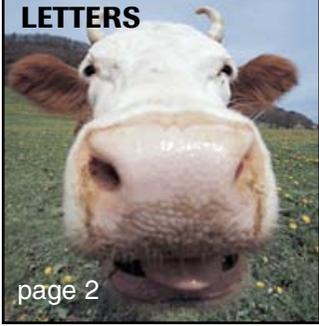


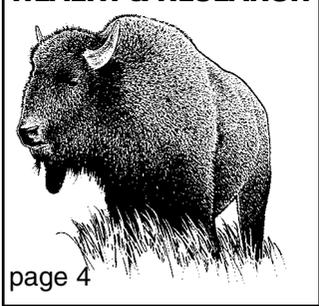


RUMINATIONS & LETTERS



page 2

HEALTH & RESEARCH



page 4

SQUIGGLES & SCRIBBLES



page 3

DEAR NOREEN



page 3

LET'S TALK BALLS!



page 4

Specist Signs Appear on Park Fences

Police Launch House-to-House Search for "Pawpetrator"

THE PARK, 29 FELIS
MAMMALIAN DAILY
CRIME REPORTER

Park Police today initiated a house-to-house search for the "pawpetrator" of one of The Park's most heinous crimes: the posting of specist signs on the northwest side of the fence. The signs, which bear the message, "No Dogs Allowed," were discovered early yesterday morning by Winifred D. Raccoon, as she made her way along the fence, en route to her job as manager of the popular Park restaurant, The Compost Heap.

At a press conference held this morning, Chief Inspector Maurice Addax of The Park Police Force's Specist and Hate Crimes Unit (SHCU) confirmed rumours that the signs were "paw-painted" and fastened "unprofessionally" to the fence. The signs have been sent to the forensics laboratory for pawprint testing, as well as for tests that might help identify the origin of the paint and poster board. Results of that testing will be made available within a few days, he said.

In another shocking revelation, Chief Inspector Addax con-



firmed that a second set of signs had been discovered. These signs, which prominently display a Dog whose body has been marked with an "X," were discovered on a series of posts a few feet from the original site. No lettering appears on these signs but, said C.I. Addax, "there is evidence that these signs were produced professionally, probably at one of a number of print shops that we know to exist outside The Park."

Also fielding questions at the press conference was Inspector Antonia T. Fossa of the newly-formed Interspecies

Investigations Unit (IIU). The unit, which is an independent division of the SHCU, has as its mandate the investigation into "all occurrences in which the suggestion of specist intent is present."

Inspector Fossa implored the public to "remain calm and optimistic" in the face of this latest incident.

"We know that tensions are running high [in The Park] at the moment, but we encourage you to remain calm and optimistic that the pawpetrator of this crime will be apprehended and brought to justice in due course."

In addition, she stressed that, "Nothing is to be gained by jumping to conclusions regarding the species or identity of the said pawpetrator."

In his concluding remarks to the press, C.I. Addax announced that the SHCU had appointed Lamia Bonobo to act as official liaison between the police units and Park residents.

"We believe that the appointment of Mr. Bonobo will relieve some of the anxiety of the local populace and, at the same time, facilitate the free flow of information," he said.

Rodents Rule at Park's 12th Annual Toe-Hair Contest

MAMMALIAN DAILY
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS REPORTER

A new era dawned this year as Richard "Rocky" Jerboa emerged as the winner of The Park's 12th annual Toe-Hair contest.

The nocturnal Rodent, who hails from North Africa, bounded to the stage when the judges announced his name.

"I literally leapt for joy," he told Park radio after the contest

The five judges on the panel, including last year's winner, Rufus di Rafineschi, were unanimous in their praise of the Jerboa's "thick, stiff hairs" which they said "generously" covered his long, compressed toes.

Second and third prizes in the contest were awarded to Brazilian Bat, Luis Fernando Tadarida, and to Salvador S. Crassi, also a Jerboa.

Mammalian Daily Editorial Policies Criticized by Rival Park Newspapers

MAMMALIAN DAILY
MEDIA REPORTER

The Association of Non-Mammalian Park Newspapers (ANMPN), whose members include The Mollusk Messenger, The Canary Courier, The Insect Intelligencer, The Halibut Herald, and The

Salamander Evening Post, has formally criticized the editorial policies of The Mammalian Daily.

At a media conference held this month at the University of West Terrier's prestigious Cuthbert School of Journalism, a group of ANMPN editors

expressed concern about certain aspects of The Mammalian Daily's editorial guidelines.

"After examining the newspaper's [editorial] policies, we have concluded that The Mammalian Daily falls short of its mandate to be The Park's

continued on page 2



University of West Terrier

Annual Open House • 29 Proto

The UWT annual open house is an opportunity for you to visit your university, to learn more about our research and academic programmes and to talk to us about admission requirements, financial aid, and student life.

Join us on 29 Proto!

❖ 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

A Pax On All Your Houses

“Follow the statutes,” our old history professor would say, whenever talk turned from intellectual history to the nuts and bolts of everyday life.

“Look at the statutes.”

Like a conduit, those words guided our class to a fuller understanding of the way Animals lived in the eras before us. For, it was all there to see in the statutes – ways of life frowned upon, activities prohibited, love and hate sanctioned or forbidden, relationships forged, relationships dissolved.

But when we look at our statutes in The Park, we see none of this. We are a new entity. Never before have so many Animals lived among so many other species.

We know nothing, really, about this experiment that we call The Park. We know very little, either, about zoocracy, or Animal self-rule. Without a precedent for our way of life, we have been forced, in many ways, to “make it up” as we go along. And, it appears, we have had neither the heart nor stomach to face some of the “tough” issues head-on.

All forms of government are, by their very nature, imperfect, since they, themselves, are made up of imperfect beings. So, it is somewhat impractical, as some would suggest, for us to live without laws that prohibit some of our imperfections from affecting or overpowering our fellow citizens.

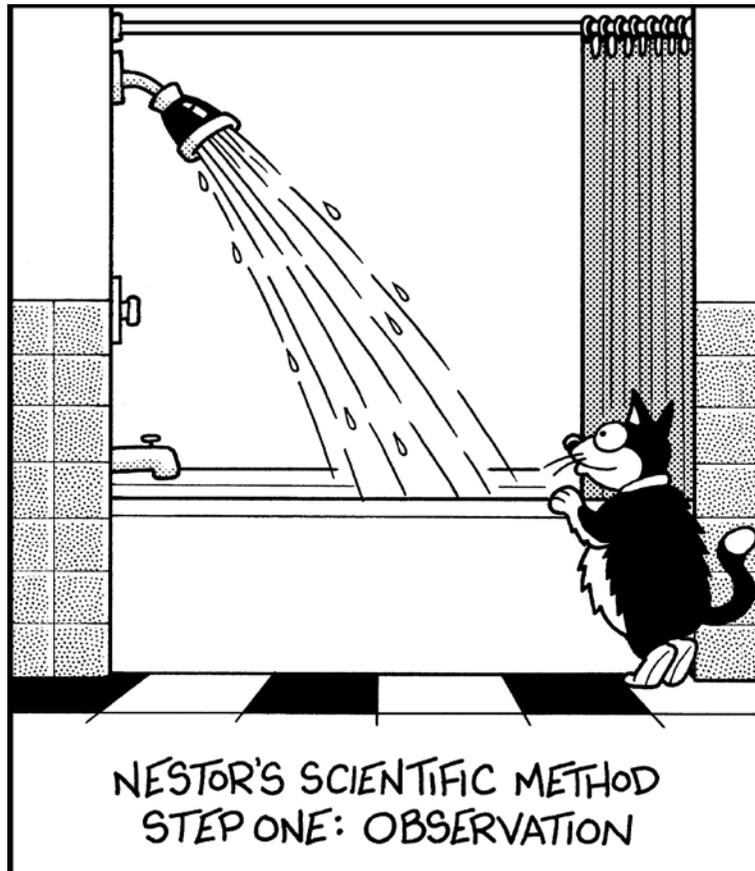
It is obvious from recent events and, particularly, from the most recent spate of specist crimes, that a call for peace and harmony is no longer enough.

We need laws. We need tough laws, explicit laws. While we cannot make one species love another, we can enforce behaviour that is respectful. While we cannot enforce goodwill, we can enforce peace. And, we must. The time has come for us to do so. For, not to do so is to be disrespectful of Jor's vision, to be disrespectful of ourselves, and to place rivalry above harmony.

When the Archons meet this Proto, they will not be celebrating our years together. They will be forging new laws to ensure that we have many more years together in The Park.

These laws will be our legacy. These laws, born of strife, will teach future generations and future zoocracies what is necessary for the success of an interspecial society.

A Happy New Year to all in The Park. And a pax on all your houses.



Nestor to stand for Keeper of the Nut

CURRENCY WATCH

Listed below are major currency equivalents posted at the close of business 29 FELIS 25 AZ

All equivalents based on Ftoo (F)

Ape	2.3	Hedgehog	4.8
Bear, Brown	2.0	Hyena	4.7
Bear, Polar	2.5	Kangaroo	5.4
Canary	5.1	Lion	3.7
Chicken	5.6	Mongoose	11.1
Cow	4.5	Ostrich	4.7
Dog	2.8	Pig	3.1
Donkey	4.3	Salamander	7.0
Giraffe	4.6	Wolf	3.0
Goat	4.1	Yak	4.8
Groundhog	1.9	Zebra	4.5

Hard currency only

After weeks of speculation, Nestor P. Cat has announced that he will stand as a candidate for the 26AZ position of Keeper of the Nut.

The position, which is now largely ceremonial, was created in pre-zoocratic times, during the second wave of immigration to The Park. The role is symbolic of the trust that is held among the different species that inhabit The Park.

Final selection of Keeper of the Nut will be made by the Small Animal Hibernating Community (SAHC) on 11 Alepou, four days before the commencement of the hibernation period.

Our Readers Respond ...

Re: 25 Years of Zoocracy (Spring 25 AZ)

Instead of having parties, we should be addressing some of the problems that exist in The Park.

Galena A. Crab
The Park

Re: Park Braces for Panzootic (Spring 25 AZ)

You did a great service in bringing this panzootic to the attention of the public.

Those of us who work on the front lines know the devastation that Small Ball Fever causes. Every year we treat more and more cases but, every year, more and more small balls are allowed to enter The Park. At this point, we see whole families succumbing to this disease; if we do not gain the upper hand, whole species will disappear.

The Department of Well-Being and Safety should have as its priority the elimination of Small Ball Fever before the end of this decade.

Hermione L. Hippo
Head Nurse
Park Hospital

Re: Is Your Spell Check Software Specist? (Spring 25 AZ)

Many thanks for your article

about the software problems in The Park.

I think it's despicable that technology companies are being allowed to dictate how we communicate with one another. Before we know it, entire Animal languages will be lost and we will all be relegated to speaking one language and sounding as if we are imitating each other.

We need to stand strong and demand that these companies treat us as the individual species that we are.

Leonardo Umberto Parrot
The Park

Thank you for your article about specist software.

I am the teacher of a mixed-species class and I have been dealing with software problems such as those you wrote about for a few years, now.

I don't think software companies know how demoralizing it is for young Animals to be told that their species is not important. These devastating psychological effects often lead to a debilitating degree of hopelessness. Please continue to report on this issue.

Wallis L. Waterbuck
The Park

Policies Criticized

continued from page 1

official newspaper. We recommend that steps be taken immediately to make the newspaper more inclusive and, thus, make it more representative of The Park's population as a whole." said Nathan R. DiPressa, Editor-in-Chief of The Reptile Register and Executive Director of the Association.

ANMPN members were unanimously critical of the newspaper's official policy of anonymous reporting which, the Association said, allowed Mammalian Daily journalists to "hide behind their species."

"Unless a writer's species is declared," said Tarrance Turkey, Deputy News Editor at The Galliforme Gazette and an ANMPN founding member, "readers have no way of knowing what that writer's bias is in reporting."

The Mammalian Daily drew further criticism for what the Association deemed a "pro-Human slant" in its coverage of events outside The Park, and for its limited reporting of news and events of a non-Mammalian nature.

"Even though my community participates fully in Park affairs, I find only on rare occasions do we receive the amount of attention that we deserve," said Senior Finance Reporter Antoinette Anhima of The Avian Messenger.

While these criticisms reflected the common sentiment of rival Park publications, others expressed a more positive view of The Mammalian Daily.

Speaking at the conference's concluding dinner, UWT Professor Ludwiga Saimiri, said she found much to commend in The Mammalian Daily. The distinguished scholar is the former director of the Centre for the Incorporation and Integration of Interspecial Values in Journalism (CIIVJ).

She praised the paper for its forward-thinking policies, supporting its stand against the frivolous use of descriptive terms in its newspaper.

"Neither fur nor feather colour is to be reported, nor family, political, or financial status, unless it is germane to the story," she said, quoting from The Mammalian Daily's 25 AZ Statement of Editorial Intent.

"Too many Park publications indulge in 'Werturteilfreude,' she said, explaining the term that she has coined to mean "joy obtained from the making of a value judgement."

"These judgements, made by reporters and editors, masquerade as descriptive terms in the [other] papers' headlines and stories. But they are unfair, often unfounded, and have no place in responsible journalism," she declared.

As for the newspaper's supposed pro-Human slant, Professor Saimiri was sanguine about Humans and the role they play in Park affairs.

"We could do worse than attempt to present a balanced view of the Human world," she said.

Park Official Prognosticator of Spring (POPS)

All-Candidates Debate

Date: 6 Alepou

Time: 20:00 hrs

Location: In front of the ancient Oak Tree

Moderator: Guinevere Elinore Groundhog

Candidates: Ida Geila Groundhog

Zenon Magellan V.B. Marmot

Connor Patrick Francis Woodchuck

Theodore Quinton Groundhog

Hilda Willelda Woodchuck

For candidates' biographies,
please see Pilar at the POPS office

CRITIC'S NOTEBOOK

Impressed at the Feline Fiction Fest

It had been a long week here in your critic's den and the thought of attending a festival dedicated to Feline fiction made me want to hiss, growl and, perhaps, even spit. But I had my assignment and my press badge and who was I, anyway, to argue with the powers that miaow? So, off I trotted (see how I mix those Animal elements so that you cannot guess my species? Read more about that in the "hard news" section...) to the Wishing Well for four days (14-17 Karpos) of non-stop purring over and pawing of the latest imaginative tails and wanderings of that stand-offish set.

The first day got off to a rather slow start, with much being made of this being the ONLY Feline fiction fest around and our being SO forward-thinking and interspecifically harmonious. Save all that, I say, for the press release. Humans will just lap it up. As far as I'm concerned, we're here to appreciate (and, later, of course, to judge) the best writing offered this year by those whiskered ones.

Still, with all the stretching and preening that I saw (and

much of it in front of the judges), one could have sworn that this was a beauty contest and not a writing festival at all. Someone should tell these Cats that you can't fool all of us most of the time and that charm (or even stripes, for that matter) is no substitute for a good day's work.

By the second day, however, the spotlight was squarely on those who both produce and value good writing. The mystery category this year overflowed with quality fiction that was driven, for the most part, by strong characters and great plot lines. So much Feline fiction in the past has been "atmospheric" (smoky salons, catnip-induced dreams), that one can forget how well the species can actually spin a tale or weave complicated pathways around multi-dimensional characters. They don't call it Cat's cradle for nothing, I suppose.

Nevertheless and notwithstanding, I, personally (not to mention, professionally), was disappointed in the quality of some of the entries this year, particularly in the Humour category. While I do believe that the

winner (Cat's Up!) could have beaten out any competition in any year, one does have to wonder under what bush that competition has been hiding. I know there are good Feline humorists out there. So -- Come out! Come out! Wherever you are!

The other item of note was the introduction of non-fiction titles to the 25 AZ Fiction Fest -- a move that was sure to spark controversy. I was not, in the least, offended by this, though, as I think it added a much-needed perspective to an otherwise one-dimensional event that is always on the verge of turning into a full-out egofest. Who says that Cats rule the world? Well, for 4 days in Karpos, Cats do. So, it was particularly nice to see titles that offered a look at the seamier and seedier side of Feline life, even though it is disconcerting for some of us to read stories in which the victims and vanquished are the Cats, as realistic as that is. The tie-in this year, too, with the charity auction (four tickets to the Feral Four concert in 26 AZ) was a spark of genius on the part of festival organizers.

After four days of fêting Felines, I found myself craving solitude (was I becoming Cat-like?), so I crept back to my den, where I lay down for some much-needed R&R, but not before declaring the 25 AZ Fiction Fest a tour de Feline force. Kudos to all who were involved. Looking forward to 26 AZ. That's all, folks.

The Best of the Feline Fiction Fest

25 AZ Winner of the Golden Claw Award:

The Polydactyl Fractals (Science Fiction/Fantasy)

FICTION	
MYSTERY	The Strange Case of the Topaz Toepad
FICTIONAL BIOGRAPHY	Himalayan Histories
HUMOUR	Cat's Up!
CRIME/SUSPENSE	The Siamese Connection
HISTORICAL FICTION	The Story of Nine-Tail and his Brothers
KITTEN'S FICTION	Imaginary Enemies and Fantastical Friends
NON-FICTION	
BIOGRAPHY	Albert: A Life on the Street
ADVENTURE	Best Foot Forward: A Tree-Climbing Memoir
HOW-TO	Strings and Superstrings: The Cat's Cradle Handbook

BLOG ON:

The Mammalian Daily Reader's Blog:

mammaliandaily.blogspot.com

The Mammalian Daily Writer's Blog:

mammaliandailywriter.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: _____



Subterfuge, manipulation, trickery, AND piscicide

An elaborate tale of intrigue from bestselling author

GIANFRANCO COLOCOLO

Murder at the Fishbowl

"This book floats to the top of the pile."
The Noodlefish News

Prionailurus Press, S.A.
Available in Hardshell



Dear Noreen

Is it wise for Animals to adopt Humans?

DEAR NOREEN: A friend of mine has recently befriended a Human and they are now thinking about a permanent arrangement. Do you think it is wise for an Animal to adopt a Human?

- PONDERING

DEAR PONDERING: Such adoptions are much in vogue, so I think it's time we had an open discussion of these arrangements.

First, though, let me say: anyone who reads this newspaper regularly knows my opinion of Humans: they're lovely to look at, but I wouldn't want to live with one.

Aside from that, I am very much in favour of so-called blended families, by which I mean a mix of species and breeds living and breathing (but not breeding) under one roof or in one burrow. It's definitely the wave of the future, regardless, since so many these days are born but not wanted, not to mention the many more who are wanted, but not born. So, all things being equal (or as lopsided as a Rabbit's ears), these two needs should match up rather nicely to form a few harmonious families.

You do have to be careful, though, when adopting Humans, since living with them is unnatural, as are many of their habits. They are also painfully slow to develop (indeed, many of them never truly mature). Yet -- and, don't forget this -- their lifespan far exceeds that of many of us, a fact that creates its own set of problems.

Remember, too, that Humans can be difficult to train, prone as they are to that eponymous condition known affectionately by them as "Human error."

Still, I would advise your friend to give it a try. No happiness was ever won by avoiding risk.

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.

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



PARK REPERTORY THEATRE

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

ICOOTAGDH → ICOOHAGDT*:

Will Nestor's Pivotal Water Study Result in a Paradigm Shift?

Human manipulation, extra-hortulanial topology, weather, technology, and Animal magnetism: all these elements and more are responsible for the high degree of academic and public interest surrounding the results of Nestor P. Cat's pivotal study of the flow of water.

The results of the study, which are to be published this Alepou in the prestigious scientific journal, Eureka, come some four years after Nestor set out on his quest to understand the intricate twists and turns of water behaviour.

Sparked by his innate curiosity and funded by the independent scientific agency, The Four Ws (Winter, Water, Weather, and Wellbeing Experts), the crucial investigation has the potential of changing the way water patterns are thought about in The Park. This, in turn, may have the unprecedented effect of altering the way in which water is gathered and dispensed by Park

agencies, including The Park's weather office.

"There is definitely potential for a trickle-down scenario," said a spokesanimal for The Park's weather office.

Early findings from the study, which were leaked last month to this newspaper, suggest that, in an adjunct study, Nestor, inadvertently, may also have tapped into a water source that was previously unknown to Park authorities.

Many Park scientists remain skeptical, however, not only about the study's results, but about its methodology.

"Nestor's scientific method is impeccable," said UWT scientist and waterworks expert, Francis G. Beaver. "He is a devoted scientist and his study was arduous. Still, we believe that there are inherent problems in his methodology. At the risk of appearing specist, many of us in The Park's scientific community believe that, because this was an observational study, it should

have involved more than one species of Animal."

Others are critical of the fact that Nestor chose to broaden the scope of the study by taking it outside The Park.

"While I commend him [Nestor] for refusing to limit his study to the behaviour of 'Park water' (her emphasis), I believe that expanding the study into an arena in which the major actors are Humans adds a degree of vulnerability to his conclusions," said Dr. Milada J. Goose, head of the Honking Hollow laboratory at the University of West Terrier.

Despite the controversy, The Park's scientific community says that it stands firmly in support of Nestor's research.

"He is a meticulous scientist and an acute observer," said Dr. Beaver.

* ICOOTAGDH: It comes out of there and goes down here
ICOOHAGDT: It comes out of here and goes down there

THE AGORA

SERVICES

Counselling

ALPHA DOGS! Do you have trouble delegating? Are you tied to your pack 24/7? Do you avoid going on vacation? Is your job getting in the way of your family life? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you could benefit from joining our newly-formed support group, Un-Pack. Call Hugh Husky today at 867-22513 for

directions to our next meeting.

Travel Services

We are STRICTLY FOR THE BIRDS! First-time migrators? We are the only full-service travel agency in The Park that deals exclusively with Birds. We offer maps, special accommodation rates, group excursions, flock insurance, and more. Fly by for a free consultation or call us at 787-42859. Strictly for the Birds. Your partner in migration travel.

JUST IN TIME FOR MIGRATION SEASON!

The University of West Terrier is pleased to announce the opening of the first Travel Medical Clinic in The Park. Let our accredited team of Avian specialists equip you for your trip south. Our services include vaccinations, preventive medications (including those for motion sickness), and more. Ask us about our wing tips. Call today for an appointment at 946-84778.



The Nut Bar

Hibernators!

Save time and energy in your seasonal search for sustenance!

The Nut Bar offers a fine selection of domestic and imported nuts in a variety of sizes to suit your individual needs.

Choose one of our three purchase plans:

**Simple (pre-order for Spring delivery),
Layaway, and Pay-As-You-Go.**

Stop by in person or order by telephone at 688-22776.



Let's Talk Balls!

with Bailey

Today's Ball is the GOLF ball.

The golf ball has a long history with Dogs.

Originally known as the "gulf" ball, these dimpled, spherical formations were discovered at the mouth of the Gulf of México, many thousands of years before the common era (and Zoocracy)

Naturally occurring, and of limestone, archaeological evidence suggests that the ball's dimples were formed by erosion that was caused by the thick sands found in the deep Gulf.

Many scholars believe that the first gulf balls were discovered by Chihuahuas who had set up camp in the area. Others are of the opinion that it was the Havanese who were the first to find the gulf ball, living as they did at the mouth of the Gulf of México. All are in agreement, however, that it was, indeed, the Havanese who spearheaded the campaign to manufacture replicas of the ball and to encourage its use as a recreational tool. It was also the Havanese who transported it, many centuries later, to the British Isles.

The first recorded use of the gulf ball was found in the log of a ship captain. It read: "The dog [sic] brought the stone gulf ball onto the ship



and [one of] the crew[men], [who were] by then exhausted and of low spirits, took a long, sharp object and smacked the stone back into the water. The rest of the crew applauded his effort and thought the deed done until the dog brought another stone for smacking..."

Thus was born the game that we now call "Golf," which is played with the ball of the same name, the word "gulf" having undergone vocalic change as a result of its pairing with the word "ball."

Since that time, the game and its ball have provided many hours of joy for Dogs everywhere.

Sources: *A Short History of Canine Sport; Balls: History and Prehistory, Volume 1; The Havanese and the Coming of Golf; Golf: The Game and its History; Limestone Cowboys; Balls Across the Water: The True Story of the Gulf Ball; Dimpled Future: The Effect of Golf on the Lives of Humans; various newspaper articles and reports.*
bailey@mammaliandaily.com

Whelpings and Passings

LEAPIN' LIZARDS

Lucinda and Jeremiah King are "frilled" to add their hatchlings to The Park's population! Mother is doing well and all 23 are thriving and living on their own.



PRAIRIE DOG COMPANIONS

A g n e s and Bertrand G u n n i s o n announce with great pride the birth of their second litter on 8 Anthi. Todd, Bernadette, and Andrew are all doing well and have emerged from the nesting burrow. Stop by and meet your new neighbours!



W. Elliot Gopher III. Suddenly and tragically, as a result of the collapse of his tunnel on 26 Karpouzi. Billy (Boy) Gopher III, 6th generation Park citizen, avid digger, enthusiastic collector, talented dancer, star athlete, and captain of the Pocket Gopher running team that is headed for victory at the 26 AZ Interspecial Summer Games. The son of dancers Ludmila and W. Elliot Gopher II, Billy Boy was spotted early in his life for his natural talent of running backwards. Drafted immediately to the P.G. running team, he was made captain one year later and, under his captainship, the team has won every event in which it was entered since 23 AZ. He will be greatly missed by his whole family, including his mates Katrina, Marguerite, Dorothy, and Zara and, perhaps, most of all by the running team. Come Otium, we'll win the big one for you, Billy. The Team will never forget you.

Mark Your Nuts Now!

Why risk losing your nuts this Winter?

We offer a customized, laser engraving service with every purchase.

The Nut Bar 688-22776

