,” and the Quran.

Moses appears to have retained leadership of the Hebrews by bringing forth a set of Ten Commandments which omitted explicit mention of animals in declaring “Thou shall not kill,” while introducing as part of “Mosaic Law” a set of rules for humane slaughter and the care of work animals.

In effect, Moses may have introduced the compromise accepted by most humane institutions ever since. He may have agreed that animals could be eaten if they were raised and killed “humanely” because this was the most he could convince others to accept.

The Brahmins, who were perhaps also refugees from Egypt, in comparably ancient times appear to have introduced abstention from meat to India as a central tenet of upper-caste Hinduism. When Brahmin teachings were corrupted by the continued practice of animal sacrifice among tribal peoples they conquered, Mahavir and Sidhartha Gautama Buddha founded Jainism and Buddhism as vegetarian Hindu reform movements.

Reconciliation of Buddhism with meat-eating came long after the Buddha’s own time and far from his homeland, where followers remembered more vividly that he was killed when someone slipped a morsel of pork into his begging bowl.

The symbolism of that incident is relevant today to animal advocates of every religion, or none.

The point the Buddha made by his death, however accidental, is that if an animal advocate accepts eating meat in any form, that ethical compromise can ultimately poison the cause. If animals may be killed for meat, for example, it is difficult to argue that it is unethical to kill animals in experiments which might benefit millions of people and some animals too. If animals may be killed for meat, certainly it is not more harmful or disrespectful of their lives to use them for entertainment, or to wear their hides and pelts.

If any of this may be done with animals of one species, why not with animals of other species? Why not with humans?

Troubled by such questions, but reluctant to risk alienating donors, the secular humane societies of recent times have mostly compromised, like Moses, sacrificing moral clarity to institutional pragmatism.

Formed in 1824, the London SPCA in 1832 foreshadowed the direction of the cause for nearly 200 years by ousting Jewish financial saviour Lewis Gompertz because he urged that SPCA functions be vegetarian. Then, having attracted the broader support that the meat-eaters feared Gompertz would alienate, the organization in 1840 became the Royal SPCA by in effect giving up opposition to vivisection to win a royal charter.

That created openings for the rise of the next generation of British animal advocacy groups, including the National Canine Defence League, now a world leader in promoting dog-and-cat welfare but originally an anti-vivisection society.

Causes grow by developing institutional influence; becoming corrupted, at least in the vision of the most determined reformers; splitting, and eventually revitalizing themselves.

Critical to understand, in either building or revitalizing a cause, is that a reformer succeeds to the extent that the reformer is able to make the public feel uncomfortable enough about abuse and injustice to seek the creation, improvement, or replacement of institutions.

A reformer is thereby an instrument of social instability.

Institutions, however, even when built by reformers, do not actually exist to solve the problems that motivate reformers. Rather, institutions exist to alleviate the discomfort that afflicts society as result of the work of reformers.

The central purpose of any institution is to restore and maintain social stability.

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This may be achieved by solving the problems that motivate reformers, but may also be achieved by providing the public with a means of assuaging their consciences through pretending that something is being done about the problems, whether that is true or not.

Reformers are by nature radical; institutions are conservative. Radicals serve ideal visions; institutions serve reality.

Thus, in the name of reality, the American Humane Association and American SPCA during the 1890s gave up opposition to sport hunting (and later, to use of shelter animals in research) to gain, respectively, the franchise to operate orphanages for New York state and the New York City animal control contract. These economically stabilizing deals lasted until 1950 and 1994.

The late Cleveland Amory cofounded the Humane Society of the U.S. in 1954 in hopes of forcing the AHA and ASPCA to retract their endorsement of the use of shelter animals in research, as they eventually did. Amory meanwhile started the Fund for Animals in 1968 to oblige both organizations and HSUS to stand up against sport hunting.

Amory won that struggle, too, and along the way came to a critical realization.

Decades before Amory died in 1998, he understood that even though he himself never succeeded in becoming a vegetarian, and even though the Fund has little direct involvement in dietary issues, Fund policy and Fund events had to eschew meat-eating, as the first and strongest defense against loss of moral leadership. Amory endorsed the adoption of vegetarianism as a central goal of the animal rights movement and agreed with **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that humane societies should not serve meat at public functions, as a gesture toward integrity, even if every member eats meat at every meal at home.

Less meat can succeed

Humane society directors and board members who fear losing donor support if they quit serving meat at public events might note the fundraising success of the San Francisco SPCA, raising \$11.5 million per year, and Best Friends, which raised \$15.7 million last year. The SF/SPCA has officially practiced and promoted vegetarianism for approximately ten years; Best Friends has been stalwartly vegetarian from inception.

The Richmond SPCA, of Richmond, Virginia, has not been nearly that brave, but did quietly de-emphasize meat during a recent three-year series of weekly luncheons that raised \$14.2 million to build a new shelter and bankroll an effort to make Richmond the first no-kill city in the U.S. South.

The fundraising achievement is especially noteworthy because Richmond is a third the size of San Francisco and much less affluent. Unlike the SF/SPCA and Best Friends, the Richmond SPCA is not nationally prominent, and does not have a support base extending beyond just a few miles up the Shenandoah Valley. Neither is Richmond noted for warmly receiving change. The last time anyone led a revolution in Richmond may have been during the 1863-1865 struggle remembered locally as the War Between the States.

Fought in a futile effort to preserve slavery, that war remains fresh in memory in the Shenandoah Valley. The American SPCA, Massachusetts SPCA, Pennsylvania SPCA, and Women’s Humane Society of Philadelphia were all begun soon afterward by Abolitionists who extended their concerns to animals, but the first “humane society” in Richmond may have been the insane asylum for depressed and destitute ex-slaveowners depicted by Ross Lockridge Jr. in his 1948 novel *Raintree County*. The character played by Elizabeth Taylor in the 1957 film *Raintree County* briefly inhabited the asylum, but she cannot quite be claimed as a fictional Richmond SPCA alumnus because the present humane society was formed a generation later, in 1891, albeit with overlapping community support.

Knowing that local controversies may smolder for generations, and already under bitter attack from traditionalists for moving toward no-kill sheltering, Richmond SPCA executive director Robin Starr did nothing to draw attention to her de-emphasis of meat.

She also compromised considerably.

“We served no red meat,” Starr told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “Most of the meals were fish. Some were vegetarian, and a few were chicken.”

As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has often pointed out, the universe of suffering is greatly expanded instead of reduced, if in lieu of eating one pig or cow, people eat more than 100 chickens or fish. In ecological terms, raising the chickens or catching the fish is far more harmful. Yet meat-eaters tend to perceive giving up red meat as a first step toward giving up meat entirely, and vegetarian converts often go through a phase of eating fish or chicken instead of red meat before becoming vegetarians in earnest.

Wholly meatless meals could still become controversial in Richmond, and Starr is anxious about the possibility. Her experiment with de-emphasizing meat, however, was a resounding success. Week after week, instead of asking anyone to make a donation on the spot, Starr gave her guests donation envelopes to take home. The SF/SPCA is noted for raising 25% more money per city resident than the U.S. norm—but the donation envelopes returned to the Richmond SPCA 33% more per city resident than even the SF/SPCA brings in.

Though concerned in day-to-day work almost exclusively with dogs and cats, the Richmond SPCA embraces as its mission “leading the way for the South in a new standard for compassionate treatment of animals,” meaning all animals. In Richmond the example as regards eating animals remains inconsistent, but Starr recognizes the imperative implicit in the no-kill philosophy that no sentient being should be treated as a mere commodity.

The influential No Kill Conference series of 1995-2001 featured meatless meals from the start, and so has the Conference on Homeless Animal Management & Policy (CHAMP), succeeding it. Though some of the organizers and sponsors are vegetarians, some are not; but even among those who are not, there seems to be unanimous agreement that killing animals should not be part of advancing the idea of compassion for animals.

This is a significant turnabout from the agrarian attitude that once prevailed in humane work. Fifty years ago the hottest topics in animal advocacy were the introduction in Congress of the first edition of the bill that in 1959 became the Humane Slaughter Act, and the formation of two San Francisco SPCA subsidiaries to promote regionally and nationally the use of decompression chambers to kill homeless dogs and cats.

Under the direction of Richard Avanzino, 1976-1998, the SF/SPCA led a successful national drive to abolish animal killing by decompression, and in 1994 San Francisco became the first U.S. no-kill city, but in the 1950s the attitudes of major humane organizations toward farm animals and companion animals appear to have differed mainly as regards the disposal of remains. Farm animals were to be eaten, while longtime Massachusetts SPCA education officer William Allen Swallow postulated in *The Quality of Mercy*, a 1963 “history of the humane movement in the United States,” that the future of the cause would be running pet cemeteries.

There were contrary voices, including E.B. White, who published the anti-meat children’s classic *Charlotte’s Web* in 1952; Elizabeth Lewyt, who with friends cofounded the no-kill North Shore Animal League in 1954; Walt Disney, whose 1955 animated feature *Lady & The Tramp* exposed the plight of homeless dogs and cats more vividly and realistically than any previous screen treatment; and Alice Harrington, who founded Friends of Animals in 1957 to operate the first low-cost pet sterilization program in the U.S.

All, however, were so far outside the mainstream that Swallow mentioned none of them, even though in retrospect they were perhaps the most presciently influential animal advocates of their era.

LETTERS



—Wolf Clifton

Pigeons

Thank you very much for the mention of PICAS USA in your July/August 2003 edition.

PICAS USA has already evolved considerably since I provided the information published then. Our first official consultation has been for an architectural firm in Chicago that is renovating the landmark Ambassador Hotel. We are also doing an exploratory study for the city of Duluth, Minnesota, and are assisting private citizens who have contacted us hoping to start PICAS projects in New York City, Philadelphia, and Pompano Beach, Florida, among other cities.

I have also uncovered some misconceptions about the European method of pigeon control:

1) Ever-unassuming, PICAS' director Guy Merchant only recently revealed to us that he had implemented the nestbox/egg removal approach nearly a decade before the Swiss study that made it famous.

2) Some of the greatest successes come from the U.K. and other locations besides Switzerland.

3) The Swiss study began with the flawed premise that it was necessary to cull many pigeons first. They ended up proving that culling does not reduce flock size for long, sometimes less than a year.

4) I am amassing statistics from various successful PICAS implementations in the UK, like the estimated drop from 1200 to less than 600 pigeons in about a half year at the Nottingham City Hospital complex using discarded lockers for nestboxes. This is a tremendous success story that has received little attention from the media.

—Leslie Wilson
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John Wesley

The British founder of Methodism, John Wesley, was a vegetarian for the last several decades of his life back in the 18th century. He converted to vegetarianism because he had profound compassion for animals and detested cruelty.

Wesley also preached sermons which asserted that the entire animal kingdom would ultimately ascend to an idyllic life after their deaths in this world of strife and suffering.

Wesley was a benevolent supporter of animal rights and the belief in animal resurrection who is overlooked by many scholars.

—Brien Comerford
Glenview, Illinois

4-H betrayal

I was very impressed by the letter in the June edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** from retired pastor Frank Hoffman, headlined "Hardening hearts through slaughter."

As a retired teacher, I am disgusted with the 4-H Clubs that teach boys and girls to gain a living creature's love and trust, only to sell the animal to slaughter. How do they expect young people to grow up to be trustworthy, truthful, and loyal if they are taught that it is all right to betray an innocent animal?

The 4-H Clubs should be ashamed of themselves.

—Greta Bunting
St. Petersburg, Florida

Kucinich

Did you know that besides his many other progressive, compassionate stands that Presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich is a vegan?

Did you know that as a member of Congress, Kucinich (D-Ohio) received a 100% rating from the Humane Society of the U.S.?

I am taking it upon myself as an ordinary citizen to contact my friends in the animal compassion world to let them know what a once-in-a-lifetime possibility we have to elect a president who truly cares about animals.

—Heidi Silva
Whitmore, California

Poisoning is stopped in Israel

As a result of a conference co-sponsored by Concern for Helping Animals in Israel and Israel's Ministries of Health, Environment, and Agriculture, the Veterinary Services Division of the Ministry of Agriculture has agreed to replace slow, painful strychnine poisonings of animals with humane animal capture and control measures. This is the first time that Veterinary Services has joined forces with an animal protection charity to improve the treatment of animals.

Israel is a rabies-endemic country. Potentially rabid dogs, especially from Bedouin camps or from neighboring Arab regions where there is no rabies control, enter inhabited areas at night, in packs, seeking food and posing a threat to human health. For this reason municipal veterinarians claimed the poisonings were necessary.

Among other important initiatives to emerge from the conference, CHAI/Israel will partner with Israel's Nature Reserves Authority, a government agency, to provide humane education within the Bedouin community and to sterilize and vaccinate their dogs. CHAI/ Israel will bring our mobile clinic into the desert for this effort.

—Nina Natelson
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TNR success

Accompanying is information about our use of a \$2,500 grant from the city of Folly Beach, North Carolina, to assist residents in sterilizing their pets and to support our Folly Beach feral cat TNR program.

TNR has been very successful at Folly Beach, which is a bird sanctuary, and the program has not hurt our bird population. I am appalled at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission and their recent call for the destruction of feral cats in Florida wildlife habitat. This was a typical bureaucratic government response to a problem caused by human development, destruction of habitat, and use of pesticides.

We have accomplished more to reduce feral cat populations, protect habitat, and control rodents (who menace ground-nesting birds) through TNR than can ever be achieved by means of shooting, trapping, and killing.

My mother, Ellie Booth of Hobe Sound, Florida, has worked for the past 15 years to save, sterilize, release, and feed and care for feral cats on Jupiter Island. Her original two feral cat colonies have all passed on, with no new cats in those areas. With Maris Sine, who established Domino's House for Feral Kittens, my mother cofounded the Hobe Sound Animal Rescue League. Through their work, for the first time in many years, no feral kittens were born this year on Jupiter Island.

—Carol Linville
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Charleston, SC 29412
Phone: 843-795-1110
<adoption@pethelpers.org>
<www.pethelpers.org>

Pueblo A/C

ANIMAL PEOPLE is an incredible publication. Revealing what is really happening instead of what the money-grabbers would like everyone to believe is rare in the media, and it is no surprise that one money-grabber has tried to sue you.

Here in Pueblo, officials have made it against the law to help stray or feral cats. Some animal control officers act like the Gestapo. One even came into PETsMART in early June and gave several tickets to a man whose puppies we were adopting out. The man was from South America and was having trouble with the language, supporting his family, and paying his bills, but he loves his dogs and was willing to do anything to help them. He didn't have a litter license and the dogcatcher left with \$40 of his money.

We have recently received a grant from PETsSMART for pet sterilization, and will distribute a flyer to promote our services in some of Pueblo's poverty areas.

—Marilyn June Barkhoefer
President

Volunteers for Inter-Valley Animals
2039 Randall Road
Pueblo, CO 81008
Phone: 719-549-0617

Dogs, cats, gorillas in the mist

Why no shelter in Kampala?

I first thought of writing to you when I was in Uganda.

ANIMAL PEOPLE gave me a sense of sanity there! Often when people moved to Uganda—from the U.K., U.S., Australia, South Africa, Kenya—they'd call the Uganda SPCA and ask, "Where's the shelter?" I'd explain that we have no shelter. Starting a shelter in Kampala would make no sense right now. There are few dogs and cats on the streets, and there is only the start of a pet owning culture. Irresponsible expatriate pet keepers would make us their dumping ground. Very little money is available for humane work. Few [in-country] people want to donate, and there are even fewer volunteers.

The main problem in Uganda is lack of education about how to care for dogs and cats. A shelter would eat up our minimal resources and take away the time and energy we use to work in the communities on educating people about dog and cat care. **ANIMAL PEOPLE** echoed a lot of this and I also used your paper to get these points across to our board and local vets.

—Karen Menczer
Washington, D.C.
<perros@info.bw>

Gorillas are in steep decline

Thank you for your recent coverage of the plight of gorillas. My sister, Greyhound Friends founder Louise Coleman, recently sent you some information to refute a recent *Boston Globe* article about tourists seeing increased numbers of gorillas in Uganda. Unfortunately, it is a very small population of gorillas which have experienced an increase in numbers. Friends of mine working in the field in eastern Congo, Uganda, and Rwanda report that the numbers are down in most gorilla populations. The quest to mine coltan [used to make cell telephones] in their habitat is only the most recent and severe reason for a decline in gorilla numbers that has been ongoing for decades.

I have lived and worked in Africa studying lowland gorillas in the Central African Republic. I know first-hand the dire situation for people in these areas. They are interested in surviving the day. The forest has always provided. They think it always will.

—Dr. Lyna Watson
Andover, Massachusetts

Editor's note:

Tourism director Claude Seruhungu of Volcano National Park, Rwanda, told Agence France-Presse in late July that, "For nearly a year a troupe of between 50 and 70 rare golden monkeys has become used to the presence of humans, and tourists now can see them." Also endangered, Rwandan golden monkeys share habitat with mountain gorillas, and making them accessible to visitors is an important step in expanding the ecotouristic appeal of the region, long recommended by Bill Weber and Amy Vedder, whose work is discussed on page 21.

Ebola virus killed hundreds of lowland gorillas and chimpanzees in the Congo during early 2003. Rick Callahan of Associated Press reported on August 6 that the National Institutes of Health and U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick, Maryland, "have developed a fast-acting, single-shot Ebola vaccine that makes monkeys immune to Ebola six times faster than an earlier version." The vaccine protected eight monkeys from a lab-induced form of Ebola during a 28-day test, while eight unvaccinated monkeys died horribly. The previous Ebola vaccine, developed in 2000 by NIH Vaccine Research Center director Gary J. Nabel, required six injections at month-long intervals. Nabel and microbiologist C.J. Peters of the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston predicted that the new vaccine might be used by health workers and researchers. It will not help people who have already been infected. Princeton University research fellow Peter Walsh expressed doubt that the vaccine could be given to wild gorillas and chimps because of the difficulty of darting them. Walsh headed a group of 23 researchers funded by the Wildlife Conservation Society and other institutions who reported in the April 6, 2003 edition of Nature that the wild gorilla and chimp populations may have been halved since 1995 by Ebola and bushmeat hunting. However, as Weber and Vedder describe, many Rwandan wild gorillas viewed by tourists were vaccinated against measles in 1989. Six gorillas died from measles before the vaccination started; none died afterward.

His mother was killed.
His family destroyed.
Then came the long terrible journey trapped alone in a dark box... and he was only a few weeks old.

It is too difficult



to comprehend their suffering.

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THE EBERLE CASE

“Part of my life”

I’ve been meaning to ‘talk’ to you guys for a long, long time, as your newspaper is phenomenal. It’s amazing the information you acquire and the articulate projection thereof. And I can never find the right words for your bravery and courage when you went to the Korean dog markets.

I was devastated to learn that you were hit with a lawsuit. It seems a lot of organizations who speak up for voiceless animal victims get slapped with suits in efforts to silence them and destroy them economically. It is the job of the status quo to keep the compassionate minority silenced!

Your newspaper has become an integral part of my life and without it I would feel a little more empty, a little more lost.

—Diana Moreton
Lake Worth, Florida

Thank you

Congratulations on the resolution of the lawsuit brought against you. I’m so sorry for your financial and personal stress, and for the reduction of vital services to animal protection that fighting the lawsuit necessitated. Thank you for refusing to be silenced.

—Veronia R. Ferguson
Niagara Falls, New York

Editor’s note:

These are just two among hundreds of similar messages that we continue to receive from around the world, including from fundraising professionals who endorse the ANIMAL PEOPLE code of ethics for fundraising on behalf of animal charities, outlined in our May 2003 editorial, accessible at <www.animalpeoplenews.org>.

Following the June 2003 judicially directed settlement of his initial lawsuit against ANIMAL PEOPLE, detailed in our June 2003 edition, fundraiser Bruce Eberle filed new motions seeking to suppress distribution of that edition for allegedly improperly revealing proprietary financial information about his companies in an illustrative table.

Ironically, ANIMAL PEOPLE had only office copies left of that edition, whose cover feature about feral cat interactions with wildlife was in high demand, and the table was never formatted for electronic distribution.

Rulings on the motions are due after our September 2003 edition goes to press.

Two animal charities represented by Eberle, Noah’s Lost Ark and Tiger Missing Link Foundation, also known as Tiger Creek, were among five cited in July by the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance for either failing to meet the Wise Giving Alliance standards or supplying insufficient information to enable the Alliance to determine if the standards were observed.

Also cited for failing to provide adequate information were the Gorilla Foundation and International Fund for Animal Welfare. PETA was cited for failing “to clearly disclose how the charity benefits from the sale of products or services that state or imply that a charity will benefit from a consumer’s purchase or business transaction,” and for failing to meet a standard pertaining to board structure which ANIMAL PEOPLE believes is inappropriate for animal charities, as well as any charities still directed by their founders. This standard was reviewed in our May 2003 editorial.

The Wise Giving Alliance web site, <www.give.org>, cites two more animal charities represented by Eberle for flunking Alliance standards. Tiger Haven flunks eight of 20; Wildlife Waystation flunks four. Both flunk the standards requiring that “A reasonable percentage, at least 50%, of total income from all sources shall be applied to programs and activities directly related to the purposes for which the organization exists”; and that “A reasonable percentage, at least 50%, of public contributions shall be applied to the programs and activities described in solicitations, in accordance with donor expectations.”

The Wise Giving Alliance has not published an evaluation of Lifesavers Wild Horse Rescue, another charity represented by Eberle, which according to ANIMAL PEOPLE review of IRS Form 990 filings has never spent less than two-thirds of its annual budget on fundraising and administration.

Neither the Alliance nor ANIMAL PEOPLE has published an evaluation yet of the Peaceful Valley Donkey Sanctuary, represented by Eberle in recent mailings.

PMU drugs can cost women’s lives and minds (from page 1)

The boycott by 2000 appeared to have cut the number of operating PMU farms by 15% and to have halved the number of horses involved in PMU production.

But that was slight compared to the crash after the Women’s Health Initiative on July 9, 2002 warned participants in a nine-year federally funded study involving 16,000 women that for each 10,000 women who take the Wyeth Pharmaceuticals estrogen/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, plus seven more heart attacks, eight more strokes, and eight more cases of blood clots in the lungs.

As many as six million women were reportedly taking hormone supplements as of July 2002, including 3.4 million users of Prempro. By July 2003, Wyeth acknowledged, only 2.7 million women were still using hormone supplements, and only 1.2 million continued to use Prempro. Wyeth stock fell in value by 52% between May and mid-July 2002, but total Wyeth sales of hormone sup-



Mares of draft breeds are used most in PMU production. (M.C.)

plements dipped just 25% because Wyeth also manufactures the most popular alternatives to Prempro for women who choose to continue taking supplemental estrogen.

The July 2002 Women’s Health Initiative warning addressed only estrogen/progestin combination drugs.

More about the WHI findings appeared in the June 25, 2003 edition of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

U.S. women who take estrogen/progestin combination supplements are more likely to develop breast cancer, WHI reaffirmed after further refinement of the data.

Worse, women taking the estrogen/progestin combination drugs are more likely to develop particular types of tumor that tend to be discovered at a later stage of development, with less chance of being cured.

Summarized New York Times medical writer Denise Grady, “Of the 8,506 women on hormones in the study, 199 developed invasive breast cancers, compared with 150 cases in the 8,102 women taking placebos. In the women using hormones, 25.4% had cancers that spread either to nearby tissue or distant parts of the body, compared with only 16% in the placebo group.

“In addition,” Grady wrote, “after one year of treatment, 9.4% of women in the hormone group had abnormal mammograms, as opposed to only 5.4% in the placebo group. The risk of an abnormal mammogram translates into 1 in 25 treated women per year.”

The Women’s Health Initiative also furnished the data behind the New England Journal of Medicine report linking hormone supplements with higher risk of heart attacks.

The association of hormone therapy

with Alzheimer’s disease and senile dementia emerged from a separate four-year study of 4,532 women at 39 U.S. medical centers, funded by the Alzheimer’s Association. The investigators hoped to find that hormone therapy might prevent Alzheimer’s.

Instead, explained Grady, “There were 40 cases of dementia in the hormone group and 21 in the placebo group. Translated to an annual rate for a larger population, the results mean that for every 10,000 women age 65 and older who take hormones, there will be 45 cases of dementia per year, with 23 of them attributable to the hormones.”

Commented Clifford Hudis, M.D., chief of breast cancer medicine at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, “The whole health benefit story for hormones has really unraveled.”

In December 2002 the U.S. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences listed all estrogens used for hormone replacement and contraceptive purposes as known human carcinogens.

This includes all estrogens made from pregnant mare’s urine.

Developed initially by Ayerst Pharmaceuticals of Montreal, later purchased by Wyeth, PMU-based estrogen supplements and birth control pills had been marketed in the U.S. since 1942.

Wyeth added a warning of the suspected health risks to the Prempro label in August 2002. In January 2003 the U.S. Food and Drug Administration ordered that a warning be added to all labels for hormonal products for menopausal women that the drugs may slightly increase their risk of heart attack, stroke, blood clots, and breast cancer.

Q: Why can’t this veal calf walk?

A: He has only two feet.

Actually, less than two feet. Twenty-two inches to be exact. His entire life is spent chained in a wooden crate measuring only 22 inches wide and 56 inches long. The crate is so small that the calf can’t walk or even turn around.

Most people think animal abuse is illegal. It isn’t. In veal factories, it’s business as usual. “Milk-fed” veal is produced by making a calf anemic. The calf is not fed mother’s milk. He’s fed a an antibiotic-laced formula that leads to diarrhea. He must lie in his own excrement — choking on the ammonia gases. He’s chained with hundreds of other baby calves suffering the same fate. They are immobilized, drugged, and anemic.

Toxic Veal

According to the USDA, sulfamethazine (a known carcinogen), oxytetracycline, penicillin, neomycin, streptomycin, and gentamycin have all been found in veal.

Doesn’t the USDA prevent tainted veal from being sold? Absolutely not. The USDA itself admits that most veal is never tested for toxic residue.

The industry claims that the drugs used in veal have been approved by the FDA. But don’t buy it. The fact is: Toxic and illegal drugs such as clenbuterol have been routinely used in veal calves.

Veal factories maximize profits for agribusiness drug companies because they are a breeding ground for disease. To keep calves alive under such torturous conditions, they are given drugs which can be passed on to consumers.

It doesn’t have to be this way. And with your help, it won’t be. Please join us.

YES!

I support HFA’s National Veal Boycott.

Farms must be stopped from misusing drugs, abusing farm animals, and destroying the environment.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift of: _____

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

The Humane Farming Association (HFA)

HFA • P.O. Box 3577 • San Rafael, CA 94912 • www.hfa.org

WHO gets the point about factory farming and antibiotics *(from page 1)*

“McDonald’s is trying to be laudable, but their position was based on marketing.”

The McDonald’s requirement and WHO recommendation came 39 years after British Quaker vegetarian advocate Ruth Harrison urged a global ban of routine prophylactic use of antibiotics in farm animals in *Animal Machines*, the 1964 book that made factory farming a major humane concern.

Introduced by *Silent Spring* author Rachel Carson, *Animal Machines* exposed intensive confinement methods of raising poultry, veal calves, and pigs.

“*Animal Machines* drew attention to the dangers to humans from eating meat laced with antibiotics, which are given to factory-farmed animals to reduce disease among them, and to enhance growth and profits,” recalled Ann Cottrell Free, whose newspaper exposes were instrumental in winning passage of the U.S. Humane Slaughter Act in 1958.

Harrison fully appreciated the value of antibiotics, having served in the Friends Ambulance Unit during World War II, and having assisted displaced persons in disease-plagued refugee camps after the war. Long before the medical mainstream got the point, Harrison also clearly understood that disease-carrying microbes could evolve antibiotic-resistant strains if over-exposed to antibiotics through routine agricultural use.

Her message was amplified by Jim Mason and Peter Singer in *Animal Factories* (1980, updated 1990), but perhaps because Harrison, Mason, and Singer were all closely associated with the rise of the animal rights movement, their warnings about the consequences for humans of antibiotic use in industrial agriculture were largely ignored until after whole classes of antibiotic began failing in the mid-1990s.

Fast food initiatives

Under activist and consumer pressure, wrote Barboza on page one of the June 25 *New York Times* business section, “McDonald’s, Burger King, KFC, and Wendy’s have all underwritten research and

recently hired what are called ‘animal welfare specialists’ to help them devise new standards aimed at more humane treatment of the animals destined for their kitchens. Industry trade groups are promoting the new rules and conducting audits of livestock producers to assure they are being followed.”

Many of the initiatives grow out of discussions started during the mid-1990s by Coalition for Nonviolent Food founder Henry Spira. McDonald’s was first to pledge some of the recent actions, in a 1994 pact signed with Spira and Colorado State University livestock welfare expert Temple Grandin—but Spira, who died in 1998, did not live long enough to secure McDonald’s compliance with the terms to which it had agreed.

Other farm animal welfare organizations were able to monitor specific industries and facilities, e.g. the Humane Farming Association surveillance of steroid use in the veal industry and slaughtering procedures at the Iowa Beef Processors packing plant in Wallula, Washington. Even the largest farm animal advocacy organizations, however, claim “only” tens of thousands of supporters, not the tens of millions whose potential loss as customers really scares the fast food industry.

Ensuring follow-through where Spira had opened doors was at last taken up by PETA two years after Spira’s death.

“McDonald’s, Burger King, and Wendy’s have done some pretty good stuff, but they had to be prodded into it,” PETA spokesperson Dan Shannon told Barboza.

In May PETA suspended a six-month boycott of KFC after the parent company, Yum! Brands Inc., announced that it will begin requiring the 18 poultry producers who supply poultry to KFC restaurants to allow the birds 30% more freedom of movement, take steps to prevent rough handling at slaughterhouses, and otherwise improve the care and feeding of chickens.

But the boycott suspension was short-lived. Accusing Yum! Brands CEO David Novak of reneging on a promise to install cameras in slaughterhouses to help

ensure the expeditious deaths of chickens, PETA representative Juergen Faulman greeted Novak with a feather-and-fake-blood-throwing protest when the CEO appeared in Garbsen, Germany, on June 23 to open a new franchise.

On July 6 PETA sued KFC in Los Angeles County Superior Court for allegedly misleading the public with web site statements about the extent of the company commitment to animal welfare.

The campaign gained momentum from a rumor amplified by PETA that former KFC television pitchman Jason Alexander was dismissed after raising animal welfare issues with KFC executives. KFC denied it; Alexander issued only a very brief and ambiguous statement.

Just as the dust settled, Sir Paul McCartney backed PETA in an open letter to Novak published as a full-page ad in the July 24 edition of the *Louisville Courier-Journal*.

PETA, though by far the biggest, is scarcely the only advocacy organization actively pressuring the fast food giants. Hundreds of activists from as far away as the Ukraine protested against McDonald’s and other meat-promoting fast food companies at the May 17 “Veggie Pride” demonstration in Paris, France, and a coalition called Keep Antibiotics Working, backed by the Union of Concerned Scientists, picketed Burger King franchises in four U.S. cities on June 12.

Meatless burgers

Beyond their still limited concessions on animal welfare, McDonald’s and Burger King have shown they are paying attention by introducing vegetarian burgers to their regular menus. The BK Veggie burger launched successfully throughout the U.S. in March 2002. The McVeggie Burger, featuring a Hain brand soy patty, debuted on May 13 at 600 restaurants in southern California. Hain is reportedly optimistic that after a trial run the McVeggie Burger will be added to the menus of all 13,000 McDonald’s franchises.

Some McDonald’s franchises in England, India, Canada, and New York City

have already experimentally offered various types of vegetarian burgers for several years, but McDonald’s has been cautious about testing any of them on a larger scale, ostensibly because of the failure of a meatless “pineapple burger” nearly 40 years ago.

How many veggies?

The increasing availability of vegetarian meat analog products in both restaurants and supermarkets may be a more certain indication of changing eating habits than public opinion polls, which continue to produce ambiguous results—albeit consistently confirming that younger generations are eating ever less meat.

Daily Telegraph food correspondent Robert Uhlig reported on July 9 that “More than a million Britons abandoned vegetarianism over the past two years, while more red meat is eaten than at any time since 1985. Vegetarianism [in Britain] peaked at 3.25 million in 1997, a year after the brain wasting disease new variant Creutzler-Jakob Syndrome was linked by scientists to mad cow disease. Only 2.24 million Britons now claim to be vegetarians, the lowest since 1990.”

Nonetheless, where only 2.1% of British citizens were vegetarian in 1984, 4% are vegetarian today.

Reviewing the findings from a variety of polls by different agencies, the Vegetarian Resource Group estimates that there are about 5.7 million adult vegetarians in the U.S., of whom about a third consider themselves vegans. The number of vegans appears to have almost tripled since 1994. Overall, about 4% of U.S. adults are vegetarians, but this includes 10% in the age range from 18 to 34, and the evolution of the trend has been apparent over time.

The major ambiguity in the U.S. data is that some people who call themselves vegetarians do eat fish or fowl, while many others who do not call themselves vegetarians actually consume very little flesh, if any. Diet studies often find that there are nearly as many “meat avoiders” as declared vegetarians.



The May 17, 2003 “Veggie Pride” march in Paris. (CETA/Leo Tolstoy Chapter)

AVMA dithers on farm animal welfare

DENVER—Distributing photographs of sows in gestation stalls, Massachusetts delegate Peter Theran, VMD, on July 20, 2003 warned the American Veterinary Medical Association House of Delegates that if it continues to endorse the stalls, it might as well cease pretending to advocate for animal welfare.

Theran, vice president of the Massachusetts SPCA hospital division, urged support of a resolution submitted by Farm Sanctuary asking the AVMA House of Delegates to withdraw a pro-gestation stall position statement approved in 2002 at request of the American Association of Swine Veterinarians.

Instead, the House of Delegates defeated that resolution, then passed a resolution calling for more study of the issue.

Also, for the fifth consecutive year, the AVMA House of Delegates rejected a resolution against starving laying hens to induce a forced molt.

“Meanwhile, within the past three years, fast food giants McDonald’s, Burger King, and Wendy’s, under pressure from animal welfare advocates, have all banned forced molting through new regulations for their egg suppliers. The practice is also banned in Europe and the United Kingdom, and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association has taken a stand against it,” pointed out Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights

representative Holly Cheever, DVM.

The August 1 edition of the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* indicated that even the Food Marketing Institute and National Council of Chain Restaurants showed more willingness to improve farm animal care, in a recent review of National Chicken Council welfare guidelines.

“Pending further data,” JAVMA said, the seven-member FMI-NCCR Animal Welfare Advisory Panel “accepted the NCC’s standards allowing for no more than 30% of birds in a random sample to have cracks or ulcers on their feet. The panel also felt that 99% stunning effectiveness for a 5000-bird sample is achievable, but 98% effectiveness is acceptable until existing rates can be reviewed.

“Panel members recommended guidelines in three areas additional to those submitted by the NCC. First, stocking density should not exceed six pounds live weight per square foot; second, since lighting influences the prevalence of skeletal disorders, birds should be given at least four hours of darkness per day; and finally, when birds are caught and inverted, they should be held by both legs.”

The panel also recommended that not more than 1% of the birds going to slaughter should have broken wings, and that the “number of birds arriving dead at the plant should not exceed 0.6% per day.”

Spay
USA

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

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



DELTA Rescue founder Leo Grillo and friend

Focus:

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

Trainee Requirements:

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

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

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

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



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



Dog quarters at DELTA Rescue

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

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- Learning treatment plans and protocols for presenting illnesses and injuries
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- Behavior assessment: normal vs. abnormal emotional and physiological patterns
- Obtaining urine, blood, fecal, and skin samples for laboratory testing
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- Dental procedures
- Anti-parasite treatments
- Proper restraint methods
- Vaccinations
- Physical therapy
- Proper and efficient recording in medical chart
- Wound treatment
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- ECG
- X-Ray
- Ultrasound



Inside one of the DELTA Rescue cat facilities

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

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“I have done all I can in Istanbul” —*humane patron Robert Smith*

ISTANBUL—The Society for Animal Protection (SHKD) shelter and sterilization clinic in the aqueduct district near Istanbul is soon to be closed, due to neighborhood objections to barking plus lack of political and economic support.

The facility was toured by delegates to the 2001 International Companion Animal Welfare Conference, along with the Natural Dog Shelter at the sprawling Kemerburgaz

Baghdad Zoo reopens with Uday’s maneating lions

BAGHDAD—Back under Iraqi management, the Baghdad Zoo reopened to the public on July 20, 2003, featuring 86 animals, including all 19 surviving lions from the previous zoo collection, the much smaller privately owned Lunar Park zoo, and the personal menagerie of Uday Hussein, elder son of the deposed dictator Saddam Hussein, who was killed in a firefight by U.S. troops on July 22 along with his brother Qusay and two other men not yet positively identified.

SkyNews of Britain reported on July 28 that at least some of Uday’s lions are confirmed man-eaters. A 36-year-old man calling himself Abu Ahmad, who said he worked for Uday as an executioner, described to SkyNews how he and Uday fed two 19-year-old students to his lions alive after they "competed with Uday where some young ladies were concerned."

Objecting that 19 lions were too many, Care for the Wild, the International Fund for Animal Welfare, and the Wildlife Action Group of South Africa all told news media including **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that a lioness named Zena who birthed five cubs just as U.S. troops were storming Uday’s former compound would be taken to South Africa, with her cubs, for release into semi-freedom at the SanWild sanctuary.

But Baghdad Zoo director Dr. Adel Salman Mousa told Melanie-Ann Feris of the *Johannesburg Star* that “The animals are all under the care and close supervision of coalition and local veterinarians, as well as professional zoo management, so we see no urgent need for immediate relocation on medical or other grounds.”

Though the Baghdad Zoo facilities are “Victorian,” and “was functioning like an amusement park,” it has five staff veterinarians and 32 keepers, said Wildlife Trust of India wildlife rescue program coordinator N.V.K. Ahsraf, DVM.

Ahsraf, whose passion is trying to save the seldom seen and almost extinct Malabar civet, was sponsored in Iraq by the International Fund for Animal Welfare. IFAW also sent British vet Jason Thrupp and former U.S. diplomat Ahmed Khan, who now heads the IFAW office in Kenya.

Lawrence Anthony, director of the Thula Thula private game reserve in South Africa, was reportedly the first civilian relief worker allowed into Baghdad after the U.S. invasion. As the first qualified person on the scene, Anthony was named interim zoo director. Stephen Bogner of the San Francisco charity WildAid arrived soon afterward, followed by the IFAW team, Care For The Wild director Barbara Maas, and World Society for the Protection of Animals veterinarian John Gripper.

Closed by Saddam Hussein for “renovation” a year before the April 2003 U.S. invasion, the zoo was turned into a quasi-military base. The animal collection, dwindled to about 450 from a peak of 800, lost another 370 animals during the year, who were apparently stolen to be eaten or clandestinely sold.

Deon Delpont of the *Independent* in Cape Town, South Africa, reported that Anthony also “set up Iraq’s first SPCA,” but no one else seemed to know anything about it.

[Contact the official Baghdad Zoo relief effort at Aid to Baghdad Zoo, c/o David Jones, Director, North Carolina Zoological Society, 4403 Zoo Parkway, Ashboro, NC 27205; <www.nc-zoo.com>. Donations may be designated to help dogs, cats, equines, and livestock, as well as exotic species.]

Rubbish Dump Project several miles away.

The landlord who leased the site to SHKD wants to reclaim the land for development, now that upscale housing developments have come up all around. British clothing manufacturer Robert Smith, the major funder of the shelter since it opened in 1998, is frustrated and ready to leave, wanting only time to accommodate all the resident dogs and cats.

“We have reduced the number of dogs still there to about 250,” Smith told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “Several hundred—at a guess 400-500 in the year 2003—have been sent to Germany, Holland and Austria for rehoming. About 20 sick or injured dogs have been put to sleep,” Smith said.

Smith continues to sponsor the Natural Dog Shelter, profiled in the July/August 2001 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, but the resident dog population has dwindled, between exports for rehoming and attrition.

“In our open forest shelter there are about 80 free dogs,” Smith explained. “They are fed at the far end from the entrance, and are otherwise free to roam outside in the (fenced) forest,” which is actually a tree plantation intended to stabilize the soil. “They all choose to stick around the people, rather than escape and wander into the road or back to the city. So that is working well so far.

“We have subdivided the forest shelter further into 19 areas,” since the ICAWC visit, Smith added, “so there is no longer any problem with dog fights or with separating incompatible dogs. We are hoping to soon secure some land on which to build a new neutering clinic—or to which we can move our existing portable buildings,” Smith continued. “However I do not intend to repeat the same mistake of creating a prison camp for dogs. The new clinic will have recuperation space only plus room for a maximum of 100 dogs suitable for rehoming in Europe.

“My intention and hope,” Smith declared, “is to keep SHKD going as a consultancy and lobbying organization, ready for the day, if it ever comes, that someone in the Turkish government has the political will and initiative to come to grips with the stray dog problem. I cannot afford to continue

to pay \$30,000 per month to run canine prison camps. Nor can I afford to continue to pay single-handedly for a free neutering and vaccination service for half of Istanbul. However, it would be a pity to lose the veterinary and dog handling expertise of our staff. It is important that we are able to train vets to work in Turkey and abroad.

“So we will only do operations free of charge for municipalities which pay us in one way or another, or for individuals who give donations or help us. The exceptions will be those areas we have already covered intensively, such as Gokturk and various villages outside Istanbul,” Smith said, intending that disengaging SHKD from providing extensive free services will induce communities to provide and properly fund similar services.

“In general it would probably be true to say that we have got the message across to most of the myriad arms of local and central government, but not all, that killing dogs is futile,” Smith observed. “They have progressed from sporadic poisoning campaigns to ‘catch and incarcerate,’ which is of course expensive and equally futile. The danger is that dogs will simply starve to death in badly managed city concentration camps. We managed one in Bakirkoy for over a year,” to ensure that the dogs there got proper care. “It cost me a fortune because the municipality paid late or never, and made our lives hell with obstruction and interference. So we now have to get them to progress from ‘catch and incarcerate’ to ‘neuter and return,’ following the successful models of street dog sterilization pursued in Costa Rica, parts of India, and Bali.

“I feel I have done all I can in Istanbul,” Smith concluded, “and that I have more chance of demonstrating the efficacy of ‘neuter and return’ in small towns in Romania,” where Smith also supports many humane projects, “than I do with the lethargic and unwieldy system of government in Istanbul.

“It is also prohibitively expensive to employ people legally in Turkey,” Smith noted, “to look after stray dogs,” a legacy of the prejudice against dogs common in nations where rabies was recently endemic and still occurs when vaccination campaigns are insufficiently aggressive.



PROTECTING ANIMALS - PREVENTING CRUELTY – RELIEVING SUFFERING

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- The development of an alternative method to the use of animals in experiments and the practical implementation of such an alternative resulting in a significant reduction in the numbers of animals used.

Grant Applications and Award Nomination Forms (closing date for the ‘Awards’ in the current year is 30 September 2003) are available from the Trust’s administrative offices or can be downloaded from the website:

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Email: marchigtrust@marchigawt.org
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ROCKY MOUNTAINS “WITCH HUNTS & WILDLIFE” PANIC IS RESOLVED

SALT LAKE CITY, DENVER—A 13-month two-state panic over alleged cat mutilations by purported sadists officially ended on August 1, 2003, when police chief Ricky Bennett of Aurora, Colorado, told news media that, “There are definite signs and markings that all were caused by predators.”

Twenty-nine of the 46 cats who were supposedly mutilated in Colorado were found in Aurora, but the panic actually began after the remains of a dozen cats with similar injuries were found in the same Salt Lake City neighborhood from which Elizabeth Smart, 14, was kidnapped on June 5, 2002.

Smart was recovered alive on March 12, 2003. David Brian Mitchell, 49, and his wife, Wanda E. Barzee, 57, are charged with kidnapping Smart from her Salt Lake City bedroom, raping her, holding her prisoner until their capture, and attempting to kidnap Smart’s 18-year-old cousin.

Mitchell’s stepson Mark Thompson, who helped bring Mitchell to justice, told *Newsweek* that Mitchell had a history of cruelty to animals. “He shot our dog in front of us. He killed our bunny and made us eat it,” Mitchell recalled.

But Mitchell was not named as a suspect in the Smart kidnapping until shortly before his arrest, and none of the 58 cats whose deaths were investigated in Salt Lake City and Denver actually bore injuries resembling those typically inflicted by humans.

Summarized *Denver Post* staff writer Sheba R. Wheeler after Chief Bennett’s press conference, held in his capacity as lead investigator of the Colorado cases, “Puncture wounds, torn skin, and a lack of visible bleeding found in 10 cats necropsied last week

were caused by attacks from foxes, coyotes, and some domesticated dogs. Several also were killed by owls.”

Salt Lake County Animal Services chief Temma Martin cited foxes, coyotes, raccoons, and owls in a similar announcement four days earlier—375 days after **ANIMAL PEOPLE** told Martin and Salt Lake City newspaper reporters that the descriptions of the wounds indicated that “The predator could be a young coyote, a bobcat, a raccoon.”

Several cats found dead near a cemetery, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** said, were more likely to have been killed by foxes or badgers, and some cats might have been victims of hawks, owls, and eagles.

Forwarding forensic descriptions from the November 1998 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** article “Witch hunts & wildlife,” **ANIMAL PEOPLE** noted that similar panics develop each summer in urban habitats that attract wildlife. The panics typically coincide with the emergence of young foxes and coyotes from their mothers’ dens and with the first hunting by newly fledged raptors. The panics gain momentum approaching Halloween, as public attention to witches, ghouls, goblins, and other things that go bump in the night rises toward a crescendo, then virtually stop each year after Halloween, distinctly unlike cases involving actual human sadism, Satanism, and the practice of Santeria sacrifice, which surge just before and after Christmas.

“Trained to investigate human-inflicted cruelty,” **ANIMAL PEOPLE** explained, “police detectives and humane officers typically have little background in predator behavior. Veterinarians tend to expect—wrongly—that injuries done by coy-

otes, the most frequent wild predator of pets, will resemble those done by domestic dogs. Forensic evidence is thus misread by sincere people, acting in good faith, who incite witch-hunts at possible cost to professional credibility.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE provided similar information to Denver and Aurora humane society directors, feral cat colony caretakers, and news media after becoming aware of the Colorado investigation through local news coverage published on Halloween 2002.

“Of course you were right,” Temma Martin e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on July 30, 2003. “I’m sorry our investigation didn’t give us this evidence sooner, but we have been leaning in this direction for a while now. No one in our area is an expert in analyzing this kind of case, so we were slow in gathering conclusive evidence. I do hugely appreciate your information, though,” Martin continued, “and have mentioned the predator theory in every interview I have done with the media since last summer. They just didn’t choose to focus on that angle. Unfortunately, it was not until we changed our lead investigator that we got fully on the right track.”

The case was cracked, Martin said, by Lieutenant Troy Wood. In June 2003 Wood found a fox den just about where **ANIMAL PEOPLE** predicted one might be found on July 22, 2002.

“Hair and feces from the den were sent to a lab in Michigan for analysis. The results showed cat hair in the feces around the den and identified the hair on the ground as that of a fox. Lab tests revealed fox hair beneath the claw of a dead cat found on the Willowbrook Golf course in late June,” wrote

Kamchata bears wiped out

TORONTO—Bear researchers Charlie Russell and Maureen Enns returned to Canada heartbroken in mid-July 2003 after poachers using a helicopter killed all 20-to-40 of the grizzly bears they had studied since 1995 on the Kamchata Peninsula of Siberia.

Russell and Enns documented their work in a PBS television special, *Walking With Giants: The Grizzlies of Siberia*, and in the book *Grizzly Heart: Living Without Fear Among the Brown Bears of Kamchata*.

“The people who killed the bears nailed the gall bladder of a baby grizzly to the research station’s kitchen wall as a gruesome taunt,” wrote Alanna Mitchell of the *Toronto Globe & Mail*.

“The bears were killed so we would go home,” Russell told her, after permanently closing the research station because no more living bears could be found.

Russell and Enns formed and funded a ranger team in 1998 that aggressively pursued poachers of bears, sturgeon, and salmon. Tigers had already been poached out of the region.

Michael N. Westley of *The Salt Lake Tribune*.

Humane investigators around the U.S. subsequently asked **ANIMAL PEOPLE** to reprint “Witch hunts and wildlife.” Letters-to-the-editor indicated that explicit details in the article upset many readers, and it drew as strong a response when shared with members of the Society of Environmental Journalists. “Witch hunts and wildlife” will therefore not be reprinted, but will be e-mailed or faxed on request, and is accessible on the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** web site at <www.animalpeople-news.org/98/11/witchhunts1198.html>.

Events

Aug. 29, 2003-April 2, 2004: Compassion for Animals Road expedition to 40 states and four provinces of Canada. Info: <www.HOPE-CARE.org>.

Sept. 15-19: Arbitons les Chats en France conference, Echourgnac, France. Info: <http://foyerfelin.free.fr/Conference.html>.

Sept. 25-27: All-Africa Humane Education Summit, Cape Town. Info: Humane Education Trust, 27-21-852-8160, <avoice@yebo.co.za>, or <www.animalvoice.org>.

Sept. 27: Intl. Rabbit Day 2003. Info: Bright Eyes, P.O. Box 414, 405 King’s Road, London SW10 0BB, U.K.; 020-8888-0001.

September 27: Paws & Claws on Parade Gala, Houston, honoring Barbara & Bill Mackey as recipients of the 2003 Cleveland Amory Humanitarian of the Year Award. Info: SNAP, 713-862-3863; <www.snaus.org>.

Sept. 29-Oct. 1: Conference on the Status of the Koala in 2003, Brisbane, Australia. Info: Australian Koala Fdn., <www.save-thekoala.com/conf2003.html>.

October 1-4: World Vegetarian Day. Info: Farmed Animal Action, c/o <info@farmedanimalaction.co.uk>; <www.farmedanimalaction.co.uk>.

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

October 3-5: 18th Intl. Compassionate Living

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Dolphin captures in the Solomons

CANCUN, Mexico; HONORIA, Solomon Islands—One of as many as 200 dolphins who were captured in the Solomon Islands during a lawless interim before the July 21 arrival of Australian peacekeeping troops reportedly died on July 28, a week after 28 of the dolphins were flown to the Parque Nizuc swim-with complex in Cancun, Mexico.

Twenty-eight dolphins arrived, anyhow. Greenpeace claimed 33 dolphins were actually loaded for the flight.

The chartered Brazilian-owned DC-10 carrying the dolphins took off only hours ahead of the arrival of the 2,000 Australian soldiers, who quickly ended 18 months of civil strife. Guadalcanal island warlord Harold Keke surrendered to the Australian forces on August 13. Keke led a coup attempt in 2000 that led to the deaths of about 50 people and the destruction of 15 villages along the Weather Coast of Guadalcanal, the largest island in the Solomons archipelago.

How many dolphins will die as an indirect consequence of Keke’s insurrection is still anyone’s guess.

Nearly 24 hours after notifying Mexican authorities of the death of the dolphin, Parque Nizuc veterinarian David Berron denied the demise, reported Associated Press writer Veronica Gaymer. The cause of death was unknown, as was the fate of most of the estimated 170 dolphins still held captive in six shallow sea pens on Gela Island.

Potential buyers from Thailand, Taiwan, and Japan were said to have inspected them.

“Where dolphins usually can be seen cavorting through the waves, they can now only be seen thrashing around in a shallow pen off a private jetty. Gangs hired to guard the wharf have chased journalists trying to film the pen in motorboats, and beat a cameraman’s boatman. The British High commissioner, Brian Baldwin, was chased away after taking photographs,” wrote Alex Spillius of the *London Daily Telegraph*.

Cameraman Frank Atu told Kathy Marks of *The Independent* that the boatman was “beaten nonstop for five minutes,” and was left bleeding from the mouth.

Melbourne Age reporter Craig Skehan wrote that some dolphins died while being taken to the sea pens, and at least four more died from banging their heads against the posts or becoming entangled and drowning in the netting.

Skehan said he had “obtained pho-

tographs of some dolphins who were slaughtered for their meat by a Solomon Islands man who is organizing the dolphin captures. One shows a dolphin foetus taken from the womb.”

“Many people are using dynamite to capture reef fish for the dolphins,” Honaria village resident Andrew Kulebe, 28, told Skehan.

Gela elder Matthew Kuri, 98, said that the dolphin captures were illegal because they were not approved by the islanders.

“Dolphins are like people. Selling them overseas is not in our culture,” Kuri said.

Local fishers were reportedly paid \$260 U.S. per dolphin captured, but Waves Consulting received \$46,000 apiece for the dolphins who were delivered to Cancun, Humane Society International wildlife and habitats program manager Nicola Beynon told Alison Rehn of the Brisbane *Courier-Mail*.

Wrote Spillius, “In its application to the government, Waves Consulting, the company behind the venture, said it planned to open a resort on Gavutu, a tiny island off Honiara, with luxury cabins over dolphin pools.”

But there was no sign of any such development being underway, Spillius said.

The most visible representative of Waves Consulting appears to be Christopher Porter, 33. Porter handled marine mammals at Sealand of the Pacific, in Victoria, British Columbia, from October 1989 until the facility folded in October 1993. From October 1994 until June 1998 he held a similar position at the Vancouver Aquarium. Since July 1998, Porter told Solomon Islands officials, he has worked for the Aquario di Genova in Italy. His wife is reportedly from the Solomons.

Dolphin Project founder Ric O’Barry traced the Vancouver Aquarium connection on a hunch after noticing the expression on the face of Vancouver Aquarium director John Nightingale when O’Barry described the Solomon Islands situation to him at a July 21 meeting concerning Nightingale’s application to obtain a dolphin as companion for Spinnaker, a Pacific whitesided dolphin obtained in 2001, who has been alone since the January 2002 death of a much older Pacific whitesided dolphin named Whitewings.

Nightingale appears unlikely to win permission from the Vancouver Parks Board to import any dolphin who was not already in captivity as of 1996, when the aquarium agreed to a policy of not accepting wild-captured marine mammals except for rescue cases.



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Iceland plans to start “research whaling”

REYKJAVIK—Iceland fisheries minister Arne Mathiesen and International Whaling Commission delegate Stefan Asmundsson announced on August 6, 2003 that Iceland will emulate Japan by starting a “research” whaling industry. Iceland last hunted whales in 1989.

The announcement confirmed a statement to Japanese news media by Iceland prime minister David Oddsson in January 2003, while in Tokyo seeking investment and foreign aid.

Japan has often economically assisted smaller nations in quid-pro-quo for political support in trying to resume commercial whaling and thwart further international protection of ocean species and habitat

Soon after Asmundsson spoke, U.S. State Department representative Philip Reeker reminded news media that the U.S. could impose sanctions against Iceland under the Pelly Amendment to the Fishermen’s Protective Act of 1967. The State Department again denounced the Icelandic resumption of whaling in a separate written statement less than 24 hours later, but the written statement did not mention sanctions.

European Union Agriculture and Fisheries Commissioner Franz Fischler personally took EU objections to the planned resumption of whaling to Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland, said Agence France-Presse.

The Icelandic Tourist Industry Association warned that whaling could cause whales to avoid whalewatching boats, jeopardizing the \$7.5 million a year Icelandic whale-watching industry.

After hinting at the June 2003 IWC meeting that Iceland might authorize the killing of as many as 100 minke whales, 100 fin whales, and 50 sei whales per year in 2004 and 2005, Asmundsson set the actual self-proclaimed quota at 38 minke whales. The pretext for killing the whales is to see

what is in their stomachs.

Icelandic fishers, like fishers around the world, are frustrated by declining catches after decades of overfishing and destruction of spawning areas by bottom trawling.

Much as Canadian and Peruvian fishers blame seals and sea lions for depleted fisheries, Japan Fisheries Agency chief Masayuki Komatsu blames minke whales, whom he calls “cockroaches of the sea.”

Asmundsson claimed that there are now 43,000 whales in Icelandic waters, with minkes the most plentiful species.

The announcement that Iceland would resume whaling came just 10 days after Stephen R. Palumbi of Stanford University and Joe Roman of Harvard University published DNA research findings in the journal *Science* that indicate that the global whale population before high-volume whale-killing began in the mid-19th century was far higher than previously believed.

The IWC has previously accepted estimates, based on reviews of whaling records, that the pre-whaling North Atlantic whale population included 20,000 humpbacks, 30,000 to 50,000 fin whales, and about 100,000 minkes. Commercial whaling, under IWC rules, cannot resume until each whale population recovers to 54% of the estimated pre-whaling size. The current official estimates are that there are now 10,000 humpbacks, 56,000 fin whales, and 149,000 minkes. Minkes are believed to be more numerous because larger species are fewer than previously.

Palumbi and Roman found that the historical norms may have included 240,000 humpbacks, 360,000 fin whales, and 265,000 minkes. If the IWC accepts the genetic evidence, commercial whaling might not resume for from 30 to 100 years, Palumbi told reporters.

Five pilot whales regain freedom off Florida

MIAMI—The Florida Keys Marine Mammal Rescue Team on August 10 returned five pilot whales to the edge of the continental shelf, 12 miles offshore, where they frequently swim and feed. The four adult female pilot whales and one yearling male were among a pod of 28 who became stranded on April 28. Eight died, six were euthanized, and nine eventually were able to swim away, Florida Keys Marine Mammal Rescue Team director Becky Arnold told Associated Press. Approximately 1,000 volunteers helped to nurse back to health the five who were judged capable of recovering in temporary captivity. Tracking tags will allow researchers to follow them by satellite for about eight months.

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Paul Berry of Best Friends and Quita Mazzina of Humane Alliance will answer your questions about mobile or fixed clinics.

9/8 - 9/12 — Ferals, ferals everywhere, and not sure what to do?

Nathan Winograd of Tompkin County SPCA will offer insights into how to create lifesaving programs where you live.

9/15 – 9/19 — Dog Behavior: “We have this dog in our shelter. . .”

Shy dogs, aggressive dogs -- Sherry Woodard, dog training and care consultant for Best Friends, will offer her insights.

9/22 - 9/26 — Getting Pets Fixed: Raising funds for spay/neuter.

Aimee St. Arnaud of Best Friends shares her ideas and expertise.

9/29 - 10/3 — Need a new shelter, but not sure where do we start?

Robin Starr, of the Richmond SPCA and Timy Sullivan of Geauga Humane Society will answer all questions about capital campaigns.

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Speaking up for donkeys in Jordan

AMMAN, Jordan—Formerly abused and abandoned donkeys Tinklet, Pushball, and Barney don’t actually speak, but like Balaam’s ass, who testified nearby, and is remembered in the holy literature of Judasim, Christianity, and Islam, they do their part to teach humans decency toward their species.

Chris Larter of the British-based Society for Protecting Animals Abroad (SPANA), recently sent **ANIMAL PEOPLE** an update on their doings, complete with press clippings.

“Jordan SPANA director Dr. Ghazi Mustafa is at present very busy getting ready to open a new education center in September,” wrote Larter.

Situated at the Hassanieh School for Girls in Um Quseir, the center will teach animal care and ecological principles to members of 115 animal care clubs established in Jordanian schools with the cooperation of the Ministry of Education.

“Our target audience are students from 9 to 13,” Mustafa told Natasha Twal of the *Jordan Times*.

“There is a real need here to educate children to respect animals. Many have never touched an animal, so the idea is to encourage them to see and touch donkeys, lambs, goat-kids, puppies, rabbits, hamsters, and so forth,” Larter said. “Tinklet and Pushball are already at the center, while Barney is at our clinic in the Jordan Valley with six other donkeys. The six of them and a pony have all been part of a money-raising adoption scheme which I established for SPANA in 1995.”

Larter is also involved in the Humane Center for Animal Welfare, “begun in September 2000 on private land belonging to Margaret and Peter Ledger,”

Larter said. Located near the Dead Sea Highway, “It does similar work. Believe me, there is enough work for 10 such centers in Jordan,” Larter added. “The center cares for horses, donkeys, mules, dogs, cats, rabbits, and sometimes goats and sheep. HCAW now needs more space, and has been given a larger plot outside Amman by the Greater Amman Municipality. All it needs now is the money to build a new clinic and refuge. As HCAW is not funded from London as SPANA is, this means seeking donors or legacies.”

The work of both SPANA and HCAW to promote donkey welfare has gained urgency because of ongoing conflict between Israelis and Palestinians on the West Bank.

“During 34 months of conflict, Israel has blocked most West Bank roads in an effort to stop suicide bombers,” explained *Christian Science Monitor* staff writer Nicole Gaouette on July 22, 2003. This has slowed vehicular traffic to a crawl.

“In response,” Gaouette wrote, “Palestinians are turning to donkeys, making an age-old economic engine one of the West Bank’s hottest commodities.”

The nearest and indeed only practical source of donkeys is Jordan.

That, in turn, may be saving some donkeys from export to Europe for slaughter.

Islamic law forbids the consumption of hooved animals other than sheep, cattle, and camels, except in time of emergency. In Mashhad, Iran, according to Agence France-Presse, two butchers who illegally sold donkey meat were in early June jailed for four and five years, respectively, and were fined a combined total of \$9,200 U.S.

ANIMAL PEOPLE

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More events

Festival, Raleigh, N.C. Info: Culture & Animals Foundation, <njregan@nc.rr.com>, or <www.cultureandanimals.org>.

(continued on page 11)
October 4: Animal Welfare Sunday. Info: Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals, c/o <sue@jim-grisham.com>.

October 10-11: Mammal rehabilitation & wildlife disease course, South Africa. Info: <www.gamecapture.info>.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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.

WILDLIFE COURT CALENDAR

U.S. District Judge for the D.C. Circuit Gladys Kessler on July 31 rejected a **Fund for Animals** lawsuit challenging the authority of the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** to issue import permits for Argali sheep trophies imported from Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan. The Fund argued that hunting the Argali put the species in peril. Responded Kessler, in granting a motion for summary judgement solicited by **Safari Club International** on behalf of USFWS and the **Department of the Interior**, "Because U.S. hunters generally pay the highest prices for hunting permits issued by the Tajikistan government, the absence of legal U.S. hunting substantially decreased the permit revenues received by the Tajikistan government. Because permit revenues were used in part for conservation and to 'convince the local population not to poach,' the decreased revenues actually resulted in increasing the amount of poaching in the region." In short, Kessler reaffirmed the paradigm prevailing in wildlife law since the Middle Ages that because hunters fund wildlife management, wildlife management should favor hunting.

Rejecting Mi'kmaq tribal claims to possess aboriginal fishing, hunting, and trapping rights in the Bay du Nord Wilderness Reserve, Newfoundland Supreme Court Judge Leo Barry in a 466-page verdict released in late July ruled that, "The ancestors of the Mi'kmaq of Conne River arrived on the island of Newfoundland some time after 1550 A.D., by which time European contact and influences prevented their fishing, hunting, and trapping practices from attaining the status of aboriginal rights." Originating in 1996, the case occupied 47 court dates between January 2000 and December 2002, and required Barry to review 150,000 pages of historical data, translated from French, Basque, Portuguese, and Dutch, wrote **Rob Antle** of the *St. John's Telegram*. The Mi'kmaq may now appeal to the **Supreme Court of Canada**. If Barry's reasoning holds up, his reasoning might be applied to other claims of "aboriginal" hunting, fishing, and trapping rights involving use of weapons and means of transportation that did not exist before European settlement.

African Game Services owner Riccardo Ghiazza of Brits, South Africa, found guilty on April 7, 2003 of cruelty to 30 young elephants in 1998-1999, on July 29 was sentenced to 12 months in prison, suspended, and was fined the equivalent of \$3,300 U.S. Ex-employee **Henry Wayne Stockigt** received a six-month suspended prison term and a fine of \$1,300. The sentencing ends the "Tuli elephants case," which began with the capture of the elephants from the Tuli district of Botswana in July 1998. Ghizza, a major supplier of African wildlife to zoos in China, apparently intended to sell some or all of the elephants to China. Instead, according to the South Africa-based **Wildlife Action Group**, nine went to the **Marakele Game Reserve** in South Africa; nine went to the **Sandhurst Safaris** hunting lodge in North West Province; seven are held in controversial conditions at the **Dresden Zoo**, in Germany; and five were sold to former co-defendant **Craig Saunders**, but eventually were moved to the Marakele Game Reserve after 17 months of litigation by the **National SPCA** of South Africa. All charges against Saunders were dismissed.

Tonye Nkeng, 40, recently "became the first Cameroonian to be sentenced for trying to sell a baby chimpanzee, nine years after a law prohibiting trade in endangered animals was passed," **Francis Ngwa Niba** reported for the BBC on July 24. Charged as result of an investigation by **The Last Great Ape**, headed by **Ofir Drori** of Israel, Nkeng drew a month in jail and a fine of about \$1,000.

Cat killer thrown out of office

PALMYRA, Nebraska—Village chair Rex Schroder, 30, was recalled on August 5, 130-55, a month after state attorney general Jon Bruning charged him with cruelty for trapping and killing neighbor Heather Bruns' cat, trapping her dog, and killing a feral cat. Schroder, a 15-year Palmyra resident and five-year elected official, indicated that he believed rural values and property rights would prevail, but after the vote, wrote Barbara Nordby of the *Lincoln Journal Star*, "Attempts to find supporters of Schroder in Palmyra were unsuccessful."



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HSUS rep Samantha Mullen is sued in N.Y. for knocking no-kill

PEARL RIVER, N.Y.—Friends of Rockland Shelter Animals Inc. on June 20 sued the Humane Society of the United States and HSUS program coordinator Samantha Mullen for allegedly interfering in a business relationship by making "false and misleading statements" in a February 19, 2003 letter to C. Scott Vanderhoef, chief executive for Rockland County, New York.

According to the complaint, Friends of Rockland Shelter Inc. "with the assistance of the American SPCA, was involved in valid, existing and ongoing negotiations" to take over the county shelter from Hi Tor Animal Care Center, a private contractor.

The complaint states that, "Defendant Mullen with the knowledge and assistance of HSUS did intervene with the citizens of the County of Rockland receiving a 'no-kill' animal shelter. Defendant Mullen with the assistance of HSUS did publicly attempt to justify the inhumane acts of a shelter which is known to have a high rate of killing animals to make room for more animals to be killed at its shelter. Despite their public personae as a humane organization and the program director of a humane organization, defendants did publicly promote a 'kill' shelter over a 'no kill' shelter to plaintiff's and the public's great disadvantage."

HSUS did not respond to a request for comment.

Signing the complaint as Friends of Rockland Shelter Animals plaintiff was Peter Muller, husband of Anne Muller, who has headed the Coalition to Abolish Sport Hunting since the August 1992 death of founder Luke Dommer. Both Mullers are prominently involved with the affiliated Coalition to Prevent the Destruction of Canada Geese.

Individual defendant Samantha Mullen, in her former capacity as executive director of the New York State Humane Association, led the decade-long series of raids that eventually shut down the Animals Farm Home, at Ellenville, New York.

Animals Farm Home operator Justin McCarthy, age 68 when the facility was finally closed in 1988, was described by *Newsweek* in 1984 as "St. Francis of the Catskills," and by *Reader's Digest* in 1986 as "a real-life Dr. Doolittle."

As the *New York Times* eventually revealed, McCarthy had been convicted of six armed robberies, and later did public relations work for Cubans opposed to Fidel Castro.

Purporting to run a care-for-life no-kill sanctuary, McCarthy allegedly took in more than 1,000 dogs, 70 cats, and various other animals between 1981 and 1987, plus \$500,000 in donations—but the money vanished while most of the animals starved.

Of approximately 475 animals Mullen and colleagues reportedly discovered amid the remains of perhaps 200 more at the Animals Farm Home in November 1987, about 175 were euthanized at the scene.

Mullen went on to raid and prosecute many other animal hoarders who masqueraded as no-kill shelter operators. Some had histories of continuing to collect animals and donations despite more than 30 years of receiving citations for neglect.

Like PETA founder Ingrid Newkirk, who began her career in animal work as a Washington D.C. animal control officer, Mullen was a protégé of longtime HSUS companion animal program director Phyllis Wright. Wright, who died in October 1992, may be best remembered for the 1967 essay "Why we must euthanize," which was canon for shelter workers trained before the advent of high-volume, low-cost dog and cat sterilization, when the volume of shelter killing was approximately eight times higher than today.

Also like Newkirk, Mullen still echoes Wright's skepticism of no-kill sheltering and neuter/return feral cat control, though HSUS itself has become much more accepting of both.

Ironically, the letter for which Mullen and HSUS are being sued was markedly less caustic than many criticisms of no-kill projects by Newkirk, other PETA staff, the late Wright, her successor Ken White (now heading the Peninsula Humane Society in San Mateo, California), and his successor Mark Paulhus (now heading the Southern Hope Humane Society in Cobb County, Georgia).

ANIMAL PEOPLE pointed out to Muller that a favorable verdict for Friends of Rockland Shelter Animals Inc. could have a chilling effect on the ability of citizens and activist groups to criticize shelters. Usually no-kill proponents are the critics, not those who could claim to have a business relationship at risk.

Replied Muller, "I'm sure the case law will cut both ways. Since many activists are fairly judgement-proof, this will probably help them to go after big organizations with deep pockets who push kill shelters."



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MASCOTS: Avian disease *mycoplasma galliseptum* grounds Auburn University eagles

AUBURN, Alabama—A deadly outbreak of the avian bacterial disease *mycoplasma galliseptum* is expected to end ceremonial eagle flights at Auburn University home football games this fall, just three years after the short-lived "tradition" started.

The use of live animals as football mascots has come under intensifying protest from PETA, SHARK, and other animal rights groups at colleges, universities, and even some high schools in recent years. Auburn University appeared to have successfully addressed the controversy back in 2000, however, by transferring responsibility for the care of the caged eagles who symbolically represent the War Eagles football team from the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity to the Southeastern Raptor Rehabilitation Center.

Alpha Phi Omega had looked after a succession of four "War Eagles" since 1960.

Southeastern Raptor Rehabilitation Center director Joe Shelnutt taught a 24-year-old golden

eagle named Tiger to circle Jordan-Hare stadium on cue.

Tiger later drew additional applause for lapping the Olympic stadium in Salt Lake City during the 2002 Winter Olympics, but was grounded by arthritis early in the 2002 football season. Shelnutt had trained a stand-in, a seven-year-old bald eagle named Spirit, who took her place.

Both Tiger and Spirit tested positive for *mycoplasma galliseptum* in June 2003, after 11 other birds of prey died at SRRC. The causes of death were officially unknown, but at least eight of the dead birds also had *mycoplasma galliseptum*.

Commonly transmitted among birds who congregate at backyard feeders, especially finches, *mycoplasma galliseptum* typically blinds the birds first, after which wild birds are usually killed by predators or in collisions with cars and stationary objects.

However, the disease is easily detected and dealt with, said

former SRRC eagler handler John Elmore, now Animal Program Supervisor for Zoo Atlanta.

"If you quarantine for it correctly, you can't have this bad an outbreak. This is utterly ridiculous," Elmore told *Opelika-Auburn News* staff writer Katie Poole.

Poole disclosed on July 1 that Shelnutt had been fired, under criticism from Alpha Phi Omega alumni and other Auburn donors, but the firing was unpopular with supporters of the raptor center, including Woody Bartlett, who gave \$300,000 of the cost of building it, in memory of his mother.

Staff members Stacy Hollenberger and Tauna Pierce remained on the job until the death toll at the raptor center exceeded 30, then resigned, leaving the center with just one employee to look after the few survivors—including both Tiger and Spirit.

Baylor bears

SHARK indicated during the summer that a year-long con-

frontation with Baylor University over the care of the mascot bears Joy and Lady may be over.

"Baylor has ended the isolation of the two young sisters," SHARK announced. "Joy and Lady can be seen playing together a great deal. The weekly loud, wild 'pit parties'" that SHARK videotaped "have been moved to a different location, away from the bears, who were severely stressed by the noise and commotion. The bear pit is being kept much cleaner. Far more is being provided for the bears by way of psychological enrichment. We were assured that Baylor has no intention of separating the bears at this time. We will be looking for assurances that the bears will not be separated during their entire natural lives," SHARK said, pledging that it will continue to press for improved quarters for the bears as well.

Plans for improved quarters have apparently been drafted, SHARK founder Steve Hindi told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, but have not yet been funded.

LSU tiger

Austin Zoo president Cindy Carroccio meanwhile refused an offer from Louisiana State University Alumni Association member Laura P. Thomas to "make a proposal to our board regarding potential sponsorship/adoption of tigers at the zoo."

Carroccio replied that "We would be happier if you could make sure that LSU never gets another live mascot once Mike V [the present LSU tiger mascot] passes on."

Responded Thomas, "If you would prefer to help Mike than have us help you, maybe you can donate to the campaign raising funds for his new \$2.5 million habitat."

Earlier Carroccio—whose zoo houses many ex-mascots—clashed with Brian Werner of the Tiger Creek Wildlife Refuge over the use of a resident tiger as football mascot at East Texas Baptist University. With just 1,500 students, ETBU is among the smaller institutions boasting a live mascot.

Appeals failed, Ferdin jailed

LOS ANGELES—Actress Pam Ferdin, 41, on July 16 began serving a 30-day jail sentence in Los Angeles, California, after exhausting her appeals of a January 2000 conviction for allegedly possessing a weapon while on a picket line.

What Ferdin actually had, everyone on either side of the case agreed, was an ankus, or "bull hook," used by elephant handlers. Ferdin displayed it as a prop during an August 1999 demonstration against a San Fernando Valley performance of the Circus Vargas—and ran afoul of a 1978 ordinance that was passed to curtail violence during labor disputes. Ferdin fought the charge as an alleged infringement of her right to free speech.

Ferdin's husband, surgeon and noted animal advocate Jerry Vlasek, M.D., on July 18 said she had begun a hunger strike. Both Ferdin and Vlasek have conducted previous hunger strikes after arrests in connection with protest.

Ferdin debuted as a child actress in 1964 and worked steadily in both screen and voice roles through 1979. She continues to do occasional voice roles, but has focused on a nursing career and animal advocacy since circa 1990.

A brief but influential Ferdin performance was her 1973 role in the animated feature *Charlotte's Web* as the farm girl Fern, who pleads with her father to spare the life of the runt piglet she has raised by hand.

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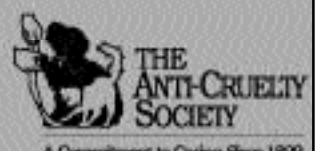
child and a humane investigator discuss various social and criminal issues associated with dogfighting—drug-dealing, gambling, packing illegal weapons, cruelty to animals, exposing children to extreme violence—and suggest ways to help stop the people behind both organized and back-alley dogfighting.

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Paul Siegel

ate Sheridan Conisbee, has recently flown selected temple dogs to adoptors in the Netherlands and occasionally the U.S. The real value of her project is not so much that it places dogs in homes abroad as that in Thailand it enhances the prestige of adopting a street dog instead of buying a purebred.

King Bhumibol Aduladej has urged the adoption of street dogs since adopting his own, Tongdaeng, in 1998. Twenty-five former street dogs being trained for police drug-detection duty at the King's recommendation collectively scored 97.9 on their midterm exams, Bangkok metropolitan police commissioner Lieutenant General Damrongsak Nilkuha told *The Nation* newspaper.

The largest street dog population in Thailand reputedly inhabits the temple district of Phuket, far to the south, on the Malay Peninsula. Phuket governor Vasaputi Pongpayome proposed keeping the estimated 11,500 to 15,000 local street dogs at a care-for-life sanctuary to be situated on the Bang Kanoon forestry plantation in Thalang.

The initial proposed project budget, later doubled, was just \$48,000.

"A request has been made to the national government for the land. The project would be developed by the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization, which would later assign management to the local Tambon Administration Organization," the *Phuket Gazette* reported.

Linda Wells, cofounder of the Phuket charity Dogs In Distress, warned that the scheme was underfunded, and that the dogs would fight if confined in too little space.

Thai temples have doubled as animal shelters since Buddhism came to Thailand about 2,500 years ago.

"Temples are thought to be shelters for all kinds of poor things, ranging from homeless people to stray dogs, and monks cannot refuse those asking for help," an anonymous monk at the Wat Luang Phor Chalong temple told Achata Chuenniran and Onnucha Hutasing of the *Bangkok Post*.

The monk's temple houses about 40 dogs, Achata and Onnucha wrote. After visitors complained that the dogs scared them and soiled the temple, the dogs were kept in cages for a time, but European and American tourists objected to that, so now the dogs again roam freely.

At the nearby Wat Kosit Wiharn temple monk Phra Narong looks after 20 dogs and 20 feral cats.

The 221-year-old Temple of the Emerald Buddha in Bangkok, with about 50 resident feral cats as of June 2003, installed remote surveillance cameras to try to discourage abandonments. The head monks at other famous temples are reportedly considering similar measures, but some have reservations.

"Villagers are not to blame for leaving animals in temples," Phra Narong told

Saving the rescued

BANGKOK—More than two tons of turtles, including 136 of soft-shelled species and 102 with hard shells, were removed from the "klongs" (reflecting ponds) of Wat Bovorn in early August 2003 and hauled to quarantine ponds for evaluation and treatment. Those in good enough health are to be released at a sanctuary pond in Bang Sai, reported Laurie Rosenthal of *The Nation* newspaper.

Mostly purchased from live food markets and dropped into the klongs by the Buddhist faithful, in the belief that releasing them would build good karma, the turtles represented a five-year accumulation.

Draining the klongs and collecting the turtles, many of them malnourished and diseased, took three weeks.

"Heavy metals and chemicals such as chlorine have affected the turtles' livers," said Nantarika Chansue, DVM, of the Chulalongkorn University veterinary faculty.

"Many of the hard-shells had round holes on their shells made from pointed objects," said Rosenthal.

Explained Nantarika, "People have been taking the turtles out of the water and trying to kill them for food. Some people also 'recycled' them. They took them out of the water and released them again to make merit," a perversion of actual Buddhist teaching.

Called the Wang Tao Project, the turtle rescue was funded by Charoen Pokphand Group executives Wanlop Chiaravanont and his son Kachorn.



—K.B.

Achata and Onnucha. "They may think kind people will bring food to them here."

The Department of Livestock claims to provide anti-rabies vaccination for 10,000 Phuket street dogs per year. This would indicate a vaccination rate of 67% to 86%, sufficient to prevent the spread of rabies epidemics, but Phuket public health director Wanchai Sattayawuthiwong estimated that about 100 people require post-exposure rabies vaccination each year after suffering dog bites.

The monks get help from Wells and other western expatriates.

"I have adopted a wat, the Thai term for Buddhist temples, which is now home to over 100 feral cats and dogs," rescuer Becky Scott wrote recently to the Best Friends Animal Society. "People dump unwanted animals here, hoping the monks will feed them, but the monks have little food, as they rely on alms, all food being given to them. I have been feeding the animals twice a week," she said, "giving each animal vaccinations, treating them for infections and mange, and taking each one for sterilization" by Dogs In Distress.

"When I adopted this wat in March 2002, there were about 45 animals," Scott continued. "When there were 45 or so animals, they were easily handled. Now the space is not enough for so many, and a core group of dogs run in a pack, killing kittens and attacking puppies, older dogs, and some-

times people. The monks believe it is worse when I am there," possibly because the aggressive dogs associate Scott with food and try to drive off or kill rivals.

Circa July 1, hunger apparently drove dogs living at the Bua Kwan Temple in Nonthaburi to snatch the barbecued chicken lunch purchased by vegetable vendor Warayuth Songsilp, 47. Warayuth complained to a monk, who disclaimed responsibility.irate, Warayuth left, returned with five bowls of poisoned chicken, and killed 48 dogs, he confessed on July 10.

The poisonings were initially blamed on Nonthaburi municipal council chair Pairoj Buppha, who had asked that the temple be cleansed in honor of his son's forthcoming ordination as a monk. Then, Warayuth reportedly said, he felt guilty.

At Wat Nang Hong in Nakhon Nayok province Buddhist nun Kesorn Wongprasert, 73, feeds more than 100 dogs, 50 cats, and 100 chickens. The big problem there, abbot Phra Atikan Atthaporn Sikhasapho told *The Nation* in June 2003, is that "Some dogs have leprosy, which is very hard to cure," and kills about a dog a day by his reckoning.

But the disease is not leprosy, known to occur only in humans and armadillos, and then rarely. It may be severe sarcopic or demodectic mange. It may look like lep-

Will Sakhon Nakhon province governor Panchai keep promise to ban dog meat?

rosy, however, still a familiar and much feared ailment in Southeast Asia.

BANGKOK—Recently elected Sakhon Nakhon provincial governor Panchai Borvornratanapran reportedly retreated on July 18 from a mid-June promise to abolish the sale and slaughter of dogs for meat.

Following a protest rally by about 300 dog meat traders and butchers from Tha Rae, the impoverished northeastern district where dogs are most often eaten, provincial spokesperson Raksit Wathayotha told Agence France-Press that the governor met with representatives of the dog meat industry and "said he doesn't want to impose the opinion of the entire province, which favors ending dog meat trading, on Tha Rae. He wants them to make their own decision and will not object if the majority of Tha Rae people still want to practice dog meat eating and selling."

Agence France-Presse attributed directly to Governor Panchai an estimate that 17 dog slaughter houses in Tha Rae kill 300 to 400 dogs per day, selling up to 4,000 kilograms of dog meat per day. [At 300-400 dogs killed per day, however, the average daily sales volume would be only half as large.] About 90% of the dog meat was sent to Bangkok, Governor Panchai reportedly claimed. Some is known to be exported to China and Vietnam.

Two weeks after taking office, Governor Panchai declared that, "In a year's time I will not stand for any more sales of dog meat. I am chair of an 18-member committee," he told Agence France-Presse, "which will talk to people about how eating dog meat will affect their health and reputation."

He also promised to seek federal

(continued on page 15)

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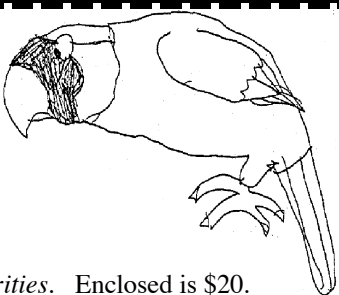


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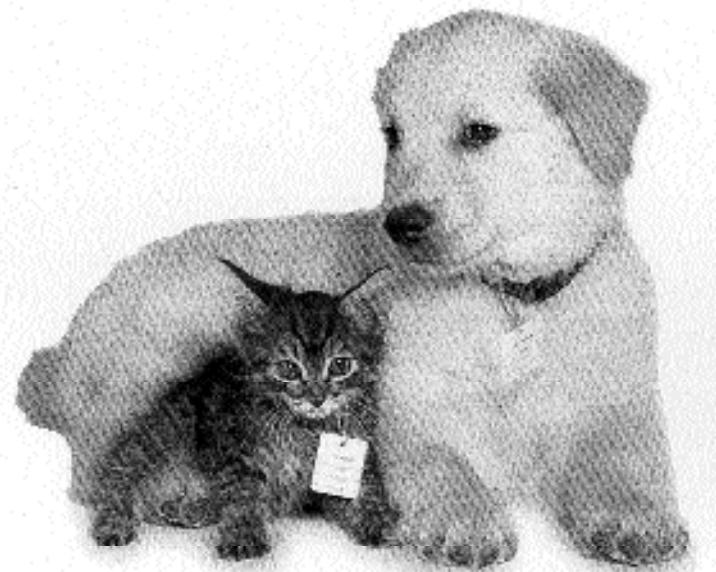
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Will Sakon Nakhon governor Panchai keep promise to ban dog meat? (from page 14)

funding to help dog meat traders and butchers develop other careers.

Offensive to the majority of Thais, and practiced mainly by ethnic Chinese refugees from Vietnam, dog slaughter has long been controversial in Thailand. It gained prominence as a political issue in May when dog meat collectors captured Na Wa, beloved pet of Chariya Nimla, 39, an employee of the Ruamkatanyu Rescue Foundation. The foundation helps physically handicapped humans.

The housing development where Chariya lives gave her \$95 toward the cost of pursuing the dog meat collectors to Sakon Nakhon. She and a friend drove all night, caught up with the collectors' truck before dawn, and followed it to Tambon Tha Rae. There they persuaded a dog meat slaughterhouse owner identified only as King to return Na Wua to them. They also witnessed dogs being killed and saw other dogs they believed were stolen pets rather than street dogs.

Upon returning to Bangkok, Chaiya told her story to Roger Lohanan of the Thai Animal Guardians Association. Lohanan took it to news media.

"During one of the television interviews about the issue, we found out that the Ministry of Agriculture had quietly passed a ministerial regulation which allows the dog and cat meat and skin trades to continue," Lohanan told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. "We immediately requested a meeting with Soraatha Klinpatoom, the newly appointed Minister of Agriculture who signed the regulation. The Minister explained that the purpose of the regulation is to control rabies," Lohanan said, pointing out that it was unlikely to have any relevant effect.

"Instead," Lohanan continued, "the regulation is accommodating the dog meat and skin trades by allowing dogs and cats to be transported legally with a permit," like cattle, pigs, and poultry. Instead of only being allowed to export the carcasses of dogs and cats, Thai dog and cat meat dealers now can export the animals alive.

"Thousands of dogs are being trucked across the Thai/Laos border every day," Lohanan said.

Lohanan predicted that the new regulation could "tremendously increase the

demand for strayed dogs. Country people are already in the habit of letting dogs breed freely for the small income they can get from dog traders," Lohanan lamented. "This could set dog population control back to the dark ages.

"Fortunately, the Minister agreed with us," Lohanan said, "and ordered the formation of a working group to draft separate rules for dog and cat transport permits. The Thai Animal Guardians Association is to be on the drafting team. Dog and cat welfare protection is to be required. The sale of dogs and cats for meat as well as the sale of their carcasses are not to be allowed under any permits.

"What we now must do," Lohanan explained, "is try to make sure everything is done as agreed. We don't want this to become another never-ending story like the evolution of the Animal Welfare Bill also being drafted by the Livestock Development Department."

However, that may be exactly what is happening.

As to the Animal Welfare Bill, Livestock Development Department chief Yukol Limlaemthong told the *Bangkok Post* in late July that he expected new legislation to

protect Thai animals from genetic modification and hybridization, and to prevent foreign patenting of genes from Asiatic buffalo, bantam cocks, Siamese cats, bang kaew and ridgebacked dogs, crocodiles, hog deer, mouse deer, sambar, and fireback fowl.

On the same day, however, a delegation of cockfighters testified to a Thai senate committee that cockfighting should be removed from restrictions imposed under the current Gambling Act, in order to preserve indigenous breeds of rooster.

Natural resources minister Prapat Panyachatraska was meanwhile reportedly drafting a species conservation bill which in the name of protecting biodiversity would provide subsidies totaling \$7 million to commercial breeding operations for species whose body parts might be in economic demand.

Thai National Research Commission animal welfare committee chair Pradon Chatikavanija on August 8 told Sirinart Sirisunthorn of *The Nation* that he was preparing a bill to ensure compliance with "the principle of mercy killing for lab animals. We have distributed over 20,000 copies of a manu-

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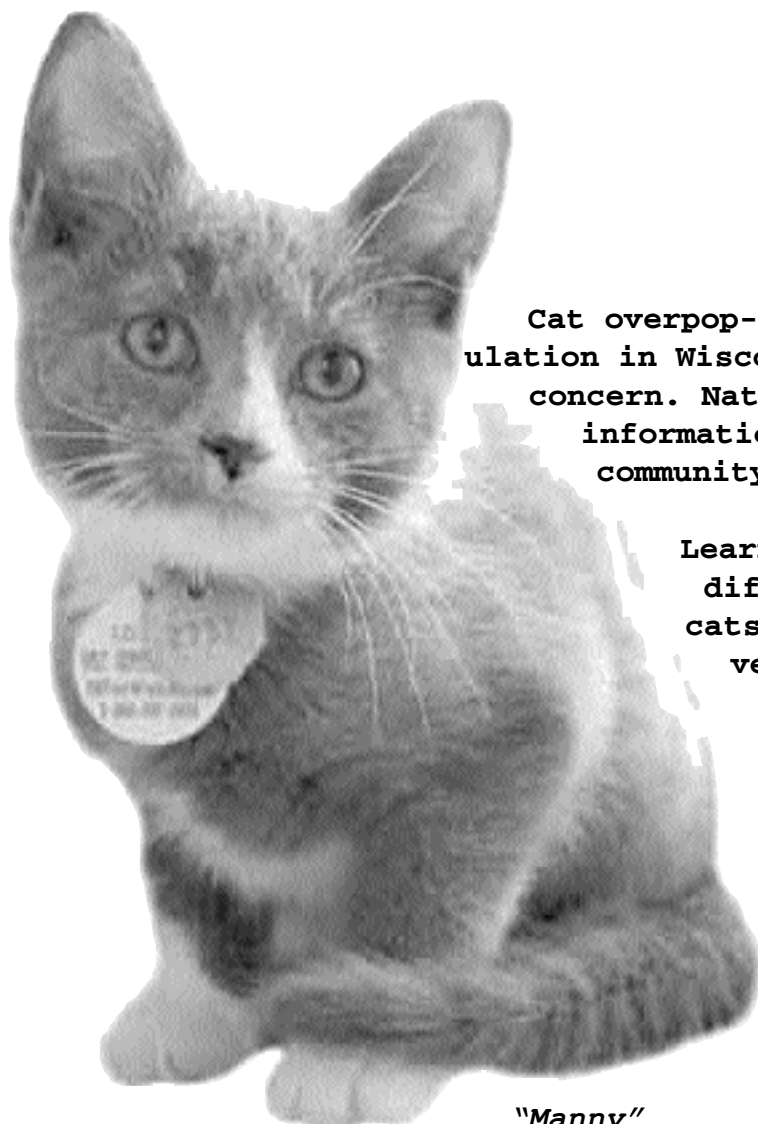
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Animal welfare in India a year after ouster of Maneka Gandhi

NEW DELHI, CHENNAI—Bijar district magistrate Pankaj Kumar on August 9, 2003 overturned a local court ruling that elderly widow Janki Devi’s dog must be killed for alleged biting. The case drew note throughout India, wrote Imran Kan of the Indo-Asian News Service, when “other people said that the land mafia, with an eye on Devi’s property, leveled false charges against the dog.”

Hearing of the plight of the dog and the widow, former federal minister for animal welfare Maneka Gandhi petitioned on their behalf, offering to adopt the dog herself if need be to save his life.

Triumphs have been few for Mrs. Gandhi in the year since she lost her ministry under pressure of an alliance of the biomedical industry with practitioners of animal sacrifice, but this time she won a round of symbolic importance, affirming that a dog’s life has moral value.

There were fears when Mrs. Gandhi was ousted from her position as an independent within the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata party coalition government that animal welfare in India might fall into an abyss.

Yet foes of street dogs have not managed, so far, to undo the Animal Birth Control programs that Mrs. Gandhi reinforced as national policy in place of mass killing.

Stray Dog Free Bangalore director M.K. Sudarshan in early July presented data to the Fifth National Rabies Conference in Bhubaneshwar showing that the annual numbers of dog bites and rabies deaths in India have been consistent at about 17 million and 18,000 per year, respectively, over the past decade—as might be expected, simply due to growth in the human population.

Blue Cross of India secretary Chinny Krishna then demonstrated that in cities with active ABC programs, including Bangalore, Chennai, Jaipur, and Kalimpong, rabies

deaths have been virtually eliminated in only three to five years.

Similar results are now evident in Pune, like Bangalore a hotbed of anti-dog political activism. Coinciding with a vigorous ABC program, Pune rabies deaths have fallen from 56 in 1997 to just five in the first half of 2003, Pune deputy health officer Pramod Dhaigude, M.D., told *The Times of India*.

Sassoon hospital medical officer Namdeo Patil added that while dogbite cases have increased over the same time, “Stray dogs account for only 30%.”

Circus seizures

Confiscations of exotic cats, bears, monkeys, and reptiles from traveling shows continue, as well, at times seriously overburdening the handful of zoo-based rescue centers that are the only accommodations available to the animals. P. Oppili of *The Hindu* on May 3 exposed the plight of four lions “abandoned by a circus company in the dusty small town of Sattur, confined to cramped caravan enclosures for nearly seven months” from lack of anywhere better to take them while the King Bharat Circus appeals their seizure. Ramesh Susarla of *The Hindu* reported on June 12 that eight tigers and three lions had been killed in fights resulting from overcrowding at the Indira Gandhi Zoological Park rescue center in Visakhapatnam. The *Deccan Herald* on July 27 described how 17 lions belonging to the New Grand Circus “are starving in small cages” in an industrial park because the Bannerghatta National Park rescue center “is already filled to capacity with 82 lions.”

Keeping circus animals in cages indefinitely was not what Mrs. Gandhi had in mind during the decade-long court battle that finally enabled the confiscations under previously unenforced provisions of the 1973 Wildlife Act. Her intent was to place the ani-

mals in quality care-for-life sanctuaries.

The 20-acre Wildlife SOS sanctuary for ex-dancing bears built by Kartick Sayanarayan and Geeta Sheshamani near Agra, opened in December 2002, was the intended prototype. The World Society for the Protection of Animals, One Voice, Free The Bears Australia, Care For The Wild, and International Animal Rescue have all contributed heavily to either the construction costs or the ongoing operating expense. But relations with WSPA have often been strained, initially over who was paying how much for what, and currently over how many bears the sanctuary can accept.

Licensed to house a maximum of 20 adult bears and 25 cubs, Wildlife SOS now houses about 60 bears, with more coming.

“We urge you to reconsider this rapid intake,” WSPA wildlife programs Watkins on August 13 e-mailed to Wildlife SOS. The advice may be more easily given than taken, as WSPA has reason to recall. Former WSPA Asian project managers John Joseph and Peter Henderson resigned in 2001 under intense media criticism for their management of a WSPA-funded bear sanctuary in Pakistan. Their mistake was that a cub they could have acquired from the immediate neighborhood was defanged, declawed, and subjected to dog attacks in bear-baiting spectacles while they stood on principle and refused to pay compensation to her owners.

Cattle issues

The most problematic of all Indian animal welfare issues currently, as perennially, is cattle welfare and cow slaughter. Much as “patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel” among U.S. politicians, fiery opposition to cow slaughter is the last resort of Indian demagogues who fear losing their next election—and the rhetoric often has little to do with actu-



Indian street cow. (Kim Bartlett)

al concern for bovines.

Instead, outspoken opposition to cow slaughter may merely mask anti-Muslim and sometimes anti-Christian bigotry, and the definition of a “cow” worthy of protection is often warped to exclude any bovine of any species who is not economically productive.

The frequent hypocrisy of Indian cow-worship was exposed twice in July 2003, first when the city of Chennai moved to evict 1,800 cattle from the facilities within city limits that the privately funded Madras Pinjarpole has occupied since 1908, and then two weeks later when 23 of 70 cattle removed from the streets of Chandrigarh were found dead at the foot of a cliff, allegedly pushed off by the “gypsies” who were hired to take them away.

The answer to that sort of thing, Mrs. Gandhi believes, is teaching empathy for all animals in place of cow-focused fetishism.

Fates that really scare the monkeys of Guangzhou, China

GUANGZHOU, BOSTON—Among the less visible effects of the 2002-2003 SARS outbreak in China may be a claimed shortage of monkeys in U.S. laboratories.

Of the 99,939 nonhuman primates imported into the U.S. from 1995 through 2002, 26,134 came from China, according to an analysis of trade data by Linda Howard of the Aesop Project.

The total included almost exactly a third of the 78,903 crab-eating macaques acquired by U.S. labs and lab suppliers.

The U.S. bought more monkeys from China than from any other nation. Next were Mauritius, furnishing 22,695 monkeys; Indonesia, 17,379; and Vietnam, 13,535. SARS put most of those sources at least temporarily off limits.

Among the more horrifying possibilities raised by an ambiguous description of the situation published on July 18 in the *South China Morning Post* is that Chinese-reared crab-eating macaques, if excluded from lab use, may be eaten.

Wrote *South China Morning Post* Guangzhou correspondent Leu Siew Ying, “About 10,000 rhesus monkeys and thousands of snakes held at wild animal farms in Guangzhou are waiting for health authorities to determine their fate. Depending on whether or not they were responsible for transmitting SARS, the inmates will head either to laboratories or dinner tables.”

Presumably what Leu Siew Ying was told, and wrote, was that the monkeys would go to labs and the snakes to dinner tables if all are cleared of carrying SARS. Presumably they will be killed and burned if infected.

But what if the health findings are potentially compromising to science enough that the monkeys continue to be excluded from export, yet are not barred from the Guangzhou live meat markets?

Horror story

“Some restaurants in Ping Shang City, Guangxi Province, near the border between China and Vietnam, promote ‘Eating Monkey Brain Alive’ to attract customers,” asserted *The Apple Daily* tabloid of Hong Kong on September 20, 2001. “Those restaurants sell a monkey for HK\$380,” the anonymous purported eyewitness account said. “There were 2-3 monkeys in a cage. Whilst the customers were picking their monkey, the others in the cage were trying to push one of them out in order to keep themselves alive.

“The cook will force-feed the monkey with rice wine until it is drunk. Then he will tie the monkey’s limbs together, chop the skull off, and put the whole monkey in a large bowl to serve. Customers then scoop out the raw monkey brain with

spoons and the rest of the body will be cooked.”

Photographs accompanied the article, but offered little to substantiate the details.

The Apple Daily might be accused of sensationalism. A similar article published in August 2001 by the Indian tabloids *Asian Age* and *The Deccan Chronicle* turned out to have been completely fabricated by the anonymous source—but in 1998 the very conservative and highly reliable *Wall Street Journal* published on page one a comparable account from Indonesia.

The International Fund for Animal Welfare found in a March 1998 survey of 874 residents of Beijing and 864 residents of Shanghai that 88.3% considered eating a live monkey’s brains to be unacceptably cruel. Only 35%, however, seemed to believe that notifying public officials would bring an effective response.

Live brain-eating may be among the few fates of monkeys more horrific than some laboratory experiments.

Appalled by the suffering of rhesus macaques in labs, documented by the Blue Cross of India and International Primate Protection League, then-Indian prime minister Morarji Desai in 1977 banned the export of nonhuman primates.

For the next 25 years that meant mainly that U.S. labs had to import rhesus macaques from other nations where they were slightly more expensive.

Recently, however, as *Boston Globe* staff reporter Anne Barnard explained on August 9, “Public health crises ranging from AIDS to the fear of bioterrorism have led to a monkey shortage that has scientists paying \$5,000 to \$10,000 per monkey,” five times as much as in 1997. Scientists are also “buying one another’s ‘used’ primates, even trading in future rights to rhesus macaques in the womb,” said Barnard.

Rhesus macaques are the species most used in labs. “Eight federally funded centers breed the monkeys and carry out experiments for researchers around the world, housing more than 15,000 rhesus macaques, up from about 12,000 in 1996,” Barnard wrote. “Still, ‘supply is not keeping up with demand,’ said Dr. Jerry Robinson, director of the National Primate Research Centers Program at the National Institutes of Health. NIH-funded AIDS research alone used more than 2,000 monkeys in 2001—200 more than the national centers can produce in a year.”

Altogether, U.S. researchers used 49,382 nonhuman privates in 2001, down from 57,518 in 2000, which was the second-highest total since record-keeping began in 1973.

Crab-eating macaques are the second most popular species for lab use.


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Spooked by SARS, China kills dogs to fight rabies & scare the monkeys

(from page

“I do not know why they made that kind of decision. I think it is a mistake,” Hong Kong University microbiologist Guan Yi told Mary Ann Benitez and Yi Hu of the *South China Morning Post*. Guan was on the team whose research identified SARS in six palm civets, a honey badger, and a tanuki (raccoon dog) obtained from Guangzhou live markets.

Prohibitions on selling snakes, bears, pangolins, or their body parts remained at least temporarily in effect.

“The Guangzhou Centre for Public Opinion Research recorded 88.8% support for a selective ban on wildlife consumption after interviewing 4,036 people in 11 cities across the province,” wrote Benitez and Yi Hu. “One third were in favor of a total ban,” even though more than half had eaten wildlife.”

But aware that wildlife trafficking for meat employs an estimated 3,000 people in Guangzhou alone, the People’s Congress of Guangdong on July 25 shied away from passing a proposed resolution against any consumption of wildlife. Instead, after much debate, the People’s Congress only recommended by a vote of 53-11 that “People should give up their habits of eating wild animals and not eat wild animals without quarantine and with easily spread diseases, or other wildlife under legal protection.”

In other words, the People’s Congress merely suggested that laws existing before the SARS outbreak should be obeyed.

The People’s Congress apparently took no note of a projection published a day earlier in the British journal *Nature* that up to 20% of the wildlife species in Southeast Asia are in jeopardy of extinction due to habitat loss and human consumption.

Barry Brook of Northern Territory University in Australia based the projection on documented species losses in Singapore since British scientists first began species inventories in 1819. Wildlife consumption declined in Singapore only after the destruction of more than 95% of the local wildlife habitat markedly reduced the abundance of species deemed edible. Brook identified similar trends occurring now in Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, and Thailand—all currently major exporters of wildlife to the Chinese live markets.

Guangdong madness

While public officials were seemingly incapable of standing up to pressure from live marketers and their clients, they were still able to bludgeon dogs and alleged dissidents. Purges of dogs and dissidents have typically come together in China at least since 1949, and probably earlier, since the common Chinese phrase “Kill the dog to scare the monkey” dates back centuries.

Reporters Without Borders identified 117 people from 17 provinces who were arrested for allegedly circulating SARS-related rumors between February and May 2003, as word about the extent and nature of the outbreak trickled back into China from the other nations into which the disease spread.

Not clear was whether any of the people in custody had done anything other than try to identify and fight the epidemic. The International Society for Infectious Diseases asked the Chinese government “to immediately and unconditionally release any people imprisoned for trying to get the news on SARS out.”

The Ministry of Health disclosed on July 17 that rabies rather than SARS was the deadliest infectious disease at large in China during the first half of 2003.

“In six months, 490 of 545 people who caught rabies died,” *South China Morning Post* Beijing correspondent Josephine Ma reported. The same statistic appeared again a week later in a report from Guangzhou correspondent Leu Siew Ying.

Left unanswered was what became of the other 55 people who purportedly contracted the inevitably fatal disease, which normally kills victims within just a few days of the symptoms appearing.

Mass vaccination has been globally recognized as the only effective response to rabies for more than 30 years. The World Health Organization has warned since 1973 that trying to fight rabies by killing host species is futile, and can even increase the risk of exposure if people approach potential host animals they might otherwise never encounter.

Nonetheless, as Guangdong health officials in particular came under criticism for ineptly responding to SARS, they ordered that all dogs in rabies areas be killed within a week, and banned imports of dogs for a year.

“Media reports said that in Maoming, where there were 32 confirmed cases of rabies, 6,850 dogs were killed. In Lianjiang, where there were eight cases, 52,614 dogs were killed,” Leu Siew Ying wrote. Throughout Guangdong, rabies reportedly killed 74 people between January 1 and June 30.

The Xinhua news agency reported on August 5 that more than 10,000 people had been organized to hunt stray dogs, including 4,000 in Maoming, where the human death rose to 41 through July. The account said 18,946 dogs were killed in July alone, raising the known toll to nearly 80,000.

Rabies & dog meat

“Rabies killed thousands of people in Guangdong during the 1980s,” Leu Siew Ying wrote, “but was largely eradicated by 1996. The rise in cases has corresponded with an increase in the number of people keeping dogs as pets. Rabies also spread because of substandard vaccines and improper treatment of dog bites. Some reports have said 18% of the dogs in Guangdong carry the disease.”

Unmentioned was that the rise in rabies cases also corresponded with an enormous affluence-enabled increase in both wildlife consumption and in raising dogs and cats for slaughter, typically in grossly unhygienic conditions. While overall the numbers of people who eat wildlife, dogs, and cats in China are believed to be declining, those who do eat them are now able to buy far more than they could before 1996.

The numbers of dogs killed, far higher than reported in previous Chinese dog purges, hinted that the authorities might be depopulating some facilities involved in the dog meat trade, as well as exterminating street dogs and pets, but no one explicitly said so.

Animal Rescue Association president Wu Tianyu told a gathering of the China Small Animal Protection Association on July

25 that the dog purge had spread to Tianjin, Wuhan, Naging, Suzhou, and Xian.

Wu Tianyu “said that she had called the Health Ministry to complain that the figure cited by the Guangdong health department of 18% of dogs being rabid was inaccurate,” Leu Siew Ying reported.

“I asked them where they got their figures,” Wu Tianyu said. “I told them that those figures were based on a study done in 1990. I asked them if they had done any other study before ordering the killing. They hung up on me,” she recounted.

Beijing vaccinates

Commented the ProMed moderators, “It might be more constructive and effective to implement compulsory canine vaccination and to control wildlife rabies using baited vaccine, rather than resorting to the destruction of stray dogs and [post-exposure] vaccination of the human population in high-risk areas.”

Beijing officials on July 28 began an effort to vaccinate all dogs in the city against rabies, and all pigs against Japanese encephalitis, according to *China Daily*. Beijing also cut the fee for legally registering a pet dog in half, hoping to increase licensing and vaccination compliance. Currently there are only 140,000 licenced dogs in Beijing, of an estimated population of 1.4 million, wrote Alice Yan of the *South China Morning Post*.

The pig vaccinations were necessitated, according to Agence France-Press, after “An encephalitis outbreak in Guangdong began in April, so far killing 27 people from 310 confirmed infections, according to the latest official statistics.”

Japanese encephalitis is typically spread by a mosquito species whose eggs hatch in pig wastes.

Bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis were discovered in Guangdong in late July—the fourth and fifth major zoonotic disease outbreaks to hit the province in less than a year.

Officials responded to the bovine TB episode by closing the Guangzhou Yunyan Cattle Farm for a 90-day quarantine, killing all 400 resident cows. Inspections were increased in response to brucellosis. Infected cattle were to be killed immediately.

ASPCA—crop slightly to fit within border.

How many dogs and cats are eaten in Asia?

The absence of dogs and cats from the agricultural statistics of almost every dog or cat eating nation tends to confirm that they are eaten not primarily for food value, but rather as a vice, believed to enhance sexual attraction and potency.

Some of the Asian nations in which dogs and cats are eaten are descended from some of the first civilizations to keep written records. Statistics on grain production and animal husbandry in many ancient Asian empires are still accessible to scholars who can read the scripts.

Yet quantifying dog and cat consumption, either historically or today, remains more mysterious than estimating the numbers of children born out of wedlock, the truth of which is emerging through genetic research that seeks to trace the descendants of Genghis Khan and other legendary rulers.

Polled by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** publisher Kim Bartlett, animal advocates in all parts of Asia confirmed from direct knowledge that dogs and cats are consumed in relatively small numbers by ethnic minorities, and are eaten in large numbers in parts of China and in North and South Korea.

Few, however, could estimate how many dogs and cats are consumed. Those who are trying to develop numbers are mostly still in the early stages of collecting data.

The importance of becoming able to quantify dog and cat eating goes beyond just estimating the extent of it. As petkeeping becomes more popular relative to eating dogs and cats, and the pet supply industry becomes more prosperous and influential within Asian national economies, petkeepers might be mobilized to influence politicians to finally halt dog and cat eating.

Accurately assessing the economic strength of the dog and cat meat industry is critical, however—and it is especially important to discourage pet food manufacturers from perceiving dog and cat meat producers as a potential growth market, to be encouraged as some American pet food producers have encouraged puppy mills, in an alliance that has often obstructed humane legislation.

Vice is distinguished from other commerce by occurring out of sight of most of the public, in neighborhoods rarely frequented by decent people. Official records on vice are not kept by the agencies that normally track commerce because to keep records would be to admit the existence of a traffic of which many citizens disapprove.

There are ways, nonetheless, to document the extent of vices. Perhaps the best way is direct surveillance. For example, a discreet observer could count the dogs

and cats sold and offered for sale on representative days at major markets. Alternatively, photographic mosaics could be assembled of entire markets, as Kim Bartlett did at the Moran Market near Seoul, South Korea, in May 2001, so that the numbers of animals in cages could be counted later.

After this is done in a systematic manner, throughout the dog and cat eating regions, more precise estimates of the traffic can be made than are presently possible.

Meanwhile, from the limited available information, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** projects that Asia currently consumes about 13 to 16 million dogs per year, plus four million cats. Nation-by-nation:

Bangladesh

There seems to be no evidence of either dog or cat eating.

“My family came from Bangladesh to India,” commented Visahka SPCA founder Pradeep Kumar Nath. “I have not heard of Bangladeshis eating dogs or cats.”

Cambodia

“When my wife and I were in Cambodia last year,” wrote Blue Cross of India chair Chinny Krishna, “we specifically enquired of many people about dog-eating and were told by almost all of them that dogs are eaten by some Cambodians, including the Cham, who are Muslims. Dogs are supposed to be *haram* or unclean in Islam, but obviously they are considered clean enough to be eaten in Cambodia. There are a lot of Thai and Vietnamese visitors to Cambodia who also eat dog meat.

“Nobody mentioned cats. I have no idea as to the number of dogs eaten,” Krishna acknowledged, “but obviously it would run into the thousands.”

The *Dorling Kindersley World Reference Atlas* estimates that 4% of Cambodians are ethnic Chinese, 1% are ethnic Vietnamese, and the Cham are under 1%.

Most Cambodian dog eating is probably by members of these three minority communities.

Most other Cambodians are ethnic Khmer. Historically, the Khmer were Buddhists, who ate fish and crustaceans but not many land animals. Most Khmer Buddhist teachers and traditions were exterminated and eradicated by the Khmer Rouge dictatorship of 1975-1979, however, and after decades of poverty, hunger, and ignorance, there may no longer be any cultural obstacle to eating any kind of meat.

Historically, cats had a high status in Cambodia, as in Burma, but whether this view survived the Khmer Rouge is unclear.

China

Royal SPCA Asian regional representative Paul Littlefair estimates from direct observations and news reports that from six to eight million dogs per year are eaten in **CHINA**—a low total for a species consumed primarily for meat value, but a number that would be consistent with the perception of dog-eating as an occasional vice mostly engaged in by older men.

The extent of dog eating in



Korea Animal Protection Society campaign stickers.

China appears to vary by region, appearing to be most prevalent in Guangdong, the neighboring southern provinces of Yunnan and Guangxi, and in Heilongjiang, Jilin, and Liaoning provinces, adjoining North Korea. Commercial dog meat ranching is known to occur in Henan, Anhui, Jiangsu, Shandong, and Hebei provinces.

North Korean immigrants reputedly introduced or re-introduced dog meat restaurants to Beijing in recent years, after keeping dogs for any purpose had been discouraged for decades.

Guangdong is the only province known for eating cats.

The *Yangcheng Evening News* in early December 2002 tried to quantify Guangdong cat consumption.

“A cat stall in the game-meat market can easily sell 500 kilograms of cat meat a day in winter,” the editors estimated. “There are about 80 stalls selling cats in the three [game meat] markets. If each sells about 300 to 400 kilograms of cat meat per day, then the conservative estimate is that they sell about 10,000 cats a day,” the paper said.

The *Yangcheng Evening News* asserted that almost all the cats sold to restaurants were domestic animals, and that many were stolen or caught on the streets.

India

Both dogs and cats are reputedly eaten by gypsies in various parts of India, but dogs are eaten openly only in Nagaland and cats are not openly eaten anywhere.

“Nagaland has no dogs at all because they have all been eaten and there is huge trafficking in sending them dogs from other states. Imphal, Manipur has no dogs either,” charged People for Animals founder Maneka Gandhi.

Confirmed Pradeep Kumar Nath, “When I was in Assam two years ago dog eating came up, and it was evident that dogs were eaten mostly in Nagaland. Stray dogs are supplied from nearby states like West Bengal, Meghalaya, and Sikkim, and also from Burma. There are now very few dogs in those areas unless they are bred for this purpose,” Nath asserted.

Visahka SPCA hospital manager Swathi Buddhiraju tried to obtain numbers through networking. “I have contacted a few people,” she e-mailed, “but info is scanty. There are 16 tribes in Nagaland. A faction within each tribe slaughters dogs for food. The rough estimate given by one person is around 10,000 for the year,” but Buddhiraju said she could not confirm this.

“The militant tribes of

both Nagaland and Assam,” resisting Indian central authority, “are also consumers,” Buddhiraju said. “In areas like Khamakhya there might be dog and cat sacrifices also. Dog slaughter is less in Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya.”

“Cats are eaten by some members of lower castes as well as by the gypsy tribes throughout India and by some people from Kerala,” Nath said. “Thus cat eating is not just in one area, whereas dog eating is concentrated in the northeast.”

“The *narikorvas*, a South Indian gypsy tribe, eat cats,” confirmed Chinny Krishna. “My estimate is that five or six thousand cats per year are eaten.”

Indonesia

Spokespersons for the organization ProFauna told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that dogs are often eaten by the Dayaks of Kalimantan and the Bataks of North Sumatra.

Dayak dog-eating, a ProFauna representative named Dedi indicated, may have a ritualistic and menacing context.

While surveying the Kalimantan sunbear population, she wrote, “We were staying in one of the Dayaks’ house, and a neighbor of his caught their home dog, who usually accompanied them to go to the jungle and guarded their house, and killed and ate it.”

Added Hardi, of ProFauna Jarkata: “There are many, many restaurants that serve dog meat.”

Japan

“Dogs and cats disappeared in Japan during World War II, but usually Japanese don’t eat dogs or cats,” observed animal Refuge Kansai founder Elizabeth Oliver. “However there is a large Korean population in Japan, especially in the Kansai district,” Oliver added, “and I have heard that they eat dog meat which is mostly imported from China.”

Oliver also mentioned rumors she has heard about a covert traffic in dog meat operating from one regional *hokensho*, as Japanese animal control facilities are called.

The *hokensho*, Oliver explained in a November 2002 **ANI-**

MAL PEOPLE guest column, are typically staffed “by workers who belong to the Burakumin class, equivalent to the ‘untouchables’ of India, who in medieval times lived in separate villages, could not marry other Japanese, and could only work in ‘unclean’ trades such as butchering, prostitution, sewage disposal, and undertaking.”

Laos

Reports from visitors indicate that dog eating appears common in Laos, but quantification is possible only by projecting the crudely estimated rates of consumption in nearby nations to the Laotian population, with huge potential for error.

Malaysia

“Cats have never been eaten in Malaysia,” said Pei Ling of the Sarawak SPCA. “Dog eating is dying out.”

Added Dr. G.S. Gill of the SPCA Penang, “In the 1960s, there were rumored to be three places where dog meat was sold in Penang. This is now a thing of the past. Some exotic breeds of dog and cat are eaten by sick individuals, but this is not done openly. The Wildlife Department maintains a strict check on any such parties.”

Myanmar

In Myanmar (Burma), said Pradeep Kumar Nath, “It is mainly tribal people who eat dogs.” No other reports were received.

Nepal

Dr. Durga Dutt Joshi, director of the National Zoonoses & Food Hygiene Research Center in Kathmandu, Nepal, told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that “Dogs and cats are never eaten in Nepal, and it is illegal to slaughter dogs and cats.”

Philippines

“Based on numerous inquiries made to various sources nationwide,” said anti-corruption crusader Freddie Farres of Linis Gobyerno, “it would appear that cat eating is not big here. Although we have heard of some personal consumption,” Farres said, “there is no

(continued on page 19)

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ANIMAL PEOPLE asks, How many dogs and cats are eaten in Asia? (from

commercial traffic in cats for meat, unlike with the dog trade. Some 25 years ago a rumor was spread that a well known Chinese restaurant in the Philippines was caught unloading a truckload of dead cats who were supposedly to be used as ingredients for their *siopao*. There was a strong backlash against the restaurant, and their *siopao* sales collapsed. The incident is remembered to this day.

"As to dog consumption," Farres continued, "we have researched the parts of the country which we believe account for 90% or more of the dog meat traffic. Our actual survey of the number of stores and restaurants selling dog meat, including wholesale vendors, indicates that in the Baguio City and Cordillera region about 24,166 dogs per month are killed for meat, or about 289,992 dogs per year."

Singapore

"We do not allow slaughter of dogs and cats here. I have not heard of consumption of dog and cat meat in Singapore," Singapore Centre for Animal Welfare chief Madhavan Kannan asserted.

Louis Ng of ACRES shared a more formal response to a similar inquiry that his organization made to Dr. Yap Him Hoo, head of the Animal, Meat & Seafood Regulatory Branch of the Agri-food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore.

Under the Singapore Wholesome Meat and Fish Act, Dr. Yap Him Hoo explained, "meat can only be imported from AVA-approved sources which have met AVA standards. Similarly AVA also ensures that the local slaughter houses meet AVA standards. Although the Act primarily addresses food safety, welfare is a major consideration during the treatment and handling of live animals. In the case of slaughter, AVA accepts only internationally acceptable humane methods. AVA is not aware of any humane methods of slaughtering

dogs and cats for human consumption. AVA is of the view that eating dogs and cats is socially unacceptable in Singapore. To date," he added, "AVA has not received any requests to import dog or cat meat."

Recalled Deirdre Moss of SPCA Singapore, "We did have a case many years ago involving construction workers who killed a stray dog, possibly for consumption. A witness called the police, and the perpetrators were jailed."

Other sources indicated that the offenders were Thais. Similar accounts of "Thai" workers killing and eating dogs and sometimes cats have reached **ANIMAL PEOPLE** from Israel, but the "Thais" usually turn out to be ethnic Chinese refugees originally from Vietnam, who fled to Thailand after the Vietnam War.

Parallel cases involving South Korean construction workers have occurred in Japan.

South Korea

Evaluating the limited available official statistics, plus the photographic documentation of the Moran Market obtained in May 2001, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has estimated that from 1.1 to 1.3 million dogs are eaten in South Korea each year, along with 100,000 cats.

"I think your figures may be about right," opined Royal SPCA representative Paul Littlefair. "I met with the head of the dog meat traders association in November 1999. He told me that consumption had halved over the decade since 1990, and I don't think there were ever more than 2-3 million dogs a year killed for food. For cats the figure also seems reasonable or maybe a little high, given that there are only a handful of cats offered for sale alongside the dogs at markets like Moran, Chung Ang, etc."

"Although Korean traditional medicine follows Chinese practice fairly closely," Littlefair

added, "the Chinese eat dog in the winter for its purported warming properties, whereas in Korea dogs are eaten at the height of summer. This underlines the spurious nature of the claims of the dealers that dog meat has health benefits. The Korean minority in China must get very confused!"

Sri Lanka

ANIMAL PEOPLE was told of occasional incidents in Sri Lanka in which butchers and restaurateurs illegally sold dog and cat meat, usually disguised as other kinds of meat, but neither dogs nor cats are openly eaten there.

Russia

Dogs are reportedly eaten in parts of the Russian Far East adjacent to China, where there is also said to be an active traffic in stolen dogs for export to China both for meat and as pets (depending on breed), but no one has specified how many dogs are involved.

Taiwan

Wrote Environment and Animal Society of Taiwan chair Wu Hung, "There is no official estimate of the number of dogs eaten every year before the dog meat trade was banned in January 2001. However, the government did figure out that there were 54 dog meat restaurants on the island. If each restaurant sold an average of one or two dogs per day, they would have been butchering 20,000 to 50,000 dogs per year."

"After the trade was outlawed," Wu Hung continued, "the volume may have been reduced to about a tenth of what it was, which would mean four or five dog meat restaurants still exist, killing about 5,000 dogs each year."

"Cat meat is not popular in Taiwan," Wu Hung added.

Confirmed Paul Littlefair, "I have never heard of cats being killed for food in Taiwan."

Thailand

About 52,000 dogs per year are eaten in Thailand, according to Roger Lohanan of Thai Animal Guardians. News accounts indicate that dog eating and cat eating were virtually unknown in Thailand before the U.S.-sponsored influx of ethnic Chinese refugees from Vietnam during the 1970s and 1980s.

Settled mostly in north-eastern Thailand, the refugees introduced a growing and increasingly controversial commerce in both dog meat and dog leather.

Consumption of dogs is considered offensive by the Buddhist Thai majority, and has been discouraged to some extent by the Thai government, but has not actually been suppressed, to avoid heightening the already considerable ethnic tension between native Thais and the immigrants.

(See page 14.)

Vietnam

The only statistics **ANIMAL PEOPLE** found pertaining to dog and cat eating in Vietnam were from news accounts of individual restaurant sales in Hanoi during Tet, a seven-day holiday during which dog consumption peaks.

There was also a mention that dogs are usually eaten only during the second half of each lunar month, and even then at a relatively low level compared to Tet.

Some analysis can be done from this data, crude as it is.

If 300 dog meat restaurants in Hanoi sell 120 dogs per day during Tet, as the news coverage indicates, Hanoi consumption during Tet would be 252,000.

If the Hanoi restaurants sell five dogs per day during the second half of each lunar month the rest of the year, total annual Hanoi restaurant consumption of dogs would be 503,250.

If home consumption of dogs is as high, about a million dogs might be eaten in Hanoi per year.

Hanoi has about four million people, Saigon has 4.6 million, and Haiphong, the third largest city in Vietnam, has 1.7 million.

If dogs are eaten at the same rate in Saigon, where dog-eating was not prominent during the Vietnam War, and in Haiphong, total urban consumption would be about 2.6 million a year.

Vietnam has 81 million human residents, but the rural majority probably cannot afford to eat dogs as often as city dwellers. Among the many Vietnamese ethnic groups, only the Montagnard were well-known for dog-eating during the war years.

This may not mean anything currently relevant, however, since the U.S. military presence in Vietnam ended 28 years ago.

If all of Vietnam eats dogs at the projected Hanoi rate, total consumption would be 20 million per year. More likely, since Hanoi is the center of government and fairly affluent by Vietnamese standards, without the westernization that occurred in Saigon, Hanoi may account for from half to a third of all the dog-eating in the country.

Projecting all urban dog-eating at the Hanoi level and rural dog-eating at 10% as high produces an estimate of total consumption at four to five million dogs per year. That might be credible—although the actual balance of consumption by region may be quite different.

Cat-eating is illegal in Vietnam, since a healthy cat population is officially deemed essential to control rice-eating rodents, but sporadic accounts of raids on cat-meat restaurants indicate that cat-eating continues—like most vices—at a usually inconspicuous level.

—*Researched by Kim Bartlett, with analysis by Merritt Clifton*



Photos: Gina Mantero

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SAVING ORPHANS, CLEARING BRUSH, AND HEAVING THE DEAD INTO

In My Family Tree:
A Life With Chimpanzees
by Sheila Siddle, with Doug Cress
Grove Press (841 Broadway, New York, NY 10003), 2002. 284 pages, hardcover. \$25.00.

In The Kingdom of Gorillas:
Fragile Species in a Dangerous Land
by Bill Weber and Amy Vedder
Simon & Schuster (1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020), 2001. 370 pages, hardcover. \$27.00.

Sheila Siddle, cofounder with her husband David of the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage in central Zambia, never seems to have doubted her calling, once she found it. Certainly she never lacked the courage to accept a challenge.

At age 16, in 1947, Siddle traveled with her family by ferry and truck from England to South Africa. When one of her brothers fell ill, the brother and both of her parents returned to England for a year, but Siddle remained behind in Bulawayo, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), to study toward becoming a nurse.

Married at 21 to an amateur motorcycle racer, Siddle in the 1950s headed an all-female rally car racing team, birthed three daughters, and kept a pet cheetah. She left that fast-paced lifestyle and marriage in 1964, however, and after her second marriage to David Siddle in 1966 lived quietly on a remote cattle ranch.

With her daughters grown and married, Sheila and David Siddle in October 1983 were contemplating retirement. Then one of their sons-in-law, a game ranger, brought them a severely injured and ill baby chimpanzee, confiscated from smugglers.

Handed a child in distress, as she saw the chimp, Sheila Siddle treated him as she had often treated human children, raised him as another of her own, and adjusted to the differences between humans and chimps as necessity dictated.

Others in Zambia meanwhile were adopting countless orphaned chimps as surrogate children, only to find the chimps were more work than they could handle—and dangerous, too, especially after their first few years. Many of the problem chimps also came to the Siddles.

The Siddles realized eventually that the chimps needed a proper sanctuary. They could not be repatriated to the wild because chimps are not native to Zambia. All of their orphans were refugees from Congo Basin habitat far to the north, fast being logged to oblivion. The Siddles discovered that there were no chimp sanctuaries capable of accepting their troupe.

Therefore they formed their own.

Sheila Siddle became matriarch of nearly 100 chimpanzees, whose stories she relates as if she were their doting grandmother. They occupy a series of 500-acre enclosures within 13,000 acres of restored natural habitat.

The Chimfunshi sanctuary management style is controversial, since the Siddles allow the chimps to breed.

“We have never forced our chimps to reproduce,” Sheila Siddle says, “and we do not place them together with breeding in mind. In fact, the word ‘breeding’ is abhorrent to me in the context of chimps. Chimfunshi is not a chimp farm. The orphanage is simply our humble attempt at giving chimpanzees back a little of what mankind has taken so brutally from them, and our chimpanzees are free to choose their own partners and to procreate or not.

“We have observed a fragmented group of chimpanzees come together and form a cohesive family group after the birth of just one baby,” Sheila Siddle adds. “Reproduction somehow helps to restore the social order in a chimp family, and that is why Dave and I have never interfered.

“I sympathize with those sanctuaries that have space limitations and are forced to use birth control,” Sheila Siddle continues. “But we do have the space...I’m convinced that our chimps choose to reproduce only because they know it fits with the balance of nature. I believe most animals will regulate their birthrate in accordance with their natural surroundings. I’m afraid it is only we humans who ignore the natural laws.”

Prelude to genocide

Five years before Sheila Siddle accepted her first orphaned chimp, Quaker peace activists and teachers Bill Weber and Amy Vedder (long married but using separate names) found a similar calling in attempting to save the wild gorillas of Rwanda. Initially Weber and Vedder did field research under the direction of the late Dian Fossey.

Soon they realized, however, that Fossey was mad as a hatter and that her intensely negative attitude toward the Rwandan people, mostly unwarranted, played into the hands of the loggers and cattle ranchers who with World Bank funding were denuding and eroding the gorillas’ habitat.

Though apparently fonder of Fossey than she was of them, or anyone, Weber and Vedder broke with her to devote most of the next 20 years to introducing strictly regulated ecotourism to give the gorillas economic value, and to promoting ecological education as a core curriculum in Rwandan schools.

Weber and Vedder endured hardship, poverty, and any number of life-threatening experiences while consistently demonstrating intense concern for doing right by all creatures, human and animal. They are likeable, gentle people, immensely proud of the joyful response of their elder son Noah, then a kindergartner, to the sight of wild chimpanzees just a few weeks after he was severely mauled by captive chimps:

“Amy moved close to Noah and asked what he thought. *Nice*. You’re not afraid. *Nope*. Why not? Those chimps in Akagera were crazy from living in cages. *These*

chimps are happy ‘cause they’re in their own homes.’”

Weber and Vedder recount a few pages later that, “The boys (Noah and Ethan) learned a very important lesson from watching [two Rwandans] slaughter goats and chickens for dinner: if you are going to eat meat, you should at least witness where it comes from.”

After inuring the boys to slaughter, Weber and Vedder are upset that “National Tree Day in 1987 saw the arrival of an army of Rwandan citizens bearing thousands of sacks of eucalyptus and black wattle to plant along the new road” through the Nyungwe forest.

Fighting for years to try to save Nyungwe as a national park, Webr and Vedder were upset that the roadside trees were non-native. They failed to realize that above the microbial level, “invasive” species only spread into empty niches. Rather than “competing” with native species, “invasives” replace those that can no longer thrive after climate change, human destruction, or disease outbreaks.

So long as Nyungwe remained healthy, the eucalyptus and black wattle would only shade the road. But Weber and Vedder reacted to it much as Fossey reacted after a handful of venison poachers accidentally snared and killed a gorilla.

“Over the following weeks,” they recount, “Bill took many late afternoon drives into the forest with the boys. At first, Noah watched in shock as his father pulled the newly planted trees from the ground. Then he and Ethan joined in with great gusto, uprooting more than a hundred of the eucalyptus and black wattle seedlings each afternoon, throwing them into the back of the car, and dumping them in a deep ravine...The boys learned about good trees and bad trees.”

In the next two chapters Weber and Vedder describe how Rwanda fell into the ethnic violence that culminated in the 1994 massacre of 800,000 members of the Tutsi minority, followed by the collapse of the government led by the Hutu killers under a Tutsi onslaught from Uganda.

By 1992, Weber and Vedder explain, “The language of day-to-day work and farming was increasingly perverted in the cause of death...Communal death squads ‘went to work in the field.’ Their task was to ‘clear the brush.’ Their targets were the *inyenzi*, or Tutsi ‘cockroaches,’ and their *ibytso* ‘collaborators’ among the Hutu...Weapons were openly distributed to these militias, but ammunition was in short supply, so Hutu businessmen paid to import enough machetes for every third Rwandan male. There was much brush to cut.”

Weber and Vedder are not to blame for the Rwandan genocide. Out of Rwanda when it erupted, they did everything they could think of to try to stop it, and to try to save some of the victims. They were among the first Americans to return to Rwanda following the bloodbath, to resume teaching and healing humans as well as helping gorillas.

Yet Weber and Vedder set their own example of irrational intolerance. Rwanda learned all too well the most brutal lessons that Weber and Vedder inflicted on their sons.

It is unclear whether these lessons were recounted unawares, or by way of confession.

—M.C.

Humane education videos

Proudly Human

Compassion In World Farming [South Africa]

c/o Humane Education Trust (P.O. Box 825, Somerset West, 7129, South Africa; <avoice@yebo.co.za>), 2003. 20 minutes. 60 rand (\$7.50), plus postage & handling (inquire).

Desert Dogs

Hilder Productions (1617 Taylor Gaines St., Austin, TX 78741), 2002. 42 minutes. \$15/video, \$20/DVD.

Produced by the same team who made the 15-minute video *Saving Baby Ubuntu*, reviewed in the May 2003 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, *Proudly Human* presents a similar but farther reaching anti-meat and pro-vegetarian message.

While *Saving Baby Ubuntu* offers a story suitable for grade schoolers, *Proudly Human* may be preferred by teens.

Narrator Mantsadi Molotlegi, 23, is just far enough out of her teens to have childhood memories of the last days of the South African apartheid era. She observes that “The way we treat animals has the hallmarks of apartheid—prejudice, callous disregard for suffering, and a misguided sense of supremacy. I have a message for my brother and sister South Africans,” she continues. “The struggle

is not over yet. Please join me,” she asks, “in putting things right for the animals.”

Facilitating the production of both *Saving Baby Ubuntu* and *Proudly Human* is Louise van der Merwe, an Afrikaner who long ago recognized that apartheid was essentially an attempt to put black Africans behind the artificial line that most humans draw between themselves and “lesser” animals. Like Mohandas Gandhi, who entered into activism as an opponent of South African apartheid, and like Nelson Mandela, who finally brought about the end of it, van der Merwe came to believe that the fundamental error of apartheid was not where the line was drawn, but rather that it was drawn at all.

Louise van der Merwe sees, however, that erasing the line exposes humans of every color to psychological peril.

“All societies depend on us being proud of who we are,” she writes. “By now everyone knows the slogan ‘Proudly South African,’ but unless we are proudly human above all else, we cannot be proudly anything. Millions of people feel totally alienated from the very species into which they are born, and with wry smiles openly confess that they prefer the company of their animal companions to the company of members of the human race. This is a most unhealthy state of being.”

Proudly Human, van de Merwe says, “examines the quandary in which so many ‘unproudly humans’ find themselves, and digs for some of the roots of this discom-

Wind-of-Fire:

The Story of an Untouchable
by Joan Beth Clair

Wind-of-Fire Press (P.O. Box 523, Berkeley, CA 94701), 1999. 150 pages, paperback. \$10.95.

Portland (Oregon) Animal Affairs Ministry director Roger Troen submitted to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** an effusive review of *Wind-of-Fire: The Story of an Untouchable*, by Joan Beth Clair, which unfortunately omitted any factual description of the content.

Raising hell on behalf of animals for more than 30 years, sometimes taking hard lumps for it, Troen is an otherwise quiet fellow who reads books. Suspecting that his critical judgement might be better grounded than expressed, I read *Wind-of-Fire* myself.

Wind-of-Fire is a collection of vignettes centering on a dog named Wind-of-Fire. Opening as a personal journal about the author’s thoughts as she pursued a divinity degree in Berkeley, California, during the early 1980s, *Wind-of-Fire* concludes as a tract arguing for the incorporation of concepts

about animal rights into Christianity.

“For those in the animal rights movement who have abandoned their churches,” Troen wrote, “*Wind-of-Fire* may offer hope of revival. Father Richard Mapplebeck-palmer, pastor of Grace North Church in Berkeley, was inspired by Clair’s book to affirm the religious worth of animals. He organized a discussion of the book with members of his congregation.”

But the most important part of *Wind-of-Fire* occurs mostly outside of churches, as Clair undertakes a quest with her “untouchable” companion around a city that prides itself on tolerance, where dogs are nonetheless often not welcome.

Recurring in mythology from around the world is the theme of a god coming to earth to test human kindness by traveling disguised as a pariah.

In Clair’s journey, “dog” might have been “god” spelled backward. Often Clair and *Wind-of-Fire* found “no room at the inn—but when *Wind-of-Fire* died, he was remembered by the *Oakland Tribune*, Associated Press, and *Stars-&-Stripes*.

He and Clair had somehow touched a great many people.

—M.C.

forting and disquieting state of affairs” in the choice to raise and kill animals for meat.

Desert Dogs offers a non-white perspective on another basic humane issue: the human relationship with dogs, illustrated by the work and struggles of Sharon Morgan and friends with Desert Dawg Rescue of Shiprock, New Mexico, capitol of the Navajo Nation.

Most Native Americans kept dogs in pre-Columbian times, but dogs held especially high status among the Navajo, as evidenced by the ceremonial burial of the Yellow Dog of Crypt Cave, Nevada, 6,360 years ago. The Yellow Dog was obviously a pet, because a bad leg left him unfit for hunting and most other work. He may have suffered the leg injury, however, in defense of his people some years before he died.

Briefly reviewing dogs in Navajo myth and history, before focusing on the Desert Dawg pet sterilization campaign and

rescues of strays, *Desert Dogs* was produced by TV journalist Julia Hilder for educational use by Sharon Morgan, Lavonda George of the Boys & Girls Club of Shiprock, and the late Nathania Gartman, longtime education director for the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, Utah. It proceeds very slowly, and could probably be trimmed to 15 minutes just by eliminating redundant statements from a small army of speakers and slow panoramic shots of the desert.

Yet those redundant statements have value in a community where everyone knows everyone else. They establish that the Desert Dawg work is endorsed by a variety of locally respected voices—and those slow panoramas show the homes of many of the primary audience. There are countless short, succinct pet sterilization videos. There is only this one, however, made explicitly for the Navajo of Shiprock.

—M.C.

Along with almost every article from back editions, the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** web site offers translations of key items into French and Spanish...the Lewyt Award-winning heroic and compassionate animal stories...veterinary info links... handbooks for downloading... fundraising how-to ...our guide to estate planning... short biographies and photos of the people behind **ANIMAL PEOPLE**... and more features added monthly!

www.animalpeoplenews.org

THE MAN WHO TALKS TO DOGS:

*The story of America's wild street dogs
and their unlikely savior*
by Melinda Roth
Thomas Dunne Books, St. Martin's Press (175 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y. 10010), 2002. 232 pages. \$24.95, hardcover.

"To be a stray dog in most major cities is to be a dead dog walking," believes Randy Grim, founder of Stray Rescue of St. Louis. The dogs Grim and his team rescue may be few compared to the many in need, but Randy believes in the value of every life, and strives to save every dog he can, no matter how sick, estranged, or aggressive.

Though Grim always loved animals, he used to have a "normal" life, running a successful grooming shop. Bonnie changed his life. She appeared one day in front of Grim's shop: a pregnant stray, all skin and bones, sick and crippled. She trusted Grim and followed him.

Soon Bonnie gave birth to thirteen puppies. Unfortunately Bonnie developed mastitis, and could not breast-feed her pups. For six weeks Grim hand-fed all 13 pups, every two hours, twenty-four hours a day. Puppy care left him no time for anything else. Most of his friends turned away, but Grim continued until each of the pups were weaned.

Later Grim found nice homes for Bonnie and all the pups, but he did not forget them. He remembered the abominable state in which Bonnie was found. He remembered her grateful eyes and her devotedness. Grim saw hundreds of sick, underfed, and often maltreated strays in the streets of St. Louis, and he knew each one desperately needed his help.

From then on Randy spent much of his time rescuing, fostering and placing strays

in new homes. The organization Stray Rescue formed after his work attracted additional volunteers and supporters. It now has two sanctuary buildings.

Other than in exceptional situations, biographer Melinda Roth says, Grim never "catches" strays in traps. Instead, working in one of the few U.S. cities which have roving dog packs rather than isolated individual stray dogs, Grim befriends an entire pack at once, and encourages the members to trust him by talking to them. He visits the pack every day, brings food to the dogs, and despite his very busy schedule, he stays and talks to them.

Grim continues to feed and talk to the dogs for months, until the dogs learn to trust him, and come to him. Then Grim looks for a foster family to socialize them. In the foster family the dogs learn to live with people, and to trust them. After several months the dogs become ready for adoption.

Grim also campaigns to introduce large scale spay/neuter programs in low-income areas, and does what he can to stop dogfighting and commercial dog breeding.

Roth says she was initially skeptical of Grim's work. She became a supporter while researching an article for the *Riverfront Times* newspaper, when she rode around St. Louis for several weeks with Grim in the old green Volkswagen bus, since replaced, that he formerly used as a rescue van. Roth eventually adopted two dogs from Grim.



Randy Grim. (Kim Bartlett)

Paralleling the lives of homeless people and stray dogs, author Roth describes Lester, a Vietnam veteran. Wartime experience turned Lester toward self-isolation.

"They are all trapped: the dogs, the people who live in poverty, and the people who can't deal with reality any more," Grim says.

Grim believes unspecified early life experience could have sent him the same way as Lester. "Saving a cat or a dog saved a part of myself," Grim strongly believes. "I know that if it wasn't for dogs, I would have ended up a lost soul with a bleak life. No one requires an epiphany to follow whatever their passions might be. They just have to pay attention to all of the little pieces, to their own life puzzle, and make sure that what isn't missing is compassion." —Tanja Maroueva

More about Randy Grim reality and the emergence of U.S. feral dogs

ST. LOUIS—Randy Grim catches feral dogs, he told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** at the recent Conference on Homeless Animal Management and Policy, by catching the lower-ranking pack members first, finishing with the highest-ranking members. If Grim captures the highest-ranking members first, he finds, the packs break up, and catching the remaining dogs becomes much more difficult.

The Grim approach is not recommended by any major humane organization, because of the potential risk to the public and to wildlife from free-roaming packs of former pet dogs, guard dogs, and fighting dogs, who are often highly territorial.

There is reason for caution. The typical free-roaming dog captured by animal control agencies in U.S. cities is roughly twice the size of the typical Asian street dog, and is most often a mixed breed with evident pit bull terrier and/or German shepherd characteristics.

These dogs are potentially much more dangerous than the overwhelming majority of dogs who are part of ABC street dog sterilization projects in India, the Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, and other Asian nations.

Former pet dogs, guard dogs, and fighting dogs are also much more dangerous, however, than most of the dogs Randy Grim rescues, who are often several generations removed from any ancestors who had homes of any kind with humans.

As Grim points out, the true feral dog—like the true feral cat—is mostly nocturnal and is quite wary about approaching humans. Authentic feral dogs tend to have lost almost all of their breed-specific characteristics, Grim demonstrated with slides at the CHAMP conference, and tend to be much smaller than the escaped or abandoned ex-pets, guard dogs, and fighting dogs from whom they are descended.

Unlike the feral packs descended from former hunting dogs, who roamed much of the rural South during the 1940s and 1950s, and are still at large in some areas, most U.S. feral dogs today inhabit neighborhoods of abandoned factories and warehouses, with sparse human habitation. Vacant houses tend to outnumber homes that are still occupied. These are areas favored by dogfighters, illegal drug dealers, and derelicts. Because the remaining residents rarely call animal control, and because feral dogs are nocturnal and elusive, they relatively rarely enter animal shelters, and accordingly do not register to any visible extent in current shelter statistics.

Grim has identified a "feral dog belt" stretching through blighted neighborhoods from Los Angeles and Fresno, California, to New York City, Philadelphia, and Washing-

ton D.C. Links in the "feral dog belt" include Albuquerque, San Antonio, New Orleans, Kansas City, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Detroit, and Cleveland. Other cities may be involved but not yet identified with the feral dog phenomenon.

Grim believes that the growth of the U.S. feral dog population reflects the disappearance of "smokestack" industries from inner cities in recent decades, followed by residential flight to the suburbs, increasing use of dogs to guard property left behind, and—especially—the recent explosive growth of dogfighting. As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** documented in May 2002, U.S. arrests for dogfighting quadrupled, 1997-2001, and seizures of fighting dogs increased nearly tenfold.

Grim emphasizes, however, that feral dogs are more likely to be descended from escaped or abandoned "bait dogs" used to train fighting dogs than from actual fighters, who rarely survive their fighting careers. A fighting dog may be encouraged to kill many non-threatening stolen "bait dogs" before being pitted against a dog capable of fighting back. Even if only a small percentage of "bait dogs" get away to join the feral population, they still outnumber pit bull terriers, Rottweilers, and other dogs of fighting ancestry in the feral dog gene pool.

Free-roaming dogs—and Randy Grim's work—became intensely controversial in St. Louis after Rodney McAllister, 10, was fatally mauled and partially eaten by a free-roaming pack on March 6, 2001. The attack set off a hue-and-cry around St. Louis seeking the immediate extermination of all loose dogs. The ensuing controversy had much to do with the opposition of many St. Louis officials and the Humane Society of Missouri to a public

proposal by Grim that St. Louis should try to introduce no-kill animal control.

Memories of the McAllister case were revived on July 21, 2003 when three free-roaming pit bull terriers severely injured Ealgie Edwards, 55, just six blocks from where McAllister was killed. The unvaccinated pit bulls nominally had a caretaker, who was charged with six related offenses, but he apparently did not want the dogs and became responsible for them when they were left at his home by a relative.

Grim believes that the McAllister killing, like the Edwards attack, resulted from irresponsible handling of pit bulls who had a keeper of some kind, but allowed them to roam. Feral dogs then scavenged McAllister's remains, Grim believes, much as they scavenge roadkills. In Grim's observation, and in the observation of feral dogs in some of the same neighborhoods more than 30 years ago by Michael Fox, DVM, U.S. feral dogs are scavengers rather than hunters, and unlike the feral dogs of other parts of the world, are not even very good at hunting rats.

The official U.S. dogbite statistics kept by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention do not distinguish between attacks by feral dogs and free-roaming dogs who either have homes or recently did. It is noteworthy, however, that about half of all bites requiring hospital treatment are inflicted by dogs who not only have homes but are chained or otherwise confined when they attack.

In India, where very few dogs are confined or tethered, and most dogs are in constant proximity to hundreds or even thousands of people, the annual ratio of people to dogbites requiring hospital treatment (17 million per year) is 62/1.

The Story of My Life

by Shayna
As Told to Greta
by Greta Marsh

1st World Library (8014 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite 100, Austin, TX 78757), 2001. 221 pages, paperback. \$24.50

Ex-racing greyhounds tend to be quiet, despite the frustrations of their often muzzled former lives. Horse and greyhound rescuer Greta Marsh, on the other hand, has much to say on their behalf, and on behalf of all abused and exploited creatures, including disadvantaged humans.

Thus the decision by Marsh to write *The Story of My Life* through the imagined voice of her deceased first greyhound Shayna was not fortuitous. Because Shayna sounds much more like Marsh than like a dog, *The Story of My Life* never quite transcends disbelief. We supposedly have a dog here who pays little attention to most subjects of concern to dogs, but can sometimes talk to her former racing handler and Marsh, as well as fellow dogs, and is familiar with both animal rights and human rights issues.

Because the narrative voice is wrong, the message comes across as thinly disguised preaching, unlikely to elude school and library censors to reach many of the young people Marsh hopes to address.

Ironically, Marsh as Marsh might have succeeded—but the story of her own life is left to a note on the very last page.

"Since her teenage years, Greta Marsh has been active in the civil rights movement," the note explains. "In August 1963 she participated in Martin Luther King Jr.'s March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. For many years Greta was a probation officer and worked with troubled, abused and neglected children, battered women, and an occasional battered man. Then, in the early 1980s, she crossed the barrier that separates the species and became an advocate not just for human animals, but for other-specied animals as well...Greta is the mother of five, grandmother of seven."

If the late Shayna had really possessed the depth of knowledge that Marsh attributes to her, she would probably have agreed that Marsh could best tell the stories of the greyhounds and other creatures she defends by telling her own story. Human readers can much more readily identify with a human who attempts to exemplify humane ideals than with a dog who sounds as if she has a masters' degree at age six. —M.C.



Rescued greyhounds. (Kim Bartlett)

ated territoriality of confined and recently confined dogs would appear to be the major reason why.

—Merritt Clifton



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ANIMAL OBITUARIES

Black Bear #107, age 15, was roadkilled on June 29 near Spring Hill, Florida, in a location environmentalists had argued would become a death trap for bears if a 24-hour Walmart Supercenter was built nearby. The store was built anyway, opening earlier in 2003. Two black bear cubs were killed nearby in September 2001.

Mira, 6, rescued by the Ferret Association of Connecticut at age three months after being stepped on and burned with bleach, was euthanized on June 18 after a two-year battle with cancer.

“Maynard,” a squirrel monkey used in behavioral research at New England Regional Primate Research Center, escaped from his cage while being trucked across the facility on July 11, acquired his name when spotted 10 miles away in the town of Maynard 19 days later, and was roadkilled nearby on August 1.

MEMORIALS

In memory of Mom
—Cathy Young Czaplá

In memory of Belle
—Vicky Windsor

In memory of Olivia
—Gloria Bakissoon

In memory of my cat Alex
—Leslie Fay Pomerantz

In memory of my dearest and beloved friend Luiz M. Seabra. Sleep well, sweet prince.
—Jackie Bullette

In memory of P.J., a 25-year-old Capuchin monkey who since she was 2-1/2 years old spent her life in a barren plexiglas box mounted on the wall, and her nights and weekends in another barren cage inside the storage closet of a dentist in Seattle.
—Jackie Bullette

In loving memory of Cleone Bujalski, missed by many.
—Dick and Claire Millhouse
—Deanne Ellsworth
—Doris Gracy
—Jack and Nanita Moore
—Donald and Joan Wells

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).

Bongo, 32, an Asiatic black bear who was rescued from the failing Noah’s Ark Zoo in Milan, Italy by Brigitte Bardot in 2000, was euthanized on July 30 at the Glasgow Zoo, his home for the past three years. Bongo arrived with an ulcerated eye and a large testicular tumor. The eye and his testicles were surgically removed. He continued to suffer from cancer and arthritis, however, and was originally slated for euthanasia one day earlier. The Glasgow Zoo is now scheduled for permanent closure in September, and the Scottish SPCA, helping to relocate the 68 resident animals, has acknowledged that four other bears of ages between 20 and 30 are probably also too old to place. The activist group Advocates for Animals has alleged that the remaining bears and numerous other hard-to-place animals are likely to be killed soon. The zoo management has denied the allegation but seems to have few visible alternatives.

Mavis, 23, the next-to-last of four Atlantic bottlenose dolphins who were captured off Florida in May 1985 for exhibition at the then-new West Edmonton Mall, in Edmonton, Alberta, died on July 23. Veterinarian Carol Shwetz theorized that lingering grief over the loss of her newborn calf in July 2002 may have caused her terminal decline, as she refused to eat for no evident reason. She also fasted for a prolonged time immediately after her baby died. Mall general manager Gary Hanson pledged several years ago that he will not import any more dolphins, but whether the last survivor, Howard, will be relocated to have companionship has not yet been decided.

Wild Eyed & Wicked, 11, a two-time winner of the American saddlebred Triple Crown; his stablemate **Meet Prince Charming**; and **Kiss Me**, kept in the same barn, were euthanized in mid-July, about three weeks after someone injected a poison resembling cobra venom into their forelegs as they rested in their stalls at the Double D Ranch near Lexington, Kentucky. Police still have no suspects.

Ferdinand, 19, winner of the 1986 Kentucky Derby, was apparently sold to a Japanese slaughterhouse at some point in 2002, the horse trade journal *Blood Horse* reported on July 22. Ferdinand was ridden to victory at Churchill Downs by Bill Shoemaker, then 54, who won the Kentucky Derby for the fourth and last time. Ferdinand was named Horse of the Year in 1987 after edging 1987 Kentucky Derby winner Alysheba in the Breeders’ Cup Classic. Ferdinand was retired to stud in 1989 and was sold to a Japanese horse breeder in 1994.

Leta’s Princess, 3, a racing greyhound, was reportedly injured on July 12 in a midrace collision with other dogs, stumbled into the path of the motorized lure, was probably shocked on the rail, was then bludgeoned by the lure, and was finally euthanized on the track, Palm Beach Kennel Club spokesperson Theresa Hume told *Palm Beach Post staff* writer Rochelle Brenner.

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En Francais

http://216.110.171.197/FR/FR/ATraductions/capturerTrapFR.ht

OBITUARIES

William B. Johnston, DVM, 56, State Public Health Veterinarian for the Alabama Department of Public Health, and current president of the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, died on August 4 from esophageal cancer. Colleague Millicent Eidson recalled him as a “national leader” in developing the use of oral rabies vaccination to control raccoon rabies. Eighteen states have now controlled rabies outbreaks by using the Raboral vaccine.

Barbara Bonner, 46, founder and director of the Turtle Hospital of New England, died suddenly at home in Upton, Massachusetts, of unknown causes on August 1. Bonner was noted for advocacy and educational efforts on behalf of Asian turtle species, many of which are on the verge of extinction due to meat hunting.

Robert McCloskey, 88, died on June 30 on Deer Isle, Maine. McCloskey won the American Library Association’s Caldecott Medal in 1941 as writer/illustrator of *Make Way For Ducklings*, about the ducks who have long inhabited the Boston Public Gardens, and in 1957 for *Time of Wonder*, about the Maine coastal islands. He also wrote and illustrated *Blueberries for Sal* (1948), in which a child and a bear each follow the wrong mama home.

John F. Eisenberg, 68, died on July 6 from renal cancer at his home in Bellingham, Washington. Staff scientist at the National Zoo in Washington D.C., 1965-1982, Eisenberg authored *The Mammalian Radiations* (1981), among the most influential examinations to date of mammal evolution, and co-authored with Kent H. Redford the three-volume encyclopedia *Mammals of the Neotropics*.

Kuno The Killer, a five-foot-long catfish weighing 77 pounds, was found dead during the third week in July alongside the Volksgarten park lake in the city of Moenchengladbach, Germany. Kuno gained his name in 2001 by leaping from the lake to swallow a Dachshund puppy.

Lulu, black Chihuahua pet of *The Osbournes* “reality TV” family, was reportedly killed recently by coyotes who jumped a low fence to invade the family yard in Beverly Hills, California.

Swift, 8, a corgi given to Queen Elizabeth of England by the Queen Mother, died from natural causes circa June 11.

Michael Peterman, 48, died on August 4 at the University of Cincinnati Hospital from a bite inflicted by his own African rhino viper. A Dayton firefighter, Peterman collected reptiles and did some local reptile rescuing.

Kirsty Brown, 28, a marine biologist working at the British Antarctic Survey research station at Rothera, was drowned by a leopard seal in an unprecedented provoked attack while snorkeling with three companions on July 22. None were able to reach her in time to help. The prevailing theory is that the leopard seal mistook Brown for a penguin, but released her remains upon realizing his mistake.

Rebecca Brenneman Devine, 53, a neonatal intensive care nurse, drowned on July 14 in an unsuccessful effort to save her nine-year-old golden retriever Buster, who fell 30 feet down a spillway into an irrigation ditch near their home in Durango, Colorado. Both Devine and Buster suffered head injuries, apparently from being slammed into cement baffles by turbulent water. Devine left her husband of 22 years and two sons.

Katy Reeves, 17, of Spokane, Washington, was killed by a crocodile on August 4 while vacationing with her family at remote Mana Pools National Park in Zimbabwe. Her father, Jack Reeves, reportedly had to hike for five hours to reach the nearest telephone and notify relatives. Katy Reeves spent the summer of 2002 as a student volunteer with a sea turtle rescue project in Costa Rica.

Claudio Roggero, 60, of Glasgow, Scotland, drowned on August 8 after rescuing his dog from the Clyde Canal.

Peaches, 13, miniature poodle companion of Kenai, Alaska resident Sally Youngberg, was on June 17 fatally stomped by a moose while chasing a robin.

Kundavi, 13-year-old female elephant of the Big Temple at Thanjavur, India, died on June 10. She was given to the temple at age five by the actress/politician Jayalitha.

Koko, 10, a survivor of the first clutch of Komodo dragon eggs known to have been hatched outside of Indonesia, died on July 16 at the St. Louis Zoo, her home since August 1993. Seventeen Komodo dragons in all hatched from that clutch at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C.

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Justice on Earth:
*Earthjustice and
the people it has served*
by Tom Turner
Chelsea Green Publishing
(distributed by Earthjustice,
416 17th St., Oakland, CA
94161), 2002.
224 pages, hardcover. \$40.00.

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

Faced with environmental controversy, bureaucrats often to do nothing until compelled by the courts to act—and sometimes, especially in ESA cases, political pressures all but prevent effective action until judges issue an edict. Many organizations pursue such cases, but Earthjustice, now emulated by several others, was the first to file lawsuits as its primary and indeed almost exclusive program function.

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

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

The bovine TB and brucellosis eradication procedures were similar to those used in the U.S., which are considered obsolete by some zoonotic disease experts.

al on how to treat lab animals, but the scientists ignored them,” he said.

