box, we will not know whether the cat is dead or alive.

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As a naïve molecular biologist, I am perplexed by one facet of the problem of Schrödinger's cat as it is usually presented. Why can't the cat be considered an observer and therefore remove the uncertainty about its own life or death status?

Randy Morse
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My 12-year-old daughter Phoebe is a student of quantum paradoxes, but she was concerned about an error in the illustration accompanying the Research News article with regard to feline anatomy. Presumably, even Schrödinger's cat would have foreleg "elbows," not "knees."

Barbara A. B. Seiders
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The title of the Research News article "Schizophrenic atom doubles as Schrödinger's cat—or kitten" perpetuates a misconception about schizophrenia—which is nothing like split personality—and trivializes a potentially disabling mental disorder.

Paul C. S. Hoaken
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"Kitten," as used by Taubes, seems needlessly macroscopic as a metaphor for a single trapped atom. How about "Schrödinger's furball"?

Andrew Ahlgren
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■

Monkey Business

Presidential hopeful Pat Buchanan's assertion (described in News & Comment, 26 July, p. 421) that he personally is not descended from monkeys explains a lot to those of us who *are* from this planet.

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Corrections and Clarifications

In the letter "Risks from low doses of radiation: Continued" by Marvin Goldman (2 Aug., p. 562), the reference in the last paragraph on page 563 should have been "(3)" not "(2)."

The WWW address for Pedro at the end of note 3 in the letter "Not the 'Dark Ages' " by W. C. Barker and R. S. Ledley (12 July, p. 165) was incorrect. The correct address is http://www.public.iastate.edu/~pedro/rt_1.html

The WWW address for the document of the Council of Tobacco Research listed in the response by Jon Cohen (Letters, 12 July, p. 167) was incorrect. The correct address is http://galen.library.ucsf.edu/tobacco/docs/html/1916.01/1916.01.1.html

In the references (p. 16) of the letter by Darwin R. Labarthe about "Battling heart disease" (5 July, p. 15), references 3, 4, and 5 should have been listed as one reference, "3," and reference 6 should have been listed as "4." The numbers 1–4 as they appeared in the text were correct.

The figure (p. 47) showing the age distribution of the population of Europe (News, C. Holden, "New populations of old add to poor nations' burdens," 5 July, p. 46) was incorrect. The correct figure is shown below.