Save the date!

Washington Branch of AALAS’ Holiday Party Is on December 15, 2006 6:00pm-9:00pm At the Pinnacle Sonata Apartments Cabana 23940 40th Drive SE Bothell, WA 98021
Summer Picnic a Success!

2006’s summer picnic was held at Woodland Park. Many members came out to enjoy food and fun under the sun on August 5. Special thanks to Cindy Pekow for arranging our wonderful speaker. Bret Sellars gave a great talk about zoo animal enrichment. Thanks to all who attended.

Be part of the action!

What do you want to see in your newsletter? Please send in suggestions for new sections and articles you want to read!

Been to a big event like Districts or National AALAS meetings? Be a reporter for us and send in your views!

Please send all suggestions and comments to Lynn at lreed@icos.com with the subject line January WB AALAS newsletter by January 10, 2007.

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District 8 Meeting to be held in Seattle of 2008
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At smhooper@comcast.net

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One for the ages: A prescription that may extend life
*New York Times*, October 31 - In the last year, calorie-restricted diets have been shown in various animals to affect molecular pathways likely to be involved in the progression of Alzheimer’s disease, diabetes, heart disease, Parkinson’s disease and cancer. Earlier this year, researchers studying dietary effects on humans went so far as to claim that calorie restriction may be more effective than exercise at preventing age-related diseases. Read more.

Researchers show how brain responds to pleasing - and changing - tastes
University of Michigan, October 31 - We all have tastes we love, and tastes we hate. And yet, our "taste" for certain flavors and foods can change over time, as we get older or we get tired of eating the same old thing. Now, a new study with rats gives new evidence about what's going on in the brain when we taste something we like, or develop a liking for something we once hated. Read more.

Superbug vaccine shows promise
BBC, October 31 - A vaccine to guard against hospital superbug MRSA is a step closer, according to scientists. Researchers have developed a vaccine that protected mice from four potentially deadly strains of MRSA. Read more.

New strain of H5N1 bird flu emerges in China
*New Scientist*, October 31 - A new strain of H5N1 bird flu has emerged in China that is poised to start yet another global wave of infection. Nearly three times as many Chinese poultry are infected with H5N1 now than last year, despite China’s insistence that all poultry be vaccinated. In fact, vaccination may be the reason for the increase in infections, researchers say. Read more.

A compound in red wine makes fat mice healthy
*Washington Post*, November 2 - A substance found in red wine protected mice from the ill effects of obesity and extended their life spans, raising the tantalizing prospect that the compound could do the same for humans and may also help people live longer, healthier lives, researchers reported yesterday. Read more.
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Save the Dates!!!

December 15, 2006
Holiday Party 6:00 to 10:00pm

January 10, 2007
Deadline for articles for Newsletter

March 22, 2007
Spring Trade Fair
Horticulture Center at UW

April 12 & 13, 2007
District 8 Meeting
San Diego, CA
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1-800-444-4210, Option 5
PETA trial begins Nov. 13

By Cal Bryant

Monday, October 30, 2006 7:31 PM CST

WINTON - After numerous delays, the trial involving two PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) employees is scheduled to begin Monday, Nov. 13 in Hertford County Superior Court.

While she would not go into any major details of the impending trial, local District 6B Attorney Valerie Asbell, who will prosecute the case on behalf of the state, said jury selection will begin on the morning of Nov. 13. Asbell said she hoped to begin presenting the state’s evidence one day later.

The case involves several charges lodged against Andrew Benjamin Cook of Virginia Beach, Va. and Adria Joy Hinkle of Norfolk, Va. The PETA employees were arrested June 15, 2005 in Ahoskie after allegedly euthanizing 31 animals (dogs and cats) and dumping the dead bodies into a waste container located behind an Ahoskie grocery store.

Due to legal maneuverings on both sides, the court case has been postponed several times.

Cook and Hinkle were originally charged with 31 felony counts each of cruelty to animals as well as one count of illegal dumping and misdemeanor trespassing charges.

Since their arrests, Asbell, in an effort to more properly identify the dead animals, replaced the original 31 felony cruelty charges with 22 counts against each of the defendants.

In addition, new charges were filed in October of last year as both Cook and Hinkle were accused of three counts of obtaining property by false pretense.

Those charges stem from the three cats/kittens allegedly picked-up by the pair on June 15, 2005 from Ahoskie Animal Hospital (AAH).

Dr. Pat Proctor, owner of AAH, he said he contacted PETA in regards to picking-up the animals. He further stated that Hinkle and Cook came to his business on June 15 and picked-up the animals, promising to find them good homes. However, the cat and her two kittens, all judged by Proctor as in good health and adoptable, were among the 31 dead animals linked to Hinkle’s and Cook’s possession on the day of their arrest.

Hinkle is being represented by Rich Square attorney Jack Warmack and Blair Brown of Washington, DC. Cook’s general counsel is Mark Edwards of Durham.

Resident Superior Court Judge Cy Grant is scheduled to preside over the trial.

Hinkle and Cook were arrested by the Ahoskie Police Department late in the afternoon of June 15 after law enforcement officials, on a stake-out, observed a white van in which the two were operating stop in an area located behind Piggly
Wiggly in Ahoskie’s Newmarket Shopping Center and toss several black bags in a commercial dumpster.

At that time, a traffic stop was initiated on the van - a vehicle registered to PETA.

The bags located in the dumpster contained 18 dead dogs, including one bag containing seven puppies. An additional 13 dead animals, including the mother cat and her two kittens, were found in the van.

Twenty-two of the animals discovered on June 15 were collected the same day by Hinkle and Cook from the Bertie County Animal Shelter, as confirmed by Bertie Animal Control Officer Barry Anderson.

An autopsy performed later on one of those dogs revealed the animal was in good health prior to its death.
District 8 Meeting
April 12th & 13th, 2007

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