



Unarmed activists tried to chase a bull named Volante away from doom at the hands of a heavily armed mob during the 2012 Toro de la Vega in Tordesillas, Spain. (Spanish Animal Defenders)

Bullfights back on Spanish state TV

MADRID—Live bullfights returned to the Spanish state TV network, Corporación de Radio y Televisión Española (RTVE) on September 5, 2012 at 6:00 p.m., the traditional time slot since RTVE debuted by airing a bullfight in 1948.

RTVE ended a six-year suspension of live bullfight broadcasts just 18 months after the 2011 updated edition of the corporate stylebook advised in a chapter titled “Violence against animals” that it stopped broadcasting live bullfights in 2007 to avoid upsetting chil-

dren. The mention of bullfighting was delayed from the 2012 edition of the stylebook, published about two months after the pro-bullfighting Popular Party in November 2011 won a majority in the Spanish Parliament.

The most conservative of the major Spanish political parties, the Popular Party was founded in 1976 by former supporters of dictator Francisco Franco, who ruled Spain from 1939 until his death in 1975. The Franco regime reputedly ordered RTVE to broadcast (continued on page 13)

Pit bulls & political recklessness

An attempt to repeal the 23-year-old Miami-Dade County pit bull ban on August 14, 2012, won just 37% support—the most lopsided defeat of a ballot measure endorsed by major national humane societies in at least several decades. But the organizations behind it have not amended their self-defeating pit bull policies.

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Walking horse shows are watched more closely than some would like

CHATTANOOGA—U.S. District Judge Harry S. Mattice on September 19, 2012 fined Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Hall of Fame trainer Jackie McConnell \$75,000, three years on supervised probation, and 300 hours of community service to be done for the USDA.

“It’s the stiffest sentence ever handed down under the 1970 Horse Protection Act,” exulted Humane Society of the U.S. president Wayne Pacelle. “McConnell in

2011 was captured on tape by a Humane Society of the U.S. undercover investigator intentionally injuring the animals under his charge in order to get them to step higher and win ribbons at horse shows,” Pacelle elaborated. “McConnell still faces 15 charges of violating Tennessee’s cruelty to animals statute in a pending case, and his guilty plea in federal court virtually guarantees the charges will stick.”

McConnell was also expelled from the National Celebration Hall of Fame.

McConnell was sentenced six weeks after codefendant John Mays, 50, pleaded guilty Monday to a single count of conspiracy to violate the Horse Protection Act. Mays was ordered by Judge Mattice to fulfill a community service requirement by writing an exposé of the practice of soring horses to make them high-step. Mays was sentenced to describe the different types of soring, how it effects horses, and for which clients trainers sore horses.

Pacelle and HSUS director of equine protection Keith Dane visited the National Celebration in person. “We saw some flat-shod horses exhibit a normal or nat-

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care About Animals

September 2012
Volume 21, #7

Where is the Leaping Bunny going?

PHILADELPHIA—Dermalogica on September 18, 2012 followed Christian Dior, Yves Saint Laurent, Chanel and L’Oreal in losing “cruelty free” certification entitling the company to use the Leaping Bunny logo on their products.

“Dermalogica has had products approved for sale in the People’s Republic of China, which undoubtedly makes the company a party to animal testing,” explained the Coalition for Consumer Information on Cosmetics in a prepared statement. “Companies selling cosmetic and personal care products in China are required under new, specific guidelines to test, or be a party to testing of, finished cosmetic products and/or ingredients on animals.”

“They were monitoring their supply chain to guard against animal testing, but not

their distribution system,” elaborated CCIC chair Sue Leary, who also heads the American Anti-Vivisection Society.

Formed in 1996, the seven-member CCIC manages the Leaping Bunny program in the U.S. and Canada, in partnership with the 19-member European Coalition to End Animal Experiments, formed in 1990. The ECEAE founded the Leaping Bunny program and manages it in the European Union.

The Leaping Bunny secretariats are the American Anti-Vivisection Society in the U.S. and Canada, and the British Union Against Vivisection in Europe.

Reducing, refining, and replacing a previously bewildering variety of “cruelty free” product certifications, the Leaping Bunny program enforces “a strict no animal testing standard,” according to program literature, which requires that “All Leaping Bunny companies must be open to independent audits for verification,” and reviews company compliance every year.

Says Cruelty Free International chief executive Michelle Thew, who also heads the BUAV, “Each company is regularly audited to ensure that no animal testing takes place throughout each company’s entire supply chain. Where companies no longer comply, the right to use the Leaping Bunny logo is retracted.”

The Leaping Bunny program has helped to consolidate progress toward abolition of animal testing in the U.S., Canada, and Europe, but the continuing success of the program is challenged by corporate defections to

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Imported sheep gasp for breath in Kuwait heat. (Lyn White/Animals Australia)

70,000 Australian sheep stranded at sea by disease outbreak

KARACHI—Twenty-two thousand Australian sheep on September 22, 2012 won at least a temporary reprieve from being culled in Pakistan, and were still alive two days later while the Sindh High Court reviewed evidence submitted by Rafiq Khanani of the Dow University of Health Sciences that the sheep had not contracted serious diseases during prolonged transport aboard the *Ocean Drover*.

Another 50,000 sheep were en route back to Australia aboard the *Al Shuwaikh*. The live cargoes of both ships were refused entry to Kuwait and Bahrain in late August, purportedly because the sheep were afflicted with scabby mouth disease, but some sheep reportedly were accepted in Qatar and Oman, and diagnostic claims changed repeatedly.

On September 20, 2012 *Geo Pakistan* reported, “The Sindh Department of Livestock has said that evidence has been gathered that points to the Australian sheep being affected by a deadly anthrax infection. Only yesterday the discovery of thousands of

these sheep on a private compound raised new questions. Six sheep were found dead with bleeding mouths. More dead sheep were also discovered buried, and these had mouths infested with parasites. Due to the possible presence of anthrax, the Department of Livestock has refused to do a post-mortem.”

But Martin Hugh Jones, resident anthrax expert for the International Society for Infectious Diseases’ Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases, found the allegation of an anthrax outbreak unconvincing. From the perspective of having done hundreds of necropses on animals who died of anthrax, Jones offered that the procedure is dangerous only if the examiner is “grossly negligent.” The “parasites” in the mouths of the dead sheep, Jones said, were most likely maggots.

The Indo Asian News Service reported that Sindh officials decided to kill the sheep on September 16, 2012. The actual killing started the next day, according to *Dawn*, of Karachi, after “reports from a sec-

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The Leaping Bunny logo.



It’s Time to Ban the Barren Battery Cage!

Undercover investigations in recent years have exposed the cruelty of barren battery cages, where egg-laying hens can barely move an inch their entire lives. But even as a nationwide rejection of battery cages is taking place, legislators aligned with agribusiness in major egg-producing states are trying to ban undercover investigations rather than address extreme confinement.

Now animal advocates have a chance to help all 280 million egg-laying hens in the U.S., regardless of the political landscape in each state.

Urge your members of Congress to support H.R. 3798 and S. 3239, the Egg Products Inspection Act Amendments of 2012, which would:

- Replace barren battery cages with enriched colony housing systems that provide each bird with essentially twice the space;
- Require that hens be provided with perches, nesting boxes, and scratching areas;

- Mandate labeling on egg cartons such as “eggs from caged hens,” helping generate consumer demand for higher welfare alternatives;
- Prohibit the withdrawal of food or water to force molting and extend the laying cycle;
- Require euthanasia standards and prohibit excessive ammonia in henhouses; and
- Prohibit the transport and sale of eggs and egg products nationwide that don’t meet these requirements.

The National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, National Pork Producers Council, American Farm Bureau Federation, and their allies in Congress are lobbying to kill this bill, and animal advocates must not let them succeed!

Please call your U.S. representative and two U.S. senators today at 202-224-3121 and ask them to support H.R. 3798 and S. 3239, the Egg Products Inspection Act Amendments of 2012. For more on how you can help, go to humanesociety.org/hr3798.



Editorial feature

Pit bulls & political recklessness

A well-funded and aggressively promoted ballot measure meant to repeal the 23-year-old Miami-Dade County pit bull ban went down to an upset landslide defeat on August 14, 2012, attracting just 37% support—the most lopsided failure of a ballot measure endorsed by major national humane organizations in at least a couple of decades.

Miami Marlins star and Best Friends Animal Society celebrity spokesperson Mark Buerhle began vocally objecting to the Miami-Dade pit bull ban in December 2011, soon after accepting a four-year, \$58 million contract to pitch for Miami. Opting to live in Broward County, with one of the highest median household incomes in the U.S., instead of Miami-Dade County, whose median household income is about 10% below the Florida norm, Buerhle complained that his choice of an upscale neighborhood was dictated by possession of a pit bull. His complaints were amplified by electronic media more than 1,200 times during the nine months preceding the Miami-Dade voting.

Best Friends began airing radio ads in opposition to the Miami-Dade pit bull ban in March 2012. Humane Society of the U.S. president Wayne Pacelle and Mike Markarian, president of the HSUS subsidiary Humane Society Legislative Fund, both blogged in favor of repealing the Miami pit bull ban. The *Miami Herald* also endorsed repealing the ban.

A week ahead of the Miami-Dade voting the American Bar Association passed a resolution “Urging Adoption of Breed-Neutral Dog Laws and the Repeal of Breed Discriminatory (Pit Bull) Ordinances.” The resolution was avidly publicized by pit bull enthusiasts.

There was no organized opposition to the proposed Miami-Dade pit bull ban repeal. No celebrities spoke in favor of keeping the ban—only a few local pit bull victims, including Melissa Moreira, 31, who at age 8 was facially scarred for life in an unprovoked pit bull attack in the driveway of her family’s home.

The Miami pit bull ban was adopted soon after the Moreira attack, just ahead of the 1990 passage of a Florida state law prohibiting new breed-specific legislation, which exempted Miami-Dade. But contrary to the claims of pit bull advocates, the Miami-Dade ordinance was no hastily passed panic response. Attempts to ban pit bulls from Miami-Dade began in 1945, after Doretta Zinke, 39, was killed during an evening walk by nine pit bull terriers kept by Joe Munn, 43, of Hialeah. Twenty-six pit bulls, some implicated in previous attacks on humans, were impounded from Munn and killed.

The Humane Society of Greater Miami, which then held the Miami-Dade animal control contract, claimed to have received hundreds of calls of protest from pit bull advocates throughout the U.S.—an almost unheard of response in an era when long-distance calls were expensive and had to be manually connected by an operator.

Munn served one year of a five-year prison sentence for manslaughter. Paroled, Munn acquired more pit bulls. Two of them in 1955 mauled Harry Smalley, 73, after attacking Smalley’s dog. But another 35 years of deliberation elapsed, while many other pit bulls killed and injured animals and humans, before the Moreira attack finally tipped the Miami-Dade political balance against pit bull defenders, who ranged from the Humane Society of Greater Miami to advocates of legalizing dogfights and segregationist splinter groups associated with the Ku Klux Klan.

Pit bull advocates were poised at the “scratch line” on August 15, 2012 to celebrate ripping the Miami-Dade ordinance to shreds. As **ANIMAL PEOPLE** pointed out in March 2012, however, at least 10 newspaper public opinion surveys conducted in the U.S. since 2005 have shown respondents favoring restrictions on possession of pit bulls. The majorities have ranged from 50% to 69%, with the average at 59% and the median at 63%. The Miami-Dade outcome landed right on the median. Only 20% of the eligible electorate turned out to vote, but this should have favored the pit bull ban repeal effort, since the people most motivated to vote should have been those who want to keep pit bulls. The only “get-out-the-vote” effort made in connection with the repeal measure was made on behalf of it.

Banning breeds

The Miami-Dade ordinance exemplifies the simplest and oldest of three different approaches to breed-specific legislation meant to curb pit bull proliferation and the problems associated with pit bulls, including attacks on humans and other animals; dogfighting; the

frequent use of pit bulls as accessories to other crimes including selling drugs, extortion, domestic violence, and pimping; and the strain on animal shelters of having to often accommodate dangerous dogs who cannot be safely housed with other dogs and will usually be killed, after a holding period of several days, due to lack of safe adoption prospects.

Like the highly successful Denver ordinance, which is nonetheless equally unpopular with many animal advocates, the Miami-Dade ordinance was passed in 1989, and outright prohibits possession of pit bulls.

Despite the frequent howling of pit bull advocates that breed-specific legislation “doesn’t work,” and despite a tendency of Denver and Miami-Dade animal control officials to interpret the definition of “pit bull” in a manner that allows possession of many pit bull variants, Denver and Miami-Dade are among the most populated U.S. jurisdictions that have had no pit bull fatalities since their ordinances took effect. The remainder of Colorado has had at least one pit bull fatality since 1989 and many close calls; 17 people have been killed by pit bulls elsewhere in Florida.

Pit bull advocates often allege that outright prohibitions, like those in effect in Denver and Miami-Dade, condemn pit bulls to death just for existing. In truth, all U.S. and Canadian pit bull bans known to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, including those in Denver and Miami-Dade, have either allowed reasonable time for people found in possession of pit bulls to relocate them, or have contained “grandfather clauses” allowing pit bulls already within the jurisdiction when the ban was passed to remain, providing that they are sterilized, vaccinated, insured against liability, licensed, and safely confined.

Far from resulting in pit bulls being killed, the Miami-Dade and Denver ordinances have resulted in Miami-Dade ranking second only to Denver among major U.S. cities in fewest pit bulls impounded and killed per 1,000 human residents.

New York City and San Francisco rank third and fourth, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** learned in a 2009 survey. New York City excludes pit bulls from public housing; San Francisco requires that pit bulls be sterilized.

Mandatory sterilization

Mandating sterilization of pit bulls avoids allegations that pit bulls are condemned to death, and has also proved eminently successful in achieving most of the goals of breed-specific legislation, though sterilization does not completely prevent attacks and does not prevent the use of pit bulls as weapons. In the three fiscal years before the San Francisco ordinance took effect in 2006, the city Department of Animal Care & Control impounded 1,891 pit bulls, 210 of them for biting, and killed 1,129 pit bulls. In the three most recent fiscal years, San Francisco impounded 956 pit bulls, 39 for biting, and killed 873—declines of 50%, 81%, and 26%, respectively.

U.S. humane organizations, both national and local, have almost unanimously argued for 40 years or more that sterilizing dogs (and cats) is a condition of responsible pet-keeping. Every U.S. national humane organization and most local humane societies have endorsed legislation meant to encourage pet sterilization, including licensing schemes intended to make keeping any unsterilized pet economically prohibitive.

But keepers of pit bulls have been notoriously resistant to the incentives and subsidies that have made discussions of “overpopulation” of most dog breeds an anachronism. Pit bulls over the past 30 years have increased from 2% of shelter dog intake and 5% of shelter dog killing to 30% of shelter dog intake and 60% of the killing.

Yet, instead of endorsing ordinances modeled after the San Francisco success, most national humane organizations and many local counterparts reflexively and paradoxically oppose breed-specific legislation in any form—in effect running interference on behalf of pit bull breeders and dogfighters.

People who practice neuter/return feral cat control usually hope to eradicate homeless cat colonies by preventing breeding. People who campaign against horse slaughter mostly emphasize that the solution to horse neglect and abandonment is to prevent speculative breeders from producing surplus foals. Rescuers of birds, snakes, lions, tigers, bears, and every other species caught up in the exotic animal trade mostly seek stronger legislation to keep these animals from being bred and sold.

There are some animal advocates who oppose contracepting wild horses and bison, pointing out that the western range historically accommodated vastly more wild horses and bison than now. These advocates hope, rather unrealistically, that the habitat available to wild horses and bison today can be expanded to rebuild their populations to the historic norms. But this argument, like the arguments for endangered species restoration, is rooted in ecological idealism. Though the envisioned outcome differs, the philosophical approach parallels the ambition of hunters to boost deer, elk, and waterfowl populations. Preventing animal suffering is not part of the calculus in promoting species abundance—but making animals more abundant is often a prelude to exploiting them, as evidenced by the present rush to hunt wolves in the Yellowstone National Park region and the upper Midwest, and to trap otters in Illinois. Though few activists who worked to accomplish wolf and otter restoration want the wolves and otters to be hunted, hunting inevitably followed abundance.

The paradox of humane organizations opposing mandatory pit bull sterilization is that they are saying, in effect, that while the humane community contends that the births of all other dogs, and cats, should be limited to the numbers for whom good homes exist, there should be unlimited pit bull breeding, regardless of the availability of any homes. Reality is that almost a third of the total U.S. pit bull population enters animal shelters each year, and more than 85% of these dogs are killed from lack of safe adoption prospects, at the average age of 18 months. Yet invoking legislation to help curtail the surplus births producing this appalling waste of life is opposed as “breed discrimination.”

The objection is often raised that “breed discrimination” is “speciesism,” and that if sterilization of pit bulls were to be mandated, pit bulls would soon be “extinct.” Such arguments overlook that pit bulls are not a species. Rather, pit bulls are an artificially created extreme variant of the species *canis familiaris*: dog. Pit bulls exist only because of intense, controlled inbreeding to produce animals with no analog in either current wild dog subspecies or the fossil record. When allowed to breed freely, pit bulls—like all so-called “pure-breeds”—breed back to normal dog configuration and behavior within two or three generations.

If a member of a species cannot mate successfully with others of the same species, the failure almost always ends that animal’s genetic line, since a member of a species will seldom hybridize with another species, except among very closely related species such as horses and donkeys, or lions and tigers—but even then, the offspring are usually sterile.

A dog, however, has no preference for mating with his or her breed, and will mate willingly with dogs of any other breed, except for some pit bulls who are so abnormally dog-aggressive that they will kill each other if the male is not muzzled and the female not held securely in a “rape stand.” Dogs consider themselves dogs, nothing else, and do not recognize or care about the human controlled breeding of their ancestors that caused them to display physical or behavioral characteristics which may be desirable to human breeders, but are irrelevant to the dog, unless they are detrimental to the health and well-being of the dog, as is often the case. Dogs do not have ethnicity, culture, or religion which causes them to seek out similar partners with whom to breed—a breed of dog does not recognize itself as a “race” of dogs. Thus the analogy to “genocide” made by pit bull enthusiasts in response to any suggestion of a breeding ban on pit bulls and other bully breeds is both inaccurate and inappropriate.

Pit bulls were produced to exploit some dog traits by breeding out others, especially

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News for People Who Care About Animals

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

Telephone: 360-579-2505. Fax: 360-579-2575.

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

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

Executive subscriptions, mailed 1st class, are \$40.00 per year or \$70/two years.

The **ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on Animal Protection Charities**, updated midyear, is \$25.

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Pit bulls & political recklessness

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the tendency of most dogs to avoid fights through social behavior. Pit bull ancestors include a variety of comparably artificially created fighting dogs, slave-tracking dogs, dogs bred to hunt and bait dangerous wildlife, and butchers' dogs, whose work was holding animals by the nose while their throats were cut. Each of these ancestor dogs was bred to expand the human capacity for inflicting suffering on other animals, including upon the dogs themselves.

Animal advocates who echo the anti-breeding ban rhetoric of pit bull breeders should ask themselves why any authentic animal advocate would want to preserve the legacy of people who, over thousands of years, deliberately bred dogs to kill each other and other animals in sadistic spectacles.

The short answer is that dogfighters and pit bull breeders have infiltrated, hijacked, and co-opted animal advocacy to the extent that much of the humane community has unwittingly come to amplify dogfighting lingo. Consider the contemporary ring to the words of dogfighter and pit bull breeder Charles Werner of New Orleans, in an April 1911 letter to the magazine *Dog Fancier*:

"For the last ten years, continuously I have been the owner of Pit Bull Terriers and can truthfully say that I have, by practice, done what others advocate by preaching that our noble dog does not need to be classified as a fighting dog pure and simple, useless for any practical purposes, but have tried to convince through my dogs and through those which I bred and sold that the much feared Pit Bull Terrier is one of the most intelligent as well as most loyal dogs that any man could ever own. I pointed out, with considerable pride, that the gameness and fighting qualities of my own dogs always made them so much more valuable as protectors for my home and family during my absence and I have succeeded in overcoming prejudice of those who know me to be sincere in the argument that a real thorough bred Pit Bull Terrier was never known to be treacherous to those who treated him with kindness."

Dogfighters and pit bull breeders do not have to make such claims for themselves today, because the humane community does the job for them.

Strict liability

A common mantra of pit bull advocates is "ban the deed, not the breed," meaning that legislation should take a punitive rather than preventive approach to addressing dog attacks, dogfighting, the use of dogs as weapons, and reckless dog care. Either banning pit bulls or mandating sterilization seeks to prevent the problems resulting from pit bull proliferation by preventing the proliferation itself. "Banning the deed" means that breeders remain free to produce pit bulls, while more severe punishment is meted out to those people whose pit bulls physically harm others, or others' pets, or who engage in dogfighting and other criminal behavior using pit bulls.

The difference in approach between banning the deed

and banning the breed is in gist the difference between the libertarian approach to government, which holds that people should be allowed to do whatever they wish, so long as they are held responsible for the consequences, and legislative approaches putting the needs of the community first, practiced by everyone else on the political spectrum.

But the outraged response of pit bull advocates to the April 2012 ruling of the Maryland Court of Appeals in Tracey v. Solesky demonstrates that pit bull keepers don't really want to be held responsible for the consequences of their dogs' behavior. Opposition to the Tracey v. Solesky verdict, including the opposition of the Best Friends Animal Society, Humane Society of the U.S., American SPCA, and the Animal Legal Defense Fund, amounts to rebellion against being obliged to take responsibility.

Originating from an unprovoked pit bull attack on two boys in April 2007, the Tracey v. Solesky verdict held that "When an attack involves pit bulls, it is no longer necessary to prove that the particular pit bull or pit bulls are dangerous," as a requirement of establishing negligence and therefore economic responsibility on the part of the pit bull keeper, since the risk that pit bulls might kill or injure people is widely known.

Unable to recover medical expenses from the tenant whose pit bull attacked their son, the Solesky family sued his landlord, Dorothy M. Tracey, for allegedly renting premises that were inadequate to contain the tenant's dogs.

In 35 other states—70% of the U.S.—"strict liability" laws are in effect, which hold that the person in possession of a dog is responsible for whatever harm the dog does.

Courts have ruled in several states that this includes landlords who rent properties that are unsafe for keeping dogs, or allow tenants to keep dogs in an unsafe manner. Maryland, however, is still a "one free bite" state, where the person in possession of a dog has historically not been held responsible for foreseeing and preventing dog attacks if the dog has not had a history of biting.

Wrote Judge Dale R. Cathell for the 4-3 majority, "When an attack involves pit bulls, it is no longer necessary to prove that the particular pit bull or pit bulls are dangerous...We are modifying the Maryland common law of liability as it relates to attacks by pit bull and cross-bred pit bull dogs against humans," in order to "punish the deed" by making the possessors of such dogs economically responsible for whatever harm the dogs do.

On August 12, 2012 the Maryland Court of Appeals amended the original Tracey v. Solesky verdict to remove the mention of "cross-bred pit bull dogs." This was widely acclaimed by pit bull advocates, who often insist that no dog is accurately described as a pit bull because "pit bull" is a generic class of dog, rather than a specific breed defined by a closely written breed standard.

But the Maryland Court of Appeals did not amend the

incorporation into the Tracey v. Solesky verdict of language from a Colorado Supreme Court ruling on the Denver ordinance, holding that "A 'pit bull,' for purposes of this chapter, is defined as any dog that is an American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, or any dog displaying the majority of physical traits of any one or more of the above breeds." The "mixed breed" language removed by the reconsideration thus pertains only to dogs not "displaying the majority of physical traits of" American pit bulls, American Staffords, and/or Staffordshire bull terriers. Unaffected is the premise of the Tracey v. Solesky verdict that keepers of pit bulls should be aware of the risk that their dogs might harm someone.

Libertarian theory holds that the "invisible hand" of the marketplace should enforce socially responsible behavior, not legal mandates. According to libertarian theory, if certain behavior is dangerous, such as keeping pit bulls, the people who keep pit bulls—and their landlords—should be sued for the costs resulting from attacks, and should pay higher insurance premiums to offset the risk of lawsuit. Landlords should have the option of either excluding pit bulls from their private property or charging higher rents. If keeping pit bulls becomes economically prohibitive, due to the costs of insurance and compensating pit bull attack victims, libertarian theory holds that breeding pit bulls should become economically unviable and come to an end.

Arguing that pit bulls should be subject neither to breed-specific law nor to market pressures is in effect arguing that people who keep pit bulls should be exempt from any restraints taking into account the unique behavior and physical characteristics for which pit bulls are bred and acquired.

Conflicting agendas

Pushing a legislative agenda which is opposed by nearly two-thirds of the public, as in Miami, could become a liability for national animal advocacy organizations in their efforts to maneuver several other agendas through Congress and state legislatures.

One such agenda is opposition to large commercial dog-breeding establishments, or "puppy mills," which often produce unhealthy and unsocialized dogs. Winning passage of new regulations for dog breeders in Missouri, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Texas, this campaign appears to have brought about a 40% decline in the numbers of puppies offered for sale in June 2012 as compared to June 2011.

Yet closing or more closely regulating puppy mills does nothing to stop or slow the proliferation of pit bulls. Few large commercial breeders produce pit bulls, perhaps because of the difficulty of housing large numbers of pit bulls—even puppies—in close proximity.

Pit bulls are far more likely to be bought from back-

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LETTERS

Salmon farming isn't sustainable or humane

I am currently having an argument with the Scottish government over a description of salmon farming as "sustainable" by First Minister Alex Salmond. He made this claim in quotation marks in a statement in a government press release which was posted on the government web site.

The person who eventually replied to my complaint over this claimed it was the Scottish government web site which said this and not the First Minister. When a web site starts making statements all on its own, I might start believing that salmon farming is sustainable. Until then I'll stick with the fact that you have to feed between three and four tons of wild-caught fish to the caged salmon to produce each ton of finished product. That's a very long way from being sustainable.

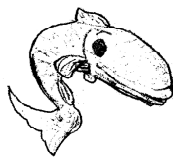
Our new environment minister, Paul Wheelhouse, added to Salmond's remark that, "More than 60 per cent of Scottish farmed salmon now has the Royal SPCA's Freedom Foods accreditation, which is a great endorsement and selling point."

I suppose he thought that bringing the RSPCA into it was better than admitting that when his own agency, the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, surveyed for pollution on the seabed around salmon farms, they described the findings of 44% of the samples as "unsatisfactory" and 21% as "borderline."

It is bad enough that the RSPCA allows Freedom Food-endorsed salmon farmers to shoot and kill seals. It is sickening to see senior politicians use the RSPCA name to divert attention from the negative impact salmon farms are having on the Scottish marine environment.

If you think things are bad now, just

wait to see what happens as the Scottish branches of the Norwegian salmon farming industry expand to fill all the new orders Alex Salmond is bringing in from his political panda pals in Beijing, who are now leasing two giant pandas to the financially shaky Edinburgh Zoo for a million U.S. dollars per year. I maintain that the extremely high costs involved in leasing and caring for these two giant pandas, plus any possible offspring, will prove too expensive for Edinburgh Zoo, just as several other zoos around the world discovered after taking exactly the same foolish financial flutter in an attempt to gamble their way out of a cash crisis.



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Rhode Island

Thank you for highlighting in the July/August 2012 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** the passage of legislation in Rhode Island to give animals legal representation in cruelty & neglect cases. This is the successful work of Dennis Tabella and Rhode Island Defenders of Animals. Many humane laws have been passed over the last 30 years through their volunteer efforts, including prohibition of the use of gas chambers to kill homeless animals, banning the release of intact female cats from shelters, and restricting hunting in state parks. We were proud to join with Dennis to end dog racing in Rhode Island in 2010.

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

Dakota Needs Your Support



Animal League America recently rescued Dakota, a young Pomeranian, from a Midwest puppy mill where he had lived his entire life in a cramped, wire cage. He had never experienced any human affection and he was deprived of even the most basic medical care.

Upon examining Dakota, our veterinarians discovered that

the sweet dog had one of the worst cases of heartworm disease they had ever seen. The entire area around his heart, lungs and major arteries was infested by heartworms, making it difficult for Dakota to breathe and putting his life at risk.

Dakota's case was so severe that he required immediate surgery to manually remove the heartworms.

Unfortunately, Dakota will require additional treatment to kill the worms that were not removable during his surgery and to prevent recurrences. Sadly, a simple monthly pill would have protected Dakota from this awful disease.

After suffering neglect his entire life, Dakota now has a great chance for a happy and healthy life.

Your dedicated support of the life-saving Help Me Heal Program allows Dakota – and other innocent animals like him – receive the treatment needed that will save their lives. Please visit AnimalLeague.org/help-me-heal.

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



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Senate Hearing Held on Rotten Egg Bill (S. 3239)

Opponents of Battery Cages and Federal Preemption *Excluded*

Just weeks ago, the Senate Agriculture Committee held a hearing on the egg industry's Rotten Egg Bill. This marks only the second time in U.S. history that a Congressional hearing has been held regarding the intensive confinement of farm animals.

But this is likely the first time you've heard about it. Neither HSUS, nor any of its tag-along groups, are eager to have animal activists hear the egg industry's actual testimony in support of this damaging legislation.

A recording can be found at www.ag.senate.gov.

The panel was limited to Senator Dianne Feinstein and four *egg industry* representatives. In keeping with the intent of the egg bill, all argued *for* the permanent use of egg factory cages – and *for* the nullification of state anti-cage laws.



Egg producers from across the nation lobbying for the Rotten Egg Bill (S. 3239) during Senate hearing.



These **cages** provide an **acceptable existence, according to HSUS**, now partnered with United Egg Producers in attempting to overturn state anti-cage laws.

Although animal advocates were excluded from presenting live testimony, the Humane Farming Association (HFA) submitted written testimony in opposition to the bill. The following are excerpts:

...S. 3239's chief proponent, the United Egg Producers (UEP) and several egg companies it represents, have been repeatedly sued for alleged **illegal price fixing**.

UEP members have already been forced to pay out at least \$25 million to settle allegations that they illegally manipulated the price of eggs while *claiming* to be instituting standards for animal welfare.

Now, with **active lawsuits still pending** against them – UEP and its co-defendants are asking Congress to codify a set of standards that would, in effect, provide legal cover for the very activities of which they stand accused.

This alone provides ample reason to oppose UEP's sudden call for federal intervention. Indeed, it would be extremely inappropriate for the U.S. Senate to jump in the middle of an ongoing price-fixing scandal just to placate a private trade association and a co-opted Humane Society of the United States.

"We got HSUS to endorse these cages. And that's priceless!" — United Egg Producers

Egg Bill: Undefined, Unenforceable, Unethical

In order to sell their bill of goods, proponents of S. 3239 claim that it will mandate "Adequate Environmental Enrichments" for caged hens within **18 years**. But UEP and HSUS intentionally do not define in the bill what they mean by that.

Rather, they are seeking to have that entire issue decided years *after* the fact by some as-yet-unknown USDA Secretary.

Further, in order to deflect from its central purpose (**keeping hens in cages**), S. 3239 includes several diversionary provisions — none of which holds up to scrutiny.

- Despite claims of improving air quality, S. 3239 contains nothing that alters current ammonia levels in egg factories. It merely adopts UEP's existing standards which *allow* toxic conditions.
- Proponents claim that S. 3239 would stop the supposed "starvation" molting of "tens of millions" of hens. Remarkably, neither HSUS nor UEP provides any evidence that this is occurring in the United States, let alone that it would be a legitimate justification for keeping hens locked in cages and taking away voters' rights.
- For the very first time, the fraudulent and grossly misleading euphemism "enriched cages" would begin appearing on egg cartons nationwide – in order to deflect public concern and to increase egg sales from caged hens.

"State standards threaten the egg industry. That's why I introduced S. 3239." — Sen. Feinstein

Please visit: StopTheRottenEggBill.org

Help stop this outrageous bill that would keep hens in cages forever – while taking away our voting rights.

Pit bulls & political recklessness

(continued from page 3)

yard breeders than they are to be bought in pet stores or adopted from shelters.

Another longtime humane goal is seeking passage of stronger legislation to discourage dogfighting and cockfighting. But both dogfighting and cockfighting are mechanisms for extracting profits from the disposal of animals who are bred in perpetual surplus. At the high-stakes apex of the dogfighting and cockfighting industry are some expensively bred and trained animals of pedigree, but even these exceptions are considered expendable by the people who pit them in fights, and exist in contrast to the reality that the average fighting dog or gamecock is an animal no one really cares much about, or keeps for long.

Pass-along pit bulls

Dogfighting in the U.S. today—and for the past 20 years, at least—uses mostly pass-along pit bulls who are bred in backyards, sold to people who strut them around for a short while and then give them away or resell them. These dogs are eventually pitted against other dogs of similar history, or are starved and dehydrated for use as “bait dogs” in rigged matches meant to boost the reputations of the breeders of the “winning” dogs and the prices of their top lines.

Dogfighters need risk no money or property producing “bait dogs,” when pit bulls can be acquired on the street or through false-front “rescues” for less than the cost of feeding a dog for a couple of weeks. The real money, for most dogfighting “professionals,” is not in “winning” fights *per se*, but rather in organizing the fights and collecting a cut of the admission price, gambling stakes, sales of videos, and concession sales (including sales of illegal drugs on the premises)—and, especially, breeding and selling dogs to would-be dogfighters, like Michael Vick, who paid hugely inflated prices for dogs of

exaggerated pedigree before his 2007 arrest.

Often, as in two recent mega-dogfighting busts in the Philippines, the organizers furnish the dogs on either side of the pit. Dogfighters promote an image of themselves as would-be trainers of champions, but reality is that every dogfight is fixed: both dogs lose. The “winner” may be bred, however, before being killed, either in fighting or after losing a fight.

Still another longtime humane legislative goal is seeking to outlaw the private breeding, sale, and possession of exotic and dangerous wildlife, including big cats, venomous snakes, and constricting snakes. Markarian in particular has made much of the purported risk to human health and safety posed by private possession of pythons.

Globally, pet pythons and boa constrictors are known to have injured 10 people since 2005, killing a child in Florida, a man in Nebraska, and a man in Japan. Large and exotic cats kept as pets, such as pumas, lions, tigers, and leopards, have killed and injured about twice as many, if the definition of “pet” is stretched to include big cats kept at private sanctuaries.

During the same years, pit bulls have killed 153 people in the U.S. alone, disfiguring 552. Relative to total numbers in homes, exotic pets may be more dangerous than pit bulls, but as a matter of priorities, most legislators tend to look first at the issues involving the most people.

Pandering to 2% of voters

Animal advocacy organization leaders should not be willing to squander the chance of legislative success on behalf of major categories of animals to court the support of the 5% of dog-keeping Americans who keep pit bulls and other “bully breeds”—perhaps 2% of U.S. voters.

To be sure, pit bull enthusiasts are a vocal and well-funded tiny minority, cultish in their devotion to “bully

breeds.” Pit bull advocates have also had more than a quarter century since the introduction of the first breed bans in major U.S. cities to rehearse and hone their rhetoric. The rise of “no kill” advocacy has elevated wishful thinking that every dog might be saved, no matter what, into an article of faith as fervently held as any tenet of organized religion.

Humane workers hoping to avoid the frequent necessity of killing pit bulls who are too dangerous and much too numerous in shelters to have rehoming prospects, and to avoid being stoned by “no-kill” zealots, have eagerly embraced falsehoods propounded by pit bull advocates, such as that pit bulls were once popular pets, even “nanny dogs,” who were bred by old-time dogfighters—like Charles Werner—to be not human-aggressive despite being hair-trigger dog-aggressive.

Reality is that pit bulls—by any of their many names—were never more than 1% of the U.S. dog population until recent decades, according to retrospective surveys of newspaper mentions and classified ads offering dogs for sale. The myth of pit bulls as “nanny dogs” appeared only once in mainstream print before the rise of debate over proposed breed bans. John P. Colby, the old-time dogfighter who popularized pit bulls as pets from 1889 to 1941, produced dogs who in 1909 killed his own two-year-old nephew, Bert Colby Leadbetter, and later injured several other children.

But pit bull advocates are correct in asserting that “bully” dogs are the most frequent victims of abuse and neglect. About 21% of the dogs impounded in cases of severe and prolonged neglect since 2005 have been pit bulls, and also 21% of the dogs impounded in cases of violent abuse—including 49% of the dogs set on fire and 14% of the dogs raped in bestiality cases. No other breed type has ever been commonly fought. The popularity of pit bulls among violent and abusive people is in itself a strong argument against breeding more.

Three views of the flap over the proposed federal laying hen regulation

It is not surprising that the pork and beef industries are desperately trying to kill federal legislation—HR.3798/S.3239—to ban barren battery cages for egg-laying hens. What’s saddening—and disturbing—is that the Humane Farming Association is also trying to kill the bill. Let’s be clear: HFA has never passed a law to ban any farm animal confinement system anywhere. HFA refused to support California’s Proposition Two in 2008, which mandated more space for various farm animals, and never endorsed either the Arizona or Florida farm animal ballot measures that set up the possibility of success in California. HFA also actively opposed legislation in California to ban the force-feeding of ducks to produce *foie gras*. Had HFA had its way and the bill not been enacted, ducks in California would likely still be having pipes shoved down their throats daily.

As groups like HSUS, Farm Sanctuary, and Mercy For Animals continue to pass laws criminalizing various factory farming practices—including a new law we just passed in Rhode Island banning gestation and veal crates—HFA chooses not to support those campaigns.

You can’t just be against everything; you have to be for something. In regards to the hundreds of millions of laying hens trapped in barren battery cages, HFA offers no pragmatic solution to help them—only criticism.

—Matthew Dominguez
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What’s wrong with HR 3798 has nothing to do with hens.

As a Californian I am proud of the political ideals for which our state is famous. Here’s one: “As goes California, so goes the nation.” We like being a forward state. Many of us prefer state’s rights because we like having better pollution laws than any other state. We resist having federal laws imposed on us that would diminish protection of our air, water and ocean. We also respect voters’ rights. Many people gave time, money and love to passing Proposition Two, and expected better results than have been delivered.

In 1991, when a small group of us were drafting the best pet store bill ever written, Pet Industries Joint Advisory Council attorney Marshall Meyers asked me how big I wanted the puppies’ cages to be. I said, “Big enough so that each individual can stand up, sit down, lie down, and turn around without head or body touching the top or sides of the cage.” I also put all the power in the hands of law enforcement, with the possibility that any violation could be a wobbler [*prosecutable as either a misdemeanor or a felony*]. At that time, I represented the Contra Costa County SPCA. We had 63 wobblers in one year from a Docktor’s Pet store in Concord, California. In 2007, HSUS reduced that law to three warnings and an infraction. One has to wonder why a humane society would do that, especially since many SPCAs opposed it, as did the Los Angeles County District Attorney.

Other assaults have been made on other excellent California laws through unholy alliances with the opposition.

—Sherry E. DeBoer
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I read “Another Chicken Activist’s Perspective on Federal Legal Protection for Hens” from your April 2012 edition on <www.animalpeoplenews.org>, and share your concern with how chickens are treated. I’ve been raising chickens for six years and fortunately can let them roam free on acres of grass, garden, and woods. I have great appreciation for these wonderful birds.

Two years ago while we were on vacation one of our hens began sitting on a clutch of eggs. The eggs hatched soon after we returned. Watching that hen raise her chicks was a transforming experience. I had no idea that the bond between a hen and her

chicks was so strong. After observing more of my hens hatch and rear their young, I came to the conclusion that every chick deserves a mother. I realize that this extremely old-fashioned, slow way of raising chickens will never replace factory farms, but I still think it is important that people know how complex chickens actually are.

I published a book, *Every Chicken Deserves a Mother*, describing and illustrating the love and care that chickens are capable of.



—Daniel Voran
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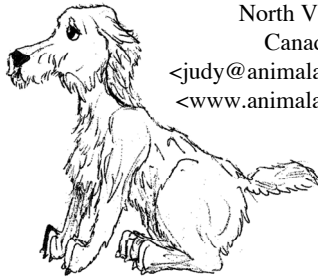
Closing pet stores helps backyard breeders

I am belatedly responding to “Puppy millers move from malls to web sites,” in the January/February 2012 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. I am fed up with brainless people who are demanding (and getting) bans on pups and kittens being sold in pet stores, which—unlike backyard breeders—are out in the open, licensable, regulatable, and accessible to cruelty prevention enforcers without a warrant needed during business hours.

The British Columbia SPCA jumped on this bandwagon. The BC/SPCA is also on the “Pit bulls are no more dangerous than any other breed” bandwagon. Even though it may still kill more pit bulls than any other agency in B.C., despite often turning away pit bulls [brought for surrender]. It even tells municipalities that are considering adopting pit bull

bans not to. This is putting people and other animals at risk of life-altering attacks, and assures that the abuse and killing of so many pit bulls will continue.

—Judy Stone
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Do you have potential adopters who are reluctant to spay because they are concerned about losing the hormones?

If so, check out our video demonstrating


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a way to have your cake and eat it too: keep hormone protection against blood and bone cancer in large dogs, prevent pyometra, and still meet population/sterilization goals.


http://www.parsemusfoundation.org/Parsemus/Ovary-sparing_spay.html




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“I’m an alley cat ally.”
- Portia de Rossi



Hundreds of thousands of Americans provide care for stray and feral cats and advocate on their behalf. Learn more at www.alleycat.org.



Surrender prevention programs brought drop in New York City shelter killing

As the July/August edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE** reported, New York City has reduced municipal shelter killing to just one dog or cat per 1,000 human residents. The previous lowest ever ratio was 1.3 in San Francisco, which has a human population base of only 750,000.

Bowhunter Paul Ryan

Republican vice presidential candidate Paul Ryan loves bow hunting. This is something that animal people need to be aware of, along with presidential candidate Mitt Romney's endorsement of the rodeo held at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, and his strapping his Irish setter to the car roof [in a portable kennel] for 1983 trip to Ontario.



—Eric Mills, coordinator
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Editor's note:

"I love hunting and fishing. Bowhunting is my passion," Paul Ryan declared in a recent interview with <www.deeranddeerhunting> Southern man - aging editor Alan Clemons. Clemons also revealed that Romney once drove the Oscar Meyer Weinermobile.

How did New York City accomplish this? By introducing two major surrender prevention programs: a telephone hot line to assist pet keepers in crisis, and a super low-cost mobile full veterinary service. Both of these programs were initiated by the Companion Animal Network.

It took us 10 years of lobbying three different animal control administrations for the concept of surrender prevention to be given a trial run. We wrote a 20-page proposal, which each administration ignored, until we went to the Center for Animal Care & Control board of directors with it in 2005. Then-New York City health commissioner Thomas Friedan, now heading the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, ordered that it be implemented.

We paid for printing a brochure, and the CACC began to refer surrender cases to our hot line of 25 years, 718-544-PETS. We handled as many calls as possible live, even while in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, doing 20-hour shifts of animal trapping in 120-degree heat and sleeping on concrete in the open air with no food or electricity. I even recall taking a call seconds prior to being sedated at the New York University dental hospital, about to undergo a wisdom tooth extraction! We saved that dog's life.

It worked! Four years later, in 2009, the Humane Society of the U.S. took over administration of our Safety Net program,

assigned salaried employees to administer it, re-named it Pets for Life, and expanded the hot line to do much more than a small organization such as ours could have done.

We next launched the Low Cost Vet Mobile, to go into the low income neighborhoods where most of the animals surrendered to animal control come from. Parking in front of NYC animal control locations in those communities, we were able to help the animals before they were surrendered. No one had ever done that before. We began by offering our services two days a week. Within a year we expanded to three days a week, and the next year to four days a week.

The results were immediate. After many years of virtually unchanged numbers of dog/cat surrenders, relinquishments of dogs and cats to the CACC dropped by 5,974 (15% of total intake) during our first full year with the Vet Mobile (2009-2010), and then dropped by 3,207 (9.2%) in our second Vet Mobile year.

Adoptions fell 22% during the same years, as the U.S. economy faltered, but we still saw a dramatic drop in the numbers of animals who were killed at the city shelters.

This could not have been accomplished solely by the two surrender prevention programs. If the CACC had not actively partnered with us by instructing their employees to refer animal surrender callers and visitors to

our programs, it is highly unlikely that this success would have been accomplished. The American SPCA's mobile spay/neuter trucks pioneered our approach. The ASPCA mobile spay neuter trucks stock Vet Mobile flyers and refer all low-income medical cases to us. Our Vet Mobile stocks the ASPCA spay/neuter flyers and gives out their info.

Had Maddie's Fund not funded the Mayor's Alliance for NYC Animals in 2003, the Vet Mobile could never have been launched nor survived. Had HSUS not taken over the Safety Net/Pets for Life surrender prevention hot line, we could never have started the Vet Mobile program, as all of our time was already taken up by the 5,000 calls for assistance we were handling every year. Had foundations such as the Atlas Bass Foundation, Stewie to the Rescue, Red Rover, New York Save, and many private individuals not supported the Vet Mobile, our program might not have survived its first two years.

In summary, the historic accomplishment here in New York City is the result of an incredible team effort.



—Garó Alexanian
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<info@CompanionAnimalNetworkTV.org>
<www.companionanimalnetworktv.org>

Events

October 2: World Farm Animals Day. Info: <www.farmusa.org>.

Oct. 4: World Animal Day. Info: <info@worldanimalday.org.uk>; <www.worldanimalday.org.uk>.

Oct. 6: Green Mountain Animal Defenders Walk for Farmed Animals, Burlington, Vermont. Info: <www.gmad.org>.

Oct. 7: Team Angel Dogs Foundation Race for the Rescues, Pasadena. Info: 898-504-SPAY; <www.angeldogs-foundation.org>.

Oct. 14: Auction to benefit Animal Rescue Fndtn. of Terryville, CT. Info: 860-459-0964; <tims.inc@snet.net>.

Oct. 16: National Feral Cat Day. Info: 202-207-1134; <fislaeli@john-adams.com>; <www.all-eyecat.org/NFC>.

Oct. 16-18: Int. Companion Animal Welf. Conf., Vravona, Greece. Info: <international@dogstrust.org.uk>.

October 16-18: No More Homeless Pets conf., Las Vegas. Info: 435-644-2001, x4478; <conferences@bestfriends.org>.

Oct. 18: Black Cat Ball to benefit Tree House Humane Soc., Chicago. Info: 773-784-5488, x231; <Jenny@TreeHouseAnimals.org>; <www.TreeHouseAnimals.org>.

October 27: Walk For Victims of Pit Bulls & Other Dangerous Dogs (including animal victims), Tucson. Info: <http://walkforvictimsofpitbulls.blogspot.com/>.

November 2: AC&A Animal Care Affair luncheon, New York City. Info: 212-676-8560; <rsvp@nycacc.org>.

Nov. 6-8: Great Ape Survival Partnership Council, Paris, France. Info: <council.un-grasp.org>.

(continued on page 9)

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

Maddie's® Matchmaker Adoption Event found homes for 2,600 pets in one weekend!

63 shelter and rescue organizations at 80 locations throughout the Bay Area's Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Francisco Counties participated in the third annual Maddie's® Matchmaker Adoption Event on June 9th and 10th.

Over 30% of the more than 2,600 dogs and cats adopted were senior and/or treatable pets!

There were many inspiring stories including Cuddles, a 10-year-old cat who was born without her hind legs. Her previous owners claimed she was too much trouble, but her new family only sees her sweet personality and desire to live, despite her limitations.



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Maddie's® MatchMaker ADOPTION EVENT



Cuddles



Donors & taxpayers should not subsidize cruelty, agrees Animals' Angels founder

I agree wholeheartedly with Erika Abrams, whose commentary “Let us not call for donor support for small farmers” appeared in the July/August 2012 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, and would like to support her opinion with European evidence.

European member states in the last decade have very much embraced environmental issues—to various degrees of commitment, of course. Small farms are popular with people because their image fits the dream of old-fashioned, understandable and controllable agriculture. The media promote this unrealistic view by broadcasting films and printing images of happy cows in green meadows, smiling pigs, and snow-white hens in the sun-

Romanian sabotage

In 2004 there were approximately 5,000 stray dogs in Oradea, Romania, despite a continuous poisoning campaign. Petru Filip, who was the mayor at the time, accepted an offer from several British and American organizations to replace the killing strategy with neuter/return. Petru Filip now speaks for the extraordinary results: the number of stray dogs in Oradea fell to only 250 in 2011.

The Oradea program was initially financed by Dogs Trust, Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, and the North Shore Animal League America. For the past several years it has been coordinated and financed solely by British businessman and Foundation for the Protection of Stray Dogs president Robert Smith. Smith has conducted sterilization and educational programs in schools not only in Oradea but throughout Bihor county.

Despite the extraordinary results of the Oradea project, Romanian officials have never been interested in emulating it on a national scale. Some have sabotaged all attempts to implement clear legislation to support such programs.

As Robert Smith could no longer afford to finance the project, he recently retired from it. He offered the local authorities the shelter he built, and the other logistics he put in place, along with his own support to some extent, under condition that the strategy followed since 2005 must be continued.

Instead, mayor Ilie Bolojan has ignored the extraordinary results of the neutering program, and has decided to return to the old method of killing stray dogs, which is now illegal according to the current Romanian laws. From the number of 250 dogs, reached with great effort, we will go back to 5,000.

If in Oradea, which now has no problems with stray dogs, the mayor decides to resume killing, the mayors of cities where the stray dog population is large will be influenced to do the same.

The National Federation for Animal Protection has already registered an administrative appeal to the Oradea City Hall, and have brought this case to court, requesting that the resolution to kill dogs adopted by the local council be dismissed at once, and we are planning to start criminal lawsuits against the local counselors who voted for this decision.

—Carmen Arsene
Pitesti, Romania
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Palestinian project

In addition to our donkey sanctuary situated in Israel, established in 2000, Safe Haven for Donkeys in the Holy Land has for some years been offering free veterinary services to working donkeys, mules and horses owned by Palestinians through our mobile veterinary clinic.

In 2011, our founder Lucy Fensom and her team visited Nablus to run a farrier course for local donkey and horse owners. Lucy decided to return on a regular basis with the mobile clinic.

It became Lucy's dream to build a permanent clinic in Nablus, as she had already done in the Palestinian town of Qalqilya. A few weeks ago one of Safe Haven's supporters not only donated the funds to build the clinic, but also to fund it for the first year. Opened just over two weeks ago, the clinic is open 24 hours a day.

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shine. The Green Party in particular promotes financial support of small farms, as perceived to be opposite to industrial farming.

But when we look at dairy cows, who are just one gender and species of farmed animals, the truth of small farms is quite different from these illusions.

In Germany every third cow is tethered in the old-fashioned barn of a small farm with under 30 animals. These cows are fixed to the same place seven days a week, twelve months a year. They never see daylight or set foot in a green pasture. They have no freedom of movement: they can only lie down or stand up. They have inadequate stall lengths. Modern high-performance dairy breeds are too

Turkish neuter/return law jeopardized

The Turkish government is preparing to issue an amendment to our present national animal protection law, which since 2004 has obliged municipalities to neuter and return stray animals to their territories and clearly forbids release of animals outside of their cities. The amendment, already signed by Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and submitted to the parliament for approval, abandons neuter and return and states that all stray animals will be collected by municipalities to be neutered and kept in shelters until the shelters are too crowded, then to be released to “natural life parks,” which will be run by municipalities in areas allocated for this purpose by the forest ministry.

We don't believe that the mentality which keeps animals in death camps like the typical Turkish municipal shelter will be able to look after thousands of animals in what they call “natural life parks.” What they call natural parks will turn into dumps where dogs will

large for the old short stalls, so they have to stand or lie down on the grating above the drainage channels, which leads to foot and teat ailments. There is insufficient rest area for the numbers of large cows. They cannot all lie down at the same time. The cows have insufficient bedding. The majority of the cows stand on bare concrete, so standing and lying down is torture for the thin-skinned and weak-muscled cows. There is no calving box, so the cows give birth still tethered, which leads to severe physical and emotional pain. There are unsuitable drinking systems in the old small barns, so the high water requirements of a lactating cow are never met. She is always thirsty.

So-called traditional (small) farmers

either starve to death or kill each other.

In practice, under the 2004 law, the neutering was very slow and inefficient, and most of the neutered animals were returned not to their territories, but were dumped outside of their cities in forests and beside highways. Nevertheless, with the help of animal protection organizations, there was a noticeable change in awareness about stray animals, and an increase in tolerance toward them.

With this amendment, we will be back to square one. Please make your protest be heard by the Turkish government.

—Bilge Okay
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Editor's note:

The Romanian experience described by Carmen Arsene, the Turkish experience described by Bilge Okay, ongoing widespread resistance to the Indian national Animal Birth Control program even after more than 15 years of demonstrable success in many major cities, and continuing antipathy toward neuter/return feral cat control from birders and others here in the U.S. all demonstrate the same major shortcoming of the method.

Ecologically, neuter/return works, but the population reduction achieved through neuter/return often takes years to become evident. Often by the time a population drops, many of the people who want animals to be gone have forgotten what the numbers were. Instead of appreciating that the street dog or feral cat population is steeply reduced and continuing to decline, people who have an antipathy toward street dogs and/or feral cats agitate against the presence of any.

Culturally and politically, neuter/return is vulnerable to allegations of failure when street dogs and feral cats are still seen and continue to engage in “nuisance” behavior, which often becomes more evident than ever if the animals are fed at public sites, and are thereby encouraged to visibly congregate.

Neuter/return projects are frequently sabotaged and made to fail by advocates of traditional catch-and-kill. Among the common

strategies are killing the sterilized animals so that open habitat comes to attract animals from elsewhere; dumping unsterilized animals from other locations into neuter/return target areas; and using the methods employed by neuter/return practitioners to identify animals who been sterilized to covertly mark fertile animals, then alleging malfeasance on the part of the neuter/return practitioners.

Avoiding public feeding can help to prevent the conflicts that often build opposition to neuter/return. Also essential is doing intensive public education about how neuter/return works, and why, to build understanding and support for neuter/return programs before misunderstandings produce ill-informed resistance. Finally, as ANIMAL PEOPLE has pointed out ever since urging the use of neuter/return in appropriate situations in our very first edition 20 years ago, not every site where street dogs or feral cats exist is amenable to neuter/return. If the animals are a perceived risk to public health and safety, even if vaccinated against rabies, or present a frequent traffic hazard, or are a threat to wildlife, or are likely to be killed by neighbors, property owners, and/or public agencies, neuter/return will not succeed, and trying to force the use of it is likely to squander goodwill and resources, with no net benefit to the intended animal beneficiaries.

often lack professional competence to deal with their high-performance cows. And they show a gross lack of consideration for the basic needs of the animals in their care.

The German government and the EU grant these farmers full subsidies, despite the violations of the cross-compliance regulation required by law. That means this torture is financed by the German/European taxpayer. Since the small farmers can in no way compete with the big industrial dairy business, their income is based not on milk or meat sales, but comes mostly from subsidies. It is money easily earned and there is no real interest in the animals, whereas in older times cows on a small farm were more often than not treasured members of the household and their wellbeing was of much concern.

One could demonstrate a similar appalling state of affairs with pigs, calves, bulls, sheep and goats in other parts of Europe. As Erika Abrams put it: donors' money should not be spent on animal cruelty. I might add: neither should taxpayers' money.

—Christa Blanke
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Spindletop failure

There seems to have been a near complete lack of due diligence on the part of humane society leaders and rescue groups who had relationships with the Spindletop Refuge north of Houston, where 287 dogs, mostly pit bulls, were impounded due to alleged neglect in July 2012. Similar attitudes prevail throughout the entire humane community. Those of us who point out an obvious lack of care for sheltered animals to local inattentive boards (who show up for meetings once a month without even looking at the kennels), are met with derision and ostracism. In my humble opinion, the Spindletop case is a clarion call for an entire nation of (so-called) humane groups and rescuers to face the hard realities surrounding the care and keeping of all displaced companion animals, and take a hard look at the “feel good” myths that often result in great suffering for animals.

—Clova Abrahamson
Bartlesville, Oklahoma

Editor's note:

The Spindletop Refuge failure followed similar disasters at Tiger Ranch in Pennsylvania, the 10th Life Sanctuary, Caboodle Ranch, and Sanctuary Animal Refuge in Florida, and dozens of other “no-kill” facilities which have taken in far more animals than they could properly care for from conventional shelters, individual “rescuers,” and even national organizations eager to avoid killing homeless animals, but unwilling or unable to either fund quality lifetime care or look closely into what becomes of the animals they parcel out, many of whom later must be re-rescued—if they survive the conditions they endure after being “rescued” the first time.

Starving Animals to Death
Is this all a humane society like America can offer?

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

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

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South Korean activist sentenced

SEOUL—Coexistence of Animal Rights on Earth founder So-Youn Park was on August 30, 2012 sentenced to serve a year on probation for “special larceny,” an offense in South Korean law similar to violation of the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act in the U.S.

Park, said a CARE prepared statement, “witnessed five dogs and eight chickens miserably abandoned while walking by a farm. She visited the farm three times with other CARE animal rights activists, but they could not find any trace of food or the owner. They rescued the dogs and chickens from the cages on November 26, 2011. Days later, upon discovering the dogs and chickens were gone, the owner of the farm called the police. The farm owner admitted that the dogs were raised for slaughter and that the environment in which they were kept was inadequate,” CARE said, but this was not illegal and had no bearing on the charge against Park.

If Park performs any similar rescue within a year, she will be

jailed for six months, said Moonbears.org founder Gina Moon. “If she is found guilty of any similar pending cases,” Moon added, “the prison sentence will be extended.”

The verdict came after crackdowns by seven different agencies of the Seongnam city government on conditions at the Moran Market, the largest dog meat sales venue in South Korea, located just across a river from the national capital in Seoul. Coinciding with the traditional peak weeks for dog-eating, the crackdowns began on July 5, 2012. “While there are no legal provision to ban dog slaughter and sale, we can no longer sit idle and watch the city’s image being tarnished,” said a Seongnam mayoral spokesperson. The city moved to enforce regulations pertaining to noise, odor, pollution, and waste disposal, and ordered that dog cages—which form most of the dog meat market—be removed from the street and sidewalks. This would almost eliminate public display of dogs awaiting slaughter.

South Korea retreats from whaling plan

SEOUL—“Korea has decided to scrap its plan to resume whaling for scientific Research,” the *Korea Herald* reported on July 17, 2012, just 12 days after South Korean whaling commissioner Joon-Suk Kang announced the scheme to the 64th annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission meeting in Panama.

“Discussions between government ministries have been concluded in a way that effectively scraps the plan to allow whaling in coastal waters,” an unidentified senior South Korean official reportedly told the *Korea Herald* and the Yonhap news agency.

Cautioned Agence France-Press, “The Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries declined to confirm the report.”

Earlier, Agence France-Presse reported that the South Korean Ministry of Maritime Affairs had pledged to ban bottlenose dolphin captures for exhibition, in pending legislation which would also protect sea turtles and sea horses. The dolphin capture permitting process is to be amended to allow

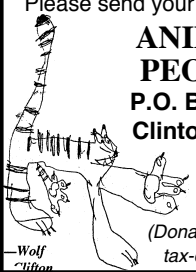
More events

- Nov. 13-14: **North American Primate Sanctuary Alliance Training Workshop**, Tampa. Info: <primatesanctuaries@gmail.com>.
- Nov. 16-18: **India for Animals** conf., Panjim, Goa. Info: <helen@fiapo.org>.
- 2013
- Feb. 24-26: **Animal Care Conf.**, Sacramento, Calif., co-sponsored by State Humane Assn. of Calif. & Calif. Vet. Med. Assn. Info: 1-800-655-2862; <www.animalcareconference.org>.
- September 1-5: **Pan-African Animal Welfare Assn.** conference, Nairobi. Info: c/o <jos@anaw.org>.

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Trial of calcium chloride to fix dogs succeeds in Nepal

YORK, U.K.—The First International Conference on Dog Population Management concluded in York, United Kingdom on September 8, 2012 with optimism that calcium chloride—which can be made for less than the cost of bottling it—may already be suitable for widespread chemosterilant for use in male dogs.

Recent advances came as a surprise to Parsemus Foundation medical research programs director Elaine Lissner, who has funded calcium chloride trials for several years. “At the November 2011 Animal Grant-makers meeting,” Lissner told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “we informed other funders about research on calcium chloride dihydrate nonsurgical male dog and cat sterilization, and showed how simple the sterilant is to make, mixing it right at the lunch table. The Greenbaum Foundation told grantees about it. But we heard no more about it until August 2012,” when the Greenbaum Foundation reported successful use of calcium chloride by an organization called DREAMS in the Kathmandu Valley of Nepal.

The Nepal deployment was “the first known large-scale field use” of calcium chloride as a chemosterilant, Lissner recounted, and the first to involve enough dogs to see if any side effects might develop in dogs at a rate of less than one in 100 treated. “The largest field use before that was in Kolkata, India,” Lissner said, and involved only 52 dogs, producing results not yet published.

DREAMS, short for Devoted Radical Environment Animal Movement Society, describes itself as a Kathmandu-based nonprofit society that “provides food, shelter and much needed medical treatment to stray animals. There is a large dog population inside and outside of the valley,” the DREAMS self-description continues. “The Kathmandu Metropolitan City does mass killing of strays.” DREAMS, along with several other nonprofit organizations, seeks to “control the dog population and save lives.”

DREAMS veterinarians Arjun Aryal and Awadesh Jha, with technician Kailash Thapa, injected

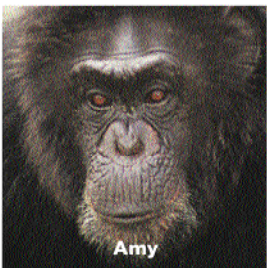
the testicals of 766 male dogs with a solution of calcium chloride dihydrate and the anesthetic Lidocaine as part of their spring 2012 anti-rabies vaccination and sterilization drive. The field trial included 324 street dogs, 301 pets, and 141 “community dogs,” who are fed regularly but are not associated with any one household. The DREAMS team conducted conventional surgical spays on 531 female dogs from the same neighborhoods.

“Follow-up was done only for the community and owned dogs,” Aryal and Jha reported, as re-capturing the street dogs for examination proved to be impractical. “Visits were done one, three and seven weeks after” the calcium chloride sterilizations. “No side effects were noticed except restlessness for few days,” Aryal and Jha said. “Some of the dogs had swollen testicles. No other pronounced complaints were found.”

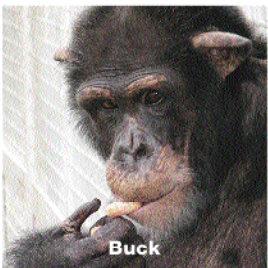
Several other researchers presented findings pertaining to calcium chloride at the York conference, including Italian veterinarian Raffaella Leoci, whose work affirms the use of Lidocaine with calcium chloride. Earlier research used alcohol as a local anesthetic instead of Lidocaine.

Of particular interest to Lissner was learning that because calcium chloride is already widely available for pharmaceutical use, it can be used as a chemosterilant for animals in much of the world without having to go through the multi-million-dollar process required to register it as a chemosterilant in the U.S.

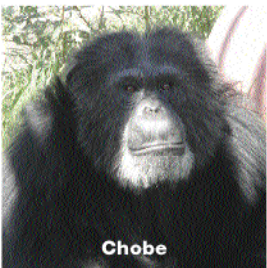
The potential use of calcium chloride as a chemosterilant for cattle was first noted by L.M. Kroger at the Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1977. Kroger did the first experimental trial in dogs in 1978. But 20 years elapsed before veterinarian P.K. Samanta began experimenting with calcium chloride in connection with street dog sterilization in Kolkata, India, in 1998. The Parsemus Foundation has funded follow-up studies in Kolkata, including extending the approach to sterilizing male cats. Studies of the use of calcium chloride to sterilize male cats are also underway in Turkey.



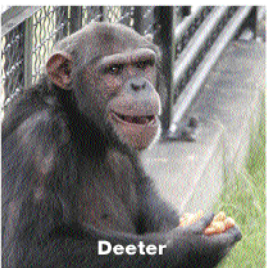
Amy



Buck



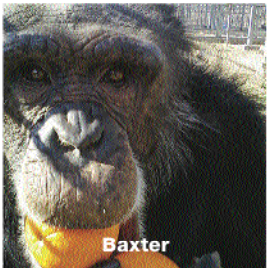
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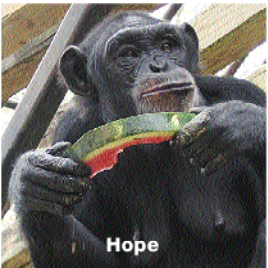
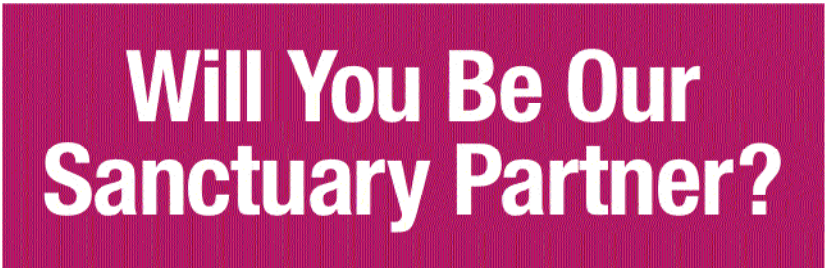
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Grace



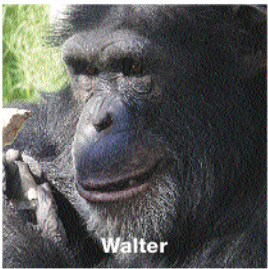
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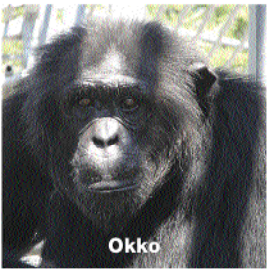
Hope



Jewel with Baby Grace



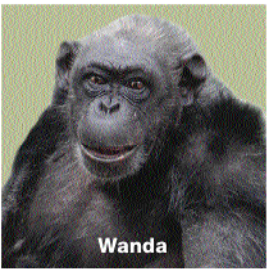
Walter



Okko



Mandy



Wanda

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70,000 Australian sheep stranded at sea by disease outbreak (from page 1)

ond laboratory confirmed that the animals were diseased,” at that point ostensibly with foot-and-mouth disease. The remains were bulldozed into a 15-foot-deep ditch.

“There is no option left in the public interest but to cull all of the animals,” said senior Sindh official Syed Abid Ali Shah.

But Pakistan does not usually cull livestock due to foot-and-mouth disease. Foot-and-mouth disease is endemic in Punjab, as exposed at length that very day in “FMD: a threat to the dairy industry!”, by veterinarians Khushi Muhammad, Farhat Nazir Awan, Akram Munir, and Athar Khan, published in *The Nation*, a leading daily newspaper. The vets estimated that perhaps 10% of the cattle in Pakistan are afflicted with foot-and-mouth.

Dawn reported that the *Ocean Drover* sheep were bought and landed in Pakistan by the PK Livestock and Meat Company in Razzaqabad, a Karachi suburb.

The *Ocean Drover* and *Al Shuwaikh* fiascoes followed many other incidents in which sheep and cattle shipped alive from Australia and New Zealand were stranded at sea after Middle Eastern ports rejected them. Thirteen live sheep and cattle shipments were kept from unloading in Saudi Arabia in 1990-1991. One ship, the *Mawashi Al-Gasseem*, spent four months at sea with a rejected load of sheep in 1990. About 5,500 sheep, out of a cargo of 57,000, died during 12 weeks at sea aboard the *Cormo Express* in 2003, after both Kuwait and Saudi Arabia refused to allow the ship to unload. The surviving sheep were

eventually donated to Eritrea.

Live sheep exports from Australia to Egypt were suspended for more than two years in 2005 after Lyn White of Animals Australia obtained video documenting abuse of the sheep in unloading, slaughter, and covert sales to buyers who hauled sheep home in the trunks of cars for amateur curbside slaughter during the annual Eid al Adha religious festival. Another Lyn White video exposé prompted Australian agriculture Minister Joe Ludwig to suspend livestock exports to Indonesia for 38 days in June and July 2011 due to concerns about cruelty in 11 Indonesian halal slaughterhouses.

Ludwig allowed exports to Indonesia to resume on condition that each animal be tracked to the point of slaughter. In October 2011 Ludwig extended the same rule to livestock exported to Egypt, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and Turkey.

But on August 30, 2012, with the *Ocean Drover* and *Al Shuwaikh* sagas underway, White videotaped about 200 Australian sheep being slaughtered at the al-Rai market in Kuwait City with knives that were too short to effect a quick kill. Sheep were piled atop each other while still alive.

“Finding Australian sheep in the al-Rai market is the equivalent of finding Australian cattle in the worst slaughterhouse in Indonesia,” White said. “That hundreds of Australian sheep were for sale there shows a blatant disregard by the exporter for their regulatory obligations.” —Merritt Clifton

Live exports from U.K. suspended after incident at ancient Ramsgate

LONDON—Livestock shipments from the United Kingdom were suspended on September 13, 2012, 24 hours after the Royal SPCA intercepted a truck in the port of Ramsgate in an incident resulting in the deaths of 45 sheep. The shipments were halted pending further investigation by Thanet District Council, the governing body for the part of Kent including Ramsgate. The authority of the council to intervene, along with the authority of the RSPCA to intervene, were among many aspects of the case contested by representatives of the livestock export industry.

“On September 7,” Thanet councilor Ian Driver told media, “we wrote to environment minister Owen Patterson expressing serious concerns about the shipments of live farm animals from Ramsgate and asking for permission to stop further exports. Five days later, these terrible events have shown our concerns to be fully justified.”

“The incident happened,” reported Oliver Mark of *Farmers Weekly*, “after the transporter, carrying more than 500 live sheep on four tiers, was declared unfit to travel on September 12. Two sheep, one of whom had a broken leg, had to be put down immediately.” The RSPCA later dispatched another 41 sheep.

“Two more sheep drowned,” Mark continued, “after the floor of the holding area collapsed. Four others were rescued from the water by RSPCA officers. Checks by the RSPCA, the Animal Health & Veterinary Laboratories Agency and the police revealed the transporter to have a broken ramp and partition gates not fitted properly. The sheep also had no access to an on-board water source.”

The Thanet council wrote to minister Patterson after 600 sheep spent 24 hours on a truck with a ruptured tire because there were no local facilities where they could be off-loaded, fed, and watered. If the live exports could not be stopped, councilor Clive Hart

requested, resting pens for livestock in transit should be built immediately, and RSPCA inspection authority should be broadened.

“Since May,” explained Lizzie Davies of *The Guardian*, “Ramsgate has been the only port in the U.K. through which live animals are exported. More than 76,000 of them, mostly sheep and calves, passed through last year on their way to continental Europe.” The RSPCA began inspecting the shipments in April 2012.

Protest

“Every time there is a sailing, there is also a protest,” Davies noted. Similar protests erupted often between 15 and 20 years ago, when British livestock exports peaked, becoming particularly confrontational after demonstrator Jill Phipps, 31, was crushed by a livestock truck in February 1995. By then, polls indicated, about 75% of British voters opposed live exports.

“Then came the lull caused by mad cow disease,” Davies recalled, “and the trade largely dried up. In 2010, however, a former Soviet tank carrier called the *Joline* started taking live animals from Dover and, in May 2011, moved its business to Ramsgate.”

The *Joline* takes about four hours to cross the English Channel, twice as long as commercial ferries, which have refused to take livestock. Upon arrival on the mainland, the British livestock are reportedly trucked for as long as 11 hours to reach their destinations. The European Union is considering limiting livestock transport time to eight hours, which might stop most of the U.K. live export trade.

Meanwhile, the Thanet council tried in 2011 to prevent livestock exports from Ramsgate, deputy council leader Alan Poole told Davies, but the council was advised that the 1847 Harbours Act required them to allow the *Joline* to land and load.



Farmers in Punjab, Pakistan try to evacuate cattle from usually arid pastures ahead of September 2012 flooding. (Khalid Mahmood Qurashi/Animal Save Movement)

Floods again hit overgrazed Pakistan

MULTAN—Animal Save Movement Pakistan president Khalid Mahmood Qurashi on September 21, 2012 appealed to the world for help on behalf of animals and humans displaced by the second round of catastrophic monsoon flooding to hit Punjab, Sindh, and Balochistan in only three years.

At least 217 people were killed, with 222,500 displaced, according to the international disaster response resource ReliefWeb. No animal toll was available.

The 2010 flooding killed more than 2,000 people and displaced 21 million, with a toll of 1.2 million mammals and six million poultry killed and as many as 30 million animals displaced, according to the Pakistan Department of Livestock.

If the animal losses in 2012 were proportionate, about 120,000 mammals and 600,000 poultry lost their lives.

The Pakistani government in 2012 “absolutely failed to help either animals or

people,” Qurashi alleged. The flood crested in the upper Indus region as rioting broke out downstream over an allegedly blasphemous depiction of Islam in an amateur film made by an Egyptian immigrant in California, but flashfloods along Indus tributaries had begun a month earlier.

The echo of the 2010 disaster underscored the inability of the arid and usually overgrazed upper Indus region to absorb the combination of intensifying monsoons with runoff from melting Himalayan glaciers, discussed in detail in the July/August 2010 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial feature “How expanding animal agriculture swamped Pakistan.” The repeated animal losses showed the futility of efforts by livestock gift charities, the Pakistani government, and even the World Society for the Protection of Animals to rebuild herds and flocks after the 2010 crisis, pointed out the September 2010 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editorial.

“It is diabolical that this dire trade has gone on for so long,” said Royal SPCA chief executive Gavin Grant. “If meat needs to go to the Continent, it should be on the hook, not on the hoof,” Grant added, suggesting that the sheep were en route “to an unknown fate that may well have been illegal here.”

Though Grant hinted that the sheep might have been going to Middle Eastern and African nations where slaughter is not done by European Union rules, an account by British Wool Marketing Board chair Frank Langrish posted to *Farming Forum* said that “Most of the sheep have been travelling to abattoirs and finishing units in Belgium and Holland. More recently shipments of store lambs have been going to France. The shipment where the problem occurred originated in Northamptonshire,” Langrish said. The sheep were loaded aboard a truck “certified for cross-border over-eight-hour transport,” but Langrish noted that the containers used “are not ideal for sheep.”

Langrish contended that the sheep were unloaded for inspection contrary to the applicable regulations, since “There are no local lairages [livestock resting areas] due to the efforts of the animal rights lobby. The sheep were unloaded between two buildings,” Langrish said, “and a temporary blockade was made using whatever barriers could be found. The surface of the area was loose gravel. At the back of this temporary corral was a storm drain with a loose manhole cover. Six lambs fell in and two subsequently drowned.”

Langrish argued that the loose pebbled surface of the inspection area called into

question the RSPCA finding that 41 sheep were lame, beyond the two who were found injured and euthanized earlier. “If they were genuinely lame,” Langrish said, “then they should never have been loaded on the lorry. If there was a fault here it needs to be thoroughly prosecuted,” Langrish said. “Apparently at this point the French lorry drivers were arrested for loading unfit animals.

“After a number of hours of indecision by the authorities,” Langrish continued, “and after another lorry had been requested to take the alleged lame lambs to be slaughtered at the nearest abattoir, this was vetoed and a decision made to slaughter them at the port with no facilities.

“What is puzzling about what occurred next,” Langrish charged, “are the lurid photographs of the dead sheep covered in blood that appeared in the media. If these were correctly slaughtered using a captive bolt gun,” Langrish alleged, “there would not have been blood everywhere. The remaining sheep were eventually reloaded on another lorry,” Langrish finished, “and were returned to the farm of origin.”

Ramsgate, among the most ancient ports along the British coast, was the British landing point for the Jute mercenaries Hengest and Horsa in the 5th century C.E., who introduced Anglo-Saxon rule to Britain, and for St. Augustine of Canterbury in the 6th century, whose arrival established the Christian Era. Originally called “Raven’s Gate,” it became known as Ramsgate, associated with the sheep trade, circa 1225 C.E. —Merritt Clifton

YES! I'M AN ANIMAL PERSON!

—Wolf Clifton

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Where is the Leaping Bunny going? Chinese testing rules challenge logo

enter the Chinese cosmetics and personal care products market. The 1.3 billion Chinese people, nearly 20% of the world's population, spent 18% more on cosmetics and personal care products in 2011 than in 2010. Chinese sales of \$16 billion already account for about 12% of the global cosmetics and personal care product volume, and are expected to keep rising to perhaps twice the present volume within five to 10 years. Manufacturers hoping to keep global market share can scarcely afford to stay out of China.

Chinese standards

But China meanwhile is struggling to introduce and enforce consumer product safety standards to an economy growing faster than regulatory capacity. The world became aware of the magnitude of the problem in 2007, when Chinese-made pet food ingredients were found to have been spiked with the coal byproduct melamine to fool the tests used by U.S. and Canadian pet food manufacturers to determine protein content. Embarrassed by the scandal, which according to the Banfield veterinary hospital chain killed as many as 7,000 pets in the U.S. alone, the Beijing government sentenced former State Food & Drug Administration chief Zheng Xiaoyu to death for taking bribes and dereliction of duty, while heading the agency from 1998 to 2005, and disciplined many other officials.

"The department in charge of inspecting export products said it had instructed its offices across China to increase inspections and supervision," reported Daniel Martin, Beijing correspondent for Agence France-Presse. "Separately, China's State Council, or cabinet, announced it had ordered more inspections of all plant and aquaculture products, and increased control of pesticides, chemical fertilizers, drugs, and animal feed. It also called for better systems of official responsibility over food safety, and for monitoring the movement of food products."

Despite the crack-down, more pet deaths have been linked to Chinese-made pet food ingredients, prompting U.S. Food & Drug Administration warnings about chicken jerky treats in 2007, 2008, 2011, and 2012. Within China, adulterated milk has killed at least nine children and caused more than 300,000 to suffer from kidney disease. Fake rabies vaccines have caused at least three human deaths and killed many dogs. In August 2011 China was found to be the origin of "stamina booster" pills sold in South Korea that were allegedly made from aborted human fetuses.

Imposing an animal testing requirement is part of the Chinese effort to bring consumer product standards up to global norms. But, applied to cosmetics and personal care products, the Chinese requirement is long obsolete. Avon and Revlon began phasing out animal testing in 1980. Procter & Gamble—one of only two companies that still sell more cosmetics and personal care products worldwide than the volume that China buys—began by far the largest program to develop alternatives to animal testing in 1984. Avon, now the fifth largest maker of cosmetics and personal care products in the world, achieved zero animal testing in 1989, as did Mary Kay, the 16th largest manufacturer. Estee Lauder, the fourth largest, quit animal testing in 1990. As other major manufacturers followed, the EU in 2009 banned animal use in cosmetics testing, except in some long-running studies which must end by 2013.

The French cosmetic firm L'Oreal, the second biggest player in the industry, announced in March 2012 a partnership with the U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency "that, if everything goes according to plan, could eventually make testing cosmetics on animals obsolete," reported Will Kane and Stephanie Baer of the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Funding of \$1.2 million from L'Oreal "will allow the EPA to continue to calibrate a computer model that tests how toxic certain chemicals are," Kane and Baer continued, paraphrasing David Dix, deputy director of the National Center for Computational Toxicology.

"Using state-of-the art methods," said EPA regional administrator Jared Blumenfeld, "we hope to show that products can be proven safe for the consumer without the use of animals."

Explained Kane and Baer, "The system, called ToxCast, uses complex mathematical algorithms and computer testing to determine if a particular product could cause harm to humans. But researchers must use earlier results of animal testing to confirm that the computer-aided testing is accurate," said EPA spokesperson Monica Linnenbrink. L'Oreal has agreed to provide the EPA with results of animal testing for 20 chemicals that can be used by EPA scientists to calibrate their animal-free method."

Said L'Oreal scientific communication director Patricia Pineau, "We have a set of data from years of annual tests."

But while progress continued toward eliminating the last uses of animal testing by the cosmetics and personal care product industry, Avon and Mary Kay both surrendered Leaping Bunny certification in fall 2011. PETA also removed Estee Lauder from its list

of cruelty-free companies.

Responded Mary Kay director of corporate communications, "We do not conduct animal testing on our products or ingredients, nor ask others to do so on our behalf, except when absolutely required by law. There is only one country where we operate where that is the case—China. We are working very closely with the Chinese government to demonstrate that alternative testing methods ensure safe and effective products."

Estee Lauder, Mary Kay, and several other cosmetics and personal care product makers in April 2011 delivered three presentations to the Chinese State Food & Drug Administration and other regulatory agencies "to demonstrate and promote alternatives to animal experimentation," according to Scripps Howard News Service reporter Lee Bowman.

"The Institute for In Vitro Sciences, of Gaithersburg, Maryland," with financial support from Avon, Mary Kay, and PETA, "in January 2012 announced it was stepping up its international outreach and education program to drive regulatory change in those countries that still require animal testing for cosmetic and personal-care products," continued Bowman. "And it hired Brian Jones, who had been head of developing animal alternatives at Mary Kay and has made frequent trips to China, to lead the initiative."

The effort brought some results. Announced PETA on May 8, 2012, "Chinese officials are in the final stages of approving the use of the country's very first non-animal test method for cosmetics ingredients. The 3T3 Neutral Red Uptake Phototoxicity Assay,

which tests chemicals for their potential toxicity when they come into contact with sunlight and is already in wide use in the U.S. and the European Union, is scheduled to be accepted in China by late summer."

Meanwhile, reported Suzannah Hills of the *Daily Mail*, "Following discussion with L'Occitane, its Leaping Bunny certification was retracted in mid-December 2011.

"Some companies wish to bring ethical beauty to China," said Thew. "However, this is not currently possible until China changes its current policy which requires animal testing. I am disappointed that certain companies have fallen prey to the lure of the Chinese market and are letting animals pay the price," Thew continued. "Consumer pressure can make a difference. We certify over 400 companies around the world that refuse to allow animal testing into their products," Thew reminded, "so there is plenty of choice for everyone who wishes to eliminate this cruel, unnecessary and outdated practice."

Not every major cosmetics and personal care products maker has chosen the Chinese market over the Leaping Bunny.

"Hair-care giant John Paul Mitchell Systems pulled out of China after being informed that the company would have to pay for animal tests in order to continue selling its products there," recalled Hills. "Chief executive Paul Mitchell and co-founder John Paul DeJoria put sales in China on hold last year and confirmed they will not sell products in that country in order to remain committed to the company's cruelty-free policy."

—Merritt Clifton



Photo by Janis Carter

More than 30 years ago, a unique island refuge was established in the Gambia, West Africa for orphaned, wild-caught chimpanzees rescued from the pet trade and other exploitative industries.

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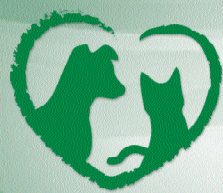
the Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Project (CRP) in Gambia.

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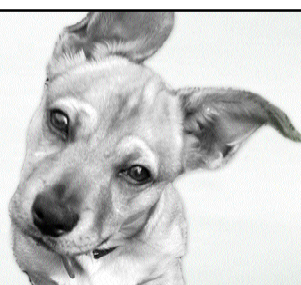
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Mercy for Animals exposes California slaughterhouse

HANFORD, Calif.—The Central Valley Meat Company in Hanford, California, specializing in slaughtering “retired” dairy cows, reopened on August 27, 2012, just seven days after it was closed by the USDA Office of Inspector General, in response to abuses documented in June 2012 by a Mercy for Animals undercover operative.

Central Valley Meat reportedly supplied 20% to 30% of the beef used by the In-N-Out Burger chain, which cancelled purchasing from the slaughterhouse. The USDS school lunch program and McDonald’s Corp. suspended purchases during the week-long closure.

The Mercy for Animals video showed “workers pulling downed cows by their tails and kicking them in an apparent attempt to get them to stand and walk to slaughter,” described Associated Press farm writer Tracie Cone. “Others shot downed cows in the head over and over as the cows thrashed on the ground. In one instance, the video shows workers trying to get cattle to back out of a chute while repeatedly spraying them with water and shocking them. One worker

appears to be suffocating a cow by standing on her muzzle,” after a captive bolt gun failure. The case is reminiscent,” Cone wrote, “of a 2008 undercover operation by the Humane Society of the U.S. at the Hallmark slaughter plant in Chino, California.” That investigation led to the largest-ever beef recall, and to the conviction of Hallmark staff for cruelty including prodding downed cows with a fork lift.

Colorado State University livestock handling and slaughter consultant Temple Grandin said the thrashing by cows after they were shot with the captive bolt gun was “normal,” and said it “occurs because the brain is no longer in control.” But Grandin added that she “did observe some overly aggressive and unacceptable use of electric prods with non-ambulatory cattle.” Electric prods, Grandin said, “must be used sparingly and never in the face or other sensitive areas.”

Both Grandin and former U.S. undersecretary of agriculture for food safety Richard Raymond called the Central Valley Meat Company case an example of why slaughterhouses should install and monitor their closed-circuit video cameras to

Former Butterball employee Brian Douglas, one of five people shown abusing turkeys seen in undercover video footage obtained by **Mercy For Animals** in late 2011, pleaded guilty felonious cruelty to animals in Hoke County Superior Court in Raeford, North Carolina on August 28, 2012. Douglas was sentenced to serve 30 days in jail followed by six months of probation and 36 months of supervised probation, to pay \$550 in fines, and to provide a DNA sample to the state. “Cases against the four other people charged are pending,” reported *Fayetteville Observer* staff writer Caitlin Dineen.

ensure that staff follow proper procedures.

“Plants dealing with old culled dairy cows will be targeted forever,” Raymond said. “Owners of these facilities should be required to provide 24/7 coverage and oversight.” Also, Raymond said, “Dairy men need to do a better job of determining which cattle can make the final trip and remain ambulatory. As long as nearly one out of every 200 dairy cows are condemned at antemortem inspection, we are sending the activists way too many opportunities for footage.”

Walking horse shows are watched more closely than some would like (from page 1)

ural gait,” Pacelle said. “But seeing those animals only accentuated for us how bizarre it is to see horses with four-inch stacks and heavy chains on their feet, prancing into the show arena, raising their front legs high and unnaturally shifting their weight to their back legs. Attendance seemed way down,” Pacelle added. “In a 25,000-seat arena, there were perhaps only 5,000 people.”

“Attendance numbers were not at the levels they once were,” admitted National Celebration publicist Jennifer Baker, “the overall attendance of 165,000 was better than expected, and weekend attendance increased 7% over last year. In 2012 there were 2,080 entries and in 2011, 2,198.”

“Purple Strategies”

The walking horse industry organization SHOW Inc., whose acronym stands for “Sound horses, Honest Judging, Objective Inspections, Winning Fairly,” hired the Washington, D.C.-based Purple Strategies, including spokesperson Baker, as part of an effort “intended to divert attention from recent revelations about abusive practices in the multimillion-dollar walking horse industry,” reported Bobby Allyn of the *Nashville Tennessean*. “Purple Strategies has devised public relations campaigns for clients such as McDonald’s, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and BP after the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010,” Allyn continued.

Purple Strategies managing director Stephen B. Smith Jr., “comes from a long generation of horse riders and breeders in Tennessee. His father, of the same name, was once president of the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders’ and Exhibitors’ Association. His grandfather Reese was a noted horse breeder,” Allyn noted.

Even before Purple Strategies entered the arena, HSUS had encountered considerable resistance in Shelbyville, home

of the National Celebration. The National Celebration claims to bring \$41 million a year into Shelbyville. HSUS “has tried to publish editorial columns and paid advertisements in Shelbyville’s local paper, the *Times-Gazette*, but the columns and the ads have been refused. Sadie Fowler, the *Times-Gazette* editor, formerly worked for the *Walking Horse Report*, an industry newspaper,” Allyn revealed.

Self-inspection

During and just after the 2012 National Celebration, Baker of Purple Strategies issued frequent media releases detailing the findings of SHOW’s own horse inspections. “Of 2,293 inspections,” Baker summarized, “SHOW found 43 sensitivity/scar violations and another 13 technical violations unrelated to a horse being deemed sore,” amounting to “a 98.1% compliance rate with the Horse Protection Act, significantly better than the 93.6% achieved last year.”

Trainers Scott Beaty and Brad Davis, after failing inspection on August 29, 2012, received two-week suspensions from exhibiting horses and lost ribbons, trophies, and prize money. While touting the Beaty and Davis suspensions as demonstrating the success of walking horse industry self-policing, Baker and other National Celebration spokespersons accused the USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service of uneven and unfair Horse Welfare Act enforcement.

SHOW president Stephen Mullins objected that USDA inspectors cited five times as many horses for violations in the first six days of the 2012 National Celebration as were cited in 2011 during the entire event.

“In my opinion, the USDA is wrongly disqualifying sound horses,” said Tennessee Walking Show Horse Organization representative Jane Lynch Crain.

Countered an American Veterinary Medical Association media release, “Congruence between violation rates for 2011 (9.5%) and 2012 (9.0%) suggests the USDA’s approach to enforcement is consistent. Consistency among results provides further evidence that abuse within the Walking Horse industry is a systemic problem.”

HSUS meanwhile upstaged the climactic final days of the National Celebration by releasing a video in which convicted horse-soring trainer Barney Davis, 39, of Lewiston, Tennessee, alleged that “The only way to win at the Celebration is to sore.”

Baker and National Celebration officials countered that Davis “was a spotted saddle horse trainer,” not a walking horse trainer, reported Pam Sohn of the *Chattanooga Times Free Press*. But, noted Sohn, “Both breeds are walking and gaited horses, trained to make the ‘big lick’ in the same way.”

Baker also alleged that HSUS “allowed horse abuse to continue for 11 months,” after videotaping McConnell striking horses, “in order to fuel their fundraising and public relations machines.”

Dane of HSUS explained to Sohn that the McConnell video, made in spring 2011, was promptly presented to federal authorities. “Prosecutors asked HSUS not to release the video while they shaped a case,” Sohn summarized. “After McConnell pleaded

guilty, a portion of the video was released.”

The 2012 National Celebration was held after months of skirmishing between SHOW and the USDA over inspection rules and authority. The Horse Protection Act allows horse industry organizations to license Designated Qualified Persons to do inspections at shows for Act compliance, in lieu of inspection by USDA-APHIS staff.

USDA-APHIS since June 2012 has required Designated Qualified Persons to assess minimum penalties for violations of the Horse Protection Act, instead of merely giving warnings, but five of the 12 organizations that use Designated Qualified Persons, represented by SHOW, contend in a federal lawsuit that, according to a SHOW media release, “The new rule attempts to force private organizations to impose federal mandatory suspension penalties...with no regard for the accused individual’s constitutional rights.”

Updating the law

The conflict over the USDA-APHIS inspection rules was preliminary to what may become years of lobbying over proposed amendments to the Horse Protection Act introduced as HR 6388 on September 13, 2012 by U.S. Representatives Steve Cohen (D-Tennessee) and Ed Whitfield (R-Kentucky), whose wife, former Assistant Secretary of the Interior Constance Harriman-Whitfield, is now Senior Advisor for Presidential Initiatives for HSUS. While HR 6388 is unlikely to advance far in the present Congress, now adjourned until after the November 2012 national election, but it or a similar bill is almost certain to be introduced into the next Congress.

According to Humane Society Legislative Fund president Mike Markarian, “The legislation would eliminate the industry-run inspection system, in which horse industry organizations choose who conducts inspections at horse shows, and instead would have USDA develop a roster of licensed inspectors, train them, assign them to shows, and oversee enforcement. It would explicitly ban certain devices used in soring, including chains designed to cause friction or strike a horse’s sore leg, and weighted shoes and pads attached in such a way as to painfully alter the horse’s gait. The bill would make the actual soring of a horse for the purpose of showing or selling the horse illegal, as well as the act of directing another to sore a horse for these purposes. And it would increase the criminal penalty from a misdemeanor to a felony,” punishable by up to three years in jail, with fines of up to \$5,000 per violation. A third violation could bring “permanent disqualification from participating in any horse show, exhibition, sale or auction,” Markarian said.

“The current practice of essentially allowing the industry to police itself has failed miserably,” Markarian charged, noting that “USDA swab tests on 52 random horses at the 2011 Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration resulted in 52 positive findings for prohibited foreign substances.”

Countered Baker, “The USDA has punished 52 trainers in the last 42 years. In the last three years alone, SHOW [members’ inspectors] suspended 152 trainers for an entire

year. We do have a problem however with legislation that will eliminate inspectors, be they from the industry or the USDA.

“Each horse industry organization [with inspection authority] is [already] certified by the USDA,” Baker continued. “Each organization is required to submit a handbook to the USDA that details their inspection process, rules, and how they properly administer Horse Protection Act guidelines. The USDA approves the handbook every year as a requirement for re-certification. Designated Qualified Persons [inspectors] are trained by USDA-certified horse industry organization personnel. The training is attended and observed by the USDA. USDA personnel are part of the training process. The initial training is 16 hours. Designated Qualified Persons are required to take continuing education/training classes each year to be re-certified.”

“Currently,” Baker said, horse industry organization inspectors “inspect every horse participating” in a show. “Under the proposed change, horse shows would voluntarily request inspectors from the USDA. If they don’t request inspectors to be assigned, there will be no inspections unless the USDA makes a surprise visit. The result is that fewer horses will be inspected, and there will be less enforcement of the Horse Protection Act.”

Baker contended that “There is no scientific or other evidence that action devices or pads hurt a horse,” but acknowledged that, “There is no doubt that soring hurts horses.”

Industry digs in

Conflict between the walking horse industry and horse advocates is likely to intensify. The National Celebration in July 2012 hired Mike Inman, of Bessemer, Alabama, to succeed former chief executive Doyle Meadows at the conclusion of the 2012 Celebration. This produced “an audible gasp from those seeking to reform the badly-battered Shelbyville-based industry,” wrote Chantanoogan.com daily opinion writer Roy Exum. Previously sports editor at the *Chattanooga News-Free Press* for 36 years, Exum has observed the evolution of the modern day big money walking horse industry for longer and at closer range than almost anyone else who is not personally involved in it.

“USDA records reveal that Inman and his wife have been cited for violating the federal Horse Protection Act four times,” Exum continued. “Sources say the three trainers they prefer all have recent histories of violating the Horse Protection Act. Steve Dunn, a Hall of Fame inductee, has had at least eight violations, the most recent resulting in an eight-month suspension in 2011, while Justin Harris, the Trainer of the Year in 2009, has had nine violations in the past, including one earlier this year. The other is Brandye Mills, who has had eight previous violations.

“Ironically,” Exum observed, “Inman’s appointment comes at a time when there has never been as determined a grass-roots effort to rid the walking horse industry of the corruption, cheating and abuse that has plagued it for the past 50 years. Inman’s appointment appears to defy efforts to rid the rogues from the walking horse industry.”

—Merri Clifton



Convicted abusive walking horse trainer Jackie McConnell, Humane Society of the U.S. president Wayne Pacelle, and HSUS director of equine protection Keith Dane were named as persona non grata on flyers resembling “wanted” posters that were taped to trash cans at the 2012 Tennessee National Walking Horse Celebration. Pacelle himself snapped this photo and e-mailed it to ANIMAL PEOPLE.



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Bullfights back on Spanish state TV *(from page 1)*

bullfights when facing protests, hoping that potential demonstrators would stay home to watch instead of taking to the streets.

RTVE continued to air pre-taped highlights of bullfights late at night until 2009, but bullfighting enthusiasts were not placated. On September 13, 2007 participants in the Toro de la Vega bull chase at Tordesillas, Castilla y León, in northern Spain turned on a female RTVE reporter, beating her during a live broadcast. A male videographer documented the attack until the mob destroyed his camera. The chase ended when the participants, many on horseback, caught and speared the bull to death.

Reputedly held annually since 1453, the 2012 Toro de la Vega was held on September 11. "Scores of animal rights activists gathered at the bull pen to try to prevent the bull's release," Agence France Press reported. "Protesters gathered in central Madrid, and about 500 animal rights activists protested in Tordesillas ahead of the tournament. Animal rights group Partido Animalista Contra el Maltrato Animal en España said it would file a criminal complaint against the organizers," Agence France Press added.

Said Reyes Montiel, cofounder of the environmental political party Fundacion Equo, "The Toro de la Vega is one of the cruellest bullfighting festivals in Spain, where they kill the bull with sticks, knives and lances. It is a spectacle that Equo believes cannot be justified by tradition. Spanish society has developed, and we should eliminate customs that are no longer appropriate in the 21st century."

About 60% of the respondents to a 2010 poll commissioned by the Madrid daily newspaper *El Pais* opposed bullfighting, abolished in the Canary Islands in 1991 and in Catalan in 2010, with a phase-out ending in January 2012. The Spanish Senate in October 2010 defeated a Popular Party motion to ask the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to protect bullfighting as part of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, by a vote of 129-117. Now that the Popular Party has the parliamentary majority, the motion is likely to be reintroduced.

The return of live bullfights to RTVE may

mean relatively little in terms of total broadcast exposure, since RTVE even before 2007 aired only about one bullfight per month. Pay TV channels and regional government stations air dozens. But the RTVE bullfights, while drawing poor ratings compared to other RTVE programs, are believed to have reached a wider audience than those aired by other media.

Hindu protest

The RTVE resumption of live bullfight broadcasts drew protest from animal advocates around the world, including Rajan Zed, president of the Nevada-based Universal Society of Hindusim.

"We in India probably have the disrepute of torturing Shiva's vahana the most," responded Animal Welfare Board of India member and longtime Blue Cross of India patron Chinny Krishna, citing common village fair events including jallikattu, dhiro, manja viratu, bullock cart racing, and races in which a bull and a horse are tied together to race in pairs.

"The bulls may not be killed, but the terror they undergo is the same," Krishna said. "These events are not just immoral and plain wrong—they are illegal. And yet rogue states like Kerala have officials who give 'permission' to hold such events and government ministers who attend and preside over them. Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Sikhs participate. Probably the only religious group that does not are the Jains."

Krishna asked Rajan to help pressure India to enforce the laws against bull torture, including a ban on the use of bulls as performing animals issued by former minister of environment and forests Jairam Ramesh in January 2012.

But bullfighting opponents met another setback on September 21, 2012 when the Constitutional Council of France ruled that bullfighting "does not harm people's protected constitutional rights," and cannot be categorized as cruelty to animals.

About 1,000 bullfights per year are held in southern France, especially in Nîmes and Arles. Public opinion polls have shown that from 48% to 67% of French voters would support a ban on bullfighting, BBC Paris correspondent Christian Fraser reported.

Hen welfare updates

Los Angeles U.S. District Court Judge John F. Walter on September 12, 2012 dismissed a case brought by the **California Association of Egg Farmers** which sought to overturn the hen housing requirements of Proposition Two, passed by voters in November 2008, as unconstitutionally vague. The focal question, Walter found, was whether Proposition Two required California egg farms to be cage-free. "There is nothing in the language of Proposition Two that requires California egg farms to be cage-free," Walter concluded. "The statute is clear that, provided the cage does not prevent the egg-laying hen from lying down, standing up, fully extending her limbs and wings without touching the side of the cage or other egg-laying hens, or turning in a complete circle without any impediment and without touching the side of the cage, the use of such a cage would not violate Proposition Two." Walter added that the answer to the question of how much space this actually requires "is certainly not a mystery and is capable of easy determination by egg farmers."

The Belgian newspaper *De Standaard* reported on September 5, 2012 that almost all Belgian egg producers had reached compliance—often weeks late—with a **European Union** requirement that they must switch from battery caging to use of larger colony cages. The EU rule took effect at the start of 2012, but the Belgian **Federal Animal Welfare Authority** extended the transition period to July 31, 2012.

The Socioeconomic Cabinet of Israel, chaired by finance minister **Yuval Steinitz** and also including the ministers for agriculture and the environment, on August 1, 2012 announced that Israeli egg farmers must move toward meeting the European Union hen caging standards, the *Jerusalem Post* reported, with a seven-year phase-in interval allowed from January 1, 2013, and may no longer starve hens to induce "forced molts," bringing a renewed egg-laying cycle.

Bhutan, a Himalayan Buddhist nation of fewer than 750,000 people, 60% of whom work in agriculture, on August 5, 2012 ordered that hens may not be caged. The **Animal Welfare Board of Arunchal Pradesh**, India, a state bordering Bhutan, on June 18, 2012 ordered that hens may no longer be kept either in battery cages or locally made small baskets, used by some villagers in lieu of battery caging.

Farmers in Jalisco state, Mexico, killed 22.3 million birds, mostly hens, and vaccinated 140 million more between June and August 2012 to contain an outbreak of AH7N3 avian flu, the **National Food Health Safety, & Quality Service** disclosed on September 12, 2012. The AH7N3 avian flu variant is not transmissible to humans. The National Food Health Safety, & Quality Service did not comment on the probable role in spreading AH7N3 of cockfighters transporting birds. Cockfighters have been extensively implicated in Asian avian flu outbreaks and in outbreaks of Newcastle disease, a fungal infection of poultry, in the United States.

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New horse slaughter regs in N.J. and European Union

TRENTON, BRUSSELS, OTTAWA—New Jersey Governor Chris Christie on September 21, 2012 signed into law a bill introduced by state legislators Ronald Dancer and Raymond Lesniak which prohibits the sale of horse meat, slaughter of horses for human consumption, and sale and transport of horses for human consumption.

Difficult to enforce if horses are sold or transported on other pretexts, the New Jersey law attempts to cut what an American SPCA media statement called "a major artery for the transport of horses to slaughterhouses in Canada," since horses from southern states sold to Canada for slaughter are usually trucked through New Jersey.

Passage of the New Jersey law followed by about two months the publication of new European Union meat import regulations, to take effect in 2013. "All horses and burros destined for slaughter and export to Europe must have a passport that shows they are free from substances such as phenylbutazone and clenbuterol," explained *Horseback* publisher Steven Long.

"Almost all U.S. horses have been administered a dose of bute during their lifetime," Long wrote, suggesting that "The market

for American horse meat just dwindled to almost nothing."

"No horse owner keeps a record of every treatment throughout the life of a horse," responded livestock transport expert Tim Harris, of Dorval, Quebec, "and even if they did, would they record the use of bute if it was going to jeopardize the eventual sale of the horse?"

Anticipating the new EU rule, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency has required since July 2010 that all U.S. equines sent to be slaughtered in Canada plants must be accompanied by paperwork called an Equine Identification Document. The EID is a multi-page written and visual description of each horse, including declarations about any medications and vaccines given to the horse during the preceding six months. If horses have received medications or vaccines on a warning list, they are required to go through six months of withdrawal before slaughter.

The volume of U.S. horses slaughtered in Canada rose from about 50,000 in 2006, before the last U.S. horse slaughterhouses closed in 2007, to about 113,000 in 2008, but dropped to 94,000 in 2009. Only 89,348 horses were slaughtered in Canada in 2011,

including those of Canadian origin. Not clear is whether the decrease was due to the effect of the new regulations, the general decline of the U.S. horse industry during the recession that began in 2008, or because more horses are being exported to Mexico for slaughter instead.

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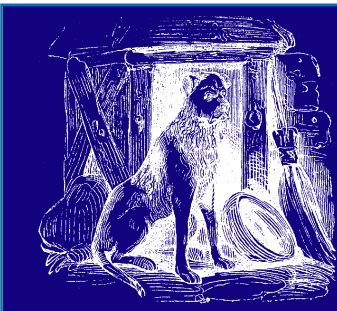
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ASPCA, PetSmart Charities, and IFAW change chief executives

American SPCA president **Ed Sayres**, 63, on July 25, 2012, announced his retirement, pending selection of a successor. “I am going to take a breath and assimilate the lessons of the past 10 years,” Sayres told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “The A has been a great fit for me. I realized I could implement the no kill vision more effectively through the ASPCA than **San Francisco SPCA**,” where Sayres was president 1999-2003, “and [Mayor’s Alliance executive director] **Jane Hoffman** has been an outstanding partner in transforming New York City. Now with Community Partners,” the ASPCA national outreach program, “we have created many different and transparent examples of how to sustain life saving efforts. We have been fortunate to recruit some of the best in the field, and I am leaving a very strong organization for the next leader.

“I may want to go back to a leadership position,” Sayres said, “but for the near term I want to take a fresh look at the issues and think about where I can add value. Of course I will be available to help Willie Mays organize his memorabilia the moment he calls!”

ASPCA board chair **Tim F. Wray** noted that, “Under Ed’s leadership,” “the ASPCA membership base has tripled to more than 1.2 million and our revenues have quadrupled to \$148 million in 2011. With total 2010 compensation of \$555,8244, according to IRS Form 990, Sayres had become the highest paid executive in the humane field.

Sayres debuted in humane work as a teenaged assistant and eventually successor to his father, **Edwin Sayres Sr.**,

the founding director of the **St. Hubert’s Giralda** shelter begun by **Geraldine Dodge Rockefeller** on her estate in New Jersey. Sayres headed the **American Humane Association** animal protection division 1995-1997, and then headed PetSmart Charities for a year before succeeding **Richard Avanzino** at the SF/SPCA. Avanzino had retired after 24 years to lead **Maddie’s Fund**.

Susana Della Maddelena, PetSmart Charities executive director since 2004, on July 31, 2012 announced her resignation “to pursue other opportunities.” Under Della Maddelena, PetSmart Charities grew from distributing about \$10 million per year to animal charities to distributing more than \$37 million, including \$17.4 million in dog and cat sterilization funding. “Because it’s critically important to me that the transition be smooth and successful,” Della Maddelena said, “I’ve committed to staying on through the hiring and onboarding of my successor, which may take several months.”

Both American SPCA president **Ed Sayres**, who announced his retirement five days earlier, and Sayres’ predecessor at the ASPCA, **Larry Hawk**, were former executive

directors of PetSmart Charities. Asked if she might be following Hawk and Sayres to the ASPCA, Della Maddelena told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “I’m going to be evaluating a number of opportunities over the next several months to see which is the best fit for me. I love animal welfare and will consider it as an option, either at the local or national level. I’m ready to move on to a new adventure and bring my skills to a new organization but haven’t yet nailed down exactly what that looks like.”

Said Sayres, “I did not know Sue Della Maddelena was leaving PetSmart Charities until I saw her announcement.”

International Fund for Animal Welfare president **Fred O’Regan** in July 2012 took a six-month leave of absence.

“Fred just celebrated 15 years of service with IFAW, and is on sabbatical, during which time he will focus on writing,” IFAW publicist **Doug Ruchefsky** told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “**Azzedine Downes**, executive vice president for international operations and programs, and Fred’s second in command for many years, will be acting chief executive,” Ruchefsky said. O’Regan was paid \$387,119 in 2011; Downes was paid \$369,489.

Animal shelter leadership transitions

Bill Bruce, 58, director of **Calgary Animal & Bylaw Services** since 2000, retired on August 3, 2012. Dubbed “Bylaw Bill” by **Sherri Zickefoose** of the *Calgary Herald*, Bruce worked for the City of Calgary for more than 31 years. Like his predecessor as animal control chief, **Jerry Aschenbrenner**, who headed the department for 25 years, Bruce advocated incentive-based animal control. Under Aschenbrenner, Calgary achieved by far the highest rate of dog licensing compliance in North America and perhaps the world, exceeding 80%, more than twice the highest rate ever achieved by any U.S. city of comparable size. Bruce boosted compliance to more than 90%. Contending that enforcing the licensing law and other conventional dog ordinances could prevent dogfighting and dog attacks without any need for breed-specific laws, Bruce came under increasing criticism after 2009, when dogfighting emerged locally and pit bulls were repeatedly released from vans to attack residents of East Asian descent, injuring a three-year-old, a four-year-old, and men aged 70, 78, and about 55. A 27-year-old woman pleaded guilty in connection with three of the attacks. Additional suspects were beyond Calgary jurisdiction. Total reported dog bites dropped, but three disfiguring attacks by pit bulls occurred in Calgary during Bruce’s last three months as animal control chief, along with a fatal attack on an infant inflicted by a husky.

Indianapolis Animal Care and Control chief **Amber Myers** on September 14, 2012 left the agency to accompany her fiancé **Frank Straub**, formerly Indianapolis public safety director, to Spokane, Washington, where Straub was recently named police chief. Indianapolis mayor **Greg Ballard** named **Daniel T. Shackle** to succeed Myers. Shackle, the fifth Indianapolis Animal Control chief since 2008, is an attorney who since 2010 had been program manager for the nuisance abatement section within the city department of code enforcement.

Warren Cox, 77, on July 11, 2012 announced his retirement effective on September 28, 2012, after five years as executive director of **SPCA Florida** in Lakeland, his 25th leadership post in a humane career that began when he took a job as a dogcatcher in Lincoln, Nebraska after high school graduation in 1952. Cox, who recently remarried following the death of his first wife, told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that he plans to return to Lincoln. “Just how long I will be able to stay retired, I don’t know. I have had a lot of fun over the last 60 years,” Cox said, “but sure would do a lot of things differently.” A longtime vegetarian, Cox as animal control director in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 1958 became apparently the first person to use TV to promote shelter adoptions. Cox at various times headed the Humane Society of Missouri, the Oregon Humane Society, and the SPCA of Texas, where he spent 14 years.

The **Cheyenne Animal Shelter** on July 25, 2012 “announced that [executive director] **Rick Collord**, who was first hired in late 2007, was no longer employed there,” James Chilton of *Wyoming News* reported. “The release gave no details as to the nature of his departure, and Wyoming Secretary of State **Max Maxfield**, the president of the shelter board of directors, offered no additional insights,” Chilton added. **Ed Carleo**, a 31-year employee of the **Cheyenne Family YMCA** who retired in 2009, was named interim Cheyenne Animal Shelter director. Collord, who was previously executive director at humane societies in Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, and Washington, had reportedly cut shelter killing in Cheyenne by 24%.

Rotich to head ANAW board

Nehemiah Rotich has been elected board president of the Nairobi-based **Africa Network for Animal Welfare**, ANAW founder **Josphat Ngunyo** announced on September 22, 2012. Rotich has previously headed the **Kenya Wildlife Service** and **East Africa Wildlife Society**, and was a senior program officer for biodiversity and genetic resource issues with the **United Nations Environment Program**. Ngunyo also announced the election of Ruth Mutheu Wamboia as board treasurer. The previous ANAW board resigned *en masse* on July 16, 2012, citing conflicts with Ngunyo. Ngunyo told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the major issues were unspecified conflicts of interest.

Recent ANAW program work, Ngunyo said, included treating about 100 cattle and 78 goats for deep cut wounds apparently inflicted by machete during conflicts between Pokomo farmers and Orma cattle herders over water and land in the Tana delta. More than a hundred people were killed in three weeks of running clashes in August and September 2012. Mass graves of more victims were found on September 17, 2012 near Kilelengwani village, in the approximate middle of the contested area.

Attenborough wins Constance Gold Medal

MELBOURNE—Australian animal advocate and philanthropist **Phil Wollen** on August 20, 2012 presented the Winsome Constance Gold Medal and an award of \$25,000, given annually in honor of his mother and his nanny, to British wildlife documentary film maker **Sir David Attenborough**.

New Pennsylvania dog law chief is Michael Pechert

Michael Pechert, previously Pennsylvania executive deputy secretary for agriculture, on July 31, 2012 succeeded **Lynn Diehl** as director of the **Pennsylvania Dog Law Enforcement Office**.

Philadelphia Inquirer animal beat blogger **Amy Worden** described Diehl, a former bank manager, as “a Republican Party volunteer who had no prior experience in animal welfare or law enforcement.”

Transferred to a post at the **Department of Corrections**, Diehl “will be making \$44,675 as an administrative officer,” **Pennsylvania Office of Administration** spokesperson **Dan Egan** told Worden.

“Diehl’s salary as director of the Dog Law Enforcement Office was \$80,000,” Worden noted.

“Under Diehl’s supervision no commercial kennels were inspected between July 1, 2011 when the canine health regulations were to go into effect, and early 2012,” Worden added, “leaving thousands of dogs in the largest kennels in the state with no oversight for well over seven months, through the coldest months of the year. In April, at the first meeting of the Dog Law Advisory Board since **Governor Tom Corbett** took office in January 2011,” appointing Diehl soon afterward, “Diehl admitted that only 17 of 52 commercial kennels were in compliance with regulations that required ventilation systems, improved lighting, and monitoring for temperature, humidity and ammonia levels. Also during Deihl’s term the office granted a kennel license to the wife of Lancaster County breeder **Martin Zimmerman**, of **Silver Hill Kennel**, who was unable to get his license renewed because of an animal cruelty conviction.”

Former Pennsylvania dog law chief sues vocal critics

Jessie L. Smith, who headed Pennsylvania dog law enforcement 2005-2011, on August 15, 2012 filed a defamation case in **Dauphin County Court** against **Main Line Animal Rescue** founder **William Smith**, of Chester Springs, **North Penn Puppy Mill Watch** founder **Jenny Stephens**, of Lansdale, and blogger **Teresita Delgado**, of Lancaster.

Before her appointment to head the agency then called the **Bureau of Dog Law**, Jessie L. Smith was for 20 years a lawyer in the **Pennsylvania State Attorney General’s** office, and for three years was president of the Humane Society of Harrisburg Area. She is now a senior deputy state attorney general.

Jessie L. Smith contends in the lawsuit that while the Bureau of Dog Law closed about 75% of the “puppy mills” in Pennsylvania during her tenure, “she was the target of a ‘campaign of intentional character assassination’ by ‘radical elements’ in the animal welfare community, who subjected her to a ‘continuous and relentless campaign of systematic defamation,’” including false allegations of sexual impropriety and taking bribes, summarized **Matt Miller** of the *Harrisburg Patriot-News*.

Jessie L. Smith charges that the alleged defamation led to her removal from the Bureau of Dog Law. “Raising new issues in the growing but still largely uncharted waters of cyberspace libel, the suit also names the **Lancaster Newspapers** and **York Newspapers**,” wrote **Amy Worden** of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, because newspapers published by those companies printed links “to the blog that contained the disparaging remarks.”

Trophy hunters lose positions

WWF/Spain votes out King Juan Carlos

World Wildlife Fund/Spain honorary chair **King Juan Carlos** was dethroned on July 21, 2012 when 94% of the membership opposed continuing his appointment. Juan Carlos had held the honorary chair since helping to form WWF/Spain in 1968. He tried to save his position with an unprecedented April 2012 public apology for participating in an ill-fated \$60,000 elephant hunt in Botswana, during which he broke his hip and was airlifted home to Spain, reportedly at taxpayer expense.

Juan Carlos had survived previous scandals over his hunting habits. The Russian business daily *Kommersant* in October 2006 published a written allegation by Vologda region deputy hunting chief Sergei Starostin that a “good-natured and joyful bear” named Mitrofan was in August 2006 taken from his home at a local holiday resort, “generously fed vodka mixed with honey,” and “pushed into a field” where “His Highness Juan Carlos of Spain took him out with one shot.”

Formed by trophy hunters in 1961, WWF has become increasingly sensitive in recent years to growing donor opposition to sport hunting, especially when the targets are rare and endangered species.

Puma hunter loses wildlife post in California

All five members of the **California Wildlife Commission**, including president **Dan Richards**, voted to remove Richards as president on August 8, 2012, reported **Mary Slosson** of Reuters. Richards is to remain on the commission, however, until his appointment expires in January 2013. **The Sierra Club of California** and the **Humane Society of the U.S.** led appeals to **California Governor Jerry Brown** for Richards’ ouster after he legally shot a puma in Idaho and posted photos of himself with the carcass. Killing the puma in California would have been illegal, under a ballot measure approved by voters in 1990. Richards was appointed to the California Wildlife Commission by Brown’s predecessor, **Arnold Schwarzenegger**.

The 2012 ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on 172 Animal Charities is now available: \$25/copy, from **www.animalpeoplenews.org** or **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, POB 960, Clinton, WA 98236 or call **360-579-2505**.

Opinions from the Front Lines of Cat Colony Management Conflict

RALEIGH, N.C.—About 80% of feral cat colony caretakers believe feral cat management can be done in a manner that accommodates the concerns of birders, but only 50% of bird conservation professionals share this view, according to a study published on September 6, 2012 by the online science journal *PLOS One*.

Opinions from the Front Lines of Cat Colony Management Conflict, by North Carolina State University wildlife management professor Nils Peterson and four colleagues, “began as a class project in Peterson’s “Human Dimensions of Wildlife” course last year,” reported Jay Price of the *Raleigh News & Observer*. “The researchers surveyed nearly 600 Americans who identified themselves as cat colony caretakers or bird conservation professionals affiliated with groups such as the Audubon Society and American Bird Conservancy,” Price summarized.

Peterson and colleagues concluded that cat colony caretakers could be convinced to partner with bird conservation professionals if the latter make more effort to educate the former about the effects of cat predation on birds and the role of cats in transmitting disease. But evaluations of Peterson’s survey questions and other data input done separately by **ANIMAL PEOPLE** and *Vox Felina* blogger Peter Wolf, a science educator, suggest that many cat colony caretakers have a more accurate understanding of ecological issues involving feral cats than Peterson and the bird conservation professionals he surveyed.

Anti-cat bias

Opens *Opinions from the Front Lines of Cat Colony Management Conflict*, “Outdoor cats represent a global threat to terrestrial vertebrate conservation.” This has never actually been shown by any study sponsored by any organization or agency which had not already taken a position against feral wildlife. Most conservationist concern about cats centers on predation of birds, but as Wolf pointed out, “In their contribution to *The Domestic Cat: The Biology of Its Behaviour*,” a standard reference often cited by bird conservation professionals, “Mike Fitzgerald and Dennis Turner thoroughly reviewed 61 predation studies, concluding rather unambiguously that ‘There are few, if any studies apart from island ones that actually demonstrate that cats have reduced bird populations.’

“Something else to keep in mind,” Wolf continued, is that “predators—cats included—tend to prey on the young, the old, the weak and the unhealthy. At least two studies,” by A.P. Moller and J. Erritzoe in 2000 and P.J. Baker in 2008, “have investigated this in great detail, revealing that birds killed by cats are on average significantly less healthy than birds killed through non-predatory events,” such as collisions with windows or cars. “As the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds notes, ‘Despite the large numbers of birds killed, there is no scientific evidence that predation by cats in gardens is having any impact on bird populations U.K.-wide. It is likely that most of the birds killed by cats would have died anyway from other causes before the next breeding season.’”

Continues *Opinions from the Front Lines of Cat Colony Management Conflict*, “Most cat colony caretakers [surveyed] held false beliefs about the impacts of feral cats on wildlife and the impacts of neuter/return.” Among these alleged false beliefs, only 9% of cat colony caretakers believed feral cats harm bird populations, 70% believed that neuter/return eliminates cat colonies, 18% disagreed

with the statement that feral cats fill an ecological niche otherwise filled by native predators, and supposedly only 6% believed feral cats carried diseases, although vaccination against rabies and usually a suite of other diseases is part of the standard neuter/return protocol.

“I was in contact with Nils Peterson last year when I first saw his questionnaire,” Wolf told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “I think they’re misinterpreting the responses because of the wording of the questions. For example, 40% of the cat colony caretakers agreed that, ‘Feral cats only harm wildlife on islands.’ I don’t think for a minute that these people are unaware of a cat’s ability to injure and/or kill wildlife—indeed, as the authors note, ‘most cat colony caretakers see direct evidence of cats killing wild animals.’ Rather, I think what we’re seeing in the data is respondents weighing the extent of the impact.”

Peterson *et al* called “empirically false” the belief that “Feral cats are eventually eliminated by neuter/return.” Wolf countered by citing a string of peer-reviewed published studies showing that neuter/return does eliminate feral cat colonies, when done according to standard protocols and sustained over several years. “If we want to discuss time frames, ‘normal’ rates of decline, etc., that’s one thing,” Wolf said, “but one can’t call this a ‘false empirical statement’ when there is compelling evidence to support it.”

Peterson *et al* suggested that bird conservation professionals’ skepticism that conflict with cat colony caretakers can be resolved to their “awareness that wildlife conservation agencies will not provide decision space for options endorsing neuter/return anywhere on public or private land designated as endangered species habitat.”

Misinformation

Responded Wolf, “Might I suggest another factor? Bird conservation professionals have been fed a steady diet of misinformation for years now suggesting that the situation for virtually all birds everywhere is dire, and that cats are a significant risk to them.”

Peterson *et al* noted that the Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, the American Bird Conservancy, and the Wildlife Society have sought to remove legal protection of feral cats, encourage pet keepers to keeping cats indoors, prohibit neuter/return, and achieve the “eventual removal of feral cat colonies from the landscape,” while organizations representing cat colony caretakers, such as Alley Cat Allies and Alley Cat Rescue, have “lobbied against lethal management of cat colonies in favor of no-kill options.”

But Peterson *et al* overlooked that eliminating feral cat colonies through the conscientious practice of neuter/return is the focal goal of Alley Cat Allies, Alley Cat Rescue, and all other humane organizations endorsing neuter/return. Peterson *et al* also overlooked that for more than 40 years every major national humane society has encouraged pet keepers to keep cats indoors.

Bias of Peterson *et al* in favor of killing cats appeared in their view that “neither neuter/return nor less expensive and more efficient lethal control methods are possible on a large scale without cooperation of key stakeholders.” Empirically false in this analysis is that feral cat colonies have ever been lastingly removed from any mainland habitat by means of extermination, at any level of investment.

“Although it may be tempting to conduct legal lethal management secretly to avoid the need for involving the public,” Peterson *et al* continued, “when even small

scale cases [of covert cat killing] are discovered the media attention and public scrutiny can create a backlash preventing effective feral cat management.”

Education

Noting that feral cat colony caretakers and bird conservation professionals “had diametrically opposing beliefs regarding the empirical statements about impacts of feral cats and wildlife and the efficacy of neuter/return,” Peterson *et al* concluded that, “Education is the obvious tool for addressing data conflicts, but given the highly divergent normative beliefs identified in this study, traditional educational outreach would likely fail. In contexts where lack of agreement about data rather than lack of data prevents agreement about empirical facts, conservation biologists should engage stakeholders in prioritizing data needs, devising means to collect data, and developing shared criteria for judging data. This approach to science can help overcome elements of data conflict rooted in different views of data relevance and validity by giving stakeholders ownership of empirical findings and a deeper understanding of evidence for empirical claims being made.”

Answered Wolf, “I find this remarkably arrogant. Where does the education of conservation biologists come into it? Consider again the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds’ statement about the impact of free-roaming cats. How is it that the RSPB comes to such a different position on the issue, compared to the U.S. organizations? Education is critical, I agree—but it’s not the unidirectional undertaking the paper’s authors suggest.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE, from 1992 to 2007, made more than a dozen attempts to organize formal comparison of cat and bird data from monitored neuter/return projects in the vicinity of sites included in the annual Christmas bird surveys sponsored by the National Audubon Society and the North American Breeding Bird Surveys sponsored by the U.S. Geological Survey’s Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and the Canadian Wildlife Service. No bird conservation professional ever responded positively.

But Peterson *et al* incorporated into *Opinions from the Front Lines of Cat Colony Management Conflict* gross overstatements of the North American free-roaming cat population and predation by feral cats that such a study would help to disprove: that “50–150 million [cats] roam freely in North America alone,” and that “Estimates of wildlife mortalities attributed to free-roaming cats range from millions to billions.”

A wealth of studies and surveys of cat-keeping, cat-feeding, animal control intake, and roadkills demonstrates that the U.S. feral cat population is not greater than 12 to 16 million each year at the summer peak,



Cleo the cat stalks a snapping turtle. (M.C.)

and that only about a third of the U.S. pet cat population are allowed to go outdoors.

The usual range of bird deaths caused by cats found in data-based studies is from about 100 million, projected by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service ornithologist Albert Manville, to about 134 million, projected by Carol Fiore of the Wichita State University Department of Biological Sciences—and Fiore estimated that approximately twice as many pet cats are allowed to roam as pet-keeping studies show.

KittyCam project

The tendency of U.S. bird conservation professionals to inflate claims about cat predation was illustrated a few weeks before publication of *Opinions from the Front Lines of Cat Colony Management Conflict* in a joint media release issued by the American Bird Conservancy and the Wildlife Society entitled “KittyCam Reveals High Levels of Wildlife Being Killed by Outdoor Cats.”

Summarized Wolf, “The KittyCam project was conducted by Kerrie Anne Loyd, a doctoral candidate in the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources at the University of Georgia. As her advisor, Dr. Sonia Hernandez, explains on her web site, Loyd ‘analyzed hunting and risk behaviors,’ such as crossing roads, encountering predators, and contact with other cats, ‘to address questions related to predation of cats on native wildlife.’ Noted Wolf, “Loyd was among those whom former Smithsonian researcher and fellow Warnell alumnus Nico Dauphiné thanked in her 2009 paper “Impacts of Free-ranging Domestic Cats (*Felis catus*) on Birds in the United States.” Dauphiné was convicted in October 2011 of trying to poison feral cats outside a Washington D.C. apartment house.

“Cats aren’t as bad as biologists thought,” Loyd conceded in describing her findings to CBS/Atlanta in April 2011. But the American Bird Conservancy and the Wildlife Society trumpeted that “bird kills constituted about 13% of the total wildlife kills” that the KittyCam project documented.

Asked Wolf, “Thirteen percent of how many? As the *Athens Banner-Herald* reported in April, ‘just five of the cats’ 39 successful hunts involved birds.’ That’s right: five. Fifty-five cats, 2,000 hours of video—and just five birds. Which species of birds are we talking about? Common? Rare? Native? Non-native? It’s curious that the American Bird Conservancy and Wildlife Society are not troubled by such details. Interestingly, the only avian casualty documented on the *National Geographic* and University of Georgia Kitty Cams Project website is an injured phoebe. As the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology website explains, ‘Eastern Phoebes are common and their numbers are stable or increasing in most areas.’ Actually, it’s not even clear whether the cat behind the camera was responsible for the phoebe’s injury. None of the 13 posted video clips documents a cat coming into contact with a bird.”

The American Bird Conservancy and the Wildlife Society claimed, “based on these results,” that “cats kill far more than the previous estimate of a billion birds and other animals each year.”

Countered Wolf, “Nobody claiming to have the slightest regard for science would extrapolate from five birds killed in Athens, Georgia, for the purposes of developing a nationwide ‘estimate.’” —Merritt Clifton

Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson jumps bail

TOKYO—The international police agency Interpol on September 16, 2012 at Japan’s request asked for the cooperation of member nations in arresting Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson. The Interpol “red” notice superseded an earlier “blue” notice which only sought information about Watson’s whereabouts.

Not seen in public since July 22, 2012, Watson has acknowledged to media that he is at sea in international waters, but has not identified which sea or which vessel he is aboard. Watson was arrested in Frankfurt in May 2012 on a 10-year-old Costa Rican warrant as he tried to board a flight to attend the Cannes film festival in France. The warrant was issued after the Sea Shepherds, acting initially at request of Guatemala, intercepted a Costa Rican vessel that was allegedly cutting the fins from live sharks. Video of the incident appeared in the 2007 Rob Stewart documentary *Sharkwater*. As the confrontation heated up, the Guatemalan government sent a gunboat to release the Costa Rican vessel, while Costa Rica charged Watson with attempted murder. Watson has alleged that the charges began as an extortion attempt, and that the warrant was revived through the influence of Japan.

Watson jumped bail in Germany while awaiting a hearing on an extradition request filed by Costa Rica, forfeiting \$295,000 rather than take the risk that Costa Rica might win the extradition attempt, then turn him over to Japan.

Japan has tried many previous covert strategies to try to stop Watson and the Sea Shepherds. U.S. State Department messages published in January 2011 by WikiLeaks and the Spanish newspaper *El Pais* disclosed that U.S. diplomats in negotiation with Japanese officials had from November 2009 through January 2010 entertained the possibility of asking the Internal Revenue Service to revoke the Sea Shepherds’ non-profit status as a bargaining ploy.

Wherever Watson was, he continued to blog about the activities of the rest of the Sea Shepherds, who were visibly active in more locations than ever, with teams documenting dolphin captures and killing at Taiji, Japan, and bluefin tuna fishing in the Mediterranean, as well as patrolling against maritime poaching off the Galapagos, continuing a 12-year-old partnership with the Galapagos National Park Service.

“Our African team under Laurens De Groot has just completed a very successful campaign to protect fur seals in

Namibia and our South Pacific shark campaign under the direction of Julie Andersen has just completed an awesomely successful campaign in Fiji, Tonga, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Kiribati,” Watson wrote on September 10, 2012. “Sea Shepherd Australia director Jeff Hansen along with Operation Kimberly Miinimbi campaign leader Bob Brown had an excellent Southern Hemisphere winter voyage to Northwestern Australia, where they not only brought international attention to the threats against the nursing grounds of the humpback whale from the gas industry, but actually helped to get Chevron to withdraw from the project.”

Watson also described preparations underway to ready the Sea Shepherd vessels *Steve Irwin*, *Bob Barker*, and *Brigitte Bardot* for another winter of confrontations with the Japanese whaling fleet off Antarctica, and pledged that while he had missed his brother Stephen’s funeral (*see obituary, page 18*), he would fulfill Stephen’s request that his ashes be scattered in Antarctic waters.

Season five of the Animal Planet series *Whale Wars*, following the Sea Shepherds in confrontation with Japanese whalers off Antarctica, began airing on June 1, 2012.

The Ripple Effect

A Novel Exploring the Challenges and Triumphs of Running an Animal Shelter

by Marcy Eckhardt

268 pages, paperback (\$17.99) or e-book (\$7.99.)
<http://marcyeckhardt.com/>



Probably close to 100% of the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** readership have at some point either worked or volunteered in an animal shelter. Thus probably close to 100% will either intensely identify with the characters in *The Ripple Effect*, by longtime shelter worker and consultant Marcy Eckhardt, or at least recognize them—and probably most who start to read *The Ripple Effect* will read it cover-to-cover in just a couple of sittings, as I did, feeling that *The Ripple Effect* is by, for, and about *us*, the people who know animal sheltering from the inside out, as opposed to *them*, who interact with shelters in various ways and often vocally criticize shelter procedures, but have little understanding of why things are done as they are.

The Ripple Effect is about the omnipresent tension between shelter staff and the public, heightened by intensifying pressure from activists and donors to go “no-kill,” whether or not the animal intake volume has been reduced enough by sterilization, adoption, fostering, and other programs to make “no-kill” a realistic option.

Should author Eckhardt be lucky enough to achieve significant crossover readership among the public, and among activists who lack shelter experience, or—even better—should *The Ripple Effect* become a hit film—it could do a great deal to reduce the conflict over “kill vs. no-kill,” by clarifying that even no-kill shelters often have to euthanize animals for reasons of health or dangerous behavior (unless they also practice selective admission), that selective admission is not a realistic option in communities which do not have open admission shelters, and that the overwhelming majority of shelter workers in today’s context do everything reasonably possible to avoid killing animals.

We are so far now beyond the era when the Phyllis Wright essay “Why we must euthanize” hung prominently on the wall of almost every shelter that Eckhardt makes only transient mention of the attitudes and conditions of those days. Just entering her 20th year in animal sheltering, Eckhardt became involved two years after Wright died, one year before the first No-Kill Conference was held in Phoenix, Arizona, not far from the locale of *The Ripple Effect* near the Four Corners reservation area, where Arizona, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico meet. The culture of animal sheltering in those days, focused on euthanasia rooms, has shifted to the present focus on adoption facilities and boosting “save rates,” sometimes regardless of whether particular animals can or should be “saved.”

But, though shelter culture has changed, the nature of shelter work still requires killing some animals, and killing fewer animals has not always lessened the stress on the people who do it. The elevated status that skilled euthanasia technicians had within shelter culture during the Phyllis Wright

era helped to offset the aversion and antipathy that outsiders often exhibited, and still exhibit, toward people who kill impounded or surrendered dogs and cats. The high volume of killing done then, after minimal holding periods, helped euthanasia technicians to mechanize or ritualize the procedure, distancing themselves from it. Euthanasia technicians today, as at the fictional shelter Eckhardt writes about, often have become personally acquainted with the dogs and cats they kill, during holding intervals of weeks or months.

Among *The Ripple Effect* central characters are a shelter director who, like most, has learned her job on the job, in the manner of apprenticeship, and is bewildered by “no kill” activism; a senior shelter technician who is burned out by euthanasia stress; an enthusiastic trainee who is gradually learning and adjusting to shelter work; an executive director who came up through the ranks, but is now focused on the politics of keeping the shelter funded and functioning to the point of sometimes unintentionally overlooking the needs of her staff; and a senior volunteer turned board member who aspires to oust and succeed the executive director, as part of making a transition to “no kill” that she knows about mainly from having attended a couple of conferences and reading blogs.

The senior volunteer might be seen as the villain of *The Ripple Effect*, and is viewed as such by the narrative persona, the shelter director; but she is clearly dedicated, motivated, able to recruit new volunteer help, sometimes offers new ideas of possible value, and while her habit of following staff all over the shelter jotting down critical notes is problematic, irritated staff miss many opportunities to explain what they are doing before the criticisms become an explosion.

Among the most true-to-life aspects of *The Ripple Effect* are the many philosophical and practical contradictions evident in the shelter procedures and activist attitudes. No character is entirely consistent, from the shelter director and other staff focused on saving animals who nonetheless casually eat meat, to the animal hoarder who believes himself to be a rescuer, to the scheming no-kill volunteer and board member whose first two criticisms of shelter practice both come straight out of the Phyllis Wright credo: that advertising and discounting particular animals to promote adoptions somehow “devalues” them. Paradoxically, both techniques were introduced by Mike Arms, who was then shelter director for the North Shore Animal League, no-kill for more than 50 years. Arms since 2000 has been president of the no-kill Helen Woodward Animal Center.

Probably the most bizarre contradiction, but a contradiction that even Eckhardt does not seem to recognize, even though she has blogged about it, is that the executive director seeks to reduce euthanasia stress by

How to Treat Your Dogs & Cats with Over-the-Counter Drugs and companion edition

by Robert L. Ridgway, DVM

IUniverse: <http://bookstore.iuniverse.com>

168 and 104 pages, paperback. \$15.95 and \$13.95.



Along with not judging books by the cover, one must sometimes be careful not to judge them by the title. Orlando Animal Services’ veterinarian Robert L. Ridgway’s handbook *How to Treat Your Dogs & Cats with Over-the-Counter Drugs* and companion edition of additional advice are useful and practical. But the mention of over-the-counter drugs in the titles may be misleading. Ridgway’s books are not pharmacological guides written to help pet keepers avoid the use of prescription medication.

Relatively little of Ridgway’s advice has to do with drugs. The drugs he recommends are the conventional array recommended by most vets. His emphasis is on preventive medicine, especially protecting pets against parasites and eye injuries. Sometimes Ridgway argues against common uses of drugs—“If you’re going on a long flight to Hawaii or a foreign country, there is no sedative on the planet that will treat the animal for the duration of the trip, so don’t do it,” not least because sedation increases the risk that animals will die from heat stress.

Because Ridgway is a senior vet for one of the largest open-admission animal control shelters in the U.S., he often sees injuries and illnesses that result from neglect, mis-

treatment, and misuse of animals—for example, frequent and often horrific cases of ingrown collars on dogs who have been kept chained outside. Though Ridgway says nothing specific about dogfighting injuries, he points out that feeding dogs gunpowder, a common dogfighter tactic, “frequently burns a hole in the stomach or intestines.

Ridgway offers no opinion about the morality of hunting with dog packs, but discusses several categories of pad and nostril injury often suffered by hunting dogs, with evident disapproval of hunters who keep their dogs penned for most of the year and then expect them to exhibit stamina that can only be developed by frequent exercise.

Ridgway comes down hard on the recurring fad of feeding dogs all-meat diets. Dogs need plant-based food to retain strong bones, and as Ridgway points out, die within three to six months if they do not get enough plant-based food. Ridgway notes that coprophagia—poop-eating—is normal for dogs, and usually harmless to them, but oddly suggests that the origin of this common scavenging behavior is unknown. Actually, this has been a big part of how street dogs make their living for as long as humans have had streets for dogs to inhabit.

—Merritt Clifton

having her staff cremate animals instead of disposing of their remains at the county landfill. This requires the staff to manually pulverize the remnants of skulls and large bones, a grim and occupationally dangerous reminder of the living animals. Few if any psychological counselors who specialize in treating euthanasia stress would recommend this change of procedures. The only alternative to manual pulverization that Eckhardt appears to be aware of is to use a coffee grinder, which would be harshly noisy and impractical for frequent use. However, making a quiet bone-crushing, dust-evacuating machine similar to those used at crematoriums for humans would be a relatively simple and inexpensive chore for a mechanically inclined volunteer who knows his way around a junkyard.

The Ripple Effect is not flawless literature. Though the writing flows well, there are passages, including improbably long bursts of dialog, which are actually short expository essays about various aspects of animal sheltering, paralleling blog postings at Eckhardt’s <www.Pro-Shelter.com> web site. But Eckhardt can be praised for surmounting the difficulty of writing a gripping novel that includes not even the hint of a romantic theme involving any of her mostly young female characters, whose emotional focus is their work to the near exclusion of any personal life.

Barely mentioning pit bulls in *The Ripple Effect*, Eckhardt somewhat sidesteps aspects of her climactic crisis, involving a German shepherd whom the shelter director recommends should be killed due to dangerous behavior, who is instead transferred to a no-kill shelter through board intervention, is fostered out, also contrary to the shelter director’s warnings, and severely mauls a child.

With the Eyes of Love, by Christa Blanke, translated by Sheelagh D. Graham

Animals’ Angels Press (Rossertstraße 8, D-60323 Frankfurt a. Main, Germany), 2011.

168 pages, hardcover. \$16.76

For 21 years, before co-founding **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in 1992, I moonlighted as a literary editor and publisher, chiefly of poetry, after hours on mostly animal-related news beats. Works by many authors I helped to introduce to print now claim shelf space in major book stores—but few of them won readership as poets.

There was an aspiring fictionist, who reads **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, whose first story I cut back into a much anthologized poem, but there were many would-be poets to whom I pointed out that they were really writing journalism, polemics, or diaries in line form. My success as an editor was mostly persuading would-be poets to write what they were actually writing, without imagining that it was poetry.

The advent of free verse almost a century ago mercifully euthanized the awkward and stilted language formerly characterizing

most bad poetry. Unfortunately, the seeming ease of writing free verse seems to have killed any understanding among the majority of would-be poets that successful poems are, as Ezra Pound put it, “language condensed,” in which every word evokes images, ideas, and understandings going far beyond what the same word would mean in a simple prose sentence.

With the Eyes of Love, by Animals’ Angels’ founder Christa Blanke, is a diary in line form documenting investigations of live animal transport to slaughter, 1996-2011. Animals’ Angels investigative work, often mentioned in **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, has often introduced aspects of animal industry activity to public awareness for the very first time, and has had huge influence, both politically, especially within the European Union, and within the animal welfare field. Most of the major international ani-

mal charities paid scant attention, if any, to livestock transport before Blanke started Animals’ Angels. Most of these same organizations today would like donors to believe that livestock transport has always been among their urgent concerns.

Blanke, an ordained minister, wrote *With the Eyes of Love* in her native German. Her work was translated into English by Sheelagh D. Graham. The translation appears to be accurate and competent. But, while there is some poetry among Blanke’s observations, the editing needed to bring the poetry forward—mostly cutting to focus—has not been done. What we are offered amounts to a bleak long compendium of notes about animal suffering.

Most of *With the Eyes of Love* might appear in an appeal or a newsletter, and probably did at some point—but an appeal or a newsletter item would be much shorter, and would aspire to leave

readers with at least enough hope to send a donation.

I quit editing and publishing poetry upon realizing that while good poems may lastingly move the reader, journalism does too, and few poems are ever read by a fraction as many people as read news.

Because poetry has a limited audience, it is critical that each poem with a message should at least reach some people to whom the message is unfamiliar. Had the most evocative fragments of *With the Eyes of Love* been published here and there in poetry journals and edited online poetry web sites, or even just been read aloud in bars during “poetry slam” competitions, Blanke might have reached a new audience of people not yet aware of the topics she discusses. Unfortunately, as *With the Eyes of Love* exists, it is chiefly a souvenir for Blanke’s many admirers.

—Merritt Clifton



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Emu speculation bubble bursts in India

COIMBATORE, ERODE, NAMAKKAL—A five-year-old emu speculation bubble in August 2012 burst in India just as others have around the world for decades, leaving thousands of bankrupt investors, more than 15,000 starving birds in Tamil Nadu state alone, and humane societies including the Blue Cross of India struggling to accommodate surviving birds who were impounded by law enforcement, while the Animal Welfare Board of India tried to devise a national response plan.

“At least 10 emus died of hunger and starvation over the last few days. Hence, we have taken up the task of taking care of them besides conducting the investigations,” a revenue official in Erode told the *Deccan Chronicle* as the case broke. The crisis rapidly expanded. Madurai district collector V.K. Shanugam, who had warned investors away from emu farming schemes in May 2012, arranged for hundreds of emus to receive emergency rations, after hundreds died. Tamil Nadu chief minister J Jayalalithaa on September 18, 2012 allocated the equivalent of \$187,000 to feed abandoned emus.

“In a bid to control damage after the business fell, many emu farm companies are slaughtering the birds,” reported Jayashree Nandi of the Times of India News Network. But the meat, feathers, and oil that were promoted as a get-rich-quick scheme were not in strong demand.

Susi Emu Farms managing director M.S. Guru went “underground” on August 6, 2012, reported K.A. Shaji of the Times of India News Network, after he was charged in the first of a string of cases eventually alleging that Susi Emu Farms defrauded more than 12,000 mostly small investors. Ten other alleged central figures in the nationwide scheme were arrested during the next several weeks. M.S. Guru himself was apprehended on September 5, 2012 and brought to court under “tight security,” *The Hindu* reported.

“As per police estimates,” Shaji said, “there were over 250 promoters of contract farming of this bird across Tamil Nadu,” and many more in other states. Each contract farmer who bought into the Susi Emu Farms scheme was expected to sell shares in the scheme to dozens or even hundreds of silent partners, who hoped to reap profits exceeding the returns from conventional forms of investment.

Originating in the U.S. more than 20 years ago, emu farming pyramid schemes were exposed in detail in the January/February 1994 **ANIMAL PEOPLE** cover feature “Ostrich and emu speculators: will they get rich quick or just get the bird?” Upon learning that emu farm speculation had emerged in India and other parts of Asia, **ANIMAL PEOPLE**

repeatedly distributed the 1994 article and follow-ups pertaining to the criminal convictions of emu promoters via both the Asian Animal Protection Network and Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organizations. People for Animals and PETA/India also distributed warnings.

“The district collectors of Salem, Erode, Coimbatore, Tirupur and Namakkal even issued press statements on several occasions warning public against investing in such firms,” recalled Shaji. But prominent politicians were involved in promoting the emu scam, reported the *Deccan Chronicle*, including Indian chief minister of state V. Narayanasamy, who was photographed cutting the ribbon to open a New Delhi branch of Susi Emu Farms.

—Merritt Clifton



Jill Mountjoy of the Humane Farming Association with emus at the HFA sanctuary in northern California. (Kim Bartlett)

OBITUARIES

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



Furry Friends Farm founder Sabrina Yeap with the first dog rescued from Pulau Tenga. (TV Smith)

Sabrina Yeap, 49, died of leukemia on July 17, 2012 in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia. “Yeap, who was orphaned when she was just a month old after her parents died in a car accident, did not have a single relative in Malaysia. Her doctor father and her mother had eloped to Malaysia from China and lost touch with their families,” wrote Wani Muthiah of *The Star of Malaysia*. “Yeap grew up in a temple and her 200-odd dogs, 150 cats and countless loyal friends were her only family,” Muthiah added. Yeap became an inspector for the Selangor SPCA, introduced the Animals Asia Foundation’s Dr. Dog program to Malaysia, and founded the Furry Friends Farm sanctuary in 2006. Yeap also helped others to start programs, including Suzana Suliaman of Stray Cats Rescue And Treatment Community in Penang, and Irene Low of Malaysian Dogs Deserve Better, who recalled to Muthiah that Yeap in 2008 donated 50 bags of dog food and paid off the organization’s veterinary debts. Yeap in April 2009 learned that residents of Palau Ketam, a remote island in the Straits of Malacca, had a month earlier marooned 300 to 400 stray dogs on even more remote and desolate Pulau Selat Kering island. Their plight became known when two dogs named Hitam and Kuning swam to the nearest kelong, or fishing platform, where the fishing crew adopted them. Yeap coordinated the ensuing international rescue effort, featured on page one of the June 2009 edition of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. Hitam and Kuning “volunteered” to help, swimming to back to Pulau Selat Kering to lead other dogs out of the mangrove swamp to be captured. Between missions, Hitam and Kuning kept a lookout at the kelong where the rescued dogs were held temporarily to spot any other dogs who were trying to save themselves. A photo sequence at the Furry Friends Farm web site shows them noticing a refugee dog named Grace at sea, greeting her as she struggled aboard the kelong, and leading her to food. Hitam unfortunately was poisoned in October 2009. Furry Friends Farm is to continue under a committee of 10 volunteers who have formed an emergency board and begun the necessary re-incorporation.

Dan R. Salden, 71, died on July 18, 2012 in Edwardsville, Illinois. A professor at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, Salden took up marine mammal research in 1978. He co-founded the Hawaii Whale Research Foundation in 1987, and devoted several years to humpback whale research after retiring in 2000.

Ron Taylor, 78, died of cancer on September 10, 2012 in Sydney, Australia. A competitive spearfisher in his youth, Taylor recalled to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation that he had a sudden change of perspective one day in the middle of a spear-fishing contest. “I just thought, ‘What am I doing down here killing these poor defenseless marine creatures?’” Taylor said. “So I just packed up, went home—didn’t even weigh my fish in—and never went back to another spearfishing competition.” Instead, Taylor and his wife Valerie produced several documentaries about sharks, attracting the attention of film director Steven Spielberg, who hired them to obtain underwater footage of great white sharks for use in the 1975 hit *Jaws*. “Andrew Fox, whose father Rodney Fox famously survived a near-fatal great white shark attack in 1963, assisted on the shoot. Andrew Fox said both he and the Taylors were affected by criticism that the movie reinforced the notion that great whites were death machines,” recalled Kristen Gelineau of Associated Press. The Taylors and Fox focused their later careers on shark conservation.



Rita Miljo and Tito. (Photo by Attie Gerber for IPPL)

Rita Miljo, 81, and three rescued baboons died on July 27, 2012 in a fire at her home on the premises of the Centre for Animal Rehabilitation and Education, a sanctuary in Limpopo province, South Africa, which currently houses about 500 baboons. “Born in Germany,” recalled International Primate Protection League founder Shirley McGreal, “she moved to South Africa in the 1950s and overcame the deaths of her husband and teenaged daughter in the 1970s,” in a light plane crash. “Nine years after she rescued her first baboon, Bobbie, in 1980,” who was among the baboons who died with Miljo, “she established a sanctuary to protect baboons, who could be legally shot, poisoned, and so forth under the South African ‘vermin laws.’” Added Chris Mercer and Bev Pervan of the Campaign Against Canned Hunting, “Contrary to conservation dogma, which insisted that it could not be done, she pioneered the release of baboon troops back to the wild. Even Nelson Mandela attended one of her baboon troop releases.” Finished McGreal, “CARE has been on IPPL’s small grant program for years. Our last project was getting a borehole drilled so the baboons could get clean water. This really cut down on intestinal parasites. Rita spoke at our 2006 conference and everyone loved her. She had a mortal fear of fire and wanted to be buried, as she was not sure that cremation wouldn’t hurt a dead person.”

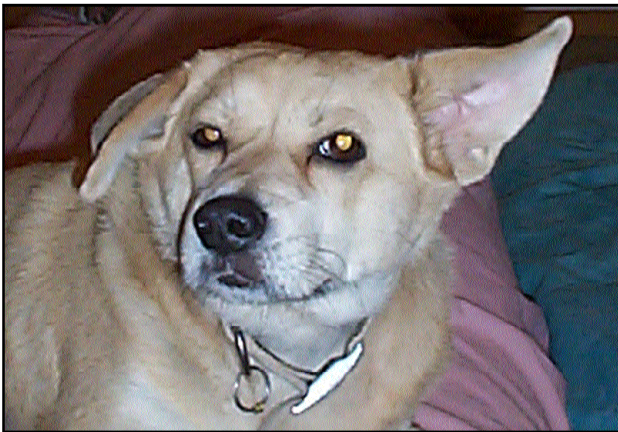
Marvin Hamlich, 68, died on August 6, 2012. Remembered by the world as a composer of songs for hit screen productions, Hamlich was remembered by the North Shore Animal League America as a spokesperson for their “Love Needs No Pedigree” campaign to promote adoptions of mixed breed dogs. Hamlich in 1994 adopted a Lab mix named Jessey from North Shore. “Jessey was Marvin’s constant companion, lying beside him at his piano, where he created music that won him three Oscars, four Emmys, a Tony, two Golden Globes, a Pulitzer music award, and more,” recalled a North Shore memorial statement.

Princess Lalla Amina of Morocco, 58, died on August 16, 2012. She had been president of the Fédération Royale Marocaine des Sports Equestres since 1999, and was a patron of the American Fondouk equine aid program founded in Fez, Morocco in 1927 by Amy Bend Bishop, funded by her estate and that of her mother, administered by the Massachusetts SPCA.

Steve McSweeney, 83, died on July 23, 2012 in Great Falls, Montana. A lifelong resident of nearby Fort Benton, McSweeney was the primary feeder and caretaker of Shep, a mangy and none too friendly sheep dog. “According to historians from the Overholser Historical Research Center,” recalled David Murray of the *Great Falls Tribune*, “Shep first appeared in Fort Benton in August 1936 with an area sheepherder whose name has been lost to history, who was brought mortally ill to the St. Clare Hospital. After the sheepherder passed, his body was sent by train to his family back east. Shep for the next five and a half years lived under the platform of the Fort Benton train station, patiently waiting for his long dead master to return.” Eventually railway conductor Ed Shields published Shep’s story as a pamphlet and sold copies to benefit the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind. Shep was then featured by the syndicated newspaper feature Ripley’s Believe It Or Not. Killed by a train in January 1942, Shep was buried by an honor guard of Boy Scouts, following a funeral attended by 200 people.

(continued on page 18)

MEMORIALS



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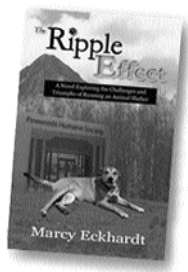
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Sanitation role of Indian street dogs quantified

NEW DELHI—The Supreme Court of India on September 3, 2012 weighed the ecological and public health role of street animals in a case brought by the nonprofit organization Safai Karmachari Andolan on behalf of the poorest of the poor.

Describing itself as “a national movement committed to the total eradication of manual scavenging and the rehabilitation of all scavengers for dignified occupations,” Safai Karmachari Andolan extracted data from the 2011 national census to show that of 2.6 million public dry latrines still in use in India, 1.3 million discharge illegally into open drains, 794,000 are cleaned manually by humans, and 497,000 are cleaned entirely by animals—mostly dogs and pigs.

The present Indian government has pledged to prohibit manual latrine-cleaning, and to expedite the elimination of dry latrines and resultant pollution.

Major General R.M. Kharb, chairing the Animal Welfare Board of India, told *The Hindu* that the Indian street dog population has increased to about 25 million. Federally subsidized Animal Birth Control programs sterilize and vaccinate about 150,000 dogs per year, Kharb said. The federal Ministry of Environment & Forests agreed in 2007 to fund ABC work in 50 cities, Kharb said, but the money was not fully allocated.

The number of active animal welfare organizations in India has increased from a few hundred when the AWBI adopted ABC as a national strategy in 1997, to 2,798 today, Kharb added. Mentioning that the AWBI and Worldwide Veterinary Services have escalated the training of competent ABC surgeons, Kharb pleaded for adequate federal funding and corporate donations to enable animal welfare societies to practice ABC and anti-rabies vaccination at peak capacity.

OBITUARIES (continued from page 17)

Karen Goodman, 58, died on September 6, 2012 in Reno, Nevada. Originally from New York City, Goodman worked in public relations, and was involved in animal advocacy there, especially on behalf of carriage horses, but emerged as a leader after moving west and volunteering for local humane societies. “She started out dog-walking,” recalled Doris Day Animal League legislative specialist Beverlee McGrath. “Her heart went out to dogs who were constantly chained in yards through extreme weather, especially to her neighbor’s dog, who had no bedding and just a makeshift doghouse. The dog disappeared one morning and Karen always felt that the dog froze to death. She decided to do something about dog chaining.” After persuading state senator Randy Townsend to introduce an anti-chaining bill, Goodman lobbied it through to passage. Goodman also produced public service announcements for the SPCA of Northern Nevada, and just a week before her death helped to publicize abuses that were videotaped during the 2012 Reno Rodeo.

Stephen Watson, 54, brother of Sea Shepherd Conservation Society founder Paul Watson, died on August 29, 2012 in St. Stephen, New Brunswick. Later a full-time artist, “Stephen worked for years in the food industry as a buyer and what he saw and what he learned converted him to organic veganism,” recalled Paul Watson. “My brother was devoted to Sea Shepherd and for years hosted fundraisers in Toronto and London, Ontario. His eldest son Sean first joined the crew of the *Sea Shepherd II* when he was 14 on our drift-net campaigns. His youngest daughter Hillary will soon join the crew of the *Steve Irwin*,” the flagship for Sea Shepherd confrontations with the Japanese whaling fleet. “Stephen himself participated in an important but legal secret mission for Sea Shepherd and was instrumental in its success,” Watson added.

Rebecca Carey, 23, of Decatur, Georgia, a vet tech trainee at the Loving Hands Animal Clinic in Alpharetta, was found dead at her home on August 13, 2012 from neck and upper torso injuries inflicted by one or more of the five dogs in her care. Carey was discovered by her friend Jackie Cira, whose Presa Canario Carey was looking after, along with her own Presa Canario, two pit bulls, and a boxer mix. All five dogs were killed by DeKalb County Animal Control. A volunteer with many organizations, whose photography appeared at the Best Friends Network web site, Carey in May 2012 helped to repeal a DeKalb County ban on possession of pit bulls.

Tom Meier, 61, was found dead on August 14, 2012 at his home in McKinley Village, Alaska, after failing to arrive at a wolf seminar at the Murie Science & Learning Center. Beginning wolf studies in 1976 in

Minnesota and Wisconsin, under U.S. Geological Service biologist David Mech, Meier worked at Denali National Park in Alaska from 1986 to 1993, helped to re-introduce wolves to the Yellowstone National Park region from 1996 to 2004, and spent the rest of his life back at Denali. He was co-author, with Mech, Layne Adams, and John Burch, of *The Wolves of Denali* (2003).

Omer Gillham, 53, died on July 9, 2012 at his home in Tulsa, Oklahoma. An electrician early in life, Gillham earned a journalism degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1992. After stints with the *Ada Evening News*, the *Daily Ardmoreite* and the *Norman Transcript*, Gillham joined the *Tulsa World* in 1998, where he was lead reporter on half a dozen award-winning investigations, including a series on puppy mills that won a Genesis Award in 2008 from the Humane Society of the U.S. Gillham also investigated dogfighting, rescue transport, and animal aspects of the Hurricane Katrina relief effort.

Donald Cyr, 64, drowned at Hampton Ponds in Westfield, Massachusetts on August 20, 2012, while trying to rescue their West Highland terrier Sadie, and Cyr’s wife **Patricia Cyr**, 61, drowned while attempting to rescue him. Sadie survived. As practically all dogs can swim, at least for short distances, the safe way to rescue a dog who has fallen into water is to extend to the dog a stick, an oar, or an article of clothing that the dog can bite into, and then tow the dog back to the boat, dock, or shore.

Law enforcement

Rod Lazenby, 63, a retired Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer who had become a bylaw enforcement officer for the Municipal District of Foothills, Alberta, in 2006, was allegedly fatally beaten on August 10, 2012 by dog breeder Trevor Kloschinsky, 46, who reportedly then drove Lazenby to a south Calgary police station. Kloschinsky was charged with first-degree murder. Lazenby visited Kloschinsky’s property north of Priddis to check on the care of 30 blue heelers whose barking had occasioned complaints from neighbors. Alberta SPCA spokesperson Roland Lines told media that the SPCA had been notified in both June and July that the dogs might be impounded, depending on what inspections discovered. Kloschinsky was evicted in October 2009 from a home in Turner Valley, after barking complaints from neighbors. Alberta Health Services subsequently declared the site unfit for habitation.

Donnalynn Schroeder, 51, of Newfoundland, Pennsylvania, died on September 9, 2012, about six hours after she was shot by her husband Bertrand Schroeder, 59, who was charged with criminal homicide and 50 counts of cruelty to animals for alleged neglect of the couple’s 50 beagles. Bertrand

WWF cofounder Russell Train, 92

Russell E. Train, 92, died on September 17, 2012 at his farm in Bozman, Maryland. An attorney prominent in Republican politics, Train was appointed by then-U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower to the bench of the U.S. Tax Court in 1957. Recalled *Washington Post* obituarist Juliet Eilperin, “Around that time, Train and his wife took two safari expeditions to East Africa,” as the then-British colony including Kenya and Tanzania was then known. “He shot an elephant and was chased by a rhinoceros,” Eilperin wrote.

Activists seeking Kenyan independence had already pledged to abolish trophy hunting, as a pursuit symbolizing colonialism and contradicting the teachings of some of the largest indigenous Kenyan communities. There was also political momentum building to ban sport hunting in India, whose tiger population had been shot to the verge of extinction. Recognizing an opportunity, Train in 1961 founded the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation, now called just the African Wildlife Foundation, and cofounded the World Wildlife Fund, with trophy hunter Sir Peter Scott and cronies, including captive bird-shooters Prince Philip of Britain and Prince Bernhard of The Netherlands, the whaler Aristotle Onassis, and then-National Rifle Association president C.R. “Pink” Gutermuth.

A primary goal of both the AWLF and WWF was to promote funding of wildlife conservation internationally by sales of hunting permits. This, the founders hoped, would prevent newly independent former colonies of European nations from banning sport hunting. Tanganyika won independence in 1961, merged with Zanzibar to form Tanzania in 1964, and authoritarian governments there have avidly accommodated trophy hunters ever since. Kenya won independence in 1963, but actually implementing a hunting ban took 14 years, largely due to the role of the AWLF.

For more than 25 years the AWLF trained staff for the Kenya Wildlife Service and openly sought first to forestall the hunting ban, and then to repeal it. After the AWLF became the AWF, it backed the Laikipia Wildlife Forum, an association of landowners that lobbied through the Kenyan parliament a December 2004 stealth repeal of the hunting ban. Kenyan president Emilio Mwai Kibaki vetoed the repeal bill after Josphat Ngonyo, founder of Youth for Conservation and the African Network for Animal Welfare, rallied nationwide grassroots opposition on only two weeks’ notice.

WWF meanwhile has globally pro-

moted the doctrine of “sustainable use,” meaning that wildlife conservation should pay for itself. Trophy hunting was the original funding mechanism advanced by WWF, but over time the concept of “sustainable use” has been broadened to include a range of other exploitative and extractive habitat-destroying industries, including rainforest logging, often done using WWF endorsements as cover.

Train in 1965 left his Tax Court position to head the Conservation Foundation, then left the Conservation Foundation in 1969 to hold a variety of positions within the administration of President Richard Nixon. Train in 1970 was named first chair of the Council on Environmental Quality, headed the Environmental Protection Agency toward the end of Nixon’s tenure and under President Gerald Ford, and had roles in producing and implementing the U.S. Endangered Species Act, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and National Environmental Policy Act.

Train from 1978 to 1985 was U.S. chair of WWF. Elected to chair both WWF and the Conservation Fund in 1985, Train merged the organizations in 1990. Named WWF chair emeritus in 1994, he chaired the WWF National Council from 1994 to 2001.

Prominent within WWF affairs during Train’s tenure in senior positions was Mobuto Sese Seko, who ruled the Congo for nearly 30 years before his death in 1996, and was widely identified as the top profiteer, globally, in ivory trafficking.

Also during Train’s tenure at WWF, Prince Bernhard and WWF Africa program director John Hanks formed Operation Lock, an anti-poaching mercenary force. Officially disavowed by WWF, it worked closely with units of the apartheid South African military—which funded covert activities in other African nations through elephant and rhino poaching. As *London Independent* reporter Stephen Ellis revealed in January 1991, it “collapsed with funds and horn stocks missing.”

King Gyanendra of Nepal, an avid hunter who represented Nepal in dealings with WWF from 1976 to 2006, was found in March 2008 to have extensively misused funds granted to the King Mahendra National Trust for Nature Conservation.

WWF also overlooked incidents involving other prominent hunters within the organization, including WWF/Sweden honorary president King Carl Gustaf and WWF/Spain honorary president King Juan Carlos, who was recently terminated after shooting an elephant in Botswana (*see page 14*.)

Schroeder reportedly told state police that he accidentally shot his wife after drinking most of a case of beer and then trying to unload one of two rifles she had paid for, to enable him to shoot “rabid” raccoons. Having a prior assault conviction in New Jersey, Bertrand Schroeder was not legally allowed to have guns. Schroeder reportedly acknowledged that he had once pointed a gun at his wife during an argument, and that they had argued several hours before the shooting. The beagles were taken into custody by the Dessin Animal Shelter and the Luzerne County SPCA.

Bradley Fox, 35, a K-9 officer in Plymouth Township, Pennsylvania, was shot to death and his dog partner Nick was wounded on September 13, 2012 while responding to a hit-and-run accident. Suspect Andrew Charles Thomas, 44, of Lower Merion, Pennsylvania, fatally shot himself soon afterward. Nick the dog is expected to survive.

Zoo personnel

Ruth Dieckmann, 43, a Koln Zoo tiger keeper since 1990, was killed on August 25, 2012 by Altai, a Siberian tiger, who escaped from his enclosure through an open gate. Arriving ahead of the city police SWAT

team, zoo director Theo Pagel shot Altai. Dieckmann, among the zoo’s best known staff, had reportedly survived a leopard attack in 2005. Dieckmann’s death came seven weeks after a pack of eight wolves killed a 30-year-old female keeper who had helped to raise them at the Kolmarden Zoo in Sweden. The pack in 2007 knocked down television personality Arne Weise, and injured visitors in 2010 and in May 2012.

Kushalappa Gowda, 36, a caretaker at the Dr. Shivaram Karanth Pilikula Biological Park in Mangalore, India, bled to death on July 31, 2012 after an attack by Raja, 15, a tiger Gowda had looked after and often played with since 2004. The tiger, who was reportedly ill, did not inflict further wounds after an initial pounce, but Gowda was not removed from the tiger’s cage for about an hour, according to *The Hindu*.

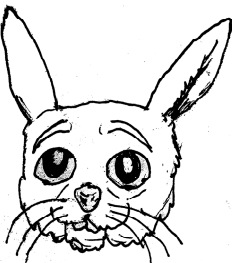
Junaedi, 32, a janitor at the Taman Safari Zoo in Cisarua, Bogor, West Java, was killed by a tiger on August 17, 2012 while trimming grass in the Sumatran tiger compound. Junaedi, who like many Asians used only one name, was apparently unaware of the tiger’s proximity.

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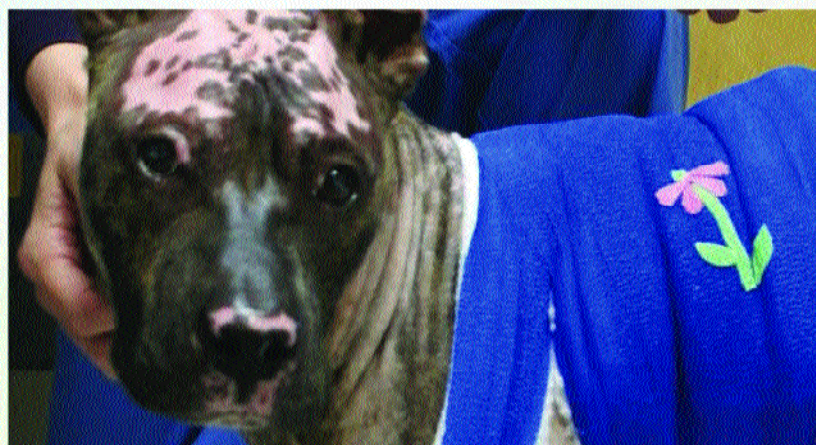
SPONSORS SAVE LIVES!

foster care home and continued to receive all the necessary medical treatments. As Sara continued to heal, we knew it was time to find her a permanent home. The family of another Police Officer adopted Sara. She is now a happy member of their family.

At North Shore Animal League America, we make every effort to find the best home for all the animals in our care. Sadly, some of the dogs and cats that come to us have been abused or neglected, while others suffer chronic illnesses.

With the support of the dedicated people who donate to our Sponsorship Program, the Animal League staff is able to care for these precious animals. One of those animals was Sara, a young American Pit Bull Terrier mix found in March 2010 by a New York City Police Officer, who rescued the badly burned animal from the smoldering remains of a house fire.

After being brought to the safety of the Animal League, Sara underwent several surgeries and other procedures to help heal her burns. In addition, she was treated for pneumonia, which resulted from smoke inhalation.



For months, Sara received the critical care she needed. Her incredible will and determination kept her alive and in good spirits. This amazingly loyal dog wanted to survive – not only for herself, but to please her rescuers. 2010 proved to be the best year in Sara's life. First, since Sara was in our Sponsorship Program, she was placed in a loving

Though Sara recovered well from the trauma she suffered, she will always have special medical needs due to the effect of the smoke inhalation. However, as a Sponsor Pet, the Animal League will supply her with treatment for the rest of her life.

Sara is happy in her loving home and gets along with her two housemate cats. They share water bowls and toys—and they take turns on who gets the best spots for napping on the couch. She has become the unofficial greeter at the local dog park, being the first at the entrance welcoming every dog.

Sara is nothing short of a miracle. She is a truly loving dog that seems amazingly unscathed emotionally from her harrowing ordeal. The Animal League was able to find Sara a home where she gets all the love she deserves and, with the generous support of the animal lovers who donate to our Sponsor Program, we are able to provide her with the medical care she will need for the rest of her life.



Sara showing affection at our 2011 Lewyt Humane Awards Luncheon, after being adopted by her loving family late 2010.

To learn more about how you can help animals like Sara by supporting our Sponsorship Program, Visit AnimalLeague.org/sponsor, or Call Toll Free 1-877-BE-MY-PAL (1-877-236-9725)



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