

❖ The Mammalian Daily ❖

THE PARK'S OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

ISSUE NUMBER 113, WINTER 25 AZ

New Evidence Emerges in Crab Murder Investigation

MAMMALIAN DAILY
CRIME REPORTER

Park police have confirmed the emergence of new evidence in the investigation into the brutal 24 AZ murder of the Tartan Crab.

At a news conference held at police headquarters, Chief Inspector Martin of the Murder Investigations Unit announced that recent findings had prompted Park Police to consult with external investigators. Results of that consultation are not yet known.

Although the Inspector did not say, specifically, what findings were responsible for the newest action on the part of the Police, he did confirm that foreign bodies or

"hairs" had been found during the analysis of the Crab's stuffing.

"Forensic tests have resulted in the identification of certain foreign bodies, known as 'hairs', that were attached to the Crab's stuffing. We believe these hairs hold the key to the identity of the perpetrator and we are conducting further laboratory tests in order to determine that identity."

The Inspector also confirmed that the two domestic Dogs who had been held for questioning in the matter had been released. No charges will be brought against them, he said. The Dogs could not be reached for comment.

When asked whether Park Police believed the perpetrator of

the crime could be Human, the Inspector was careful to assure Park citizens that no such link had been found.

"The Park Police Dogs (PPD) have sniffed out a number of leads and they intend to follow up on them," he said.

Two hours after the news conference, however, the Murder Investigations Unit issued this official statement:

"We do not believe that the murder of the Tartan Crab reflects any feelings of resentment by any

species toward any other. Citizens of The Park live together in peace and harmony and are not currently engaged in any conflict, either among ourselves or with those who reside outside The Park."

Sources close to the investigation, though, quietly acknowledge the possibility of a link between the Crab murder and certain anti-zoocratic forces that are known to operate outside The Park.

Earlier this week, a spokesanimal for Park Police confirmed that the department had been working

to infiltrate a number of groups whose members advocate overthrowing The Park's government.

"These [members] do not represent the majority of their species or of any other. They are acting on their own beliefs and without [any evidence of] the validity of those beliefs," the spokesanimal said.

She added that these groups are not believed to pose any real threat to The Park.

"We are taking every precaution to ensure the stability and longevity of zoocracy," she said.

UWT Professor Encourages Animals to Defend Zoocracy

PARK WIRE SERVICE

Speaking at the second Interspecial Conference on Representation in Government, held this week at the University of West Terrier, Professor Magnus P. Marmoset exhorted Park Animals to be proactive in defence of their government.

The renowned political ana-

lyst, who holds the Simian Chair in Political Philosophy at UWT, reminded attendees that even though zoocracy is an ancient concept, its practice is a new phenomenon.

"There are bound to be those who are still uncomfortable with it. We must work to ensure that our form of government prevails," he said.

Census Day Declared Amid Animal Protests

MAMMALIAN DAILY
POPULATION REPORTER

Amid protests from a number of Animal groups, Park officials kicked off their "Wee Paws" census campaign today, in the hope of persuading Animals to "count themselves in" and help Park Archons obtain an accurate reckoning of residents in The Park.

Yet, despite their good intentions and a planned media blitz, members of the Park Census Office may have a tough time convincing many Animals of the benefits of a head count in The Park.

"They can count me in as a citizen, but I don't think I should have to declare my species," said Nathaniel Warthog, as he

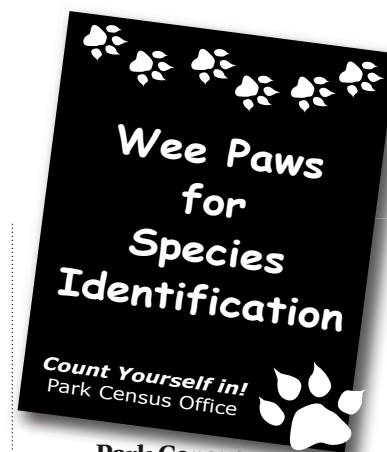
marched, protest sign in hand, in front of the Wishing Well.

"Jor [The Park's first leader] would never have pitted one Animal against another like this."

It is just this fear — that, in the future, Park officials will use population statistics to limit the number of certain species in The Park — that has made many Animals reluctant to participate in the census.

Park officials say, however, that there is no reason to fear that results from the census will be used against any Animals.

"We need to know the total number of Animals, and the numbers of different species so that we can provide services for them. We've been working 'blind' for



Park Census
Campaign Poster

years, and that's just no way to govern a Park," said a spokesanimal for the Census Office.

15 Karpos 25 AZ has been designated as official "Census Day," but the deadline for the submission of questionnaires is the first of Azafran.

Participation in the census is voluntary.

Be sure to visit us at BookExpo Canada. We'll be at Booth T13.



June 26 - 27, 2005

Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North Building
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

❖ The Mammalian Daily ❖

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www.mammaliandaily.com
Vox Animalorum Vox Mundi

The Measure of a Park

What is the measure of a Park, if not the strength of its Animal citizens and their dedication to each other?

So asked Jor, this Park's first leader, in his inaugural address to the Archons of the First Assembly.

Now, almost 25 years after the establishment of zoocracy, a new body of Archons has expanded on Jor's definition by creating the Office of the Census, and charging it with the responsibility of obtaining an accurate tally of citizens in The Park.

Yet, Census Officers have been stunned by the reaction of many Park Animals to what they viewed as a harmless questionnaire.

To date, we have seen demonstrations in the streets, and organized campaigns against the census. There has been talk of boycotts, strikes, even mass exodus. Instead of seeing participation in the census as a way for us to aid each other and The Park, many see it as an invasion of our privacy, as an assault on our dignity, and as an infringement on our rights and freedoms.

Let's be blunt. Beneath this talk of dignity and freedom lies our fundamental fear of specism, and of its all-too-logical consequence, unnatural selection.

It is not for themselves alone, then, that Park Animals are afraid; they fear also for their kind. What will become of The Park's open immigration policy, they ask, if we discover that Goats outnumber Giraffes? Even more importantly, what would be the consequences of discovering that Elephants require more Park services than Wolves?

The questions that these Animals pose are profound and disturbing. In an environment of limited resources, they ask, do our needs become our source of power — or our source of vulnerability? And who makes that decision? The more needy — or the less?

While such questions, ultimately, require an answer, and such philosophical and political issues, eventually, must be faced, they are most emphatically not the issues the census was meant to address.

To be sure, this fear of the census might seem warranted in a less zoocratic Park. But our 25 years of zoocracy are nothing, if not a testament to the success of our policies and to our ability to trust in each other and in our governments.

It is time, now, to look to The Park's future, and to do justice to Jor's vision of us as citizens in a zoocracy.

How will we measure up as a Park? Count yourself in and find out!

New Conclusions Confirm Old Theories: Sighs Matter!

MAMMALIAL DAILY
HEALTH REPORTER

Sighs matter!

Such is the opinion of researchers at the University of West Terrier's Medical College, after they analyzed data from three extensive surveys of Animal morbidity and mortality.

The team of investigators, whose medical specialties include cardiology, trichology, neurology, and gastroenterology, examined the health outcomes of twenty-eight species of Animals in The Park. The results of the retrospective study will appear in their entirety this Autumn in the prestigious journal, Sanitas.

"This study is the first of its kind to examine sighs as a marker for disease," said Dr. Adelaide Antelope, who heads the group of researchers.

A total number of 425 Animals

Weather Experts to Testify at Trial of Mongoose

Weather experts Ripley, Quincy, and Peabody Q. Groundhog have been subpoenaed to present evidence next month at the trial of the Mongoose, prosecuting attorney Harry D.W.R. Lemur confirmed this week.

Meanwhile, lawyers representing the Mongoose suffered a setback in their case last Tuesday, when damning evidence was presented by Beverly K. Beaver.

Under oath, the Beaver stated that incessant rain in the Spring and Summer of 13 AZ was the cause of significant over-development in her community.

participated in the surveys, which were conducted at UWT over a fifteen-year period.

Although previous generations of physicians believed sighs to be of diagnostic and prognostic significance, that theory had fallen out of fashion by the year 8 AZ.

"Even though we continued to note sighs in the history-taking," Dr. Antelope said, "the significance was more as an attendant behaviour rather than as a sign of more serious disease."

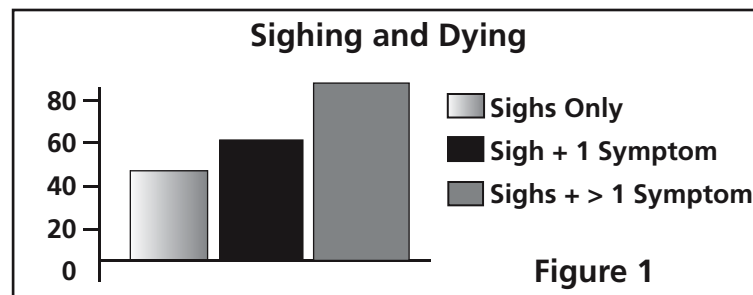
According to Dr. Yazmina Yak, a senior member of the research team, sighs became an issue in the study when one particular investigator noted the frequency with which the term, "idiopathic exhalation" was used in the

description of the mental state of patients who were found to suffer from serious illness.

Also among the group's findings Dr. Antelope says, is a correlation between sighing and dying (see Figure 1 below).

"When we took a closer look at the outcomes of the sighers, we were astonished by what appeared to be an almost direct relationship," he said.

Indeed, the study showed that Animals who presented with sighs and at least two other disease symptoms stood a 72 per cent greater chance of having an illness that could trigger death. That statistic alone, says the research group, is enough to make any Animal sigh.



© Sanitas

Twelfth Annual Toe-Hair Contest Set for Early Spring

If you're hoping to win a prize at this year's Toe-Hair contest, you'll have lots of company -- and plenty of competition.

Organizers of The Park's twelfth annual toe-hair contest say they expect to see a record number of Animals participating in this year's festivities.

The contest, which will be held on the first day of Anthi in The Park's ancient, open-air theatre, has become a popular Spring event over the past few years. As

a result, organizers have changed its venue in order to accommodate the growing number of participants and observers.

While the contest is believed to attract mostly long-haired Animals, other species have begun to show their strength in the toe-hair arena.

The panel of judges this year will include last year's winner, Rufus di Rafineschi. Previous winners of the contest include Thisbe and Fionn Varrah Flanagan.

Our Readers Respond ...

Re: Tartan Crab Found Ripped to Pieces (Summer 24 AZ)

I was shocked to read of the tragic death of the Tartan Crab. Your newspaper should urge all Cats to keep their pets inside. No one is safe as long as such monsters are running loose.

Anonymous
The Park

Re: Monument to Jor Commissioned (Autumn 24 AZ)

I consider myself privileged, indeed, to count myself among the close friends that Jor left behind when he died in 17 AZ.

Where I live, many monuments have been erected to celebrate our great leaders, but not one of them was as great a leader as Jor and none has deserved to be honoured as much.

Giuseppe Salvatore Gattino

The Colosseum Cat Rome, Italy

Re: Park Residents Warm to Adopt-a-Human Project
That'll be the day!

Rather than writing this glowing report, you should be advising your readers to steer clear of Humans. They're nothing but trouble.

Conroy Canary
The Park

Re: Guck Prices to Rise (Autumn 24 AZ)

Is this the price of progress? What a sad day for us all!

Perhaps we in The Park should consider forcing an end to the monopoly on the guck business that Chuck and his family have held for so many years.

Stan, The Spit Man
The Park

This issue is dedicated to the memory of Kiwi, a devoted companion and a beloved friend.



Kiwi
13 AZ - 25 AZ

LEAVE A LASTING IMPRESSION!

WE OFFER:

- A full range of scented products
- Roll-around therapy

AND FOR THE 25 AZ MATING SEASON:

- Do-it-yourself scent matching
- Species-typing ...

AND MORE!

"I stink, therefore I am"



The Reek-O-Rama
The Park's Premier Scent Emporium

Show off your winter growth!
Win a prize!

Enter The Park's

12th Annual Toe-Hair Contest
Ancient, Open-Air Theatre
1 Anthi 25 AZ

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The Mammalian Daily
The Park's Official Newspaper



Thisbe and the Barkettes Cancel Live Appearances

A spokesanimal for the popular Canine singing group, Thisbe and the Barkettes, has announced that the group has cancelled all scheduled live appearances. No further details were provided, and

no mention was made of plans to re-schedule the concerts.

The announcement comes amid rumours that Thisbe, the group's founder and lead singer, is suffering from ill health.

The group recently embarked on a farewell tour, and had planned stops at a number of Parks after its sold-out concert here at the ancient, open-air theatre.

Squiggles and Scribbles

The Mammalian Daily Style Manual
The Mammalian Daily Press, 200 pages

The Mammalian Daily's editorial style has set the standard for Park publications since the beginning of zoocracy.

With the release of this new publication by The Mammalian Daily Press, everyone will be able to benefit from the wisdom and experience of Mammalian Daily writers and editors.

This first edition provides systematic guidelines for the usage of punctuation and capitalization and includes a lengthy discussion of Animal names. As well, a separate "Quotation Guide" offers a thorough discussion of the nuances of a large number of Animal languages and provides a "dictionary" of shared terminology.

This weighty volume is sure to become the essential reference for all those who love to work with words.

Me and My Shadow
A Groundhog's Memoirs
Nigel T. Groundhog
Birch Bark Books, 200 pages

'Tis the season, as they say, and all manner of books about Groundhogs have been popping up all over The Park. While few of them are worthy of a second reading, this volume rates among the finest of Animal memoirs.

Although he tries to portray himself as "Everygroundhog,"

the author harkens from a family of some stature. Late in life, his maternal great-grandfather was selected as The Park's first Prognosticator of Spring and, more recently, the author's father served two terms as a Park Archon before succumbing to old age. This is not a book about family pride, though. It is a deeply-felt and honestly-written portrayal of the trials of Animal migration, of the pain and loneliness of specism, and of the exquisite joy of success and acceptance after many years of frustration. In a Beaver-like fashion, the author gnaws away at Groundhog stereotypes and lays bare for us the burden that is borne by the prescient mammal.

Amid the recent controversies surrounding Groundhog selection in The Park, the one bright spot has been the integrity of our resident Groundhogs. When called upon to serve, they have accepted their role with humility and have risen to the occasion with aplomb. This book is a testament to the fact that they are no exception within their species. And, happily, this dignified and trustworthy group has been well-served both by this book and by its noble author.

Snail Male HermaphroDart

Whose conquest is this, anyway?
Our species will survive, no matter who claims victory. Still, my male half-self takes aim to overpower you, to shower you, with love darts from the heart.

Marcel-Marcelle T. Snail, Jr.

CURRENCY WATCH

Listed below are major currency equivalents posted at the close of business 28 PROTO 25 AZ

All equivalents based on Ftoo (F)

Ape	2.6	Hedgehog	5.2
Bear, Brown	3.9	Hyena	4.3
Bear, Polar	3.0	Kangaroo	6.0
Canary	4.7	Lion	4.2
Chicken	5.5	Mongoose	10.8
Cow	5.2	Ostrich	4.8
Dog	3.0	Pig	4.1
Donkey	5.4	Salamander	7.7
Giraffe	5.1	Wolf	3.6
Goat	4.7	Yak	5.1
Groundhog	1.9	Zebra	4.9

Hard currency only

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The Mammalian Daily

When All Good Things Begin with "B"



A tale for puppies and other small creatures by Mavis Malamute

Available at your local bookshop



Tail Tail Books



Dear Noreen

Can Humans make Animals sick?

DEAR NOREEN: I don't know if this lies within your area of expertise, but I have been wondering: can Humans make Animals sick?

For almost a year, I have been participating in The Park's Adopt-A-Human project, which I feel is a worthwhile activity. Over the last few weeks, however, I have begun to feel lethargic, I am sometimes feverish, and I have experienced a generalized feeling of unwellness.

My friends tell me that I should see Dr. Bourru and some have even suggested that it is my adopted Human who has made me sick! I don't know what to think. Can you help me?

— CONCERNED

DEAR CONCERNED: Not to make light of your question, which is of legitimate concern, but there are those among us who think, quite frankly, that Humans are making us all sick! Anyone who reads this newspaper regularly, of course, knows what my opinion is of Humans: they're lovely to look at, but I wouldn't want to live with one!

Setting all that aside, however, my medical experts tell me that Humans can, indeed, infect Animals with a number of diseases that, in the past, they kept to themselves. These days, though, with the mixing of species (not a bad thing, mind), it is not unheard of for Animals to catch things from Humans.

If I were you, I'd take myself off to Dr. Bourru posthaste and let him make the final diagnosis. Whatever disease your Human companion may have given you, it is highly treatable, they tell me, and it will not affect you permanently — which is more than I can say for Human opinions. Buona fortuna!

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

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

25 years of Zoocracy: A Celebration in Poetry

The Quarter-Century Committee (QCC) announces its intent to publish a book of poetry to commemorate the anniversary of the first 25 years of zoocracy in The Park. The QCC invites all Animals who are citizens or residents of The Park to submit an original poem for consideration. Please address all submissions to: **The Quarter-Century Committee**

The Park Attention: Poetry Submissions

Deadline for submissions is 32 Azafran 25 AZ. Poems should not exceed 30 lines and subject matter should be restricted to the topics of liberty, celebration, zoocracy, politics, and Animal relationships. All submissions will become the property of the QCC, unless otherwise agreed upon. The decisions of the Committee are final.

Mark your calendars **NOW!**
The Feline Fiction Fest
14-17 Karpos
The Wishing Well

Roll out the Barrel ... and Celebrate IcePoetry!

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Tartan Crab Memorial Pond
23 Varrah - Morning 'til Nightfall Bring your young!

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Park Awaits Prediction of First Freely-Elected POPS

PARK POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT
On 7 Alepou, Ogilvie T. Groundhog emerged as the winner and 25 AZ POPS (Park Official Prognosticator of Spring) after the most hotly contested election ever held in The Park. Despite fears of voter apathy and candidate burnout, the last few weeks of the campaign saw election hopefuls engage in name-calling, in-fighting, and mud slinging, much to the amusement of the electorate. Even as the candidates were preparing for their election-eve debate, Dartmouth W. Groundhog III, a direct descendant of E. Bromley Groundhog (The Park's first prognosticator), entered the race. Denouncing his fellow candidates as "pretenders" and "incompetents" the Groundhog presented clearly skewed "scientific evidence" of what he termed the "genetic

determinants" of accurate prognostication. In a surprising act of solidarity, the other candidates condemned as "hogwash" his claim that the ability to predict the beginning of Spring with precision was something "built into" or "encoded in" only the descendants of E. Bromley Groundhog. "Dartmouth Groundhog has dug himself a hole from which he will never be able to ascend," said Winchell Woodchuck, who acted as spokesanimal for the group. Not long after, Dartmouth Groundhog withdrew his name from the race, but many believe that his candidacy served as a "shot in the arm" to the flailing election campaign. The Park's Office of Statistics declared that a full 85 per cent of eligible voters turned out to vote for the candidate of their choice. Shortly after the results were



Ogilvie T. Groundhog, 25 AZ POPS

announced, Ogilvie T. Groundhog was whisked off to an undisclosed location where, it is believed, he will spend the hibernation period before appearing again in public on 1 Barnabus to make his official prognostication (see Groundhog Day schedule of events, lower right).

THE AGORA

SERVICES

GROUNDHOG DAY. Don't forget your friends on Groundhog Day! Send a special message to let them know you really care. Our exclusive package includes delivery and return receipt. Call us today at 1-800-7443-667 (Pigeons).

WORK OUTSIDE THE PARK. Combine work and play for a true travel adventure! Many positions available for the summer of 25 AZ. Call our hotline at 1-877-842-5247-37 (Tickbirds).

AI (AVIAN INFERTILITY) ASSISTANCE

Is your nest still empty? Are you experiencing feelings of failure

and despondency? Do you dread the coming Spring? Don't give up hope! The Avian Infertility Clinic is The Park's only accredited avian infertility facility. Our services include nest egg selection and placement, as well as counseling and support by our caring and experienced staff. Contact us today at 284-2643-56 and you'll be sitting pretty this Spring!

RESEARCH

DO YOU DREAM IN STRIPES? Research team at the University of West Terrier seeks Animals of all species who dream in stripes to act as research subjects in a study being conducted on the effects of striped dreams on sleep patterns in the Animal world. Work involves answering a short questionnaire and spending

three consecutive nights at the sleep laboratory of the University of West Terrier's Medical College. A small stipend will be paid for your time. If interested, please call our research line at 1-282-787-4737.

PSYCHOTHERAPY

Do you have dominance issues that are affecting your relationships?

Dr. Gudrun L. Gibbon, registered psychotherapist, specializes in the problems of Animal interaction.

Call for an appointment today at 366-4628-466.

Let's Talk Balls!

with Bailey



Today's ball is the SOCCER ball.

The soccer ball has a long history with Dogs.

Originally employed in the Mediaeval period, cynologists (those who study Dogs) believe that the soccer ball was first used by the Mediaeval Dog in the crime-control ritual of raising the hue and cry.

Mediaeval scholars cite testimonial evidence in their belief that it was the Chief Tithingdog who bore the responsibility of raising the hue and cry. This he effected by kicking the soccer ball into the middle of the town's main square, and leaving it there until the alleged criminal had been arrested.

Scholars believe that the soccer ball was the first of the illuminated balls of the late 13th century and, as such, it proved to be the perfect tool for alerting the citizenry to the presence of a criminal at large. Information from mediae-

val epic poetry and sagas suggests that it was the organization of a formal Police force that led to the obsolescence of the hue and cry ritual and, thus, to the end of the use of the soccer ball as a tool of law enforcement.

Nevertheless, the soccer ball retained its place in the heart of the Mediaeval Dog and he used it in a variety of his feudal games.

Since that time, Dogs everywhere have enjoyed various forms of play with the soccer ball.

Sources: *Domestic Chronicles of the Middle Ages: Volume 10, Balls; The Ball Files; Mediaeval Belief Systems and their Relationship to Balls; The Use of Balls in the Age of Chivalry.*
 bailey@mammaliandaily.com

Whelpings and Passings

Two Between the Toes!

Ingvild and Henrik are pleased to announce the birth of two beautiful Polar Bear cubs, Karolina and Njal. Mother and cubs are doing well.



Three More for the Polar Bear Club! Audrey and Nanuq are thrilled to announce the safe arrival of Shila, Peder, and Desna. We look forward to presenting the new club members in the Spring.



Thomas Owen Manx. On 32 Calypta, of natural causes, in his 21st year. Thomas Owen Manx, writer, editor and founder of Tall Tail Books. Considered a visionary by many in the publishing world, Thomas Manx saw the need for small Animals to share their experience of the world and he founded Tall Tail Books in 15 AZ as the "Small Animal's Publisher." Even while the company struggled, the Manx held firm, eventually reaping the fruits of success, with such books as "Once Around the Block with Foster" and "When All Good Things Begin with B." Thomas Manx is survived by his mate, Melinda, and his twelve children. The offices of Tall Tail Books will be closed 15 Barnabus for a private observance. Donations in memory of Thomas Manx may be made to the ZooLit charity or to Cats Care.



The Mammalian Daily

Perspective is Everything.

GROUNDHOG DAY CELEBRATIONS

- Dawn: Official Prognostication
- 09:00: Archons' Address
- 10:00: Groundhog Day Parade
- 12:00: Holiday Feast
- 14:00: 2 km Tunnel Race

All event times subject to change without notice.