

W I N T E R 2 0 1 0 - A N E W S L E T T E R T O O U R S U P P O R T E R S

THE WINNIPEG HUMANE SOCIETY

N E W S

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in Your Community**

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**The Dog-Reactive Dog:
Training Tips
from the Expert**

**COVER PHOTO:
2009 Bow Wow
Ball Winner Myca.**



Photo by Frank Adam of Adam York Photography.



THE WINNIPEG HUMANE SOCIETY

V I S I T T H E W H S A T W W W . W I N N I P E G H U M A N E S O C I E T Y . C A



THE WINNIPEG HUMANE SOCIETY

www.winnipeghumanesociety.ca

Email: reception@humanesociety.mb.ca

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS:

General Information: 982-2021

Adoptions: 982-2035

Animal Intake/Lost and Found:
982-2025

Cruelty/Abuse Complaints: 982-2028

Donations & Tax Receipts: 982-2041

Emergency: 982-2020
(Animals hit by car or in distress)

Fax: 663-9401

DEPARTMENT & PROGRAM CONTACTS:

Adoption Manager
Karen Young-Jamerson: 982-2033

Executive Administrative Assistant
Lindsay Creasy: 982-3555

Director of Animal Health
Dr. Erika Anseeuw: 982-3553

Education Team: 982-2046
(School visits, shelter tours,
birthday parties)

Executive Director
Bill McDonald: 982-2037

Director of Development
Christine Boulton: 982-2029

Controller
Amanda Kerr: 982-2039

Foster Program: 982-2049

Communications and
Public Affairs: 988-8810

Volunteer Services
Kelle Roth: 982-2043

Pet Loss Support: 988-8804

Tip to Tail Boutique: 982-3556

Spay & Neuter Assistance Program
888-SNAP (7627)

Special & Third Party Events
Jessica Miller: 982-2044

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Pet Adoption!

Mini Kids Club!

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The Tip to Tail Boutique!

Day Camp!

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Coupon valid only at 45 Hurst Way. Discount valid on regular priced merchandise.

You are invited to attend

THE WINNIPEG HUMANE SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Awards presentation, upcoming events, current humane issues, plans for the future

Wed., April 28, 2010 at the WHS Shelter,

45 Hurst Way RSVP: 988-8800

ANIMAL HOARDING - A Collector's Nightmare



WHAT IS ANIMAL HOARDING?

While the existence of animal hoarding is slowly rearing its head through now popular TV shows such as *Animal Cops* or *Rescue Ink*, it is something that can be found in almost every community—including Winnipeg. Believe it or not, animal hoarding is most likely occurring in one form or another within your neighbourhood. It is actually quite common both in Winnipeg and in any city or town throughout North America. The Winnipeg Humane Society deals with at least 10 cases a year within city limits and there are probably more that simply haven't been reported.

Animal hoarding affects hundreds of thousands of animals and is a phenomenon that cannot easily be defined in black and white. While any given person may have more than the typical number of companion animals, this does not necessarily mean they are a 'hoarder'. A situation becomes a hoarding case if the animal caretaker cannot provide the minimum standards of care for the animals—nutrition, sanitary conditions, shelter and medical care—and they will usually wholeheartedly deny the inability to do so. Remember, if one of your friends or rela-

tives has five cats who are five of the happiest and healthiest cats you've ever met, there is no need to worry!

Any species of animal—cats, dogs, birds, farm animals—can be hoarded in any amount, from 10 to over 100. In Winnipeg, by far the most common animal involved in hoarding cases are cats. The Animal Protection Officers at The Winnipeg Humane Society have dealt with many cases involving 50, 60 or more cats all living under a single roof. One case involved over 100 birds, with dogs and cats also living in the same dwelling. While often the animals multiply from unplanned breeding inside the

The Animal Protection Officers at The Winnipeg Humane Society have dealt with many cases involving 50, 60 or more cats all living under a single roof.

home, sometimes the animal hoarders intentionally seek stray animals from outside the household, hoping to 'rescue' them or give them a home off the streets. Hoarders don't set out to automatically find dozens of stray animals all at once; it always starts with a few—and usually with the best intentions—then escalates to a point in which adequate care is no longer possible.

WHO ARE ANIMAL HOARDERS AND WHY DO THEY DO IT?

Animal hoarding differs from other kinds of animal abuse because the people involved often don't understand they are causing harm to the animals. While hoarding has generally been recognized as a symptom of a psychological disorder, it has not yet been linked to any specific condition and very little is still known about why people do it. It may seem hard to understand, but think of other psychological disorders that we have come so far in recognizing such as obsessive compulsive disorder or attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder. Many

years ago, these types of dementia were poorly understood—like animal hoarding is now—while today doctors can properly diagnose and treat those who suffer from them. Some food for thought: in addition to having too many animals, many hoarders also collect inanimate objects such as videos or magazines. This shows the problem isn't always entirely animal-related, but is also connected to other matters.

ANIMAL HOARDING - A



People usually believe they are saving the animals and will deny that they have caused any harm to the animals whatsoever, and truly believe it. They may not recognize that an animal is slowly dying of starvation inside their home or may see it as a better option than freezing to death on the streets during a frigid Manitoba winter. They may see the animals as surrogate children or feel that no one else will care for them if they aren't taken in, thus forcing the animals to live in squalid conditions that are detrimental to their health and the health of any humans nearby.

In 1999, Dr. Gary Patronek, Director of the Center for Animals and Public Policy at Tufts University in Massachusetts, conducted a survey of 54 hoarding cases from 10 animal control agencies across

run-down and disheveled—much like you see in the hoarding episodes of *Animal Cops*. In the worst cases, urine and feces coat the floors and walls, with debris from food and garbage piling in the corners. The smell is unbearable and it becomes a health risk to simply breathe the air. Dead animals may be amongst the live ones, decaying and attracting disease-carrying insects and rodents. With so many animals, lack of food is also common, causing animals to slowly starve to death.

Often, poor conditions become so extreme, when the animals are finally discovered and rescued from the situation they must be euthanized due to ill health, contagious disease or a wild disposition. When dealing with hoarding cases, The Winnipeg Humane Society always assesses and treats any animals that still have a chance at a

can be affected by insects or rodents who are attracted to the house of a hoarder while diseased animals going in and out of the hoarder's house can pose a threat to neighbourhood pets and children.

Sometimes the buildings are in such a poor condition there may be no working bathrooms, no cooking facilities, no electricity, no refrigerator or no working heat. In extreme cases, the conditions are so bad a building must be condemned by a health department due to unlivable conditions.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A CASE IS REPORTED?

In Manitoba, the Animal Care Act does not specifically state or define what animal hoarding is and what the penalties are. Animal Protection Officers work based on the health and well-being of the animals, and intervene if they find evidence the animals are not being properly cared for.

In Winnipeg, when a hoarding case is reported and conditions have been investigated and officially deemed unsanitary, the animals may be seized by The WHS's Animal Protection Officers and turned over to The Winnipeg Humane Society. Depending on the number of animals, it can take several days to catch and medically and behaviorally assess every animal involved. They are then taken to the shelter clinic where they are assessed by veterinarians and treated if possible.

The ideal scenario after the animals have been rescued is that the animal hoarder is put into a monitored living arrangement and offered professional psychiatric help. Most likely, they will need to be treated for physical ailments as living in such an unsanitary environment can be detrimental to their personal health.

Animal hoarding differs from other kinds of animal abuse because the people involved often don't understand they are causing harm to the animals.

the U.S. He found that 76% of hoarders were female, 83.3% were over 40 years old and about half the hoarders lived in single-person households. However, anyone of any age, gender or family structure can show symptoms of becoming a hoarder and thus put many, many animals' lives at risk. In Winnipeg, men and women of all ages and backgrounds have been involved in animal hoarding, from low-income families to educated professionals; and it occurs in all neighbourhoods, from the city centre to the suburbs.

HOW DOES IT CAUSE ANIMALS TO SUFFER?

It's truly hard to imagine how much the animals really suffer when involved in hoarding cases. With so many animals under one roof, the sanitary conditions become

happy and fulfilling life. The animals are then put into the adoption program and find loving homes to take them in. However, rescuing, treating and boarding so many animals at once always puts a strain on an animal shelter. It is never easy working with hoarding cases—not only does it take a toll on finances and resources, it is emotionally one of the most difficult situations to deal with.

HOW DOES IT CAUSE PEOPLE TO SUFFER?

Animals are not the only ones who suffer when involved in hoarding cases. There are health hazards for the people living in the home and it is especially worrisome when children or elders are involved as they may be helpless to seek assistance on their own. The whole neighbourhood

Collector's Nightmare

When dealing with the courts, each incident is judged on a case-by-case basis and penalties can range from being prohibited from owning a certain amount of animals for a set period of time, to fines or even jail-time.

When dealing with hoarders there is an extremely high chance that once the situation has been resolved, it will eventually reoccur if not monitored. Intervention should involve the family of the hoarder and other members of the community and be considered long-term.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

If you suspect someone is hoarding animals, you should notify The Winnipeg Humane Society by calling the cruelty and abuse line at 982-2028. Often hoarders will go to ex-

treme extents to hide the fact that they're hoarding animals, but there are signs to look for such as noise (excessive barking) or odour (strong smell of ammonia). With cats, noise isn't something you may notice, but you may see numerous cats in the windows or the curtains may be tattered and scratched. Often the house itself is in need of repair and the yard may be in disarray as there is no more room for anything inside.

Always remember that hoarding is part of a mental illness that will not go away on its own. The community must work together by notifying authorities if they suspect a hoarding case. Measures must be taken in order to alleviate the suffering of any animals involved and aid anyone affected in getting the help they need to stay healthy and happy. ■

ONYX – FROM DISTRESS TO HAPPINESS

By Ron and Lesley Sisco

In June we adopted Onyx, a beautiful 4-year-old Lab mix, who was rescued from a hoarder in Manitoba along with 45 other dogs. Upon medical examination, he was found to have a hernia, bites on his inner thighs and ears, and several scars from old wounds all over his body. He was very insecure and seemed to have no confidence in himself.

Onyx had 100% of our attention for July and August. It took him the full two months to accept us as his owners. We wondered if he would ever wag his tail, cuddle on the bed or curl up with us on the sofa. Every day he makes a first. He loves a tummy rub, any kind of cheese, and his walks. He is the centre of our universe and we are becoming his everyday. A dog that had been neglected for four years has melted because of our love and attention. His comic personality makes us laugh every day and has replaced his reserve and shyness, his tail tucked under, and his head hung low.

Listed below are just a few of Onyx's firsts:

- Friday, July 10, 2009 - Onyx jumps into the car on his own. Now he loves a car ride.
- Friday, July 17, 2009 - Onyx wags his tail for the first time. Now he wags it so furiously his whole bum wiggles.
- Friday, August 21, 2009 - Onyx barks for the first time. Now he barks at the phone ringing and the door bell and when he wants something from us.
- Saturday, August 22, 2009 - Onyx comes upstairs and sleeps on his bed in the master bedroom. Prior to this, Onyx was unsure of how to manoeuvre something as simple as the stairs. (Now he sleeps on our bed!)
- Sunday, August 30, 2009 - Onyx plays for the first time. Now he loves to play with his rawhide bone and likes to have it thrown so he can run after it.

Onyx has become a member of our family. He greets us at the door on our return with his tail wagging and just jumping around with excitement. He expects his morning and evening walks, and walks with his tail held high and head up as proud as punch. He traveled with us to Thunder Bay in the car and was the perfect traveler.

We are so grateful that we decided to adopt a Winnipeg Humane Society dog. All of the dedicated people involved in Onyx's rescue can hold their heads high and know they have made a difference. From the Sisco's and Onyx, thank you!

Before adoption Onyx was timid, insecure and had scars all over his body.

After adoption Onyx has come a long way and is now living his dream life with his new family.





Liam's Tail

As dictated to
Sharon
Robin-Linden

My name is Liam Fitzgerald (formerly known at The Winnipeg Humane Society as Mr. Rogers). In September of 2008, Sharon arrived at The WHS complete with wire kennel looking for an orange tabby. I was in the cat condo area and we made eye contact as she first walked by—and again upon her return.

She requested an interview with me and as she knelt down, I immediately rose, put both front paws around her neck and licked her chin. I haven't done it since.

Sharon didn't bother to interview any more cats that day, and so we came home. For the first two weeks I was an exemplary animal—she couldn't stop raving about me to her friends, including the fact that I hadn't done a thing wrong thus far. I got tired of listening to this so after that all heck broke loose.

My first and most daring escapade was to upset a vase of flowers into Sharon's beloved old TV set. The TV responded by coming on all by itself and emitting a shower of rather colourful sparks. This necessitated a call to the fire department at 4:00 a.m. (I don't do anything by halves.) Odd to see Sharon putting on mascara and lipstick just because the fire department was coming...

My second adventure was to enter the fireplace when the glass doors were open and climb part way up the chimney. This caused a lot of begging on Sharon's part for me to "please, come down!" Of course I was done-in by the sound of the can opener. I looked kind of rakish when I emerged

with a sooty smudge under one eye—rather like a cat in a Dickens novel illustration.

Regards getting shut into the kitchen cupboards; I guess I have no one to blame but myself, but it seemed an awfully long time before my plaintive calls for help were heard. Didn't get much sympathy there.

I like to help out in the kitchen but it is seldom appreciated. The words "step away from the tuna" are becoming increasingly annoying. As for the raw hamburger left temporarily unattended on the kitchen counter?—well, what can I say...

All kidding aside, I have a lovely home where I am loved. A big plus is a roomy outdoor run where I can enjoy the sunshine, eat grass and bugs and come into the house and throw up. Nine hundred square feet of flaming hardwood and I can still find a carpet.

In closing, I would like to add that if more people supplied outdoor runs for their cats, a lot of us would not end up lost or strayed as I did.



The WHS Teen Leaders



The Winnipeg Humane Society has always recognized there are many young people who have a passion for helping animals. As part of our mission, The WHS offers a variety of programs designed to involve children and young adults in positive, proactive activities.

This past December we launched an exciting new program called The WHS Teen Leaders. The program is aimed at young adults, ages 16 – 19 years old, who have a passion for animals.

Recruited from schools all over the city, the like-minded teens come together once a month to discuss issues related to animal welfare and work on fundraising projects to help The WHS.

Special guest speakers, such as local celebrity and WHS supporter Ace Burpee, help to motivate and inspire the group. The program participants learn important character building concepts and address the needs of the community, all while practicing leadership, presentation and communication skills.

The program has been tremendously successful. Program participant Emily Wade is thrilled to

do something she's so passionate about. "I've been fundraising for The WHS since I was 8 years old," the now 16 year old, grade 11 student at St. John's-Ravenscourt tells us. "This program helps me to take it a step further. I love working with the other kids and doing something meaningful to help the animals."

Roma Yayats, a grade 12 student from Kelvin High School says this program is just what she was looking for. "I contacted The WHS in the fall because I wanted to do something to help my school connect with the shelter. My friends and I were interested in helping raise funds but weren't sure how to direct our efforts. This program has helped me educate others in my community and I feel like I'm doing something really significant to help animals."

The Teen Leadership program runs until the end of the school year and will start back up again in September 2010. If you are interested in being involved with this program, please visit our website at www.humanesocietydonor.ca/net-community/teenleaders for enrollment and program information.



DOG-REACTIVE DOGS

By: Susan Williams,
Behaviour Manager

Many people have experienced it; you're walking your dog when he notices another dog down the road and starts barking uncontrollably and lunging towards it. When dogs are particularly responsive to seeing other dogs, they are called dog-reactive dogs. This type of behaviour is often seen in shelter or rescue dogs because they come from extremely stimulating environments where they are constantly around other dogs and are always sharing attention.

It is important to be able to control your dog while on a walk for the safety of you, your dog and anyone else around. When most people experience a dog-reactive situation, they often automatically start correcting their dog while pulling on the leash. This is not a good method to use, as when a dog is in a reactive state, they will think any loud yelling and restraint is simply cheering them on and will get them even more excited.

Obedience school isn't always an option for dog-reactive

dogs, because not all schools will accept them. They can be destructive to the class as they constantly need to be controlled and take a lot of time away from the other dogs. So you have to start working with your dog yourself.

First, start getting your dog to look at you whenever you say his name, always giving him a treat when he responds properly. Start inside your house and then move outside into your yard. The key is to teach your dog that something good will happen whenever he looks up at you when you say his name.

Once you have accomplished this, start going on walks. At first, you must bring a high-value food reward with you. Milk-bones simply aren't motivating enough—bring pieces of cheese, leftover chicken, wieners, anything your dog likes but doesn't get a lot. Cut them into good sized pieces that will be tempting to your dog.

While you're on your walk try to notice any approaching dog before your own dog notices.

As soon as you see one, put the food treat up to your dog's nose and say his name. When he looks up at you, praise him and give him the treat. Take a few more steps and repeat. You can throw in some basic commands, such as sit or down, always following with a treat.

As you continue walking and keep getting closer to the other dog, your dog will find it harder and harder to focus on you. He may keep glancing at the other dog, but still turn to look at you when you say his name. Eventually when the other dog gets close enough, it could be 30 feet away or 5 feet away, your dog will no longer be able to focus on you at all and will start barking, lunging and pulling towards the other dog—this means your dog has entered his red-zone.

When your dog is in his red-zone, you should move him and yourself off to the side, stand still and ignore your dog's behaviour. Once the other dog has passed, continue saying your dog's name and treating him when he responds correctly.

During this first walk, take note of how far away the other dog was before your dog entered the red-zone. From now on, it is the time *right before* he enters the red-zone that you must work the hardest to keep his focus on you instead of the other dog. The longer you can keep his attention, the smaller and smaller his red-zone should become.

You probably won't make much progress the first few times, and you may not notice the red-zone getting smaller. Keep paying close attention to your dog, and any time he looks up at you with another dog around (even if it's just for one second) this is *good* and he should be rewarded!

With consistency and continued practice, you're dog will stay calmer and calmer for a longer time when you encounter other dogs on your walks. His red-zone could go from being 30 feet away, 20 feet, 10 feet, to just a couple of feet.

Eventually you should be able to walk your dog past other dogs without incident (or with some minor whining and sideways glances). You will have taught him that staying focused on you instead of other dogs is positive and rewarding. You may always need to carry treats with you, but eventually they won't have to be as high-value as they were to start with, or a verbal reward will be all your dog needs to know he's doing something right.

Remember: The key to diminishing the red-zone is teaching your dog that the more he focuses on you and the less he focuses on the other dog, the bigger the reward.

This is something that may take quite awhile for your dog to learn and you must keep at it consistently. Training reactive dogs can be a long road, but there's no question, you'll get out of it what you put into it. ■



1001 DONATIONS

Live at the shelter

It's a radiothon, it's a telethon,
all rolled into 1001!

Make your donation on March 28:

- Call 927-1001
- Log on to winnipeghumanesociety.ca
- Visit us at 415 Hurst Way
- Donate at our Drive-Thru
- Drop by participating Malls

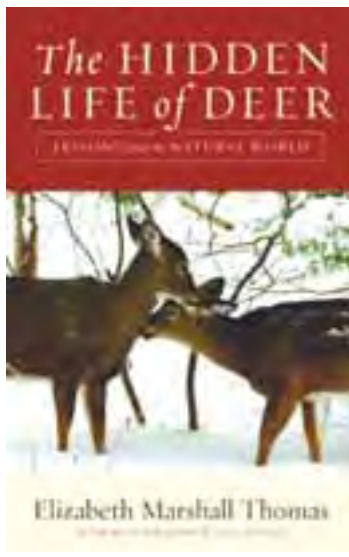
Call me at 982-2044
to get your school
involved!



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The Hidden Life of Deer: Lessons from the Natural World - Elizabeth Marshall Thomas



Book Review by Gail Kreutzer

This book wonderfully captures how all life forms are connected and gives an in-depth description of the lives of deer along with other woodland creatures with which the author shares her property. Thomas' premise is that if we take the

time, we will notice many things that nature, and more specifically deer, can teach us.

In 2007, New Hampshire experienced a bad winter. As a result many deer faced starvation and Thomas began to feed them. The color of bone marrow can indicate if a deer died of starvation; when the marrow in a deer carcass is red it means that every last gram of fat has been used up as opposed to healthy marrow that looks like the color of lard. A deer can lose up to 25 percent of its weight but if it loses much more it is unlikely to survive. In *The Hidden Life of Deer*, Thomas addresses those who object to feeding wildlife—they believe that nature should take its course because feeding enables more animals to live than nature can sustain, causing the entire population to suffer from malnutrition. Yet, maintaining a bird feeder is laudable, explains Thomas, and is

practiced by many who tell you not to feed wild animals. More deer die because humans hunt them than because people feed them.

Throughout the winter Thomas paid attention to deer habits such as when they decided to come and eat. In her book she describes these habits and explains why they sometimes compete for food and other times cooperate. Another one of many interesting observations included is that when groups of deer arrive for feeding there is an eating hierarchy. Thomas explains that after a certain amount of time, one of the deer will flick its ears and swish its tail as a signal it is moving on and soon all the others will follow, even if they hadn't eaten.

She not only observed how deer survived the rough winter but also how they cared for their fawns, fended off predators and the complex warnings used. Thomas pro-

vides a wonderful description of her walks in the woods and how to notice the 'deer environment'. She emphasizes that if you find a deer yard you should leave it immediately so as not to disturb the deer in winter. These yards can be found by noticing a close network of trails in a sheltered low-lying area where some of the trees have been browsed up to six feet high from deer standing on their hind legs. Deer know all the microclimates and places where sun-warm air drifts along with the appropriate shelter to keep them warm.

The main premise of this book is that if you actively try to observe your surroundings an unexpected mixture of nature will unfold. As Thomas says, "One of the greatest barriers we have to understanding the life forms around us is the burden of misinformation in our heads...wildlife observation takes great patience and one must be prepared to wait."

I am beautiful on the inside.

I am more than just a cat.

I am an **iams** cat

iams ProActive Health Formulas with **PreBiotics**
for healthy digestion and strong defenses

See the power of iams PreBiotics in action at www.iams.ca

Spring Break Day Camp at The Winnipeg Humane Society



WHAT: Paws for Adventure Day Camp is a hands - on experience exploring pet care, safety with pets and responsible pet ownership. There are activities, special presentations, tours and of course, encounters with WHS pets.

WHEN: Spring Break 2010! Sign up for as many days as you like: Monday, March 29 - Friday, April 2

WHY: Research shows that interaction with pets is valuable to children's emotional and intellectual development. A relationship with a pet encourages children to accept responsibility and to develop empathy for other people and for pets.

WHERE: The Winnipeg Humane Society, 45 Hurst Way

TIME: 8:15 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. (camp programming runs from 9am - 4pm)

COST: The cost of the camp is \$30/day, or \$135/week

REGISTRATION & INFORMATION:

Call: 982-2046 Email:

education@humanesociety.mb.ca.

Pre-registration is required

Cut out and post on fridge. See how many activities you can do to 'Be Kind to Animals'!

Being Kind to Animals is Fun and Easy!

Be Kind to Animals Week is May 2 to May 8, 2010. Complete as many of these exciting activities as you can to help the animals in your home and in your community! You'll see just how much fun it is to take care of all your special animal friends!

● Groom your cat, dog or horse

● Fill a birdbath with clean fresh water

● Learn some new facts about your pet; something about their behaviour, temperament or species

● Hold a party in honor of your pet and talk about how special he or she is to you

● Keep your cat indoors where he or she is safe from traffic and wildlife

● Cut six-pack rings so they will not hurt animals

● Make sure your backyard fence is secure so your dog can't escape

● Start or join a club to help animals-The Winnipeg Humane Society has many for kids of all ages

● Give your pets healthful food made just for them (instead of ice cream and treats from the table)



Wish List (Updated November 2009)

For the Animals

- Dog, puppy and cat toys
- Large rope toys for large dogs
- Medium and large Kongs for dogs
- Large rawhides without knots
- Pigs ear chewies
- Nylon leashes
- Nylon dog collars, medium and large
- Canned cat and dog food
- Small, 2-sided cat dishes
- Clumping and non-clumping kitty litter
- Medium sized litter pans
- Litter scoops
- Critter food (rabbit, guinea pig, small animal)
- Rabbit cages
- Timothy Hay
- Small animal litter (Aspen shavings only please)

For the Office

- Thumb tacks
- 8.5 X 11 coloured paper
- Post-it notes
- Staplers and staples
- Tape dispensers and Scotch tape
- Black sharpies
- White-out
- Pencils
- Blue or black pens
- Scissors
- Big, black clips, (binder clips) all sizes
- Laminating sheets
- Tissue

Adoption

- Wool (for our volunteers who knit the animals blankets)
- Biodegradable bags
- 8.5 X 11 blue and yellow paper

Clinic

- Film canisters
- Kitchen scales
- Bandage supplies
- Used medical equipment

Behaviour

- Walking ease harnesses, large and small
- Head halties, size 2
- 8 mm tapes for video camera

Education

- Whiteboard markers
- Non-toxic markers
- Flip-chart paper
- OH projector film
- Brightly coloured fun foam
- Brightly coloured craft felt
- Window markers

Animal Intake

- Clear, plastic clip-boards
- New street maps (in book form, if possible)
- Small hand held flashlights
- Thick leather, elbow-length gloves (such as welding gloves)
- Batteries (AA, AAA, 9v, etc...)
- Air fresheners

ATTENTION: TEACHERS/EDUCATORS

*Winnipeg Humane Society Presentation:
Animal Agriculture, the Environment
and Future Sustainability -*

Are you interested in stimulating your students to think about where our food comes from, how its production is connected to clean water, fresh air and how each one of us influences this through our personal choices?

The Winnipeg Humane Society presentation touches on animal welfare, environmental concerns and sustainability issues for agriculture in Manitoba. Its goal is to encourage students to learn more about animal agriculture and conventional production systems as well as options for the future and what is happening around the world in these areas. This presentation would be suitable for students from grade 9-12.

*For more information contact:
Lindsay Creasy, Executive Administrative Assistant
at The Winnipeg Humane Society -
PH: 982-3555
email: lindsayc@humanesociety.mb.ca*



The Winnipeg Humane Society's MINI KIDS CLUB

An ideal opportunity to enjoy an exciting
educational experience for ages 7-11.

Learn more about safe pet interaction.
Explore pet care and responsible pet ownership!
Share ideas, activities, and stories!
Enjoy encounters with great pets at the shelter!

Saturday February 20, 27, March 6 and 13, 2010
10:00 am 12:00 pm (Participants attend all 4 dates in one session)

Call 982-2046 or E-mail education@humanesociety.mb.ca

Pre-registration is required. The fee is \$32 and includes all sessions.

THE
WINNIPEG
 HUMANE *Society*
 PRESENTS
VIVA PAWS VEGAS
 APRIL 8 • 2010
 5 PM-8 PM

Space is limited,
 purchase tickets
 online or call
982-2041

\$50 per person
 Dogs are free!

The Fairmont
 WINNIPEG

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www.winnipeghumanesociety.ca



Used Book and Movie Sale Love to Read? Love Animals?

Support The Winnipeg Humane Society's upcoming **used book and movie sale** on **Monday, February 15th** (*Louis Riel Day*). The sale will be taking place at the shelter on **45 Hurst Way** between **12 p.m.** and **5 p.m.**

Please **drop off** your gently used **books and movies** of all genres, at the front reception desk at The Winnipeg Humane Society. *No magazines please.*

All **proceeds** from the sale will be directed towards caring for the **animals** in our **community**.

Farm Animal Welfare News

CANADIAN FARM ANIMAL WELFARE COALITION



By Gail Kreutzer, Chair of The WHS Farm Animal Welfare Committee

The Winnipeg Humane Society along with several major animal welfare organizations throughout Canada and with the support of the Humane Society of the United States have joined forces to build a stronger national voice for animal welfare. The coalition met for the first time in March 2009, and has since kept in contact via regular phone conference meetings, to develop a plan that will end intensive confinement practices in the food animal industry.

The veal industry participates in the use of intensive confinement systems. All dairy cows must give birth to a calf each year to provide the milk that we drink. A tragic by-product of the dairy industry is the surplus of male calves. Since they are unable to provide milk they are either disposed of or, more commonly, raised for sixteen weeks for the veal market.

Within the first few days after birth, veal calves are separated from their mothers and are tethered into individual crates. The crates are approximately two feet wide providing only enough room for the calves to stand or lie down.

They are unable to turn, exercise, stretch, groom or even lie down comfortably and are not allowed any interaction with other calves. The lack of muscle movement and development causes various health problems including leg and joint disorders, indigestion, diarrhea, muscle atrophy, chronic pneumonia, and wounds from rubbing against the crate.

According to an article from the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, "Approximately one third of veal calves

The formula fed to the calves is sometimes lacking in iron, causing anemia and producing the pale flesh used in gourmet meals.

in Canada are "milk-fed" according to industry standards; however, the liquid they are fed is not actually milk but a milk substitute formula. Since the calves are removed from their mothers within the first few days of being born, they do not have the opportunity to suckle from her. The formula fed to the calves is sometimes lacking in iron, causing anemia and producing the pale flesh used in gourmet meals."

Due to animal welfare concerns, the entire European Union has already banned both veal crates and gestation crates, effective 2007 and 2013 respectively. In the United States, Arizona, Colorado, California, Michigan and Maine have all passed laws to phase out veal crates. Two of the

largest American veal producers have voluntarily committed to becoming crate free. Another giant in the food industry, renowned chef Wolfgang Puck, ended his use of veal from crated calves.

Both public opinion and science has been instrumental in the move to end confinement practices. The Pew Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production studied the issue of intensive confinement for two and a half years. The commission unanimously concluded that

intensive confinement systems, including veal crates, should be phased out as this negatively affects the health and welfare of animals and subsequently food safety.

A letter on behalf of animal welfare groups throughout Canada including The Winnipeg Humane Society was sent to the Ontario Veal Association asking them to endorse more extensive housing systems for veal calves. This letter was individually signed by the head of each organization. Ontario is the largest veal producing province in Canada. We are asking the Ontario Veal Association to follow the lead of their American counterparts who have passed a resolution to encourage the veal industry to convert to group housing systems by 2017. ■

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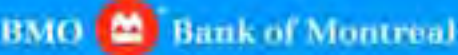
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OR E-MAIL EDUCATION@HUMANESOCIETY.MB.CA



AN UPDATE ON THE ANTI-FUR BILL

On September 16th, Anita Neville, M.P. of Winnipeg South Centre, introduced a Private Members Bill to parliament that will ban cat and dog fur products in Canada.

"Products that use cat and dog fur are banned in countries all over the world," said Ms. Neville. "Yet these products remain legal and can be imported, exported and sold in Canada without any labels. This is a deplorable practice and must be stopped."

With the global market closing, Canada is becoming an attractive target for producers. These products have already been found here in North America. "It is time the government of Canada stands up against this inhumane practice; I hope that all Members of Parliament across all party lines will support this bill to ban these products," states Ms. Neville.

How You Can Help: Visit www.winnipeghumanesociety.ca to sign a petition to ban the import of cat and dog fur products. If you would like a hard copy of an official petition to circulate, please email communications@humanesociety.mb.ca or call 988-8810. You can also write to the Prime Minister, all Leaders of the Opposition and your local M.P. asking them to support this bill.



Photo courtesy of Animals Asia Foundation

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Can We Teach People Ethics?



By Bill McDonald, Executive Director

Just after Paul Shapiro's last visit to Winnipeg from Washington he was involved in an investigation into abuse at a veal calf slaughter plant in Vermont. Paul is the Humane Society of the United States' Factory Farm Campaign Director so it fell to him to reveal the truly awful atrocities that took place at this plant. The United States Department of Agriculture closed the plant after Paul broke the story on CNN. I have viewed many horrific videos dealing with everything from puppy mills to fighting dogs but I have to admit that the video of what went on in this supposedly government regulated facility made my stomach turn. Those poor calves were all I could think about for days!

I contacted Paul to extend my thanks and appreciation for what he does on a regular basis. These cases also make me seriously think about abuse and cruelty issues and they have made me reconsider my thoughts and positions on ethics. Now I wonder if we can teach people ethics. It was so blatantly obvious in the

calf video that the employees, and indeed the federal inspector assigned to this plant, have no ethics whatsoever. In the shelter world we deal with unethical people almost every single day. It is so depressing when staff come and tell me that a very sick dog has been tied up and left outside our building. How can people do such things? It is no wonder people like Paul and our shelter staff begin to suffer from compassion fatigue. We have had so many excellent staff work here at the shelter and then leave us because they "just can't take it anymore." The unethical people simply drive them away!

Can we teach people ethics? What a question to confront every single day. It would seem we cannot, so we have to now rely on something else. That something else is the law. We are forced to develop ethics through fines and jail-time. What are the laws but mere words in the end if we don't use them and I would suggest that we use them more often when it comes to cases of abuse and cruelty to animals. The Winnipeg Humane Society is here to

help protect animals from these unethical abusers and if the laws are in place to assist us we will do our job. However, to do that job, the laws must have some force behind them and I would argue that our federal cruelty legislation is weak. In fact, so weak that they are almost useless. Citizens should demand better for our animals and their protection. The government is in place to provide foundations for society and it is the government's job to strengthen our anti-cruelty legislation so all of the people involved in animal welfare, who are more than willing to work hard, have the necessary tools to teach people ethics, even if it is the hard way! The current legislation has to be strengthened and it is up to the law-makers, our Members of Parliament, to get this task completed. I urge you to write to your M.P. and ask him or her to get moving on improving animal protection laws.

How do shelter workers cope with all the stresses associated with dealing with unethical people, inadequate laws, the sheer volume of animals each week, the constant demand for more money and the issues of hoarding, puppy mills and back-yard breeders? I know deep in my heart that by far the vast majority of people who work in shelters and rescue groups cope by knowing that each and every day they have helped some dog or cat or puppy survive and move forward to a home that they can live in forever. President Barack Obama wrote in his book "Audacity of Hope" that despite all the evidence to the contrary, people have a pervasive spirit of hope that the world can be better. I like to think that those of us in the shelter world have the audacity to hope that we can make the changes we need to help the thousands of animals who have to rely on us to provide a chance for them. ■

THE WINNIPEG HUMANE SOCIETY

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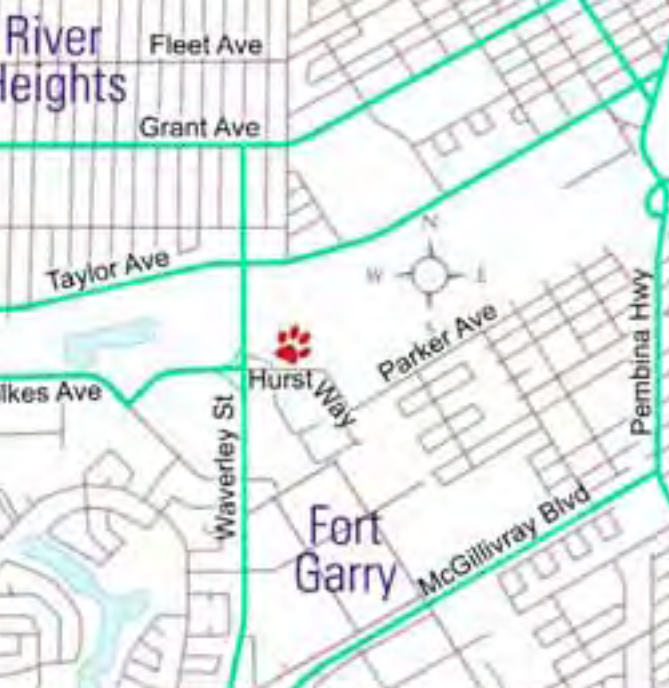
Pet Photo Contest

Enter your furry friend into our annual Pet Photo Contest. Winners will be featured in The Winnipeg Humane Society 2011 calendar, or appear on our labels and other promotions.

Contest Rules:

- Hard copies must be 4" X 6" to a maximum size of 8" X 10"
- Photos are to be unmounted, in full colour and with a horizontal layout
- We can only choose the best quality photos - no blurry or grainy shots, please!
- Write your name, address, telephone number and your pet's name on the back of each photo.
- Digital photos can be submitted to: aileenw@humanesociety.mb.ca (note: a printed copy must also be submitted)
- The submitted picture becomes the property of The WHS and will not be returned.
- Contest closes April 30, 2010

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The Winnipeg Humane Society

The Winnipeg Humane Society is a registered charity dedicated to protecting all animals from suffering and to promoting their welfare and dignity. We are a non-profit, volunteer-based organization funded primarily by donations, memberships and bequests. We are not a member of and do not receive funding from The Humane Society of Canada. The Winnipeg Humane Society News is published three times a year and is distributed to all current Humane Society members and donors who donate \$25 or more and select media.



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