

The Mammalian Daily

THE PARK'S OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

ISSUE NUMBER 111, SUMMER 24 AZ

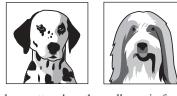
Tartan Crab Found Ripped to Pieces Domestic Dogs Held for Questioning

Mammalian Daily Crime Reporter

Forensic experts were on the scene within minutes after the discovery early Saturday morning of the scattered remains of the Tartan Crab.

Following a set of events that some have described as "bizarre," two domestic Dogs were last seen entering police headquarters. The Dogs, whose names have not yet been released, were taken for questioning immediately following the preliminary investigation of the Crab's demise.

Witnesses at the scene said both Dogs were seen hovering around pieces of the Crab's stuffing, which



lay scattered on the walkway in front of the Reek-o-Rama.

Detectives called to the scene estimated the time of devastation to have been between 9:30 and 10:00 am EDT. At press time, it was rumoured that

neither Canine had a suitable alibi for the time period.

"It was exactly the time that they go for their walk together," said a witness who asked not to be named for this report. "They were probably waiting to be put on their leashes," he said, confirming suspicions that the Dogs were known to each other. Whether or not they were known to the Tartan Crab has yet to be determined.

"It's all part of this new generation of Dogs," the witness continued. "They're not properly trained and they're forced to spend too much time alone. It's natural that anger would start to build up in them."

This view was echoed by resident Park analyst, Elinore E. Owl.

"Stuffed toys are an easy target for

domestic Animals who cannot or will not control their hostile tendencies," she said.

Nestor, for his part, was reported in stable condition after receiving treatment for shock at Dr. Bourru's office. Nestor was found in an immobilized state at the scene of the crime on Saturday morning. The Tartan Crab had been the Cat's pet for little more than a week.

One witness, in tears, appealed to the public to find the perpetrator of this heinous crime as soon as possible.

"As you know, Nestor was abandoned at a young age and he was just getting to the point of being able to bond again. This is certainly going to make things that much harder for him."

Meanwhile, people gathered in The Park today to mourn the Tartan Crab's untimely passing. A makeshift monument was set up near the Wishing Well and a small pond has been renamed in his honour. A fund has also been established to support research that might help prevent similar acts of violence in the future.

"We cannot risk becoming a carbon copy of the Human world," said one Giraffe.

Flying Mammal Captures Top Prize in Toe-Hair Contest

Mammalian Daily Community Affairs Reporter

Rufus di Rafineschi flew away with first prize at The Park's eleventh annual Toe-Hair contest, held this Spring at the ancient, open-air theatre.

All five judges awarded the Bat

f i r s t place and offered high praise for his toe-hairs, which they said, "extended noticeably beyond the tips of his toes."

Di Rafineschi, who with this victory becomes a member of an exclusive group of Animals in The Park, is the first big-eared Bat in the contest's history to win the prestigious award. "I'm thrilled and humbled," di Rafineschi said at a press conference following the judges' decision. "It makes me feel that I really belong in The Park."

The Bat, a native of Kentucky, first roosted in The Park three years ago. Finding the

a t m o s p h e r e "quite welcoming," he decided to become a permanent resident a year ago.

Second and third prizes at the contest were awarded to Samuel P. Gecko and to Buckley, a Bearded Collie.

Single currency debate heats up in Park Public forum to be held in Autumn

Mammalian Daily Financial Reporter

When Theodora Manx goes shopping, she brings six different currencies along as her companions.

Since most Park establishments no longer accept Manx currency, she is forced to convert it, sometimes at very high rates, to the currencies of several other Animals.

"They don't take Manx currency in The Park anymore," she complains. "They say the coins have to have both heads and tails or they won't accept them."

Since she can't use her own currency and she feels no particular loyalty to any other, the idea of a single, common currency in The Park appeals to the Manx.

"I think it would add a degree of fairness to prices in The Park," she reasons.

The Manx may be correct. An informal survey conducted by this newspaper revealed that several shops in The Park appear to have "creative" ways of adjusting prices, depending on which currency is used. "You definitely get a better price

"You definitely get a better price if you use the Ftoo," says Aidan Zebra. "But that only works in your favor if you get paid in the Ftoo. Those of us who don't [receive their pay in the Ftoo] pay a heavy price to convert it, just for the sake of making it easier on the shopkeepers." Still, there are others who oppose any currency amalgamation.

"It's a matter of pride in your own species, I think," says Rowena Goose. "It would be like giving up my identity."

The Goose is the president of an anti-amalgamation group that says it will do everything in its power to prevent the institution of a common currency in The Park.

For their part, Park Finance Officers have assured resident Animals that all opinions will be taken into consideration after a Public Forum is held this Autumn.

"We want to make sure there is consensus before we move forward on this idea," said a spokesanimal for the Finance Department.

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NOT IN OUR BACKYARD

A great deal of ink has been spilled of late on the subject of the Human expansion surrounding our Park.

It is, to be sure, an unnerving prospect: an event of the sort that would, naturally, be greeted by us with a mixture of fear and curiosity.

This is particularly true for those groups of Animals who, historically, have had an adversarial relationship with the Two-Footed Beasts

What to do, then? Can we allow this expansion to go unchecked?

We have heard all the arguments against organized passivity. And we agree. We must take a stand. We must make ourselves and our wishes known. But how should we treat this Human encroachment on our territory? What is the best way to deal with something that threatens to erode our way of life and influence our young?

We would caution Animals to pause and think before turning their negative and fearful thoughts into action.

We need only look to Humans, themselves, to find the example that we do not wish to emulate.

For centuries, Humans have fought among themselves as well as with other Animals. So much of their own blood has been spilled over differences of breed and creed and this has prevented them from living peacefully, both together and among other species.

This must not happen to us. We cannot allow either their example or the threat of their reality to make The Park a place of contention and hate.

Too many Animals sound as if they have adopted as their battle cry the Human phrase, "Not in Our Backyard."

We feel that to act in this fashion would be a mistake from which The Park might never recover.

We must treat these Humans with respect, as we would have them respect us. We must give them the benefit of the doubt until such time as it becomes clear that their actions are ill-intentioned.

Our belief is that we should all stand our ground - cautiously and respectfully. And, perhaps, we should turn another Human phrase to our benefit: Sometimes, at least, good neighbours do, indeed, make good fences.

Our Readers Respond ...

Re: Guard Dogs Bark to Rule (Spring 24 AZ)

As a retired Canine security worker, my sympathies lie with the Dogs and their union, the FCSW

While I enjoyed my security work immensely, I also remember the exhaustion I experienced when I was forced to work a second job, in order to provide the basics for my growing family.

This situation, though common among my co-workers, led me, eventually, to retire from the force. In the end, I felt I could not give my best to either job, and I fear that this feeling is rampant among the members of our present force.

I hope that Park administrators will recognize the danger of the situation and act in a manner that will allow for a speedy and acceptable resolution for all parties.

Maximilian D. Pinscher ("The N4Sir")

The Park

The current cohort of Guard Dogs has done nothing but tarnish the reputation of an ancient and noble profession.

My advice to Park administrators

is: stand your ground! Preston U. Mule The Park

We stand in solidarity with our Guard Dog brothers and sisters who put their lives on the line every day so that all species in The Park can feel

secure within its borders. Army Ants, Company D Lincoln H.N. Lemur William K. Wombat Timothy P. Toad Reginald Rooster Jared Giraffe

The Park

Bark to Rule ?! Guffaw! Quit clowning around with our security! Do these Dogs not know how

lucky they are to have a paying job in the first place? Not to mention the respect and admiration of their fellow citizens! Let them try to find work in the

Human world and, then, they'll see what living "foot to mouth" really means!

Leon Cavallo The Park

Studies Confirm: Sleeping Dogs Most Likely to Lie

Mammalian Daily Health Reporter

Sleeping Dogs are likely to lie.

That fact, borne out by a new set of studies at the University of West Terrier Medical College, will likely come as no surprise to anyone who has ever awakened a sleeping Canine.

The results of the studies, which will be published later this month in the prestigious journal, Eureka, are the fruit of five years of intensive labour in the Sleep Laboratory of UWT's Medical College.

The studies, say investigators at the University, are the first of their kind to be performed at an accredited research facility in The Park.

Among their findings, the researchers noted that the most surprising was the extent to which Dogs are likely to embellish their life story while under the influence of sleep.

"Everybody embellishes from time

to time," said researcher Nicholas Antelope. "But this was truly amazing. Mixed breeds would give a thorough account of their purebred history, down to the awards and ribbons their sires and dams had won and Retrievers would claim to be

The most common subject of the lies, to

ment, was food.

clinical assis-"When tant. they wake up, they say they haven't eaten. And if someone else comes home, they tell

vicious guard Dogs".

no one's astonish-

"Humans who live with Dogs notice this all the time," said one

them the same

story. The amazing thing is, the Dogs really believe it, themselves if they've been asleep. When asked about the impetus for the study, researchers were quick to credit serendipity.

"The findings themselves were verv much a coincidence." savs Simone Gibbon, the study's chief researcher.

'We decided to do a formal study when we noticed a certain pattern emerging among the Dogs we were treating for insomnia in the Sleep

Lab. While UWT's team was the first to investigate this phenomenon, it is expected that others will soon follow suit.

"We look forward to seeing our research replicated elsewhere," the Gibbon said.

Humans Living Longer

Park Wire Service

Results of studies conducted outside The Park confirm suspicions long held by many Park Animals: Humans are living longer.

Researchers report a three-year difference in lifespan in comparison to study results gathered over twenty years ago.

Reasons put forth include nutrition, exercise and something called "lifestyle." Researchers also gave credit to time spent with Animals for extending the lifespan.

ATT Demands **Investigation**

Mammalian Daily News Agency

The Association of Tartan Toys has called for a full public inquiry into the death of the Tartan Crab.

In a press release issued today, the ATT expressed concern for its membership and offered condolences to the family and friends of the fallen

Work on Water Delayed

Park Science Bureau

Due to recent events involving the Tartan Crab, Nestor is unable, at this time, to release the preliminary findings of his observational study of the flow of water.

Results will be presented in our next issue.

Park to appoint arbitrator in Guard Dog dispute

Mammalian Daily - Labour Reporter

Members of The Park's Labour Council have voted to appoint an arbitrator to settle the ongoing dispute between The Park and the Federation of Canine Security Workers (FCSW).

The Federation, which represents The Park's security force of more than 200 Guard Dogs, issued a statement yesterday, saying that it is "cautiously optimistic" that a settlement will be reached in the near future.

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Page 2

Jury Selection Begins in Mongoose Weather Trial

Mammalian Daily Legal Affairs Reporter

The jury selection process began today in preparation for what some believe may be the trial of the decade.

In selecting the jury, the court will follow the procedure established by Jor, The Park's first leader. This procedure is arduous and time-consuming, but many believe that it allows for

a greater degree of fairness in the trial. In today's first round, all Animals

who had received personalized tickets were to attend at the law courts at dawn in order to deposit their tickets in an abandoned Hammerhead nest. These tickets will be removed tomorrow by court clerks who will count them and, then, return them to the nest.

On the third day, one Park Archon

will remove half the number of tickets and discard them. Following this, the same Archon will draw, at random, the names of jury members from the collection of remaining tickets

In total, eighteen Animals will serve on the jury that will try the Mongoose on charges of fraud, theft, misappropriation of funds, and intent to confound.

Aarrf noted that little is known

about The Cynics as yet, confirming

only that they are four males under the



Humans Can Make Lovely Dinner Guests

DEAR NOREEN: I have recently befriended a family of Humans and have found them to be quite good company.

We go for walks together and play ball together and I am just getting to the point of asking them over for dinner.

My question is: I have heard a number of stories about the eating habits of Humans and I wonder, if these things are true, is it such a good idea to expose my young to them?

What is your advice?

UNDECIDED

DEAR UNDECIDED: 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 them.

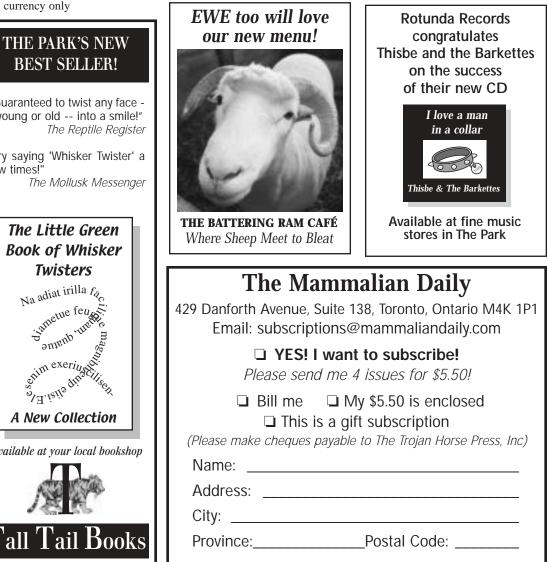
All joking aside, since I don't actually know what you have heard about Human eating habits, I can't tell you whether or not they will traumatize your young.

What I can tell you is that Humans are different and if you are going to socialize with them in your home, you will have to be equipped for it. Whether or not this is worth your while is your own decision to make.

Beware, though, that Humans prefer most of their food cooked and they can be very finicky eaters. Many of them have large appetites, as well, and they eat several times a day.

All things considered, though, I have found that making the effort to socialize with other species usually pays off in the end, and I think the experience would probably do your young more good than harm.

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.



CMA certifies new singing group tenth anniversary of the famous musically and we make no secret

Mammalian Daily Staff

The Canine Music Association has announced the certification of a new The singing group, Cynics (Philosopher Dogs).

The announcement took place at a press conference here in The Park on the occasion of the celebration of the

Canine singing group, Thisbe and the Barkettes CMA President, R.F. Aarrf said that it was no accident that the certification coincided with the establishment of a new award for Canine musicians.

"We are looking to encourage Canines everywhere to get involved

Memorial Planned in Honour of Tartan Crab

A memorial service in honour of the Tartan Crab will be held in front of the Wishing Well at four o'clock on 2 Otium 24 AZ, a spokesanimal for the organizing committee confirmed today.

The Daffy Dill will supply a floral tribute and bagpipe music will be played by the Endeka Elephant Band. The eulogy will be delivered by Hieronymous Hedgehog. Afterwards, the Crab will be laid to rest in the Park burial grounds.

Organizers say that the public outcry in response to the Crab's murder has been enormous. "It seemed to touch a nerve in

all of us," said a Slug. A large turnout is expected.

Squiggles and Scribbles

Bringing Back the Stick: 75 Years of Retrieving **Bartholomew El Perdiguero** Birch Bark Books, 400 pages

While any book on retrieving would be welcome in The Park, this volume is certain to appeal to those for whom the sport has become a way of life.

Rich in lore as well as in fact, this commemorative tome also includes a handy "how-to" section for beginners, pictures of Champions in Action for voyeurs, a glossary of retrieving terms, and a separate chapter on water retrieving.

Beautifully bound and brimming with photographs, this book is a true celebration of retrieving and will make a wonderful gift for any species.

Now, That's Duperous! Heroic News Items from The Mammalian Daily Mammalian Daily Press, 100 pgs.

Anyone familiar with The Mammalian Daily remembers these popular columns that ran monthly for almost five years. hard-shell, The Now, in

Mammalian Daily has re-printed them for your renewed enjoyment.

Remember the Polar Bears' heroic struggle with the snowless winter? The Giraffe who got his head stuck in the ceiling of the Dupers' General The Humans who tried to Store? grow their Shrimp in cans?

They're all here to amaze you, to entertain you, and to intrigue you.

You won't be able to put this book down. But, perhaps, when you're

finished reading it, you should write a letter in support of bringing back the column

À la recherche du pain perdu **By Gustavus Duif**

Now, that would be duperous!

Blue Macaw Books, 600 pages Translated as "In Search of Lost Bread," Duif's lengthy novel tells the tale of an unnamed Pigeon's journey home across the entire North American continent.

Having flown a great distance on a mission directed by Humans, our protagonist finds himself feeling lost and alone. During the course of his return expedition, his memory of past times and "lost bread" is evoked by a random series of sights, sounds, and smells. As he remembers more and more about his journey, the "truth" and "purity" of his experiences in flight become clear to him and his place in the world seems more secure - the lost Pigeon, like the lost bread. is found again in the beauty of flight and in the experience of returning home.

While À la recherche du pain perdu is not a suitable novel for novices, experienced readers of all species will find that it has much to commend it.

> Homage to Imo Koshima Island Sweet potatoes in the dirt Imo, our teacher Setsuko Macaque

CURRENCY WATCH Listed below are major currency equivalents posted at the close of

about that," he said.

age of six.

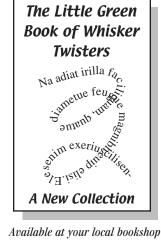
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All equivalents based on Ftoo (F)

	Ape	2.9	Hedgehog	6.1
	Bear, Brown	3.7	Hyena	4.1
	Bear, Polar	3.4	Kangaroo	5.9
	Canary	3.9	Lion	4.8
	Chicken	5.6	Mongoose	10.3
	Cow	5.8	Ostrich	4.9
	Dog	3.9	Pig	4.7
	Donkey	5.4	Salamander	7.8
	Giraffe	5.2	Wolf	4.1
	Goat	4.9	Yak	5.4
	Groundhog	2.2	Zebra	5.0

Hard currency only

nog 2.2 Eebra 5.0THE PARK'S NEW **BEST SELLER!** 'Guaranteed to twist any face -- young or old -- into a smile!" The Reptile Register "Try saying 'Whisker Twister' a few times! The Mollusk Messenger



Page 4 THE AGORA

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- Newton, Park Cenue
 Lucy-Q, North Park Newton, Park Centre

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COMPOST HEAP. Open 24/7. Whelpings and Passings

It's otter joy! Leticia and Ottmar are thrilled to announce the birth of Cornelius, Maxwell, Winifred, Hester and Angus.

OPPORTUNITIES

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to be poured for sidewalks outside The

Park. Don't miss this opportunity to

make your mark! Send for your free

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ALL YOU CAN EAT...AT THE

This is the first litter for Leticia; the third for Ottmar. Mother and pups are doing well.

Esmé and Pierre Warthog welcome two new additions to their family: piglets Adeline and Gilbert. Now we are five!

The spitting image of his father! Elvira and Serge Llama are pleased to

announce this year's arrival: a son, Diego Gaspar, weighing 10 kgs. A brother for Luisa and Manuel.

Athanassia Tortoise. Suddenly, at 102, on 22 Anthi, while hosting an intimate dinner party in her den. Athanassia Tortoise, member of The Park's first Tortoise family and founder of the Tortoise Immigrant Aid and Mentor Programme. A mother of fourteen, Athanassia was born Athanassia Gopherus Agassizii in Conejera, a burrow of southwestern Utah, but moved to The Park with her family when she was twenty years old. Responding to the need for a programme that would aid other Tortoises in the transition from Desert to Park. Athanassia established the Tortoise Immigrant Aid and Mentor Programme and devoted much of her energy over the next 80 years to helping immigrant Tortoises and to training other Tortoises to carry on her life's work. A memorial service is

Let's Talk Balls!



with Bailev

Today's ball is the FOOTball. The football has a long history with Dogs.

Originally designed as a domestic tool, cynologists (those who study Dogs) believe the football was first used by the Cave Dog in his attempts to keep the cave door open.

Archaeological evidence suggests that the first footballs were products of the potter's craft. Scholars at the University of West Terrier who have examined shards found in recent digs believe that these first clay footballs were built by hand and fired in a sim-

For the

Cave paintings depicting the Cave Dog receiving visitors suggest that the football was used in the ancient Canine hospitality ritual of leaving the door ajar to welcome guests. Many scholars believe the first kick of the football occurred when the Cave Dog moved the ball in order to secure the cave door.

As rocks began to be used in the hospitality ritual, the football became less of a tool and more of a toy. Retaining its original earthen colour, the football has provided many hours of joy for Dogs everywhere.

Canine Prehistory: Sources: Society and Ritual; The Cave Dog's Guide to the Sporting World; Daily Life in the Ancient Canine World, Volume 3: Balls; The Canine Picture Book of Balls; The Educated Ball Owner's Guide to the Good Life; Various Newspaper Articles and Reports.

The Paws that Refresh

planned.

Park Health Reporter

When the stress of early morning meetings and working with difficult colleagues gets the better of Reginald Rooster, he knows exactly what to do. He heads straight for The Lion's Den, his local spa and massage parlour. There, his regular masseuse, Coretta, uses a variety of techniques to help Reginald relax. After Reginald "shakes himself out," Coretta kneads his neck and licks his feathers until the weight of the world is lifted.

"I feel like new," says Reginald. There is nothing new about it, though. Massage is an ancient technique that has been proven to relieve all species of stress and anxiety.



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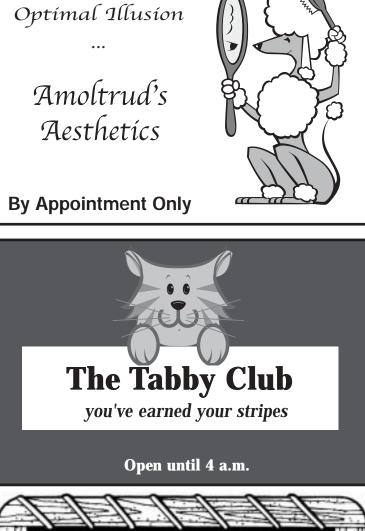
THIS SUMMER AT THE PARK GALLERIES

The Tortoiseshell Gallery works from the slow art movement 2 Azafran-3 Felis

The Ewe & Moo Gallery "Ewe Art the One" The Female Perspective in Art **Opens 5 Otium**

Fusion Ceramics Studio bowls, bowls, bowls when art and function fuse 24 Karpos-32 Karpouzi

The Knochen Kunst Gallery De Chiot and the Pro-Bonists A Retrospective 1 Otium – 28 Otium



Get ready - it's Hairvest time again! sign ap yoar sponsors now! The Park's Semi-Annaal

Share the Hair Shake for Charity 27 Karpoazi

Help as make it a great hair day!