



RUMINATIONS and LETTERS




page 2

HEALTH & RESEARCH



page 4

SQUIGGLES & SCRIBBLES



page 3

ASK A POODLE



page 3

LET'S TALK BALLS!



page 4

Animal Sterilization Rampant Outside Park

MAMMALIAN DAILY HEALTH REPORTER

WITH FILES FROM THE MAMMALIAN DAILY'S UNDERCOVER REPORTER

Animals who make their homes outside The Park face sterilization rates of up to ninety per cent, an investigation by a Mammalian Daily UnderCover Reporter has revealed.

According to statistics compiled for the years 21-24 AZ, sterilization affects approximately 42% of Animals who consider themselves to be permanent residents of the lands outside The Park.

"We are looking at rates for Dogs of [sometimes] 900 per thousand," said Carmelita Ardilla, a member of the team that analyzed the data assembled by the UnderCover Reporter.

The numbers aren't much better for Cats, either. They are being sterilized at a rate of over 800 per thousand.

"Any way you look at it, sterilizations are being performed in shockingly high numbers," she said.

What accounts for such significantly elevated rates? The Mammalian Daily asked Dr. M. Rosario Morsa, Professor

of Statistics and Well-Being at the University of West Terrier's Medical College, to analyze the data. In his opinion, these numbers are due, in part, to the high rate of co-habitation with Humans outside The Park.

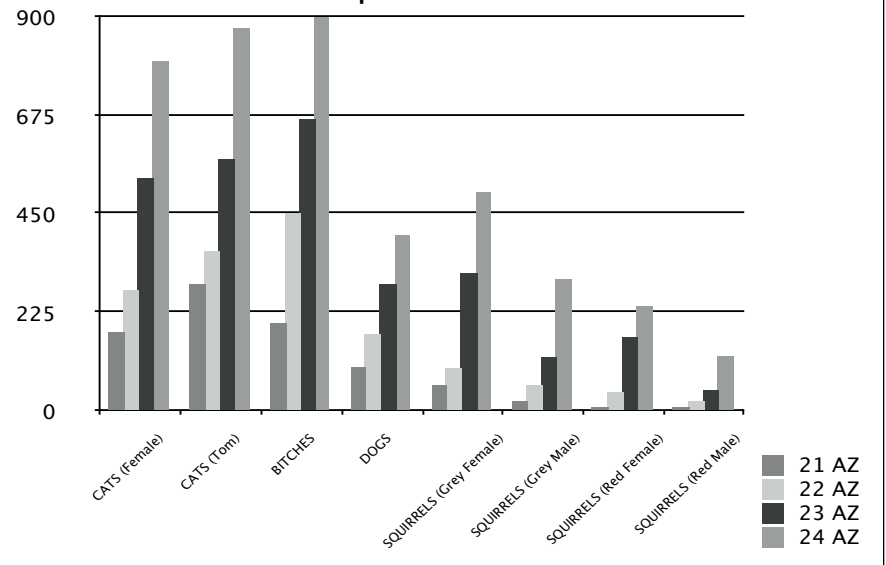
"We keep coming back to it, over and over again," he said. We do not want to give a simplistic answer; we do not want to lay blame where it might be inappropriate. But it is impossible to ignore this fact. Animals who co-habit with Humans are simply more likely to be sterilized than other Animals."

Sterilization is believed to be quite fashionable in the Human world. The surgical procedure, which is known by a number of other terms, including "spaying" and "neutering," became popular among Humans in the last century. Unsubstantiated reports circulating inside The Park indicate that it is now the preferred method of birth control for older Humans and for those who feel that their families are complete. But evidence suggests that the Human attitude toward Animal reproduction differs considerably.

One source close to the investigation, who wished to remain anonymous, revealed that sterilization among Animals who live outside The Park often occurs prior to any live births and has become "a requirement" for the co-habitation arrangement.

"I have been told by friends," she said, "that it was made quite

Animal Sterilization per Thousand Outside The Park



clear to them that they could not share quarters with Humans unless they surrendered their reproductive rights."

Last month, an account of such a situation appeared on The Mammalian Daily's best seller list. Author William Patrick Wolfhound's "Life in a Gelded Cage: The Personal Memoir of a Pet," tells the harrowing tale of one Dog's encounter with a city's population control policies.

Even if [Human] co-habitation customs are behind this "domestic" trend, that would not account for the alarmingly high rates of sterilization found among Animals who live independently of them. In fact, suddenly soaring rates of sterilization have become a cause célèbre for the Squirrel population, particularly those of the Grey persuasion, and that community has launched an investigation of its own.

The UWT's Dr. Morsa cautioned that the figures compiled in the report signify a disturbing -- and life-threatening -- trend

-- and one to which Park residents should not assume themselves to be immune.

"We do not know all the causes of this trend," he said, "but it is important to remember, at the very least, that these procedures are being done without the express consent of the Animals. These statistics, then, are indicative of an ethical issue that warrants serious and timely investigation by the entire research community."

This is the first in a series of articles based on the dispatches of credentialed members of The Mammalian Daily journalistic team who have agreed to venture, undercover, outside The Park and to document what they find there. For more information on the UndercoverReporter, please see www.mammalian-daily.com/undercoverreporter. For the full details of this investigation, please log onto our UnderCover Reporter's blog at www.tmdundercoverreporter.blogspot.com

Park braces for massive Rodent immigration

The Park is bracing for a massive influx of Rodents, according to the Superintendent of Park Services.

The reason for this mass advance, said Solange Coton de Tulear, is the re-development of a Human housing project on the eastern edge of The Park.

"We have seen -- and heard -- many buildings come crashing down in the past few weeks. A large number of Rodents have been displaced from their homes as a result and they are looking for a friendlier environment in which to re-locate."

de Tulear said she thought the re-location of many Rodents would be permanent, but she declined to comment on whether this would significantly strain Park services.

WatchDog group warns of impending newspaper war

MAMMALIAN DAILY MEDIA REPORTER

The Park may soon become the battleground in a major newspaper war.

That is the opinion of the Centre for the Study of Newspaper Activity in The Park (C-SNAP), a group that monitors changes in Park media policy.

"The Park's media are gearing up

for a significant scuffle, if not an all-out war," said the Centre's Executive Director, Noburu Akita, at a policy conference held in conjunction with the publication of the group's semi-annual *SNAPshot* report.

The report, which was released at the beginning of Proto, cited a number of key factors that led the group to conclude that a serious war of the "word worlds" was in the

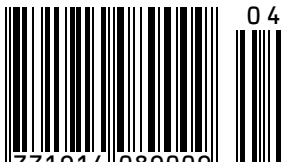
offing.

Among the most significant of these, according to C-SNAP, is a change in editorial policy at a number of Park publications.

"We have seen this demonstrated most notably at The Insect Intelligencer, The Rodent Commoner, The Eagle Star, and at The Mammalian Daily, with the

continued on page 2

ISSN 1914-0894



9 771914 089009



University of West Terrier

Annual Open House • 29 Proto 26 AZ

26 AZ Guest Speaker: Douglas Cheetah

Please join us this year as the renowned filmmaker talks about his UWT experience and opens the new Film Arts Centre.

Snacks, beverages, and brochures will be available from 12:00 until 20:30

❖ The Mammalian Daily ❖

283 Danforth Avenue, Suite 138,
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4K 1N2

The Mammalian Daily is published quarterly
Copyright © The Trojan Horse Press, Inc.

Telephone: 416-427-6722
E-mail: editor@mammaliandaily.com
Subscriptions: subscriptions@mammaliandaily.com

The Mammalian Daily was founded in 9 AZ
www.mammaliandaily.com
Vox Animalorum Vox Mundi

ON MAKING AND BREAKING THE NEWS

We don't make the news. We just report it.

So goes the (defensive) argument whenever those in the business of journalism are attacked from the outside. We justify ourselves by our very inaction, and offer up the constraints of journalistic integrity as its *raison d'être*.

Journalistic integrity, we say, dictates that we report with fairness and objectivity, that we apply a balanced view, that we allow readers to see all sides of the story and, above all, that we not become part of that story.

But what happens when, through no action of our own, we do become part of the story? How do we justify that?

As our loyal readers must have noticed, this newspaper has appeared on its own front pages in the last two issues. This was a difficult editorial decision for us to make and, though it was made with heavy hearts, it was done with a view to full disclosure. Its purpose was to inform our readers of criticisms that have been made of this newspaper, of our response to those criticisms, and of new policies that will affect the manner in which we will be reporting the news.

The Mammalian Daily, in choosing a more pro-active route, has added investigative reporting to its journalistic repertoire. Investigative journalism is a tricky business, though, and it requires very close scrutiny, lest the quest for the story become the story, itself. And, while this type of journalism has a proud history, it is not a history that is shared by this newspaper. It is with some trepidation, then, that we embark on this new venture. And, it is for this reason that we have chosen to use this space to reiterate our commitment to our readers.

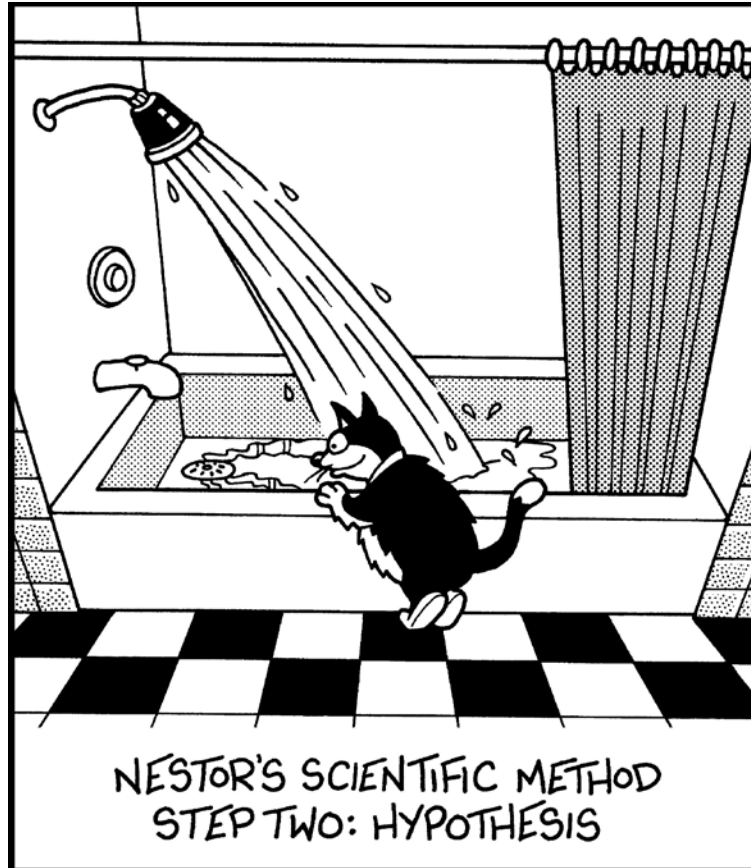
The Mammalian Daily is committed to good journalism. Our journalists' mandate is to investigate and to report news stories; it is not to report their own stories as news. From time to time, we may publish our reporters' personal stories, but we will never publish them as news. Our investigative team, meanwhile, will maintain a separate weblog so that its own stories can be told.

This is our commitment to our readers and to our medium.

We believe in the power of objective journalism to tell the story that should be told.

And, of those who do not share this view, we say:

They don't make the news. They just distort it.



Park Economy Reacts to Census

CURRENCY WATCH

Listed below are major currency equivalents posted at the close of business 29 Proto 26 AZ

All equivalents based on Ftoo (F)

| | | | |
|-------------|-----|------------|-----|
| Ape | 3.3 | Hyena | 4.9 |
| Bear, Brown | 2.8 | Kangaroo | 5.4 |
| Bear, Polar | 1.5 | Lion | 4.1 |
| Canary | 4.7 | Mongoose | 9.7 |
| Chicken | 5.2 | Ostrich | 4.6 |
| Cow | 4.9 | Pig | 3.5 |
| Dog | 3.4 | Porpoise | 1.4 |
| Dolphin | 1.6 | Salamander | 6.8 |
| Donkey | 4.8 | Seal | 1.3 |
| Giraffe | 5.2 | Walrus | 1.2 |
| Goat | 4.6 | Whale | 1.4 |
| Groundhog | 2.9 | Wolf | 3.9 |
| Hedgehog | 5.3 | Yak | 5.3 |

Hard currency only

The Park's economy has begun to react to the release of data from the 25 AZ Census, which was conducted on 15 Karpos. The Park Census Office (PCO) released the first data, which covers Park population and dwelling counts, at the end of Calypta. Shortly thereafter, a spike in the value of Marine Mammal currencies caused the Central Bank of The Park to halt currency trading until after the New Year. The currencies hit record highs when the PCO reported that immigration had fuelled the growth in The Park's population. The Marine Mammal Bank of The Park has been the major lending institution to Park immigrants since 12 AZ.

Our Readers Respond ...

Re: Specist Signs (Autumn 25 AZ)

Generally, I prefer to move forward, rather than cry "specism" whenever things get tough. In this case, though, I think something has to be done before we start to experience more of these incidents. My fellow citizens, we must heed the warnings of those who have seen what has happened outside The Park. If we don't, someone will get hurt.

Edmund Porpoise
The Park

Re: A Pax on All Your Houses (Autumn 25 AZ)

Maybe we should concentrate on educating the population and leave changing the laws for later. After all, these acts were perpetrated by individuals, whether or not they were, technically, against the law. Don't get me wrong - I abhor specism - but I am not sure that outlawing it will stop it, right now. Instead, it might give ideas to those who had never thought about it, before.

Mikkela Mule
The Park

Re: Nestor to stand for Keeper of the Nut (Autumn 25 AZ)

So, are we to assume from this that the scientific world no longer holds any interest for Nestor? And, what about his artistic (i.e., literary) pursuits?

Aside from the dubious virtue of a life in politics, I can't understand what has attracted him to this rôle.

He should be careful, though, lest he be seen as a turncoat by his peers.

Chester Chameleon
The Park

Re: Editorial Policies Criticized (Autumn 25 AZ)

As everyone knows, I have no use for Mammals and their official organ, The Mammalian Daily, makes no attempt to represent anything other than the most powerful wing of The Park's population. Still, none of the other newspapers offers any more inclusive or less biased coverage. So, TMD editors, as my mother used to say to me: "Don't let the Turkeys get you down."

Conroy Canary
The Park

Newspaper War

continued from page 1

introduction of their undercover reporting," Akita said.

Each of these newspapers has added investigative reporting to its regular news coverage. The Insect Intelligencer added six investigative journalists to its roster in order to service its now regular *Fly on the Wall* feature, while The Mammalian Daily is planning to use four of its senior journalists on a rotating basis to fill its investigative positions.

The *SNAPshot* report cited several significant changes at The Mammalian Daily which, it said, could signal the newspaper's intent to do battle openly against its rivals. In response to recent criticism by the Association of Non-Mammalian Park Newspapers (ANMPN), for instance, The Mammalian Daily released the names and photographs of some of its higher-ranking journalists. Their bylines, however, still do not appear in the paper. The report also noted that The Mammalian Daily has gradually changed its focus by "casting an eye toward the world outside The Park."

"Considerable space has been devoted, not only to events, but to the opinions and reactions of those who live outside The Park. Some of the stories that have been reported have had the outside world and, specifically, the Human world, as their focus," the report said.

In addition, the watchDog group says that it has detected a sizeable increase in advertising revenues derived from non-Mammalian businesses and services. This increase, the group feels, may reflect a change in the definition of The Mammalian Daily's target market.

"We believe that TMD may be directing some of its advertising and content at the non-Mammalian members of The Park, namely the Avian, Amphibian, Reptilian, and Insect population, in order to secure its position as [The Park's] official newspaper," Akita said.

Other factors predictive of "war," according to C-SNAP, are a series of "strategic defections" of key staff members across the medium's spectrum, and the high number of influential journalists who have "shifted position" in the last few months.

"Position shifting," Akita explained, is Park media-speak for a change that involves not only employment, but editorial outlook, as well.

"Journalists move from paper to paper and, sometimes, from medium to medium. There is nothing intrinsically significant in that. What is significant in these changes is that reporters moved from a paper with one political outlook to another with a distinctly different political viewpoint. Some even moved to a paper that serviced another species, altogether. This openness to courting from other journals demonstrates that the reporters' politics and species identification might have taken a backseat to a strong desire for change."

Akita specifically noted the late Calypta departure of Mammalian Daily star reporter, Anselm Alpaca, who now writes for The Equine Echo, and of the Galliformes Gazette's Hamilton Snowcock, who was rumoured to have been wooed by a number of publications until he finally came to roost at The Canary Courier.

Estivators! FREEZE YOUR ASSETS THIS SUMMER!

Did last Summer's heat see your savings evaporate?
Did they go from *much* to *mush*?
Don't let your nest egg get fried!

Let our cutting-edge technology preserve your savings
and take the worry out of Summer investing.

Transfer now and take advantage of
our special interest rate*



MARINE MAMMAL BANK OF THE PARK

We take the worry out of Summer investing
Established 14 BZ

*Special interest rate applies to new accounts only. This rate is valid until 15 Karpouzi. After this date, our regular interest rate applies.

THEATRE REVIEW|"MIXED NUTS"

The Sound of One Nut Cracking

The power is in the understatement in "Mixed Nuts," the compelling one-Chipmunk drama that opened for a short time in Alepou and is scheduled for a return engagement this Barnabus at the Park Repertory Theatre.

This should come as no surprise, given that the author is Imogen Aardeekhoorn, who has adapted her now famous chronicles for the stage. Understatement is the hallmark of Chipmunk literature and Aardeekhoorn ranks among the best of her species, drawing on the tradition as if she were sucking sand from a straw. Take, for example, the line with which she concludes the story of her harrowing escape from a trap that was set in the backyard of a house outside The Park:

"It wasn't my time."

A lesser writer might say more but, Aardeekhoorn, played by the lovely and lively Millicent Hayberry, need not explain. We know, from the get-go, how she will react to the many challenges of modern Chipmunk life. We are also privileged to be her confidantes as she lays bare

her feelings about herself, her ancestors, and her species as a whole, in this deeply personal account that lasts only 65 minutes but sweeps across the terrain of some fifty generations.

The struggle of Park Chipmunks has not gone uncharted; as a founding family, they have experienced the best and the worst of The Park. But it is a rare occasion on which a member of this secretive species speaks openly about the struggle for survival, the trials of colonial life, and the emotional burden that is placed on a generation born and raised in a world unfamiliar to its parents.

The strength of the piece lies in this rarity; the operative word here is "speak." Having read the original chronicles in hardshell, I wondered whether Aardeekhoorn's voice could translate faithfully to the stage. I needn't have worried; a seasoned performer such as Millicent Hayberry could not do otherwise but bring authenticity to the rôle. She does so brilliantly, all the while infusing it with an "everyAnimal" sensibility that draws us closer to her with every revelation.

And it is here that Hayberry reveals the full range of her dramatic and vocal artistry. Few of the "great secrets" that she is given to impart are, in fact, unknown to the audience. Aardeekhoorn's life is legendary in The Park; the secrets of this "twitching teller of tales" are, at once, shocking, familiar, and predictable. Yet, in mining the depths of her own emotions, Hayberry conveys Aardeekhoorn's own sense of shock and dismay and jolts the audience out of its complacency. No longer predictable, she disarms and charms her captive audience for the full 65 minutes. It is a performance well worth studying for her technique alone.

A good deal of credit for the play's vigour must go to director Donald Merriami, whose fluid style marries well with Hayberry's vocal dynamism.

Praise must also go to set designer, Roland Xerus, whose faux burrow is exquisitely lit by Constantine Lampris, and to costume designer, Oberon Pavo, whose "over-the-top" stripes add an extra dimension to the drama.

MIXED NUTS

By Imogen Aardeekhoorn, based upon her chronicles; directed by Donald Merriami; sets by Roland Xerus; costumes by Oberon Pavo; lighting by Constantine Lampris; sound by Marit Chauna; production stage manager, Burkhard Shepherd; associate director, A.S. Tami. Presented by Hudson Meerkat and Anthony Abert, executive producers. At the Park Repertory Theatre, 2-13 Alepou (returning 14 Barnabus - 32 Varrah). Running time: 65 minutes

LOG ON:
mammaliandaily.com
mixednutstheplay.com
uwt-edu.com
parkcensus.com
blackcatscantjump.com

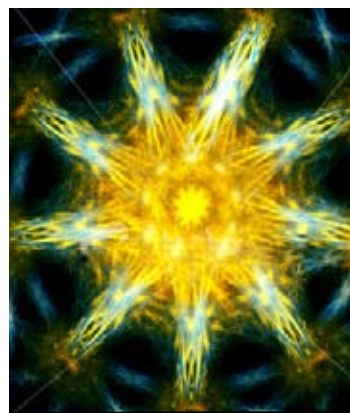
BLOG ON:
mammaliandaily.blogspot.com
mammaliandailywriter.blogspot.com
tmdundercoverreporter.blogspot.com

The Mammalian Daily
 283 Danforth Avenue, Suite 138, Toronto, ON Canada M4K 1N2
 Email: subscriptions@mammaliandaily.com

YES! I want to subscribe!
 Please send me 4 issues for \$10.00!

Bill me My \$10.00 is enclosed
 This is a gift subscription
 (Please make cheques payable to The Trojan Horse Press, Inc)

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 Province: _____ Postal Code: _____



Winner of the 25 AZ Golden Claw Award

Another great novel from the Queen of illusion and fantasy

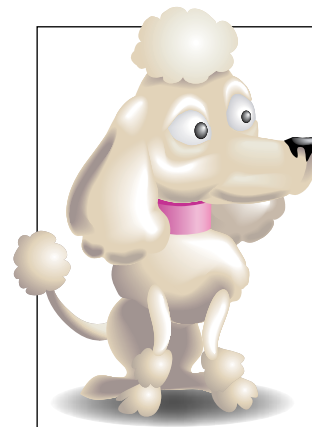
C.L. Birman

The Polydactyl Fractals

"A fragmented figment of a fertile Feline imagination."

The Silvestris Star

Marcellin de la Griffie Publishers, S.A.



Ask a Poodle

When all that glisters is not gold...

Dear Poodle:

The last few weeks, I have noticed a strange quality among many of the Animals whom I've met on my postprandial perambulations about The Park. Their whiskers appear to be sparkling, in a rather unnatural way. My offspring call me "old-fashioned," but I don't understand why one would want to accentuate one's whiskers in this manner.

What do you think of this new fashion trend? -- SPARKLE-FREE AND HAPPY

DEAR SPARKLE-FREE AND HAPPY:

This is one of a number of such products that have come on the market recently. Just a few years ago, you might remember, (artificially) coloured toepads were all the rage and many of us spent the Summer of 24 AZ sporting "peachy keen," "pansy purple," and "flamingo pink" toepads.

The product to which you refer is intended for the whiskered set, a group that has never been known to be fashion-forward, so I am amazed that sales of this confection have been so brisk. I am not, personally, offended by the use of sparkle or colour (though I do draw the line at pastel-coloured coats); in fact, I think this fashion trend is a fine one, as long as it's all done in good fun and not in an attempt to "better" ourselves or, indeed, to hide the very selves that we are. What does offend me is a product (which many of you will know and about which I "otter" write in another column) whose sole application (excuse the pun) is to give one Animal the attributes of another.

As beautiful as this artificial sparkle may render us, however, we should all be mindful of that old Park adage: "The glitter of a thousand whiskers begins with a heart of gold."

Ask a Poodle (askapoodle@mammaliandaily.com) appears in every second issue of *The Mammalian Daily* and alternates with *Dear Noreen* (noreen@mammaliandaily.com). Please e-mail your questions to them or post them to *The Mammalian Daily* and mark the envelope "Ask a Poodle" or "Dear Noreen." We regret that neither the Poodle nor Noreen can send responses directly to you.

Strictly Limited Engagement
 2-13 Alepou
 TICKETS ON SALE NOW
Millicent Hayberry
Mixed Nuts
 a play by IMOGEN AARDEEKHOORN based upon her chronicles
 directed by Donald Merriami

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!
14 Barnabus - 32 Varrah
Tickets on sale now!

PARK REPERTORY THEATRE
 These performances are made possible by funding from:
 A. Corn and Partners, Accountants and Hibernation Planners
 Go Underground Hibernation Outfitters

Scientific community decries increase in "weesearch"

Members of The Park's scientific community have voiced their concern over the growing number of research grants that are being awarded to investigators whose projects examine subjects that pertain directly to their own populations. In a statement issued on 12 Proto, the Committee to Oversee Scientific Research in The Park (COSRIP) said that it is particularly concerned about the number of grants that have been approved for studies that address issues that are related, specifically, to small Animals. These projects, which involve laboratory research and clinical trials, are led by principal investigators who are members of the small Animal population. "The number of grants awarded to small Animals is disproportionate to the Park's scientific population but that, in itself, is not a cause for concern," said Dr. Milada J.

Goose, head of the Honking Hollow laboratory at the University of West Terrier, and a senior member of COSRIP. "What we do find disturbing is that these small Animal-led studies are focused on the concerns of the small Animal population. This undermines the studies' credibility and characterizes them, whether rightly or wrongly, as 'weesearch' projects rather than as scientific investigations. We do not want to be seen funding studies that give the appearance of one community attempting to research its own concerns," she said. For its part, the Small Animal Scientific Community (SASC) has been quick to respond to the Committee's accusation of conducting "weesearch." On the occasion of the release of its annual report, SASC-WATCH, the organization's president took issue with COSRIP's criticism. Citing The Memory Project, the largest scientific investigation ever funded in The Park,



SASC President, Tarquinius P. Shrew, accused COSRIP of bias against small Animals. "The Memory Project is both led and staffed by Elephants, but they [COSRIP] have no qualms about funding it," he said. Nevertheless, Dr. Goose re-asserted COSRIP's commitment to root out any semblance of partiality in the studies that are funded in The Park. "We do not support any community's professional occupation with itself," she said.

Let's Talk Balls!

with Bailey



Today's Ball is the SQUASH ball.

The squash ball has a long history with Dogs. Originally found in European royal households (or courts, as they are called) cynologists (those who study Dogs) believe that the first squash balls were used by the court Dogs as vessels for the preparation and dispensation of medicines. Early illustrations suggest that the first squash balls were hollow and inflexible spherical contraptions that were made of polished ebony. The first balls were manufactured in two pieces which were fastened together with two nails whose heads protruded at one end of the ball. Historians postulate that one part of the ball was filled with dried leaves, berries, and other plant materials that Dogs ingested to relieve the symptoms of illness. The other part contained a number of rough stones. When the two parts of the ball were joined together, the ball was thrown hard against the wall, 50-100 times, in order to pulverize the materials inside. Once these

medicaments were ground to a powder, they were dispensed through the holes that were left when the nails were removed. Long after the ebony balls ceased to be used for grinding, the court Dogs still engaged in the ritual of throwing them against the wall. This sport was made even more pleasurable for them after they discovered rubber (more than 200 years before zoocracy) and began to manufacture the balls from this substance. Since that time, Dogs everywhere have enjoyed various forms of play with the squash ball. Sources: *Balls: History and Prehistory, Volume 5; The Ball Files; Royal Dogs and their Balls; The Effects of Balls on the European Court; The Use of Balls in the Modern Age; Butternut Balls: A Modern Study; BALLography: Historical Truths and other Tales about Balls; various newspaper articles and reports.* bailey@mammalian-daily.com.

THE AGORA For advertising information, please call 843-24672

RENTALS
CHICK-LETS

We can give you a dozen reasons to rent one of our modern and comfortable coops, so call and check us out!
Seasonal leases available. Long-term leases include adjustable lighting and heating and monthly cleaning.
Chic Chick Rentals - 844-72667

EMPLOYMENT
POLLINATORS WANTED

Do you hear your inner adventurer calling? Do you long to experience life outside The Park? Our agency will pay you to work while you tour the world!

We pay top rates for jobs outside The Park. We are now hiring for late Winter and Spring. Call us now and you could be Wintering with the Snowbirds tomorrow!

ALL SEASON EMPLOYMENT AGENCY
255-73276

PARK SERVICES AND ADMINISTRATION
CIVET PLACE

Civets:
Are you having trouble adjusting to Park life? Do you wish to contact your family back home? Have you been unsuccessful at finding employment? Are you distraught and don't know where to turn?
As part of The Park's Refugee Integration Programme (R.I.P.), Civet Place offers a range of services to assist you in your adjustment to Park life.
Call one of our counsellors today at 248-38752.
Civet Place
Your Home Away from Home

SERVICES
VOLE PATROL

Do you live by the water? Don't leave your home vulnerable when you're away!
Our patrol boats scan river banks and streams to protect your home and ensure your personal security. Call us today for a free estimate.
Vole Patrol - 865-37287

FOOTPAD HEAVEN

Not Just Toepads Anymore!

We're **e-x-p-a-n-d-i-n-g** to meet your beauty needs!
Let your personality shine through!

We are proud to announce that FOOTPAD HEAVEN is the exclusive Park vendor of world-famous **WhiskerGlister™** and **OtterSpotter™** by V. Brissa, S.A.

Come in before the end of Myrodia and receive a free sample of **WhiskerGlister™** in your favourite colour!

WhiskerGlister™ is now available in the following colours: Stucco White, Piano Black, Aegean Blue, Bright Naranja, Pansy Purple, Neon Green, Ciliegia Red. Original colours, Golden Nugget, Silverado, and Pearls of Wisdom also available. Also, by special order: Seafoam, Cheesecake, Pumpkin, Watermelon, Chestnut, and Caribbean Splendour. Use one colour or mix them up!

The new lifestyle magazine that the whole Park is talking about!

The Cosmopolitan Pest

Find out what the buzz is all about!

Call today for your free introductory copy and receive 40% off a one-year subscription!

Whelpings and Passings

PIKA BOO!
Priscilla and Audley are proud to announce the birth of Angelina, Corinne, Nigel, and Dupont on 1 Karpos; Quinta, Halden, Katrina, Eugenia, Lowell, Declan, and Alberta on 32 Azafran; and Alberindo, Olive, Sigrid, Carmen, Dudley, Seamus, and Humphrey on 12 Karpouzi.

Angelina and Derwin are ecstatic to announce the birth of Zoe, Howell, and Dagmar on 25 Karpouzi.

Daniella and Rupert are delighted to announce the birth of Esmé, Jerome, Todd, and Ella on 32 Azafran.

Beatrice and Nigel are excited to announce the birth of Anastasia, Otto, Lila, May, and Mikhail on 17 Otium.

Charlotte and Dupont are overjoyed to announce the birth of Oliver, Spencer, Stuart, and Olympia on 30 Azafran.

Missy R. M. Cat. Peacefully, on 22 Karpouzi, after a brief illness. Missy R.M. Cat, resident of The Park, citizen of the world, tireless crusader for interspecial harmony, orator extraordinaire, and aficionada of all things political. A true believer in life-long learning, Missy entered the University of West Terrier as a mature student and studied carpet texturizing and interspecial communication. A natural polyglot, Missy was fluent in Human English and Spanish, as well as Squirrel (both Grey and Black dialects), Cardinal, Blue Jay, and House Sparrow. After graduating summa cum laude in Karpos 23 AZ, she decided to put her advanced communication skills to work and, in the autumn of 24 AZ, she stood for election to the municipal council outside The Park under the FICKL (Feline Independent Cat and Kitten League) banner. Throughout the campaign, Missy worked tirelessly in support of equality among the species, even in the face of rumours that she, herself, had two Human slaves. Although she was not success-

ful in her bid, she will always be remembered for her series of "Missy's Missives," and "Screen Door Chats" through which she sought to educate and motivate the electorate. Missy was interred in a private ceremony outside The Park. A memorial service and dedication is planned for Karpos 26 AZ and, in recognition of her boundless love for her fellow creatures, her final resting place will be renamed The Missy Robertson-McMurphy Memorial Bird Sanctuary and Wildlife Refuge.



This issue is dedicated to Missy 10 AZ - 25 AZ