



"Wildlife is an echo of our own beginnings" ... 1981

*William Holden*

Fall 2012

## LOCAL ARTIST DONATES HIS TALENT



SEE  
STORY  
ON  
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Post Office Box 16637  
Beverly Hills, CA 90209

Dear Friends,

As we in the states enter the final stages of our process to elect a new or incumbent president, so do 'we' in Kenya. Many inside the political process are well-known in Kenya and so the population is not sure there will be significant changes, but all are concerned that there will not be a repeat of the violence seen in the last election. There has been a noticeable rise in tourism over the summer that is always a good sign, and the commerce is most meaningful in a positive way to all the conservation efforts that are dependent on visitors.

The rains have brought good grazing to most parts of Kenya, which meant an increase in wildlife population. However, the north still suffers from drought, an influx of refugees and political instability.

I am happy to say that the Education Center and our outreach programs have developed such a reputation all over Kenya that the demands on us are increasing. That is the good news and the bad news because, as demand increases, so do our costs.

Realizing that you have so many worthwhile causes asking for your attention and your donations, I hope that you might think of us, even in a small way, as worthy of your consideration as we enter the "season of giving."

President



This postcard honors William Holden and commemorates his induction into the St. Louis Walk of Fame on August 9, 2012. His star is located at 6150 Delmar Boulevard, in The Loop, University City, Missouri.



# News from Kenya

**T**he raging fire that consumed an estimated ten percent of Mt. Kenya for nine days last spring was extinguished by a coordinated effort of various governmental agencies, British & Kenya military, NGOs and the local communities.

The big mammal species like elephants, water buffalo, bush bucks and the primates had been moved away from the fire, so they suffered few losses. However, an unknown number of smaller invertebrates and reptiles like snakes died in the fire.

Students visiting the Education Center from Thika Road Christian School came with the intention of replanting trees in the burned section of the forest, but due to the distance and wet weather conditions, they planted over 120 indigenous seedlings in an area opposite a monastery church which was provided for the purpose by the Kahurura Forester. In May, the Education Center assisted with the training of 43



Photo: Kenya Wildlife Service

Photo: Kenya Wildlife Service



wildlife officers from the Republic of Southern Sudan. The officers were attending a wildlife management course at the Kenya Wildlife Training Institute in Naivasha. Also in May came the shocking news that an elephant and her young calf had been killed and tusks removed near Mlima Kenya Primary School. The poaching happened at day light, next to the village and less than a kilometer from both the Kenya Forest Service station and the Kenya Wildlife Service Laikipia District Headquarters. Even more troubling is the fact that neither forest guards nor wildlife rangers heard the gun shots. June was also not a good month for wildlife. Angry villagers killed six lions near Nairobi National Park in a single night, because the lions strayed from the park and killed six goats and a sheep. Both cases illustrate the stark increase in wildlife-human conflicts over diminishing resources. Current wildlife policy allows no compensation for loss of livestock or crop damages caused by wild animals.

## FINANCE MINISTER LAUNCHES THE MT. KENYA FENCE

**R**hino Ark, a charitable trust formed in 1988 to support conservation in Kenya that helps to develop sustainable solutions to the challenges facing mountain forest ecosystems and threatened biodiversity areas, announced on September 7 that the Construction of the Mt. Kenya Fence was launched by Finance Minister, Hon. Njeru Githae at a ceremony held at the Castle CFA Centre, near the Castle Forest Station in Kirinyaga County on that date.

The purpose of the Mt. Kenya Fence is to bring harmony between nature and the forest adjacent communities and to protect a natural asset of critical importance that supports economic development at national and local levels. The Fence will protect over 2500 km<sup>2</sup> and will be at least 400kms long – equal or possibly longer than the now complete Aberdare fence.

Speaking during the event, the Finance Minister said, "Considering the critical importance of this project as demonstrated by the study report on the benefits of the Aberdare fence, my Ministry provided Ksh. 100 million in the 2011-2012 financial year for the fencing of Mt. Kenya and Mt.

Eburu in the Mau Forests Complex. These funds have enabled the purchase of the material for building the first 50 km of the fence that we are launching today. In addition, my Ministry has allocated Ksh. 200 million in this financial year and committed the same amount in the following years to support the construction of the entire fence that will be approximately 400 kilometers long and will take five years to build", he added.

The building of the fence is in line with Vision 2030 Kenya development blueprint that identified the rehabilitation of the water towers, including Mt. Kenya, a flagship project for 2012.

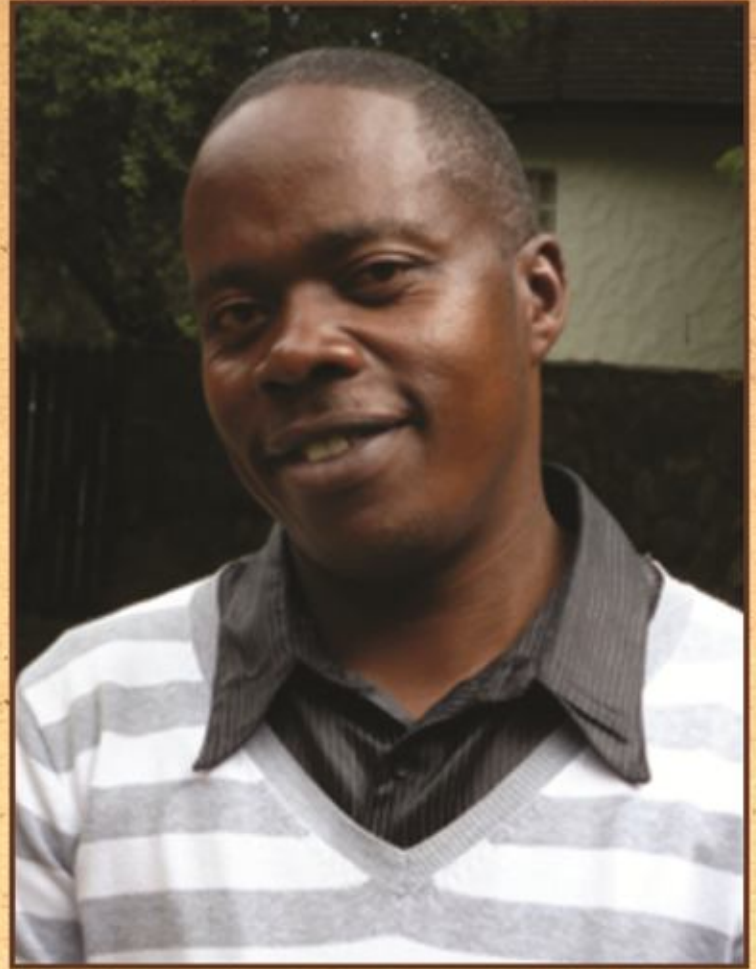
The fenced area will include Mt. Kenya National Park and the surrounding forest belt, listed by UNESCO in 1997 as a World Heritage Site, with Mt. Kenya being internationally recognized as "one of the most impressive landscapes of Eastern Africa with its rugged glacier-clad summits. Rhino Ark reported that the building of the Mt. Kenya Fence commenced in August 2012 with 5.5 kilometres built to date. The project is a successful collaboration between partners Rhino Ark, Kenya Wildlife Service, Kenya Forest Services and the fence line communities.



# A Fairy-Tale Beginning For

In October of 1982 the WHWF received its status as a U.S. 501(c)3 public charity and only a few months later we broke ground on our education center in Kenya. Sometime after the construction of the center was completed and inaugurated, I was riding my horse high up the slopes of Mt. Kenya and came across a village of itinerant farmers employed by the forestry department. After a section of the forest was clear cut, the workers were charged with planting and caring for the reforested seedling trees and while the trees were growing, the villagers, who were landless, had permission to farm the available space as their cash crop until they had to abandon their village and move to another part of the forest to repeat the process.

During the years until the trees grew to maturity the farmers had families whose children went to school at an overcrowded and rundown complex of classrooms where a handful of teachers tried valiantly to cope with far too many students and few resources. The children had never seen a horse and ran screaming from the classrooms, frightening my horse and causing me to stop near the school and dismount before I was dumped on the ground by my highly-strung thoroughbred. I met the teachers and was shown around the school with its pitiful facilities.



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# ing For A Student's True Calling



All at once a light bulb went off in my head – here we were on the front lines of the human, animal and environmental conflict where they needed even the most elementary assistance to raise the level of education in order to begin to understand the lessons of good husbandry of animals and natural resources. And so we began our rural library program. The school was called after the name of the village, Kahaurura.

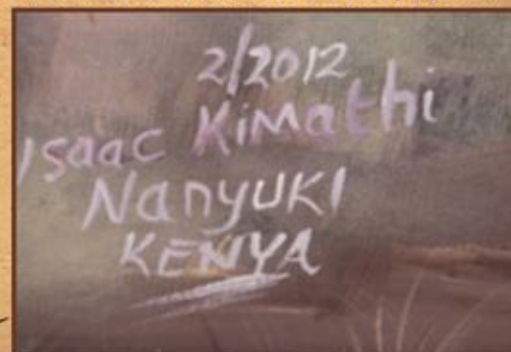
On one visit, I had with me a friend from America and we rode up the mountain on horseback to visit the school. My friend, Jane Gaston, was not only a world-class equestrian, but an excellent painter whose

works included designs for a fine bone china from Wedgewood Franciscan called "Rafiki", which proceeds from the sales she donated to the foundation. Jane loved our small rural library and was most impressed by some of the drawings made in pencil by one of the local children who had only seen animal images in the magazines, books and posters we provided to the library.

The boy's name was Isaac, and he was small for his age and behind scholastically, both due in great part to his poverty and lack of good nutrition, but he had the eye of an artist and Jane recognized his untapped potential. Over the next years, until the villagers were moved off the mountain, Jane provided Isaac with drawing and painting materials, and how-to books. She also sponsored his school fees which included food. Isaac's work flowered under the influence of the physical and artistic material Jane provided.

Today Isaac can feed not only himself but his entire family, all of whom have prospered as a result of Isaac's talents. This is truly a fairy tale that has turned out to be one of our happiest true life stories. Isaac gives full credit to Jane and to the foundation which has stood by him for many years. To show his appreciation, Isaac donated a painting to our library as a gift. We have installed it in a place of honor for all to see and understand his story.

*Stefanie Rivers*





# News from the Wild, In Brief

## MTN. GORILLAS TEACH THEMSELVES TO DESTROY POACHER'S SNARES

**C**onservationists say a trio of juvenile mountain gorillas in Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park has learned how to find and successfully dismantle traps set by poachers. The endangered great apes live where poachers occasionally set snares to capture antelope and other small game.

According to *National Geographic*, the traps aren't powerful enough to harm adult gorillas, but baby gorillas may be injured or killed. In August, a female infant died after being caught in such a trap.

The traps are illegal, because they threaten the local mountain gorillas, which are already on the brink of extinction. So, human trackers comb the park daily for snares set by illegal poachers, dismantling them as they find them. But a curious thing happened on a recent snare hunt.

According to *National Geographic*: *On Tuesday, tracker John Ndayambaje spotted a trap very close to the Kuryama gorilla clan. He moved in to deactivate the snare, but a silverback named Vubu grunted, cautioning Ndayambaje to stay away.*

*Suddenly two juveniles, Rwema, a male, and Dukore, a female, both about four years old, ran toward the trap. As the tracker and tourists watched, Rwema jumped on the bent tree branch and broke it, while Dukore freed the noose."*



The pair then spied another snare, one the tracker had missed, and raced for it. Assisted by a third juvenile named Tetero, they destroyed that trap as well.

As of 2010, experts estimate only 790 mountain gorillas exist in the wild, but thanks to conservation efforts, their population has been rising steadily since reaching a nadir in the early 1980's.

*"Until one has loved an animal,  
a part of one's soul remains unawakened."*

- Anatole France, French novelist and 1921 Nobelist in Literature

## TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR CARIBBEAN CORAL REEFS

**U**rgent measures must be taken to limit pollution and regulate aggressive fishing practices that threaten the existence of Caribbean coral reef ecosystems, according to a new IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) report.

Average live coral cover on Caribbean reefs has declined to just 8% of the reef today, compared with more than 50% in the 1970s according to the report's findings. Rates of decline on most reefs show no signs of slowing, although the deterioration of live coral cover on more remote reefs in the Netherlands Antilles, Cayman Islands and elsewhere is less pronounced—with up to 30% cover still surviving. These areas are less exposed to human impact as well as to natural disasters such as hurricanes.

"The major causes of coral decline are well known and include over-fishing, pollution, disease

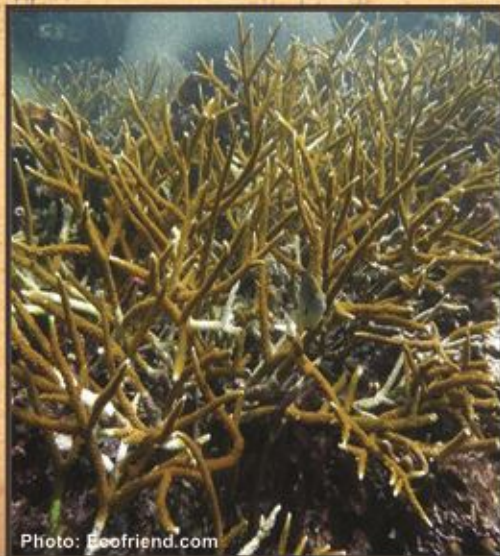


Photo: Ecofriend.com

and bleaching caused by rising temperatures resulting from the burning of fossil fuels," says Carl Gustaf Lundin, Director of IUCN's Global Marine and Polar Programme.

"Looking forward, there is an urgent need to immediately and drastically reduce all human impacts if coral reefs and the vitally important fisheries that depend on them are to survive in the decades to come."

IUCN is calling for strictly enforced local action to improve the health of corals, including limits on fishing via catch quotas, an extension of marine protected areas (MPAs), a halt to nutrient runoff from land and a reduction on the global reliance on fossil fuels.

Through the IUCN-coordinated Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN), there are also moves to strengthen the data available concerning coral reef decline at a world-wide level.

The study was conducted in an extensive fashion by digging through various reefs to observe the time-line in decline of the coral reefs. Both healthy and declining reef samples from as far back as 1800 were removed and examination showed that increased deforestation for agricultural use in turn spurred an increase in the accumulation of silt, pollutants and land nutrients that run into the ocean. Over-fishing also has led to a drastic decline in reef fish that feed on algae, allowing the algae to blanket the reefs and prevent further coral growth.



# Good News for American Jaguars

## 838,000 ACRES PROTECTED FOR HABITAT

**A**ccording to The Center for Biological Diversity, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today formally proposed to protect 838,232 acres — an area larger than the state of Rhode Island — as critical habitat for endangered jaguars in southern Arizona and New Mexico.

"Jaguars once roamed across the United States, from California to Louisiana, but have been virtually extinct here since the 1950s," said Kieran Suckling, executive director of the Center for Biological Diversity, which has worked for almost 20 years to bring back American jaguars. "Today's habitat proposal will ensure that North America's largest cat returns to the wild mountains and deserts of the Southwest. Jaguars are a spectacular part of our natural heritage and belong to every American — just as surely as bald eagles, wolves and grizzly bears."

Like the gray wolf, jaguars were driven from the United States by federal and state predator-killing programs. Over the past two decades, however, the animals have begun recolonizing Arizona and New Mexico. Macho B, the last jaguar known to have crossed into the United States from Mexico, was killed in a botched state capture effort in 2009.

Jaguars were listed as an endangered species in 1997, in response to a petition by scientists and a lawsuit by the Center for Biological Diversity. In 2007, the American Society of Mammalogists declared that establishing a U.S.

population is essential to the species' long-term survival in light of ecosystem changes wrought by global warming. It called on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to prepare a federal jaguar recovery plan and protect its habitat. The proposal comes in response to a 2009 court order, secured by the Center, requiring the Service to prepare a recovery plan and designate critical habitat to ensure the species' recovery.

"You can't protect endangered species without protecting the places they live," said Suckling.

"Species with protected critical habitat recover twice as fast as those without it. This wild expanse of habitat is a huge boost to the return of jaguars to the American Southwest."

The critical habitat proposal, which will be finalized within a year, spans six units in Arizona's Pima, Santa Cruz and Cochise counties, and Hidalgo County, New Mexico.



Photo: Wikimedia Commons, by Pascal Blachier

It includes:

- 138,975 acres in the Baboquivari Mountains, Arizona
- 143,578 acres in the Tumacacori, Atascosa and Pajarito mountains, Arizona
- 343,033 acres in the Santa Rita, Patagonia and Huachuca mountains and the Canelo Hills, Arizona
- 105,498 acres in Arizona's Whetstone Mountains, including connections to the Santa Rita and Huachuca Mountains
- 99,559 acres in the Peloncillo Mountains, AZ and NM
- 7,590 acres in the San Luis Mountains, New Mexico

## SUPPORT WHWF WITH A DONATION

I want to carry on with the work of the William Holden Wildlife Foundation.

Enclosed is my contribution of: ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donate online to the Julie D. Powers Memorial Library at [www.whwf.org/powers.html](http://www.whwf.org/powers.html)

☐ Please check this box if your donation is for the Julie Powers Memorial Library

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Please make checks payable to the William Holden Wildlife Foundation



# WHWF Merchandise



## TOTES \$10

100% cotton canvas, 15" x 16", long 24" strap, natural with hunter green imprint.

Also available: black-maned lion, Masai ostrich, and chimpanzee.

## PLUSH TOYS \$27

### 2 NEW ITEMS



Elephant & monkey are 11" tall standing, 7" sitting.



5" H x 6.25" L

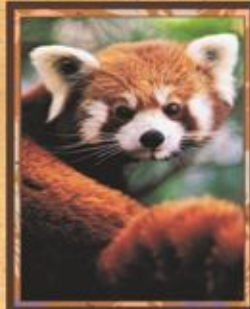
## GREVY'S ZEBRA by NOVELINO \$110

From a collection made exclusively for the WHWF by Novelino, the artisans have given these handcrafted sculptures their careful attention by reproducing each minute detail of these beautiful and exotic creatures. Each limited edition piece has been discreetly signed under the base by WHWF president, Stefanie Powers. Please visit [www.whwf.org/novelino.html](http://www.whwf.org/novelino.html) for the pieces that are currently available.

## GREETING CARDS

All-occasion cards now sold individually online at [www.whwf.org/greetingcards.html](http://www.whwf.org/greetingcards.html).

Holiday cards available for \$12 (boxed set of 10).



Inside verse: Another year older, and you're still irresistible! Happy Birthday!

## T-SHIRTS \$20

All of our t-shirts are imprinted with soy-based inks. Our off-white logo t-shirts are made of Fortrel EcoSpun, produced from recycled plastic bottle caps. Our dark green and black t-shirts are 100% cotton.



Please specify color and size

White Imprint on Dark Green

## COFFEE MUGS \$14



11 oz. beige ceramic mug with dark green imprint.

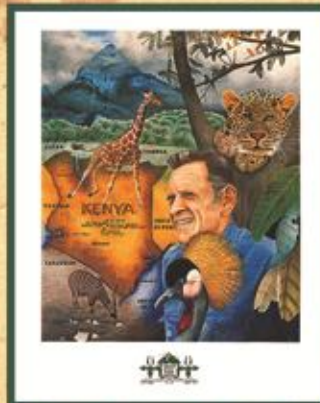


## SAFARI CAPS \$20

Adjustable, 100% cotton, unconstructed cap with velcro closure and embroidered WHWF patch. Your choice of Navy, White or Khaki.



## BANDANAS \$12



## POSTER \$15

## MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

All items are available at our online store at [www.whwf.org](http://www.whwf.org). If you would like any items gift wrapped and sent as holiday gifts, along with a card that indicates it is from you, please supply the full names and mailing addresses of recipients, as well as who the gifts are from. Call our office with any questions.

Name

Address

City

State  Zip

Phone

Email

Please send check or money order to: William Holden Wildlife Foundation, Post Office Box 16637, Beverly Hills, CA 90209

ITEM	PRICE	QTY	S/H	TOTAL
<b>NEW! WHWF Plush Toys</b> SHIPPING: \$6 U.S. / \$7 CAN / \$9 INTL <input type="checkbox"/> ELEPHANT <input type="checkbox"/> MONKEY	\$27		\$6	
WHWF Mug	SHIPPING: \$4 U.S. / \$5 CAN / \$7 INTL \$14		\$4	
WHWF Bandana	SHIPPING: \$2 U.S. / \$4 CAN / \$6 INTL \$12		\$2	
<b>NEW! GREVY'S ZEBRA by Novelino</b>	\$110		\$20	
WHWF Poster	\$15		\$3	
WHWF Tote Bag	SHIPPING: \$3 U.S. / \$5 CAN / \$7 INTL \$10		\$3	
Christmas Cards (boxed set)	SHIPPING: \$3 U.S. / \$5 CAN / \$7 INTL \$12		\$3	
WHWF Logo T-Shirts (please indicate size/color selection) Recycled Bottle Cap T-shirt (Off-White Only) Size: <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL	SHIPPING: \$2 U.S. / \$4 CAN / \$6 INTL \$20		\$2	
100% COTTON Size: <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> XL Color: <input type="checkbox"/> DARK GREEN <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK	\$20		\$2	
Safari Caps Color: <input type="checkbox"/> NAVY <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE <input type="checkbox"/> KHAKI	\$20		\$3	
<b>ORDER TOTAL</b>				