

animal culture

EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY, PROMOTING THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF ALL SENTIENT BEINGS

**Guard
Dog
Chained.**



Welcome To Animal Culture

The *Animal Culture* team welcomes you back to our magazine. *Animal Culture* aspires to educate, to motivate, and to celebrate! We are here to educate our readers about animal issues, to motivate you to act on these issues, and lastly, to celebrate victories for all sentient creatures. Our Feature is the Pet Memorial Tree, which is decorated every year in Central Park in Manhattan. This has been going on for decades, to honor and memorialize fallen companion animals of all kinds. It is up from Thanksgiving through Three King's Day in January. Our Special Feature is about the amazing cartoonist, Patrick McDonnell and the release (unchaining) of his character Guard Dog, now renamed Sparky. In the News talks about Great Britain's "bully ban," the anti-fur campaign being waged against fashion house Max Mara, the continuing struggle of orcas, and the formal fur ban enacted at this year's London Fashion Week. Visual Culture is all about the cartoon strip *Krazy Kat* and its creator George Herriman. This strip has been an inspiration to many, including Patrick McDonnell. Lastly, we have our regular, powerful, and tireless contributors – Lisa Karlan and Marc Bekoff without whom Continue to hold Lisa Karlan in your thoughts; she is still in recovery from a stroke she suffered in April 2021. We are following her progress and sending healing energy her way.

We are supported by our Patreon page, where you can become subscribers, and gain access to *Animal Culture* and special content. Please consider being a Patreon subscriber, and share *Animal Culture* on all your social media, with all your friends and family. Since January 2021, we are offering patrons an annual subscription option, with a 10% savings!

And to all our loyal family of subscribers, thank you for your incredible support. We have made great gains for the animals on many fronts over the years but there is much work to do. Please help us help those who cannot advocate for themselves. Join us to create a powerful voice for animals, a voice needed now more than ever.

For the animals,
Mary Holmes, Editor-in-Chief

Inquiries should be sent to
mary.animalculture@gmail.com

DEDICATION

This magazine is dedicated to all sentient creatures; the young, the seniors, the wild, the captive, the abused, neglected, lost and the hidden. We, along with many others who are represented in these pages, will never stop working for you. We will never give up.

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PUBLISHERS

Patricia Denys
Mary Holmes
Karlie Kawa

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Mary Holmes

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Patricia Denys

ART DIRECTOR

Karlie Kawa

ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTOR

Jeff Brouwer

DESIGNER

Mark Lukas

Contributing Writer

Camilla Fox

Recipe Author

Lisa Karlan

COVER

Cover and Back Cover Artwork
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TIPS FROM ANDY

FOR A MORE HUMANE WORLD



PHOTO © JON KAWA

Our mascot, Andy, offers good advice

PLANNING FOR YOUR COMPANION ANIMALS

What if you, as animal companion parents, can no longer care for your animal family member(s)? Not a happy thought yet one that is very important to plan for just in case! We spoke to attorney Danielle Wakefield, and this is what she had to offer!

Companion animals are often dumped at shelters when their beloved parents are hospitalized unexpectedly, moved to long term care facilities where pets are not allowed, or pass away. How do you avoid this happening to your companions?

1. Make sure you speak to your family and friends about caring for your animal in the event something happens to you. Make them commit that your animal will not go to a shelter where they are highly unlikely to be adopted – especially senior animals!
2. Take out a small insurance plan and name your animal's caregiver as a beneficiary to provide enough funds to feed and take care of your companion's veterinary needs if something happens to you.
3. Document! Document your wishes in a will or trust (with a pet trust specifically naming 2 or 3 separate caregivers for your animal(s)). An estate planning attorney is a great resource for this.
4. Finally, if all else fails, contact a rescue group in your area to see if they have a program that would take in and try to rehome your companion in the event you are unable to care for him/her.
5. Planning will mean all the difference for your pet's continued thriving if you are unable to care for them!

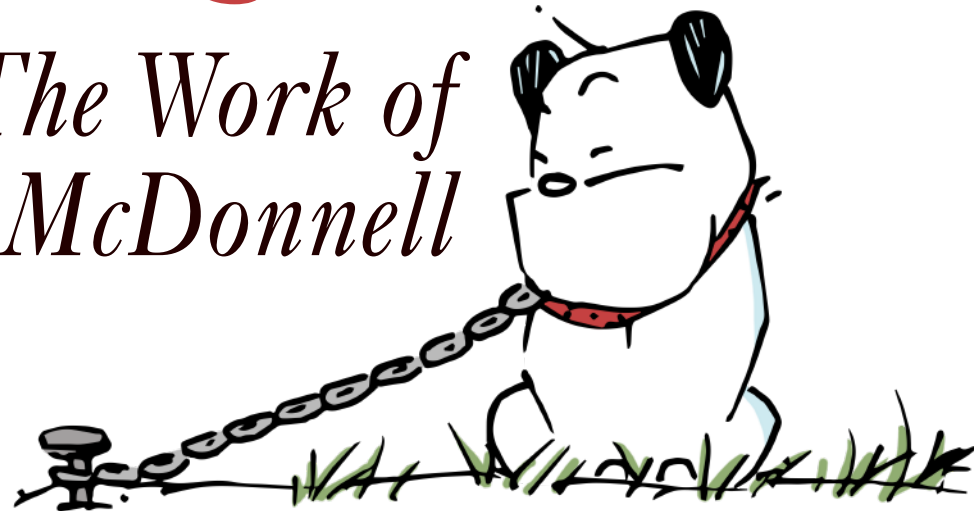
Thank you, Ms. Wakefield, and know we will take this advice to heart! Contact Ms. Wakefield for a consult on an estate plan with a pet trust at danielle@wakefieldlawfirm.com or (949) 274-9975. (CA residents only)

With love,

Andy

Guard Dog's Guardian

The Work of Patrick McDonnell



BY PATRICIA DENYS AND MARY HOLMES | ALL ARTWORK ©PATRICK MCDONNELL

It was an honor to speak with Patrick McDonnell about his creation of his character Guard Dog, now known as Sparky, and the compelling story of Guard Dog's ultimate release and finally, adoption. But first we'd like to share some background about guard dogs, often known as tethered dogs, or chained dogs. According to a FAQ on the subject, from the "Mutts" website, "Generally speaking, the terms 'chaining' and 'tethering' refer to the practice of fastening a dog to a stationary object and leaving them unattended. The term 'chaining' tends to refer to situations where thick, heavy chains are used. 'Tethering' is more often referred to partial restraint on a rope, lighter chain or pulley, which is the more prevalent form of tethering."

There are numerous reasons people tether their dogs; some of them are: the dog is an escape artist, the yard is unfenced or not secure, the dog's behavior makes them unsuitable to be an indoor dog, landlord preferences, or simply, the dog lives with a family with a history of tethering dogs. If you have a situation in your community, and you feel like taking some action on your own, visit this site: [Steps to Take Helping A Chained or Penned Dog](#).

Unfortunately, tethering dogs has many negative consequences for the dogs. These can be of a physical nature, a psychological nature, or both. Dogs, being social animals, need interaction with other living beings. Left alone, at the least they can develop neuroses; at the worst they can become aggressive. Physically, their necks can become raw and sore, and in extreme cases, their collars can grow into their skin. I have seen this first-hand; it can be gruesome. And, per the FAQ page, "They are vulnerable to insect bites and parasites and are at high risk of entanglement, strangulation and harassment or attacks by other dogs or people." As a rule, tethered dogs are subject to the vagaries of inclement weather, irregular feedings and watering, excessive heat and or cold exposure, and unsanitary conditions – living in their own feces and urine.

Tethering a dog also puts humans at risk. When a tethered canine is approached by a stranger, he or she may feel threatened and become aggressive, and go into attack mode; even in trying to protect what little they have. In some cases, the owners of tethered companion canines can be convinced to change their ways. In other cases, dog tethering may be illegal. For more information on the legalities of tethering/chaining in your community, go to this [PETA Link](#).

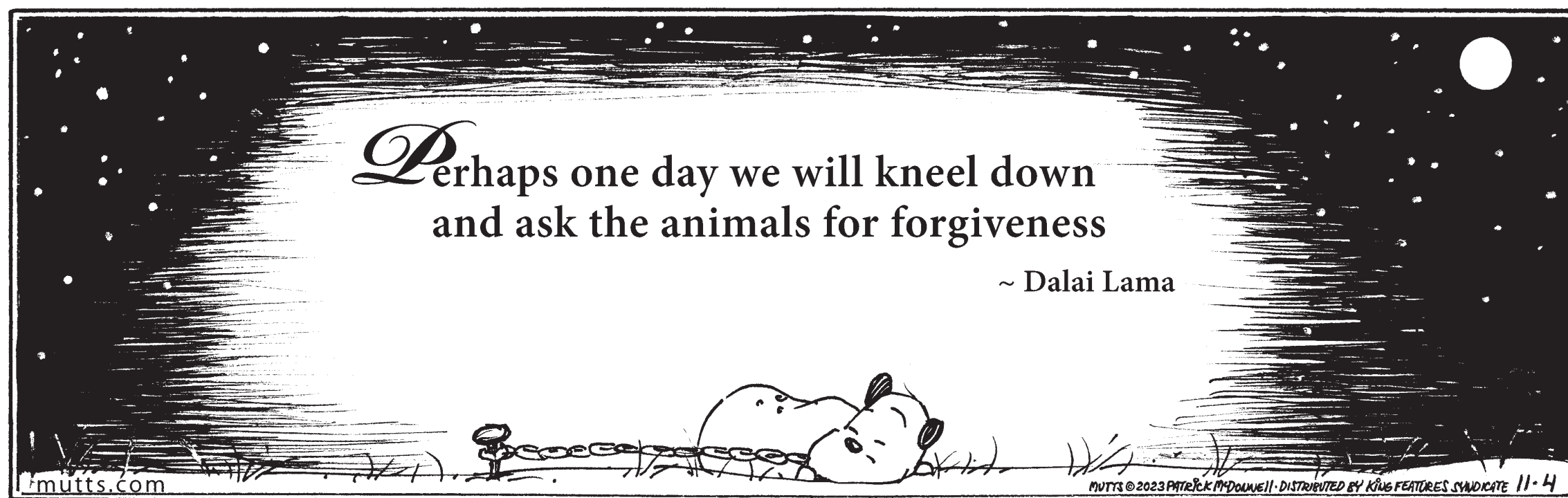
A word to the wise, from the FAQ page:

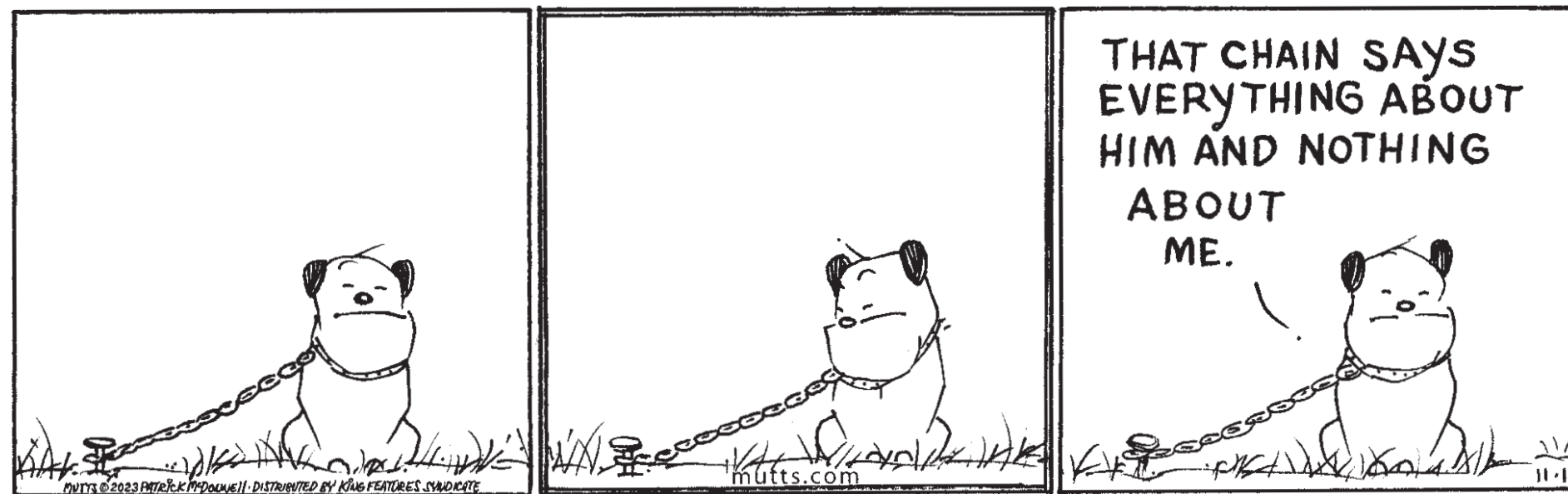
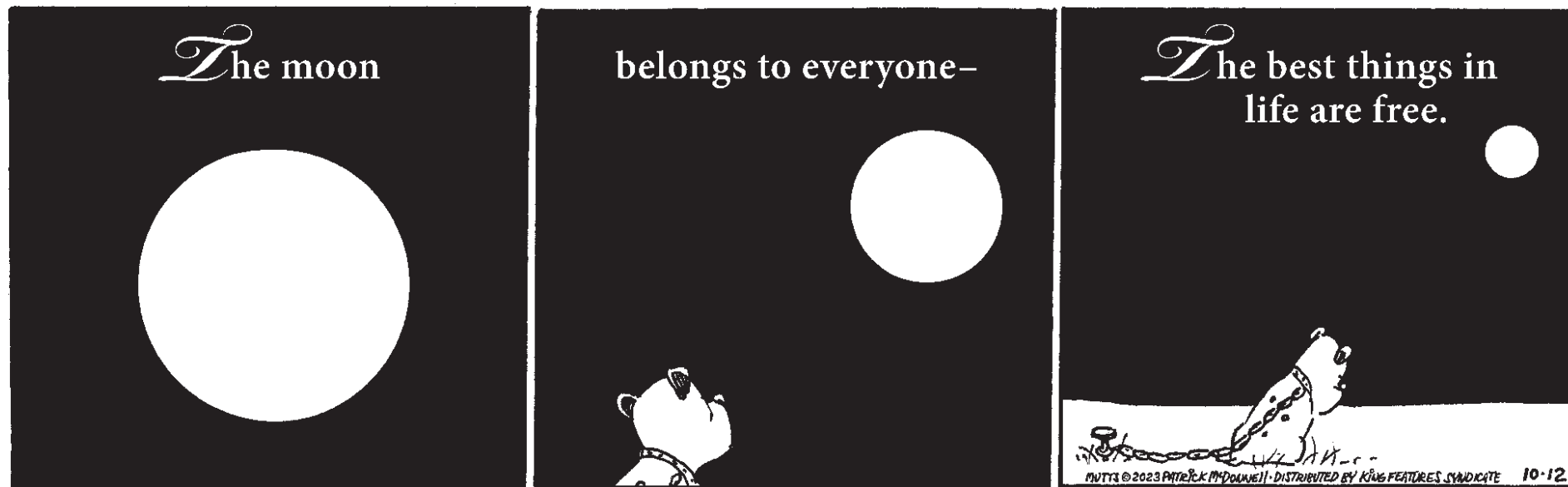
Trying to address dog chaining by "rescuing" all tethered dogs is not recommended for a number of reasons. First, many owners care about and want their

dogs and it is critical to try and keep as many animals as possible in the homes they already have. Second, the owner is likely to replace the dog (because they like dogs or want "protection" from dogs) and tether future dogs. Removing the dog adds to the already overwhelming number of dogs competing for homes, and an animal sheltering and rescue infrastructure which is already well above capacity. Working with owners to improve the situations for their existing dogs is always the best option and our experience shows that most people are open to support.

As advocates, it is important for us to find positive, constructive ways to empower owners to unchain their dogs themselves. They will be more likely to keep their dogs untethered, keep future dogs untethered and spread the word to others they know who may tether their dogs. This also preserves precious resources of nonprofit animal welfare organizations or under-funded animal service agencies so they can be used for the serious cases of cruelty and neglect.

Patrick McDonnell had his own reaction to the plight of chained and tethered animals and responded by creating the character Guard Dog in his "Mutts" cartoon strip. Artist, author, and cartoonist McDonnell has had a stellar career. According to the "Mutts" website, "Patrick McDonnell is the creator of the animal-friendly comic strip MUTTS, which has received numerous awards





internationally, both for comic strip excellence and for its themes of animal protection. Charles Schulz called it "one of the best comics strips of all time." Prior to creating MUTTS, Patrick was a freelance magazine illustrator for multiple publications, including the Russell Baker "Observer" column for *The New York Times Sunday Magazine*. His solo painting exhibition *Side Effects: Paintings by Patrick McDonnell 2016-2021*, opened at the Urban Arts Space in Columbus Ohio on August 3, 2021."

McDonnell responded to our queries about his career in general, Mutts, and specifically, Guard Dog. He said his desire to be a cartoonist came to him early. "I wanted to be a cartoonist as far back as I can remember. Some of my earliest memories are of my being mesmerized by my mom's copies of Walt Kelly's 'Pogo' and Jules Feiffer's comic collections. Then, like millions of others, I fell in love with Charles Schulz's 'Peanuts.' That sealed it for me.

Discovering 'Krazy Kat' in an old comic collection during my teen years made me realize how artful and beautiful a comic strip could be. Those strips inspired me to pursue my dream."

As most of his followers are aware, Charles Schulz had a major influence on McDonnell. "Meeting and becoming friends with my hero, Charles Schulz (Sparky), was a highlight of my life. I've always strived to give back some of the joy and comfort that Peanuts gave me. Sparky was everything you'd want the creator of 'Peanuts' to be: kind, generous, smart and funny. He taught me to maintain my passion for my work, to always make it new and to always give it my best shot. When it was time to give Guard Dog a real name, I named him Sparky as a tribute to Charles Schulz."

His interest in animals and animal welfare issues has long been a part of McDonnell's life. "Animals have always been a big part of my life. We had three wonderful cats growing up. I didn't get my first dog until my early thirties. He was a Jack Russell Terrier, Earl, and the inspiration for MUTTS. Trying to see the world through the eyes of the animals in my comic strip made me more conscious of how tough it is for many creatures on our planet. That led me to create the Shelter Stories series in MUTTS. It was a device I used to tell the tales of animals in shelters awaiting their forever homes and to make my readers more aware. I became a board member of the HSUS in 2000 and began tackling more animal welfare issues in MUTTS. My wife and I were vegetarian early on in our marriage and, through these shared experiences, became completely vegan 15 years ago."

Guard Dog was introduced in 1995. McDonnell explained how Guard Dog came into being. "About a year into the comic strip, I thought it might be interesting if Earl and Mooch had an antagonist,

I started sketching a big gruff dog and put a spiked collar on him to visually show his meanness but, when I added a chain I realized, no, this wasn't a villain, this was a tragic character.

a character who was a bully they would have to deal with. I started sketching a big gruff dog and put a spiked collar on him to visually show his meanness but, when I added a chain I realized, no, this wasn't a villain, this was a tragic character. Thus, Guard Dog was born.

"The original intent was to show this poor, noble dog and the suffering he endures. My reason was to bring attention to the plight of tethered dogs, and to inspire empathy and compassion. I hoped people would be inspired to take action and, in particular, for people who tether their own dogs to bring them inside." In November and December of 2023, Guard Dog came to the forefront of the MUTTS strip. "The Guard Dog storyline was the longest I ever created in MUTTS. It was something that I've been wanting to write and draw for decades. The series meant a lot to me personally, and I was touched by the readers' reactions. My intention with MUTTS is for people to

connect to the characters the same way they do with their own real life furry friends. A daily comic strip is a unique way to tell a story in this age of immediate gratification and short attention span. MUTTS readers had to wait 24 hours for a new installment for more than 7 weeks. That does get you invested in the drama. I'm so appreciative of all the positive feedback, personal stories and commitments to help our animal welfare organizations that came in response to the Guard Dog story."

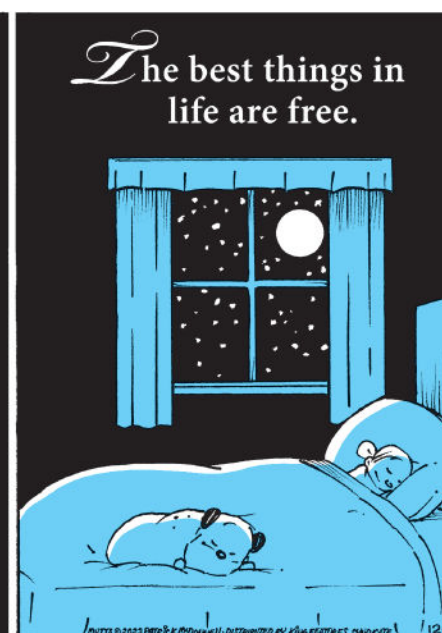
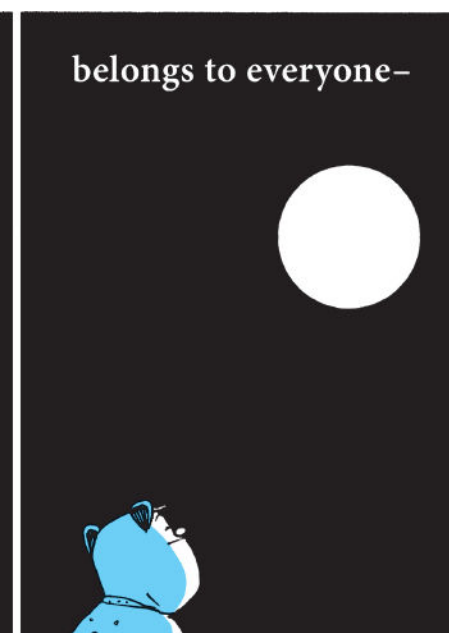
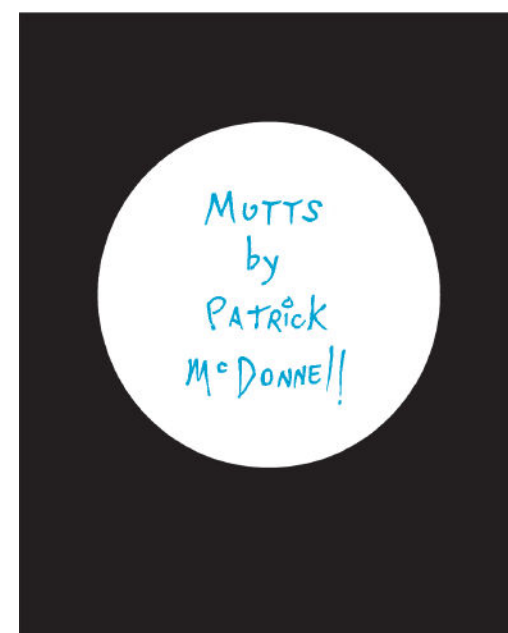
According to the MUTTS website, this is how the Guard Dog story unfolded, and how Guard Dog, now Sparky, came to be part of Doozy's family. "For years, Guard Dog spent his days and nights chained, with only the moon and an occasional animal visitor for company. Finally in 2004, a glimmer of hope appeared in the form of a young neighborhood girl named Doozy. After that, Doozy paid Guard Dog many visits on her way to and from school, always arriving with something to brighten his day: a blanket, treats, a hug, a kind word, a reminder that he wasn't alone in the world.

In late 2023, nearly three decades after MUTTS readers first fell in love with the character, Guard Dog's freedom story began to unfold in a seven-week storyline. After being abandoned by his owner and left alone to suffer, Guard Dog was discovered by his animal friends Mooch and Earl, and ultimately rescued by Doozy and Ozzie (Earl's guardian). On November 30, Ozzie broke the chain for good. On December 14, Doozy adopted Guard Dog — marking the end of a long life of neglect and the beginning of one filled with love."

Deciding to release Guard Dog (now Sparky) from his chains brought out mixed feelings in McDonnell. "I've been promising readers for a very long time that I would free Guard Dog, but many animal welfare groups felt I shouldn't. They said he still had an important message to convey about anti-tethering. But, last year, I knew it was



Trying to see the world through the eyes of the animals in my comic strip made me more conscious of how tough it is for many creatures on our planet.



time and I'm so happy I've freed him and he's now with Doozy. This made me think that Charles Schulz may have felt the same if he had let Charlie Brown kick the football." In the end, he found the release to be quite gratifying. "Removing the chain from Guard Dog and letting him lead a great life going forward reinforced my gratitude for all the good people who love animals and the unsung heroes who devote their lives to saving them!"



Patrick McDonnell and Earl
©Patricia Denys/Synergy Dogs Media



THE WRITINGS OF MARC BEKOFF

Marc Bekoff, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and co-founder with Jane Goodall of Ethologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. He has won many awards for his scientific research including the Exemplar Award from the Animal Behavior Society and a Guggenheim Fellowship. In 2005 Marc was presented with The Bank One Faculty Community Service Award for the work he has done with children, senior citizens, and prisoners and in 2009 he was presented with the St. Francis of Assisi Award by the New Zealand SPCA. Marc has published more than 1000 essays (popular, scientific, and book chapters), 31 books, and has edited three encyclopedias.



Colorado Wolves Receive Mixed Hellos and Muddy Media

Misunderstandings abound.

Used by kind permission of Marc Bekoff | psychologytoday.com/us/blog/animal-emotions

On Monday, December 18, 2023, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) achieved a milestone success with the release of five gray wolves in Grand County, officially fulfilling its obligation to Colorado voters who mandated that reintroduction of this endangered species begin by December 31, 2023. As of today, **there are now 10 gray wolves on the ground.** A summary of the week's activities can be found [here](#) and an excellent video can be seen [here](#). The reintroduction of 10 wolves into rural Colorado offers many lessons in the nature of human-nonhuman animal (animal) relationships (anthrozoology).

I was present for the release of the first five wolves, despite my having publicly aired concerns that were based on **behavioral, ecological, and ethical perspectives.** Questions that have circulated in my mind for many years include: Why are we doing this in the first place? Why are we moving individuals living in other states to unfamiliar areas in Colorado where they would surely get an unwelcome reception? What about their emotional lives and the stress of being trapped, moved, and released? What about the well-being of prey animals who would otherwise have not been exposed to yet another predator? Why don't we just leave them be?^{1,2}

Wolves are sentient animals, which simply means they have feelings. They care about their own well-being and that of their families and friends and so too should we.

Dr. Joanna Lambert, who works with the Yellowstone wolves, was also there and quoted as saying, "**...she lost her breath when she saw the wolves gallop into the woods.**" I did too. In fact, I later realized that I had been holding my breath from the

time the door of the first wolf's transport crate was open until they ran off and hightailed it over a steep slope. I've seen many wild wolves, but those people who hadn't were shocked by how beautiful, emotional, fast, and agile wolves are.

What especially interested me was that the wolves clearly had individual personalities and I wonder if and how these differences will factor into how well they do in their new homes. Part of my research on **wild coyotes** focused on this question, specifically how well coyotes displaying different personalities functioned in their pack and when they went off on their own, and any information that can be used to give each and every individual wolf the best life possible must be used on their behalf.

The importance of science

It should be noted that the guidelines for the project were based on solid science. For example, **removing high-ranking leaders can lead to the decimation of a wolf pack**, so yearlings were among the individuals who made the first trip to Colorado. Youngsters may not be efficient predators on their own but can surely acquire the skills that are necessary to get their meals.

Wanting wolves back in their historical homes is not radical, but rather biologically and ecologically sound, as it's well known that they help to improve various habitats and restore them to what they once were. People who know little to nothing about wolves should do the responsible thing and consult with experts before weighing in with hysterical hype and misinformation.



Wolf 2306-OR shortly after release in Colorado on December 19, 2023.
Photo: Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Wolves in the media

Regardless of how meticulously CPW attended to the will of the voters and the communities that would be most directly impacted by the reintroduction, it was inevitable that there would be criticism of the process and accusations by those who simply do not want wolves to return to Colorado. This rhetoric of disapprobation has ranged from semi-reasonable to uninformed, alarmist, and dangerous. It's little wonder why people who supported the return of wolves to Colorado are concerned when those who opposed it are now making targets not only of the wolves themselves, but of the professionals who have carried out their duty to the voters of Colorado.

Tuesday, December 19th, the day following the initial release, media coverage remained relatively plain—just the facts minus the opinions. But by Wednesday, the need to express outrage had far outpaced everything else.

To justify that outrage, a headline emerged suggesting that two of the five wolves flown from Oregon to Colorado had a checked past; **they were cow-killers.**³ My first response was, "So what? They're young wolves and they might still need to learn to become efficient hunters."

Numerous people found the author's article to be misinformed. The author's argument appeared to be that a "problem" pack will always produce "problem" wolves. Research shows this isn't a tenable claim.

We need to learn to coexist with wolves and other animals

I want to emphasize that I fully understand why there are highly volatile and divisive views about the presence of wolves in Colorado and other locales. Wolves have to kill other animals

to survive. We can wish all we want that these sorts of predator-prey relationships never evolved, but they have. That said, good husbandry and the use of aversive non-lethal stimuli rather than killing wolves can deter them. Killing wild predators often doesn't work because others of their or other resident species fill in the holes where the slain once lived. And, if killing off predators or other animals worked, why do human-wildlife conflicts still arise every single year?⁴

It's also imperative for those with differing opinions to work with one another rather than to fight with one another. I'm not saying this work is easy, but it's essential that we all talk with one another, try to make decisions that will please the most people, and also agree to disagree and work to make coexistence palatable to a diverse populace.

Bullying, twisting facts, threatening, and harming people with whom we disagree is not the way to move forward, and I hope that as time goes on, and more and more wolves come to feel at home here in Colorado, people will accept them and, I hope, even welcome them home. It's been a long time coming.

Coda

I find myself constantly thinking about the 10 wolves and hope they're doing well, having been forced to leave their families and friends behind and trying to thrive in new and challenging environs. I remain concerned about the well-being of each and every individual because the life of each and every individual matters, and I hope my worst fears are never realized. Wolves have a right to live here and we need to learn to coexist with them and with one another.

References

Marlon Reis, First Gentleman of Colorado, offered excellent suggestions for this piece. I've spoken with many people in many different countries over the years about some of the issues centering on reintroduction/repatriation projects and while I can't name—or frankly remember—all of them, my on-going discussions with Camilla Fox and Brooks Fahy made an indelible mark in my head and in my heart. A longer version of this piece can be found [here](#).

The Hidden Slippery Slopes of Animal Reintroduction Programs; Wolf Packs Suffer When Humans Kill Their Leaders; Dogs Demystified: An A-to-Z Guide to All Things Canine; Social Ecology and Behavior of Coyotes; Ignoring Nature No More: [The Case for Compassionate Conservation](#).

For more details about the behavior of wolves see wolf expert Rick McIntyre's excellent books discussed in these interviews: **The Power and Legacy of Yellowstone's Alpha Female Wolf 06; The Story of Yellowstone Wolf 8: From Underdog to Alpha Male, The Reign of Wolf 21, Yellowstone's Benevolent Alpha Male, and The Redemption of Yellowstone's Renegade Alpha Wolf 302.**

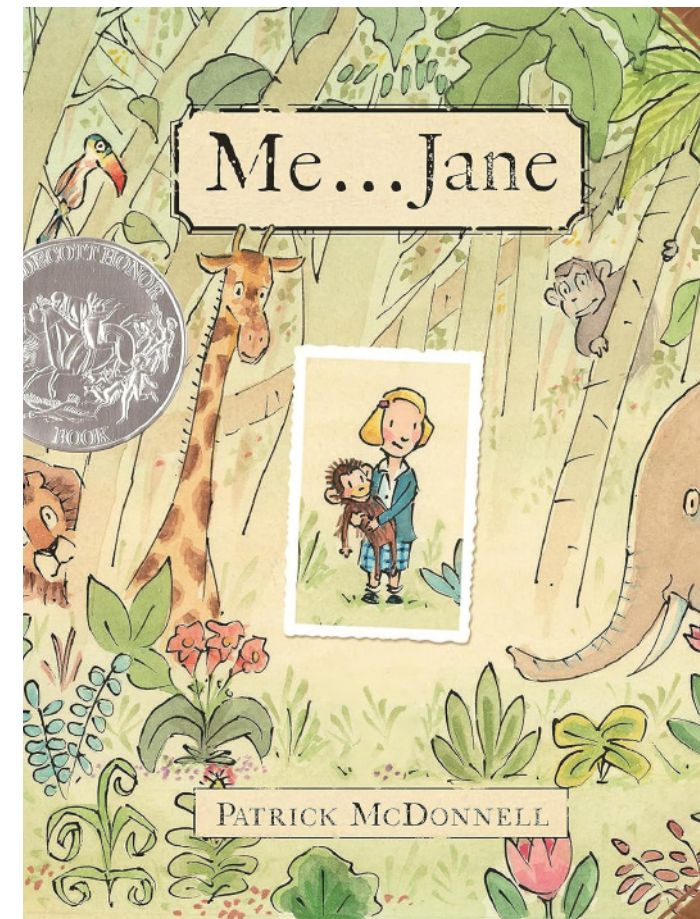
1) What I observed at the release site was impeccably professional. Under the leadership of Jeff Davis, the Director of Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), the team at the release site that day clearly had the wolves' best interests at heart. Working in tandem with Colorado's Department of Natural Resources (DNR)—whose Executive Director, Dan Gibbs, also was present—the project went as smoothly as I could have ever imagined. Yes, my concerns surfaced and still remain, but I was thoroughly pleased with what I observed was done out of a sense of deep care and concern for the wolves' well-being. Of course, the wolves were highly stressed and needed all the TLC they could get before being released into unknown lands.

2) Some people have asked me why I wanted to be there, and I told them that the project was going to be conducted whether I was there or not, because the people of Colorado voted for it, and when ranchers sued at the eleventh hour to try and stop the release, a Federal judge ruled it would proceed. So I decided I might as well accept what would happen and try to make it the best it could be by being there for the wolves. I know a lot about wolf behavior and that of other wild canids. **My students and I studied coyotes** living in the Grand Teton National Park for 8 ½ years, and also **what makes domesticated dogs thrive**. So what I observed might be helpful in future reintroductions—actually repatriations—that is, projects here in Colorado and elsewhere. The word “repatriation” simply means that wolves used to live in Colorado and disappeared because humans killed them off.

3) In evidence of this, the author noted, “Two wolves released on Dec. 19, 2023, in Grand County, Colorado, 2302-OR, a juvenile female, black color, 68 pounds, and 2303-OR, a juvenile male, gray color, 76 pounds, come from the Five Points Pack. According to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Livestock Depredation Investigations, Five Points Pack wolves injured one calf and killed another in separate depredations in July of 2023; killed a cow on Dec. 5, 2022; and injured a 900-pound yearling heifer on July 17, 2022.”

4) Some people fear that wolves attack and kill humans willy-nilly and they need to know that **fatal wolf attacks are extremely rare** and that from 2011-2021, **the average number of humans killed by dogs was 43**. Of course, these are tragic events, but a number of people who know wolves and dogs have told me they'd rather face a p*ssed-off wolf than a mad dog. Personally, I'd rather not meet either of these animals.

Book Review: **Me . . . Jane**



No, this is not a new book by Patrick McDonnell. It was published in 2011, winning the Randolph Caldecott Medal in 2012. But if you missed it at the time, it's not too late to enjoy. This is the story of a little English girl named Jane Goodall, who loved nature in all its wondrous manifestations. She'd read of another Jane, a character in Tarzan of the Apes, the one who lived with Tarzan in Africa. According to the book's About Jane Goodall, at the end of this captivating book, “When Jane Goodall was ten years old, she decided that when she grew up she would go to Africa, live with the animals, and write about them. Almost everyone told her this goal was impossible. Her family had little money, and she was a girl in a time when girls were not encouraged to pursue adventurous careers. But her mother encouraged her to follow her dream. When Jane finished school, she continued to learn about Africa and worked hard to save enough money to go there. She finally arrived in 1957, met famed anthropologist Louis Leakey, and began studying chimpanzees at the Gombe Stream Game Reserve (now known as Gombe Stream National Park) in Tanzania in 1960.”

The book describes her childhood adventures with her stuffed toy chimpanzee Jubilee, who was her constant companion. Naturally, it was lushly illustrated by the talented McDonnell, with all his usual charm and attention to detail. Included in this beautiful, scrapbook style book are several special features. As the book's Art Notes state, “Throughout the book, ornamental engravings from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are included, collectively evoking Jane's lifelong passion for detailed, scientific observation of nature.” Even more evocative, however, are three pages of Jane's own artwork. The back of the book, according to the Art Notes, “features a cartoon that Jane Goodall made of her life in the forest at the Gombe Stream Game Reserve. Readers will also find two facing pages of drawings and puzzles that Jane herself created when, as a young girl, she led a club called the Alligator Society.” The book also contains several photos of Goodall as a young girl, and one of her taken in Africa by her first husband, Dutch photographer and filmmaker Baron Hugo van Lawick.

It is difficult, if not impossible, to imagine a more perfect marriage of artist and subject. It is patently obvious that McDonnell and Goodall are of like mind, and heart. The book concludes with a message from Goodall:

Each one of us makes a difference. We cannot live through a single day without making an impact on the world around us – and we have a choice as to what sort of difference we make. The life of each one of us matters in the scheme of things, and I encourage everyone, especially young people, to make the world a better place for people, animals, and the environment.

Children are motivated when they can see the positive results their hard work can have. As I travel, I meet hundreds of Roots & Shoots groups. They are always eager to tell “Dr. Jane” what they've been doing and how they are making a difference in their communities. Whether they've done something simple, like recycling or collecting trash, or something that requires a great deal of effort, like restoring a wetland or raising money for street children or a local dog shelter, they are a continual source of inspiration for me and for other children around the world. I invite you to get involved!

I invite you to get involved in the magic of McDonnell and Goodall by collecting and relishing this enchanting book.

To purchase this book: [CLICK HERE](#)

New York's Secret Little Tree to Honor Animals

BY MARY HOLMES AND PATRICIA DENYS
ALL PHOTOS: LORI RUMPEL

New York City is home to multitudes of animal lovers. As evidence of this, companion animals in the city currently number 1.1 million, and that's just dogs and cats; some 600,000 dogs and 500,000 cats. Therefore, it's no surprise that in the heart of Manhattan, indeed, in the heart of Central Park, lies a magical tree dedicated to the memory of these animals. Hidden in the Ramble, many people are unaware of its existence, even though it's been around for decades. If you're

lucky, and you search for it between Thanksgiving and Three Kings' Day, you will never forget your encounter with the Pet Memorial Tree. It has been around since the 80s; the response from visitors new and old is heartwarming.

According to writer, photographer and long-time New Yorker Larry Closs, in the 80s casting director Jason Reddock was walking his dog in the Ramble when he came upon a tree with dog toys and a collar on it. Reddock and friend Nicki Gallas began bringing ornaments and memorials of their own. "Since the tree was an evergreen, and since Christmas was only weeks away, the pair decided it was a Christmas tree and thus the Pet Memorial Christmas Tree was born." Reddock was primary "keeper of the tree" until some five years ago, when walking became too difficult for him. Being the "keeper of the tree" entailed removing all the ornaments from the tree at the end of the season, storing them, and rehanging them on the tree the following November.

Fellow New Yorker Melanie Larsen's, and Reddock's dogs were best friends, so she seemed a logical choice to become the new "keeper of the tree" when Reddock had to bow out.

Larsen took up the gauntlet. "I started taking the ornaments home a few years ago and getting them laminated at a print shop because I thought it was so sad when they literally just fell apart sometimes. There were so many that I eventually just bought my own laminating machine" Larsen estimates that today the tree sports about 750 photos and mementoes. She was managing the task all by herself until 2022; some people saw her at work and offered to help. Now

[left] *The beloved, secret Animal Memorial Tree in Central Park, New York.*



Some of the notes are humorous, but most are touching and often heart-breaking.



she has a crew assisting her. Larsen asserts that even people who've left the city come by to visit the memorials they left. According to Sio Hornbuckle, writing for "The Wildest," the tree's impact is incredible. "What's no mystery is the positive impact the tree has had on the lives of people who have lost their pets. The ornaments may help people find closure and a chance to celebrate their loved ones in the company of other grieving animal lovers."

Larsen told Closs, "I hope the tree serves the same purpose that I assume people get from visiting their family graveyards, where you can go and you can talk to the person or the dog and you're happy to have that connection again. And if you're from New York you will remember all those great times you had walking and playing with your dog in the park, and recognizing all their friends who are hanging on the tree. I think it's just a lovely sentimental moment for people."

New Yorker Lori Rumpel shared with us, "Even though I've lived in Manhattan for many years, I only recently discovered the Pet Memorial Tree in December while wandering through The Ramble, a heavily wooded area of Central Park. Each year the tree is located in a hidden spot off the main trail. There happened to be an NBC film crew near the tree that caught my attention, as the tree was scheduled to be featured at the end of the national evening news on that day."

"Central Park is my home away from home, and I love everything about it. I began walking during the pandemic and realized how vital it is to both my mental and physical wellbeing! There's no more diverse and beautiful place to walk, all 843 acres!

"I was both curious and excited as I first approached the tree, as I had never seen anything like it. What a very special, heartwarming discovery in the middle of the woods! The tree brought happy tears to my eyes."

In sum, Rumpel stated, "The memorial tree is such a lovely tribute to all of the dearly departed pets who touched the lives of their owners. A one-of-a-kind, exceptional tree that is overflowing with LOVE..."

Part of the tree's intrigue is that it's off the beaten path, not easy to locate. Those who mind the tree hope to keep it that way, and discourage those who are in the know with sharing directions with others. The Ramble, which is one of Central Park's three heavily-wooded areas, is in itself 36 acres, this embedded inside a park which occupies 840 acres. Larry Closs, on the website The Furever Tree describes the tree as "a lone 18-foot evergreen guarded by towering maples, oaks, and a holly bush. The tree is a ways off the fence-lines path, just far enough that a passerby would likely not even notice it—not from mid-January through mid-November, anyway. But from Thanksgiving to Three Kings' Day, or thereabouts, you can't miss it. That's when the tree becomes the Tree—

The Pet Memorial Christmas Tree, a shimmering, touching, heartfelt tribute to cherished pets who are no longer with us."

He further writes that, starting in late November, "Overnight, the bare branches of the Tree are hung with hundreds of remembrances, pictures of precious creature great and small who have passed—mostly dogs and cats, but also bunnies, birds, horses, hamsters, turtles, fish, and squirrels, mostly from New York but also other countries all tied with brightly colored ribbon and yarn and often inscribed with deeply personal memories, poignant messages and passionate promises to meet again."

He continues, "Nearly all of the photos are laminated, to protect them from the elements, and the dates written on most of them that mark an animal's lifespan indicate that some of the photos have been hanging on the tree for many years—decades even. So, too, have many for the Christmas ornaments and pet toys that imbue the Tree with a festive air despite the sorrow revealed by closer inspection. The overall effect, as one visitor described it, is 'heartbreakingly beautiful.'"

Closs renders a bewitching tale of how the Tree got started as only a New Yorker could, "On a particularly windy fall day in 1982, an invigorating breeze blew through a grove of conifers covering Cedar Hill on the east side of Central Park. The wind nudged a seed from a cone on a White Cedar and sent it soaring high above the Park, sailing south over the Alice in Wonderland statue, Conservatory Water and Loeb Boathouse and then north over Bethesda Terrace, Bow Bridge and Belvedere Castle before finally drifting down and coming to rest on a small patch of bare earth deep in the Ramble, the Park's labyrinthine woodland of winding paths, flowering meadows and rocky outcrops. As autumn progressed, the surrounding trees shed their leaves and covered the seed for the winter. Come spring, the seed germinated, sending roots into the moist soil and sending a few scaly leaves skyward."

Closs concludes his story on the Furever Tree website. "For those who know, the Tree provides a place to cry, to grieve and to say goodbye, a place to remember, to honor and to say I'll see you again . . . there are no pet cemeteries, no safe spaces to express the overwhelming sadness that accompanies the loss of what Edith Wharton so deftly described as 'a heartbeat at my feet.' The final resting place for most City pets is a beautiful urn on a bedroom dresser, or perhaps Central Park itself, where their ashes are spread across their favorite former stomping grounds (along with more than a few humans). Enter the Pet Memorial Christmas Tree."

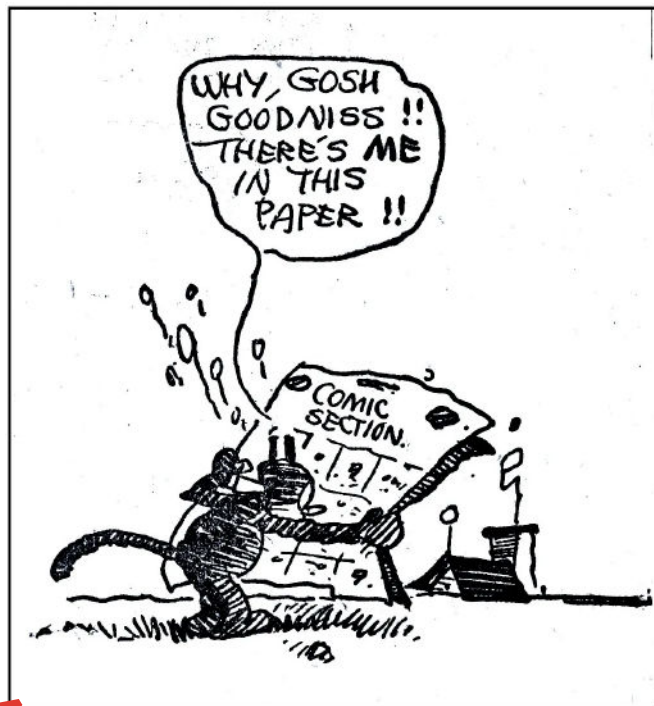
Here's hoping this tradition continues forever.



Love, Poetry,
Democracy,
Gender, and
Antiracism All
in One Comic?

Meet

KRAZY KAT

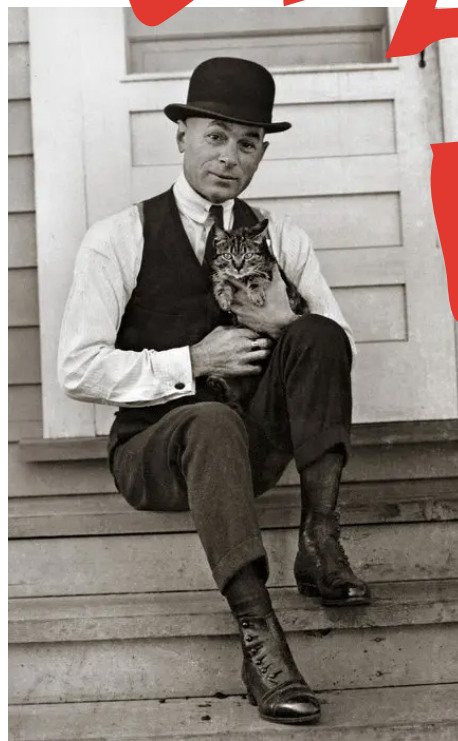


April 16, 1922.

"Krazy Kat has been described as a parable of love, a metaphor for democracy, a 'surrealistic' poem, unfolding over years and years," writes **Chris Ware**, another of the most respected comic-strip artists alive. "It is all of these, but so much more: it is a portrait of America, a self-portrait of Herriman, and, I believe, the first attempt to paint the full range of human consciousness in the language of the comic strip." (Ed. Note: Chris Ware, a graphic novelist and cartoonist, is best known for his *Acme Novelty Library* series, the graphic novels *Jimmy Corrigan*, *the Smartest Kid on Earth*, *Building Stories* and *Rusty Brown*, and his "New Yorker" covers.)

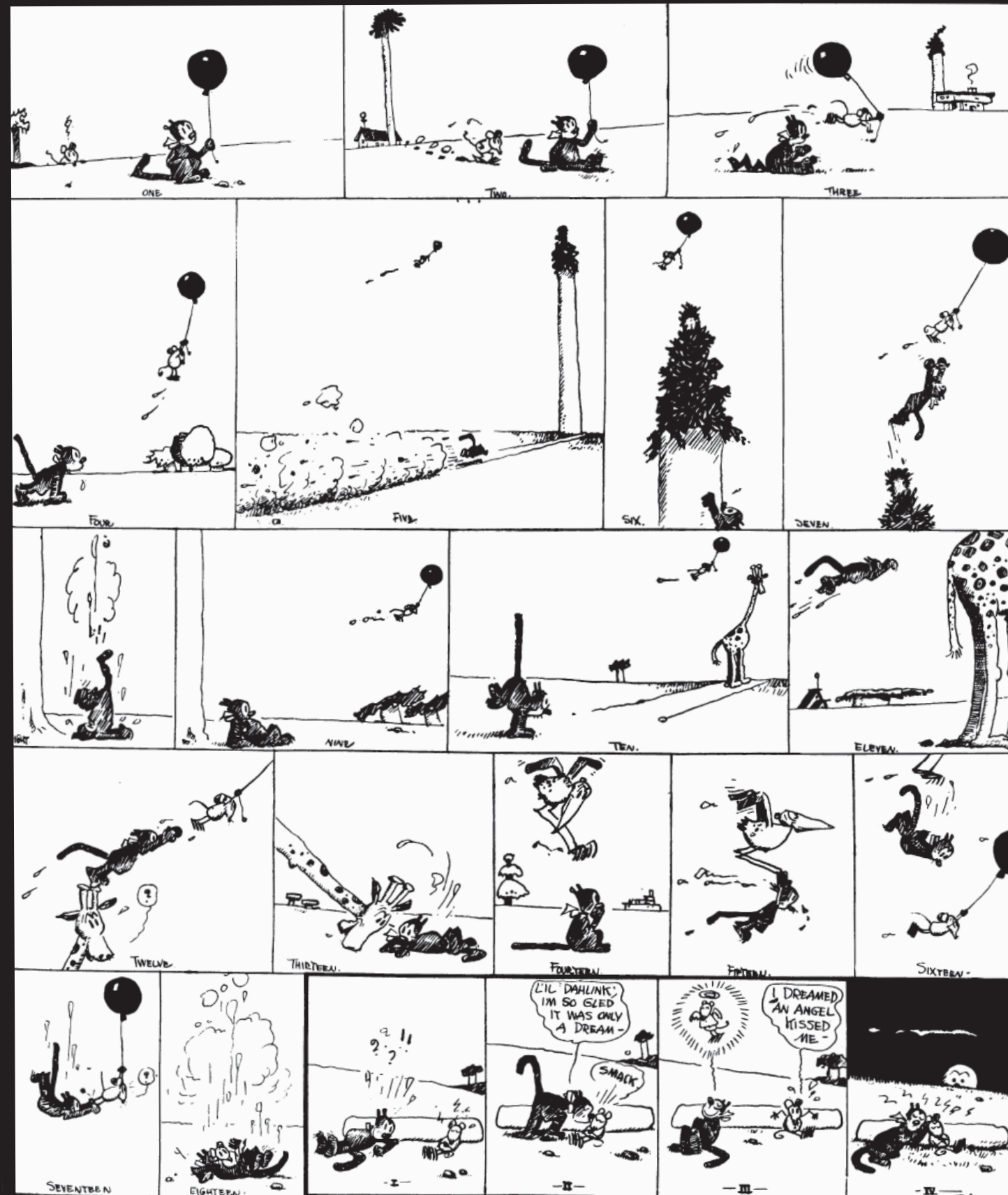
(and it's over a hundred years old!)

BY MARY HOLMES



George Herriman and friend, 1922.

Photo: Dee Cox



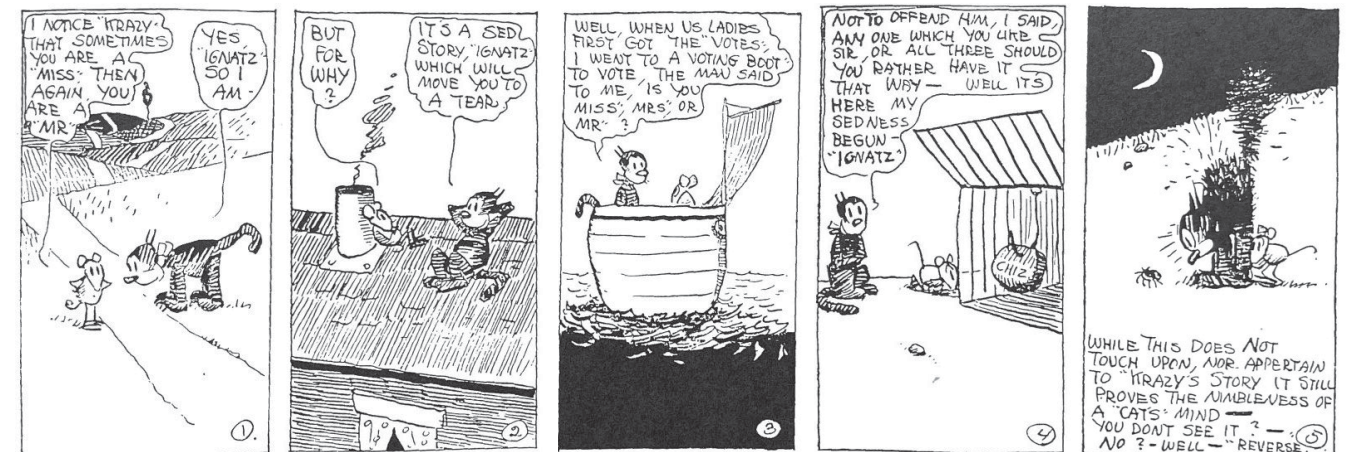
April 30, 1916.



December 10, 1939

This is major praise for a comic strip published from 1913 to 1944, created by cartoonist George Herriman. More kudos comes from multiple cartoonists who have been influenced by his work: including Walt Kelly of *Pogo*, John Kricfalusi, creator of *Ren & Stimpy*, Matt Groening of *The Simpsons*' Itchy and Scratchy, Theodor Geisel (Dr. Seuss), Ralph Bakshi's *Fritz the Cat*, Art Spiegelman's *Maus*, Jim Henson, Charles Schulz, and Patrick McDonnell, among others. In fact, Theodor Geisel was quoted as saying, "At its best, the comic strip is an art form of

identity issues were used in the Krazy Kat comics, and others. Herriman was a prolific cartoonist; over the course of his career, he created some 46 different comics. The three main characters in Krazy Kat were Krazy Kat, the usually black cat, Ignatz, the usually white mouse, and Offisa Bull Pupp, the dog. I say "usually," because sometimes Krazy Kat and Ignatz changed colors, with Krazy Kat becoming white, and Ignatz becoming black. Maybe Herriman's point was that whatever their color, their essence remained the same. Where does Offisa Bull Pup



1920

such terrific *wumpf!* that I'd much rather spend any evening of any week rereading the beautifully insane sanities of George Herriman's Krazy Kat than to sit myself down in some opera house to hear some smiling Irish tenor murdering Pagliacci." Herriman was also held in high esteem by the likes of e.e. cummings, President Woodrow Wilson, Picasso, James Joyce, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Jack Kerouac.

Remarkably, not that much has been written about Herriman over the years. He was not that forthcoming about his background. Writer Matthew Wood stated, "When Herriman began his career as a newspaper cartoonist, often illustrating and reporting sports stories, he let his colleagues define his new identity for him. His longtime friend Tad Dorgan nicknamed Herriman "The Greek," and he retained the nickname to help explain his olive skin, and wore hats to conceal his hair. He also sometimes referred to himself as 'Black Irish,' and later even claimed to have been born in France and not New Orleans." In reality, he was born in New Orleans in 1880, in the Tremé neighborhood. Tremé, a historic community just north of the French Quarter, is the oldest African American neighborhood in America.

His reticence was easily explained in 1971, when someone obtained a copy of his birth certificate. He was of mixed-race, and his birth certificate reflected his "colored" status. His

fit into the picture? Well, there was a love triangle here. Krazy Kat loved Ignatz, Ignatz ostensibly hated Krazy, and Offisa Pup loved Krazy Kat. Ignatz displayed his hatred toward Krazy by throwing bricks at him, frequently. Offisa Pupp spent much of his time jailing Ignatz for his brick-throwing. But did Ignatz really hate Krazy Kat? Oftentimes, Krazy Kat would kiss Ignatz while he was asleep, and we would then see cupids and stars coming out of Ignatz' head.

But this fluidity was complicated by yet another layer – was Krazy Kat male or female? He/she seemed to have difficulty deciding, as did Herriman. According to Michael Tisserand, author of the 2016 biography *Krazy: George Herriman, a Life in Black and White*, Frank Capra posed the question. "He visited George Herriman one time and said, 'What's up with this cat? Why is it both male and female?' And Herriman said he tried to make Krazy Kat a female one time, and [then] tried to make him male, but decided that it worked best to have Krazy Kat like a sprite: free to butt into anything, free to do whatever Krazy Kat wants to do. Kind of like Ariel, the sprite in Shakespeare's 'The Tempest.'"

There's still a great deal of interest in Herriman and his work. Besides the Tisserand biography, Patrick McDonnell, Karen O'Connell, and Georgia Riley De Havenon collaborated on a book called *Krazy Kat: The Comic Art of George Herriman*,



Camilla Fox and the Project Coyote Team

Camilla H. Fox is the founder and executive director of Project Coyote – a national non-profit organization based in Mill Valley, California that promotes compassionate conservation and coexistence between people and wildlife through education, science, and advocacy. With 25+ years of experience working on behalf of wildlife and wildlands and a Master's degree in wildlife ecology, policy, and conservation, Camilla's work has been featured in several national and international media outlets. Their representatives, advisory board members and supporters include scientists, conservationists, educators, ranchers and citizen leaders who work together to change laws and policies to protect native carnivores from abuse and mismanagement, advocating coexistence instead of killing. They seek to change negative attitudes toward coyotes, wolves and other misunderstood predators by replacing ignorance and fear with understanding, respect and appreciation.

Camilla and Mokie
PHOTO © FRANK SCHULENBURG

Witnessing Wolves: The Fight for Their Future in Montana

WRITTEN BY RENEE SEACOR

On Christmas day, a wolf strayed beyond Yellowstone National Park's invisible northern boundary and **was shot dead**. My heart sank, wondering if it was the same wolf that peered my way and captured my attention just a month earlier.

I'd been standing in Yellowstone National Park at dawn with my partner when three wolves made their way over a hill and directly in our line of sight from our car. For a few moments, minutes, it was just us and wolves. They trotted along the roadside roughly 200 yards away. They paused and looked around, and each of them let out a few quiet, deep howls. Later, we'd try to piece together what they were searching for, what pack they were a part of, and where they were headed. We'd replay every single moment out loud to each other, again and again.

Yellowstone wolf sightings have always brought me immense gratitude over the years—getting to witness rare glimpses into the lives of wild wolves—but this time, I felt a new set of emotions: anxiety, stress, and deep concern for these wolves' knowing full well what exists just a few miles north. The wolf management unit directly north of the park managed by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks at that current moment had three wolves left in its quota, putting these three lives in direct danger. And they were wandering awfully close to the northern border.

The last time I was in the park was March of 2021, and again at dawn, I listened to the Junction Butte wolf pack howl in chorus from an elk kill site where the pack had been camped out for a few days. They were viewable from a pullout overlook off the north road, and we stood with an eager crowd of scientists, tourists, and full-time wolf watchers as we watched the pack through our spotting scope.

At that moment, the unprecedented slaughter of Yellowstone wolves and the egregious wolf killing across the entire state was brewing in the halls of the Montana Legislature but hadn't yet begun. The Junction Butte pack, who often stayed within park boundaries (**roughly 96% of the time**), had mostly escaped

harm as residents of the park. But any semblance of protection or compassion halted abruptly in 2021 when Montana politicians sanctioned the killing of up to 85% of its state wolf population and removed the quotas previously in place for wolf killing on the northern boundary of the park. That season, our nation's most treasured and iconic wolves were slaughtered one after another until 25 were dead, the **deadliest season** for Yellowstone National Park wolves in 100 years. That season across the state, **273 wolves** would tragically lose their lives, wolf families were broken apart, and egregious practices like baiting, night hunting, and snaring legally took place.

A sordid history

In 2012, I undertook a research project digitizing Montana Agricultural Commission records from 1892-1931 that recorded bounty certificates for carnivores killed across the state including wolves, coyotes, bears, and cougars. With every flip of a page, I recorded wolves by the tens, hundreds, and thousands that were ripped off the landscape and cashed in for anywhere from \$3-\$15. I struggled to understand the level of human savagery needed to fund the killing of a species into extinction, especially in contrast to my own personal desire to live alongside wild carnivores—a reason I chose to move to Montana in the first place.

Slowly as I progressed through the records, wolf kills started to shrink, and bounty hunters seemed to be bringing in less carnage until the number of certificates issued for wolves stopped appearing altogether. I remember the first few pages where wolf numbers disappeared, realizing I was staring at the ink marks representing the moment in time when hunters delivered the bodies of the last wolves to exist in the state. Bounty hunters slaughtered a species into extirpation and were paid by the state to do it. I had only recently learned the dark history of America's war with wild carnivores, and something about the blank space on the page next to "wolf" as I flipped from 1927 onward made my heart heavy and my head spin. Naively, I remember thinking



Wolf 1, Yellowstone National Park.

(hoping) that level of human hatred toward carnivores was surely a thing of the past?

I'd get back to Billings, where I was attending school at Rocky Mountain College, and promptly grab a beer with a friend whose family owned a ranch outside Lewiston, Montana. I tried to better understand the root of such strong emotions toward wolves and conversations like those would make me feel that all conflicts could be settled over a beer. But unfortunately, I'd also learn the realities of **age old anti-predator hysteria** used to support political extremism and minority special interest groups. The truth is most of the public doesn't want to kill wolves, less than .02% of Montanans hunt and trap wolves. Instead, wolves and their killing have turned into political pawns and represent the ideologies of a few extreme politicians.

The divisiveness that has spread across the country in recent years, that we've all borne witness to, has also torn up wolves in its wake. The minority participates in the unjustified slaughter of wolves to the detriment of the majority, who benefit from healthy ecosystems and revel in the beauty of getting to share a landscape with such a unique and intrinsically valuable species.

As it turned out, the year before I began digitizing wolf bounty records (2011) was the year **Senator John Tester attached a federal appropriations rider** to a must-vote budget bill that would remove Endangered Species Act protections for wolves in the Northern Rockies and direct management back to the states of Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho. Slowly the hunting and trapping of wolves would ramp up and up, killing begetting more killing. And even the bounty payments that I had prayed were a remnant of a dark past began again. States like Idaho were allocating over **\$200,000 to pay bounties to hunters who killed wolves**.

Our fight in defense of Montana's wolves

This is why Project Coyote, along with co-plaintiff WildEarth Guardians, **sued the state of Montana in November of 2022** over their extreme anti-wolf hunting and trapping policies, and why despite countless attempts by the state to dismiss the case we wage on, in defense of wolves.

Among legal arguments, our suit lays out why recent wolf policies violate the state constitution which protects wildlife as a public trust resource for all Montanans—and not just the fringe minority who participate in the unethical slaughter of wolves. Triumphantly, the state of Montana's constitutional duty to protect the environment for present and future generations was just reaffirmed in **Held v. Montana**. In Held, a judge ruled that the state's failure to consider climate change when approving fossil fuel projects was unconstitutional.



Wolf 2, Yellowstone National Park.

Wildlife is also in the public trust, and thereby Montana has a positive duty as public trustees to manage their wildlife, including gray wolves, for the benefit of all Montanans. At a very minimum this requires transparent, scientifically defensible management strategies that preserve rather than diminish or imperil the species.

In defending our case in November of 2022, we called on the state to recognize the intrinsic, economic, cultural, and ecological value of wolves and the outsized benefits they provide across our communities. For some of Yellowstone's wolves, entire books have been written about individuals, their unique personalities, family lineages, and relationships. Some of **those treasured individuals have been killed** because of Montana's shortsighted policies, and **eulogies** tragically written in their names.

My most recent trip to Yellowstone just a few months ago reminded me yet again of the critical importance of our continued litigation in Montana and our advocacy in defense of all canids nationwide. Hours after getting to observe three Yellowstone wolves, I laid awake in our Airbnb in Gardiner, breath still cold from the November air. I wondered if, at that very moment, those wolves were venturing far too close to danger—the human hatred that sat just outside park boundaries. I thought about the countless wolves unknown to me across the state, who aren't afforded the protection of living in or close to a National Park. We continue our fight in the courtroom for all of them.

Renee Seacor is the Carnivore Conservation Director at Project Coyote. For more information about her, see <https://projectcoyote.org/about/renee-seacor/>



Wolf paw prints.

IN THE NEWS

First, a press release from a new group working for animals in Denver, Pro-Animal Future:

Pro-Animal Future: Advocating for a Kinder World

Pro-Animal Future (PAF) is a collective force of voters, volunteers, and small donors building a political movement to end factory farming. Our approach uses grassroots power to transform compassion for animals into tangible legal changes.

PAF's first campaign, going on now in Denver, was inspired by a study done by Pax Fauna. The study showed that although Americans are attached to consuming meat and often resist changing individually, they are open to evolving together at a political level. Indeed, over 31,000 signatures were collected from Denver voters to ban the sale of fur and close slaughterhouses in Denver. In November 2024, they will vote on these two groundbreaking ballot measures.

Slaughterhouses, known for their cruelty to both animals and workers, contribute to pollution in nearby areas. Fur sales overwhelmingly come from animals raised in tiny cages on fur factory farms, which are already banned in many parts of Europe and the U.S. Starting in Denver, we aim to propel the pro-animal movement into mainstream consciousness.

Over 100 volunteer activists gathered the signatures from their neighbors to get these measures in front of voters. Now that we are on the ballot, we have entered the voter outreach phase of the campaign—and that's where you come in, dear reader!

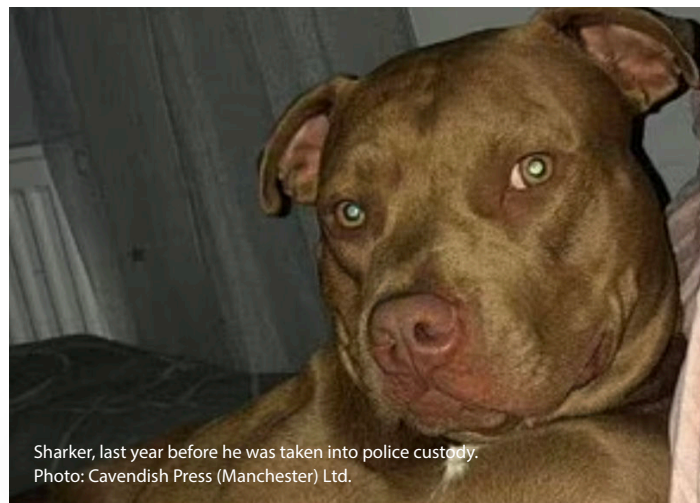
Pro-Animal Future invites you to join our movement in creating a more compassionate world for animals. You can support our campaigns by following our work, donating, or joining our community of activists. Our diverse community offers connection, support, and fun through group actions, a book club, and social events. Learn more at [Pro-Animal Future](#).

In London, the *Ecotextile News* reported in December, that the British Fashion Council formally banned fur at London Fashion Week, starting with the 40th anniversary event held in February of this year. According to the magazine, "The event has been fur free for some years but this has now been implemented into the application process for brands taking part in the event. The announcement was welcomed by Yvonne Taylor, vice president of corporate projects for the PETA animal welfare organisation.

"It has taken a long time, but by banning fur from the runway, the British Fashion Council now fully recognises that fur belongs to the animals born in it," said Taylor.

"Almost none of today's designers want to support an industry that electrocutes, poisons, gases, and skins sentient animals; pollutes the environment; and exposes workers to toxic chemicals, and this is why the London catwalk has been fur-free for years."

In another story from London, Humane Society International/UK announced "the largest ever global anti-fur consumer campaign" against fashion house Max Mara. Major participants include Humane Society International, the Humane Society of the United States, and the [Fur Free Alliance](#), which includes organizations in some 35 countries. Campaigners have asked supporters to contact the design house by phone, email, and social media to drop the use of fur. "Max Mara, which has 2,500+ stores in 105 countries—of which 39 are in the United States—is one of the last major fur users and its current range includes items made of fox, raccoon dog and mink fur. Max Mara fur products include [fox fur cuffs](#), a [mink trimmed hood](#), a [fox fur trimmed hood](#), [mink mittens](#) and a [raccoon dog fur charm](#), and product labels show the company uses mink fur from China plus fox and raccoon dog fur from Finland. Not only is the production of fur from these animals horrific and inhuman, it is also harmful to the environment and a risk to public health.



Sharker, last year before he was taken into police custody. Photo: Cavendish Press (Manchester) Ltd.

In the North of England, Liverpool to be precise, a 22-year old woman is fighting for the life of her three-year old pit bull. She purchased her dog, Sharker, two years ago from a "cow-boy breeder" who sold her the dog saying it was an "American bulldog" puppy. The dog has no history of aggression. He was simply outside his home barking, according to the owner.

After several assessments by "experts" it was determined the dog was aggressive. The biggest problem—Sharker is a pit bull, banned under the [Dangerous Dogs Act 1991](#). Sharker's owner, Sophie Vallance was originally fined £54, ordered to pay £1,500 in kennel costs, and £662 in prosecution costs. This happened because the dog got out of the house, and was loose in the front garden (or in the street, depending upon whose version one believes) for several minutes.

Sharker is still alive, and has now been kenneled for some nine months at the police kennels, at a cost of £3,348. Vallance has been fighting for her dog's release since June of 2023. But Sharker's situation has been exacerbated by a rule put into effect by the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs on February 1st of this year. It not only expanded the list of banned breeds (Pit bull terriers, Japanese Tosas, Dogos Argentinos, Filas Brasileiros, and so-called XL Bullies) but also increased the requirements owners must abide by to obtain a "certificate of exemption." For all the requirements, see the [DEFRA link](#) in this article.

Animal Culture is of the opinion that all breed specific legislation is overreaching. No breed is born aggressive. Individual dogs may have aggressive tendencies, specific to the dog. But in most cases, dogs are aggressive because they are trained by humans to be. In the case of the



Baby Orca J60 with his mother in January before he disappeared. Photo: Center for Whale Research.

Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, dogs become the victims as do owners who do not possess the means to abide by all the regulations.

In Washington State, The Center for Whale Research reported that a calf born into the J Pod of orcas in Puget Sound is likely dead. It went missing from its group about a month after its birth. Prior to that, there had been several sightings of the calf, and it had been confirmed it was a boy. He was a member of the Endangered Southern Resident killer whale population. This species is listed as endangered in both the U.S. and Canada. Populations have declined due to lack of prey, chemical pollution, noise disturbances from human vessels, and other factors.

A primary cause is lack of nutrition, specifically a lack of Chinook salmon, which is an excellent food source for the killer whales. But they are also in short supply, due to river damming, overharvesting, and selective harvesting of the biggest fish. In the not too distant past, Chinooks sometimes weighed over 100 pounds. Now the average weight is 12.5 pounds. When pregnant orcas don't get sufficient food, many calves do not reach full gestation. The ones that do often die shortly after birth due to lack of food.

Once again, *Animal Culture* shares the good and the bad with you. Here's hoping we can bring you more positive stories in the May issue.

Lisa Karlan's

Plant Based Recipes

Lisa Karlan is Producer/Host of "Hey Doc! What's New in Plant-Based Medicine" appearing on JaneUnchained News Network most Fridays at 10 am PST/ 1 pm EST at: facebook.com/janevelezmitchell, facebook.com/LKarlan YouTube.com/c/janeunchainednews and twitter.com/LKarlan. She is also a Certified Food for Life Instructor with Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine and the recipe author for Animal Culture Magazine.



Lisa Karlan

Lisa Karlan's Signature Vegan Quiche

(adapted from @vegetaryn on Instagram)

INGREDIENTS

- 10 oz frozen hash browns (shredded potatoes)
- 1 medium or 2 small onions, diced (I used red onions)
- 2 medium sized leeks, thinly sliced (trimmed and tough dark green outer layer removed)
- 1 large red bell pepper, diced (white part, seeds and stem discarded)
- 1 cup of broccoli florets, chopped
- 2 bottles of JUST egg
- 2-3 oz Miyoko's Colby Jack or Daiya Shredded Cheddar, or your choice
- 1 Tbsp Miyoko's Cultured Vegan Butter



Ingredients



Lisa Karlan's Signature Vegan Quiche



DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 375° F
2. Water sauté onions until slightly caramelized, then add leeks and continue cooking until the onions have browned a bit; add water as needed to deglaze the pan
3. Fold in the sweet red peppers and sauté until slightly soft
4. Gently fold the broccoli into the onions, leeks, and red peppers; when the broccoli develops a dark green color, it's finished
5. Butter a 9-inch Pyrex pie pan and press frozen hash browns into it to form the crust, by pressing the hash browns up the sides
6. Lightly sprinkle some cheese over the hash browns and cover with the sautéed vegetables
7. Pour the first bottle of Just Egg around the perimeter and then fill in toward the middle; then pour in the 2nd bottle allowing the egg mixture to drain through to the hash browns
8. Top with 2-3 oz vegan cheese and bake uncovered on a parchment-lined cookie sheet for 1 hour and 10 minutes or until the center is firm to the touch
9. Garnish with fresh parsley or arugula and some thinly sliced tomato match sticks

This extraordinary quiche was made possible by two things: 1) my daughter, Taryn, affectionately known on social media (Instagram) as @vegetaryn who created this recipe and 2) Just Egg | 100% Made From Plants (available on Amazon and at Whole Foods and some grocery stores.)

This recipe is great for a special breakfast or brunch or can even be served as a light dinner with soup or salad. It tastes best when heated, so feel free to use a microwave. Surprise your friends by bringing this to a family event or pot-luck (when we do those again) and no one will suspect it's vegan, unless you tell them! This quiche is gluten and soy-free.

If you make this recipe, please take a photo and post to Instagram and tag @animal_culture_magazine and @ljkarlan

Guard Dog *free!*



ARTWORK ©PATRICK MCDONNELL

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