

T H E Latham Letter

VOLUME XXXX, NUMBER 1

WINTER 2019

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION



See title slide above and news release page 7

The National Link Coalition is pleased to announce the availability of a free Power Point presentation, with an accompanying Lesson Plan, designed to introduce the Link between animal abuse and human violence to school audiences. The program is designed to be customized by local humane educators and was created with extensive feedback from 35 humane educators across the U.S. and Canada.

ALSO INSIDE WINTER 2019:

The Little Shelter That Could	P 8
End-of-Life Decisions for our Companion Animals	P 10
Cruelty-free Animal Dissection	P 14
Considerations for Animal-Assisted Intervention Practitioners	P 17

Latham Grants Announced

PAGE 15



THE MANDATE

Edith Latham's MANDATE:

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



© 2019 *The Latham Foundation for the
Promotion of Humane Education*

The Latham Letter

Balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities

Search the *Latham Letter* archives by topic and learn
more about all our resources and grants at
www.Latham.org or call 510-521-0920.

The Latham Letter

Volume XXXX, Number 1, Winter 2019

**BALANCED PERSPECTIVES ON
HUMANE ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES**



The *Latham Letter* is published quarterly by The Latham Foundation, Alameda, CA 94502-6581.

Publisher and Editor Hugh H. Tebault, III
Managing Editor Judy Johns, M.S.
Associate Editor Deirdre Rand, Ph.D.
Design Tula Asselanis

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

CONCERNING REPRINT PERMISSION:

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

ABOUT THE LATHAM FOUNDATION:

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

TO CONTACT LATHAM:

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

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Ms. Stacy Baar
Mr. Eric Bruner
Ms. Betsy Cohen
Mr. James Olson
Mr. Hugh H. Tebault, III
Mrs. Mary Tebault

CONTENTS:



GUEST EDITORIAL: The Game of Politics <i>By Kay Stout, Director, The Peaceful Animal Adoption Shelter, Vinita, Oklahoma</i>	4
Good News Of Note	5
Phoenix Rising: The 2019 Association of Professional Humane Educators National Conference	6
Link Power Point Created for Students	7
Big Miracles in a Small Town <i>By Jane Greco Deming</i>	8
Quality of Life to the End of Life: We Owe It to Them! <i>By Alice Villalobos, D.V.M., DPNAP</i>	10
Animalearn Teaches Children to Have Empathy for ALL Animals <i>By Nicole Green</i>	14
Latham Grants 2018	15
Who Will Adopt the Greyhounds?	16
A Call for Increased Peer Consulting in the Field of Animal-Assisted Interventions <i>By Alison Leslie, LCSW</i>	17
Equine-Facilitated Therapy	19
Media Announcements & Reviews	20
Latham Films Now Streaming on Vimeo	23



WINTER 2019

The Game of Politics

By Kay Stout, Director
The Peaceful Animal Adoption Shelter
Vinita, Oklahoma

In today's hostile environment, politically speaking, progress is not part of the dialogue. As a consequence, people aren't always helped, needed laws aren't passed, and sometimes payrolls aren't distributed.

In rescue, I frequently hear people say they will not work with XYZ because they do not agree. As a result, fewer homeless pets are saved, resources are not used efficiently, and collaborations don't happen.

My youngest son played soccer, football, and baseball in high school. We had a philosophical conversation. I asked him if he liked everyone on the teams – his answer was NO. Do you like all your coaches? NO. Do you agree with the referees and umpires? NO. He then added, "Mom, I want to play the game so I play by the rules." That same philosophy or point of view works for us in rescue.

When people say they "don't like the way that rescue operates," or they do not like a specific person, my response is, "I don't like everything my family and friends do, but I do not let that define my relationship with them. Why? Because I know they feel the same way about me."

Rescuers work in an emotionally charged world every day. We see abused, neglected, sad pets who just want to be loved and cared for. And we interact with others in rescue who want it done their way or not at all. I can't help but wonder what the homeless pets would say if they could speak.

Home visits are a good example. That term always makes me smile because I know we do not all share the same idea of what a suitable home requires. Or "out-of-state transport" to an organization that insists on doing it their way. Better yet, what about homeless people who love their pets and will share their last crumb with them? That wouldn't be a good "home visit," but homeless peoples' pets are loved, often more than many that are in approved homes.

Every aspect of rescue is just like business, politics, and sports. It's political. That is, we do not have to agree on anything except saving the animal. When that happens, hundreds of homeless pets are saved and find new homes. Then we can rescue the thousands waiting in line. So please work together and accept each other for our differences. It's the right thing to do.



Good News Of Note:

ADOPTION NEWS -- The Times They are a Changin'

According to an article by Andrew Rowan and Tamara Kartal in the journal *Animals*, the percentage of owned dogs adopted from shelters and rescues has increased from 15 percent to more than 35 percent in the past decade. During the same period, the percentage of pet dogs bred at home has dropped from five percent to less than one percent.

SEE PAGE 15 FOR NEWS ABOUT LATHAM'S GRANTS

Way to Go, ACO!

An animal welfare officer in England rescued a hamster from a drainpipe by lowering a tiny homemade ladder to where he was trapped. The owner summoned Officer Alison Sparkes on the sixth day of the hamster's ordeal after her multiple attempts to recover Jamie from the tight space failed.

Sparkes fashioned a three-foot-long ladder out of wire mesh and slid it down the pipe. "That evening he emerged," Sparkes said. "Very thirsty, but OK."

For a new book from Gryphon Press about a hamster, see page 20.



Keeping People and Pets Together

According to HSUS, less than three percent of domestic violence shelters in the U.S. allow pets, yet 71 percent of people who own pets and enter those shelters report that their abusers threatened or harmed their pet. Now GreaterGood.org and the Jackson Galaxy Project are retrofitting shelters to keep people and animals together. See animalsheltering.org/people-and-pets.

RedRover's Safe Escape grant program offers survivors of domestic violence the support they need to get their pets out of harm's way. The program strives to keep the human-animal bond intact by offsetting the cost of temporary pet boarding while a client is in a domestic violence shelter. redrover.org/relief/#section-4

Phoenix Rising:

The 2019 Association for Professional Humane Educators National Conference



Photo courtesy of the Arizona Humane Society

Arizona Humane Society Hosts Professional Humane Educators' National Conference

The Association for Professional Humane Educators (APHE), whose motto is “Empathy through Education,” met for its national conference January 16-18 in Phoenix, Ariz.

“Phoenix Rising: Transforming Humane Education” brought together approximately 100 humane educators from a variety of backgrounds—staff and volunteers of animal shelters, animal care and control agencies,

schools, colleges, universities, and other local, regional, and national organizations across the US and Canada—to learn from one another through presentations, networking events, workshops, and excursions.

Visit www.APHE.org to learn more about the many benefits of membership and stay tuned for news about next year's conference.

Link PowerPoint Created for Students

The Cruelty Connection: Animal Abuse and Its Links to Human Violence



The National Link Coalition is pleased to announce the publication of a free PowerPoint and an accompanying Lesson Plan designed for local instructors to introduce The Link to school audiences. *The Cruelty Connection: Animal Abuse and Its Links to Human Violence* has been designed as a brief, 28-slide program which can be easily customized by educators.

The program, which is free and available for download from the National Link Coalition's website, is designed primarily for high school audiences. But it is flexible enough to be scaled up or down for younger audiences or adult presentations. It can be presented either in individual classrooms or in large assemblies, said Phil Arkow, National Link Coalition Coordinator and a former full-time humane educator with 20 years of classroom experience.

Development of the program relied heavily on feedback from 35 humane educators across the U.S. and Canada who field-test-

ed it in classrooms and offered suggestions from themselves and their students. While it has been designed primarily for use by humane educators, it can also be easily adapted for use by trainers from human services agencies who want to present the Link to student groups.

The slides purposefully have a minimalist background, making it easier for end-users to customize it with their organizations' own branding, logos, slide templates, program information, photos, state statutes, and local ordinances. The accompanying Lesson Plan offers many opportunities to engage students in discussions and further research into the connections between animal abuse and other forms of family violence. The Lesson Plan also includes a glossary of potentially unfamiliar terminology.

"This program augments traditional humane education presentations, which tend to focus just on animal welfare issues, by emphasizing how animal abuse

also hurts people. It is always easier to introduce humane education by tying in to existing state or core standards or curricula. By showing how animal abuse is connected with bullying, school shooters, student safety, child welfare and development, and other Link issues, this may make it easier for humane educators to gain access to crowded school curricula," Arkow said.

"We are encouraging humane educators to use the program widely, to modify it as necessary, and to let us know how it is received."

The PowerPoint and Lesson Plan are free downloads in the [Resource Materials page](#) of the National Link Coalition's website, NationalLinkCoalition.org. Just look under "General Fact Sheets & Overviews of The Link" for the Link for Students PowerPoint and Lesson Plan.

For more information:
Phil Arkow, Coordinator
The National Link Coalition
arkowpets@snip.net
856-627-5118

After over 40 years in the animal welfare industry, there is little that surprises me anymore. I am writing this story because it happened!

Big Miracles in a Small Town

By Jane Greco Deming



Last year, Tammy Loughlin, a friend and colleague, contacted me and asked if I would be available to go to Columbia, Penn., to present some professional development workshops. She had been hired to oversee the design and construction of a brand new animal shelter for a relatively new organization. She was also tasked with staffing and training the entire group, as only she, the assistant director, and their veterinarian had ever worked in an animal shelter before.

So in early January, I took a train from my home base in Rhode Island to Philly and on to Lancaster, Penn., where my friend greeted me and off to Columbia we drove. Columbia is an old working class town with many row houses and picturesque farms skirting the community. Downtown features beautiful homes and buildings, quaint shops, and wonderful funky restaurants.

Tammy began to fill me in on what was happening. It was surprising to

learn that the town had no animal control or shelter, and that they have an obvious free roaming cat issue. We saw them on every street!

Those issues were of particular concern to Judy McKonly who, for over 40 years, worked with local rescuers trying to stem the tide of more and more cats and kittens. By no means was she the community's "Crazy Cat Lady" that you might imagine. Judy was a planner with a "Let's do this" attitude. She and her husband Harold were very successful business owners in town. When Harold died, Judy shifted all of her attention to helping the community animals.



The family summered in Key West and she worked tirelessly on the free ranging cat issues there too. In fact, she donated \$1,000,000 to the construction of their new animal shelter.

In August of 2017, Judy McKonly passed away. Amazingly, this compassionate, insightful woman

made it possible for her love of animals to live on in perpetuity! She set up a trust with a donation of millions of dollars. Yes, you read that correctly, that's many millions to benefit companion animals. Remarkable!

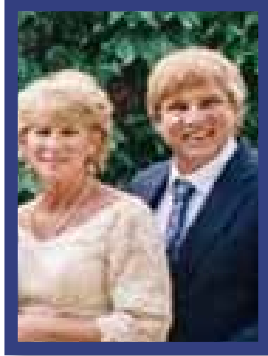
One would think that Judy's children might resent their mother for giving away such a fortune. Nope. She saw that her family was taken care of while still setting aside a large share of her wealth for her cause, the welfare of community pets!

Meeting Judy's son Mike was inspiring. He is President of the Judy & Harold McKonly Foundation Board of Directors and the new shelter's board. His wife, Patty, is also a member of the

Foundation's Board, as are several business associates. They all attended the day-long workshops and soaked up all the information I was sharing, often smiling and nodding in obvious agreement.

After the workshops I participated in a round table gathering with the board to discuss details of their

responsibility for operating a full-service animal shelter such as the nuances of intake, caring for, and re-homing pets. Officially meeting Mike was an eye opener. This unassuming, soft-spoken man with ice blue eyes talked to me about his mother's legacy and how much it meant to him, his wife, and the board. True animal lovers in their own right (Mike and Patty have a farm full of pets, including an alpaca and a camel), they emit an aura of pride, conviction, and absolute joy in fulfilling Judy's dreams. I have never seen such devotion or a group of people so committed to honoring one woman.



Mike's mind is like a well-oiled machine. Not only is he focused on completing this new, state-of-the-art, light-filled shelter (to which he contributes help from his talented staff at Kleen Rite for artwork, financial wisdom, and advertising, and his transportation company for picking up equipment), he is also developing projects that will create revenue streams and draw neighbors to it. Phase Two will include a dog park on adjacent land and a small pet supply store directly across from the shelter entrance. As a savvy businessman, he knows that the shelter's success will be inextricably linked to financial security. We talked about creating a Book Nook at the new, neighboring library with shelves full of books about animals. Topics might include choosing an appropriate pet, pet responsibility, pet training, and pet loss. When he said, "We also need to consider humane education as a tool for change," you could have knocked me over with a feather.

I invited my great friend, Brittany Watson, D.V.M., Director of Shelter

Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, to visit with us on the second day. She shared her insights into shelter/herd medicine, including zoonosis, and things to consider when designing the new clinic/surgical suites. She was incredibly helpful on many levels and as I had hoped, she will look to Columbia Animal Shelter as a resource for interns in her programs. I love networking! She, too, was completely enchanted by the devoted group and everything they had already accomplished, as well as their plans for the future.

We also discussed the many opportunities for community collaborations. We imagined the possibility of spay/neuter and rabies clinics, cooperation with local police for abandoned and roaming dogs, adoptions, behavior/evaluation programs, and even, to my delight, humane education.

I also spoke with the board about the responsibility of such a large endowment and shared my thoughts on future distribution to be sure funding goes to viable organizations with proven programs that make sense for both the applicants and their Foundation. We discussed protecting the principle so that it would exist in perpetuity. Lastly, we acknowledged the importance of distributing funds to groups that Judy, in particular, would have endorsed.

Surely there are many other communities in the nation that have experienced generosity, compassion, and community support for their efforts, but from where I stand, this particular community venture is an anomaly. At every stop we made in the community, people would ask Tammy, "Are you

opening soon? Please let us know how we can help? Will you have animals right away? I'm looking for a cat and will wait to adopt from you!" The anticipation was palpable! The entire community was excited and eager to support this first ever Columbia Animal Shelter. Almost every resident knows, or knows of, the universally respected McKonly family and can appreciate how much this shelter means to them and their family legacy.

Judy and Harold McKonly, I believe you are smiling down on this incredibly well thought out project and its overwhelming community support. You should be feeling very proud. However, I'm not sure anyone could have predicted the sheer joy and love that son Mike is experiencing through the project. It was evident when I saw the pride in his eyes as we walked through the doors of the nearly completed shelter.

As for Executive Director, Tammy Loughlin, who got me involved and is the only staff person who has ever managed a shelter, "Awesome job, my friend." I will be back!

One can only imagine the number of animals that will be positively impacted as a result of the generosity and hard work of the McKonly Family and the support of an excited and loving community. It is truly a Miracle!

Jane Greco Deming

J G Deming & Associates

**Humane Education and
Animal Welfare Consultants**

jgdeming47@gmail.com

jgdemingandassociates.com

STILL RELEVANT TODAY



Quality of Life to the End of Life: We Owe it to Them!

By Alice E. Villalobos, D.V.M.,
DPNAP

(Editor's Note: We are pleased to reprint one of our most-requested articles, one that deals with a topic most of us have had, or will have to confront.)

Introduction

Every day, pet lovers are requesting their veterinarians to provide palliative and pet hospice care. When families are caring for aging, ailing or terminally ill pets, especially pets with advanced or recurrent cancer, they want and need compassionate medical care from the local pet hospital.

These end-of-life care services need to include more quality of life (QoL) assessment tools so that caretakers can confidently determine what their ailing pets need. The time is now for all veterinarians to embrace the concept of palliative care, pet hospice and/or Pawspice care. Pawspice starts around the time of diagnosis of a life-limiting disease. Pawspice focuses on relief of pain and symptoms while offering kinder more gentle standard care to deal with the disease. Pawspice transitions to hospice when the pet

declines or when death is expected within weeks, days or hours.

How do we know when a chronic, morbid condition starts to ruin a pet's QoL? Most older pets have one or more morbid conditions such as painful osteoarthritis, obesity or organ disease. When a life-limiting disease, or cancer and its related treatment, exert added burdens on a compromised pet, when or how do we determine if QoL is impacted or threatened? How can pet caregivers confidently determine what is satisfactory? Who is capable of monitoring that pet? How are they making their decisions? At what point should caregivers abandon further curative therapy? What obligation does the veterinary team (v-team) have to provide palliative care or to preserve their clients' hope for a beloved pet's well-being? Veterinarians are frequently asked, "When is the right time to euthanize my beloved pet? How will I know?"

The "HHHHHMM" Quality of Life Scale

To help caregivers assess a beloved pet's QoL, this author developed an easy to use QoL scale and scoring system. The QoL scale guides pet lovers to work with their v-teams to look at the necessary ingredients that make pet hospice a workable end of life program. Some of these items are very difficult to face especially when one is in denial. Pet owners must ask themselves if they are truly able to provide enough care to maintain their ailing pet properly. The "HHHHHMM" QoL Scale acronym allows easy recall for pet caregivers. The five **Hs** and two **Ms** represent **Hurt, Hunger, Hydration, Hygiene, Happiness, Mobility** and **More** good days than bad days. www.pawspice.com

Animals have basic needs and desires that their caretakers should recognize and respect. **The Five**

Freedoms of animal welfare, developed in the United Kingdom, are: 1. Freedom from Hunger and Thirst, 2. Freedom from Discomfort, 3. Freedom from Pain, Injury or Disease, 4. Freedom to Express Normal Behavior, 5. Freedom from Fear and Distress. The Five Freedoms list was developed in the 1960s for farm animals. Several adaptations improved this list along the way and it is truly applicable for all pets.

With good veterinary supervision, pet owners can maintain these basic desires with a satisfactory level of comfort and pain control for their pets during hospice care. When the score falls below what is felt to be acceptable, then there is no justification in continuing the hospice. The HHHHHMM QoL Scale on page 13 provides useful guidelines for caregivers to help sustain a positive and rewarding relationship that nurtures the human-animal bond at the end of life. This simple-to-use tool provides a framework to assess various aspects of home care and the well-being of failing patients. The straightforward QoL Scale, with its objective scoring, automatically helps family members face reality without guilt feelings or confusion. It asks people to quantify their observations as they struggle with the difficult decision of whether to maintain their pet's end-of-life care or to elect the gift of euthanasia.

Pet owners can bring the HHH-HHMM QoL Scale to their veterinarian's attention so they can help to correct deficient criteria. If the veterinarian can help relieve pain and discomfort by at least 30-60%, the improvements can create a remarkable rejuvenation in the pet's well-being. The v-team can teach pet owners to assess and control their pet's pain and provide good nutritional and hydration support. When discussing hygiene, the v-team can demonstrate wound care techniques and teach caregivers

to prevent decubital ulcers by using egg crate mattresses, soft bedding and body rotation. The v-team might also have suggestions to prevent self-soiling with strategic elevation, absorbent towels, diapers and so forth. When family members are empowered to use the QoL Scale for assessment of the necessary criteria, they may realize that they need to ratchet up certain aspects of care to properly maintain their pet. A well-managed end-of-life care program allows more time for tender private moments and sweet conversation to be shared between family members and their dying pet.

More Good Days than Bad Days

If a terminal pet experiences more than 3-5 bad days in a row, QoL is too compromised to continue the hospice. This would also correlate with the QoL score dropping below 35. When a healthy, two-way interactive human-animal bond is no longer possible, it is time to let go. All family members who make the effort to work with the QoL scale will become self-aware that the end is near. The final decision needs to be made if the pet suffers break-through pain despite

being on combination pain medications. The veterinary oath clearly binds the v-team to prevent suffering. It is important to have plans A, B, and C regarding euthanasia and after-life needs. It is best to be prepared. When a beloved pet no longer has quality of life, it is merciful to provide heavy sedation to relax the pet's anxiety. Some near-death pets may pass on peacefully. But the rigors of death may be harsh and unpredictable and too difficult to observe for most loving families. Most dying pets receive the kind gift of a bond-centered euthanasia. The gift of euthanasia can be pre-arranged to take place at home or at the local pet hospital. However, if the pet slips into crisis after hours or on a weekend, and the final call must be made for euthanasia, it can be provided at an emergency clinic.

Don't Let a Pet Suffer to Death

Due to cultural, religious or personal beliefs, a few pet owners and a small contingent of veterinarians and counselors prefer natural death rather than assisted death. When a client has this bias, it is difficult and disheartening for the v-team to justify caring for an





emaciated, dehydrated, depressed, terminal patient that is being forced to endure further deterioration, pointless pain and suffering until liberated by death. When a veterinarian or pet hospice counselor has this bias, it affects how they think and how they influence the pet owner's decision making for their terminal pet when the bad days persist without any good days. The attending doctor or counselor may be sincerely attempting to respect the owner's wishes, while caring for the patient. Yet, they may be totally unaware of how they are manipulating their clients into withholding the mercy of euthanasia for a dying pet if or when it is needed. It is fortunate if a pet is able to die at home in a painless and peaceful state. This is ideal and acceptable. This is most predictable when using veterinary supervision that includes home euthanasia services. It is a sad fact that not all terminal animals are able to pass away peacefully and naturally at home. Some dying pets go into terrible respiratory distress and thrash about and become agonized before death. Witnessing this traumatic scenario is a horrible experience for loving family members who did not want their beloved pet to suffer this pointless indignity without having the option of euthanasia. Family members feel guilty and are haunted for years with these harsh memories. Therefore, it is important to instruct pet owners who prefer a natural death to have a backup plan in case their pet

goes into a distressful crisis and needs professional help to change worlds. Caregivers should know where to go 24/7 for immediate assistance for the gift of euthanasia to avoid a beloved pet's futile and unnecessary "suffering to death."

Summary

The HHHHHMM QoL Scale provides useful guidelines for caregivers. It helps sustain a positive and rewarding relationship that humanely nurtures the human-animal bond at the end of life during palliative care, hospice or Pawspice. This simple-to-use tool recruits caregivers and their v-teams to evaluate and improve important criteria that will promote and maintain a good quality of life for the dependent pet. The QoL Scale helps family members face reality without confusion and quantify their observations as they struggle with the difficult decision of whether to maintain their pet's end-of-life care or to elect the gift of euthanasia.

Alice E. Villalobos, D.V.M., DPNAP is Director, Pawspice at VCA Coast Animal Hospital, Hermosa Beach, and Beachside Animal Referral Center, Capistrano Beach, and Animal Oncology Consultation Service, at Animal Emergency and Care Center, Woodland Hills, Calif.

www.pawspice.com
and dralicev@aol.com

Dr. Alice Villalobos, a renowned veterinary oncologist, developed "Pawspice," a conceptual quality of life program for pets that starts when a well or sick pet is diagnosed with a

life-limiting condition or disease. Pawspice offers palliative care that transitions into hospice care for animals as they approach their final days and hours of life. Pawspice protocols should not be considered synonymous with hospice which implies "giving up." Instead, Pawspice care involves kinder, gentler versions of standard care to avoid adverse events that may put the pet at risk or destroy quality of life.

Pawspice simultaneously and consistently focuses on pain and symptom management to enhance quality of life. This approach often results in longer survival times for geriatric and compromised companion animals over those pets that are treated with standard "can do" care. Dr. Villalobos also developed a scoring system to help family members and veterinary teams assess a pet's life quality.

The HHHHHMM Quality of Life Scale

The QoL scale serves as a helpful decision-making tool to assist the veterinary team and pet lovers as they struggle through the difficult and emotionally draining process of making the final call for the gift of euthanasia to provide a peaceful and painless passing for a beloved pet.



Quality of Life Scale

(The HHHHHMM Scale)

Pet caregivers can use this Quality of Life Scale to determine the success of Pawspice care. Score patients using a scale of: 0 to 10 (10 being ideal).

Score	Criterion
0 -10	HURT - Adequate pain control & breathing ability is of top concern and outweighs all others. Is the pet's pain well managed? Can the pet breathe properly? Is oxygen supplementation necessary?
0 -10	HUNGER - Is the pet eating enough? Does hand feeding help? Does the pet need a feeding tube?
0 -10	HYDRATION - Is the pet dehydrated? For patients not drinking enough, use subcutaneous fluids daily to supplement fluid intake.
0 -10	HYGIENE - The pet should be brushed and cleaned, particularly after eliminations. Avoid pressure sores with soft bedding and keep all wounds clean.
0 -10	HAPPINESS - Does the pet express joy and interest? Is the pet responsive to family, toys, etc.? Is the pet depressed, lonely, anxious, bored or afraid? Can the pet's bed be moved to be close to family activities?
0 -10	MOBILITY - Can the pet get up without assistance? Does the pet need human or mechanical help (e.g., a cart)? Does the pet feel like going for a walk? Is the pet having seizures or stumbling? (Some caregivers feel euthanasia is preferable to amputation, but an animal with limited mobility yet still alert and responsive can have a good quality of life as long as caregivers are committed to helping the pet.)
0 -10	MORE GOOD DAYS THAN BAD - When bad days outnumber good days, quality of life might be too compromised. When a healthy human-animal bond is no longer possible, the caregiver must be made aware that the end is near. The decision for euthanasia needs to be made if the pet is suffering. If death comes peacefully and painlessly, that is okay.
*TOTAL	*A total over 35 points represents acceptable life quality to continue with pet hospice (Pawspice).

Original concept, *Oncology Outlook*, by Dr. Alice Villalobos, *Quality of Life Scale Helps Make Final Call*, VPN, 09/2004; scale format created for author's book, *Canine and Feline Geriatric Oncology: Honoring the Human-Animal Bond*, Blackwell Publishing, 2007. Adapted for the International Veterinary Association of Pain Management, 2011 Hospice Guidelines. Reprinted for the Latham Newsletter with permission from Dr. Villalobos & Wiley-Blackwell.

2019 PUT THE LIFE BACK
IN LIFE SCIENCE



Animalearn Teaches Children to Have Empathy for ALL Animals *(including those used in the name of science)*

By Nicole Green

Animal dissection is an activity that has long been considered a “rite of passage” for kids in middle and high school science classrooms. You may remember a dissection experience of your own - it is usually a visceral one that conjures up memories of toxic fumes, mushy specimens and time and time again recounted as traumatic.

Animalearn, a division of the American Anti-Vivisection Society, works to address this issue by helping to end the harmful use of animals used in all education levels by offering viable options. It is our goal to strive to build awareness about animal use in the classroom and help to nurture a respect for all creatures through humane science education resources.

The Science Bank

More than 20 years ago, Animalearn launched its alternatives to dissection loan program, [The Science Bank](#). Today The Science Bank is home to over 650 high-quality, animal-friendly science education products. It helps in the instruction of anatomy, physiology, and psychology lessons without harming animals, the Earth, or students themselves. Our loan program has served thousands of

people over the years and has grown to be the largest free loan program of humane science alternatives in the United States. It is our aim to turn compassionate students on to the life sciences instead of steering them away through the use of innovative non-animal methods.

Sadly, millions of animals are used as teaching tools in science education from K-college. The most commonly dissected vertebrate animals are frogs, fetal pigs, and cats. Other vertebrate animals used include dogfish sharks, perch, rats, and mink. Invertebrate animals used for dissection include earthworms, crayfish, clams, sea stars, and squid. Fortunately, there are a wealth of humane science resources that can be accessed (like those found in The Science Bank) for kids who love animals and want to pursue a career involving animals to possibly be the next Dr. Jane Goodall.

Today, kids who are interested in science, technology, engineering, and math are encouraged to immerse themselves in STEM-related classes and/or learning experiences. That includes kids who aspire to work with animals or those kids who simply care about animals and don’t want to participate in using animals in science.

As humane educators, we can let kids know that they can pursue a science career or take a science class without having to harm an animal to do so. Students can explore anatomy using virtual programs and inexpensive mobile applications. There are a number of hands-on learning tools that allow them to have a tactile learning experience, such as through the use of clay modeling systems, which have proven to be just as effective or even better learning tools than animal specimens. It is important to also understand that even medical and veterinary students can pursue their education without harming animals in the process.

Teaching children to have empathy for ALL animals, including those used in the name of science, will help to encourage compassion in the classroom environment. Giving kids the opportunity to understand that specimens are not just inanimate objects and instead were once living beings who deserve our empathy and understanding, is an important step in moving toward a more humane society.

Click here to learn more about how you can put the life back into the life sciences. www.animalearn.org.

Cont. on p 16

Latham Announces 2018 Grant Recipients



The Latham Foundation recently awarded more than \$150,000 in grants to 28 organizations for humane education outreach and research into the efficacy of humane education in this first year of our grant program. We were very pleased with the number of applicants and the breadth and quality of the proposals, which arrived from across North and South America, the UK, Turkey, Israel, and several countries in Africa. Many thanks to all who participated.

Recipients:

This year's award recipients include:

Barren River Animal Welfare Association, Busch Wildlife Sanctuary, Charleston Animal Society, Friends of Pima Animal Care Center, Lollypop Farm (The Humane Society of Greater Rochester), Humane Society of San Bernardino Valley, Humane Society of Utah, Lakes Animal Friendship Society, Liberia Animal

Welfare & Conservation Society, Misty Eyes Animal Center, Oshkosh Area Humane Society, Palo Alto Humane Society, PAWS Atlanta, Port Discovery Children's Museum, Potter League for Animals, Progressive Animal Welfare Society, San Diego Humane Society, Show Your Soft Side, Snippet Citrus, Spay Campbell County Tennessee Pets, Spay Neuter Network, Stepping Stones Museum for Children,

The Humane Education Trust, Victoria Humane Society, Wilson County No Kill Animal Shelter, Wisconsin Humane Society, Woods Humane Society, and Zoological Society of Milwaukee.

You can look forward to updates on many of the programs that these grants are making possible in future Latham Letters.

2019 Grant Program

We will publish the request for proposals for the 2019 Grant Program on May 1, 2019. If you are not yet a Latham e-mail subscriber and wish to be added to our list to receive such notices, please add your name and e-mail address on our website at www.latham.org.



Subscribe to our mailing list

Email Address

Subscribe





Author Nicole Green is the Director of Animalearn, an educational program of the American Anti-Vivisection Society (AAVS) located in Jenkintown, Pa. She has worked for AAVS for close to 20 years, helping to enlighten students, educators, and other concerned individuals about the harmful use of animals in education. Nicole travels far and wide to numerous education venues to make educators aware of the many viable humane alternatives that exist today to replace animal specimens in classrooms.

Nicole holds an MA in Education & Innovation with an emphasis in Humane Education. She is also a mom to her teenage son, Akian, and to companion kitty, Lisbeth.

As humane educators, we can let kids know that they can pursue a science career or take a science class without having to harm an animal to do so.

Giving kids the opportunity to understand that specimens are not just inanimate objects and instead were once living individuals who deserve our empathy and understanding, is an important step in moving toward a more humane society.



Who Will Adopt the Greyhounds?



Now that Florida will ban greyhound racing by the end of 2020, many people want to step up and adopt one of the 3,700 greyhounds that will be phased off the tracks. The Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University reminds us that Greyhounds are soulful, gentle dogs who make wonderful pets. Even apartment dwellers enjoy them because, although it's counterintuitive, they don't require a lot of exercise.

To learn more about adopting, president and general counsel of GREY2K USA Worldwide, Christine Dorchak, who authorized the ballot question for Floridians, suggests you contact her organization at grey2kusa.org or either of the two largest greyhound adoption organizations: the National Greyhound Adoption Program on the East Coast (ngap.org) or the Greyhound Adoption Center of California (houndsavers.org).



A Call for Increased Peer Consulting in the Field of Animal-Assisted Interventions

By Alison Leslie, LCSW

“What happened in today’s counseling session? In what ways might I have included my animal partner to best meet my client’s goals? What should I do next?” These are just a few of the questions I might ask myself while reflecting on my week as a clinician. Other professionals or volunteers who partner with animals might have similar questions. Luckily, I have trusted colleagues to support my therapy animal and me in doing the best work possible. Consulting with others in our field is essential for a number of reasons.

Those of us practicing animal-assisted interventions often work alone. Due to the nature of this practice, we don’t always have colleagues down the hall to chat with or who can offer support for the intricacies of working with another living being. We need a wider network of professionals to



talk to. According to the American Psychological Association, peer consultation is “... a forum for practitioners to meet informally with peers and colleagues to discuss clinical and practice issues in a supportive and confidential setting.” When we reach out for support, we are not only ensuring that we are taking care of our clients and animals, but also, we are helping ourselves.

As professionals, we are aware of the lack of specific protocols, and certifications for anyone who includes an animal(s) in a setting with vulnerable populations. We may receive some practical training -- even university education -- but as

we work with our animal(s), we become aware of a need for ongoing peer consultation if we are to develop our practice and hone our skills. This unmet need can create issues for the entire field of animal-assisted interventions.

Across the mental health field and in other therapeutic settings, it is becoming more and more common to require consultation for differing modalities. It should be no different for animal-assisted interventions.

When we think about including another living being in our practice, the opportunity to ask questions, to get feedback, and discuss ideas with specific intention and reflection become key for ethical and responsible practice. The decision to bring an animal into our work environment adds a level of complexity and dual attention that requires extra thought and advocacy. (Van Fleet, Faa-Thompson, 2017) One of the best ways to ensure we are following professional guidelines and competencies is to talk to others who are trained and practicing animal-assisted interventions.

Unfortunately, it is not uncommon to come across social media posts by well intentioned handlers and practitioners who believe they are doing what is best for the animal, only

Cont. on p 18





connection and feedback can help us grow as clinicians/professionals/volunteers. It can also assist our animal partners.

When we learn in consultation (either in group sessions or one

to see that the animal is displaying a number of calming signals. With consultation, these situations can be examined and best practices utilized to ensure the most positive outcomes for both the client and the animal.

Peer consultation has also proven to be effective for self-care and avoiding burnout. James Oaker, Professor of Ethics and Director of the Clinical Health Psychology Program at the Colorado School of Professional Psychology, argues that practicing in isolation can lead to a practitioner's impairment and distress. This can then translate into challenges in the therapy room, barn, and other therapeutic settings. Because we have at a minimum of two living beings to observe (not to mention our own internal nervous system), not being on top of our game can result in unintended consequences ranging from small to very large. When we reach out to our peers we are decreasing our isolation and therefore increasing our feelings of support and connection. This

on one with a skilled professional), we can share our own knowledge with others. The best way to ensure that our animals are at their strongest and feel safe and supported to do their great work, is to give them



our best selves – selves that are not burned out, isolated, or distressed by the often challenging daily work.

As you add animal-assisted interventions to your work, consider finding support for your own growth and development and for the animals you work with in ethical, safe, and powerful interventions.

Author Alison Leslie, LCSW, works in a group practice in Bloomington, Ind., with her therapy dog, Rae. She works with Molly DePrekel, MA, LP, who practices at the Midwest Center for Trauma and Emotional Healing, and Hold Your Horses in Minneapolis, Minn. Molly partners with dogs and horses in her work. Both women teach at the Institute for Human Animal Connections through the University of Denver, and they work together to offer support and consulting to other professionals through Cairns Consulting. To learn more about Molly DePrekel and Alison Leslie, as well as the benefits of consultation, please visit: cairnshealing.com/index.html.

Across the mental health field and in other therapeutic settings, it is becoming more and more common to required consultation for differing modalities. It should be no different for animal-assisted interventions.



Equine-Facilitated Therapy

We hope many of you had a chance to see *Parade Magazine* on February 17th which featured “The Healing Power of Horses” by Nicola Bridges. Along with several other heartwarming success stories, she profiled Jaycee Lee Dugard who was abducted in 1991 and confined for 18 years before she and the two daughters she had in captivity were recovered from the kidnappers.

How do you start to heal after a trauma like that? One of the things that helped the most, Dugard said, was horses. She and her children and mother did equine-facilitated therapy (EFT) with Rebecca Bailey, a clinical and forensic psychologist who specializes in complex trauma.

We are proud to remind readers that this is not the first time Jaycee’s and Dr. Bailey’s names appeared in a *Latham Letter*. In 2012 we printed a review of Jaycee’s book, *A Stolen Life*, and in 2016, Dr. Deirdre Rand, our Associate Editor, wrote an

article for us about Dr. Bailey’s work. You can find those references in the Publications & Resources section of our website. One of our films in the HelpMeHelpYou series also focuses on horses’ ability to connect and heal. You’ll find “*Horses Heal Too: Two Different Paths to Healing*” on Vimeo at ondemand/HorsesHealToo.



According to Bridges, “EFT is a fast-growing therapeutic mental health treatment being used across the nation for everything from trauma and addiction recovery to therapeutic riding for special needs, including autism.

“Veterans, inmates, and first responders are all finding benefits in getting off the couch and into stables.

“Although equine therapy itself hasn’t been deeply studied, research shows

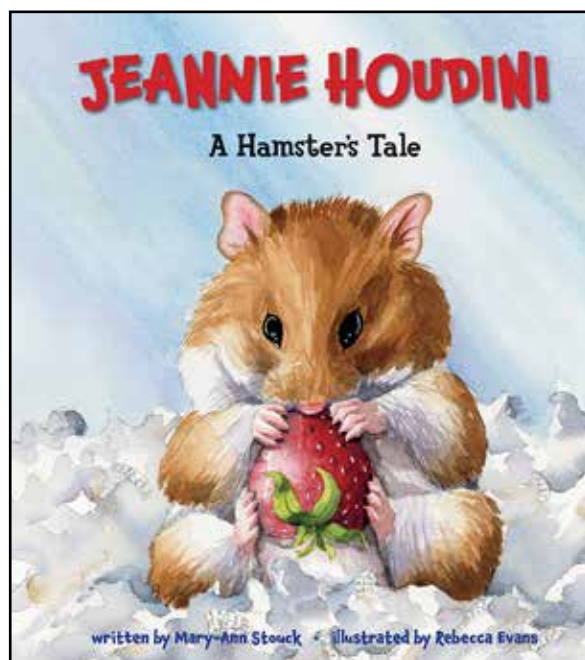
that horses are acutely tuned in to human emotions, and anecdotal accounts of their therapeutic impact abound.”

STAY TUNED!

The next (and future) issues will feature news from our grantees. You’ll also learn about several new Apps – several very different apps: One was created by the National Sheriffs’ Association and

has tools to help law enforcement professionals and first responders learn more about animal abuse. Other apps are recommended as the best for cats. That’s right folks, the best apps for cats.

MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENTS & REVIEWS



New Book from Gryphon Press Available May 7

JEANNIE HOUDINI:
A Hamster's Tale
by Mary-Ann Stouck

Jeannie the hamster is bored until she becomes an escape artist and finds a best friend.

Twins Martina and Mateo wanted a hamster as a pet but find caring for Jeannie a chore. Their younger sister, Sophia, loves Jeannie and tries to solve the mystery of why Jeannie constantly tries to escape from her cage. This endearing and engaging story of a growing friendship is also instructive about the needs of small animal companions, often referred to as pocket pets.

“Although *Jeannie Houdini* is full of information about how

to care for your pet hamster, it is more than a how-to book. It is a story. Young readers will connect with this character, a lonely little sister who longs for a playmate, and they will cheer when she finds a friend in the bored, neglected family pet. Each finds what they need in the other in this satisfying book, and it will encourage readers to give their pets plenty of attention, care, and love.” Molly Beth

Griffin, author of *Loon Baby*, *Rhoda's Rock Hunt*, and the *School Sidekicks* series.

“*Jeannie Houdini* is a captivating tale for any child who wants a pet. Mary-Ann Stouck depicts the deep connections between attentive children and contented pets. She charmingly conveys the characteristics of hamsters: their cuddliness and fragility, their need to chew and play, and their dietary, health, and shelter requirements. With easy instructions for befriending and keeping a hamster, *Jeannie Houdini* is a perfect primer for children and parents. Rebecca Evans' delightful illustrations highlight the gentle, loving rapport that develops between a child and a properly-cared for pet,” says Sheryl Salloum, an educator with a specialty in Early Childhood Education. She is the author of four non-fiction books.

Author Mary-Ann Stouck is the author of a previous children's title, *A Fine Winter Cap* (Walhachin Press), and the editor of a book for adults, *Medieval Saints: A Reader*. She is a retired Associate Professor of Humanities at Simon Fraser University. As a child, her first animal friend was a hamster, and as an adult she has given a home to horses, dogs, cats, turtles, rabbits, and three more hamsters. She has been a volunteer at her local animal shelter, the British Columbia SPCA, for many years and a member of its community advisory board. Mary-Ann is deeply committed to fostering empathy between children and pets.

Rebecca Evans is the illustrator of *Friends in Fur Coats* (The Gryphon Press) and eight other children's picture books, including *Someday I'll Fly*, and eight early readers. She has worked as an artist and designer before returning to her first love, children's book illustration and writing. She shares her love of literature and art with elementary school children. Rebecca lives in Maryland and enjoys spending time with her husband and three young children and working from her home.

Author: Mary-Ann Stouck

Illustrator: Rebecca Evans

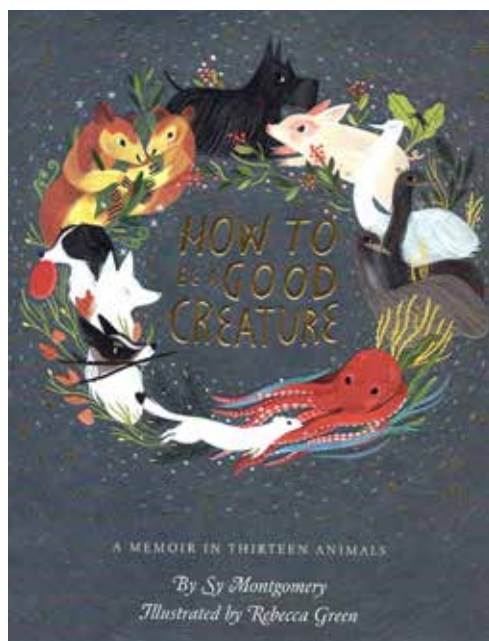
Publisher: The Gryphon Press

Publication: May 7, 2019

Color illustrations throughout.

ISBN: 9780940719408

Ages 3-7



***How to be a Good Creature:
A Memoir in Thirteen
Animals***

By Sy Montgomery
Illustrated by Rebecca Green

Understanding someone who belongs to another species can be transformative. Author, naturalist, and adventurer Sy Montgomery knows this very well. To research her books, she has traveled the world and has encountered some of the planet's rarest and most beautiful animals. From tarantulas to tigers, her life continually intersects with and is informed by the creatures she meets.

This restorative memoir reflects on the personalities and quirks of thirteen animals (Sy's friends) and the truths revealed by their grace. It also explores vast themes such as the otherness and sameness of people and animals; the various ways we learn to love and become empathetic; how we find our passion; how we create our families; coping with loss and despair; gratitude; forgiveness; and,

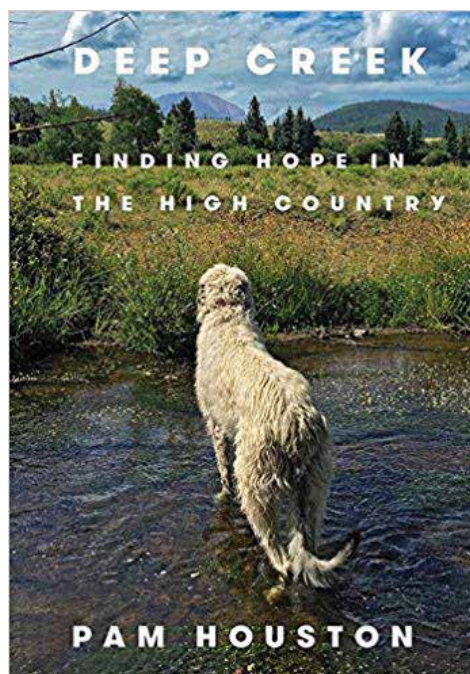
most of all, how to be a good creature in the world.

Author Sy Montgomery has been honored with a Silver Medal, two Science Book and Film Prizes from the National Association for the Advancement of Science, three honorary degrees, and many other awards. She lives in Hancock, New Hampshire.

***How to be a Good Creature:
A Memoir in Thirteen Animals***

Author: Sy Montgomery
Illustrated by Rebecca Green
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
HMHCO.com

ISBN 978-0-544-93832-8



***Deep Creek:
Finding Hope in the
High Country***
By Pam Houston

A life-long animal lover, Pam Houston takes us into the intimate world of her ranch and the animals that inhabit her new book *Deep*

Creek. These essays are as lucid and invigorating as mountain air.

"How do we become who we are in the world? We ask the world to teach us." In her travels from the Gulf of Mexico to Alaska, Houston explores what ties her to the earth—her 120-acre homestead in the Colorado Rockies most of all. Here, elk calves and bluebirds mark the changing seasons, winter temperatures drop to 35 below, and lightning sparks an 110,000-acre wildfire in a dry summer, threatening her century-old barn and its inhabitants. Alongside her devoted Irish wolfhounds, Houston learns what it means to take responsibility for a piece of land and the creatures on it.

A survivor of parental abuse and neglect, Houston also discovers how the natural world has mothered and healed her. *Deep Creek* delivers her most profound meditations yet on how "to live simultaneously inside the wonder and the grief... to love the damaged world and do what I can to help it thrive."

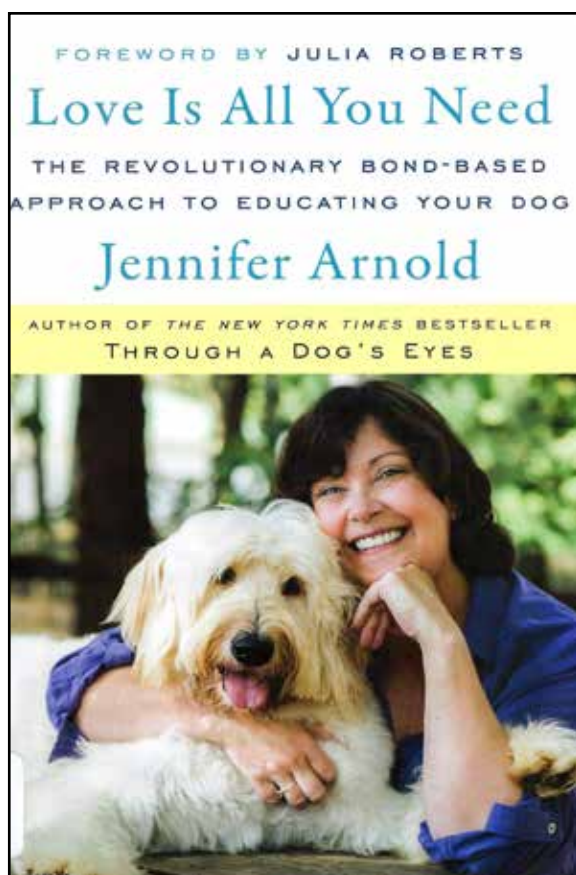
Pam Houston is the prize-winning author of *Contents May Have Shifted*, among other books. She is a professor of English at the University of California-Davis and lives on a ranch at 9,000 feet in Colorado near the headwaters of the Rio Grande.

Deep Creek

Author: Pam Houston

ISBN: 978-0-393-24102-0

www.wwnorton.com



In this groundbreaking book, Author Jennifer Arnold shows us how all dogs can thrive through Bond-Based Choice Teaching®. Leading canine behavioral scientists have hailed her proprietary method and notable dog trainers, advocates, humane societies and prison pet programs such as Puppies Behind Bars and New Life K9s around the country have adopted it. (New Life K9s is featured in Latham's Film "Hope Unleashed." [ondemand/HopeUnleashedExtended](#))

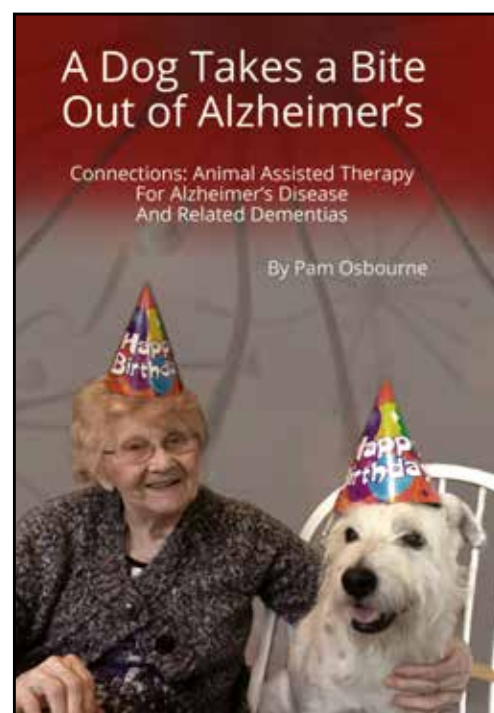
Jennifer Arnold is the founder and executive director of Canine Assistants, a service-dog school based in Milton, Georgia, and the creator of the Bond-Based Choice Teaching® approach to interspecies relationships.

Canine Assistants is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing service dogs for children and adults who have physical disabilities, epilepsy, or other special needs. canineassistants.org

Here's what one of the inmates in the New Life K9s' program at the California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo, Calif., says about *Love is All You Need*:

"I have always loved dogs and I had always wished to have one. Mostly what I really wished for was love and someone to have a secure loving relationship with. I always thought that dogs just did what we told them to do but in her book Jennifer Arnold describes how using love to establish a bond between you and your dog is a way to teach each other and build a relationship. After reading Jennifer's book, I had to laugh to myself because the book is based on something I have wanted my whole life – love."

Love is All You Need
Author: Jennifer Arnold
Randomhousebooks.com
ISBN 9780812996180
canineassistants.org



A Dog Takes a Bite Out of Alzheimer's is the new title of the book formerly known as *Connections: Animal Assisted Therapy for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias* (ADRD), which we reviewed in the Winter 2018 *Latham Letter*.

The book is both a touching story about the author's own journey with a parent suffering dementia/Alzheimer's, and a practical guide for healthcare professionals, caregivers, Animal-Assisted Therapy teams, families, and friends who are dedicated to helping those with ADRD reconnect with the world.

A Dog Takes a Bite Out of Alzheimer's
Author: Pam Osbourne
[PYOW Publishing](http://PYOWPublishing.com)
pyowpublishing.webs.com
ISBN 978-0-9993761-0-2
Also available at amazon.com and Barnesandnoble.com

Now Streaming on Vimeo

vimeo.com/lathamfoundation

HelpMeHelpYou Series

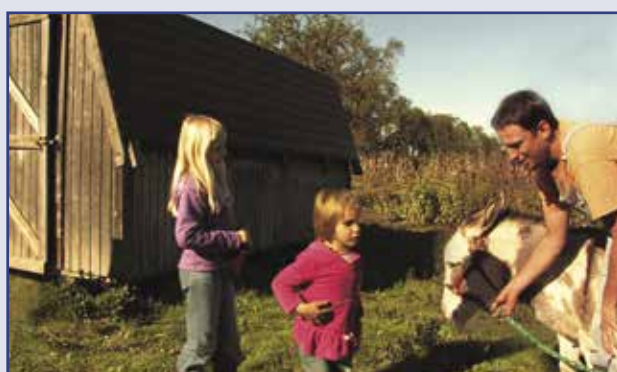
featuring children's & teens' animal-assisted activities

Now available on Vimeo On Demand: vimeo.com/LathamOnDemand/
Monthly Subscription of \$4.99 allows you to stream all of our library,
or purchase individual streaming or downloads.



Green Chimneys, Blue Skies

This film shows animal-assisted activities, and is a comprehensive and detailed look at Green Chimneys' philosophy and methods. It is also a reminder of the power of the human-animal bond and sure to leave you moved and inspired. ondemand/GreenChimneysBlueSkies



Faith & Hope on a Farm

An inspiring reminder of why we teach compassion, empathy, and respect to help break the cycle of abuse. The film highlights Forget Me Not Farm in Santa Rosa, CA, where at-risk children and animals bond and heal to break the cycle of abuse. ondemandFaith&HopeOnaFarm



Horses Heal Too -

Two Different Paths to Healing

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



BARC If You Need Help

A collaboration between the Humane Society of West Michigan and the Kent County Juvenile Detention Center. Its purpose is to build responsibility, compassion, among the teens and to increase dog adoptions. BARCifYouNeedHelp





The Latham Foundation

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

1320 HARBOR BAY PKWY

SUITE 200

ALAMEDA, CA 94502-6581 USA

WWW.LATHAM.ORG