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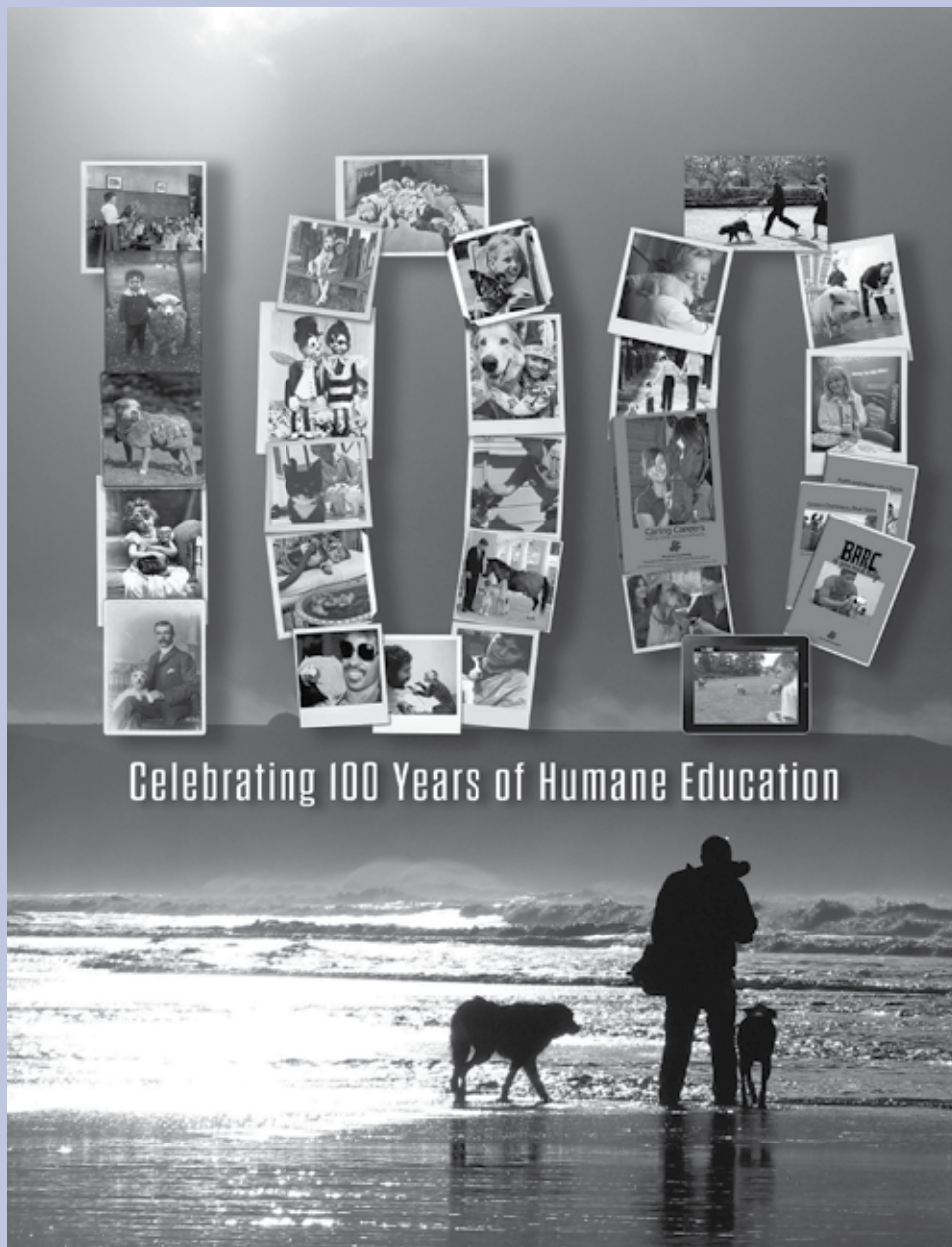
Latham Letter

VOLUME XXXIX, NUMBER 1

WINTER 2018

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

SINGLE ISSUE PRICE: \$5.00



Edith and Milton Latham's Early Influences

➔ See page 6



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THE MANDATE: Edith Latham's MANDATE:

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



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Promotion of Humane Education*

The Latham Letter

Balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities

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The Latham Letter

Volume XXXIX, Number 1, Winter 2018

**BALANCED PERSPECTIVES ON
HUMANE ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES**



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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.

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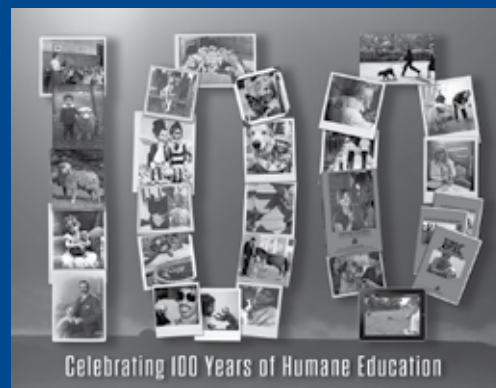
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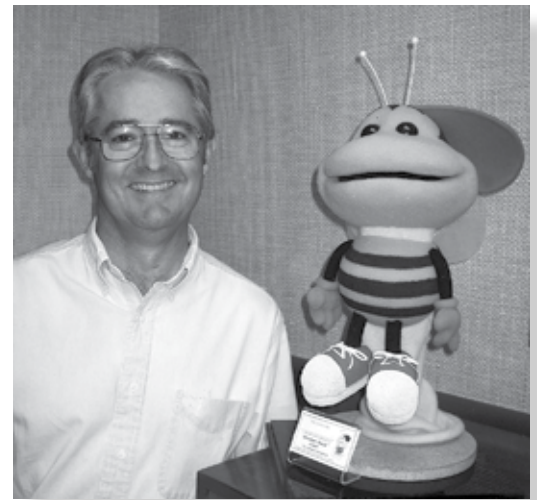
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Celebrating 100 Years of Humane Education

Cover design by Tula Asselanis

Closing in on 100 years – *Reflections on a Century of Humane Education*



*Hugh H. Tebault III,
President with Brother Buzz*

The Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education will soon celebrate its first 100 years of operation. During this time, we have made many changes of office location, staff, and program outreach. One thing that has not changed is our reason for being formed in 1918 – to promote core values through humane education – values that both bind us together and help us become more successful.

Over the years as Latham has moved locations, we have examined many items to decide if they needed to go with us. This opportunity to look at our work products and collection of objects was helpful. Keeping too many things would simply enslave us to them. Choosing to keep key items kept us aware of our history. It was very refreshing to let some things go, enabling us to focus more on the future. Newer technology has enabled us to digitally record items ensuring that their essence is saved in a way to make it available for future review, while not taking up room in storage.

As I write this, I am also in process of moving into a different house. During the last several weeks, we have been making decisions about what to keep and what to discard. Even after sorting and purging our family possessions from 48 years of marriage, as well as the things we kept from our own parents, we are left with a sizable collection of belongings. Happily, I only had to

pack; the moving company will load their truck. Of course, we will then have to unpack at our new home and figure out where to put everything, but this will give us another chance to review our history.

For many years, Latham has been a catalyst and clearing house for reliable information. People wrote letters, phoned, or sent faxes asking us for referrals to good humane education resources. Even with the development of the internet in the 1990s and easier access to a world of information, our reputation as a trusted resource still results in people emailing and calling to ask for our recommendations. To better serve your needs, we are in the process of redesigning our website (www.latham.org) so that it contains current information in a more readily accessible and responsive configuration.

As we celebrate our 100th anniversary in May 2018, we look back to review and learn from our past, and ahead to develop new ways we can promote humane education and the Latham principles. This past century has been filled with excitement and success; we know the future will give us challenges and opportunities as yet unknown. I encourage your help and support of Latham as we move into our second century of promoting humane education together.





Curious about the Latest in Human-Animal Interactions? Goat yoga – yes, GOAT YOGA!

Apparently, what we now refer to as “Goat Yoga” began in Albany, Ore., in 2016 when, Lainey Morse, who had goats as pets on her farm, invited a few friends over for a “Goat Happy Hour.”

At one of those events yoga instructor Heather Davis asked Morse if she would be interested in mixing in yoga. “I said the goats would be all over the humans [in the class], and [Davis] said ‘cool,’” Morse said. That’s when goat yoga began. Her goat yoga classes have become so popular, there’s a 1,200-person waiting list.

ABC News says, “Goat yoga is the latest trend, and it’s here to Namaste.”

Classes are popping up all over the country. If there’s not one near you now, there probably will be one in the near future.



Recent YouTube Brother Buzz and Vimeo comment from Abstract Reality Tourist:

“Long live Brother Buzz! I used to watch as a kid in the mid-1950s ... what a great memory ... buzzzzzz ... and I’ve buzzed by Latham’s Vimeo site too and truly enjoyed it. Thanks for the memories.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQmuGyX5i6s>

Letter to the Editor

I would like to commend Mr. Tebault for his beautifully written Summer 2017 editorial — “Humane Education and Common Sense.” His piece inspired me to write this letter and explore the Latham Foundation’s mission statement: “Promoting Respect for All Life through Education.”

I first became aware of the Foundation in 2012 when it printed a piece I wrote: “Fiona and Me: a True Love Story.” I joined the Foundation in 2016, a great fit with my many progressive affiliations.

The Latham Foundation promotes empathy in a manner quite different from most animal rescue efforts. Whether intended or not, other efforts inevitably boil down to animal ownership. Moreover, nearly always, we describe the relationship we foster by one (personally objectionable) word: Pet. I am much closer to my seventh decade than my sixth, and learned long ago that the critters that enrich my life are not pets — with the connotation of animal ownership — but companions. I can provide the basics – safety, food, water, and shelter – but these companions have brought so much more to my life. They have taught me how to be a better person. They have taught me the true meaning of unconditional love.

Letter, continued on page 7

Edith and Milton Latham's Early Influences

By Bernard Unti, Ph.D.



The quotations and excerpts Henrietta Latham Marshall Dwight (1840-1909) presented in *The Golden Age Cookbook* (1898) are suggestive of the influences that shaped her views and presumably those of her children, Edith and Milton Latham. Her text included Old Testament admonitions to kindness and humane diet from Genesis, Exodus, Ecclesiastes, and Isaiah; an excerpt from Edwin Arnold's poem *Light of Asia* (1879) concerning the Buddha and vegetarianism (Arnold was an officer in a London vegetarian club established by the young Gandhi); and a passage from theosophist Annie Besant's "Why I am a Food Reformer," emphasizing Besant's distress over the brutalization wrought by Chicago's vast slaughtering industry. Henrietta also reproduced quotes on the healthfulness of vegetarian diet from Sir Charles Bell, Sylvester Graham, and Dr. William Alcott, authorities within the nineteenth century diet reform canon, and concluded with a verse credited to the Neoplatonist philosopher and vegetarian, Pythagoras.¹

While vegetarianism was not an objective of any American humane organization during the movement's first half century, concern for the suffering and cruelty involved in the raising, transportation, and slaughter of animals for food was a priority. The holding position of nineteenth

and early twentieth century humane thought was that it was acceptable to use animals so long as they did not suffer wanton abuse or prolonged pain. The shipping of livestock over long distances, without adequate rest, water, space, or handling offended this standard, and many of the country's humane societies campaigned against cruelty to animals raised for food, whether in transportation or at the moment of slaughter. In 1877, a few key societies founded the American Humane Association to confront the problem of animal suffering in transit.²

Henrietta Dwight's cookbook remains remarkable for her originality and energy. The book featured a number of mock meat, chicken, and fish dishes, mostly made from a combination of breadcrumbs, walnuts, and vegetables. In an endnote, she related her efforts to identify a suitable substitute for animal-based gelatin, experimenting with carrageen or Irish moss and Sea Moss Farine, a popular product then on the market, but she found them unsatisfactory. "It is impossible to make a clear jelly with them, and by soaking in water to destroy the sea flavor, the solidifying property is lost." She was more optimistic about agar, which she believed would become more widely available, and went on to offer a few recipes calling for gelatin, "knowing that there will be something to replace it."³

The advertising copy promoting the *Golden Age Cookbook* in *The Vegetarian and our Fellow Creatures* touted its promise:

This new work embraces all that is essential to a bountiful and luxurious table, with the most nutritious adaptation of all natural food products, without involving the sacrifice of sentient life.

It is not extreme.

It is suited to the needs of flesh-eaters as well as those of vegetarians.

It comprises over thirty recipes for soups, more than eighty for vegetables, and an unusual number of entrees, salads, and fruit desserts; also valuable recipes, not to be found in any other book.

It is an invaluable aid to those who are trying to break away from old traditions, but who are not emancipated from the fear that life and strength cannot be sustained without a flesh diet.

*It is the most comprehensive vegetarian Cook-Book yet published.*⁴

Henrietta distinguished herself as a watercolorist, painting scenes of San Francisco, Santa Barbara, and France, and may have been a student of the Norwegian immigrant painter Chris Jorgensen. In the end, however, her most important legacy may have been the values she sought to instill in her children, Edith and Milton Latham, and the continuing benefits that their decision to create a foundation devoted to humane education has produced.⁵

FOOTNOTES:

- 1 Dwight, *The Golden Age Cookbook* (New York, 1898). 4-7. The quote from Pythagoras is not sourced or authenticated, but it is interesting to note that theosophist Anna Bonus Kingsford had used it a few years earlier in her influential work, *The Perfect Way in Diet: A Treatise Advocating a Return to the Natural and Ancient Food of our Race* (London, 1881.)
- 2 Bernard Unti, "The Quality of Mercy: Organized Animal Protection in the United States before World War II," (American University diss., 2002), 227-260.
- 3 Dwight, *The Golden Age Cookbook*, 178.
- 4 *The Vegetarian and Our Fellow Creatures* 6, 4 (January 1902), 89.
- 5 http://www.sullivangoss.com/Henrietta_M_Latham_Dwight/



Letter, continued from page 5

As a child, I learned (in basic environmental science) that mother earth includes three basic categories – animal, vegetable, and mineral. I understand today that that breakdown is overly simplistic, but it does provide a good template for young children. But here's the rub: we (including the Latham Foundation) cannot "promote respect for all life" without including ALL LIFE in that ethos. I am talking about plant life — found in complex ecosystems — as we understand the beauty and intricacy of our remarkable planetary home.

This brings me to one inescapable conclusion — and the crux of this Letter — we cannot respect (and foster) wild, native, and undomesticated animal life without putting even greater commitment to protecting the ecosystems they call home. In addition, this costs money, lots of it, and the guts to advance a progressive agenda in today's toxic political environment.

It's painfully simple: species survival depends upon habitat survival.

So where do the like-minded go from here? Recognizing that the Latham Foundation's mission is educational — teaching and promoting empathy, compassion and respect for all of nature's bounty, we, as Foundation members, must look outside the Foundation's charge. I have found advocacy through my membership in like-minded, but environmentally based efforts: The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) and The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). There are many more, enough for every citizen advocate. I also latch onto environmental issues with the tenacity of a bulldog, and whether in the public or private sector, I never withdraw from making my concerns and opinions known. After all, this planet is my home, too.

But it's here at the Latham Foundation that I feel most at home.

*Sincerely,
Paul Bartlett, Green Bay, WI 54301
pvbleb@mac.com*



Exotic Birds Find Shelter at Free Flight in Del Mar, California

Free Flight's mission is to maintain a sanctuary that shelters, nurtures, and re-socializes companion parrots while inspiring appreciation and a lasting concern for their well-being. After learning about parrots' complex mental, physical and emotional needs, one pleasantly surprised visitor said, "I had no idea parrots had such interesting personalities!"

Established in 1981 as a boarding and breeding facility, Free Flight has evolved into an exotic bird sanctuary where parrots and people can interact. It offers permanent sanctuary or re-homing, depending upon what is in the best interest of each bird.

Like most of us, companion birds thrive on human attention. This is because as highly intelligent, emotional, and mischievous animals, they require constant mental stimulation and enrichment to keep them happy and healthy. At Free Flight parrots spend a major part their day interacting with visitors. On an average day, about 50 people of all ages walk among the birds, talk with them, and offer them the safe food made available. It is through this daily routine that the birds become re-socialized. They come out into the yard each day and return to the security of their cages at night.

Staff and docents are available to facilitate handling those birds who like to be handled. At the same time, they answer questions and provide little gems of wisdom about parrot care.



Photo credit Sebastian Montes



- *Children learn new skills while having fun with the birds.*
- *Seniors enjoy socializing with the patrons and the parrots.*
- *Community events raise parrot awareness.*

It was benefactor Dr. Robert F. Stonebreaker's vision to create a sanctuary for exotic companion birds that would provide a unique environment to raise community awareness and encourage positive interaction. Free Flight became a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization in March of 2009. Less than a year later, it suffered a tremendous loss when Dr. Stonebreaker passed away suddenly. This inspired clients, colleagues, employees, and family to be more determined than ever to continue his passion for all species of exotic birds.

Today, Free Flight informs visitors about the care, feeding, behavior, and conservation of numerous species of rare and endangered birds. It offers educational programs at the sanctuary, and it takes educational programs to schools, libraries, nursing homes, and community events.

The thriving organization depends on memberships, donations, program fees, as well as foundation, public and volunteer support.

**To learn more: www.freeflightbirds.org
or visit in person at
2132 Jimmy Durante Blvd,
Del Mar, CA 92014
(858) 481-3148**



Teaching Compassion

By Gail Churchill

Reprinted courtesy of the ICRA Newsletter, Alameda, Calif.



People of all ages could learn a lesson or two about the difference that just one inspired idea from one passionate teacher can make in the lives of children and animals in need.

Kasey Brown’s Animal Care and Welfare class at Wood Middle School in Alameda, Calif., fully embraces the idea that teaching children to interact with animals in caring and meaningful ways will teach them the truest meaning of empathy, compassion, and respect for animals, other people, and themselves.

Brown says, “Kids are ambassadors of knowledge and they share what they learn with their friends, family, and community, often through social media. Kids have the ability and want to make a difference to help animals.”

When Ms. Brown conceived the idea of creating the Animal Care and Welfare class over three years ago, she had two questions in mind: 1) What do students

actually know about animals; and 2) If kids knew how to help animals, would they?

To help find out, on the first day of class she surveys students on what they know about animal welfare and pet care issues in general. She also includes qualitative questions to gauge how the students feel about helping animals and what topics interest them most.

The popular trimester-long elective course meets four days a week and consists of three main components:

- Teaching about key topics such as spay/neuter, overpopulation, pet guardian-ship, and puppy mills,
- Supporting student-initiated projects that educate about doing good for companion animals, and

“I learned about feral cats. I didn’t know much about them or how to help them. Now I do.”

~ Ray, 8th grader



problems by guessing what types of pets and how many are currently at the shelters. From there they visit websites like PetFinder and Adopt-A-Pet to get a larger picture of just how many animals need forever homes. In the process they begin to form their own ideas about how they want to help animals in need. They're then ready to take on such projects as teaming up with local shelters to get long-term animals adopted, teaching lessons on spay/neuter and overpopulation to elementary students, and creating school bulletin boards on topics such as "Animal Abuse – What You Can Do?" and "Are You Ready for a Pet?" They also organize fundraisers. Last year they raised over \$1,200 for four different humane organizations, including Island Cat Resources and Adoption (ICRA). Their most successful project was "Pizza for Pets."

ICRA Vice President Gail Churchill, a devoted volunteer for our group since 1998, has had the pleasure of being a regular guest speaker in Kasey's class since its inception. As a retired teacher, it's second nature for her to visit local classrooms and educate young minds about cat issues and, of course, ICRA's mission. After all, it's never too early to cultivate that next budding "trapper," transporter,

- *Scheduling guest speakers aligned with the students' interests and learning goals. For example, veterinarians have visited classes for the benefit of kids wanting to know more about what they do on a daily basis.*

Students hit the ground running from day one. After a lesson about our local shelter and how spay/neuter and overpopulation are related, Kasey challenged the kids to quantify the

**“ I learned that from one unspayed cat
there could be thousands or millions of
cats born in under a decade.”**

~ Sara, 6th grader

foster parent, fundraiser, or adoption coordinator extraordinaire! Kasey prepares the students well for Gail's visits. They learn the difference between feral and stray homeless cats; they learn the importance of trap-neuter-return (TNR); and they "do the math" on the consequences of not spaying and neutering.

This allows Gail time to engage the students in hands-on activities, such as setting actual humane traps and handling kittens and more advanced topics like managing cat colonies, the reason for ear tipping feral cats, and what to do if they find a baby kitten wandering around all alone.

On the last day of class, Kasey conducts a wrap-up reflection survey in which students write about what they've learned. Almost 100% of them walk away with a deeper understanding of the many challenges facing unwanted animals. More importantly, they represent the next generation of stewards with the knowledge and drive to continue making a difference for all animals.

Kasey Brown's humane efforts extend well beyond the classroom walls. In 2015, she created a website called Teach about Pets (www.teachaboutpets.com)





“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better.

It’s not.

~ Dr. Seuss, The Lorax

She is emphatic in her conviction that, “Yes! When kids know better, they do better.”

She would love to see more teachers around the country teaching compassion toward animals so together we can make a greater positive impact on the quality of life in their communities.



where educators can find vetted, standard-aligned lessons about animals. Last April she presented a workshop entitled “Know Better, Do Better: Takeaways from Wood Middle School’s Animal Care and Welfare Class” at the Association of Humane Educators’ (APHE) National Conference in Seattle, Wash.

Kasey, ICRA applauds you and your students for the great work you are doing on behalf of the countless innocent creatures among us who have no voice. Thank you for letting us be just a small part of it!

Kasey welcomes inquiries from teachers or anyone interested in Pet Education.
info@teachaboutpets.com



About ICRA

Island Cat Resources and Adoption (ICRA) is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, working principally in Alameda and Oakland, Calif., to reduce the suffering of mistreated, abandoned, and unsocialized (feral) cats, and to educating and empowering the local community to help with that work.

Since its establishment in 1994, ICRA has spayed or neutered over 15,000 cats, found homes for over 3,000 cats, and assisted in getting many hundreds more off the streets and into “no-kill” community shelters.

Every cat ICRA traps or rescues is carefully evaluated for adoptability. Tame cats and kittens young enough to be socialized are placed in foster homes, and taken into our adoption program when they are ready for a responsible and loving permanent home. The goal of our adoption program is to place the right cat(s) with the right people.

ICRA is in constant need of donations to defray the cost of spay-neuter surgeries, vaccinations, FeLV/FIV testing, medical treatment for sick and injured cats, and the purchase of cages for recovering animals, humane traps, and other equipment.

You can support ICRA with time and energy, too. They are always looking for new ideas and fresh energy to accomplish their mission.

General email: info@icraeastbay.org

Adoption inquiries: adoption@icraeastbay.org

Volunteering: volunteer@icraeastbay.org

Voicemail only: (510) 869-2584

Island Cat Resources and Adoptions
P.O. Box 1093 • Alameda, CA 94501





Reflections on My Life as a Shelter Volunteer

By Debra J. White

“Why are you surrendering your cat?” the front desk supervisor asked.

“Because it meows,” the middle-aged man said.

What was he expecting, a Gregorian chant?

That was my introduction to animal shelters in 1989, when I started as a kennel volunteer at the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA) in Boston. All volunteers spent time at the front desk during our training. I said nothing as the bewildered cat landed in a cage not much larger than a breadbox.

Every Sunday, I checked out the residents. To protect myself against heartaches, I didn't get attached to or ask about pets that I liked. I didn't want to know their fates. Now and then, my resistance weakened.

Barney the spotted mutt was brought in by the Boston Police. The dog's

elderly owner, a single man, suffered a massive heart attack and was rushed to a hospital. The police escorted Barney to the MSPCA. The shelter was unsuccessful in contacting the owner's extended family. Not knowing what to do, the shelter cared for Barney. Every few days, the shelter called the hospital to check on the owner but he remained in serious condition. Every week, I gave Barney an extra walk and rewarded him with treats, making sure he had a comfy blanket. I feared the owner might not recover enough to care for Barney and that he would become part of the MSPCA. Older dogs and cats were rarely adopted. By this time, part of my heart belonged to Barney.

After two months, the owner showed up, feeling much better. I missed the joyful reunion but the manager said, “The old man was thrilled we took such good care of Barney. He was afraid he might've been put to sleep. He left us a \$200 tip.” That made my day.

Some stories were harder edged. The MSPCA investigated abuse in and around the city of Boston. Dogs and cats taken from abusive owners often lived at the shelter for weeks or months while their cases worked their way through the courts. Unless the accused relinquished ownership rights, the animals were needed as evidence.

Seized from abusive owners, Buster, a young lab mix, lived at the shelter for nearly a year. To free Buster from his small cage, shelter staff let him make the rounds to various departments. For a time, Buster greeted customers at the next-door animal hospital's front desk. He was quite the receptionist, barking out directions and soaking up attention from customers.

A judge finally heard Buster's case and freed him for adoption. I don't remember what sentence the judge imposed on his heartless owners but Buster was adopted into a good home. Sadly, a year later Buster became sick and died.

At least his final days were free from maltreatment and he died in a loving, nurturing environment.

I moved on to the Boulder County Humane Society in 1991 now known as the Humane Society of Boulder County. One time, a pelican wandered into Boulder. Pelicans were rare in the Rocky Mountain region. How the big bird ended up there was anyone's guess. After the local paper ran a story about our unusual guest, one of the airlines offered the bird free passage to an avian sanctuary in Florida. I wished our feathery friend farewell and presumed the pelican savored a good life in Florida.

Mutts were not the only dogs to end up in the shelter, although that was a commonly held belief. Pedigree dogs and cats, purchased at top dollar from breeders or mall pet stores, ended up with us as unclaimed strays or dropped off like yesterday's laundry.

A man who owned two purebred dogs, Brittany Spaniels, approached the front desk. I was near the retail stand and overheard the conversation.

"Miss, I have two show dogs to surrender," the man said.

The clerk's furrowed brow suggested surprise. "Why are you giving up your dogs?"

"I used them for showing but now I'm through. I have no need for them."

The man spoke as if the dogs were objects, not family pets.

Following standard procedure for relinquishment, the clerk asked a series of questions about the animal's habits to facilitate placement into another home.

"Are the dogs housebroken?"

"Oh no, they were kept outside in a pen," the man said.

"What kind of toys did they play with?"

"They never had toys," the man said.

"Did they sleep on blankets, dog beds, something soft?"

"No, they slept outside in a pen, I told you."

"What about snacks? How many times a day did they eat snacks?"

"Never had snacks."

"Are they leash trained?"

"I only used leashes at dog shows. Otherwise, they stayed in the pens."

What a cold sterile life those two dogs led. Once their owner with the icy heart was out the door, a worker led the pair to a cage. I brought comfy blankets yet they didn't seem to realize that it was OK to relax on them. I felt sorry for the dogs. Their entire lives were spent parading around arenas merely to satisfy the owner's needs. Heck, they never even had chew toys or romped around chasing a tennis ball. I don't remember what became of those dogs. I hope they found wonderful loving homes with people who showered them with chew toys, dog snacks and love. They deserved better than a life outside in a pen.

A serious car accident in 1994 led me to move to Phoenix in 1997. I became involved in the large, extended rescue community right away. At Christmas time, PetSmart stores offered pet photos with Santa. PetSmart donated the film and Santa outfits as well as space inside their stores. Local shelters/rescue groups split the proceeds with PetSmart. I volunteered for pet photos every year for whatever

group needed me. Sitting came easily because of my disability so I wore the Santa suit. I had such a ball, even though the beard and the wig were hot and itchy. I struggled to hold frightened barking dogs next to me. One big hairy dog was so scared he yanked me off the bench and pulled me across the floor. Good thing I had a strong grip or that dog would've swept me out the door.

A fuzzball of dog with curly tail lifted his leg on my shoes and left me with a stinky memento. A fluffy gray cat clawed my beard like it was a scratching post. A freckle faced boy wanted to pose with Santa, even though I was a 'girl'.

After her dog's picture was done, one woman said, "I should've brought my horse. Maybe I'll come back."

"This Santa can't do horses," I said, gesturing towards my motorized scooter. "I'm sorry. Maybe someone else can."

At the end of the day, I felt satisfied spending the day with people who adored their pets, even if it was a white rat. I needed days like that to renew my spirit, even with a hot scratchy wig and beard.

At the county shelter, where I volunteered, a tail wagging German Shepherd mix with a lot of spunk came down with kennel cough. Left with no choice, the big girl ended up on the euthanasia list. The manager glanced at the kennel worker as he stood outside the back room holding the doomed dog with a leash.

"Someone call Caron. See if she can take this dog," the manager said. Caron had been involved with rescue since the mid-1990s. She took dogs off the E-list and brought them to an adoption center at PetSmart or at off-site events. There,

she screened applicants and sent the dogs and sometimes cats to new homes.

“Put the dog back in the cage,” the manager said. “Wait till the end of the day and let’s see if we hear from Caron.”

Back inside a cage went the dog. And we waited. By the time I left that day, Caron hadn’t called. I feared the dog with the curable cough would be euthanized.

“Caron came after work,” the worker said the next week. “That dog was within inches of losing her life.”

I cannot imagine life without animal rescue.

That was the closest I ever saw a dog get to the back room and get saved. I preferred not knowing their fate so I usually never asked. I made an exception this time.

Around Thanksgiving one year, I met a man searching for his lost dog. “Onesie has been missing for months,” he said. “I still look, hoping he’ll be here.” “Don’t give up. Sometimes dogs and cats show up a long time after they become lost,” I said. “I doubt I’ll find him but I have hope. My whole family has been heartbroken over his loss.”

“How’d the dog get out?” I asked.

“The pool cleaner inadvertently left the gate open.”

I heard that story dozens of times. Repair men and women left gates open and curious dogs escaped. Those with tags, if caught, usually went home. Those without had a less certain fate.

“Look around and if you find Onesie, you know what the routine is.”

If a pet owner found his dog or cat, they had to pay the fine. If the dog didn’t have a rabies vaccination, they had an additional fee for the shot. No laws existed about cats. They didn’t need a license or a rabies shot to go home.

A few minutes later, the man blew through the door to the receiving area and ran up to me. “He’s here,” he said. “I can’t believe Onesie’s here.

“I’m so happy for you.”

“Wait till I get home. My family will be so pleased. We’ll have a happy Thanksgiving this year.”

Those few happy outcomes encouraged me to keep going back. Sometimes as I pulled out of the parking lot, I swore I’d never return. But by the following week, my emotional wounds healed and of course I drove back for more sadness, aggravation and human drama. I couldn’t stay away.

The Phoenix Animal Care Coalition 911 (PACC911) sponsors off-site adoption events and invites local shelters and rescues to bring homeless animals for adoption at churches, parks, shopping malls, etc.

During a two-day off-site adoption event, the PACC911 information table was set up opposite the county adoption bus. Outside in a pen sat a lonely big brown older dog named Lady. No one wanted Lady. Dogs and cats that returned to the county were at risk of euthanasia. They didn’t have the luxury of rescue animals that were safe in foster homes. The adoption event was slated to end at 4 p.m. At around 3:45 p.m. a woman adopted Lady. Everyone at the PACC911 table, including me, witnessed the adoption. We hugged and cried as we watched Lady’s tail wag as she walked off to a better life with her new owner. Over the years I witnessed many adoptions but that was the most memorable.

There was a tradition at PACC911 adoption events to ring a bell every time a pet was adopted. The crowd erupted in cheers. Somehow, everyone knew what the gong signified. I still smile whenever I hear a bell ring. I think of dogs and cats leaving for good homes at PACC911 events. The bell rang particularly loud when Lady was adopted. The off-site events renewed my faith in humanity because I often met kind, caring human beings who specifically attended our events to adopt an unwanted animal. If they didn’t adopt, they showed up to donate money, pet food, supplies or offer a sympathetic word. Sometimes, they returned with a pet they previously adopted to show us how well the dog was doing. Those instances were always refreshing.

I’ve volunteered for shelters in Massachusetts, Colorado, New York, Florida and Arizona. It’s impossible to squeeze all my experiences, good and bad, into one short article. I experienced the most barbaric cases of animal cruelty that enraged as well as saddened me. I smiled witnessing lost dog/cat reunions. What a joy to watch an unwanted dog or cat leave a cage for a better life. I met teams of men and women working tirelessly for no money to save abused, unwanted, and neglected animals. Twenty-eight years of animal rescue has been one long incredible journey that I hope will continue. I cannot imagine life without animal rescue.



National Directory of Abuse Investigation Agencies Published

The National Link Coalition, which is the national resource center on the link between animal abuse and human violence, has announced the publication of a free *National Directory of Abuse Investigation Agencies*, covering more than 6,500 counties, cities and towns. It identifies which agency in that jurisdiction investigates reports of animal cruelty, abuse and neglect.

The Directory was created in response to laws in 37 states that require or permit veterinarians, child protection and adult protective services workers to report suspected animal cruelty. Because of the lack of uniform systems for investigating such reports, many people are confused as to who they should call in their local community.

The free Directory closes this information gap online at <http://NationalLinkCoalition.org/how-do-i-report-suspected-abuse>. An interactive map lists the names and phone numbers of 6,513 animal cruelty investigating agencies organized by county and city within each state. The goal is to eliminate confusion and make it easier for veterinarians, social services caseworkers and the public to report animal abuse.

“Trying to report an abused animal often results in a bureaucratic runaround,” said Phil Arkow, National Link Coalition Coordinator. “A caller to an animal control or humane agency may be told to call law enforcement; the police or sheriff may say they are not trained in animal welfare issues and to call animal control. The result is a caller who gives up in frustration and animal abuse that goes unresolved. Our goal is for people to use the Directory to cut through the confusion.”

Because animal abuse is now widely seen as a “red flag” that often indicates other family violence, the Directory also includes each state’s hotlines to report suspected



child abuse, elder abuse and domestic violence. Animal care and control officers are mandated reporters of child or elder abuse in 29 states.

Simplifying the Complexity of Animal Care and Control

Compiling the Directory was a year-long project. “One of the immediate things we confirmed is the complexity of the animal abuse reporting process, especially as compared to the simplicity of the single state hotlines for child, domestic and elder abuse,” he said.

Animal welfare complaints are investigated on the local level with no consistent system. Depending on the jurisdiction, reports may be investigated by a humane society, SPCA, animal control/services, police, sheriff, or other agency. Not all animal care and control agencies have sworn officers empowered to charge misdemeanors or felonies. Some agencies are species-specific and may not be allowed to investigate cases involving cats or livestock.

“This fragmented patchwork quilt is not user-friendly. Relatively few animal shelter websites say if they investigate cruelty, or if not which specific phone numbers in their service area to call,” he said.

Meanwhile, much of the public mistakenly believes local humane societies and SPCAs to be branches of national organizations. Each shelter is independent with its own policies, programs and enforcement powers which range from full to none.

The Directory is the nation's first such compilation. "We have had listings of animal shelters, humane groups and animal control agencies, but these organizations do not always have the enforcement powers to investigate animal abuse," he said.

An Increased Need

The need for the Directory has increased in recent years with veterinarians becoming more proactive in reporting animal abuse, much as physicians are in responding to child maltreatment. This is a result of: policy statements from the AVMA and AAHA; state laws shielding practitioners from civil and criminal liability; diagnostic and forensic tools to identify non-accidental injury; and practice management guidelines. "Practitioners keep telling us they want to report but do not know who to call," Arkow said.

The need was further enhanced by the FBI's including four types of animal cruelty in its National Incident-Based Reporting System. Investigators who are not based within law enforcement departments will have to establish Memorandums of Understanding with police and sheriffs to enter cruelty cases into national statistics.

The Directory cautions that in many areas lacking empowered animal shelters, cruelty investigations default to the police and sheriff where enforcement may not be vigorous. Whether law enforcement prioritizes a response or has sufficient training to investigate these cases is debatable, particularly in rural and smaller communities. "But animal cruelty is a crime like any other they are mandated to investigate, and law enforcement officers need to know this," he said.

The Directory will be a work-in-progress and will be updated as new information becomes available. Please contact the National Link Coalition at arkowpets@snip.net to report edits to the listings.



WHAT ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL AGENCIES SHOULD DO ON THEIR WEBSITES AND FACEBOOK PAGES

- *If you investigate animal abuse, say so!*
- *If you don't, use the Directory to find out who does in your service area, and tell your viewers who to call and publish the phone numbers.*
- *Publish simple, telltale signs of animal abuse and neglect and what information they will need to provide when they call.*
- *Cite the Link as the reason why they should report child, elder and domestic abuse, and use the Directory to publish your state's hotlines.*
- *Link your Resources, Related Links or Reporting Cruelty pages to the Directory for your state at <http://nationalLinkCoalition.org/how-do-i-report-suspected-abuse>.*
- *National Link Coalition speakers can provide training at your state conferences on how animal abuse is Linked to human violence.*
- *Please let us know if any Directory listings need changing.*

ABOUT THE NATIONAL LINK COALITION

Founded in 2008, the National Link Coalition is a network of over 3,300 veterinarians, animal care and control, law enforcement, domestic violence, child and adult protection, academic, human health, and prosecution professionals in all 50 states and 53 foreign nations. The Coalition serves as the National Resource Center on the Link between Animal Abuse and Human Violence with a goal of making communities safer by recognizing that animal abuse is often the first link in the chain of family and community violence and often serves as an indicator or predictor of co-occurring or future violence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Phil Arkow, Coordinator, National Link Coalition

856-627-5117

arkowpets@snip.net

www.NationalLinkCoalition.org/how-do-i-report-suspected-abuse

2017's Most Pet Friendly Cities

WalletHub, a personal finance website, put its number crunchers to work comparing the creature-friendliness of the 100 largest U.S. cities across 21 key metrics. Their data ranged from minimum pet-care provider rate per visit, to pet businesses per capita, to walkability. Here are the top 30. To see the remaining 70 and where your city ranks, visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/most-pet-friendly-cities/5562/>.

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Scottsdale, Ariz. | 11. Oklahoma City, Okla. | 21. Seattle, Wash. |
| 2. Phoenix, Ariz. | 12. Plano, Texas | 22. Denver, Colo. |
| 3. Tampa, Fla. | 13. St. Petersburg, Fla. | 23. Albuquerque, N.M. |
| 4. San Diego, Calif. | 14. Colorado Springs, Colo. | 24. Bakersfield, Calif. |
| 5. Orlando, Fla. | 15. Sacramento, Calif. | 25. Henderson, Nev. |
| 6. Birmingham, Ala. | 16. Tucson, Ariz. | 26. Portland, Ore. |
| 7. Austin, Texas | 17. St. Louis, Mo. | 27. Los Angeles, Calif. |
| 8. Cincinnati, Ohio | 18. Gilbert, Ariz. | 28. North Las Vegas, Nev. |
| 9. Atlanta, Ga. | 19. San Antonio, Texas | 29. Columbus, Ohio |
| 10. Las Vegas, Nev. | 20. Miami, Fla. | 30. Tulsa, Okla. |





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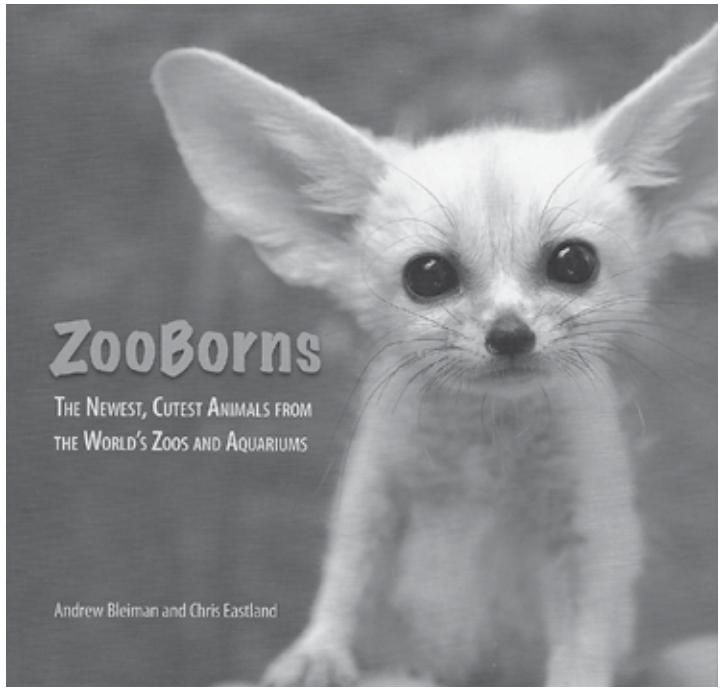
Free Advocacy Toolkit from the Humane Society of the United States

The rental housing industry proclaims that 78 percent of apartment buildings accept pets, but according to a 2012 study, 29 percent of dogs and 21 percent of cats surrendered to shelters are there because their owners couldn't find housing that would accept them. That's roughly half a million pets surrendered because of housing issues. Why is that?

All too often, housing that's described as "pet-friendly" is anything but. In fact, nearly all of the nation's largest rental housing companies have breed and weight restrictions that effectively prohibit most of the nation's pets. These restrictions are often arbitrary and unnecessary.

This free toolkit is packed with helpful information, whether you are an advocate or a renter looking for truly pet-friendly housing.

Download your copy at:
https://www.animalsheltering.org/sites/default/files/content/HSUS_PAW_toolkit_FINAL.pdf



ZooBorns

By Andrew Bleiman and Chris Eastland

This isn't a new book, but it's certainly worth a look.

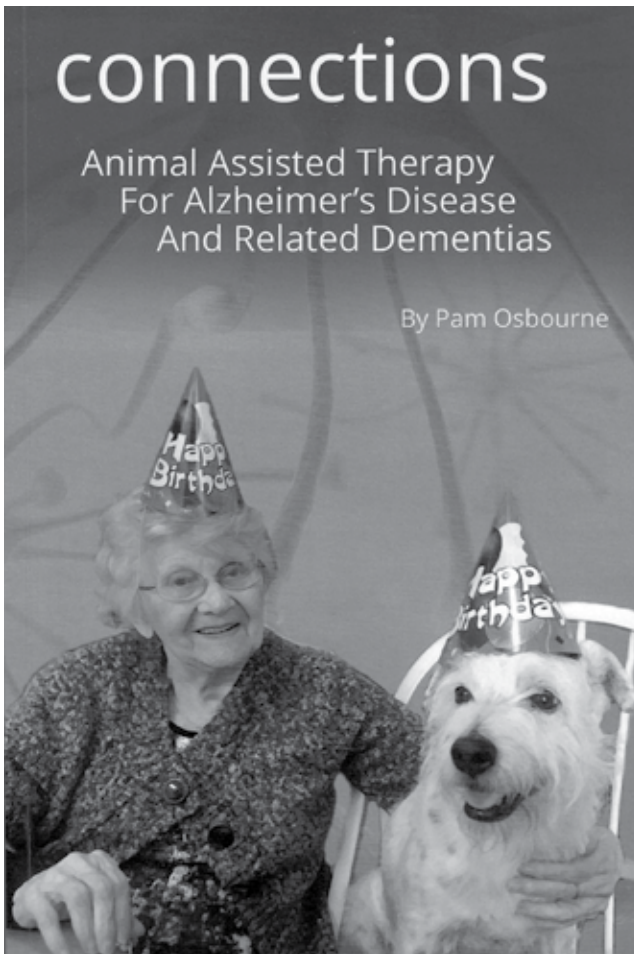
ZooBorns showcases the cutest animal babies from accredited zoos and aquariums around the world. With its interesting animal facts on the beautifully photographed featured babies, *ZooBorns* illustrates the connections between zoo births and conservation initiatives in the wild.

For example, did you know that the endangered Thick-billed Parrots are the last parrot species native to the United States, or that Koala Bears are marsupials, not bears? They are one of the few nonprimate species with unique fingerprints, just like humans.

To learn more about the *ZooBorns* in this book, and to meet even more zoo babies, visit www.zooborns.com. There is also a *ZooBorns* specifically for ages 3-7.

A portion of all proceeds from *ZooBorns* book sales goes directly to the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Conservation Endowment Fund.

www.Simonandschuster.com
 ISBN 976-1-4391-9531-4 • \$11.99



**Connections,
Animal-Assisted
Therapy for
Alzheimer's
Disease
and Related
Dementias**

(ADR), is a practical guide for healthcare professionals, animal-assisted therapy teams, caregivers, families, friends, and all those who are dedicated to helping people with ADRD reconnect with the world.

It is also a moving, personal account of the author's vicarious journey into the disoriented, disconnected, and often frustrating world of

ADR. The disease affected her mother the last seven years of her life. Osbourne admits that initially she failed to recognize the symptoms of ADRD; therefore, she has included "10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's Disease vs. Typical Age Related Changes," in the Appendix. There is also a bibliography of books and online resources for ADRD and animal-assisted therapy. Eventually she found ways to help her mom, if only in the moment – she enlisted the help of her therapy dog, a loveable Jack Russell Terrier named Rufus.

Osbourne has filled this informative and very practical book with more than 150 color photos and over 40 functional activities that are easily understandable to anyone who is interested in using animal-assisted therapy to improve the quality of life for someone affected by ADRD. She further specifies whether the activities are suitable for a person with mild, moderate, or severe cognitive/functional impairment. From simply providing companionship, to encouraging motor skills and social interactions, Rufus and his therapy dog friends demonstrate the positive effects of animal-assisted therapy. *Connections* is a must-read for anyone in contact with those who are touched by ADRD.

Available on Amazon.com and the Publisher's Website, in paperback. Hardbound and e-book editions will be available soon.

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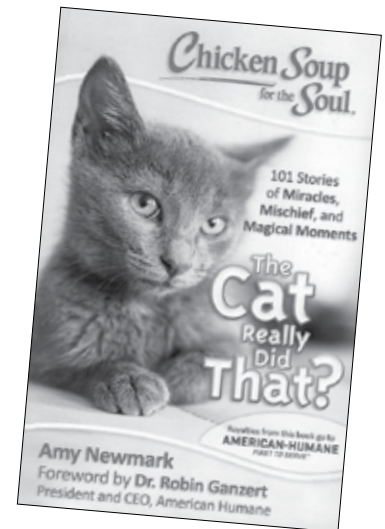


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are two more books in the Chicken Soup for the Soul® series. Each contains 101 delightful stories of magical moments, miracles, and mischief from contributors all over the world plus a foreword by Dr. Robin Ganzert, President and CEO, American Humane. You might recognize your own cat or dog in one of the stories.

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Heartfelt Stories Found in Out-of-Print Titles

Reviewed by Debbie Duel

Need a new picture book to share with your young animal lovers? Why not check out a couple of out-of-print titles that are available from libraries and used booksellers. Two of my favorites are *I'm the Best* by Marjorie Sharmat and illustrated by Will Hillenbrand, and *Max* by Bob Graham. *I'm the Best* highlights the strong bond between dogs and their people, while the story of Max, an understated superhero, reminds readers that small good deeds have important impacts.

I'm the Best, published in 1991, is told by Dudley, a discarded pooch who finds himself in the animal shelter. He shares a bit of his history with readers: "My name is Dudley, but once I was named Sparky. Before that I was Fluffy. For two months I was Mopsy. I think I was Cedric for a week." Sound familiar? Dudley explains the reasoning for the many names. "Some of them (owners) liked me. Some of them didn't. My first owner gave me away when I ate his plant. My second owner gave me away when they moved to Pennsylvania. My third owner died. After that I lost count." Perhaps you have a Dudley with a similar story in your shelter.

When Dudley is adopted, he acquires yet another name, Fritz. At first he is resentful of the latest moniker, but once he realizes that the name belonged to his new family's previous – and beloved – dog, who died of old age, and that this family is "keeping



me. Forever," he's just fine with being called Fritz. After all, he – Sparky, Fluffy, Mopsy, Cedric, Dudley, Fritz – is permanently home.

At last check, Amazon had 15 copies of the hardback book, all under \$25, and most are selling for less than \$10. This is a beautifully illustrated story that continues to be charming and relevant 26 years after it was first issued.

Fans of "*Let's Get a Pup!*" *Said Kate* will immediately recognize Bob Graham's quirky illustrations in *Max*, which chronicles the early life of Captain Lightning and Madam Thunderbolt's superbaby. Max's parents and grandparents are anxious for him to assume his rightful role in the record books; after all, his parents,

like their parents, are legendary for catching thieves and bullies.

While Max's super powers deviate somewhat from the family norm, he matures into "a small hero doing quiet deeds." Max saves baby birds from falling out of nests, rescues moths from burning candles, and holds cars at bay so ducks can cross the road. Bob Graham's reoccurring theme of kindness and compassion runs through his many books. And *Max*, published in 2005, four years after the highly acclaimed "*Let's Get a Pup!*" *Said Kate*, quietly promotes the need for goodness. Now more than ever we need superheroes like Max. Both hardback and paperback copies of *Max* are available in libraries and from used booksellers.

Debra K. Duel, the Humane Rescue Alliance's director of humane education, has nearly 30 years of experience in humane education, leading classroom programs, teacher trainings, and conferences. She is the author of *Nigel*, an Operation Outreach-USA book. She can be reached at dduel@humanerescuealliance.org.

"Never, never be afraid to do what's right, especially if the well-being of a person or an animal is at stake."

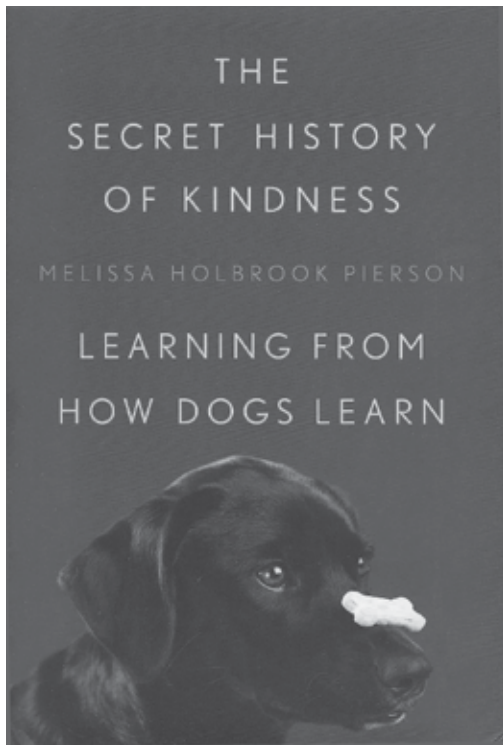
~ Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

"Thousands of years ago, cats were worshipped as gods. Cats have never forgotten this."

~ Anonymous

"You can say any foolish thing to a dog, and the dog will give you a look that says, 'My God, you're right! I never would've thought of that!'"

~ Dave Barry



An intimate, surprising look at man’s best friend and what the leading philosophies of dog training teach us about ourselves.

Years back, Melissa Holbrook Pierson brought home a border collie named Mercy, without a clue of how to get her to behave. Stunned after hiring a trainer whose immediate

rapport with Mercy seemed magical, Pierson began delving into the techniques of positive reinforcement. She made her way to B. F. Skinner, the behavioral psychologist who started it all, the man who could train a pigeon to dance in minutes and whose research on how behavior is acquired has ramifications for military dolphin trainers, athletes, dancers, and, as he originally conceived, society at large.

To learn more, Pierson met with a host of fascinating animal behaviorists, going behind the scenes to witness the relationships between trainers and animals at the National Zoo in Washington, DC, and to the in-depth seminars at a Clicker Expo where all the dogs but hers seemed to be learning new tricks. The often startling story of what became of a path-breaking scientist’s work is interwoven with a more personal tale of how to understand the foreign species with whom we are privileged to live.

Pierson draws surprising connections in her exploration of how kindness works to motivate all animals, including the human ones.

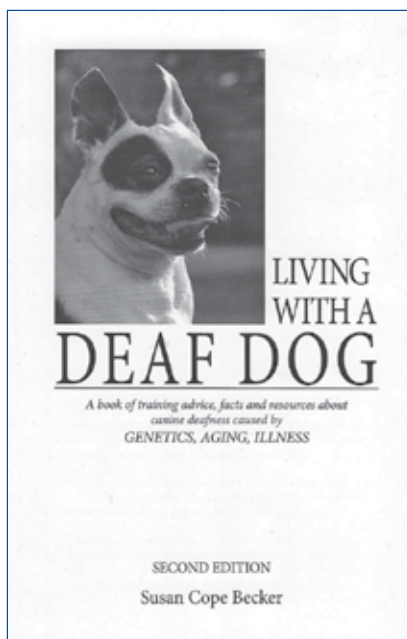
Here is what Karen Pryor, author of *Reaching the Animal Mind* says:

“This book reads like a novel, but it is deep science, too. A gifted and witty writer, Pierson uses a reporter’s eye to inform us of a quiet, ever-spreading transformation in society, away from force to kindness. Among the characters in this adventure are her two dogs; a founding scientist named Fred Skinner; a Navy dolphin trainer, Bob Baily; a distinguished behavior analyst, Murray Sidman – and me. I’m honored to be in her book and very grateful for her explanation of how this works. Click, Melissa!”

The Secret History of Kindness: Learning from How Dogs Learn

By Melissa Holbrook Pierson

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Living with a Deaf Dog, second edition is now available.

The first edition of this valuable book, often called the “deaf dog Bible, has been an integral part of a world-wide movement to increase awareness, understanding, and acceptance of deaf dogs which has resulted in increased adoptions, decreased euthanasia rates, and even acceptance into dog sports and other competitions.

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HELP ME HELP YOU

A series of DVDs exploring animal-assisted programs where kids and animals help each other

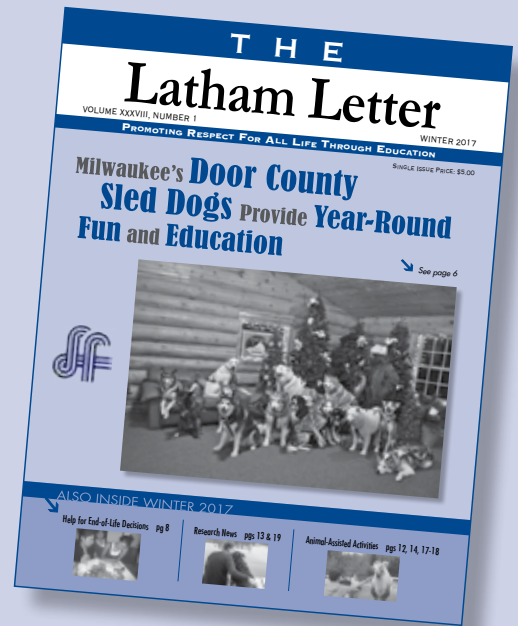
Each of the four inspiring films in this series describes an individual animal-assisted program and features children who have found help and hope. Every program is unique, but all are inspirational reminders of the healing power of the human-animal bond. Viewers will gain insight into starting, building, and maintaining effective programs.

Visit www.Latham.org for more information and special offers and search "Latham Foundation" on YouTube or Vimeo to see film clips.



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