

T H E

# Latham Letter

VOLUME XX, NUMBER 4

FALL 1999

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

Single issue price: \$4.00

## New Latham Video Documents Spay/Neuter Clinics on Reservations



See page six.

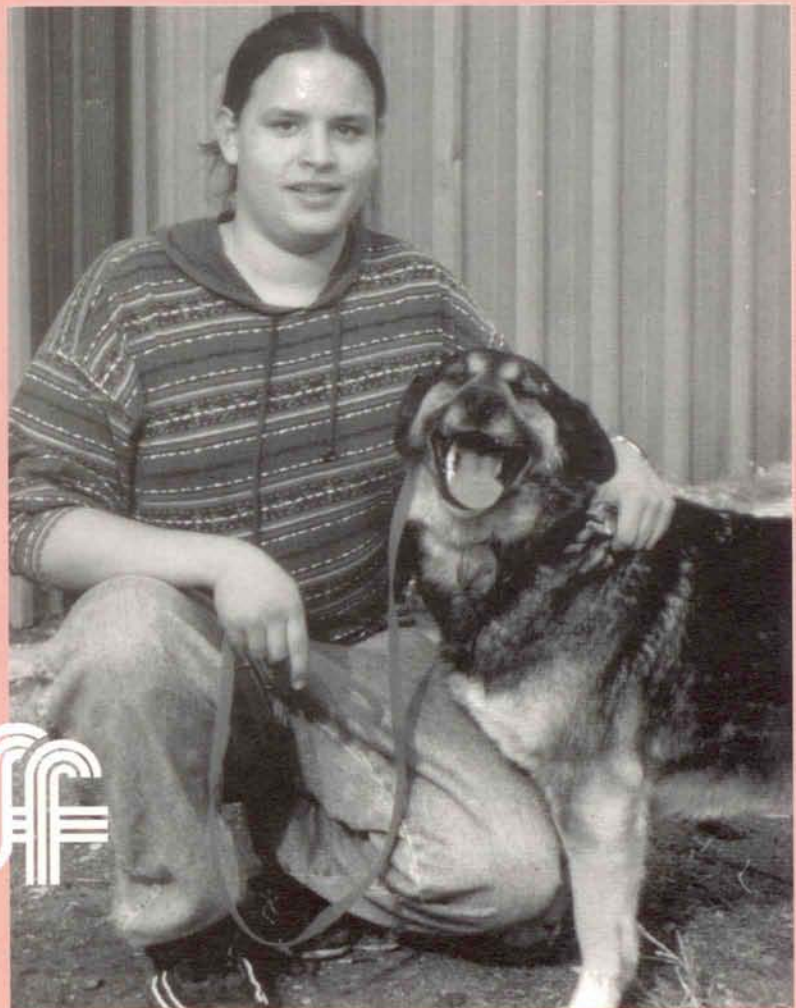


Photo Credit: HSUS Northern Rockies Regional Office

## INSIDE:

- |                             |                |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| <i>Disaster Preparation</i> | <i>Page 10</i> |
| <i>School Shootings</i>     | <i>Page 11</i> |
| <i>Latham's New Book</i>    | <i>Page 23</i> |


*A Blackfeet tribal youth (Browning, MT) with his companion after spay/neuter surgery.*



Latham Center



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Promotion of Humane Education*

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# The Latham Letter

Vol. XX, No. 4, Fall 1999

**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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## Contents:

#### EDITORIAL:

Expectations <i>by Hugh H. Tebault, III</i>	4
Letter to the Editor	5
Latham's New Video Documents Spay/Neuter Clinics on Reservations	6
In Memoriam: Aline H. Kidd, Ph.D.	8
"Link" Coalitions Engaging Community Groups	9
Be Prepared Checklist: What To Do To Protect Your Pet Before a Natural Disaster Strikes	10
1997-1999 School Shootings Roundup	11
Conference: Teaching Compassion in the New Millennium	12
Search for Excellence Video Awards - Call For Entries	13
LATHAM LAUDS: Lindsay Wildlife Museum	16
Upcoming: Conferences • Workshops • Events	17
"Link" Legislation Compiled	18
MEDIA REVIEWS	20
Teaching Compassion ... New Book from Latham!	23

### **Edith Latham's Mandate**

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

# Editorial



## Expectations

Hugh H. Tebault, III, President

**C**hildren killing children. Is this the legacy of the 1990's in the United States? How can this be with so many years of large government programs controlling every aspect of childhood education?

As adults in our society, we set the standards by our actions, by our involvement and by what we passively accept in the actions of others. In our free society we have long held that we may each do whatever we like as long as it does not intrude on another's rights. The statement *your right to swing your arm stops at the end of my nose* is intended to describe the rightful limit of freedom.

In this *Latham Letter* we focus on this very sad series of murders by young adults and examine their history of cruelty first to animals, a cruelty that was not dealt with and then as an untreated wound, festered into a full blown infection, a horrid cruelty toward other humans.

Those who observe the behavior must stop this cycle of violence at its earliest stages. Parents, neighbors, friends, teachers, animal control, or welfare workers all must take individual responsibility to reject any cruelty toward animals as a completely unacceptable behavior.

The latest book from Latham is written for parents, teachers and humane educators on Teaching Compassion. This book by Pamela Raphael with Libby Colman Ph.D. and Lynn Loar Ph.D. uses a refreshing series of art and poetry in lesson plans to convey this very important value we must have as a free society. Without compassion as a shared value, we all lose. I encourage each of you to get a copy of this book, read it and place it in the hands of those in your circle of influence.

Let us put the 1990's behind us and start out 2000 restating our resolve that compassion, kindness to animals and helping others is our individual and collective goal.





# Letters to the Editor

## Greetings!

*My name is Molly Danielson and I am a recent graduate student of the Guidance and Counseling Department at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.*

*I am writing to you because you were a great resource as I completed my literature review and general inquiry into the field of therapeutic practices with animals. I believe there is great purpose and importance in enhancing and utilizing the companion-animal relationship. Again, I praise the efforts of the Latham Foundation and hope to make my own contribution to the field in the future.*

Sincerely,

Molly Danielson

(To Hugh H. Tebault, Sr.)

Dear Hugh,

*Thank you so much for your lovely letter and the copy of "Child Abuse, Domestic Violence and Animal Abuse." It is such a fine job and you must be very proud of a job well done.*

*It is heartening to realize how far the idea of not separating animal and child abuse has come.*

*I hope you are enjoying your well-earned retirement and I'm glad there is still a Tebault at the helm of Latham. It is such a fine organization.*

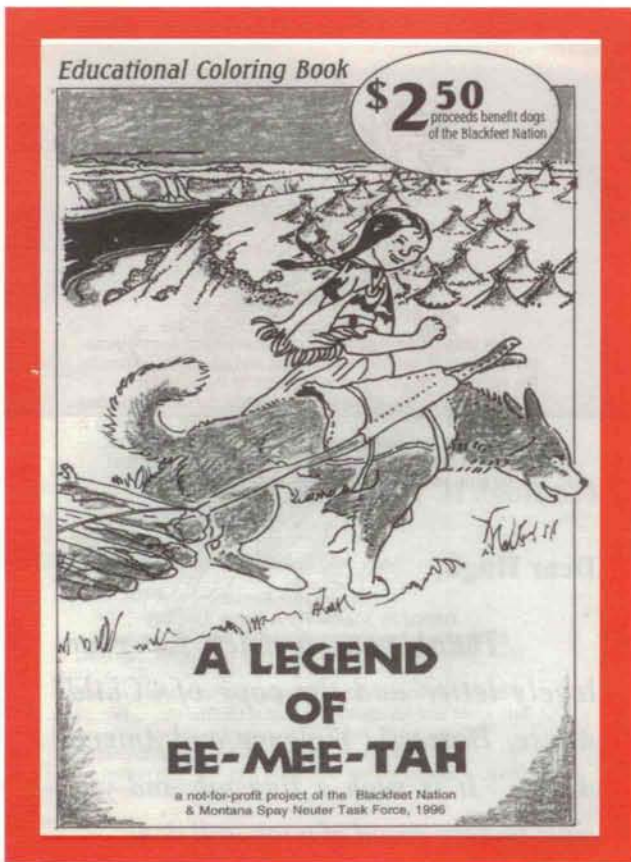
*I'm starting back into TV this fall with a new series but I don't count that as work - it is too much fun.*

*My best to you all, including whatever creatures make up your family.*

Love,

Betty White





## Latham's New Video Documents Spay/Neuter Clinics on Reservations

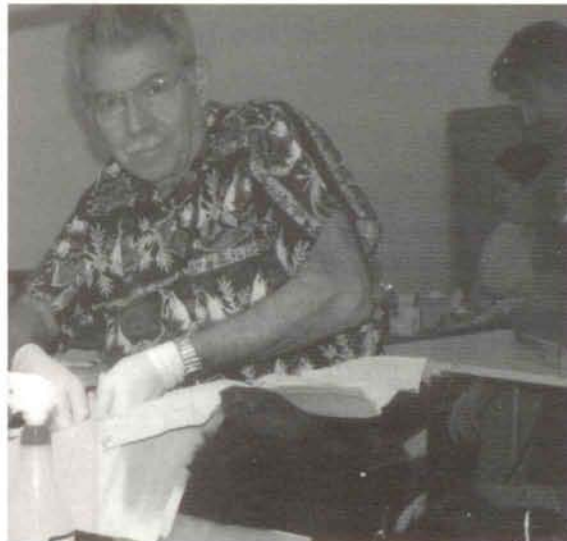


ABOVE:  
Puppies recovering after surgery in Salish, Kootenai Reservation, MT.

**L**atham is completing a new video that will document the important work of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), the Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force, and other organizations and dedicated volunteers working to solve the problem of pet overpopulation on reservations.

This year these organizations participated in more than forty-five days of veterinary clinics on reservations in Montana and North and South Dakota, providing both pre-operative and post-operative animal care, mobile vaccination clinic staff, and humane educators for public or school programs. Dave Pauli, Director of HSUS's Northern Rockies Regional Office, explains in the Spring 1999 Regional News, "... Some native nations see (the clinics) as a good partial solution to public health and safety problems. Others see the clinics as an excellent way to bring humane education to youth groups in their communities."

Pauli continues, "The tribal communities play a big role in making the projects a success. Generally, they supply not only the sites for the various clinics, but also the food and lodging for up to twenty volunteers. Many native groups also provide local volunteers and public health officials



ABOVE:  
Dr. Marvin Mackie of California performing surgery at the Northern Cheyenne Reservation (Lame Deer, Montana, 1999).

BELOW:  
Crow Nation Dance.



Photo Credits:  
HSUS  
Northern Rockies  
Regional Office.

to supplement services and to advise the team about local culture or needs. The tribal health department also handles the task of publicizing the events.

Each of these native nation humane clinics is unique. Depending upon the sponsoring group, the native nation, the number of veterinarians, and the weather conditions, the goal for the day could be as few as thirty surgeries or as many as 200. The clinic might be primarily for dogs or could include cats, horses, or rabbits. We even neutered a black bear! Some clinics require field teams to reach remote sections of the reservations to administer vaccinations to dogs or horses. Others (when staffing allows) include humane education events in the community. Some get extensive media coverage, some get none. But all these clinics have several things in common: They all help to solve the very practical problems of dog and cat overpopulation on today's reservations, and they bring often unavailable veterinary services to very remote areas. The clinics also help to estab-



Crow dancer.



Dr. Jeff Young of Planned Pethood in Colorado performing surgery on the Crow Nation (Lodge Grass, MT).

lish a network for tribal related issues. Finally, the clinics help all participants gain a better understanding of each other's culture and attitudes toward animals. They remind us that a single person's involvement really can make a difference!"

The Crow and Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservations, near Lodge Grass, Montana provide good examples of both the problems of and some of the solutions to pet overpopulation on reservations, where many dogs run in packs. As Daryl Bands, Mayor of Lodge Grass explains, "Crow culture venerates the dog. Before Europeans showed up with horses, Crows depended on dogs to haul their teepees. The dog was our brother. He did all our work for us. Because of that, Crow people do not kill dogs. Instead, they feed the dogs, even if they don't belong to them. The problem is magnified by the fact that many persons in Lodge Grass can't afford to spay or neuter their pets. This leads to dogs running in packs and becoming aggressive."

Last year a pack of nine dogs mauled and nearly killed two-year-old Dakota Redding as he played



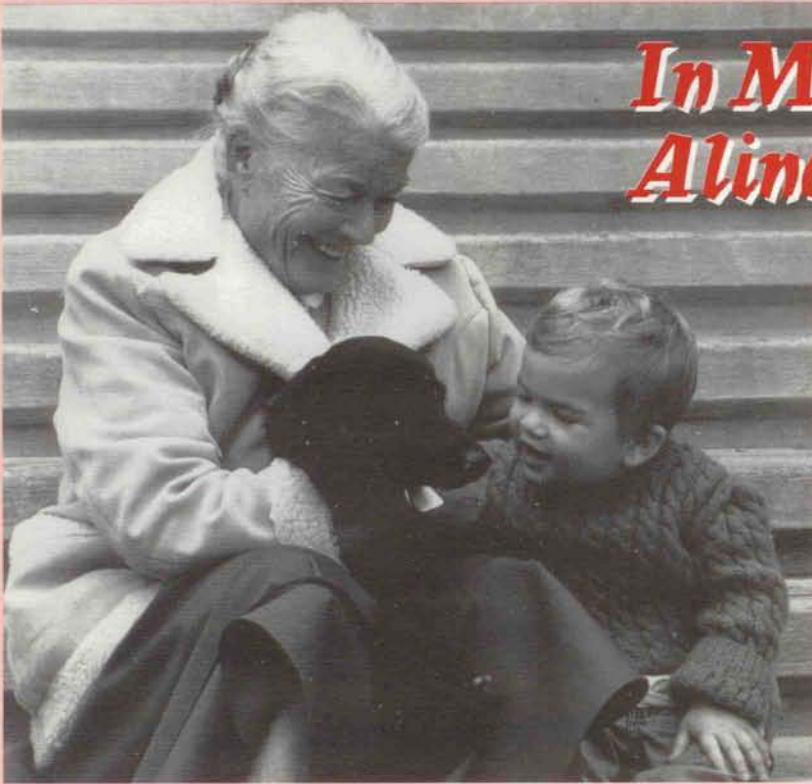
Crow girl with puppy awaiting sterilization.

with his sister outside their house in Lodge Grass. Although he survived, the bites that punctured his windpipe and damaged arteries left him with strokelike injuries on the right side of his brain. This was the last straw for the people of Lodge Grass. The town leaders contacted the Billings Humane Society, which in turn contacted the Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force.

Jean Atthowe of the Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force is a veteran clinic organizer. "You can't pull off something like this without planning," she emphasizes. And she should know. At the November 1998 spay/neuter clinic on the Flathead Reservation, volunteer veterinarians performed more than 1,300 operations in six days. According to Atthowe, "Before the clinics, people cared, but there was nothing they could do (about pet overpopulation). This breaks the chain."

Stay tuned in future issues for an article by Jean Atthowe and details about the release of Latham's video.





## *In Memoriam: Aline H. Kidd, Ph.D.*

*Aline and  
Grandson Josh.*

**L**atham and everyone in the field of human-animal interactions lost a great friend when Aline H. Kidd, Ph.D. died this summer of lung cancer.

Dr. Kidd, a licensed child psychologist and professor emerita from Mills College in Oakland, California, was a leader in the field of human-animal interactions for more than twenty years. She and her husband, the Reverend Robert Kidd, published scores of papers on a wide variety of topics concerning the relationships between people and animals. Their work explored the role of animals in the lives of people of all ages in the general population. They have studied the responses of children to live and toy animals, the role of pets in mental and physical health throughout the life-span, the effects of childhood pet ownership on adult attitudes toward animals, and the value of pets to homeless people. Dr. Kidd was a contributing editor to the *Latham Letter*.

A native of Munich, Germany, she had lived in Walnut Creek, California for the last fifteen years.

She received her BS and MS at the University of Michigan and her Ph.D. at the University of Arizona.

Affiliations include Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Sigma, Society of Sigma Xi, Delta Society, the International Society for Anthrozoology, and the Center for Animals in Society at the School of Veterinary Medicine, UC-Davis where she and Rob joined the research team in 1994.

She is survived by her husband, three children, and five grandchildren.

*We'll miss you, Aline!*



*Aline and Rob Kidd: writing, research, dancing, and life partners for more than 50 years, step out in the square dance outfits she made.*



# "Link" Coalitions Engaging Community Groups in Five States



"This is me and my cat.  
My dad treats my cat unfairly,  
like he treats my mom."

Jennifer, Age 8

**C**ommunity coalitions in five states have been active in recent months in bringing the "link" between animal abuse and family violence to public attention, and in initiating cross-disciplinary interventions.

In Portland, OR, the Dove Lewis Emergency Animal Hospital invited Phil Arkow, chair of Latham's Child & Animal Abuse Protection Project, to be the keynote speaker at a public forum and a conference for veterinarians. The Portland Veterinary Medical Association announced a major initiative to compile a training guide that will give veterinarians, for the first time, specific diagnostic criteria of various forms of animal abuse and neglect. The criteria are a critical first step leading to legislation to be proposed by the Oregon Veterinary Medical Association in 2001 that would require veterinarians to report suspected animal maltreatment. For details about the diagnostic criteria project, contact Dr. Robert Franklin at 503-292-3001.

Dove Lewis and the Oregon Humane Society have implemented a Pet Fostering Network to provide temporary, confidential housing for the pets of domestic violence victims. Oregonians are also proposing legislation that would make violence against women or animals a felony when witnessed by children. For details, contact Carol Shiveley at the Oregon Humane Society at 503-285-7722 x 206. Other participants included Hollywood actors Ed Asner and Rin-Tin-Tin, and Ms. Oregon Melody Mihevc, a humane educator at the Greenhill Humane Society in Eugene.

In Elgin, IL, 80 representatives from animal protection, community crisis,

women's shelters, police, education, and court services heard three members of Latham's team at an all-day workshop. "All in the Family: Animal Abuse, Child Abuse and Domestic Violence" was coordinated by the Anderson Animal Shelter and the Community Crisis Center to help these groups work together.

Arkow, who co-edited Latham's newest book on the "link," Barbara Boat, and Jill De Grave, who wrote chapters in the book, presented reports and showed Latham's video, "Breaking the Cycles of Violence."

State Rep. Patricia Reid Lindner is reportedly drafting a bill that would mandate reporting of animal abuse in Illinois. The workshop helped groups in the area organize a coalition, spearheaded by the Chicago Area Veterinary Medical Association. Contact Dr. John Ciribassi at 630-653-1000 for details.

In Marion, IN (pop. 32,000), 91 professionals turned out for two "Breaking the Cycles of Violence" workshops conducted by Arkow. Sponsored by the Mayor's Commission Against Domestic Violence, the workshops were organized by the Family Service Society's Hands of Hope program. Representatives from women's groups, probation, Head Start, schools, victims' advocacy, schools of social work, mental health, police, and animal shelters attended. The Marion-Grant County Humane Society and local women's shelter are organizing a safehouse for pets belonging to battered women, and sharing information about common cases. Upcoming fund-raisers will share proceeds between the two shelters. The remarkable

turnout was attributed to several factors: each workshop was only four hours long so participants would not miss a day's work; there was no registration fee; and continuing education and law enforcement credits were offered. For details, call Linda Wilk at 765-662-9971.

In Miami, FL, Project Safe Families, Safe Pets has been launched as a collaborative intervention to address the concurrence of family violence and animal cruelty. The innovative partnership links the Humane Society of Greater Miami, Safespace Shelter, the Domestic Violence Division of the 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, and the Miami Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit. The Project includes a safehouse for pets, cross-reporting and cross-training of investigating officials, and a public awareness campaign. The Project "demonstrates our community's commitment to responding to family violence by employing specialized risk management strategies as a method of prevention," said Judge Amy Karan. For details, contact Kelly Grimm at the Humane Society at 305-696-0800.

In Cincinnati, OH, the Childhood Trust has organized Communities Networking for People and Animal Welfare. Projects include information exchange, networking, and a brochure that tells children what they can do about domestic violence. The brochure encourages children to tell adults about animals that are harmed as a result of family violence. For details, call Barbara Boat at 513-558-9007.





## Be Prepared Checklist: What To Do To Protect Your Pet's Life Before a Natural Disaster Strikes

Dr. Bernadine Cruz, DVM

**F**rom Miami to Boston, everyone along the East Coast felt the effects of Hurricane Floyd – including pets. During each natural disaster our nation endures, we see stories of people trying to rescue their pets, endangering their own lives and lives of professional rescue personnel. But, with a little preparation and planning before a natural disaster like Hurricane Floyd hits, you can manage these risky situations and help ensure you and your pet are safe and sound. Now is the time to get started.

You go, your pet goes. If you have to evacuate, take your pet with you. If it's unsafe for you to remain, it's also unsafe for your pet.

Tags are your pet's ticket home. Fasten an up-to-date identification tag on your pet's collar. Include a friend or family member's name and number (possibly someone out of state), and the number of your veterinarian.

Find a pet safe haven. Remember that Red Cross disaster shelters cannot accept pets (except service animals). Create a list of boarding facilities within a 100-mile radius of your home. Also make a list of nearby hotels/motels that accept pets. Ask if "no pets" policies would be lifted in a disaster situation. If you and your pet can't stay together, contact friends, family, veterinarians and boarding kennels in safe areas to arrange for foster care.

Check with local animal services. Inquire if your local animal shelter has an evacuation plan for animals, and if they would be able to care for your specific type of pet for an extended period of time should you lose your home. (Consider this a last resort, because shelters may be overwhelmed caring for animals displaced by a disaster).

Good health is essential. In case you have to leave the area or state with your pet, or board him in a kennel, make sure that preventive health care is current, including up-to-date vaccinations. Regular veterinary visits are essential to check for diseases such as arthritis, which affects one in five dogs in the United States. Arthritis not only causes pain but also restricts a dog's mobility and could add time to an evacuation when every second is critical. If arthritis is diagnosed, ask your veterinarian for medication such as Rimadyl (carprofen), a that relieves the pain and inflammation caused by the disease. Dr. Cruz cautions, "As with other pain relievers in nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) class, rare but serious side effects

involving the digestive system, kidneys or liver may occur. Regular monitoring is required for pets on any medication." Also, make sure you have an adequate supply of any prescription medications.

### Pack it up.

Assemble a portable pet disaster supply kit in a backpack. Include: *medications and medical records stored in a waterproof container; first aid kit; leashes, harnesses and carriers large enough for pets to stand and turn; current photos of your pets in case they get lost; dry food, drinkable water, bowls cat litter/pan and can opener; information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems and the name and number of your veterinarian; pet toys and beds, if easily transportable.*

### Corral time.

If you anticipate a disaster, bring all pets into the house so you won't have to search for them should you have to leave in a hurry. Keep in mind that, like humans, pets react differently under stress. The most trust-worthy pets may panic, try to hide, run away and may even bite. Outside your home, keep dogs securely leashed and transport cats in proper carriers.

---

Dr. Bernadine Cruz, DVM, is an associate veterinarian at Laguna Hills Animal Hospital, Laguna Hills, CA. She is a spokesperson for Rimadyl (carprofen), a canine arthritis pain reliever. You can reach her through Katie Welch at 612-820-9257 or Sara Mulder at 612-820-9342



# 1997-1999 SCHOOL SHOOTINGS ROUNDUP

Nancy B. Miner



year of planning, seven-teen-year-old Dylan Klebold and eighteen-year-old Eric Harris reportedly used an incredible stockpile of pipe bombs and guns to massacre twelve classmates and a teacher, and wound twenty-three more, before killing themselves.

*October 1, 1997 - Pearl Mississippi:* Sixteen-year-old Luke Woodham stabbed his mother to death, then took a rifle to school, where he shot nine students, killing two.

*December 1, 1997 - Paducah, Kentucky:* Fourteen-year-old Michael Carneal took a stolen arsenal of four shotguns, two rifles, a pistol, and more than 700 rounds of ammunition to school, where he gunned down eight classmates at a prayer circle, killing three.

*March 24, 1998 - Jonesboro, Arkansas:* Eleven-year-old Andrew ("Drew") Golden and thirteen-year-old Mitchell Johnson set off a fire alarm in their school, then opened fire on students and teachers as they poured out of the building, wounding ten and killing five.

*May 21, 1998 - Springfield, Oregon:* Fifteen-year-old Kipland ("Kip") Kinkel allegedly murdered both his parents, then took a rifle and two hand guns to school and fired upon a crowd of students in the cafeteria, wounding twenty-two and killing two.

*April 20, 1999 - Littleton, Colorado:* In the culmination of more than a

One out of every four high school students knows a fellow student believed to be capable of committing a Littleton-style massacre, according to a recent poll conducted by the *Washington Post*. One in three reports having heard a fellow student threaten to kill someone.

Although the incidence of school violence is dropping, the severity of that violence is escalating. Following the Jonesboro shooting, President Clinton ordered Attorney General Janet Reno to establish a task force to look for links among the school shootings and ways of averting such tragedies in the future. That was a full year prior to the slaughter in Colorado.

Although few people are aware of it, we already have that link. The nexus, and the warning signal that could have saved more than two dozen lives had it been recognized as such, is one which Clinton, Reno, and hundreds of educators, law enforcement officials, and other experts have repeatedly ignored. It is the powerful connection between cruelty to animals and human violence, a well-documented phenomenon researchers call "The Link." In all five of the shootings, the young

gunmen were known to have committed, even boasted about, acts of animal cruelty.

In his journal, Luke Woodham gave a chilling description of the way in which he and a friend killed his little dog, Sparkle, by beating her with baseball bats, dousing her with gasoline, setting her on fire, and then tossing her body into a pond. "I made my first kill today," Luke wrote. "It was a loved one ... I'll never forget the howl she made. It sounded almost human. We laughed and hit her more ... I'll never forget the sound of her bones breaking under my might. I hit her so hard I knocked the fur off her neck ... It was true beauty."

Michael Carneal talked to classmates about tossing a cat into a bonfire.

Drew Golden was an avid hunter who boasted of torturing and killing animals, a proclivity that led one family friend to say that "guns and killing things were his whole life."

For years, Kip Kinkel had been bragging in gruesome detail to his classmates about the ways in which he tortured animals, from cats to cows, using guns, knives, firecrackers, and homemade bombs. Classmates said that Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris talked about mutilating animals. Dylan's family reportedly knew that he kept firearms in the house, but dismissed it, saying that he saved the largest of his guns "just to shoot woodpeckers." Humane considerations aside, shooting woodpeckers is illegal; they are a protected species.

In 1964, anthropologist Margaret Mead warned us that "the most dangerous thing that can happen to a child is to kill or torture an animal and

SHOOTINGS, continued on page 14.

# Teaching Compassion in the New Millennium

Humane educators and child welfare professionals from California and Arizona gathered on September 30th at Fort Mason Center in San Francisco to meet the authors of Latham's new book, *Teaching Compassion: A Guide for Humane Educators, Teachers, and Parents* and hear Dr. Randall Lockwood, HSUS's Vice President of Training Initiatives.

**SEE PAGE 23 for  
ordering information**



*Author Pamela Raphael.*



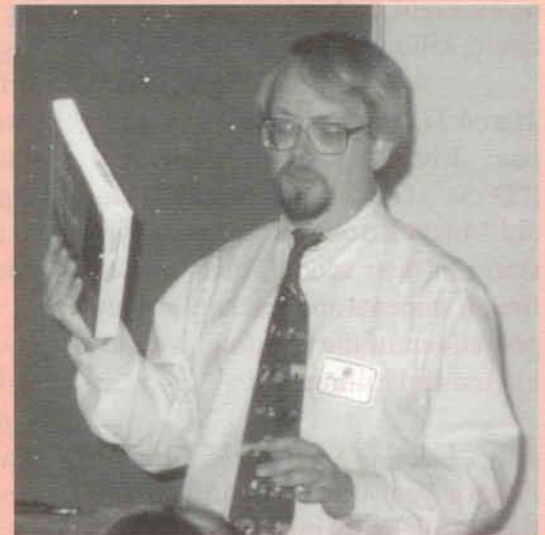
*Author Lynn Loar.*



*Author Libby Colman.*



*Compassionate Conference attendees.*



*Randall Lockwood, Vice President of  
Training Initiatives, The Humane Society  
of the United States.*



# Search for Excellence Video Awards

Call for Entries

**DEADLINE  
DECEMBER 31ST!**



## *Win cash prizes, awards, and recognition*

The Latham Foundation invites entries in its *Search for Excellence Video Awards*. The purpose of this program, which is held every two years, is to locate, honor, publicize, and encourage videos promoting respect for all life.

**Entry Deadline:** December 31, 1999. Videos must have been completed in the two years prior to the deadline.

**Entry Fee:** \$20.00

*Categories include but are not limited to:*

- *Child & animal abuse/domestic violence prevention*
- *Humane education and responsible animal care*
- *The human companion animal bond*
- *Advocacy/public policy*
- *Animal behavior/natural history*
- *Innovative humane education programs and projects worthy of replication*
- *Public Service Announcements*

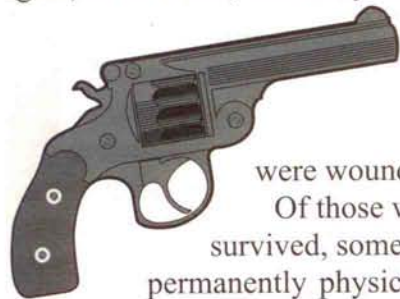
For submission guidelines and an entry form, visit Latham's web site at [www.latham.org](http://www.latham.org) or contact The Latham Foundation, Latham Plaza Building, 1826 Clement Ave., Alameda, CA 94501. Phone 510-521-0920, Fax 510-521-9861.

get away with it." But, more than three decades later, we still trivialize what should be regarded as a very clear indication of serious trouble to come. When a child mistreats an animal, all too often, we dismiss it by saying that "boys will be boys" or "he's just going through a phase" or "children can be cruel, but it doesn't mean anything."

To the contrary, deliberate cruelty to animals *does* mean something. It is a harbinger of further violent, antisocial behavior.

People who hurt animals also hurt people. This is a fact. We have more than two decades of scientific research and anecdotal evidence documenting this connection. In the case of the school shootings, dozens of people, including law enforcement and school officials, were aware of the boys' abusive behavior, but no one took it seriously.

As a result, twenty-seven people, most of them children or teenagers, were killed, and many more



were wounded. Of those who survived, some are permanently physically disabled. Still others, with less severe physical injuries, will lose years of their lives to the struggle for emotional recovery. So will the families and friends of both the victims and the perpetrators.

In addition to the animal abuse, the boys gave numerous verbal warnings of their intentions, telling classmates and friends that "something bad is going to happen," that the boys "had a lot of killing to do," that the other students would soon find out "who was going to live and

who was going to die," and that the boys wanted to "kill them ALL!!!" But, as one beleaguered school administrator pointed out, if every student who threatened to kill someone were called into the principal's office, the classrooms soon would be empty.

Deliberate cruelty to animals, however, is *never* an equivocal warning. It is a reliable way of separating the potentially lethal from the merely disgruntled. Every research study on the subject, more than two dozen studies over the past twenty-five years, has demonstrated that people who are cruel to animals are a danger to all of us. They commit as many as five times more crimes of every type than their peers do, from parking violations to murder. In fact, a history of animal cruelty is *so* common among serial killers that it is part of the "homicidal triad," a profile developed by the FBI that also includes bed-wetting and fire-starting.

Officials at the National Education Association, the largest teacher union in the United States, say that, since the school shootings began making headlines in 1997, they have been inundated with calls from principals, counselors, and teachers anxious for help in identifying violent kids *before* they erupt. Researchers around the world are looking for some kind of genetic marker for violence, a "murder gene," some simple blood test that one day will be used to identify the next Luke, Drew, Kip or Dylan.

We already possess the knowledge to avert future tragedies. We simply need to apply it.



Luke Woodham was found guilty of three counts of murder and seven counts of aggravated assault. He has been sentenced to three life prison terms, plus an additional twenty years for each assault.

Michael Carneal, who pleaded guilty, but mentally ill, to three counts of murder and five of attempted murder, has been sentenced to a minimum of twenty-five years in prison without possibility of parole. Michael says he prefers jail to high school. The food is good, he sleeps well, and, he says, "People respect me now." As to his killing spree, the only explanation he can offer is heartbreakingly childish. "I just wanted the other guys to think I was cool ..."

Drew Golden and Mitchell Johnson are being held in an Arkansas juvenile facility for an indeterminate period, until the Division of Youth Services decides they should be released. In any event, Arkansas state law prohibits their being detained after they reach the age of twenty-one.

Just three days before his case was scheduled to come to trial, Kip Kinkel dropped his planned insanity defense and pleaded guilty to four counts of murder and more than twenty counts of attempted murder (including an assault on a police officer, following his arrest.) As of this writing, Kip has not been sentenced. Under Oregon law, because he was only fifteen at the time of the murders, he does not face the death penalty. He can, however, be incarcerated for a term of from 25 to 200 years.

Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold both were found dead in the library at Columbine High School amidst the bloody corpses of their victims.



## WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP ...



- Report any incident of animal cruelty immediately to either Animal Control or the police (listed in the White Pages with the municipal government phone numbers).
- Notify both the child's family and his school of the problem.
- Because children who are cruel to animals often are the victims of abuse themselves, notify Child Protective Services (listed in the Yellow Pages under Social Service Organizations) and ask that the family be investigated.
- Write to your legislators demanding stiffer penalties and mandatory counseling for people who abuse animals. At present, only twenty-four states have laws making animal cruelty a felony.
- **A tip from the FBI:** Cruelty to animals can be symbolic. The child who dismembers a teddy bear may be just as troubled, and just as dangerous, as the child who dismembers a kitten. This type of behavior also must be addressed.

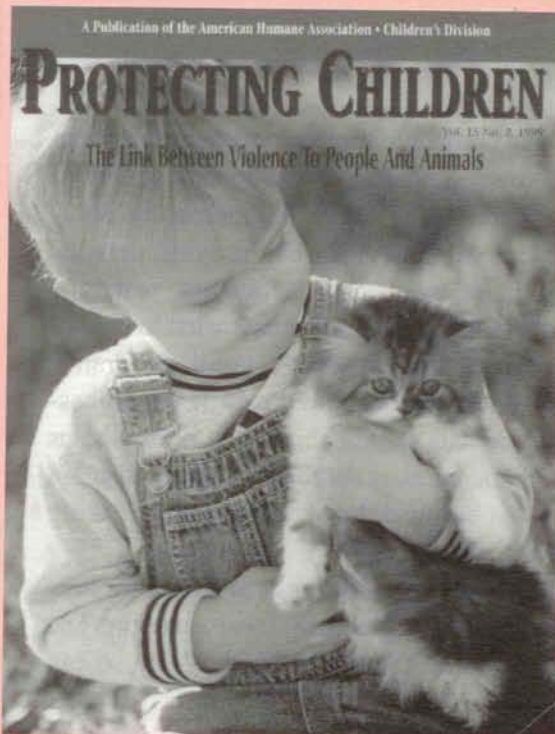
*Nancy B. Miner is a writer/researcher in the field of family violence, as well as an animal-rights activist. She is currently at work on a book on the link between child abuse and animal cruelty. Anyone with comments, questions, or experience with this type of behavior is encouraged to contact her at Route 1, Box 2385, Palmyra, VA 22963 - (804) 589-8906 - nminer@vacle.org.*

## RESOURCES:

### FIRST STRIKE CAMPAIGN

First Strike, a world-wide campaign launched in 1997 by the Humane Society of the United States, is intended to educate people the world over about the animal cruelty/human violence connection.

First Strike has been a tremendous success, a bridge to professionals dealing with the issue of violence in our communities. Through workshops, print materials, testimony, and public discourse, we have brought to social workers, educators, police officers, prosecutors, judges, and other new audiences evidence of the hitherto unrecognized impact of cruelty to animals. For more information, call 1-888-213-0956.



**A WEALTH OF INFORMATION ON THE LINK BETWEEN VIOLENCE TO PEOPLE AND ANIMALS available from the American Humane Association --- Children's Division**

*See page 19 for a list of links-related Latham Letter articles.*



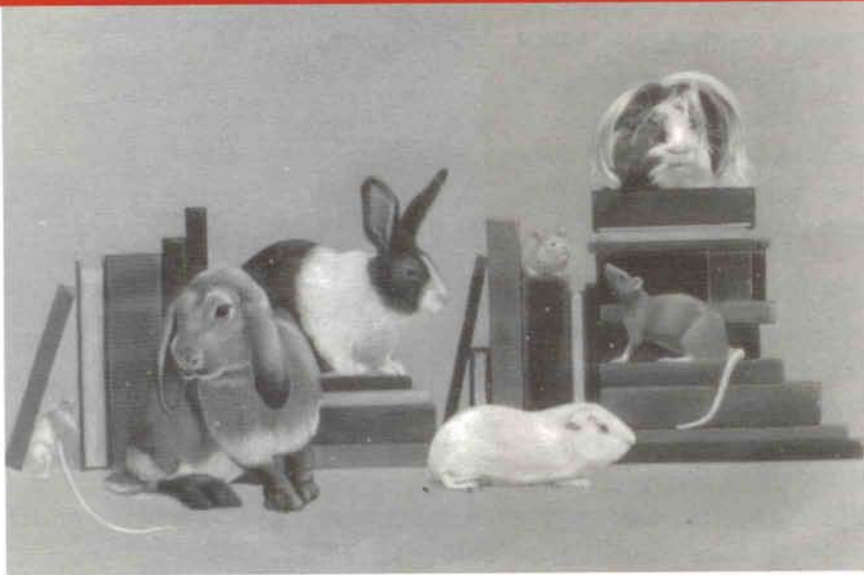


Illustration by: Lori Tyminski

## Lindsay Wildlife Museum's Pet Lending Library



Youth program volunteers Mallory Matney and Megan Chisum in the pet lending library.



Photo credits: Brian Murphy

**A** unique program at the Lindsay Wildlife Museum in Walnut Creek, California allows museum members and their children to borrow a rabbit, guinea pig, hamster, or rat. These domestic animals are not purchased, but are unwanted pets that have been donated to the museum.

The program, which is sponsored by People Soft, operates with permission from the US Department of Agriculture, APHIS (Animal Health Inspection Service) division, teaches responsible pet care and ownership. Due to legal requirements and liability issues, the animal may only be used at the museum members address. By law, these animals may not be displayed, or used for anything other than a week-long experience in a private home.

Children can enjoy the animal companion for one week, before making a lifetime commitment. Borrowers must pay for a week's supply of food and take a quiz on animal care. If they pass, the temporary pet is theirs for seven days. A volunteer explains that they provide detailed animal care instructions, including emergency plans, and also teach the borrowers about the animals' personalities, so they'll know what to expect.

Cassandra Smith, director of the Museum's youth programs, explains, "... these formerly unwanted pets can be a sort of pet ambassador to teach people to care for animals responsibly." The library helps parents prevent costly mistakes. Some families come back again and again to check out pets. Others thanks us because they spent the week taking care of the pet after their child lost interest."

One mother, who checked out two guinea pigs and a rat in three consecutive weeks, said, "After all that we're ready for a vacation. The good thing about this program is that he can take a break -- and so can the animals."

### General Information for Borrowers:

- *Animals are very sensitive to temperature changes and become sick or die when exposed to excessive heat, drafts or moisture. Always anticipate what the climate around the cage will be when the animal is left alone.*
- *Never leave an animal alone in the car, especially on hot days.*
- *Caged pets should always be kept in a separate room where they will be protected from other pets and small children. Dogs and cats can stress or kill your borrowed pet.*
- *Pet Library animals must be kept in the house while visiting with your family. They may never be kept outside.*





# Upcoming: Conferences · Workshops · Events

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *We are glad to publicize relevant conferences and workshops when space and publication schedules allow. Send information to: The Latham Foundation, Attn: Calendar, 1826 Clement Ave., Alameda, CA 94501. Phone 510-521-0920 • Fax 510-521-9861 • E-mail [Lathm@aol.com](mailto:Lathm@aol.com)*

## DECEMBER, 1999

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### DECEMBER 1-4

Safe Harbors: Moving Family Based Services into the 21st Century, 113th Annual NAFBS Empowering Families Conference, Baltimore, MD. For information contact: National Association for Family Based Services at 319-335-3231 or visit [www.nafbs.org](http://www.nafbs.org)

### DECEMBER 8

American Veterinary Medical Association 1999 Animal Welfare Forum, Albuquerque, New Mexico. To register or for further information: 800-248-2862, AVMA 1931 N. Meacham Rd, Suite 100, Schaumburg, IL 60173

## JANUARY, 2000

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### JANUARY 24-28

14th Annual San Diego Conference on Responding to Child Maltreatment, San Diego, California. For information, contact: Robbie Webb, Center for Child Protection, Children's Hospital-San Diego, 3020 Children's Way/MC 5016, San Diego, CA 92123-4282 or call 619-495-4940 or [rwebb@chsd.org](mailto:rwebb@chsd.org)

## FEBRUARY

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### FEBRUARY 16-19

Humane Society of the United States Animal Care EXPO, Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, NV, 1-800-248-EXPO

## APRIL

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### APRIL 26-29

Family Support: Putting Family Support on the Map for the Next Century, Chicago, Illinois. For information contact Family Resource Coalition, 20 N. Wacker Dr., Suite 1100, Chicago, IL 60606 or 312-338-0900, [frca@frca.org](mailto:frca@frca.org)

## JULY

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### JULY 1-15

8th National APSAC Colloquium, Chicago, Illinois. For information contact: APSAC, 407 S. Dearborn St., Suite 1300, Chicago, IL 60605 or 312-554-0166 or [APSACEduc@aol.com](mailto:APSACEduc@aol.com)



# "Link" Legislation Compiled

Phil Arkow

**A**ttorney Pamela Frasch, director of the Portland, OR office of the Animal Legal Defense Fund, has compiled the most up-to-date listing of state laws regarding animal abuse and its links with family violence.

According to Frasch, 23 states currently have at least one form of animal cruelty that is a felony. However, no national database exists to analyze how many cases are charged or prosecuted. Anecdotal evidence, however, suggests that prosecutors are reluctant to charge or prosecute animal cruelty cases due to: real or perceived limitations; inexperienced staff; community pressure to focus on other crimes; and personal or professional bias against taking animal abuse seriously as a violent crime.

Frasch also found that: Eight states (CO, ME, MI, MN, OR, UT, VT, WA) now authorize evaluations and psychological or psychiatric treatment for persons convicted of animal abuse.

Six states (LA, MI, MN, NJ, RI, WV) now allow judges to order community service to be part of the sentencing, or a condition of probation, for persons convicted of

animal abuse. Minnesota authorizes the court to order this sentence to be completed in an animal shelter.

Four states (CA, CT, FL, OH) and Washington, DC now require or permit humane investigators to report suspected child abuse. Florida authorizes child protection officers to report suspected animal abuse.

Nine states now offer provisions for veterinarians to report suspected or known animal cruelty (IL, MN, WV) or provide veterinarians with immunity from lawsuits as a result of such investigations (CA, FL, ID, MD, NH, OR). Frasch also found that 44 states and DC allow abused or neglected animals to be seized; 42 states and DC have provisions to reimburse expenses for the care of animals during the prosecution of an abuse or neglect case; and 36 states either require or allow courts to order defendants to forfeit their right to possess animals upon a cruelty conviction.

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*Frasch's compilation appears in the current issue of Animal Law magazine, published by Northwestern University School of Law.*



## Have You Moved?

*Please notify the Foundation of your change of address.*

*(It's a big help if you enclose an old Latham Letter mailing label.)*

*Avoid missing an issue of the Latham Letter and save us from paying postage on your returned newsletter.*

**Thank You!**



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**to Recycle**

# Latham Letter BACK ISSUES containing "Links" Articles

The following back issues containing articles on the connections between child and animal abuse and other forms of domestic violence are available from the Foundation for \$2.50 each, plus \$3.00 Priority Mail Postage and Handling for up to 10 issues (U.S. and Canada).

Foreign orders please add \$10.00. California residents please add 8.25% sales tax. MasterCard and VISA accepted.

— New England Animal Control/Humane Task Force	Spring/Summer 99	— The Veterinarian's Role in the Prevention of Violence	Summer 94
— Confronting Abuse (A veterinarian and a social worker confront abuse)	Summer 1998	— Results of Latham's National Survey on Child and Animal Abuse	Summer 94
— The Human/Animal Abuse Connection	Spring 98	— Israel Conference Puts the Link Between Animal and Child Abuse on the Public Agenda	Summer 94
— The Relationship Between Animal Abuse And Other Forms Of Family Violence	Winter 97	— Wisconsin Coalition Organizes Anti-Abuse Conference	Summer 94
— Domestic Violence Assistance Program Protects Women, Children, and Their Pets in Oregon	Summer 97	— A Shared Cry: Animal and Child Abuse Connections	Fall 1994
— A Veterinarian and a Social Worker Confront Abuse	Summer 97	— A Report on Latham's October 1992 Conference on Child and Animal Abuse	Winter 93
— University of Penn. Veterinary Hospital Initiates Abuse Reporting Policy	Fall 97	— Child Abuse Reporting Hotline Falls Short	Winter 93
— Domestic Violence and Cruelty to Animals	Winter 1996	— I Befriended a Child Molester	Spring 93
— Animal Cruelty IS Domestic Violence	Winter 1996	— A Test for Determining Why Children are Cruel to Animals	Summer 93
— Gentleness Workshops (I Like the Policeman Who Arrested That Dog!)	Spring 1996	— Animal Advocates Looking Out for Children (A description of the Toledo Humane Society's child and animal abuse prevention program)	Fall 93
— Loudoun County Virginia Develops Cooperative Response to Domestic Violence	Spring 1996	— Correlations Drawn Between Child and Animal Victims of Violence	Summer 92
— And Kindness for ALL (Guest Editorial)	Summer 1996	— Upsetting Comparisons (between child and animal cruelty investigations)	Summer 92
— Should Veterinarians Report Suspected Animal Abuse?	Fall 1996	— Watching Ralph Smile (An animal welfare professional's reminiscence)	Summer 92
— Windwalker Humane Coalition's Web of Hope Grows Stronger	Fall 1996	— The Shape of Cruelty (A child protection professional's perspective)	Summer 92
— Update on the Link Between Child and Animal Abuse	Fall 1996	— Link Between Animal Cruelty and Child Abuse Described	Summer 92
— Report on Tacoma, Washington's Humane Coalition Against Violence	Winter 95	— Putting the Abuse of Animals and Children in Historical Perspective	Summer 92
— Animal Cruelty & the Link to Other Violent Crimes	Winter 95	— The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child	Winter 90
— Univ. of Southern California Conference Addresses Violence Against Children	Spring 1995	— Dangerous Dogs: A Symptom of Dangerous People	Fall 89
— Working to Break the Cycle of Violence	Spring 1995	— *Protecting America's Children	Fall 88*
— The Tangled Web: Report on LaCrosse, Wisconsin's Coalition Against Violence	Spring 1995	— *Protecting Children from Abuse and Neglect	Fall 88*
— Hawaii's "Healthy Start" - a Successful Approach to the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect	Summer 1995	— *The Role of the Community in Child Protection	Fall 88*
— San Diego, Calif. Child Protection Workers Required to Report Animal Abuse	Summer 1995	— *Child Protection: The Need for Community Response	Fall 88*
— Animals Over Children? (An Editorial by Michael Mountain, Editor, Best Friends Magazine)	Summer 1995	— *The Humane Society of the US and "The Cycle of Child Abuse"	Fall 88*
— Summaries of Child and Animal Abuse Prevention Conferences	Summer 1995	— *Parent Abuse and Games to Play	Fall 88*
— Abuse an Animal - Go To Jail! (Animal Legal Defense Fund's Zero Tolerance for Cruelty)	Summer 1995	— *Mental Health and Child Protective Services	Fall 88*
— Report on Rhode Island Conference: Weaving a Silver Web of Hope from the Tangled Threads of Violence	Summer 1995	— Working Toward Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect	Summer 87*
— Part 2: Hawaii's Healthy Start Child Abuse Program	Fall 1995	— An Overview of Children's Protective Services	Summer 87*
— Milwaukee Humane Society's "PAL" Program: At-Risk Kids Learn Respect through Dog Obedience Training	Winter 94	— Pets and Latchkey Children	Summer 87*
— Latham Confronts Child and Animal Abuse	Spring 94	— Animal Abuse Ties to Crime	Summer 87*
— A Humane Garden of Children, Plants, and Animals Grows in Sonoma County	Spring 94	— Cruelty: Where Do We Draw the Line?	Summer 87*
— Education and Violence: Where Are We Going? A Guest Editorial	Spring 94		
— Bedwetting, Fire Setting, and Animal Cruelty as Indicators of Violent Behavior	Spring 94		
— Animal Abuse and Domestic Violence: Intake Statistics Tell a Sad Story	Spring 94		

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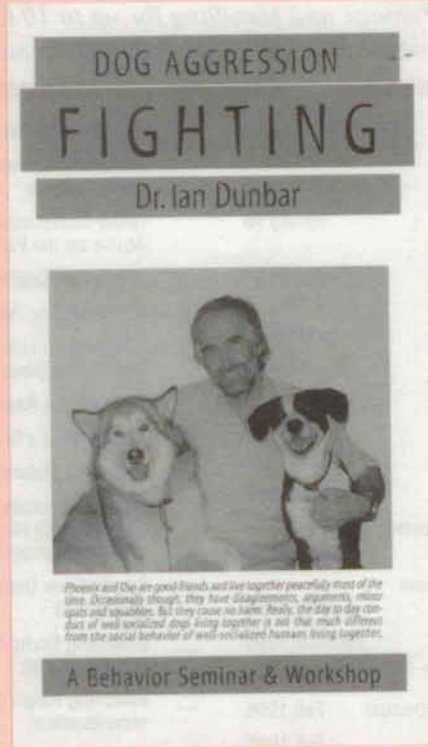
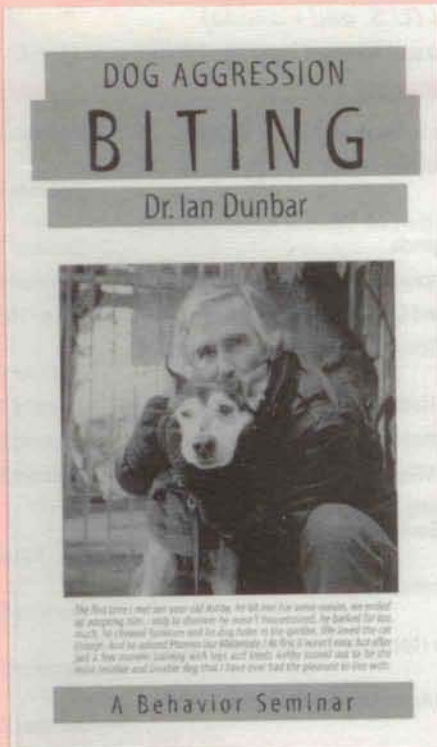
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## **Pet Loss and Human Emotion: Guiding Clients Through Grief**

by Cheri Barton Ross, MA and Jane Baron-Sorensen, RN, MA, MFCC

Although society accepts that grieving over the death of a loved one is not only normal, but healthy and necessary, grieving over the loss of a pet often is seen as something childish.

## PET LOSS *and* Human Emotion



*guiding clients through grief*

Cheri Barton Ross, MA  
Jane Baron-Sorensen, RN, MA, MFCC

Expressed feelings often go unvalidated, leaving the bereaved embarrassed and ashamed. In truth, pet loss is a unique form of grief that can be quite intense and debilitating, increasing an individual's vulnerability to subsequent stress and leaving him or her feeling isolated and misunderstood.

This unique guide is written for all professionals helping clients deal with the loss of a pet and serves as a practical introduction to the field of human-animal bonding. It describes various techniques for helping clients when the bond with a pet is broken. The authors present a step-by-step guide to leading clients through this special kind of grief and offer valuable practical guidelines.

The authors of this book strongly feel that pet loss needs to be addressed by therapists and

others in the helping professions, not just by veterinarians, to help their clients through the loss of their companion animals. This book fills the gap in the literature and will be essential reading for all helping professionals.

Both authors have taught numerous workshops on pet loss and client grief and both are contributing authors to two textbooks written for veterinary health professionals. Cheri Barton Ross is co-owner of a small animal veterinary hospital in Santa Rosa, California. In 1987 she

founded the Redwood Empire Veterinary Medical Association Pet Loss Support Group. Jane Baron-Sorensen is a licensed marriage, family, and child counselor and psychiatric registered nurse. She has led the Redwood Empire Pet Loss Support Group for ten years.

### ***Pet Loss and Human Emotion:***

*Accelerated Development, a member of the Taylor & Francis Group, Bristol, Penn.*

\$19.95

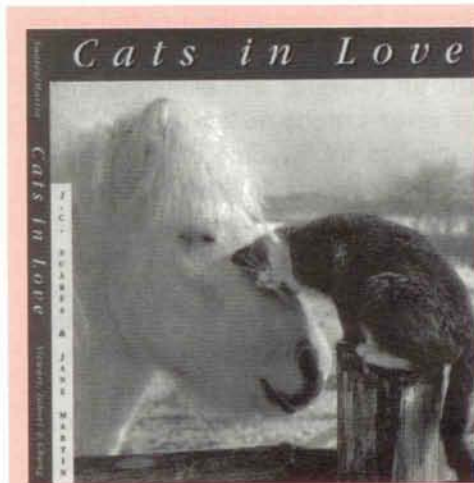
ISBN 1-56032-652-2

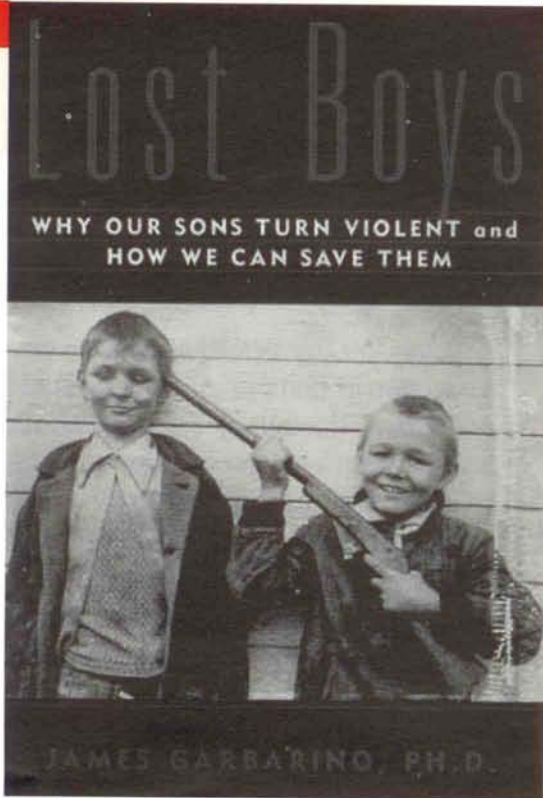
### ***Cats in Love***

*Cats In Love* is a light-hearted collection of photographs and personal stories illustrating the deep bonds that many cats share with their owners, fellow cats, and even the unexpected horse or bear. These stories debunk the myth of the unfriendly feline. And they reveal, with loving warmth, the comfort of companionship, the strong dependency that comes with attachment, and the hopelessly smitten nature that is characteristic of cats in love.

### ***Cats in Love***

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## Lost Boys

by Lynn Loar, Ph.D., MSW

Readers of the *Latham Letter* are well aware of the connection between violence against people and cruelty to animals. The general public's awareness of this link has been raised over the past few years by the dreadful series of shootings by school children, virtually all of whom had known histories of prior cruelty to animals. Newly published by the Free Press is James Garbarino's *Lost Boys* which describes what has gone wrong with violent youth. Fortunately, Karen Pryor's revised edition of *Don't Shoot the Dog!* published by Bantam Press has also arrived this summer to give clear, practical and upbeat alternatives to violence.

Garbarino cites the many risk factors imperiling boys, including a history of child abuse and a family history of criminal violence; a neurological deficit that impairs thinking or feeling; poor attendance and performance in school; use of alcohol or drugs and the latter's concomitant theft and materialism; gang membership, and use of a weapon.

These at-risk boys learn a number of dangerous lessons:

Aggression works - it can get you what you want, along with status and prestige.

You can't trust adults to protect you. You have to take matters into your own hands.

Get what you want now - there's no hope for a better tomorrow.

Violence solves problems and effects justice (in the distorted perceptions of these troubled boys).

Dangerous boys cannot afford the luxury of empathy. "Troubled and violent boys have been so emotionally busy struggling with their own internal demons that they have had little psychic energy for others.... Because we know that empathy is the enemy of aggression and that depersonalization is its ally, all efforts at moral rehabilitation of violent and troubled boys hinge upon cultivating empathy and fighting against their tendency to depersonalize others." (pp. 230f.).

Garbarino notes a number of key ingredients for effective programs for violent youth:

1. *A safe setting with caring and competent adults in charge; no drugs, weapons, sex, youth culture, materialism, violent images on television, video games, or other media.*
2. *Improving the social prospects of temperamentally difficult boys. Rejection by parents and others is the way most nonabused children develop conduct disorder.*
3. *Addressing problems of attachment.*
4. *Responding early to bad behavior and aggression by:*
  - a. *Changing ideas, values, expectations and attributions of aggression, and ...*
  - b. *Teaching techniques for recognizing the triggers for anger, and practicing conflict resolution, mediation and other alternatives to violence.*
5. *Facilitating positive peer groups.*
6. *Character education, humane education, and spirituality.*
7. *Developing a social conscience in work for social justice.*

Programs such as the Forget Me Not Farm at the Humane Society of Sonoma County, California, the TLC Program at SPCA LA, Los Angeles, California, and the Shiloh Project in Virginia teach empathy and self-control by fostering children's abilities to care for and about animals and gardens. Recent developments in these programs have included training dogs to make them better candidates for adoption and having at-risk parents and their children participate in gentleness classes together.

Training others - spouses, children or animals - with positive reinforcement really is about self-restraint and respectful encouragement for the efforts of another. In *Don't Shoot the Dog!*, Pryor presents delightfully and clearly the basics for shaping behaviors and illustrates her points with all sorts of animals from a lazy panda to a truculent teenager (herself in a trying phase). Readers learn that shaping with positive reinforcement builds skills quickly and enjoyably without need (or place) for coercion or punishment. Pryor has also made a number of videotapes for those who want to see training in action and established a web page, [www.clickertraining.com](http://www.clickertraining.com), to make this information readily available.

Shaping, operant conditioning as it is called more formally, requires the trainer to wait patiently until the trainee offers a behavior that can be refined over time, and to cultivate it with reinforcement and encouragement. It builds on strengths and motivates through generous acknowledgment of all efforts in the right direction and by ignoring missteps. This is true empathy and the antithesis of the aggressive behaviors that create lost boys and violent families.

### ***Lost Boys: Why Our Sons Turn Violent and How We Can Save Them***

James Garbarino

Hardcover, 274 pages, Free Press  
ISBN 0684859084 \$25.00

### ***Don't Shoot the Dog: The New Art of Teaching and Training***

(Rev. August 1999)

Bantam Doubleday

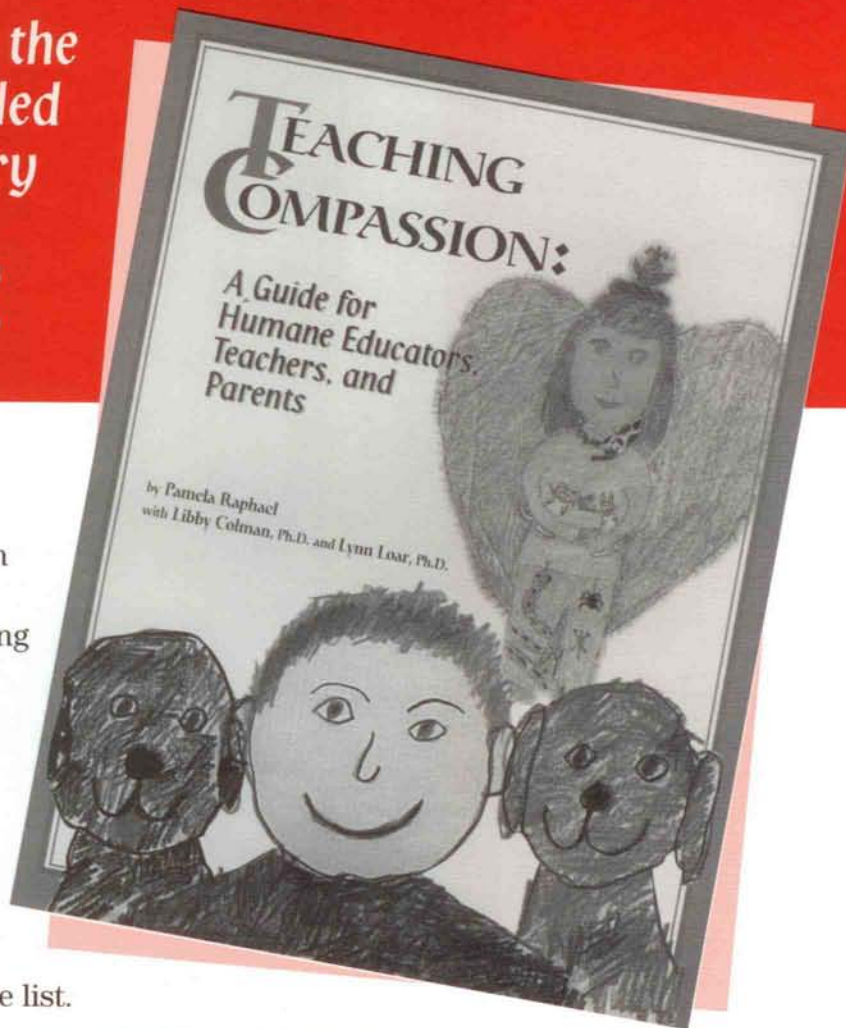
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**Pamela Raphael:** Humane Educator, Humane Society of Sonoma County (1991-97) where she implemented classes on responsible and compassionate treatment of animals in elementary, secondary, and special education schools. Pamela is presently expanding this program to additional schools in Northern California. Published poet and Poet Teacher for California Poets in the Schools (1978-93).

**Lynn Loar, Ph.D., LCSW:** Expert in child abuse assessment and treatment, and a member of the California State Humane Academy faculty, teaching about the interrelationship of child abuse, elder abuse, domestic violence, and cruelty to animals.

**Libby Colman, Ph.D.:** Program Director of San Francisco Court Appointed Special Advocates and co-author of seven books on the psychology of parenting.

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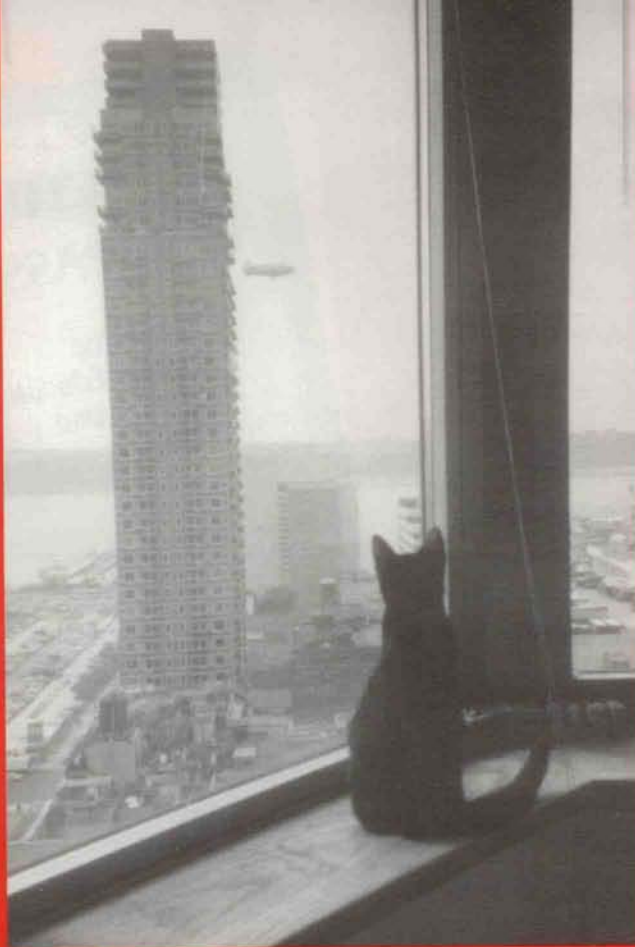


Photo by Terre Roche

*City Cat*



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