

T H E

Latham Letter

VOLUME XXXVII, NUMBER 4

FALL 2016

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

SINGLE ISSUE PRICE: \$5.00

Jumping for Joy: Compassionate Connections

By Rachel Blackman,
Marin Humane Society Volunteer

➔ See page 6



Harrison and Remy

ALSO INSIDE FALL 2016



What is a "Pets for
Educators" Program?
Find out from Atlanta
Humane pg 11

A Fun New Activity
for You and Your Dog:
Nose Work pg 12

American Humane's
Hero Dogs pg 14

Housing for Baby Boomers
and their Dogs pg 15

THE MANDATE: Edith Latham's MANDATE:

"To promote, foster,
encourage and
further the
principles of
humaneness,
kindness and
benevolence to
all living creatures."



© 2016 The Latham Foundation for the
Promotion of Humane Education

The Latham Letter

Balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities

Subscriptions: \$15 One year US; \$25 Two years US. Canadian or Mexican subscribers, please add \$5 per year for postage. All other countries, please add \$12 per year. All amounts US Dollars. Subscribe at www.latham.org.

Associate Memberships: Support our work and receive exclusive online distribution of each Latham Letter plus 20% discounts on videos, DVDs, and publications. \$30 One year; \$57 Two years (save \$3); \$84 Three years (save \$6). Join online at www.latham.org.

Search the *Latham Letter* archives by topic and learn more about all our products and services at www.Latham.org or call 510-521-0920.
The Latham Foundation, 1320 Harbor Bay Pkwy, Suite 200, Alameda, CA 94502-6581

The Latham Letter

Volume XXXVII, Number 4, Fall 2016

**BALANCED PERSPECTIVES ON
HUMANE ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES**



The *Latham Letter* is published quarterly by The Latham Foundation, 1320 Harbor Bay Pkwy, Suite 200, Alameda, CA 94502-6581.

Subscription Rates: \$15.00 One Year, \$25.00 for Two Years

Publisher and Editor	Hugh H. Tebault, III
Managing Editor	Judy Johns
Printer	FolgerGraphics, Inc., Hayward, CA
Design	Joann Toth, Fountain Hills, AZ

The *Latham Letter* welcomes manuscripts relevant to the Foundation's interests, but reserves the right to publish such manuscripts at its discretion.

CONCERNING REPRINT PERMISSION:

Permission from the Latham Foundation to reproduce articles or other materials that appear in *The Latham Letter* is not required except when such material is attributed to another publication and/or authors other than the editors of this publication. In that case, permission from them is necessary. When republishing, please use this form of credit: "Reprinted with permission from *The Latham Letter*, (date), quarterly publication of the Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education, 1320 Harbor Bay Pkwy, Suite 200, Alameda, CA 94502-6581, 510-521-0920, www.Latham.org. Latham would appreciate receiving two copies of publications in which material is reproduced.

ABOUT THE LATHAM FOUNDATION:

The Latham Foundation is a 501(c)(3) private operating foundation founded in 1918 to promote respect for all life through education. The Foundation makes grants-in-kind rather than monetary grants. Latham welcomes partnerships with other institutions and individuals who share its commitment to furthering humane education.

TO CONTACT LATHAM:

Voice: 510-521-0920
Fax: 510-521-9861
E-mail: info@Latham.org
Web: www.Latham.org

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Ms. Stacy Baar
Mr. Eric Bruner
Ms. Denise Cahalan
Mr. James Olson
Mr. Hugh H. Tebault, III
Mrs. Mary Tebault
Ms. Joan Turmaine
Ms. Betsy Van Sicklen-Cohen

CONTENTS:



EDITORIAL:

An Address to Teachers from the
December 1929 *Kind News Messenger*
Dolores Wilkins Kent **4, 10**



Of Note **5**

COVER STORY:

Jumping for Joy:
Compassionate Connections **6**
By Rachel Blackman

Atlanta Humane Launches Innovative
"Pets for Educators" Program **11**
By Jason Taylor, CHES

Is Canine Nose Work Right for You? **12**
By Molly Stenhouse

Courageous Canine Who Survived Terrible
Ordeal and Now Spends Life Helping Others
Wins Top Title of "American Hero Dog" at the
2016 American Humane Hero Dog Awards® . . . **14**

Forward Thinking:
Dogs are being written into
residential master plans **15**
*Reprinted courtesy of The BARK
(Fall 2016) and author Susan Tasaki*



Media Reviews and Resources **16**

Latham's award-winning HelpMeHelpYou
DVD Series **22**



Published in the *Kind Deeds Messenger*, December 1929

ADDRESS TO TEACHERS

As delivered by Dolores Wilkins Kent at the Rosecrucian Fellowship, San Francisco, during the week dedicated to the Animal Kingdom.

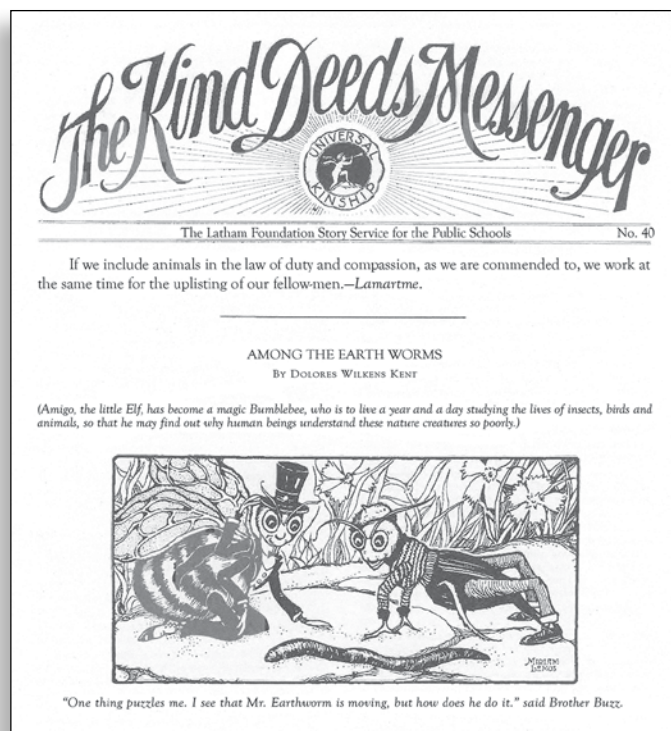
Upon the balance wheel of kindness rests today the destiny of the world. We are witnessing the dawn of a new peace movement, sponsored by the leaders of thought and backed by the aspirations of all civilized humanity.

If the seeds of kindness had been planted in the youthful heart of Caesar, the history of Rome might have been different. The bloody imprint of cruelty is on every page of the book of life.

Juvenile crime is seriously troubling state and federal government; the narcotic evil is grasping in its pale distorted hands the very flower of the nation. It is imperative that statesman, educators and parents should work together to save the most cherished possession – the child.

In order to do this a weapon to protect itself must be given to the one in danger and one of the surest weapons seems to be humane education. Its value as a cornerstone in the character building of the child is being proven in our public schools.

We are having the pleasure of seeing the seeds that the Latham Foundation planted some years ago ripen to a beautiful harvest in many of the surrounding schools.



The reports from superintendents, principals and teachers show the ethical value of humane education is developing the relations of the child to its classmate, teacher and parents as well as the animal.

Our school magazine, story-board and play projects, poster and essay contests and the Kind Deeds Club established in the schools by our lecturer, all this work co-relating and blending with the curriculum of study, are developing the sense of responsibility, personal relationship, and kindness in the pupil, not only for the animals or bird pets he may have or contact, but in all human relationships. This sense of responsibility toward others involves a right amount of self-sacrifice and of the understanding of the oneness of all creation.

Humane education, rightly understood, means kindness, love, mercy and justice; these principles implanted in the heart and mind of the child will never be forgotten. They will firmly become part of his nature.

Youth has never needed a guide more than today, when the aftermath of war, the luxuries and convenience of our modern life, the very achievements of science place a thousand-fold

Teachers, continued on page 10



SAVE THE DATES! SAVE THE DATES!



THE ASSOCIATION OF HUMANE EDUCATORS (APHE) NATIONAL CONFERENCE

April 5-7, 2017

Conference details at APHE.org

Green Chimneys 2017 Human-Animal Interaction Conference: Building Connections – Children, Animals and Healthy Families

Friday April 28 & Saturday April 29, 2017

Green Chimneys • 400 Doansburg Rd., Brewster, NY 10509

Be a part of a two-day meeting that will explore human-animal interaction through the lens of “the family.”



Conference homepage: www.greenchimneys.org/hai2017/

Free Humane Education Materials for Disaster-Affected Animal Welfare and Rescue Organizations



Charleston, SC shelter that welcomed flood victims and their pets

Latham has initiated a program to help replace educational tools that were lost or damaged during the recent floods and tornados. To assist in recovery efforts and add to the good work of many of the organizations that are assisting victims, Latham will provide free humane education materials to any shelter impacted by the recent natural disasters.

Organizations whose materials have been lost or damaged are invited to select up to three Latham books and five DVDs with which to begin rebuilding their educational programs.

Shelters should contact Latham by phone or email to arrange to participate in this program. We ask only that they agree to pay the shipping costs.

“I love a dog. He does nothing for political reasons.”

— WILL ROGERS



Jumping for Joy:

Compassionate Connections

By Rachel Blackman,
Marin Humane Society Volunteer

Photos courtesy of Kathie Meier



Running with Chudleigh in the tunnel

I never thought anyone would look at me and feel inspired or look to me for guidance. I had always been the one looking for someone and waiting for a hand to guide me. But then I found my inspiration and support from my community; Jumping for Joy was the result.

Jumping for Joy is a six-week class where kids with autism learn how to lead a dog through a canine agility course. I started Jumping for Joy for my Girl Scout Gold Award, but it really was for my cousin Joseph. Joseph is autistic; he is different, not broken. I created this program so kids like him would have a chance to be themselves, be happy, and learn. I made it so they could Jump for Joy.

I combined the inspiration from my cousin with my years of volunteering at the Marin Humane Society in Novato, Calif. As part of my volunteer assignments I had the privilege of working with animal-assisted therapy teams. These amazing volunteers bring their dogs to programs all over the community, sharing their time and their dogs. I also knew a wonderful special education teacher who works with students on the autism spectrum. I had some connections, which was a start. With support from many, lots of planning and hard work, my idea became a reality.

Jumping for Joy allows each student the opportunity to work on an agility course with a trained animal-assisted therapy team (volunteer and their dog). The agility work is only a part of the class. Allowing the dogs to work their magic by providing reassurance and nonjudgmental acceptance to the student is the “therapy” part of the program. The goal of Jumping for Joy is to give each child the chance to increase their confidence and social skills, while problem solving in a fun and safe way. Other benefits are the unconditional love a dog can offer and

the lessons the students learn about respect and care for animals.

Having an idea and a dream to start a program is great, but there are many things to consider. I wanted to be sure the program was something the Marin Humane Society wanted and that it could be sustainable. I did not want to just have one class and be done. I was hopeful it could become a part of the permanent offerings at the organization. So, I needed to be sure it was going to be successful.

I learned you need to be ready to ask for help from the right people. My mentors included the teacher from a local school who had many years of experience working with students on the autism spectrum and the Humane Education Coordinator at the Marin Humane Society. One of the biggest challenges was creating lesson plans for each week. I wanted Jumping for Joy to include goals for life skills along with humane education. Each week's lesson highlights these goals that I call compassionate connections. For example, learning how to meet the dogs was both a safety lesson and a social

lesson. Learning the order of the agility equipment was a memory and sequencing lesson. The water break for the dogs models pet care and empathy. Each participant received a treat bag and drool towel (small towel that clipped to the students' pants). The treat bags assisted with teaching positive reinforcement training using praise and reward; the drool towels promoted self-care, as they could wipe drool off their hands. These towels really helped the majority of students because of the sensory aspect of autism.

Understanding my audience was also very important. I wanted to be sure I was communicating in a way that was comfortable and effective for all the participants.



Jonathan is cueing Katie to jump through the tire.



Alex jumping. It is important for the kids to try the course.

Rachel and volunteer encouraging Michelle



“ I created this program so kids like my cousin Joseph, who is autistic, would have a chance to be themselves, be happy, and learn. I made it so they could Jump for Joy. ”



Hank is praising Remy for a job well done.



Rachel helping Michelle lead Katie over the jump

Kids on the spectrum see the world very differently and all their senses are filtered differently than the average person. I had to be ready to individualize the lessons for each student. One child needed to wear gloves, while another needed to walk the course and recite the colors of each piece of equipment before he was ready to learn.

The volunteer animal-assisted therapy teams in the program are beyond amazing. They were so supportive, even when I nervously led a half-day training to introduce Jumping for Joy. All the volunteers recruited for Jumping for Joy had experience volunteering in special education classrooms. They had great suggestions and were ready to learn more and support me as a leader. Their enthusiasm was encouraging and pushed me to the finish line.

The first Jumping for Joy class in 2012 was a wonderful success. I made many changes and additions over the six weeks. I taught them the cues for the dogs and

smile at their success, get a high five and in one special student's case, take a bow. They all reveled in the applause!

I know I learned more than my students. I saw them become confident, independent, and less fearful and I felt the same growth in myself. I saw smiles on their faces when they could finally do something they loved by themselves. I'm proud that I could do that for them, and the many more kids that will participate in Jumping for Joy in the future.



Michael and Aaron working Katie on the dog walk

ran the course with them until they could do it by themselves. There were tears, giggles, and deep breaths, but I led us all back to beginning. We practiced going over the jumps through the tire, over the A-frame and through the tunnel, ending at the agility table. The agility table became the students' stage, where they would

“ **Jumping for Joy**
allows each student
the opportunity to work
on an agility course with
a trained animal-assisted
therapy team (volunteer
and their dog). ”



Zachary is very proud of his work with Charlotte.

There is an article about Jumping for Joy in the winter 2013 issue of *Bark* magazine written by one of the volunteers in the program. She is also a photographer and has captured each class since they began. There were also three different local news stories featuring different aspects of the program! However the best part of all was that in 2016, the Marin Humane Society received a grant to spread the word about Jumping for Joy to other shelters. I finalized all the details on the program from all I had learned teaching four years of classes. The program package includes lessons, resources, and forms, everything needed to start a program. The Jumping for Joy: Compassionate Connections workshop was presented at the APHE, Association for Professional Humane Educators Conference in 2016 and several humane societies were very interested in starting their own programs.

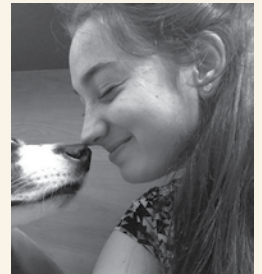
After I visited Maine's Kennebunk Animal Welfare Society in June 2016, they finalized their plans to start a Jumping for Joy program in September 2016!

In 2014 I trained a new student volunteer to help with the program. When I am away at college the kids will still have a peer to work with instead of only adults. Working with their peers is another special part of Jumping for Joy. It makes the class more enjoyable, creating a successful experience.

Jumping for Joy has grown beyond my original idea. The compassionate connections continue at the Marin Humane Society and are reaching across the country.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rachel Blackman loves animals. She shares her home with Marin Humane Society alumni Duncan the dog and Snowflake the cat (one of many foster kittens). Rachel graduated from Sir Francis Drake High School in 2014 and is currently a student at Dominican University of California, in San Rafael. She has her own pet-sitting business called: No Place Like Home.



She started volunteering when she was nine years old and has been recognized for her hard work and dedication to animals with several awards: Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership Heart of Marin Youth Volunteer of the Year Award (2011); the Helena & Anthony Franklin Memorial Humane Student Award (2012); Youth Service America Summer Service Award (2014).



Graduation Day!

If you would like to receive the packet of information and/or have volunteers or staff visit your organization to teach you how to start your own Jumping for Joy class, please contact Chelsea Fairbanks, Humane Education Coordinator at the Marin Humane Society at cfairbanks@marinhumanesociety.org or 415-506-6288.





more pitfalls for its feet than ever before. Humane education is undoubtedly one of the lights to guide these footsteps safely along life's way.

I should like to illustrate just what it means by an incident that has happened in one of our schools. Our lecturer was told that a certain child would be quite impossible to do anything with, that he had just come to the school, but that they were finding him very much like "a rotten apple in a box" he was rapidly inciting the other children to disobedience and rebellion.

Our lecturer watched the boy; he was about 10 years of age; he seemed very surly and sneered openly at her work, trying to distract the attention of the pupils near him. This continued for several visits and she felt her grip upon the pupils slipping, due to this one influence. One morning when she arrived a little girl brought into the classroom a sparrow that had injured a wing so that it could not fly, but could hop and walk perfectly.

For some reason it was quite fearless and while she was talking hopped down the aisle straight to this boy's desk, it stood looking saucily up at him and chirping. The other children held their breath fearing that he should hurt the bird, but he sat quietly. Suddenly our lecturer had an

inspiration. She said, "He likes you; I really think that he will have to be your bird; will you take good care of him?"

This was the key that unlocked the heart of the boy. The bird chose him; she trusted him to take care of it; responsiveness, love and kindness were developed. Today, this boy is one of the most trusted and liked pupils in the school and president of the Kind Deeds Club of his class. His character was gradually changed by the understanding and responsibility developed by humane education.

One lad in another of our country schools surely has the club spirit at heart. His neighbors are an elderly couple and the old gentleman is seriously crippled by rheumatism. This boy had been tending their garden and is planting vegetables, refusing to take any money in payment for this kind service.

So in time will this future generation become the citizens of tomorrow banish the cruelties that man in his ignorance inflicts upon man and in such large measure upon the animals.

Universal kinship must be born and fostered in the heart of man, then and only then will the world know lasting peace.



MANY THANKS . . .

from all of us at Latham to the writers, photographers, and collaborators who make the Latham Letter possible.

Your balanced views on humane issues and activities reach thousands through our subscriber list, at conferences, and on our website, which is searchable by author and topic.

We are grateful for your time and energy, your creativity, and your shared belief in the importance of communicating respect for all.



Atlanta Humane Launches Innovative “Pets for Educators” Program

By Jason Taylor, CHES



In July, the Atlanta Humane Society (AHS) launched its first ever “Pets for Educators” program. This program provided fee-waived adoptions for all teachers, school faculty and staff, as well as retirees, as a way to say thank you to the community’s hard-working teams of educators.

“We reach thousands of students in schools across the metro Atlanta area through our Humane Education Programs,” said Jason Taylor, AHS Director of Youth Education Initiatives. “We see firsthand the teachers’ impact on future generations, and we felt like this would be a way to give back to that community and place pets in wonderful homes. Summer break is an ideal time for educators to adopt and spend quality time with new companions.”

We are excited that through the Pets for Educators program 123 dogs and cats were given loving homes by our educator community, accounting for nearly 15% of July’s total adoptions. A big “thank you” to our adoptive pet parents for making an even bigger impact on our community by giving these pets a loving family and home!

“We adopted our sweet Lieutenant Dan to complete our little family. We were looking for an older, smaller dog, and we left with an 8-month hound/boxer mix. He could not be more perfect. He is my big lap baby and loves to play with our year-old Jack Russell! We all

go on hikes and Lieu and I always end up in the back of the group. He is so fun and loves to be outside, but he also loves to cuddle. We could not have found a more perfect match for our family.”

— STEPHANIE & CHRIS GRESHAM, EDUCATORS

The Atlanta Humane Society is so excited to increase adoption numbers with this program, but building a relationship with our educator community was our primary goal. As a burgeoning Humane Education department in a city with plenty of informal outreach programs to choose from, awareness is the key to AHS getting into classrooms in need of our programming. We were thrilled to discover that 100% of these adopters were new to our educator email distribution list and have not yet participated in our programming. We now have opportunities to reach these new schools and classrooms across the Atlanta metro area.

After experiencing such positive results and feedback, we encourage shelters to consider offering your own Pets for Educators program! Notably, it is important to run this type of program at the ideal time for educators, when they have time to get to know, train and establish a bond with their new pet(s). Fortunately, most educators have a summer break, which is perfect to adopt a brand-new family pet, and in Georgia, June is the first full month of summer. When originally proposed, our Pets for Educators program was set to run in June, but due to unavoidable shelter logistics, we were unable to facilitate the program until July. We look forward to implementing the program in June in 2017 to be even more impactful to our educators, which will then lead to even more adoptions, as well as higher program participation.

Please contact me at jtaylor@atlantahumane.org if you have any questions on how to put together a similar program at your shelter, and I will share with you a Pets for Educators toolkit, which includes our program proposal, marketing collateral and other materials to help you get started.



Jason Taylor, Certified Humane Education Specialist, started working in the education field in 1996 and has worked in various environmental and humane education roles ever since. Today, he works as Director of Youth Education Initiatives at the Atlanta Humane Society, developing and facilitating Humane Education programs to the Atlanta metropolitan area.



Is Canine Nose Work Right for You?

By Molly Stenhouse

Recent retiree Judy had been an animal-lover all her life. The troubled ones – the lucky ones – somehow found their way to her.

For example Papillon Bitsy had lived a difficult three years as a breeding dog in a puppy mill until Judy adopted her from a rescue agency. It was no surprise that Bitsy came with challenges. Judy remembers that “Bitsy was so scared of people she would bark at anyone.” Her time outdoors had to be limited due to severe environmental allergies and she suffered from Intervertebral Disc Disease, which meant that Judy had to keep her calm so she wouldn’t hurt herself.

With so many hardships, Judy wondered how she could ever give Bitsy a better quality of life. Then one day a local doggie-day-care owner encouraged her to try Intro to Nose Work, the first class in the K9 Nose Work series. “I’d never done any kind of dog training,” says Judy, “but I was open to trying anything.” She was encouraged to observe how eagerly Bitsy responded to simple tasks, such as finding the box with the hidden treat, and Judy was encouraged. As she learned more about nose work, her interest in it grew too. Her dogs liked it, and after all, she was having fun too.



K9 Nose Work, as the name implies, is founded on the canine drug-detection training method. At the first level, the dog is trained to find a treat (a primary reward). To advance, the dog has to find an object scented with birch, anise, or clove, the discovery of which earns them a treat or a toy, (a secondary reward). Dogs are extremely talented at detecting and analyzing odor; their noses are 10,000 to 100,000 more acute than ours, and they can even perceive which nostril an odor entered. Imagine the ability to find one rotten apple in a barrel of 10,000!

Judy and Bitsy now compete as a team in nose work trials around the country. The first trial was held in 2009 by the National Association of Canine Scent Work. Since then, over 135 trials have been held in 17 states. “Competitions are relaxed,” says Judy, “it’s just a chance to bond with other dog-lovers.” She also attends frequent casual events with other aficionados, akin to Easter-egg hunts, where dog owners set up fun challenges for their canine pals.

All types of dogs can learn nose work, from high-energy dogs to dogs with physical limitations. When asked what she thinks about it, Judy says, “I wish I had known about nose work with my previous dogs. It gives them a job to do, and they love that.” Dogs don’t have to participate in trials to get the most out of



the sport. Judy always keeps a few boxes in her trunk so she can set up “hides” (search challenges) in the parking lot when she goes grocery shopping. Nose work is easy to do anytime, anywhere.

One extraordinary trend is the training of dogs for help in the environmental and medical fields. Tucker, a conservation K9 Labrador Retriever, has been trained to sniff out whale skat, allowing scientists to collect samples and study the health of the whales. Likewise, Lucy, a mixed-breed dog who failed guide dog school because of her curious nose, has been trained to sniff out bladder, kidney, and prostate cancers in human patients.

Bitsy may not be sniffing for whale poop anytime soon, but she recently won the Harry Award, given to rescue dogs that demonstrate “extraordinary ability and spirit in nose work at the NW1 level.” And that’s good enough for her.



Author Molly Stenhouse is a freelance writer who has lived in the Bay Area for 14 years. She was an editor and blogger for Yahoo! and is working on a novel about her trek on the Camino de Santiago. She was raised in an animal-loving family in South Carolina and now lives in Alameda with Charlotte, an eccentric 17-year-old pastel calico. You can contact her at mollystenhouse@gmail.com or visit her on the Web at www.mollystenhouse.com



THE HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND

Researchers measured women’s cardiovascular reactions to stress in the presence of their dogs, and then with a supportive female friend. The result: The dogs were associated with lower responses to stress than the friends.

The explanation: The dogs aren’t judgmental.

Courtesy of *The Rotarian*
January 2015

More Information:

- ▶ National Association of Canine Scent Work ▪ <https://www.nacsw.net/>
- ▶ Watch Judy and Bitsy in action ▪ <https://www.youtube.com/embed/NvcwyssbHeU>
- ▶ CJ gets his first nose work lesson ▪ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iw5uf5G6clg>



Courageous Canine Who Survived Terrible Ordeal and Now Spends Life Helping Others Wins Top Title of “American Hero Dog” at the 2016 American Humane Hero Dog Awards®

Following nearly a million votes by the American public and the opinions of an expert panel of celebrity animal lovers and dog experts, Hooch, a three-year-old French Mastiff from Tehachapi, California, has been named this year’s most courageous canine, capturing the top title of “American Hero Dog” at the sixth annual American Humane Hero Dog Awards®.

Hooch is a dog with badly cropped ears, a broken tail, and a bright spirit. Zach Skow, of Marley’s Mutts Dog Rescue, learned about him from a shelter in Bakersfield, which told him Hooch would not eat or drink, instead he thrashed his food and water bowls around “like a maniac.” He was 35 pounds underweight, starving and dehydrated, and they thought that a broken or dislocated jaw was causing his behavior. But when he was taken to the vet and sedated for x-raying, a gruesome discovery was made: Hooch’s tongue had been savagely removed at its base, likely in an attempt to prime him for the role of a “bait dog.” Hooch kept removing his feeding tube, but fortunately took well to being hand-fed, tilting his head back while food was placed in the back of his throat, and letting gravity do the work. Despite the terrible injuries inflicted on him by people, Hooch is a heroic example

of bravery, overcoming, and forgiveness. He now works with Marley’s Mutts’ Miracle Mutts division serving as a therapy dog for abused, autistic, and special needs children, helping them with great gentleness, patience and kindness.

A special memorial was also held in honor of last year’s winner, Harley, a tiny, one-eyed Chihuahua who fought to bring attention to the issue of puppy mills.

The Hero Dog Awards were created to celebrate the powerful relationship between dogs and people and recognize extraordinary acts of heroism performed by ordinary dogs.

As Robin Ganzert, American Humane’s President and CEO said, “These courageous canines have gone above and beyond the call of duty, saving lives on the battlefield, comforting the ill, aged and afflicted, bringing hope to those who have lost it, and reminding us of the powerful, age-old bond between animals and people. All eight category winners tonight exemplify what it means to be a hero, and we hope that their stories – and Hooch’s – will inspire people to value our animal friends and to recognize and honor how much they do for us every day.”

Hooch was the one chosen as 2016 American Hero Dog, but all eight finalists were winners in their categories, and we salute them for their courage, service and compassion:

- **Arson Dogs:** Judge from Allentown, Pennsylvania
- **Guide/Hearing Dogs:** Hook from Sacramento, California
- **Law Enforcement Dogs:** K9 Edo from Los Angeles, California
- **Military:** Layka from Gaenak, Kansas
- **Search and Rescue:** Kobuk from Maine
- **Service Dogs:** Gander from Colorado
- **Therapy Dogs:** Mango from Las Cruces, New Mexico

Each of the eight finalists received \$2,500 to be donated by one of American Humane’s charity partners. Hooch won an additional \$5,000 for his charity, Pets for Patriots. In this way, more heroes may be nurtured. For more information, please visit www.americanhumane.org.



Forward Thinking: Dogs are being written into residential master plans



Reprinted courtesy of *The BARK*
(Fall 2016) and author Susan Tasaki

Both single- and multi-family housing areas find that a sense of community can be fostered by something as simple as putting up bulletin boards on which referrals for pet services can be shared or found, or by organizing social hours, dog parades or dog-friendly hikes for their residents.

What's good for dogs can also be good for people; incorporating dog-specific features into residential areas means that those who don't have or don't care for dogs can minimize contact if they wish to do so.

In the end, what we look for when we look for a place to live often depends on what matters to us: a pool, an indoor gym, covered parking? If we share our life with a dog, proximity to a safe and convenient place for the dog to get some exercise, particularly a place we can walk to, is very, very high on the list, as is a community with a welcoming attitude.

Community is, in fact, one of the driving forces behind all of these developments. Many of us seek it out, boomers and millennials perhaps more than most. Among their other qualities, dogs serve as social bridges, facilitators of personal connections, even friendships and romances. As this trend continues to gain traction, one day the "no dogs allowed" sign may be a thing of the past.



While the baby boomer and millennial generations don't have a lot in common beyond sheer size, they do often intersect around dogs. For different reasons, both groups are more likely to have dogs than children in their daily lives, and tend to consider their dogs as members of the family whose needs should be taken into account when choosing how and where to live.

As a result, residential planners, designers and developers are increasingly integrating dog-friendly amenities into their master plans, and programming activities for dog people of all ages.

Inside, elements that make living with dogs more convenient and comfortable are showing up in the form of built-ins that replace crates and provide aesthetically pleasing and convenient gear storage and feeding stations. Transition areas – space off a garage or utility room where dogs can be cleaned up before coming inside – are another popular feature.

Outside, enclosed dog parks are a big draw. Access to safe, roomy off-leash areas close to home and away from traffic are, shall we say, catnip to dog owners. Extras such as sand pits, "splash pads" and weave poles and tunnels are yogurt icing on the dog-food cake. Wide sidewalks, dog-safe (and dog-proof!) landscaping and traffic-calming measures are also popular.

Apartment buildings and condos are getting in on the action as well. Some property developers are incorporating space for dog-grooming facilities (either businesses or tiled rooms with a water source and drying platform where dog owners can do the work themselves), doggie day care or retail pet supply stores into their plans.

Many homeowners' associations (HOAs) are also coming to see the value of accommodating those with dogs. HOAs that either have a high number of dog people in residence or want to attract them are adding everything from waste stations and pickup bags to dog runs.



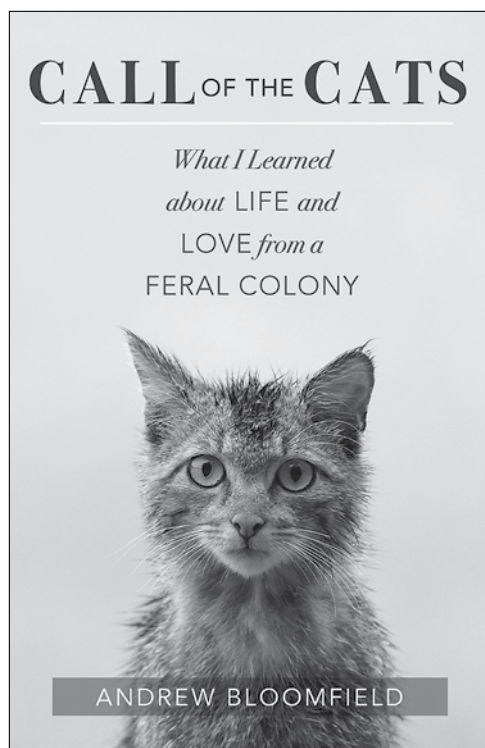
A wealth of information

now available at

https://www.latham.org/latham_resources/national-link-coalition/

The list below is a small selection of the materials available in the **National Resource Center on The Link between Animal Abuse and Human Violence**. Please contact the National Link Coalition for additional information.

- *General Fact Sheets & Overviews of The Link*
- *Domestic Violence and Animal Cruelty*
- *Child Abuse and Animal Cruelty*
- *Elder Abuse and Animal Cruelty*
- *Tools for Local Link Coalitions*
- *Tools for Veterinarians*
- *Tools for Law Enforcement*
- *Tools for Prosecutors*
- *Tools for Social Work*
- *Tools for Health Professionals*
- *National Link Coalition Organizational Documents*



Call of the Cats: What I Learned about Life and Love from a Feral Colony

World traveler and spiritual seeker Andrew Bloomfield moved to Hollywood to break into the movie business. While getting settled into his bungalow, he found a colony of feral cats living behind his new home. After witnessing one too many raccoon attacks and hungry, crying kittens, Bloomfield started to actively care for this wild colony. As a single, middle-aged, child-free man, he had never had the experience of caring for another vulnerable living thing – let alone an entire colony of them. Up until this point, he was more or less self-focused and independent in every way.

“My love affair with this feral cat colony made me challenge my notions of love and family,” Bloomfield says. “These cats became my family. They awoke in me the human impulse to help and protect, to serve and remain vulnerable. They showed me a path to meaning and fulfillment.”

Call of the Cats: What I Learned about Life and Love from a Feral Colony

By Andrew Bloomfield

\$15.95 • 256 pages

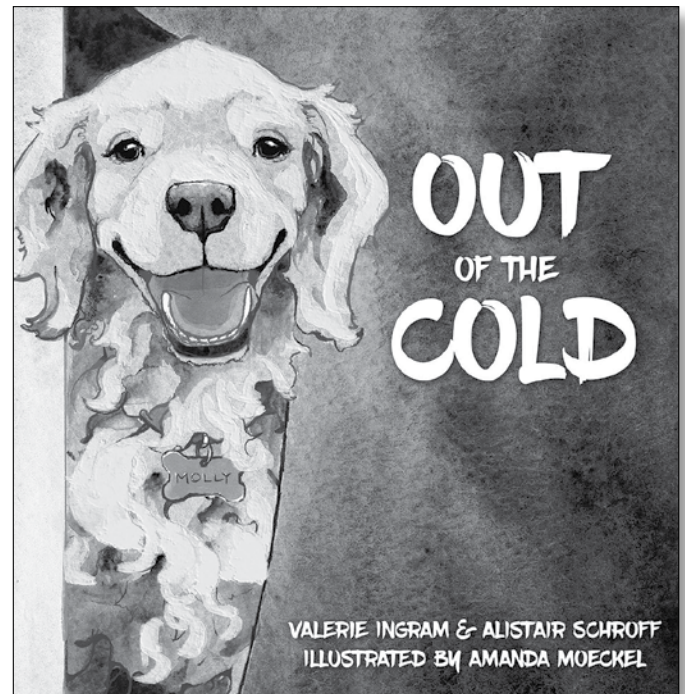
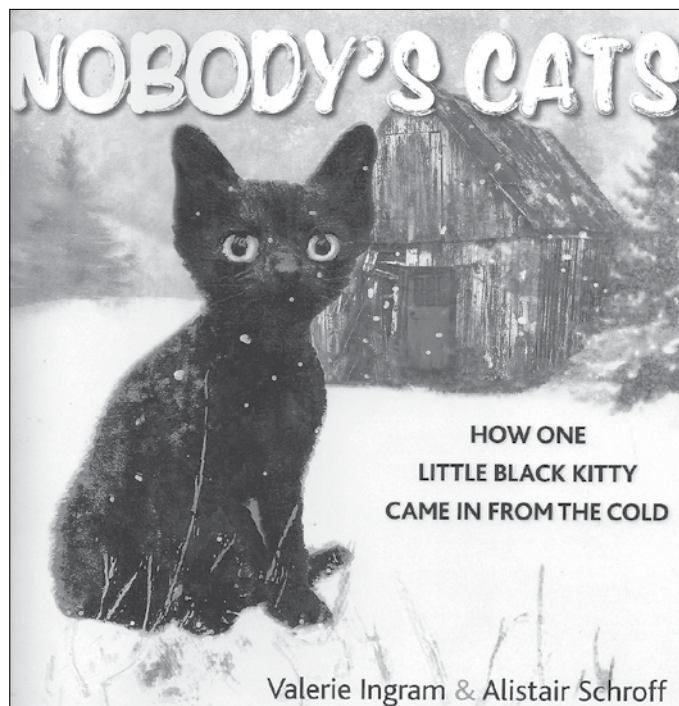
Trade paperback & Ebook • Black & White photographs throughout
ISBN: 978-1-60868-398-7



The Lakes Animal Friendship Society has released its second children's book based on animal care in communities with diverse cultures.

Out of the Cold is based on the true story of the Lakes Animal Friendship Society (LAFS) dog house project, which involved school children in the small northern community of Burns Lake, British Columbia. The students helped build and paint more than 200 dog and cat houses for animals (using the Hofer house design) and sewed beds and blankets for many of the houses.

Both *Out of the Cold* and their first book, *Nobody's Cats*, below, feature northern settings and communities with diverse cultures, including "student superheroes" from the First Nations. As author and LAFS president Valerie Ingram says: "There are several purposes to the books: education, celebration and inspiration. Certainly there are educational messages about animal care and compassion, but we also want to celebrate the accomplishments of our students and community. By distributing the books across North America and around the world we hope to inspire other children and groups to take practical action to help the animals and their own communities."



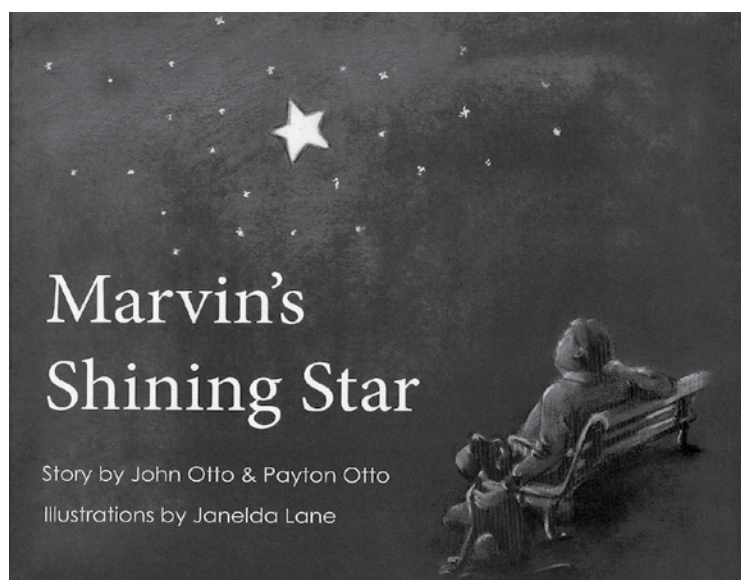
More than 13,000 copies of *Nobody's Cats* have already been distributed worldwide. *Out of the Cold* is Valerie Ingram and Alistair Schroff's first collaboration with New York-based artist Amanda Moeckel, prompting this comment:

"This beautifully-illustrated book, which is based on a true story, is a winner in every way. There's no blame, no finger-pointing, and no preaching – Out of the Cold is a slice of reality in a world of harsh economy and cold winters. It's just frightening enough to keep readers on the edges of their seats; but don't worry, thanks to the good-hearted and creative people in the community, it has a very happy ending."

JUDY JOHNS, M.S.

THE LATHAM FOUNDATION

Both books are available for \$10 each (shipping included) directly from the Lakes Animal Friendship Society – please contact Valerie@lakesanimalfriendship.ca. Bulk order discounts and discounts for humane education and animal welfare groups are available. All proceeds will go to education, the dog house project, and other programs of the Lakes Animal Friendship Society.



Marvin's Shining Star ***A True Story about second chances*** ***by John Otto and Payton Otto***

This heart warming and beautifully-illustrated book honors Marvin Perry who, while an inmate at Lexington Correctional Center in Lexington, Oklahoma, trained a dog he named "Star" to be a world class search and rescue responder. He accomplished this through the Friends for Folks prison dog program. **You'll learn more about Friends for Folks in the next *Latham Letter*.**

The book describes Marvin's inspiring life and one frightening night when Star outshone rescue helicopters and professional police search dogs by finding and saving an elderly woman trapped in a steep ravine. Their story inspired many of his fellow inmates to atone for their wrongs and find confidence and purpose in life by training dogs for adoption as loving companions.

Friends for Folks is one of the oldest prison dog programs in the United States, having been started by veterinarian Grant Turnwald in 1990. The program has saved more than 1,000 rescue and shelter dogs. Author and veterinarian John Otto began volunteering with Friends for Folks in 1996. Co-author Payton Otto loves animals, especially dogs and cats, like his father does.

Marvin's story and other such prison dog program success stories have convinced more than one tough-on-crime advocate that rehabilitation is indeed possible.

Sister Pauline Quinn started the first prison dog program in 1981 at Purdy Women's Prison in Washington State. Latham produced a film about this program ("Prison Pet Partnership").

As of 2014, there were prison dog programs in thirty-four states and several countries.

Marvin's Shining Star

By John Otto and Payton Otto

ISBN: 978-1-937054-77-9 • *The RoadRunnerPress.com* • \$17.95

A portion of the proceeds from Marvin's Shining Star goes to Friends for Folks.

This book is a winner!

A comprehensive resource for shelters, rescue groups, and new owners, it's hard to think of a topic that author Diane Rose-Solomon hasn't covered: from asking yourself if you're ready, through preparing and integrating your dog into your home, to advanced dog parenting and saying goodbye.

Diane writes with non-judgemental authority but isn't afraid to offer expert advice from other dog professionals. She includes a voluminous list of links to the best, most relevant, current resources, making it a one-stop shop for dog-related questions before, during, and after you adopt.

What To Expect When Adopting A Dog

SBN 978-0-9857690-4-8

\$14.99 • *SOP3publishing.com*

A portion of all proceeds from book sales are donated to animal rescue organizations.





Seth Casteel's new photography book about rescue kittens is now available.

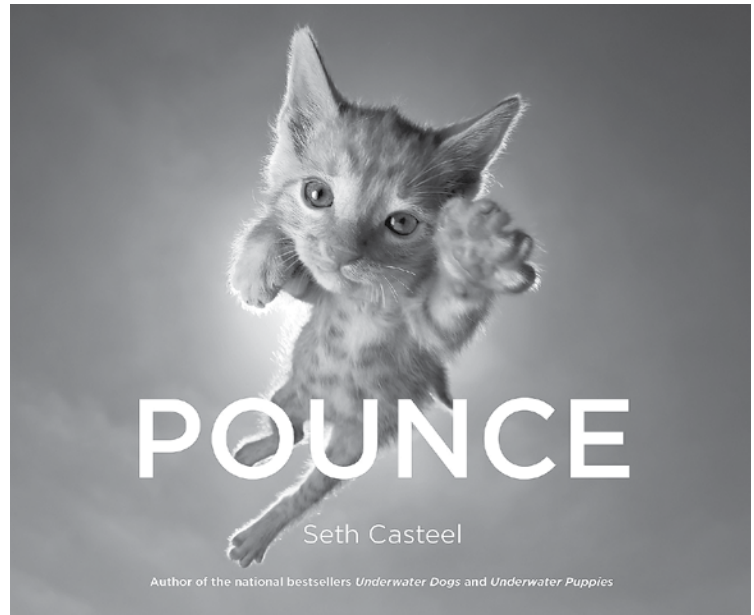
It is a total delight!

It also serves a purpose near and dear to the hearts of Latham Letter readers – encouraging cat and kitten adoption and care.

In Seth's own words:

"In the past four years, I've published six books about dogs and one about babies, but many of you may not know that my interest in photography actually started with CATS! Yes! In 2007, I unexpectedly had the opportunity to photograph a litter of kittens to help them find loving families. Twenty-four hours later, they were all adopted! I didn't realize it at the time, but this was the beginning of what would become both my career and my calling.

"For this new book I worked with hundreds of adoptable & adopted cats and kittens in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico, doing what they love to do and doing what they do best, POUNCING!"



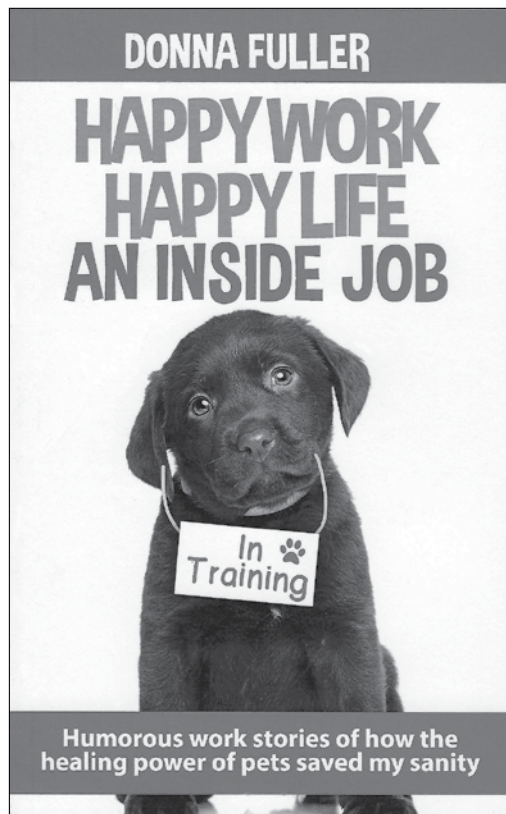
For those of you who haven't reached your cuteness quotient, there's also a large format 18-month wall calendar.

POUNCE

By Seth Casteel

Little, Brown and Company

Available at sethcasteel.com or wherever books are sold



The subtitle says it all:

Humorous work stories of how the healing power of pets saved my sanity.

Through these short, laugh-out-loud stories, humorist Donna Fuller shares her transformation from Official Bean Picker to Motivational Speaker and Comedian. This is a woman who received a formal letter from the Guinness World Book of Records that said, "Although we do not have an official category for Most Jobs Ever, you win."

Happy Work, Happy Life will help you discover some of the secrets of balancing work and life such as Finding your Talents and Strengths, and using the Power of Humor to Overcome Odds. Donna credits the human-animal bond for saving her from a life of meaningless jobs and leading her to her life's purpose.

This little book is hard to put down.

You can reach Donna at dfuller@fullerhumor.com.

For more information visit www.fullerhumor.com.

ISBN 978-0-692-50290-7



Rainbow Street Shelter Series – Books for Young Animal Lovers

Reviewed by Debbie Duel

It's a big step when children graduate from simple chapter-picture books – like the beloved **Mr. Putter and Tabby** series by Cynthia Rylant – to longer, more complex stories.

Wendy Orr's **Rainbow Street Shelter** series is a natural progression for those readers who love animals and it's a good story! The strong animal welfare messages and real-life themes, such as friendship, divorce, moving, and fear, are enhanced by plot twists and parallel story lines.

In the first book of this Scholastic series, *Lost, A Dog Called Bear*, we meet Bear, a dog who liked Logan more than anything in the world – “because Logan was his boy.” The feeling is mutual. What Logan “liked best of all, more than anything else in the world, was Bear – because Bear was his dog.” Before the end of the first chapter, Hannah is introduced too, although it's not exactly clear why. Except for the fact that “what Hannah liked more than anything was dogs – and what she wanted more than absolutely anything else in the world was a dog of her own,” she has no connection to Bear and Logan – at least not yet.

No time is wasted setting up the conflict. Logan's folks are separating; Logan, his mom, and Bear are moving to the city while Logan's dad is relocating to a ranch. When Logan and his mom get back in the car after a quick lunch stop on the way to their new place, Bear is gone! And, when Hannah's dad comes home from work, unbeknown to him, there is a dog in the back of his truck.

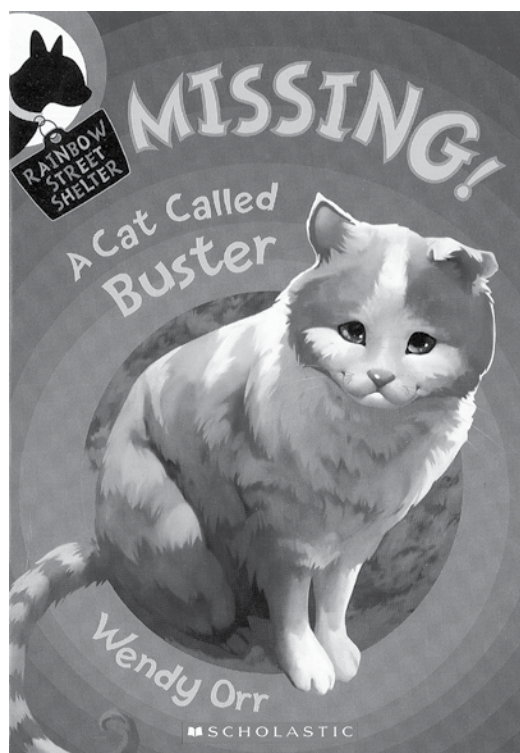
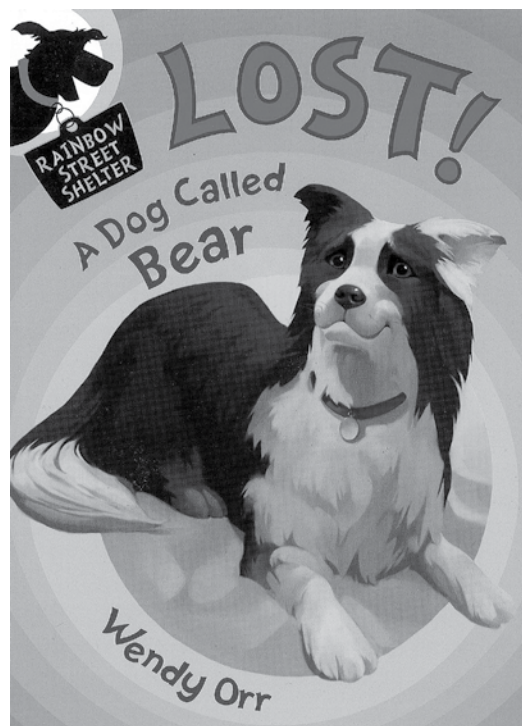
An attempt is made to find the dog's family, but the number on his tag has been disconnected. When the dog, who Hannah names Surprise, jumps over the backyard fence, she realizes that her parents are right; the mystery dog's best chance to be safely reunited with his guardian is at the animal shelter.

Forty pages later, Logan and Hannah are serendipitously brought together on the first day of school. It's when Hannah is telling her Surprise summer story that she and Logan learn that they share a very special mutual friend, Bear, with whom Logan joyfully reunites.

During the course of this tale, Wendy Orr addresses such subjects as responsible animal care, pet overpopulation, adopting an older animal, and providing proper identification (including a microchip). Happy ending alert – Hannah and her family do adopt a dog of their own.

Hannah and Logan are back as minor characters in the second book, *Missing: A Cat Called Buster*, but the stars of this story are Josh and Buster, the cat. Once again, Orr tackles a number of issues in a very small volume. Buster, a kitten snatched from his mother and dumped on the highway, rescued by a Good Samaritan, and taken to the shelter, is eventually adopted by Mr. Larsen, an elderly fellow who comes to the shelter looking for a cat “who's right for me.”

Once again, using a parallel structure that will have readers engrossed in two stories, we





meet Josh, a classmate of Hannah and Logan's. When Josh's beloved rabbit Rex dies, Josh swears that he will never love another animal – the pain is just too great. But life rarely goes as planned. When Josh's mom shares a newspaper article reporting how a hero cat (an orange tabby with a crumpled ear) went missing after rescuing his aged companion following a near deadly fall, Josh leaps into action, partnering with the Rainbow Street Shelter to find Buster.

Josh was familiar with the missing cat and his guardian. Mr. Larsen and Buster made him smile; he saw them walking on the beach (Buster on a leash!) and sitting on their porch in the sun. Josh appealed to classmates, posted signs, and set out to catch the frightened cat. Eventually he does rescue Buster and gets a quick scolding from construction workers and his mother for his risky rescue. Orr tackles issues without a didactic tone: Do set a humane trap for a terrified cat; don't crawl through a narrow metal pipe to save the same fearful animal!

Just when Josh feels like all is well in the world, Mona, the Rainbow Street Animal Shelter manager, tells him that Mr. Larsen's hip is not going to mend properly. He can't live at home anymore and will have to move in with his son. And the worst of it is that Mr. Larsen's son is allergic to cats, so Buster won't be moving. Instead, he will stay at the shelter until another home can be found. Josh and his family decide then and there to adopt Buster.

Other books in the series include *WANTED! A Guinea Pig Called Henry*; *ABANDONED! A Lion Called Kiki*; and *STOLEN! A Pony Called Pebbles*. Check out Wendy Orr's blog at wendyorrjournal.blogspot.com and her web page at www.wendyorr.com.

Debra K. Duel, the Washington Humane Society-Washington Animal Rescue League's director of humane education, has nearly 30 years of experience in humane education, leading classroom programs, workshops, teacher trainings, and conferences. She is the author of Nigel, an Operation Outreach-USA book. She can be reached at Debbie@warl.org.



The Red Cross Pet First Aid App

The American Red Cross recognizes the importance of pets to many families. History shows that people have not evacuated during disasters because they did not want to leave their pets behind.



Now the Pet First Aid App gives iPhone and Android smart phone users instant access to expert information so they can learn how to maintain their cats' and dogs' health and what to do during emergencies.

The app provides step-by-step instructions, videos, and images for more than 25 common first aid and emergency situations including how to treat wounds, control bleeding, and care for breathing and cardiac emergencies. Additional topics include burns, car accidents, falls, and what to do for cold-and heat-related emergencies.

You can find the Pet First Aid App in the Apple App and Google Play stores by searching for American Red Cross, or by going to redcross.org/mobileapps.

This Just In!

The Helen Woodward Animal Center is accepting applications for The Business of Saving Lives One-Day Workshops.

Two pet adoption organizations will be selected for 2017 as sites for a free, one-day workshop. That's right, the workshop will come to you.

Deadline is December 31, 2016.

*Contact Laura Smith,
LauraS@animalcenter.org,
858-756-4117, X301 for
more information.*



HelpMeHelpYou

A series of films that examines a variety of animal-assisted activity programs across the USA – programs in which animals help children, and in turn, children help animals.



SERIES



FAITH and HOPE on a FARM

FIRST IN A SERIES

An inspiring reminder of why we teach compassion, empathy, and respect to help break the cycle of abuse.

This 15-minute DVD highlights Forget Me Not Farm at Sonoma Humane Society in Santa Rosa, California, where children and animals bond and heal. At this safe haven, children learn gentle touch and respect for both other humans and animals through animal-assisted and horticultural activities.

The film features Faith, a formerly-abused child who was adopted by wonderful parents. As you see her blossom, you'll be reminded that where there's life, there's hope.



2
SECOND IN A SERIES

At Green Chimneys in Brewster, New York, visitors see smiling students and well-cared-for animals. What's not immediately evident on this beautiful campus is that the children there are struggling with emotional, educational, social, and behavioral challenges. Green Chimneys includes a New York State-Approved Special Education Program, a Residential Treatment Program, and a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility. All are designed to help children succeed academically, socially, and emotionally – to see blue skies in their futures.

Green Chimneys, Blue Skies



The USDA-accredited Farm and Wildlife Center is at the heart of this unique, multi-faceted setting. At Green Chimneys animals have been helping kids and kids have been helping animals for more than 65 years. How and why do they do it?

Green Chimneys, Blue Skies is a comprehensive and detailed look at the philosophy and methods behind this successful world leader in animal-assisted therapy. It is also a reminder of the power of the human-animal bond and sure to leave you moved and inspired.



BARC

If You Need Help

**Project BARC =
Building Adolescent
Responsibility and
Compassion**

Project BARC is a collaborative program between the Humane Society of West Michigan and the Kent County Juvenile Detention Center. Its purpose is two-fold: to build responsibility, compassion, and self-confidence among the teens in the detention center and to increase dog adoptions.

The selected trainees participate in daily classroom lessons to build empathy. At the same time, they work with an animal trainer to help their dogs pass the Canine Good Citizen test, which greatly increases their chances for adoption.

You'll see some of the lives (both human and canine) that Project BARC has transformed in this inspiring film with a very happy ending: the BARC Graduation Ceremony and the joyful results of everyone's hard work.

(All ages; 15 minutes. Social Studies, Science, Undergraduates and above, Professionals, Occupational Therapy, Juvenile Justice, Criminology, Corrections)

4

FOURTH IN A SERIES

Horses Heal Too

Two Different Paths to Healing



Rescued horses in two very different programs help troubled youth learn respect, responsibility, empathy, and compassion. Both programs benefit children and horses in need of a second chance.

Zuma's Rescue Ranch — A well-established program near Denver, Colorado, where rescued horses are paired with at-risk youth in mutually therapeutic programs.

Reaching Hands Ranch — A grass-roots program in northwest Wyoming where youth assist in the rehabilitation and adoption of horses after school and on weekends.

(24 minutes, appropriate for all ages)



See YouTube clips of these films at
Latham.org in the Products/Services
section or by searching
"Latham Foundation" on YouTube.

**Save by ordering
the complete series.**



The Latham Foundation

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

1320 HARBOR BAY PKWY
SUITE 200
ALAMEDA, CA 94502-6581 USA

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
HAYWARD CA
PERMIT #3335



Thank you for your service.

THE LATHAM FOUNDATION