

FIREPAW

Newsletter

The Foundation For Interdisciplinary Research
And Education Promoting Animal Welfare

Animals already get it. We teach people.



Spring-Summer, 2006

Vol. VI, Issue 2

News & Special Announcements

Website Refreshed!

We are pleased to announce that the Research section of the FIREPAW website has been completely revamped. The new format was designed to offer visitors a self-serve, quick and easy method for finding publications and other resources. We would like to thank our dedicated and talented webmaster for all the work she did in updating the Research section. Great job, Webmaster Jen! [Click Here to view the Research section](#) or visit www.firepaw.org and click on the Research button.

System upgrades on the way

This summer FIREPAW's computer systems will be overhauled and upgraded. We are hopeful these new changes will greatly reduce the amount of emails currently lost in cyberspace. It will also improve our ability to work online and to send and receive large databases and file attachments without incident. There may be some disruption in our ability to communicate and send/receive data electronically during that time. We would like to thank you in advance for being patient while we make our systems more efficient.

Out with the old, in with the new

Most of you have already switched over to using the "firepaw.org" email addys. If you are still emailing us using the old firepaw@earthlink address, please delete it from your address book, as that account will soon be obsolete.

Here are a few email addresses you may want to add to your electronic address book. (There are more email addys listed at www.firepaw.org.)

List Administrators (for FIREPAW's Animal Issues, a daily animal e-zine):
ListAdministrator@firepaw.org

Web Master: Webmaster@firepaw.org

General Information: info@firepaw.org

FIREPAW associates: firepaw@firepaw.org

Artist to the rescue!

We know you like helping animals, but do you also like creative, artistic pottery pieces for your home? How about beautiful, unique jewelry made from recycled materials? If so, you will soon be able to get in on some really cool, creative art pieces made from recycled materials, and help animals at the same time! Recently, a successful West Coast pottery artist generously offered to donate the proceeds from items specially selected for FIREPAW visitors, to our Companion Animal Victims Education Fund! So get your list of gift recipients ready...and Stay tuned for details!



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The New Animal Abuse Book is Now Available!



Silent Victims: Recognizing and Stopping Abuse of the Family Pet

By FIREPAW's Pamela Carlisle-Frank, Ph.D.
And Link-UP's Officer Tom Flanagan

We are pleased to announce that the animal abuse book Silent Victims has been released and is now available!

Who should read Silent Victims? The book is written for domestic violence caseworkers, therapists, law enforcement, veterinarians, social service professionals, judges, district attorneys, animal control officers, humane investigators, fire department officials, animal welfare organizations, and other professions who come in contact with animal victims and perpetrators of animal abuse. University undergraduates and graduate students learning about family violence and students of both veterinarian practice and law enforcement will also find the book quite useful.

[TO PLACE YOUR ORDER BY CREDIT CARD CLICK HERE](#)
[TO PLACE YOUR ORDER BY CHECK, CLICK HERE](#)

Change your rolodex card!

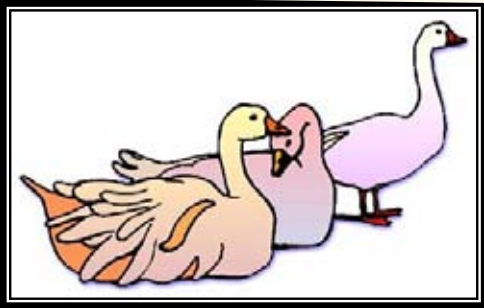
FIREPAW has a new mailing address and telephone/fax number.

FIREPAW, Inc.
14781 Memorial Drive
Office # 2207
Houston, TX 77079
Telephone/FAX: 713-493-2585

Should you forget to make the changes, this information is also available on the Contact Us page of our website (www.firepaw.org)



Honk if you love geese!



We are proud of long-time FIREPAW volunteer Patty K.'s work this spring to help save Canada geese from slaughter. Town officials in Scotia, New York plan to have the geese who frequent their town park netted and killed. Patty, Laura B. and several other members of the FIREPAW listserv, as well as advocates from across New York State and the U.S., have worked tirelessly to save the geese from slaughter, and to educate town officials about humane methods to solve geese overpopulation problems. As of the date of publication of this Newsletter, the town was still planning on killing the geese. We hope to have better news to report in future updates.

No matter where you live, if you would like to become a voice for these innocent creatures, please visit the new web site:

WEB SITE: <http://savethegeese.webhop.net>

or, join the newly-formed e-group of activists working to save the geese at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/savethegeese>

Also visit Scotia on Goose Hall of Shame web site:

<http://www.hallofshame.lovecanadageese.com/scotia.html>

And sign the petition to stop the slaughter of these geese at:

<http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/361343724>

We need your support!

FIREPAW, Inc. is a 501(c)(3), all-volunteer organization. That means your donation goes directly to fund research and public education programs to stop animal suffering. If you would like to help keep these important programs going, [Click Here to Donate online](#), or send your tax-deductible donation to: FIREPAW, Inc., 14781 Memorial Drive, Office # 2207, Houston, TX 77079



Editorial

What “No-Kill” means to me

by Joshua Frank, Executive Director

A few decades ago, I worked for a company that instituted a “Total Quality Management” (TQM) program. At the time, it was all the rage among management consultants. Years later, when I went to graduate business school, I was impressed when I learned all about the philosophy and tenets behind this new quality movement.

Nonetheless, when my company first instituted TQM, I was skeptical. The old-timers, especially the blue-collar workers who had been at the company for more than twenty years, were even more skeptical than I was about TQM. Here were these high-paid outsiders with MBA’s, and little detailed knowledge of our particular business, coming in and telling us that we should make having “zero defects” our goal, that nothing less was acceptable, and having us waste all kinds of time attending workshops and doing exercises about how we could reach that goal. We all tried to make as few errors as possible, but of course, we knew that the concept of zero defects was impossible. To strive for an unrealistic goal, in the minds of many, (including me, initially) was ridiculous.

But, as I learned later, such a perspective is wrong on several fronts. First, sometimes zero defects *is* achievable. It may not happen every time, in all situations. But production plants can, and have, met this goal, and have gone on to celebrate their achievements for a certain week, month, or even year. Furthermore, even when it is not fully achieved, it is still the right target for employees to focus on. A focus on zero defects can lead to great improvements in quality, even when a perfect record is not achieved. And unless a firm is achieving zero defects, there is still room for improvement. Finally, and most importantly, the concept of achieving zero defects represents more than just a tangible goal—it represents a “paradigm shift.” In other words, this quality management movement represented a total shift in thinking.

Previously, management assumed a certain level of defects was “optimal”—there was a balancing point between reducing the cost of defects to the company, and reducing the costs of conducting “quality control” work by the company. Have too many defects, and you paid in wasted product, but have “too few” defects, and you unnecessarily incurred high quality control costs. This philosophy dominated management for most of the 20th century. However, once you believe X-number of defects per thousand units is acceptable, you tend not to look for opportunities to reduce errors, even when they come from improvements in the process that save money, rather than costing a penny. In short, seeing defects as acceptable leads to complacency.

In animal sheltering, many workers and managers, particularly those who have been in the field for years, scoff at the idea of saving the lives of every healthy or treatable animal. They say it is unrealistic in their community. There have always been too many animals, and not enough homes. Shelters try their best, after all, and should not be demoralized with unrealistic expectations.

But as with TQM, this thinking is faulty on several fronts. First, killing no healthy or treatable animals is not only achievable in theory, there are now cases where it has been done in shelters that do not have the luxury of “limited intake.” Second, anybody working at a shelter should find the killing of animals that could be adopted or treated unacceptable—period. This is not meant to be a judgment of shelters that kill “excess” animals when they run out of space. What shelters do in the very short term, when they have more animals than space, is a difficult question and there are no easy answers. However, in the longer term, the answer is not difficult. Believe with all your heart that killing is unacceptable, then do whatever it takes to stop killing any animal that can be saved. There does not need to be any debate about “no-kill” versus traditional sheltering. Both sides should be able to agree that the ultimate goal for a *community* is to kill no animals (excluding those animals who are truly incurably ill or truly dangerous). And everybody in sheltering should care enough about animals’ lives to have a sense of urgency in reaching this goal.

And as with TQM, the most important part of a change towards what I consider to be a “no-kill” viewpoint is a paradigm shift. This is not about changing shelter euthanasia or intake policy. It is about shifting perspectives. Shelters can no longer think that any level of killing of “excess” animals is acceptable. There can be no ‘business as usual’ as long as killing is still occurring. There can be no complacency when it comes to the lives of animals. Period.

This shift in perspective has been shown to generate real improvements. A growing number of communities across the country have all experienced this paradigm shift to one extent or another. For example, FIREPAW works analyzing Maddie’s Fund community programs across the country. It is true that often these communities fall short on some very aggressive program goals. Sometimes, opponents use these kinds of results to argue that they were right about “no-kill” all along. But this is just like arguing that TQM is a bad idea simply because one may not achieve zero defects. The fact is, that every Maddie’s Fund program community (and quite possibly every place that has undergone this sort of animal sheltering “paradigm shift”) has drastically reduced the killing of animals in their community. And this is success. Even when not every animal is saved, when the life of every animal is valued, any change that saves lives is a change for the better and worth the effort.

Research Update



Exposing Meat as a Bad Habit

We are pleased to announce that an article written by FIREPAW Executive Director Joshua Frank, Ph.D., entitled, "Meat as a Bad Habit: A Case for Positive Feedback in Consumption Preferences Leading to Lock-In," has recently been accepted for publication in the Review of Social Economy. Stay tuned for more details on the availability of this article.

What's the difference between an animal 'Guardian' and 'Owner'?

Find out in the soon to be published article: Carlisle-Frank, P. & Frank, J. (2006). Owners, guardians, and owner-guardians: Differing relationships with pets." *Anthrozoos*.

As of the time this Newsletter went out for publication, we were still awaiting the scheduling of the exact publication volume and issue. Updated information will appear in the Research section of the FIREPAW website (www.firepaw.org) when it is available. Pre-prints will also be available later this year. To obtain a preprint, email: info@firepaw.org with the words, "Guardian-Owner study preprint request" in the subject line. Emails should contain: Full name and snail mail address.

It's the new zoo review

Now that better weather is upon us, FIREPAW researchers and assistants will be increasing their visits to local zoos and their data collection efforts. What for? It's all a part of the FIREPAW long-term observational study of human interaction within captive animal settings. Here is a hint from one of the anecdotal observations so far: Who do you think more frequently expresses concern over the fact that the wild animals are confined to a zoo? Children? Adults? Males? Females?

Animal Well-Being

Pets Sickened by Boot Spray

A waterproofing boot spray has caused some 27 pets in the Midwest to get sick over the past year. Three housecats have died since being exposed to the aerosol products. Most of the cases have occurred in Michigan, with others occurring in Indiana, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Many of the cases have been linked to "Jobsite Heavy Duty Boot-mate" and "Rocky Boot Weather and Stain Protector." Be sure to go outdoors—and away from your pets—when using waterproofing products.

Source: *Associated Press*

Pet Fire Safety Collars

The Pet Fire Alert Collar may be a real lifesaver for your companion animals. It connects to any home smoke alarm and emits both a light and noise during a fire, to lead fire-fighters to trapped pets. Here's how it works: When the smoke detector goes off, within seconds it signals the collar on the animal. The pet's collar then emits a bright green light and a noise, to signal where the pet is located. Once the pet has been located and is safe, only a human can turn the unit off by pushing a button on the collar. Gail Eicken of New Jersey is the inventor of the Pet Fire Safety Collar. The collars are currently being refined and will be produced and distributed by PetSafe. The collars will be going into full production for release next spring. PetSafe anticipates the cost will be \$69 per collar.

Source: *Star Ledger*

VIDEOS: Home Cat Care

(Pilling, Tooth Brushing, Nail Trimming, etc) at the Cornell Feline Health Center: www.felinevideos.vet.cornell.edu/index.htm

BOOK: Help Your Dog Fight Cancer

Send a check for \$21.95 to JanGen Press at P.O. Box 2574, Briarcliff, NY 10510, or see instructions on www.helpyourdogfightcancer.com. It's also available through amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com or walmart.com.





Education Update

Partnering to help animals workshop

American Humane's Conference 2006
Schaumburg, Illinois:
September 28 – September 30, 2006



WORKSHOP:

The Social Psychology of Partnering to Help Animals

Examines the socio-psychological factors that influence the obstacles--and the solutions--to working effectively in multidisciplinary partnerships to stop animal abuse. Offers techniques and strategies for effective partnerships and attaining goals.

SPEAKER: Pamela Frank, Ph.D., President, The Foundation of Interdisciplinary Research and Education Promoting Animal Welfare [FIREPAW, Inc.]
www.firepaw.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON REGISTERING FOR THE AHA CONFERENCE VISIT:
www.americanhumane.org OR EMAIL: conference@americanhumane.org

The Power of Education

We were thrilled this past spring when 19-year-old Haley G. of Chicago, Illinois wrote to tell us she had recently intervened to stop animal abuse. She and her roommate rescued the animal (a gerbil) after hearing three males from their college dorm planning a scheme to abuse the creature. The gerbil is now safely residing at an undisclosed location, and the potential perpetrators have been reported. Haley said she became proactive in watching for the signs of animal abuse and educating others after she and her mother participated in a seminar about recognizing and stopping animal abuse conducted by FIREPAW co-founder and president.

Book work update

If you have not seen much of FIREPAW's president or executive director lately, there is good reason for it. Following over five years of intensive research on a variety of animal-related topics, FIREPAW principals are now focusing their energy on writing books about their findings.

The nonfiction books are being written in an easy to understand format to target the mainstream audience. Writing under a variety of pseudonyms, over the past two decades FIREPAW co-founders have published nonfiction and fiction books, stage plays, poetry, scientific and professional articles, newspaper articles, and magazine columns.

Despite their successes in the publishing arena, however, they know they have their work cut out for them. Both agree that one of their biggest challenges will be to get their work about stopping animal suffering on to the coffee tables and bookshelves of the general public. The publisher of two of their upcoming books agrees, but believes in their projects. "Selling books to the public is a tough business these days, but they [the Franks] have the talent and the drive to jump the hurdles," he said in a recent telephone call. FIREPAW volunteer Kris W. sees it differently. "It's all in our name. The Foundation for Interdisciplinary Research and 'Education.' If you look at FIREPAW's mission statement, getting the books out there is about a commitment to changing public consciousness and helping to stop animal suffering. Reaching even a modest percentage of people is enough because the books are the key to that education."

You can catch more details about the upcoming books in future updates of the FIREPAW Newsletter.



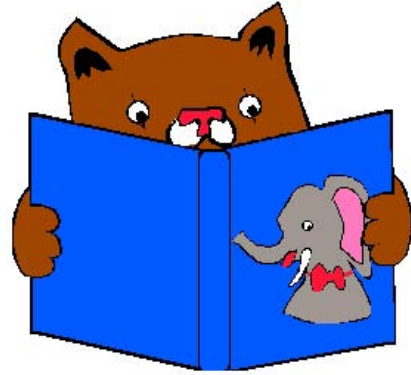
Literary Corner

Book Review

Animal Rights Human Rights

By David Nibert

Reviewed by Joshua Frank



In *Animal Rights Human Rights* David Nibert looks at the animal rights issue from a sociological perspective, which yields many interesting insights. Nibert draws parallels between animal exploitation and various forms of human oppression, arguing that they are all deeply connected. The book also places much-needed attention on the link between all forms of oppression and the economic structure of society. According to Nibert, we do not exploit animals (and certain human groups for that matter) because of belief systems that suggest they are inferior; rather the exploitation of animals leads society to create belief systems that are consistent with our actions. This is an important insight and it explains more of animal exploitation than people realize, but it probably is not the full story.

Animal Rights Human Rights is an interesting and worthwhile book, thoughtful and well researched. However, buying into his full argument about the economic basis of animal exploitation and the need for a socialist solution may be difficult for many readers to swallow. Capitalistic society surely has many flaws and is responsible for quite a bit of the harm done to animals. However, the causes of oppression and animal exploitation are more complex and varied than this. Furthermore, although Nibert is correct when he argues that true socialism on a national level has never really been tested, this is not the same as saying it is a viable system. The corruption that Nibert (correctly) sees rampant under capitalism, would likely be even more difficult to avoid when economic decisions are centrally controlled. Furthermore, there are severe problems with coordinating activities efficiently and encouraging innovation in such a system. Economic interests may play an important role in animal exploitation, but saying that we must throw out capitalism before overcoming animal exploitation is not a very satisfying answer.

In the final analysis, even if Nibert does not have an encouraging answer to ending animal exploitation, he at least presents some very interesting and thought-provoking questions.



Expert Corner

Barking Up the Right Tree

Doggie Décor

By Jody Diehl, email: bestdog1@verizon.net



Couch cushions are always turned up; to be turned down 2 seconds before company arrives. Doggie-fur dust bunnies roll across the floor like tumbleweeds across the plains mere moments after the entire house has been vacuumed. The backyard looks like an archaeological dig. The water on the floor around the bowl looks like you've been hit by a tsunami. Your nice, green lawn has brown spots. The floor is perpetually blanketed with the carcasses and innards of eviscerated toy critters. The house looks like it has been hit by every possible natural disaster. Martha Stewart would cringe. Does this sound like your house? If it does, then you must live with a dog.

Dogs are not people. They make a different kind of mess than humans do. Some of their messes are downright gross. And they do not clean up after themselves. This is the reality we must accept when we bring a dog into our homes. If you are providing for your dogs needs, then your home will look like a dog lives there. We must realize that there are inconveniences that come along with a dog. Who wants to walk in the rain and sleet...except, maybe, the dog? But it is worth the effort and minor discomfort to make sure your dog is fully exercised. Don't forget about your dog's mental stimulation needs. Dogs have a way of telling us what their preferred activities are. If your dog likes to dig, chew or rip things apart find ways to let him! It can make a mess that we have to clean up. But dogs must be dogs. If we don't provide activities that are natural for them that we can live with they will come up with their own. Better to clean up ripped apart fuzzy toys than to clean up ripped apart furniture. A dog whose needs have been provided for is a more content dog. Satisfied dogs are easier to live with.

When planning gardens and landscaping it is in your best interest to go with the flow. Study your dog's habits in the yard and work around

them. Don't plant flowerbeds right in his favorite squirrel-chasing flight path. By thinking ahead you avoid frustration and the necessity for damage control. Fences are a dog guardian's best friend (after the dog, of course). Put your prize peonies outside of the fence and doggie resistant plants inside. Dogs don't know for gardens. Please don't expect them to. A fence also provides a safe, off leash area for your dog to exercise. Digging is a great energy burner. If your dog is a digger, give him a place in the yard where he can dig. He's going to dig whether you provide the place or not. Forsythia bushes are great for diggers. The dog has a blast and wears himself out. The bush doesn't get damaged and nobody knows what a mess it is under there.

As always, think ahead before choosing a dog. Decide what is important to you and make the appropriate breed choices in terms of energy level, exercise needs, shedding, etc. Train your dog to have the habits and manners that are important to you. You decide what you can live with. Manage your household to minimize the messes that make you most crazy. But remember that no matter what you do your dog will always be a dog. Have realistic expectations. Dogs share our space and will have impact on that space just as we do. These are very important points to keep in mind. Dogs whose guardians don't think these things through often end up at the end of a chain alone, bored and unhappy. If you cannot live with the impact that a dog will make, maybe a dog is not for you.

By investing your time, effort and money in providing for your dog's needs you are essentially investing, in the long run, in your own sanity. Plan ahead. Train and exercise your dog. Accept the impact and inconvenience that comes along with a dog and you will not have any rude awakenings when your home looks like a page out of Better Bones and Gardens.

Special Delivery

If you Google “humane eggs,” what will you get?

In an effort to incorporate social values into food choices, Google's employee cafeterias will no longer serve eggs that come from caged hens. The company's 6,000 workers eat approximately 300,000 eggs annually in Google's cafeterias.

Source: Associated Press



Comunidad Valenciana - we are now trying to collect more signatures before the end of the year.

Besides the signatures we have started this support campaign in the web, so that people outside from Spain can also show their backup to our goals. Although these signatures don't have a legal value in Spain they will surely have a great effect in the decision our government will take.

A special request from our colleagues in Spain

Please visit this Petition link and consider signing on:
<http://www.petitiononline.com/ARCADYS/petition.html>

Petition title:

Stop the killing of homeless dogs and cats in the Valencian Community (Spain)

ARCADYS is an animal defense entity located in Valencia (Spain) operating in the whole Comunidad Valenciana (Valencian Community)

We ask you to support our campaign to change the community local laws in order to forbid the indiscriminate killing of homeless dogs and cats in the shelters of our community, where thousands and thousands of dogs and cats are eliminated every year.

Despite all our efforts (see a summary of our activities below) it's still much cheaper for the local city and town councils to kill the exceeding animals in the shelters than to carry out the necessary measures that would in short-term eliminate the cause of the problem.

Therefore we have started a campaign to change the local laws to prohibit the indiscriminate killing of dogs and cats in the shelters, as we think this would be the only way to force the local governments to face the problem and adopt the necessary measures.

For the time being, we have collected 30.000 signatures and presented them to the local government of the

Thank you very much for your support!!

ARCADYS

www.arcadys.org

A summary of our activities:

Our organization doesn't run a shelter; we concentrate on trying to solve the problem by addressing the cause:

- We collaborate with vets for providing low cost spaying/neutering to the public and carry out TNR activities.
- We organize canine education courses throughout the year and take part in different local and national media (radio, T.V. and press).
- We promote sensitization campaigns to make the people aware of the respect every animal deserves and the cruelty of abandoning.
- We publish a magazine, lecture at schools, and carry out a Companion Animal Assisted Therapy Program in geriatric hospitals to reinforce the value of dogs in our society.
- We also collaborate with the local shelters coordinating rescue groups as well as adoption and foster webs.
- One of our most important activities is the legal defense of animals and prosecution and punishment of abuse and abandoning, which is carried out by our legal department.

Sincerely,

Carlos Garcia Rico

Arcadys External Relationships

www.arcadys.org

carlos.garcia.rico@gmail.com

Animal Law



Georgetown Receives \$1 Million for Animal Rights Law

Television personality Bob Barker has donated \$1 million to Georgetown University Law Center for the study of animal rights law. Barker, a long-time animal rights activist, has estab-

lished similar endowments to enhance animal law programs at Harvard, Columbia, UCLA, Stanford, Northwestern, and Duke.

Source: Georgetown Law School News/Press Releases

New State Law Protects Animal Victims of Domestic Violence

Thanks to a new law, companion animals in the state of Maine are now included in protection orders in domestic violence cases. The law should help protect the animals and reduce the incidence of domestic violence batterers who threaten to harm or kill the family pets as a way to control their partners. Maine is believed to be the first state with such a law.

Source: New York Times

ALABAMA: HB 252, WHICH SUPPORTS SPAY/NEUTER OF ADOPTABLE PETS, IS NOW LAW!

Source: ASPCA

Pet Trusts Possible

Pet owners in Maryland may soon be able to leave money to their animals through pet trusts. Legislators are considering granting animal beneficiaries the same legal status as humans. Under current Maryland law, an estate trustee is not legally obligated to care for animals belonging to the deceased—even if care for the animals had been requested. New proposed legislation would require trustees to follow the wishes of the deceased and to care for pets. If the legislation passes, owner-guardians will be able to leave as much money to their pets as they wish. They can even designate a pet as the sole beneficiary of their estates.

Source: Capital News Service

Apes Given Rights Equal to Humans?

In Spain this past spring, the Spanish Socialist Party introduced a bill to their Congress calling for the immediate inclusion of apes to receive the same moral and legal protection currently only enjoyed by humans.

Source: Spain Herald

Strengthening Animal Cruelty Laws

Kansas senators voted unanimously this spring to make the deliberate killing, maiming or torturing of animals a felony.

Source: Kansas City News

PETS Act

The Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (or PETS Act, for short) will require state and local emergency preparedness plans to include people with pets and service animals, grant FEMA the authority to assist with these plans, allow FEMA to provide rescue, care, shelter and essential services to people and their companion animals, and allow financial assistance for non-profit organizations to create and develop emergency shelters for people with animals.

Source: HSUS

No More Doggy Bags?

Proposed legislation in Florida would allow dogs to sit at the table at outdoor restaurants, right along with their human family members. If approved, the bill would create a three-year pilot program, allowing cities to grant special permission to restaurants that want to host dogs.

Source: Associated Press

Animal sodomy on sex offender list?

Michigan state lawmaker Rick Jones, a Republican, wants to add people convicted of sodomy against animals to Michigan's sex offender registry. Rep. Jones was motivated by a case where a man pleaded no contest to a sodomy charge involving a sheep, then argued he should not have to register as a sex offender.

Michigan's Sex Offenders Registration Act requires offenders to register their address at a local law enforcement agency. The list is available to the public. More than 38,000 people are on the list. The sex offender registry bill is House Bill 6099.

Source: Associated Press

Animal Law Resource: Journal of Animal Law and Ethics

<http://www.law.upenn.edu/groups/jale/>

California Animal Law Field Guide

SOURCE: Brenda Carey, Attorney:

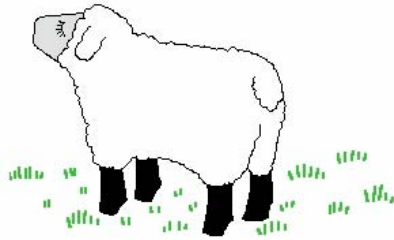
brenda.carey@comcast.net

Please visit www.animallawresource.com to access the California Animal Law Field Guide. (It will be posted there within the next day or two). This guide is an informative, user-friendly guide that's purpose is to increase and improve animal law enforcement in California. Please forward it to your local police departments, sheriff's departments, animal control departments and humane societies. This valuable guide was intended to be sold for \$100, but it is instead available for free (my gift to the animals).

Animal Fun Facts

Did you know that...

-Mountain gorillas chew and swallow rotting wood because of the high amounts of sodium it contains. The trace element helps their bones stay strong, and aids in growth, fertility and coordination.



-Some whale species sing in different dialects depending on where they are from. Blue whales from the Pacific Northwest sound completely different than blue whales in the western Pacific Ocean, or blue whales living near Antarctica or off the coast of Chile.

-Bottlenose dolphins can call each other by name when they whistle, making them the only animals besides humans, known to recognize such identity information. They can recognize names -- their signature whistles -- even when emitted without inflection or other vocal cues. And speaking of sound, did you know that dolphins in the wild eavesdrop on their neighbors' echoes to help them learn important information about what is going on?

-Cockroaches, as it turns out, are very good at decision-making. The insects are particularly savvy when it comes to decision-by-committee, or group decision making.

-Green frogs emit smelly secretions through their skin that act as a natural mosquito repellent. Frog secretions tested on mice offered up to a full hour of protection from mosquitoes.

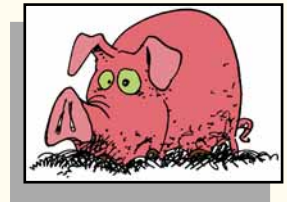
-The top layer of fur on domesticated cats is actually water-repellent, so that in moderate showers, water just bounces off.

-Sheep can select the correct natural medicinal remedies to cure specific ailments and illnesses

-Salamanders can regenerate limbs, tails, upper and lower jaws, the lens and retinas of their eyes, and their intestines.

Sources: New Scientist, New Science.com, New York Times, Reuters

Animal-Related Events



ANIMAL-ASSISTED THERAPY ONLINE COURSE

University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work presents: Animals and Human Health: A Certificate in Animal-Assisted Therapy, Activities and Learning.

The next cohort will begin with the online core course on September 11, 2006. Registration is now open and class size will be limited, so plan to register soon. TO REQUEST MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lorie Bohm Klumb, MSW, MPA
 Outreach and Continuing Education Director
 University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work
 2148 S. High St.
 Denver, CO 80208
 303-871-7462
 303-8712845 fax
 or EMAIL: lkumb@du.edu
www.du.edu/gssw

ANIMAL-HUMAN INTERACTIONS CONFERENCE--JAPAN

IAHAIO 2007

People & Animals: Partnership in Harmony

The next Conference of the International Association of Human-Animal Interaction Organizations will be held in Tokyo, Japan from 5th-8th October 2007. Please visit our website.

<http://www2.convention.co.jp/iahaio.tokyo>

Detailed information & Proposal form:

<http://www2.convention.co.jp/iahaio.tokyo/program.html>

If you have any questions, please contact us.

Secretariat of IAHAIO 2007 Tokyo

Email: iahaio.tokyo@convention.co.jp

SOURCE: Secretariat of IAHAIO 2007 Tokyo

iahaio.tokyo@convention.co.jp

Continued on page 13

Strange But True Animal Stories



Doggy Mood-Music?

An entrepreneur in Thailand has launched an Internet radio station to put dogs in a better mood. Anupan Boonchuen, director of a dog grooming school, said he launched Dog Radio Thailand this spring because he has seen music improve the mood of dogs he grooms. The programming on www.dogradiothailand.com mainly offers Thai pop music, but Boonchuen plans to expand offerings in which the disc jockey will "talk to the dogs in Thai."

Piggy-Back Ride

Was it a case of pig-napping or simply a bad choice of vehicles? Police found a missing potbellied pig in the back seat of a stolen car when they nabbed the car thief this past April. The piggy had been waiting in the backseat when the car was stolen from an Ohio restaurant parking lot.

Baa-Baa-Billboard

Sheep in the Netherlands have been pawns, it seems, forced to act as living billboards. One hundred forty-four sheep were forced to wear blankets with logos advertising for a local web company. Advertising is prohibited along the roadways, and when the mayor learned of the fleecing, he imposed a \$1,250.00 fine on the farmers for renting out the sheep. These days the sheep are wearing a different sign. This one reads, "Thank you, Mayor."

Doggy Penthouses

La Petite Maison doghouses are as fit for humans as they are for pets. These doggy domiciles come replete with heating and air conditioning, and include porches, bay windows and blooming flower boxes. The average doggy penthouse costs \$10,000, with all models ranging from \$6,000 to \$20,000. The typical doghouse can take up to a full year to build.

What Has Two Heads and will be Listed on E-Bay?

The world's only two-headed albino snake is a female who goes by the name of 'We.' We will soon be auctioned off on E-bay. The starting bid? A cool \$150,000.00 US dollars. We has lived at the World Aquarium in St. Louis, Missouri for the past seven years. It was the aquarium president's idea to auction her off. We has a white body, with two reddish-colored heads. She is healthy, 4-feet long, and one inch thick. She is expected to live for another 10 to 15 years.

Pizzly Puzzle

The world's first known Grizzly-Polar bear hybrid was discovered in April of this year. Like a polar bear, the hybrid bear had thick, white fur. And, like a grizzly bear, the hybrid had a humped back, shallow face, and brown patches around his eyes, nose, back, and one foot. Researchers in Canada confirmed that the bear was a hybrid. Unfortunately, we will not learn much more about the "Pizzly"; an American hunter, who paid \$45,000 US dollars to hunt Polar bears in Canada, shot and killed him.

Surly Sea Lion

An aggressive sea lion in Berkeley, California is on the Most Wanted list. So far, the 1,500-pound bull has attacked and bitten three people. During the last attack, the sea lion jumped onto the dock, bit a woman on the ankle, and then tried to drag her into the water. Members of the Marine Mammal Center have been unsuccessful in their attempts to capture the sea lion. Workers have now gained permission to spray the sea lion's face with water in an attempt to deter him from coming around the docks.

Donkeys are the Best Life Partners?

Donkeys, according to a new school textbook used in India, are better than human wives. The textbook compares donkeys to housewives and states that the animals make better companions because they complain less and are more loyal to their masters. The textbook, used as a primer for 14-year-olds, states, "A donkey is like a housewife...In fact, the donkey is a shade better, for while the housewife may sometimes complain and walk off to her parents' home, you'll never catch the donkey being disloyal to his master."

For Sale: Home Includes Great View and One Tortoise

A tortoise named Eliza is the key feature of a home for sale in southern England. Eliza has become a fixture on the property. She has resided in the home's rose garden for over half a century, and the home sellers do not think she should be displaced. The selling price for the home and property is \$648,000 US dollars. So far, buyers have been lining up to see the house—and Eliza.

Sources: *Associated Press, Tribune news services, Agence France-Presse, Columbia News Service, AFP, San Francisco Chronicle, Reuters, The Times of India*

Animal-Related Resources

Just for fun?

www.marleyandme.com
www.cuteoverload.com
www.stuffonmycat.com
www.babyanimalz.com
www.catsinsinks.com
www.dailykitten.com
www.dogster.com



Animal rights updates in the UK

www.liberation-mag.org.uk

Stray dogs rescue organization—Global

StrayDogsCampaign Foundation
www.actiezwerfhonden.nl

STATE-BY-STATE ANIMAL RESCUE LISTINGS

State to State Alphabetical listing

www.kritterfitters.com

<http://72.41.183.109/petinformationpage.html>

email: listing@kritterfitters.com

High-end Super Luxury Hotel for Dogs

www.mazzus.com

"Scary Squirrel World"

www.scarysquirrel.org

Lolita Whale's story

www.miamiseaprisson.com

Animal rights and religion: Satire

<http://www.landoverbaptist.org/sermons/vegans.html>

<http://www.landoverbaptist.org/>

Help wildlife in Africa

Email: info@anaw.org

Animals around the world

ANIMAL FRIENDS CROATIA

www.prijateljji-zivotinja.hr/animalist/indexen.html

-and-

www.iwab.org

IMAB@iwab.org

U.S. postage stamps to help combat factory farming cruelty

www.hsus.org/farm/news/ournews/zazzle_stamp.html

OR

www.zazzle.com/hsus

Note: these stamps can *only* be bought via these links

Helping companion animals

Animal Welfare Organization Sign-up/Update Assistance:

info@PETS911.com

Request a PSA or other promotional materials

email: media@PETS911.com

PETS 911

Address: 7301 East Helm Drive, Building D.

Scottsdale, AZ 85260

Ph: 480-889-2640 | E-mail: info@PETS911.com

Web: www.PETS911.com

Reporting animal cruelty depicted on websites

File a complaint at the following Web site: www.ifccfbi.gov.

This is a reporting center Web site set up by the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) for Internet fraud and other forms of Internet crime.

In addition, the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) has set up a similar website. For more information please visit:

www.h4ha.org/stopcruelty/index.html

State-by-State listing of Animal Cruelty Statutes:

www.animal-law.org/statutes/index.html

Animal Rescue—Northern California

Milo Foundation

(510) 527-7387

www.milofoundation.org

Rabbit Rescue

Save a Bunny at www.saveabunny.com

House Rabbit Society at www.rabbit.org

The resources offered in the FIREPAW Newsletter are for information purposes only. FIREPAW does not endorse nor profit from specific products, services, events, etc. listed here.

Animal-Related Events continued from page 10

ANIMAL RIGHTS CONFERENCE--CA

Join Tom Regan and Kim W. Stallwood at The Strength of Many: the 21st Annual International Compassionate Living Festival. This unique conference is once again co-produced by the Culture and Animals Foundation and ASI and is taking place on the West Coast for the first time.

October 6 - 8, 2006
Renaissance Montura Hotel
Los Angeles, California

Visit the Animals & Society Institute web site for registration information.

www.animalsandsociety.org

CALL FOR PAPERS: HUMAN-ANIMAL RELATIONSHIPS

Proteus: A Journal of Ideas
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania

For Spring 2007, Proteus seeks articles that examine the relationships between humans and animals from a wide range of perspectives and disciplines. Articles may discuss wild or domesticated animals; they may encompass multiple human societies and animal species; or they may focus on the interactions between an individual human and animal. Submissions may include, but are not limited to, articles and essays written

by scientists, humanists, historians, social scientists, and literary scholars. The journal especially encourages articles that span multiple disciplines. Poetry and art are accepted.

Deadline for manuscripts is October 2, 2006.

Publication date is April 2007.

Manuscripts must be typed and double-spaced.

Preferable length of articles is 2,000 to 5,000 words. Longer papers will be considered.

Send manuscript as a Microsoft word attachment to:
proteus@ship.edu

Contact Person: Proteus Managing Editor,
Marcia Gibbs (717-477-1206)

Animal Rights 2006 Conference

AR 2006: AR 2006, Aug 10-13

Washington, D.C.

www.arconference.org/program.htm

Taking Action for Animals Conference

TAFA: Sept 2nd-5th, 2006

Washington, DC.

www.takingactionforanimals.org/

American Humane Annual Conference 2006

September 28 - 30, 2006 in Schaumburg, IL.

www.americanhumane.org

EMAIL: conference@americanhumane.org



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Visit our website: www.firepaw.org



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RESEARCH AND EDUCATION PROMOTING
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PAMELA FRANK, Ph.D., PRESIDENT

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Email: info@firepaw.org



Newsletter design by Jennifer Petruzzini

Animals already get it. We teach people.



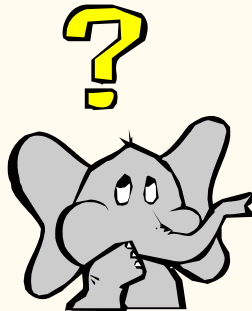


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Animal Issues offers the most current news, features, fun facts, tidbits, calls for action, updates in animal abuse cases, animal law, books, research findings, resources, events, conferences, and so much more in the world of animals and advocacy. So what are you waiting for?

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Express Yourself!

Do your part to change public consciousness about animal suffering. Speak up for the animals by getting a really cool FIREPAW T-shirt (two slogans), button or extra-sturdy shoulder tote-bag. Proceeds go to support our research, education and community outreach programs.

[Click here to see cool FIREPAW stuff!](#)



Buttons



T-shirts



Tote-bags