

T H E

Latham Letter

VOLUME XLI, NUMBER 1

Winter 2020

PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

From Street Dog to Canine Artist: The Dog Who Changed My Life

By Deirdre Rand, Ph.D.

See page 11

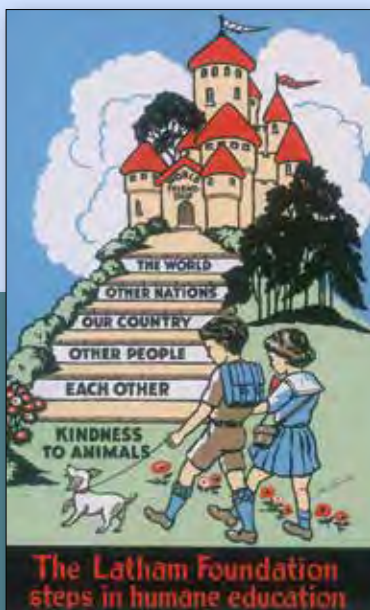


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MANDATE

Edith Latham's **MANDATE:**

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



The Latham Letter

Balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities

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



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Promotion of Humane Education

The Latham Letter

Volume XLI, Number 1, Winter 2020

BALANCED PERSPECTIVES ON HUMANE ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES



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Latham welcomes partnerships with other institutions and
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education.

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The More Things Change, the More They Stay the Same

Hugh H. Tebault, President

Readers -

This is a reprise of my editorial in 2010, a decade ago. I am saddened to see that some of the problems in America that I wrote about then have gotten worse. I believe it is important that each person recognize our actual laws, and promote equal justice. We should not fall for an emotional appeal to ignore the law, or change its established meaning. It is just as important to remember this in 2020 as it was in 2010 if we are to show respect to others and promote humane education for all.

Expectations – June 2010

Trust is an important aspect of our daily lives. We trust that the sun will rise, we trust the other drivers will observe the rules of the road while we drive. We trust our customers will continue to be there and we trust that the rule of law will be consistent and equally applied to all. With this faith, we chart our lives.

While many countries have had social instabilities, the United States has maintained a stable society over the long term. Key to this stability is the core value that justice is blind – shown graphically by lady justice holding scales in one hand, a sword in the other with her eyes covered by a blindfold to make her unaware of whose justice is being measured. Her message is that anyone caught breaking a law faces equal justice.

This system of equal justice has been a key to the success in the United States. I believe most immigrants choose the United States because we deliver equal justice for all. Equal ability to work hard and receive equal treatment in everything we do. This is different from many other nations who direct the work, lives and funds for their citizens.

The freedom in our lives allows us to spend time helping others. We can choose to use the fruits of our labor to assist others by volunteering time, making financial donations, or encouraging others.

There has been a push in some quarters to change American government from the equal justice model it is based upon to a social justice model. This change, subtle at first, has profound ramifications on our society. It means that some people, because they belong to a group the current government chooses to promote, can be excused from following the law – or even exempted from penalty. I argue that we should recognize social justice not be a government role, but a personal one. The government must remain a dispenser of equal justice for all.

As individuals, we can help identify what social issues need to be addressed. Then, as members of private organizations, religious groups, and other organizations, we can address the needs in our communities. Working together to help others gives us the benefits of social interaction, personal growth, peer mentoring, and social networking.

Continued on p 5



When the government changes to the social justice model advocated by those favoring strong government control, the work by individuals is marginalized. Care becomes impersonal and no one seems responsible. Costs escalate and taxes are never enough as the agencies continue to grow themselves while never completing their assigned tasks. There is never enough money, never enough manpower, never enough information to make decisions in this centrally-managed model.

Let's recognize the equal justice model that our nation is founded on. Take time to meet, work together, and solve the needs in each of our neighborhoods, schools, cities and states. Take time to volunteer and work with others to solve problems that your community has resolved to fix.

Work with your neighbors to encourage the equal justice for all model and reject the social justice model that serves only to subvert individual responsibility and divide our nation. If there are laws that need to be changed, work to change them – BUT the law must be applied equally for all.

True humane education requires that all people are equal before the law and individuals show their metal through their unique contributions to our world. We

show respect for animals whether they are dogs, cats, or wild. We must show respect for other people whether we know the family they come from or nation of origin. We must give everyone the gift of respect. They have the choice of whether or not to return it.



Remember Vandanna?

We featured her award-winning essay, "Snapshot," in the last issue. (pp 12-13). See this issue's pp 22 for the book her essay inspired.



Her mother, Krishnan Anandi, took this lovely photo.

PALO ALTO HUMANE SOCIETY (PAHS) Announces: The 2020 Ambassadors of Compassion Story Writing Contest

Submission Deadline: March 31, 2020
Competition guidelines and submission forms:
www.paloaltohumane.org or <http://bit.ly/37axsu8>

Palo Alto Humane Society invites 7th and 8th grade students in Santa Clara and San Mateo, Calif. to become Ambassadors of Compassion by writing a fiction or nonfiction story on the theme of animals and people helping each other. There are many ways that animals help people such as companionship, therapy and healing, safety and rescue, support for soldiers, and helping on the farm. Plus, people help animals in return. Stories submitted should illustrate a sense of kindness in their characters.

The winning author will receive a monetary prize of \$500 and two runner-up winners will receive \$200 each. The winning stories will be published by Palo Alto Humane Society (PAHS). They will join PAHS' library of stories about animals and kindness and will be a highlight of PAHS' 2020 Creating Compassionate Communities campaign.

Palo Alto Humane Society offers a variety of education and community programs. For more information about PAHS, call (650) 424-1901 or visit www.paloaltohumane.org.



WISCONSIN HUMANE SOCIETY'S: PAL PROGRAM

The investment from the Latham Foundation was used to provide participants with transportation and supplies, dog and facility expenses, and staff expenses. Thanks to your support, 2019 PAL sessions made a deep impact on Milwaukee youth. Thank you for your support of the PAL program and for your shared commitment to humane education.

Project Outcomes

WHS is very grateful to the Latham Foundation for its investment to support our People and Animals Learning (PAL) program. PAL is a summer program for underserved youth, age 10-13, that provides structured interactions with animals. The PAL program is designed for young people who would benefit

from opportunities to increase their self-esteem and pro-social skills like empathy. Through the PAL program, children build upon their skills to understand emotions, feel and show empathy for others, and achieve positive goals. Latham's support helped 35 underserved youth in Milwaukee participate in three, two-week sessions in summer 2019. PAL serves children in the city of Milwaukee and gives preference to underserved youth in Milwaukee's poorest zip codes. The 2019 student participant demographic included 37% African-American, 26% Hispanic, 22% Caucasian and 15% Native American/Other. 57% of participants live in zip codes with the lowest socioeconomic status. PAL participants learned to work in teams to teach a shelter dog basic training cues

through reward-based methods, have confidence in themselves to complete tasks, and grow their empathy while interacting with shelter animals. Experiential learning supports the acquisition of prosocial skills, and young people with these skills tend to be more successful as adults (Readick & Schaller (2005).



Continued next page.

Summer Camp and Self-Esteem of School-Age Inner-City Children (<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/7418586>).

The goal for PAL participants is to achieve skills in the three focus areas (self-efficacy, empathy, and cooperation) measured through staff observational assessments. Overall, 72% of program participants gained self-efficacy, 86% gained empathy, and 76% gained cooperation skills.

QUOTES FROM PAL PARTICIPANTS:

After participating in the PAL program, I promise to help animals, to spay and neuter my animals, and be sure to protect their health.



After the PAL program I will help other animals get homes.

After PAL I will be more patient and more understanding, and try to help others do the same. You never know what an animal's been through.

When I'm old enough I will try to help stray animals in the streets instead of ignoring them and I'll

help friends and family members train their dogs.

What is the most important thing you learned about YOURSELF during PAL?

How to cope with animals. Also that I'm not that different than others.

How to make new friends. Participating is a good thing!

The most important thing I learned about myself is to be patient. Now I am brave about touching dogs and feeding dogs because not many dogs come where I live and I only touched two dogs before.



I can make nice friends wherever I go. I can train dogs.

That I can talk in front of people even though I'm scared to.



It's Your Time to Shine!

If you received a 2018 Latham Humane Education Grant and would like us to consider featuring your program here, please contact JJohns@latham.org.



Charleston Animal Society's Humane Education Program for Rural Schools

The Challenge

Charleston Animal Society's humane educators realized that some children, especially those in our rural schools, struggled to understand animal-centered lessons. We had a successful Pet Buddies Club program in urban and suburban schools but it did not seem to connect with students whose lack of experience with animals posed an obstacle to learning compassion.

Thanks to the generous grant provided by the Latham Foundation, we created a new kindness-centered curriculum

with accompanying videos that reached children in ways we never thought possible.

The Project: A New Video Curriculum for Children Inexperienced with Animals

We designed the adapted curriculum with three segments of eight lessons, each building on each other. The lessons (modules) in each of the segments use strategies that engage students' behavior through human-animal associations, lesson objective

repetition, and visual engagement. Each of the eight Pet Buddies Club lessons has a worksheet that allows the student to review the material and share the lessons at home.

The first segment deepens interest in animals while creating a connection to them and the environment. Students learn that animals communicate and interact through behavior that is easily

observed. This basic introduction forms the foundation for building on subsequent lessons and sparks interest in learning more.

The second segment concentrates on increasing knowledge of animal safety and care. This segment uses role play in addition to the video.

The curriculum culminates in compassion lessons that cover themes such as animal cruelty and bullying.

Measuring Success

Each student is given a humane education journal that captures knowledge and attitude changes. After each lesson, participating teachers give feedback and document observations.

The new video lessons captivated students in a way we have never seen before, preventing animal cruelty and creating a kinder and more compassionate world.

The humane education staff intentionally developed this curriculum so that so that it can be replicated in classrooms across the nation.

For more information including a description of each of the videos, visit: charlestonanimalsociety.org/education/

Continued next page.



Photo by Michael Morse from Pexels

Teacher Observation and Feedback

"Students really seemed to draw a conclusion about 'kindness.' They really got that it's not just about treating people well or treating the environment well. They 'got' kindness on a bigger scale...it's about treating everything well...animals, people, and the environment. I think the way the videos were presented helped cement this idea for them."

Joanna Branham,
St. James Santee 3rd grade teacher

"This lesson fits in perfectly with our Second Step (social-emotional learning) program. We talk about all the same themes of kindness, empathy for others, etc. It's great for the students to see connections outside of school for these topics, so it helps students see that what we talk about inside the classroom reaches far beyond the walls of the school. Also, I loved the human impact component of this lesson and the environmental clean up clip. It fits perfectly with one of our 5th grade science standards: How do humans positively and negatively impact the earth? We will be talking about this in January, so this month's lesson was the perfect introduction to our next unit joy of science!"

Erin Cymrot, Stiles Point
Elementary 5th grade teacher

"The social behaviors (empathy, respect, etc.) are being reinforced through these lessons & this is what my kids really need."

Samantha Blake, E.B. Ellington
5th grade teacher

THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER!

<https://www.aphe.org/event-3512909/Registration>



Join APHE for three days of professional networking and presentations that will enhance your humane education program. This is the national conference for humane educators!

The Association of Professional Humane Educators (APHE) is a membership organization that provides networking opportunities and resources to those involved with or interested in humane education. Its goal is to empower those who promote empathy through education.

For more information visit www.APHE.org

"In ancient times cats were worshipped as gods; they have not forgotten this."

Author Terry Pratchett,
quoted in
CountryLiving.com



IMPACT: LATHAM GRANT



THE LATHAM FOUNDATION
Promoting Humane Education Since 1918
latham.org



Charleston Animal Society
Leadership. Treatment. Excellence.

- New compassion based curriculum with hands-on activities, take home materials, and video component
- Complete creation of 5 compassion based video lessons
- Engaging children in 61 classrooms monthly (988 students)
- Launched new supporting student journal
- Astonishing results from teacher surveys

From Street Dog to Canine Artist: The Dog Who Changed My Life

By Deirdre Rand, Ph.D.

INTRODUCTION

By Carol Novello, author of *Mutual Rescue: How Adopting a Homeless Animal Can Save You, Too* (reviewed in the Fall 2019 *Latham Letter*, pp 20-21)

Awe. Wonder. Joy. What is it about the human-animal bond that evokes such powerful emotions? Perhaps it is the sheer improbability that sentient beings with four legs and a tail can come to trust us, love us and weave their way into our lives in unexpected ways.

The story of Deirdre Rand and her Australian Cattle Dog Bella is overflowing with awe, wonder, and joy. Awe at the power of their bond that Deirdre nurtured by training Bella so she could thrive in the world and express her artistic potential to the fullest. Wonder that the form of art Bella engages in has a communicative element which is understandable to the humans in her life. Joy in the way Bella and her constructions have transformed Deirdre's life,

a joy Deirdre and Bella might not have experienced were it not for their relationship.

A recent post on Pinterest read, "Rescue doesn't mean 'damaged,' it means let down by humans." From that perspective, aren't we all rescues in some way or another? There are many aspects of Deirdre and Bella's story that I find inspiring but perhaps none more so than the aspect of "mutual rescue." Deirdre's work to further improve the relationships between animals and humans speaks to the power of love to expand our sense of purpose and make the world a better place for all living beings.

As you read their story, I hope you'll be as moved as I am by how much more full and rich life can be when we share it with members of another species. And that you will come to experience—if you haven't already—the special kind of restorative grace that comes from adopting and caring for a homeless animal.



How it All Began

The story I'd like to share with you begins with the rescue of an Australian Cattle Dog named Bella. She was picked up as a stray in California's Central Valley. When no one claimed Bella after several weeks, the shelter released her to Cattle Dog Rescue in the San Francisco Bay Area to improve her prospects of being adopted into a good home. Around this time, my husband and I were looking to adopt a young female Cattle Dog to join our family as a second dog.

The Cattle Dog Rescue folks had us on their list and let us know they were picking up a “pretty little female” at a shelter. They promised to send us a picture as soon as they got her home.



As soon as we saw Bella’s picture, we dropped what we were doing and drove to the couple’s home, hoping we’d get there before anyone else could adopt her.

Bella was a beautiful dog with a sweet disposition and she could hardly contain her excitement at meeting us. We got Charro, our elderly male Cattle Dog, out of our car and put the dogs in the rescuers’ yard where they explored the perimeter together. While conversing about Bella, my husband and I agreed, “She’s going to be the most intelligent Cattle Dog we’ve ever had!” Little did we know that this flash of intuition was going to manifest as a rare form of canine artistic behavior.

Adjusting to Her New Home

Bella and Charro were both very friendly with people. The difference was that Charro had been well trained when we adopted him and he knew how to behave. Bella

was nine months old and well into adolescence. She was accustomed to running free and had absolutely no manners. She jumped up on people in her excitement to greet them, barked hysterically at the sight of other dogs, and resisted training. I decided to seek the help of a professional.

Bella and I began working with a master trainer named Paul Miller who had a great deal of experience with Australian Cattle Dogs (ACDs). www.bayk9.com According to him, Bella was not a “heeler” even though she looked like one. Most ACDs are heelers who

drive animals from behind, nipping at their heels. But Paul identified Bella as a “header,” which is the name for herding dogs who gather the herd and control the animals from the front. He explained, “As a header, Bella wants to lead and be first. That is her nature.”

Once home, Bella’s instincts as a header conflicted with Charro’s leadership role as a dominant male. She insisted on herding Charro, which annoyed him and prompted him to put Bella in her place. We had to teach Bella to stop pestering Charro. Luckily, Charro was a naturally benevolent leader and Bella accept her subordinate role. With that, the dogs enjoyed spending time together, much as they had on adoption day.

Paul introduced Bella to Frisbee as an alternative outlet for her instincts as a header. Bella loved the game and added to the fun by catching the Frisbee, then throwing it in the air herself so she could catch it a second time.



The Emergence of Bella's Artistic Talent

Soon after Bella came to live with us, a friend gave her a pink baby blanket. Struck by the number of creative ways Bella came up with to use something so simple, I wrote a little ditty about it.

*Bella's blanky is soft and pink:
Chew it, tear it, shake that
thing!*

*Drag it, pull it, throw it in the
air,*

*Catch it on your tail and a flag
will flair. Make it a pillow, make
it a tent, Bella's ideas are never
spent.*



Bella and I continued working intensively with Paul. It was exciting for me to be learning so much about dogs and their relationships with humans and each other. He provided Bella with a variety of toys including three-foot braids, furry stuffed animals, and plush balls. Friends supplemented these toys with an all-cotton rope toy and a hand-made rag doll. Bella continually created new ways to utilize her toys through exploratory play. She maximized the physical pleasure of this play by doing things such as rolling around on

the braids, using a plush ball as a pillow, and vigorously shaking the rag doll.

Was something unusual going on?

I felt I was seeing something out of the ordinary but I didn't know exactly what it was. I bought a small camera in the hopes that photographs would reveal something. Sure enough, with the passage of time, there was a break through. Bella began making shapes such as circles, loops, elegantly curved lines, and right angles. There was growing evidence that Bella's creations were intentional.

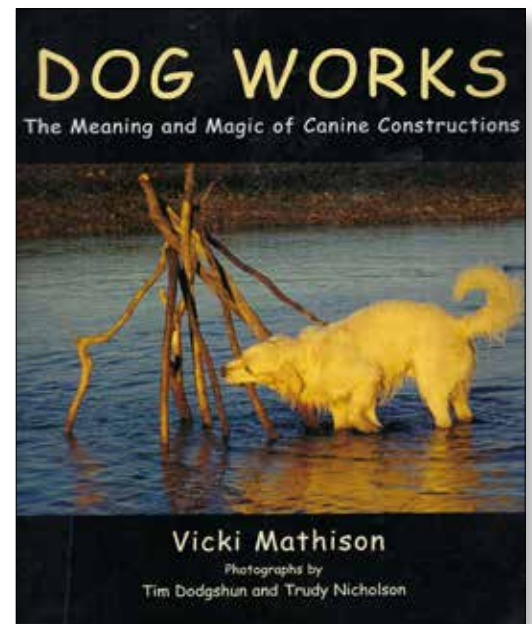
Bella's next phase involved gathering a group of toys and using them to make a construction, like the triangle the size of the living room rug which appeared in a 2011 issue of *Bark Magazine*. Remember what I said earlier about Bella being a header, *i.e.* a dog who gathers the herd together? It seems likely that Bella's characteristics as a header contributed to her interest in making constructions.

I began searching for reports of other dogs who engaged in this type of behavior. I discovered the book *Dog Works: The Meaning and Magic of Canine Constructions* (Mathison, 2000).

This was the book that inspired me to call Bella's



designs "constructions." My excitement grew even more when I found that National Geographic Television had produced a special on canine intelligence in 2008 that featured a rescued Doberman named Donnie. There is a fascinating video on the Internet of Donnie making his constructions. [youtube.com/watch?v=o1fgUQSSihk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o1fgUQSSihk) blog: thetruthaboutcatsdogs.blogspot.com/2007/12/donnie-doberman.html





Bella's Canine Constructions

After photographing Bella and her constructions for a year I decided to create a website which I called “Bella’s Canine Constructions.” Its purpose was to share Bella’s gift as a canine artist with others, and to show the rewards of adopting a homeless animal. The website was full of photos and slideshows. It also featured two kinds of Blog entries: Blog entries about Bella and her constructions and Blog entries about giving animals better lives through rescue and adoption. You can find the Blog entries from Bella’s original website in the archives of her new and updated website.

My Transformation to Animal-Assisted Therapy

In 2011, I was doing a Google search for other animals who do constructions when I came across an article called “Four Legged Therapist” by Lois Abrams, Ph.D. on her Guidance Facilitators website. In it Lois described her mission as “promoting awareness of animals as natural healers.” Those words really resonated with me and **I decided to pursue a similar mission, by creating an online continuing education course on Animal-Assisted Therapy.** I was collecting material for the course when I discovered *The Latham Letter*, which was a rich source of information.

There were a number of articles by and about Dr. Aline Kidd and her husband, the Reverend Robert Kidd.

Coincidentally, Aline had been the supervisor of my clinical internship in psychology and Rob had performed our wedding ceremony. The Kidds had a pair of Australian Cattle Dogs who were having puppies. They gave us pick of the litter as a wedding present and thus began our love for and appreciation of the breed – from that first female, Tasha, through Enzo, Bella, and Charro.

We invite you to visit Bella's website which poses thought-provoking questions and features color photographs of constructions by Bella and her boyfriend Enzo, who learned from Bella how to make constructions himself.

<https://www.bellacanineconstructions.com/index.html>
(also by Dr. Rand)





Online Continuing Education Course on Animal-Assisted Therapy and the Healing Power of Pets

Mission Statement

Through Inspiration & Education I hope to achieve the following:

- Increase awareness of the healing power of pets,
- Encourage mental health professionals, teachers, social workers, and other helping professionals incorporate animals into their work,
- Enrich the bond that people have with their companion animals,

- Inspire people to bring joy & comfort to others by volunteering with their pets,
- Help save adoptable dogs and cats from euthanasia, and
- Share the love and joy that animals have brought into my own life.

Information on Dr. Rand's continuing education course

<https://www.pdresources.org/course/index/1/1254/Animal-Assisted-Therapy-and-the-Healing-Power-of-Pets>

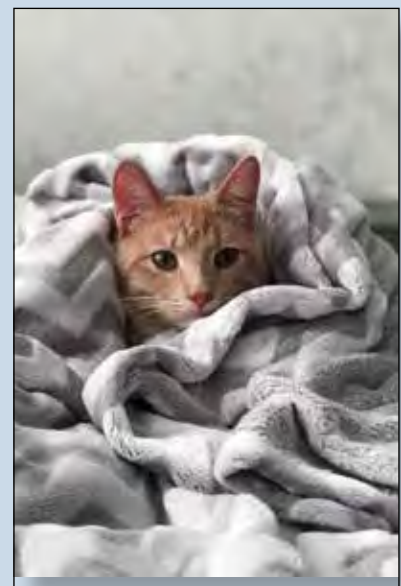
<https://www.animalsasnaturalhealers.com>

Or contact Dr. Rand at:
dcrrand@docrand.com

QUIZ

What percentage of Americans report that they sleep with their pets?

Answer: page 23



This Issue's Feel-Good Story

How a terminally ill rescue dog became a police K-9 for a day

We thank Jim Olson for calling this article to our attention.

Police in Pasco, Washington, turned a rescue pup with an inoperable tumor into a dashing police K-9.

The dog, Eddie, was abandoned and spent almost a month wandering in nearby Benton City before he was rescued.

The rescuing police officers thought he had been hit by a car and rushed him to the vet where they discovered that he, unfortunately, had cancer.

The police then reached out to their rescue partners, and a friend agreed to become Eddie's foster mom for life.

The inoperable tumor caused Eddie to be blind in one eye, and he was given six to 12 months to live.

His foster mom explained, "He's just the best dog, so friendly, so well-behaved, he knows all of his commands, he's just the sweetest thing. He deserves six months to a year of all the love and happiness that we can give him."

She created a bucket list, which included becoming a police K-9 officer, to make sure the dog she lovingly called "Eddie Spaghetti" would have the most memorable final months possible.



Credit: Pasco Police/RACI

She told the area's CNN affiliate, "I thought maybe he might get his picture taken with an officer in a car. I thought maybe if he were lucky, he might go for a car ride, but I never dreamed it would be this big for him."

Eddie got a custom-made uniform with real police patches and was sworn in as a police K-9 before spending the day on patrol, promising to "apprehend bad guys, search out narcotics and put people in jail."

"We believe in helping people and that also means helping animals in our community, so we have all come together as a family and are all fighting alongside Eddie," said Pasco police Detective Julie Lee.

Officer Lee and others took Eddie to several locations around town. His first official call was to a local auto body shop for "service to pick up property," where he received a gift basket with treats, food, and toys to take home. They even donated to his veterinarian bills.

Another stop, of course, was a local doughnut shop, because Eddie wouldn't be a real police officer without some coffee and doughnuts.

"He is just such a lover. You would never suspect that he was abused or neglected," Detective Lee said.

Eddie's bucket list didn't stop there. Some community members offered to check other items off his list, such as pictures with Santa and a pool filled with stuffed animals. Eddie's mom still hoped he could ride in a motorcycle side car and be the star of a kissing booth at an adoption event.

"People really stepped up and made a difference in this dog's life. It's meant the world to know that people still care. Having them make a difference for Eddie, to bring joy to him no matter how short a time he had, that's what we hold onto."

"It's amazing that so many people in this little community said, 'He's worth it, he's worth the chance.'"

The determined rescuing officers and Eddie's foster mom hope that in the future when people see other animals like Eddie, they will step up and keep them safe.



Credit: Pasco Police/RACI

The LINK



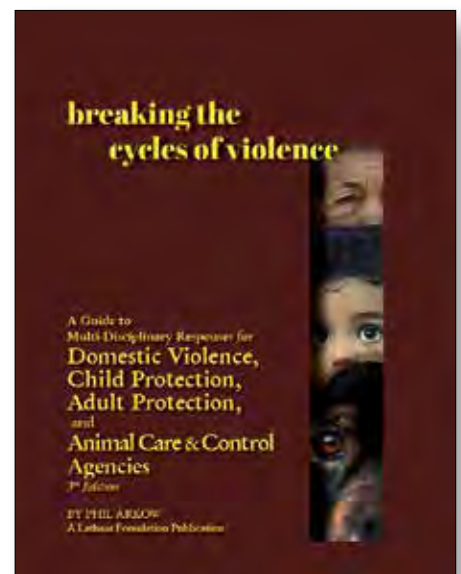
Animal Cruelty is Now a Federal Felony.

President Trump recently signed the bipartisan PACT Act into law, saying the measure would "help us be more responsible and humane stewards of our planet." PACT stands for Preventing Animal Cruelty and Torture, and the act expands on a law passed in 2010. Animal cruelty previously was only a federal crime if the wrongdoers created and sold videos depicting it. Now, people can be punished for the act itself. All 50 states have active laws against animal cruelty, but making it a federal crime allows federal authorities to prosecute acts committed on federal property.

Updated Edition Now Available at Amazon.com

Government leaders, professionals in animal and human protective services, and the public recognize that animal abuse also harms human health and safety. This Guide, now in its 3rd and vastly updated and expanded edition, helps officials in multiple fields create community collaborations for more comprehensive responses to family violence and to fill gaps in services. It provides people working in social services, criminal justice, veterinary and human medicine, animal care and control agencies, researchers, and the general public with tangible tools to identify, report, investigate, and prosecute cases of abuse and neglect. Featuring the latest laws, community-based programs and research,

this Guide is a must for those who believe that multi-disciplinary measures to prevent, punish and prosecute animal abuse benefit not only Man's Best Friend, but also Man – and Woman. [amazon.com/Breaking-Cycles-](https://www.amazon.com/Breaking-Cycles-violence/dp/1484807000)





Animalearn Announces Humane Educator and Humane Student Awardees

Tech Trailblazer: Wendy Martin

Wendy, a science teacher at Assumption High School in Davenport, Iowa, was recognized for her contribution to humane science education as the holographic science teacher featured in VictoryXP's virtual dissection software. She guides students through their dissection as she would in a live classroom.



Friend to Frogs: Indigo Prasad

Indigo, a 7th grader from Mark Day school in San Rafael, Calif., decided to use a science fair project to persuade her peers that dissection is unnecessary for a quality science education and to encourage them to opt out of their upcoming dissection assignment.

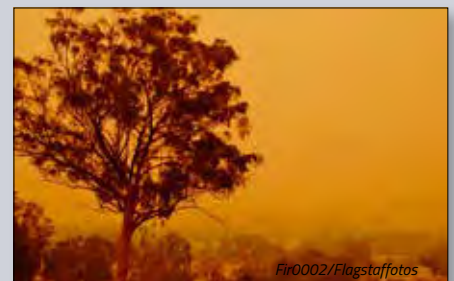


The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) has made a \$25,000 donation to aid Australian veterinarians who are helping animals impacted by the bushfires that ravaged their country. In addition, the AVMA is encouraging its 95,000 members and the general public to consider contributing to relief efforts by donating to the American Veterinary Medical

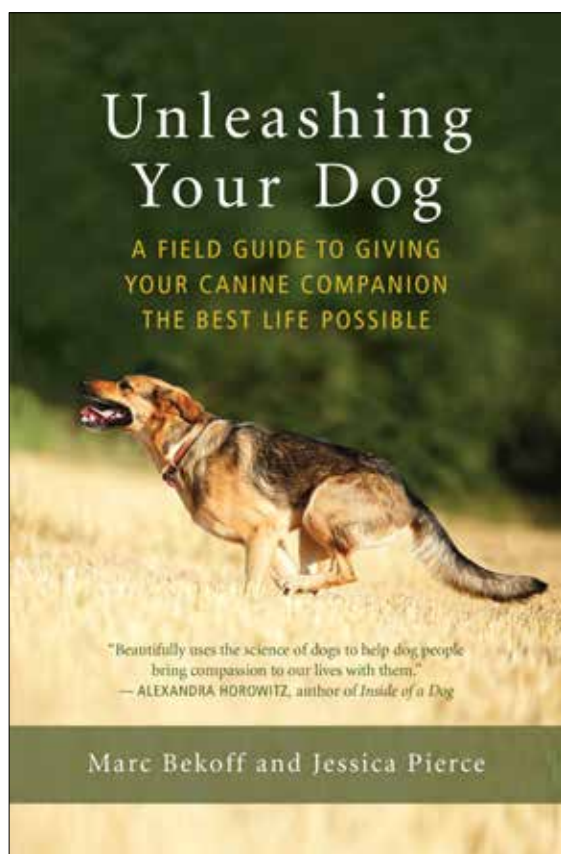
Foundation (AVMF), which will match donations up to \$50,000. Both AVMA's \$25,000 donation and AVMF's matching donation will be made to the Australian Veterinary Association's (AVA) Benevolent Fund, which provides financial assistance to veterinarians who have lost their own property due to the fires or who have provided charitable care for impacted animals.

The Australian wildfires have had staggering, unprecedented impacts

on people, animals and the environment. Current reports indicate at least 24 people have died, 2,000 homes have been destroyed and according to a biodiversity expert, an estimated one billion animals, including some species found only in Australia, have perished.



Fir0002/Flagstaffphotos



Companion dogs. They are the best — nonjudgmental, good listeners after a tough day at the office, good motivators to get us humans off the couch and outdoors. There are so many benefits to having these canine companions in our lives.

But do we let them roll in stinky stuff? Nope. Do we get embarrassed when they sniff crotches or hump our human friends' legs? Yep. Yet this is completely acceptable behavior in the dog world. In the human world, not so much.

Dogs are amazingly adaptive and resilient and find ways to survive even in environments that aren't particularly dog friendly. Most people want their dogs to thrive (versus being labeled with behavioral problems) and the best way to do that is to learn as much

as possible about who dogs really are and what they need from us, say Marc Bekoff and Jessica Pierce.

As the demand for dog trainers and veterinary behaviorists attests, dogs are not naturally adapted to living with and among modern humans. They give up a lot of freedom and instinctual pleasure, as well as their innate strategies for coping with stress and anxiety, in exchange for the comfort and care they get from humans.

Unleashing Your Dog builds on the latest research in canine science and provides many practical ways that allow dogs to

exercise their senses, in addition to exercising their brains and their muscles. Bekoff and Pierce show that it is possible to let dogs be dogs without wreaking havoc on our own lives. They begin by illuminating the true nature of dogs and helping us “walk in their paws.” They reveal what smell, taste, touch, sight, and hearing mean to dogs and then guide readers through everyday ways of enhancing a dog's freedom in safe, mutually happy ways. The rewards, they show, are great — for dog and human alike.

Continuing to build on ways to “let your dog be a dog,” with as much patience and good will as possible, Bekoff and Pierce demonstrate how to give companion dogs the best life possible and provide a win-win for all.

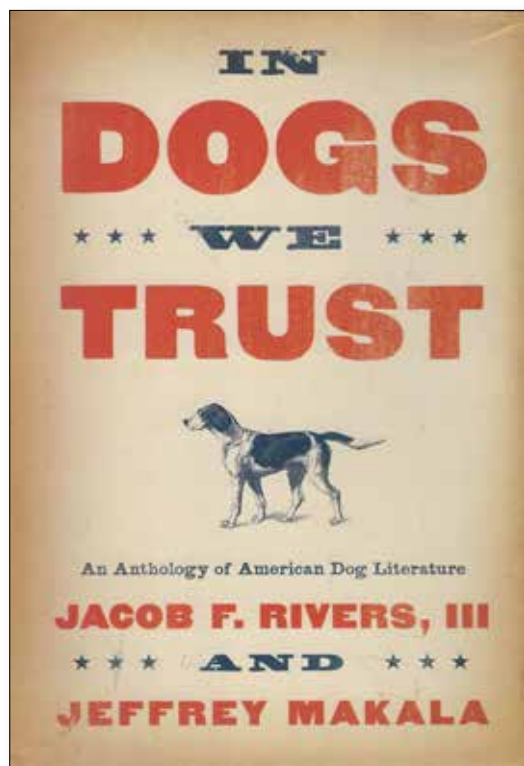
Marc Bekoff is professor emeritus of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Colorado. He is a former Guggenheim Fellow and has received the Exemplar Award for long-term contributions to the field of animal behavior from the Animal Behavior Society. Marc writes regularly for Psychology Today and has published 31 books including The Emotional Lives of Animals.

Jessica Pierce is an Affiliate Faculty at the Center for Bioethics and Humanities, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical School. She is the author of nine books, including The Last Walk: Reflections on Our Pets at the End of Their Lives and Run, Spot, Run: The Ethics of Keeping Pets, has published essays in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Guardian, and is a regular contributor to Psychology Today. She has a Ph.D. from the University of Virginia and an M.T.S. from Harvard University.

New World Library
ISBN 978-1-60868-542-4



Minnie, unleashed in the mountains of western Colorado.
Photo by Sophie Rae Gordon.



Dogs have lived with humans for thousands of years as working partners. By the nineteenth century their role expanded to companions. American dog literature reflects this gradual but dramatic shift that continues even today. Our household dogs are quite literally closer than ever to us: They sleep in our beds, let us dress them Halloween costumes, and serve as emotional support companions.

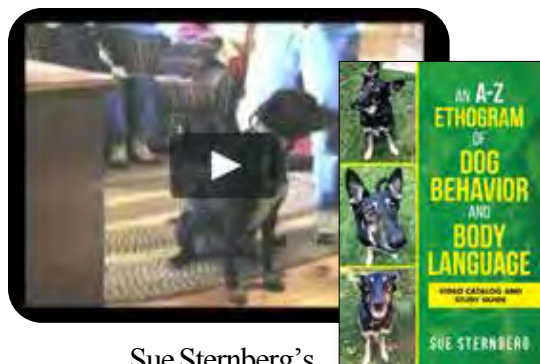
In Dogs We Trust is the first comprehensive anthology of American dog literature. It features stories, anecdotes, and poetry that celebrate the many sterling virtues of the canine species. By mining the vast American literary archive of nineteenth and early twentieth-century periodicals, Jacob F. Rivers III and Jeffrey Makala reveal the

mystique and magic of the human-canine relationship and what they believe is one of the best connections humans have to the mysteries of the natural world.

This grand anthology features a rich harvest of fiction and nonfiction in which the canine heroes and heroines think and act in ways that illuminate their unquestioning loyalty and devotion. By taking dog literature seriously, Rivers and Makala believe we can learn more about our animal companions, ourselves, and our national literature.

For them dog literature is American literature; it helps us explore and explain who we are and who we wish to be.

The University of South Carolina Press
ISBN 978-1-61117-966-8



Sue Sternberg's *An A-Z Ethogram of Dog Behavior and Body Language* video is now available to purchase or rent in streaming formats on the Vimeo website.

This collection of dog behavior videos is gleaned from thousands of hours of assessments on shelter dogs. Sue has excised out the most common behaviors and put them into alphabetical order, normal speeds, and slow motion for the best learning.

This is a visual study guide only. There is no audio or narration.

Running Time: 3 Hrs 37 Mins

ISBN: 9781617812736

Distributed by Dogwise Publishing
Rent or Buy From Vimeo:
vimeo.com/ondemand/ethogram

**Don't forget
this
valuable
resource:**

RedRover maintains a list of humane-themed children's literature at redrover.org/resources/library/ (Age recommendations are listed next to each book.)



Two books in the "From Alone to a Home" collection of shelter stories

Written by Lisa Spaulding, Illustrated by Bonnie Wiegand



In *A Dog Called Meatball*, two stray puppies have been on their own since they were born. These brothers have been fending for themselves on the streets...until things suddenly change.

One puppy is whisked off by an unknown man and he is forced to figure out how to get by without his brother for the first time in his life. He finds himself in an animal shelter where he learns all about what it means to be adopted by a loving family.

But will he ever see his brother again? Readers will find the answer in this delightful book.

ISBN 9781724739315

In *Mr. Misunderstood*, a stray cat is picked up off the streets and brought to the local animal shelter, where he is forced to rely on humans...something he is not comfortable doing.

The shelter staff find him feisty and angry and unwilling to cooperate, but one member of the staff becomes determined to befriend him.

Will she ever gain the trust of this scared stray? And what does she learn in the process?

Readers are sure to enjoy this journey. They may even learn some new cat facts along the way.

ISBN 9781096712695



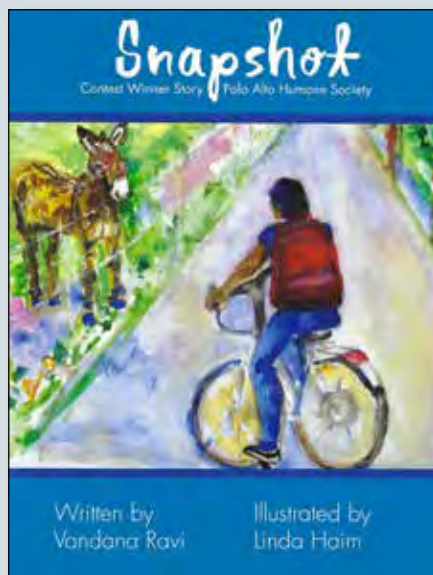
Space Dogs: The Story of the Celebrated Canine Cosmonauts (photos by Martin Parr, text by Richard Hollingham) is a fascinating little book about the period during the Cold War when the Russian space program sent dogs into space, never to return.

The book is filled with photos and images of memorabilia relating to the still-remembered cosmonaut dogs — Laika, Belka, Strelka and others — who became extraordinarily famous at the time. They were also mourned for their unwitting sacrifice. These dogs were shot into space with no intention of ever bringing them back to earth.

There's actually a gem of a small film in the "Animated Canines" collection of the ON DEMAND Collection of the NY Dog Film Festival which is a tribute to Laika and the other pooches.

Check out the book for a trip back in time — and for a modern look backwards, download the Animated Canines (100% of proceeds goes to Michelson Found Animals) to watch at home.

Reviewed by Tracie Hotchner



Ambassadors of Compassion Story Writing Contest for Middle School Students

Palo Alto Humane Society's story writing contest exemplifies its commitment to engaging young people in building a more humane world. www.paloaltohumane.org

Vanessa Ravi's story, "Snapshot," was inspired by the donkeys who reside in Bol Park in Palo Alto, California. The park, which was once a working farm, has provided a home for donkeys since 1934.

www.barronparkdonkeys.org



Palo Alto Humane Society Press
ISBN 978-1-7325944-4-9

FREE ONLINE COURSE

The ASPCA is offering free access to "How to Encourage Good Behavior in Shelter Dogs," an online course created by their Learning Lab. Follow these instructions to take the 20-minute, mobile-friendly course:

- Log in to ASPCAOnline.org (or create a free account)
- Navigate to "Course Catalog"
- Then "Everyone Is on the Behavior Team"
- Click "Enroll" under "How To Encourage Good Behavior in Shelter Dogs"



Now Available from the Lakes Animal Friendship Society



French, Spanish, Portuguese, and German editions are now available from the Lakes Animal Friendship Society, along with many other valuable humane education resources.

These books and materials are based on real animal care projects involving the children in the Lakes District in Northern British Columbia. The Kindness Collection books are available for purchase at <http://www.lakesanimalfriendship.ca/books>. Their Kind and Caring Activity books are available for purchase at <http://www.lakesanimalfriendship.ca/resources> or may be downloaded for free. Bulk discounts are available.

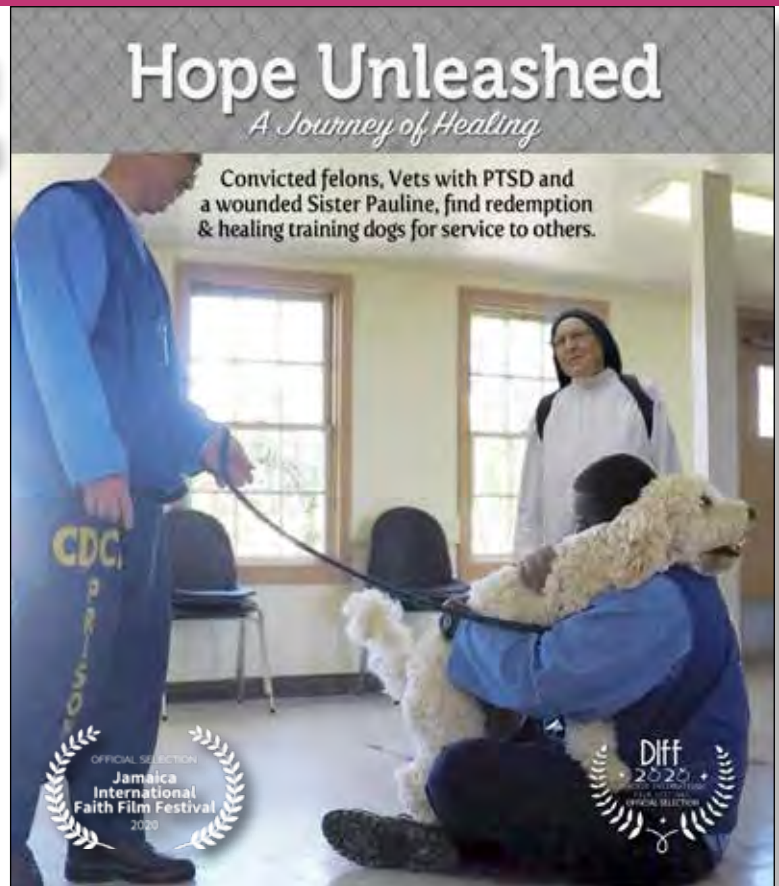
Latham Film Selected for Two Film Festivals

Hope Unleashed, A Journey of Healing was selected for the Dunedin, Florida, Film Festival where it played to an enthusiastic audience. Dunedin is a pet-friendly town with a growing reputation as a creative hub. Festival organizers invited animal shelter workers and members of the Association of Professional Humane Educators to attend as special guests. This inspiring film will also be shown at the Jamaica Faith Film Festival.

Prison Dog-Training Programs are flourishing all over the world, improving the lives of inmates and the men and women who receive the dogs. Our *Hope Unleashed* takes you behind the



scenes at two such transformative programs -- the original one in



Washington State that Sister Pauline Quinn helped start in 1984, and another at the Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo, Calif. You'll see moving, in-depth interviews and training sessions in both the 40-and 20-minute versions. Streaming now on Latham's Vimeo page.

LATHAM VIDEO COLLECTIONS *Streaming on Vimeo*

EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS FOCUSED
ON EMPATHY AND KINDNESS



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Answer to Quiz

More than 20 percent, which is twice the number that Canadians report, and the highest of any country.





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