

ANIMAL *Writes*

www.vancouverhumanesociety.com

VOLUME 37 - SPRING 2007



Help us help Mathias and others like him

The Vancouver Foundation will match up to \$10,000 for every cent you donate to VHS's McVitie Fund for sick and injured animals

The Vancouver Foundation has provided VHS supporters with a wonderful opportunity to help animals! The *Irene Joy Stewart and Florence Maud Shedden Endowment Fund for Domestic and Wild Animal Welfare* has issued a challenge to help us help sick and injured animals through our McVitie Fund. The above fund will match donations to the McVitie Fund, up to \$10,000! This means

that every cent that you donate to VHS that is specified to help with emergency veterinary care of a needy animal will have double the effect!

A needy animal like Mathias. He may not look it, but he's a very lucky cat. His guardian gave him a home when she found him emaciated, looking for food in a dumpster.

Recently, while his guardian was out,

he escaped onto a balcony and fell 10 storeys, hitting a concrete canopy on the way down. He was discovered early the next morning covered in blood and was rushed to a vet.

He somehow emerged with only a split lip and some broken toes. Nevertheless he needed several stitches and a cast for his paw.

Turn to pages 6 and 7

DONATIONS

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

VHS is sincerely grateful to the following people who have made a donation in memory of a loved one.

From:

Vera E. Back and the Richards, in memory of **Maxine Strutt**;
Leah Skretkowicz, in memory of **Bill**;
Leah Skretkowicz, in memory of **Moe**;
Linda Ettinger, in memory of **Chico, JJ, Genie & Casey**;
Staff at Lordco Store 83, in memory of **Ruby Johnson**;
Gerald Otterman, in memory of **D. Murray Alexander**;
Raymond & Sharon Richardson, in memory of **D. Murray Alexander**;
Mrs. Marlies H. Michael, in memory of **Frances Auld**;
David Jones & Gayle Poznikoff, in memory of **Meek and Leo**;
Mr. & Mrs. Dave & Karen Hart, in memory of **Murray Alexander**;
Crossroads C&I, in memory of **Murray Alexander**;
Rachel Gretsinger, in memory of **Ruffy**;
Debra Probert, in memory of **Hairy**;
Bill Spaetgens, in memory of **Tux**;
Vic Formosa, in memory of **Apollo Formosa**;
Barbara Anne MacInnes, in memory of **Murray Alexander**;
Katharine Dunn, in memory of **Miss Shaker Hobson**;
Lynn Brown, in memory of **Rose Brown**;
Peter Fricker & Carolyn Cornell, in memory of **Hairy**;
Lesley Pomeroy, in memory of **Coda**;
Nicole Hill, in memory of **Snooker Cat**;
Susan Sereda, in memory of **Teddy**;
Pauline Lee, in memory of **Mr. Alex Wallach**;
Loretta & Danny Totten, in memory of **Mr. Alex Wallach**;
June & Richard Hughes, in memory of **Mr. Alex Wallach**.

Hazina case highlights big issue

Crown Counsel's decision to drop the cruelty to animal charges against the Greater Vancouver Zoo over its treatment of Hazina the hippo has shocked many people. Those who saw the nightly television news footage of her conditions and followed the long history of her solitary confinement must be wondering just how bad a zoo animal's conditions have to be before they're considered cruel under the law.

But shocking though the decision is, it is perhaps not surprising. Exotic animals like Hazina have virtually no legal or regulatory protection in B.C. A successful prosecution under B.C.'s Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (PCA) must prove that "distress" has been caused to an animal and this is defined as being "deprived of adequate food, water or shelter; injured or sick; in pain or suffering; or abused or neglected." Terms such as "suffering" are not defined, so it's difficult to prove that keeping an animal alone in a concrete barn for 19 months has caused distress under the act.

Canada's Criminal Code is equally unhelpful. It must be proven that a person "wilfully or recklessly caused unnecessary pain, suffering or injury to an animal..." or committed similar obvious acts of cruelty before an offence can be successfully prosecuted. Complicating the issue is that under federal law, animals are considered property, with a status no better than a television or a chair. Tragically, all efforts to get Parliament to strengthen the relevant sections of the Criminal Code have failed.

In B.C., the lack of legal protection for animals is compounded by a complete absence of provincial regulation covering the keeping of exotic animals. Only native wildlife have regulatory protec-

tion under the Wildlife Act.

The B.C. legislature debated zoo regulation as long ago as 1983, but the government of the day refused to make any changes, stating that it could simply declare any animal "wildlife" under the Wildlife Act if necessary. In 2005, the Vancouver Humane Society asked environment minister Barry Penner to designate hippos as wildlife to give Hazina the same protection as native animals, but he refused.

The Alberta government published detailed standards for zoos in 2005 and is creating a "zoo advisory committee" to provide expert advice on monitoring the standards. Other provinces have at least some zoo regulation. But not B.C.

In the U.K., government standards require zoos to provide animals with an opportunity to express most normal behaviours, including a provision that "accommodation should take account of the natural habitat of the species and seek to meet the physiological and psychological needs of the animal." This kind of regulation might have prevented Hazina from being kept alone in her small barn for so long.

Without strong zoo regulation and the reform of animal cruelty laws, those who profit from putting exotic animals on display will continue to keep them in conditions determined more by economics than ethics. Though many people are outraged by what happened to Hazina, public memory is short. Without regulation, there is nothing to stop this or any zoo from repeating this kind of animal abuse with impunity.

Hazina's treatment by the zoo may or may not have been legal, but to anyone who really cares about animals it can never be acceptable.



Vancouver Humane Society

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Iguanas like this may no longer be sold in Vancouver.

Vancouver gets tough on exotic pet traders

At last! Vancouver City Council has passed an exotic animal bylaw. The council voted unanimously to ban the keeping of a list of exotic animals and also to prohibit the sale of another, longer list of exotics. The council also voted in principle to ban public performances involving exotic or wild animals.

VHS, which has been working for an exotics bylaw for many years, has welcomed the council's decision but is disappointed that more animals, such as primates, iguanas and large lizards, were not banned from being kept. However, it is a good first step and the council has instructed city staff to consider additions to the bylaw in a review that must take place within a year. Councillor Kim Capri, who championed the bylaw, urged city staff to continue to work on improving the bylaw in consultation with animal protection groups.

Council also approved a recommenda-

tion that the mayor write to the Union of B.C. Municipalities to request the creation of a standard municipal list of exotic animals to be banned from sale. This could effectively lead to a province-wide prohibition on the sale of certain exotic species.

By prohibiting the sale and keeping of a number of exotics, the new bylaw will send an important message to the public that owning these kinds of animals is not socially acceptable.

It will help decrease demand for exotic pets locally and send a signal to other municipalities that they should be considering similar legislation. VHS will be providing such councils with the information and evidence they need to implement exotics bylaws.

A ban on exotic animal performances will mean that no Las Vegas style tiger acts (such as one that attempted to appear at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre in 2005) will be allowed in the city.

Here in B.C. there's no justice for Hazina



Many people are outraged that B.C. Crown Counsel dropped the animal cruelty charges against the Greater Vancouver Zoo over its treatment of Hazina the hippo. (See editorial on page 2).

Above right is a BC SPCA photo of Hazina in her concrete



barn where she spent 19 months. The photo on the left shows how hippos are meant to live.

Shame on our justice system. It's time it gave protection to animals too.



Egg-laying battery hens (pictured at left) are crammed into tiny cages where they can't flap their wings or peck the ground. Broiler chickens (right) live in extremely crowded barren environments. Each bird has only a half square foot of space, less than the size of a computer mouse pad.

Meat or eggs, they still suffer

By BRUCE PASSMORE

With “cage-free” being the current buzzword around chickens these days, it can be confusing trying to understand exactly which chickens are caged. In Canada, 98 per cent of egg-laying hens are caged. Broiler (meat) chickens are not kept in cages in North America. Instead, they are housed on the floor in large, windowless sheds where they stand in their own waste for their short, seven-week lives.

It is hard to believe that broilers are only kept for seven weeks, but modern

chickens have been genetically selected for such rapid growth that if they are allowed to live much longer than seven weeks, they often die of organ failure because their bodies grow faster than their organs can support – a horrible end for any animal.

With broiler chickens, the best thing you can do is stop eating them. Because of their short lives and genetic disposition, even “certified organic” doesn't help. The main difference between organic and conventional meat chickens is access to the outdoors. But, because the

birds are put in the barns as chicks, they aren't permitted outside until at least four weeks of age (over half of their total life). However, after four weeks their mobility slows down due to rapid body growth and most birds can't make it to the exit, even if they wanted to. So the net benefit is practically nil.

Helping chickens, like all efforts to make the world a better place, takes time, patience and perseverance. We hope, like us, you see the value in never giving up. The animals need as many voices as they can get.

There are so many ways you can help — here are a few

Telus Dollars for Dollars 2007 — In 2006, Telus offered its employees, including alumni, a wonderful option through their Dollars for Dollars program. Employees were invited to donate to charities either on a one-time or monthly basis in 2007, and Telus will match the donation. Several of our donors are taking advantage of this to help animals! Thank you, Telus! We hope other employers will consider doing this as well.

Direct Debit for Monthly donors — At last we have direct debit available for our monthly donors and any of you who wish to start donating monthly to VHS. Please call our office (604 266 9744) for

the information you need to set this up with us. Of course, we still accept VISA, MasterCard and post-dated cheques.

Have a party and have fun raising money for animals! — Malea Schneider, who is an independent consultant for Arbonne International, has agreed to donate 20 per cent of sales to VHS at any Arbonne parties organized by VHS supporters. Arbonne products (www.arbonne.com) are vegan and include skin-care for all skin-types, makeup and aromatherapy. Having an Arbonne party is a wonderful way to promote animal welfare with an animal-friendly product! Please contact:

Malea Schneider, 604-737-0616, 604-803-8921 or healthyskin@telus.net

The Vancouver Humane Society/Norma Berridge Fund — VHS has an endowment fund in place at the Vancouver Foundation, the only community foundation in Canada that has an Animal Welfare area of interest. Adding to this fund is a unique way to donate to animals, as the principal amount is never touched. Only the interest on the fund is disbursed to the charity each year, in perpetuity. The more the fund accumulates, the more interest it generates! If you're interested in learning more, please call Debra at 604-266-9744.

Truth in advertising? Kids scorn the hype

By LESLEY FOX

“**T**his presentation got me thinking about what I should buy and should not buy. It was interesting to see some of the things that advertisers hide and how the environment, people and animals suffer to make certain products.” That’s what one sixteen-year-old girl at Riverside Secondary said after a presentation by the Vancouver Humane Society.

The presentation was part of the VHS’s Humane Education program, Power of One, which provides free presentations to local secondary school students about the connections between animals, the environment and other people.

Recently, Social Studies 10 teacher Raquel Chin booked one of our presentations called *Analyzing Advertising* for three of her classes. The workshop illustrated the

pervasiveness of advertising in our lives and asked the students to consider how the advertised products impact people, animals and the environment.

Students were asked to identify logos and brand names by seeing only one letter on the package. In every case the students were able to recognize the item. The teens determined this was possible because advertising is everywhere.

They then watched a series of TV commercials promoting cheese and dairy products. These commercials depicted cows enjoying plenty of sun, green grass and fresh air. The cows were talking and laughing saying how much they were

enjoying life on the farm.

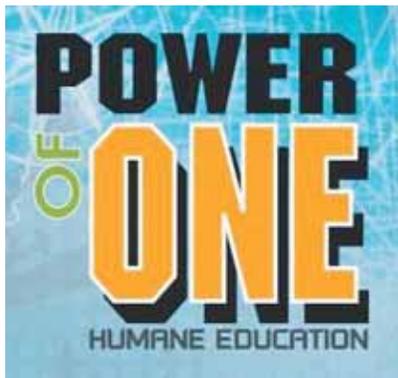
Those commercials were then followed by images, also of dairy farms, but these pictures showed dairy cows confined in stalls, hooked up to milk machines. It was explained to the students that dairy cows produce milk because they are pregnant and their offspring, if male, are sold to the veal industry and if female, become future dairy cows, but that ultimately all dairy cows end up at the slaughterhouse.

One girl said the commercials of the happy cows made her feel good about buying dairy products, but the other images left her feeling sorry for the animals. Her classmate, Leia, concluded that there is so much that goes on behind the scenes that we don’t see.

They also analyzed a variety of magazine ads, discussing all of the things that could be hidden from view. For example, a group of students analyzed an ad promoting a cosmetic line. The group determined that animal testing, animal ingredients, non-recyclable packing and sweatshop labour could be involved in the production of the products.

Some students expressed an interest in writing to companies, others mentioned they would tell their friends about what they had learned and the teacher said she would be following-up with the students during their next class.

Perhaps sixteen-year-old Andrew summed up the presentation best, “Next time I am certainly going to think twice when I am buying a product.”



Does your cat do this when you pet her?

*Reprinted with kind permission from BCSPCA’s *Bark!* magazine

While petting your cat, does she sometimes attack you for no apparent reason with her claws and teeth? It could be caused by static electricity or, if she is a kitten, just your cat being playful. But some cats just don’t tolerate a lot of petting. Petting can overstimulate the receptors where fur meets cat and irritate the cat’s skin.

In sensitive cats this can cause your lovable feline to look for a quick solution – either run away or attack the source of the discomfort – your hand!

Rest assured your cat isn’t angry at you or trying to be mean if she tries to bite or claw you, she is just expressing a natural response to too much touching. Keep in mind, however, if your cat shows a severe reaction to touch, your cat could have a medical issue, so you should take your cat in for a veterinary check up.

You can increase your cat’s petting pleasure by learning where cats like to be petted. Most cats prefer petting on the cheeks, the temples and between the ears and eyes. The second favourites spots are other areas of the head – around the mouth and chin – and down the back and the chest.

The least favourite petting spots are near the tail, the tummy and the back legs. Many cats have a low tolerance for touching in these areas, and, if your cat associates discomfort with petting, she may avoid you altogether.

Shop at Capers in Kitsilano and help VHS!!!

Food retailer Capers has chosen VHS to be a beneficiary of its in-store Community Chest program for the next three months at its Kitsilano location. If you bring your own bags when you shop at Capers, the store will give you a five-cent token that you can donate to one of three charities. Look for the VHS jar!

Grant will help more animals like these

Continued from front page

VHS is helping to cover Mathias's medical bills as his guardian is unable to pay the full cost.

You can help cats like Mathias by donating to our McVitie Fund for sick and injured animals.

We just know that you are going to help us reach our goal! The deadline for donations is November 1st, 2007. There are several ways for you to help. Here are some ideas, but we're sure you'll have plenty of your own!

- Ask for permission at your place of employment to take up a collection for the Challenge Grant. Why not CHAL-

LENGE another department to raise more money than you?

- Do you have a special place to shop for pet food, groceries or office supplies? Challenge your favourite business to make a donation matching your donation, and BOTH will be matched by the Vancouver Foundation!

- Every day for a month, put a loonie in a special envelope. At the end of the month, drop them off at VHS, designated for the McVitie Fund. They'll suddenly double their value!

- Ask your favourite veterinarian if you can put a donation can in the clinic (we can provide you with tins). Bring the tin into VHS before the deadline of

November 1st 2007, and it will suddenly become twice as heavy!

- Have a "Help the Animals" dinner party and charge admission!! Not only will your friends and/or family get a terrific night out; they'll also be helping a suffering animal, and their donation will be matched by the Vancouver Foundation!

- Or simply send VHS a special donation. Whatever you've decided to do, just be sure to specify that the funds are to be used for the **Challenge Grant** with a short note or indication on the donation form.

We've met many of the animals we've been able to help through our

McVitie Fund, which as many of you know, was set up in memory of a very special ginger cat who was rescued from certain death. For animals like George, Hailey, Mac and all the others, including the ones you'll read about below, it means the difference between life and death.

Thank you, from VHS and all the animals, and a special thanks to the awesome Vancouver Foundation for making this possible. We'll keep you updated on our progress via our website, and any businesses making donations will get a special mention there and in our next newsletter.

Thank you again!!!



George

Four operations later, George is on the mend

George (pictured at right), the lovable golden retriever who won the hearts of many VHS supporters as he underwent two hip replacement operations, has had a real struggle.

His second new hip dislocated in December requiring additional surgery in January. Veterinary surgeons at the Critical Care Hospital in Burnaby operated on George's pelvis to make it fit more tightly around the hip socket, thus making dislocation less likely.

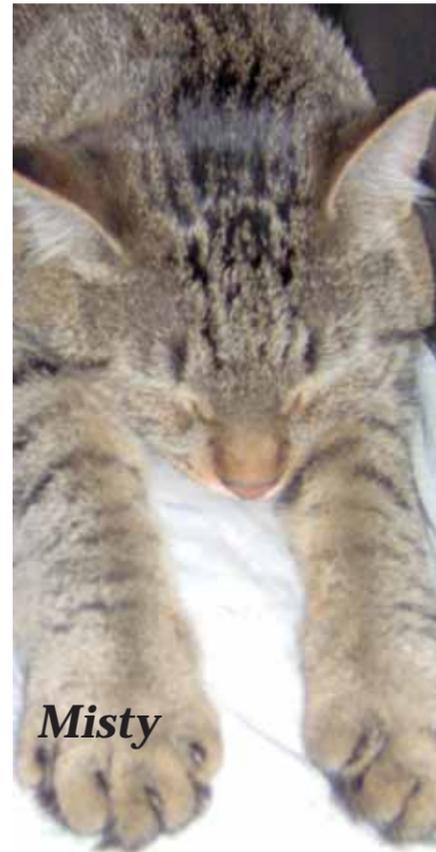
The hip is being monitored to see if the operation was successful.

George has stoically undergone four major operations, remaining as cheerful and affectionate as ever.

VHS supporters have funded much of the cost of George's care. The surgeons at Critical Care Hospital have been donating their labour to keep costs low.

George was 11 months old when he was surrendered to a local shelter by his owner. He was extremely thin and it is suspected that his only source of food was neighbourhood garbage cans.

VHS launched an appeal to help, with many compassionate donors replying to his story.



Misty

Misty swallowed a large elastic band which blocked her intestine. The vet bill is more than her guardians can afford, as they have just arrived in Vancouver and also just paid for urgent medical treatment for Misty's brother, Blaze.

VHS is appealing for funds to help.



Hailey

Hailey, a seven-year-old rottweiler diagnosed with bilateral cranial cruciate ligament rupture, had her first surgery on January 31.

Her guardian, Betty, could not afford the costs, which comes to several thousand dollars per knee, so VHS launched an appeal and supporters

came to the rescue.

Betty, who is severely ill herself, depends on Hailey in a big way.

"Hailey is the best dog in the world," she says. "I can't put into words what she means to me. I cannot imagine what my life would be like without her."

Feeding the birds? Do it right

By BRUCE PASSMORE

It's an unusually cold winter day and a row of house finches sits on your balcony, feathers puffed, peering in at you as you sit in your living room, warm, dry and well fed. Your heart twinges and you wonder: *Do you feed them, or not? Will feeding them make them dependent on humans? Is it legal?*

We all know that feeding wildlife is a serious problem, not to mention illegal, since it brings unnaturally large numbers of species to a single area and encourages dependence on humans. Every year, hundreds of "problem animals," as they are known to conservation officers, are forcibly moved, harassed or culled (killed) as a result of becoming too aggressive, posing a health risk (i.e. leaving too much poop behind) or just being a "nuisance."

Fortunately for birders, these same rules don't apply to most birds (unless you are in a park, where it is illegal to feed any animal, feathered or not). Unlike other wildlife, birds can use a helping hand during the winter and don't usually become dependent since they utilise a wide range of food sources. Placing clean birdseed and fresh water on your balcony or in your yard can also be a great way to see some colourful visitors during the dull dark days of winter. Provided you follow some simple guidelines, feeding birds outside your home should be a win-win situation for everyone.

Water. The single most limiting factor for birds during the winter is water. Try to keep clean, unfrozen water available.

Select quality food. Black sunflower seeds, niger, safflower, white millet, and



Fill your feeders with quality food.

suet are typical favourites. Most commercial foods contain a lot of filler like red millet, something most birds don't like. This means more waste and more mess, which also attracts rodents and other animals.

Place bird feeders at varying heights and near shelter from the elements and predators (such as hawks, cats and other animals). You may need to make it squirrel-proof too.

Change food and clean feeders regularly. A constant source of food makes it easier for birds to save their energy for other important activities like keeping warm. Remember to clean your feeder with weakly diluted bleach as the mould and bacteria that grow on feeders can kill birds. If you scatter food on the ground for ground foragers like juncos, sparrows, towhees and doves, be sure to rake up

the old seeds and replace them with new food each week.

Allow all birds. Every bird could use help in the winter, even common ones. Some people try to select for only the most attractive birds or their favourite ones. Don't exclude anyone. Everyone is hungry.

Understand that other animals will also eat the food. Along with birds, it's inevitable you will attract squirrels and other rodents. If you don't like having these animals around, maybe think twice about feeding birds.

Never feed birds or any wild animal from your hand. Animals in nature need to be kept wild. It may be cute to see a chickadee land on your hand, but for their safety, it is best to avoid encouraging human contact.

Undoubtedly, the best thing you can do for wild birds is provide natural habitat with long lasting, year-round feeding opportunities. Try planting native plants that produce food and/or shelter. Hawthorn, viburnums, and native flowers like coneflowers (if left to go to seed) provide great natural food all winter long. Coniferous trees provide important shelter, as do branch (debris) and leaf piles.

Before long, you will notice a steady stream of new feathered friends appearing in your area. Grab your binoculars and a bird identification book (available at most libraries) and start enjoying the wonderful world of birding.

Resources:

www.birdwatching.com (see Birding Tips)

www.hsus.org (visit the Urban Wildlife section)

Fashion statements

These T-shirts are 100-per-cent cotton. Navy blue with gold lettering. S, M, L, XL available. Cost \$25 (plus shipping costs if ordered from outside Canada.)

The women's tank tops are also 100-per-cent cotton. Black with white lettering. S, M, L. Cost \$25 (plus costs for shipping if ordered outside Canada).

These items can be ordered through our website at www.vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca/Merchandise.html





1.6 million breeding sows are kept in crates like these across Canada.

End of sow crates is great news for pigs

Following the lead of Smithfield Foods, the largest pork producer in the United States, Maple Leaf Foods has pledged to phase out metal crates for pregnant pigs over the next decade. "Gestation" crates are so small that the pig cannot turn around, walk or stretch her legs, and the crate becomes increasingly more restrictive as her 16-week pregnancy progresses. Once the mother gives birth, she is then moved to an equally restrictive "farrowing" crate, ostensibly so she won't crush the piglets.

Sow crates became a significant issue during last year's midterm elections in the U.S., with Arizona passing an initiative requiring farmers to house pigs in pens larger than gestation crates. In 2002 Florida passed similar legislation.

"It's a big step," says Bernard Rollin, a professor of philosophy at Colorado State

University and animal-rights researcher. But "it's not quick enough."

The Canadian Coalition for Farm Animals (CCFA), of which VHS is a member organization, and the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA), asked Canada's largest pork producer, Maple Leaf Foods, to follow the lead of Smithfield.

There are 1.6 million breeding sows in Canada, most of whom are confined to crates for most of their lives. Farm animal behaviour expert Dr. Temple Grandin says the practice equates to making a sow live in an airline seat.

* Note: A new Chinese year will begin on February 18, 2007 and this will be the Year of the Pig. Chinese astrologists predict 2007 will see a "definite improvement of living conditions." Let's hope that applies to the pigs!

News briefs

Air Canada has banned all animals except service animals from the cabins of their aircraft. Dr. Donald Stark, a Vancouver allergist lobbied for the ban after doing a study that detected peanut dust in cabin air filters. He hasn't studied animal allergens in aircraft, but claims, "We have to give priority to human health over animal health" and claims that asthmatics could have serious attacks if exposed to pet dander. (*Vancouver Sun, December 30, 2006.*)

Canadian Blood Services is screening people to see if they have worked with monkeys. 2-3 per cent of people who regularly work with primates test positive for "simian foamy virus" or SFV – a virus similar to HIV. (*Globe & Mail, December 26, 2006*)

Brent Kennedy, manager of Saskatchewan operations for Ducks Unlimited Canada, lauded a report released by Saskatchewan Environment showing that foreign hunters are flocking to Saskatchewan in ever-increasing numbers. "The contributions of hunters and anglers are tremendous to the economy and to conservation alike," he said. (*Western Producer, January 11, 2007*)

The Associated Residence Halls at the University of Iowa made permanent their spring 2006 introduction of cage-free eggs at three dining facilities that cumulatively use over one million eggs per year. Tufts University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Marist College, Vassar College, Roger Williams University, Emmanuel College and the University of New Hampshire are among over 100 US facilities that no longer use eggs from caged hens. (*Animal People, November 2006*)

"Livestock are one of the most significant contributors to today's most serious environmental problems," stated the senior author of a United Nations report from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) released recently. Farm animals are responsible for almost a fifth of the pollution blamed for global warming. The growth of livestock farming is responsible for water pollution, reduction of forests and gas emissions. (*The Western Producer, December 14, 2006*)

Make the most of your gift to VHS, and get a tax break too

Every day charities and non-profit organizations such as the Vancouver Humane Society are actively engaged in providing social services, enriching our arts and cultural lives, and providing support to the environment around us. Their voluntary efforts create an enormous impact on our quality of life. In order to sustain themselves, these organizations depend on the generosity of private donations.

Charitable giving can be a one-time donation, a series of payments over a set period, or ongoing support, and can be made in such a way that maximizes the tax and estate planning benefits to the donor. The gift may take a variety of forms including:

- Cash
- A right to a future payment. Life insurance proceeds are an example.
- Certified cultural property. This is a special category for significant works of art and artifacts.
- Gifts in kind. Examples include securities such as stocks, bonds and mutual funds or real estate.

To encourage individuals to increase their charitable giving, the Government of Canada has introduced a significant tax incentive for those individuals who wish to donate publicly traded securities. Effective May 2, 2006, the capital gains



There are many ways to help VHS continue its work.

tax triggered upon donation of securities to a qualified non-profit or charitable organization such as the Vancouver Humane Society has been eliminated.

In addition to the eliminated capital gains tax, a donor also receives a charitable donation tax receipt for the Fair Market Value (FMV) of the donated securities. This tax receipt can then be used to

reduce the donor's income taxes. The amount of the donation receipt that is issued by the recipient charity is usually equal to the FMV of the securities donated at the time that these securities are received by the charity.

Combining the Elimination of the Capital Gain Tax with the Donations Tax Credit

When you donate a security with accrued capital gains, you benefit from the elimination of the capital gains tax plus the donation tax credit. The combined tax savings can be quite impressive. The table below illustrates this point by comparing two alternatives for donating securities with a FMV of \$50,000 and an Adjusted Cost Base (ACB) of zero.

The two examples above demonstrate that there is a tax savings to be realized by donating publicly traded securities with appreciated gains compared to first selling the publicly traded securities and then donating the proceeds. In the above example, the Tax Savings using Donation of Shares vs. Cash Donation is **\$10,925** (\$39,075 – \$28,150). The difference is a direct result of the eliminated capital gains on the donated securities.

For further information on how to make a donation to the Vancouver Humane Society, please call Anita Chow at 604-678-5553.

Comparison of two alternatives for donating securities

	Sell shares, donate cash	Donate shares directly
FMV of donation	\$50,000	\$50,000
Adjusted cost base	0	0
Capital gain	50,000	50,000
Taxable capital gain	25,000	0
Tax on capital gain@43.7 per cent (b) ¹	10,925	0
Tax savings from donation tax credit (c) ²	21,850	21,850
Total cost of donation = (a) + (b) - (c)	39,075	28,150

¹ The highest marginal tax rate for the province of B.C. for 2006 is 43.7 per cent

² The tax savings is calculated by multiplying \$50,000 X 43.7 per cent + \$21,850

Thank you to everyone who makes our work possible

SPECIAL OCCASION DONATIONS

From:

Julie, in honour of *Pia McNab's 7th birthday*;

Doreen Watts, in lieu of a Christmas gift for *Sharon and Emma Watts*;

Brenda Baumann, in honour of *Maddie & Mckenna Brown* at Christmas;

Ashley Fruno, to thank *Joanne Chang and Glenn Gaetz* for bunny sitting;

Edith Richard, in honor of *Laurie & Bart Bates-Frymel*;

Bobbie Askew, as a Christmas gift to *Judy Wersterlund*;

Sue Robins, in honour of *Jacqui & Randy Waddingham/Stamhuis*;

Anonymous, in honour of *Carmen Amundsen*;

Anonymous, in honour of *Lani Gelera*;

Brian Leslie, in honour of *Chester Janes*;

Ron Brown, in honour of *Keven & Joanne Swiss*;

Judy Lerner, to welcome her first

grandchild, *Nicolas Jeffrey Wen*;
Katherine Dill, in honour of *Beth & Johnathon Schofield*;

Tibie Flanders, in honour of *Mr. & Mrs. Jordana & Ian Rothstein-White*.

UNITED WAY DONATIONS

From employees of:

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THE VANCOUVER FOUNDATION

The Irene Joy Stewart and Florence
Maud Shedden Endowment Fund for
Domestic and Wild Animal Welfare
The Marketa Michal Fund

AND SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORT OUR WORK:

Cambridge Plumbing Systems Ltd.
Ashlaur Trading Inc. (Surrey)

Kama Natural Soap
The Green Room Pet Boutique and Dog
Lounge
Eija Productions

MONTHLY DONORS

A HUGE thank you to our monthly donors – you're AWESOME! You provide VHS, and consequently the animals for whom we speak, with stability and the ability to plan for the future. For that, we're so very grateful.

There are several ways to donate monthly – and it's painless! Even a little bit adds up over an entire year. You can give by post-dated cheque, credit card, via our website, or by direct debit from your account.

Please call the office and speak to Debra (who also donates monthly!) if you have any questions.

And remember, all your donations are tax deductible, so remember to keep your receipts.

HERE ARE 4 GOOD REASONS



WHY YOU SHOULD REMEMBER ANIMALS IN YOUR WILL



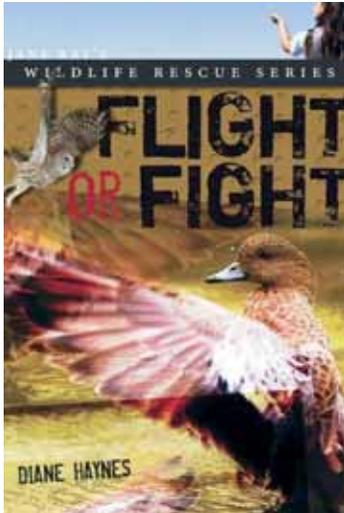
Vancouver Humane Society

Please contact our office for further information.

*Against
all animal
cruelty!*



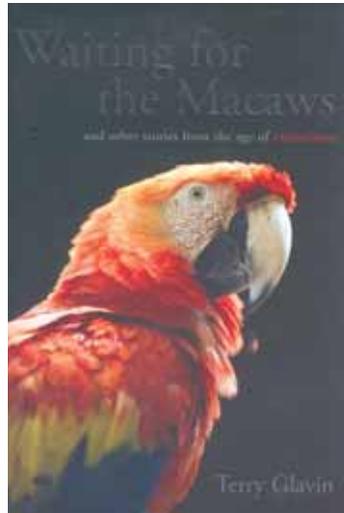
BOOK SOME TIME FOR A GOOD READ



Flight or Fight, by Diane Haynes. Walrus Books. \$8.95
This book is the first in the new action-packed Jane Ray Wildlife Rescue Series aimed at teenagers, by local author Diane Haynes.

Meet the main character, Jane Ray, who discovers her passion and voice for animals when she saves a drowning seabird from an oil spill in Vancouver's Burrard Inlet.

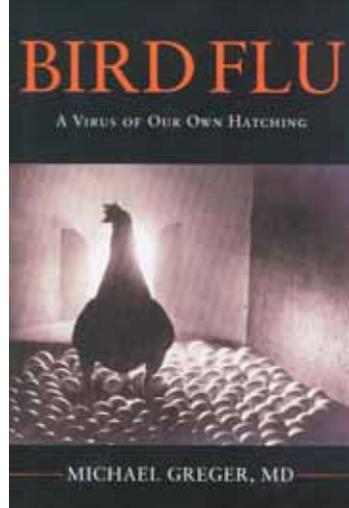
This book is an engaging and suspenseful read that explores the challenges and rewards of saving wildlife.



Waiting for the Macaws, by Terry Glavin. Viking Canada. \$35.

The mass extinctions of wildlife that Terry Glavin describes and explains are stark evidence of our selfish exploitation of nature. When we recognize what we have lost it makes what's left even more precious.

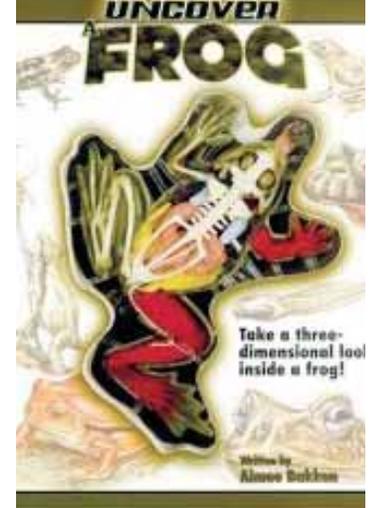
Glavin's thoughtful and provocative style makes for an interesting (if depressing) read. Ultimately, it is a call to action to help save what little of the natural world remains.



Bird Flu: A Virus of Our Own Hatching, by Michael Greger MD. Lantern Books. \$34.97

Dr. Michael Greger, the Director of Public Health and Animal Agriculture at the Humane Society of the United States, tracks the evolution of the avian flu virus and its emergence as the deadly mutating bug that has alarmed the world.

Intensive agriculture that confines thousands of birds in filthy conditions is the prime suspect in Greger's well-researched investigation.



Uncover a Frog, by Aimee Bakken. Uncover Books. \$15.72

Who needs to dissect frogs to learn about biology when this fun book provides a humane alternative?

This three-dimensional "layered" model gives readers a complete visual understanding of a frog's anatomy and also provides interesting and weird facts about frogs.

It's an interactive, educational book that students will enjoy. Perfect for curious kids, ages eight and up.

Bravo to the great kids in Bella Coola who are trying to help stray animals

This grade five class in Bella Coola B.C. held a bake sale to raise funds for VHS and collected \$300! The class also raised awareness of the problem of stray dogs and cats in the community. Thanks to all the kids and their teacher, Naomi Fishman.



Our Privacy Commitment to You

You, our supporters, are our most valuable resource. Without you, we would not be able to do the work that we do. You are our lifeblood. When we expose and protest animal abuse, we know that you are right behind us, ready to speak out for those who cannot defend themselves. And for that, we thank you.

Sometimes it is very advantageous for groups like ours to share information. This is the fastest and most economical way for us to inform people like you about animal issues. It is also the most efficient way for VHS to grow and become more effective.

It is very frustrating for all of us when we open our mailbox to find that we have received donation requests from worthy organizations, many of which we would like to support. Not only is it a waste of paper and postage, it is often heartbreaking to open the envelope and be told yet another story of sadness and despair.

That is why when we do share information about our supporters; we do it ONLY with like-minded organizations - other people who care about animal suffering and want to put their resources towards exposing and stopping it. If you allow us to share information with other like-minded groups, simply

put, we can help more animals. And it is our sincere promise to you that we will only exchange lists with organizations with similar views and policies. Even knowing how important it is to us, if you still do not want VHS to share your name, just phone the office and we will honor your request.

Do you want to become a VHS member? Just let us know. The membership fee is \$2 per year. The only other things we require are that you have interests that are compatible with our goals and philosophy, and that you donate two hours per week (or the equivalent) of your time.