



# FIREPAW

## Newsletter

Fall, 2004

THE FOUNDATION FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH  
AND EDUCATION PROMOTING ANIMAL WELFARE



Vol. IV, Issue 3



*Animals already get it. We teach people.*



September 20, 2004

## News & Special Announcements

### **The Companion Animal Renters Program [CARP]: Increasing the number of pet-friendly rentals = Reducing the number of surrendered and euthanized pets**

FIREPAW has been busy this past summer getting the word out to landlords, tenants and animal welfare organizations alike about the Companion Animal Renters Program [CARP]. We have been working with animal welfare organizations that will be distributing the materials to their clients and visitors and working with landlords to increase the number of pet-friendly rentals across the country. In addition, we are pleased to report there have been several articles, publications and conferences that have featured CARP this past summer, including a number of newspapers, the Animal Law Alliance of New Jersey, Pet Saver's Paws to Think, and the Animal Welfare Foundation of New Jersey.

The Companion Animal Renters Program [CARP] is offered free of charge to rental property owners to assist them in going "pet-friendly." The program includes consulting, screening tools and techniques essential for minimizing problems and assuring financial security while permitting companion animals in rental properties. The CARP includes materials for landlords (including a Tenant's Booklet) and FIREPAW has been busy getting these packets out to be distributed by animal welfare organizations across the U.S. For animal welfare organizations that choose to distribute the Tenant's Information Booklet, FIREPAW customizes the Resource Listings section for their particular region. This past summer FIREPAW volunteer Veronica Thomas had her work cut out for her. She was kept quite busy responding to all the



requests to research various regions across the country to customize the Resource Listings section of the Tenant Information Booklet. We all extend our gratitude to Veronica for a job well done!

FIREPAW is pleased to report that a number of landlords across the country have requested materials and consulting services to begin offering pet-friendly rentals this summer. To all the rental property owners who have decided to make the change we would like to say, "Thank you!" And finally, FIREPAW Web Master Jen has been busy revamping the Pet-Friendly Rentals Listings Page on the FIREPAW web site. If you are a landlord—or know of one—who would like to list their pet-friendly rental for free please contact Jen at: [Webmaster@firepaw.org](mailto:Webmaster@firepaw.org) or [firepaw@earthlink.net](mailto:firepaw@earthlink.net)

### **Public outreach about animals**

FIREPAW accepted an invitation from The Honest Weight Co-op in Albany, NY this past summer to take part in a seminar they sponsored featuring Farm Sanctuary. The event focused on teaching attendees about cruelty-free choices in eating. FIREPAW volunteer Joanna Sinclair graciously offered to table at the event, educating visitors, handing out material and offering FIREPAW t-shirts and tote-bags. Many thanks to Joanna and all the folks who came out to learn about new cruelty-free ways to eat and live.

*More news on page 11*

## Editorial:

### Hiding Behind 'Animal Welfare'

FIREPAW is currently conducting a study that involves both a random mailing, and for a comparison group, an opportunity for people to fill out unsolicited questionnaires through a few websites. It has been an interesting experience. As researchers, we know that the portion of the responses that do not come from a representative, random mailing (the comparison group who respond via the web sites) must be taken with a grain of salt. Nevertheless, the responses from both animal rights folks and anti-animal rights people who have responded via the web sites have been fascinating in their vehemence on both sides of the issue in question.

What is particularly interesting is just how organized, how vehement, and how committed the anti-animal rights people are. The public often thinks of animal rights activists as the ones possessed with a single-minded, religious fervor that allows no compromise. In some cases this may even be true. But from an insider's perspective, the anti-animal rights people seem far more dogmatic and uncompromising than anything the public believes the animal rights activists to be.

And it's not just foul, angry words or idle threats like the responses we have received from anti-animal rights people responding to the comparison group version of our surveys. We know of animal rights activists who have been stalked, threatened, harassed, and had damage done to their property by anti-animal rights people. Funny, nobody ever hears about this. Apparently, only pro-animal activists are potential terrorists.

If one believes that animals can suffer just like us and that all unnecessary suffering is wrong, it is easy to understand why pro-animal forces would be strong in their beliefs and actions. It is particularly easy to understand when one knows the scope and depth of socially sanctioned cruelty inflicted on animals that is routinely committed. What is more difficult to understand however, is how people can get so out of control and angry in defense of their "right" to treat animals (or their "property", from their perspective) any way they like, regardless of the harm it may bring to the animal. Somehow, this seems like a less noble source of outrage.

As Executive Director of an organization with "animal welfare" in its name, I find it even more disturbing how the anti-animal rights people and groups have cleverly seized on the term "animal welfare" as their own. This Orwellian use of the term is a shrewd attempt to deceive the public into thinking they are reasonable moderates with a concern for animals, while in fact the anti-animal rights crowd that throws

*Continued on page 11*

## FIREPAW

THE FOUNDATION FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY  
RESEARCH AND EDUCATION PROMOTING  
ANIMAL WELFARE

JOSHUA FRANK, Ph.D., *EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*  
PAMELA FRANK, Ph.D., *PRESIDENT*

FIREPAW is located on Hamilton Street near Swan  
in the Robinson Square, Albany, NY. (518) 462-5939

Web: [www.firepaw.org](http://www.firepaw.org)  
Email: [info@firepaw.org](mailto:info@firepaw.org)

Newsletter design by Jennifer Petruzzini

*Animals already get it. We teach people.*

## THIS ISSUE

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS	1	ANIMAL LAW	6
EDITORIAL	2	SPECIAL DELIVERY	6
RESEARCH UPDATE	3	ANIMAL FUN FACTS	7
EDUCATION UPDATE	3	STRANGE BUT TRUE	8
LITERARY CORNER	4	ANIMAL WELL-BEING	9
EXPERT CORNER	5	ANIMAL-RELATED EVENTS	9
		ANIMAL-RELATED RESOURCES	10

FIREPAW Newsletter - Published 3 times a year in January, May, and September.

## Research Update



### Guardian-Owner Study

The National Guardian-Owner Study is well underway. This summer FIREPAW staffers were busy organizing, printing, packaging, and sending out surveys to random households and to animal hospitals, clinics and veterinarians' offices across the country. The survey was also available on the FIREPAW web site for visitors wishing to be a part of the comparison group portion of the study. As the summer progressed and the completed surveys started to roll in staffers were busy cleaning the data (reviewing the data and tossing out all incomplete surveys or surveys with obviously suspicious responses), coding, and inputting the data in to computerized spreadsheets. Statistical analysis will begin in October. Stay tuned to future FIREPAW Newsletters for updates on the results.

### Maddie's Fund

FIREPAW continues to evaluate the progress of Maddie's Fund programs, including the third year for both Utah and Lodi, along with major newer programs such as the ones in Alabama. Achievements vary by program and category examined, but in general, the programs are performing well at reducing animal deaths in communities across the country. FIREPAW has also been analyzing data across programs, with interesting statistical results forthcoming on the effectiveness of spay/neuter and adoption programs.

### Breed Discrimination Study

FIREPAW's proposal for the research design of the breed discrimination study has been accepted by The Toby Fund and the research is now in progress. The focus will be on discrimination by insurance companies regarding various breeds of dogs (a move that has caused some people to face dramatic premium hikes or lose coverage entirely). The FIREPAW study entails utilizing a unique approach to examining the problem of breed discrimination. Rather than using a survey approach to examine dog bites by breed as some researchers have done in the past, FIREPAW is taking a new, analytical approach to examining this topic. Stay tuned to future newsletters for updates on the progress of this study.

## Education Update

### Learning Comes Wrapped in All Sorts of Packages



FIREPAW's efforts to educate the public about important animal-related issues continue to grow and branch out in multiple directions. . . Media Interviews: FIREPAW principals have responded to a number of interview requests of late on a myriad of animal-related issues that have made the news including puppy mills, circuses, hoarding, and the need for more pet-friendly rentals. These interviews are opportunities to help educate the public and to be a voice for animals. Books: FIREPAW's President Pamela Frank, Ph.D. has been busy writing four nonfiction books about a variety of animal issues. She has teamed up with the founders of two innovative animal organizations to write two of these books. FIREPAW Executive Director Joshua Frank, Ph.D. is a co-author of one of the books and is working solo on another nonfiction as well. Two of the books are based on empirical research findings and tried-and-true field-tested methods and solutions to help stop animal suffering. All of the books are written for the general public. Stay tuned for more updates in future newsletters.

#### Scientific Publications:

FIREPAW's President Pamela Frank, Ph.D. and Executive Director Joshua Frank, Ph.D., along with Lindsey Nielsen have recently had an article about their work on the Companion Animal Victims Study (CAVS) accepted for publication in the scientific animal welfare sciences journal *Anthrozoos*. FIREPAW Jodi Banfelder was instrumental in helping with the logistics of participation as well as assisting in survey design and data collection for this study. We are grateful for Ms. Banfelder's commitment to help stop animal abuse in homes with ongoing domestic violence. The article will be available soon and focuses on FIREPAW's research findings comparing the attitudes, beliefs and relationships of domestic violence batterers who routinely abuse the family pet and those batterers who

*Continued on page 10*

## Literary Corner

### Book Reviews:



#### Elizabeth Costello

By J. M. Coetzee

Reviewed by Joshua Frank

A lot of animal rights activists got excited when J.M. Coetzee won the Nobel Prize in literature. Coetzee includes explicit animal rights themes in some of his novels, something that is rare in an author who has received mainstream critical acclaim. Coetzee's latest novel, Elizabeth Costello, explores animal rights, among other issues, in a series of lectures given by the main character.

Coetzee writes in a style that is well-crafted yet quite accessible to the average reader, a feature that is not all that common among Nobel Prize winners. Unfortunately, the animal rights arguments put forward by the protagonist are likely to sound weak and unconvincing to a reader who is not already a convert. In fact, for balance, Coetzee has another character with expertise in the philosophy of the mind giving counterarguments against animal consideration. These counterarguments could be easily refuted but are left hanging. In the end, though the author is clearly sympathetic to animal issues, the text itself argues no more convincingly for either side.

Aside from this issue, the book is a good read, with some flaws. The main character remains elusive and not entirely sympathetic to the reader despite being the only consistent presence for the entire novel. Certain sections seem to work much better than others. The highlight of the book comes towards the end, with the main character petitioning to enter heaven. The situation presented is intriguing though I found the character's conduct at times to be aggravating.

#### Short Stories of Lisa M. Tan

By Lisa M. Tan

Reviewed by Joshua Frank

You don't have to get far into the stories in this collection to see Tan's commitment to animals and a cruelty-free lifestyle. It is in the dedication, in a poem that starts the collection, and of course it is in the stories themselves. The book also ends with a list of animal and environmental organizations the author endorses along with addresses. The book contains three long short stories, with two of the stories being tied together and related to animals. The stories are told in a simple style and fairy-tale-like tone that are likely to make them appealing to a young reader.

However, there are a couple (minor) adult moments in there, so it should not be for readers who are too young.

The author, by the way, is a "friend of FIREPAW" and a landlord of an animal friendly rental. The book is available through authorhouse at [www.authorhouse.com](http://www.authorhouse.com), or by phone at 1-800-839-8640 (mention that you heard about it through FIREPAW and FIREPAW receives a donation from the proceeds).

## Expert Corner

### Clicker Training

By Jody Diehl



Karen Pryor, a marine mammal trainer at the time, developed clicker training about twelve years ago. When training dolphins she realized that limitations in her communication with the animals were a hindrance to training. For example, when teaching a dolphin to jump as high as possible how does one tell the dolphin “Yes! That was a good one!”? By the time the dolphin swims over to the side of the pool to get his fish after a good jump he has done a lot of other things, including swimming and making an impressive splash. How does he know he is being rewarded for the height of his jump and not the magnitude of the splash? He knows because an event marker has been used. When he reaches the highest possible jump the trainer marks the moment with a whistle. The dolphin has been conditioned to understand that when he hears the whistle, he will get a fish. Whistle equals fish. The event marker equals reward. The event marker allows the trainer to mark the exact behavior being trained immediately when it happens. And the animal knows the reward is on the way.

This is a lot of talk about big fish for a dog behavior article. How do these principles apply to dog training?

The theory is exactly the same but the event marker is different. Instead of a whistle dog trainers use a clicker. You’ve probably seen a clicker before. It is a simple child’s toy (it often looks like a bug) that clicks when the metal tab is pressed. It’s amazing to think that, with this silly little toy, almost any animal on earth can be trained. The clicker must be charged before using it for training. This does not mean you plug it into an electrical outlet. It means you take the time to establish the association between the click and the treat. This is done simply by repeatedly clicking and then giving the dog a treat. Before long, when she hears the clicker, your dog will look at you with a “where’s my treat?” look on her face. This is when you know you are ready to begin training. Anything can be an event marker, as long as the association is made for the dog. Many people use the word “Yes!” in place of a clicker. Many dogs who have been trained using rewards alone are

enthusiastic students but generally learn more slowly than clicker-trained dogs. Timing is very important in training. Quickest learning occurs when the reward is delivered immediately, as the behavior is occurring. For most behaviors this is very difficult for the trainer to do with the treat alone. When a clicker is used, the dog knows immediately what behavior is being rewarded and the trainer has a few more seconds to furnish the treat.

Clicker training is a superb energy-burner. Your dog has to figure out what she has to do to make the clicker sound happen. This mental work is stimulating and, therefore, fatiguing. And we all know that a tired dog is a good dog. It also makes your dog focus on you while she is trying to figure out what you want. This connection, in addition to the fact that you are the reward dispenser, makes you a great thing and strengthens your bond with your dog. Shy dogs or dogs who lack confidence also benefit from clicker training. Figuring out what is being asked for and being rewarded for getting it right are great confidence builders. Clicker training is also helpful in controlling undesirable behaviors positively. Take jumping, for example. Clicking and rewarding your dog for sitting instead of jumping makes physical correction or punishment unnecessary.

You will only use the clicker during training. There is no need for it after the desired behavior has been learned. After your dog has learned the behavior you can replace the clicker with a word and then treat with a kiss on the snout. For non-violent trainers reward-based training is the method and the clicker is the tool of choice. Clicker training is a fun and efficient way for your dog to learn.

*Editor’s Note: Ms. Mai-Tai has been a recipient of Jody Diehl’s Clicker Training techniques and we can attest to this... It Works!*

Jody Diehl is a Certified Dog Trainer and Behavior Counselor. She is the owner of Dog’s Best Friend, a business serving the greater Albany, New York area dedicated to the prevention and treatment of behavior problems through the use of gentle and humane training techniques. For question or comments or to learn more about her services please call 518-966-5684 or email [bestdog@localnet.com](mailto:bestdog@localnet.com).

## Animal Law

As of this past summer, in the state of California a person's need for a companion animal can overrule a no-pets policy. The statewide precedent stemmed from a ruling in favor of a couple at odds with their condominium's no-pets policy. Their attorney argued the couple needed their dog Pooky for therapeutic reasons to help them with depression. On August 25, 2004 the court ruled that the homeowner association's no-pets rule may be overridden if a resident documents his or her need for a companion animal. The ruling is the first in the state of California to recognize that a companion animal can be therapeutic for people with mental disorders. *Source: San Francisco Chronicle*

Companion animals and their caretakers can now breathe a sigh of relief in the state of Connecticut. Signed in to law this past summer was legislation allowing for economic and punitive damages for the intentional injury or killing of a companion animal. The new law also increased the current penalties for stealing, confining or killing a dog and then extended these penalties to all companion animals in the state of Connecticut.

*Source: ASPCA*



### Animal Law Resources\*

Animal Law website hosted by Michigan State University and edited by author and specialist in animal law, David Favre. Includes information on current and historic animal anti-cruelty laws: <http://www.animallaw.info/>

*\*Are you an attorney specializing in animal law? Do you have a resource for people seeking information about animal law? Contact us at: [animals@firepaw.org](mailto:animals@firepaw.org) to list your resource in the Animal Law segment of the FIREPAW newsletter.*

## Special Delivery



### Code Woof:

South Suburban Hospital in Hazel Crest, IL is hoping to bring a few friendly canines on staff. The hospital hopes the dogs will bring extra joy and improve the health and overall well-being of their elderly patients. Do you think your dog would enjoy spending quality time with patients? If so, to volunteer call: 708-799-8000.

### To serve, protect and LINK-UP:

Animal abuse can be a red flag that other violence is going on in the home to the spouse, the children or elderly relatives. The LINK-UP program in Boston, Massachusetts educates officers and first responders about the link between animal abuse and domestic violence. Founded almost a decade ago by Sgt. Tom Flanagan the LINK-UP program trains law enforcement to work closely with animal control officers to recognize, assess and intervene in cases of possible spousal, child, elderly and animal abuse. Over the past decade this model program has reached professionals from across the country. To learn more about how to start a similar program in your area contact the Boston Police Department, 40 Gibson Street, Dorchester, MA 02122, phone: 617-343-4524.

### Lost and Found:

For a wonderfully comprehensive, step-by-step guide to finding lost companion animals you need to visit the site of the Pet Action League. The "How to find a lost cat or dog" section gives every tip imaginable. You may not need it now but check out this web site and make a special note of it for future reference: [www.PetRescue.com](http://www.PetRescue.com).

## Animal Fun Facts

*Did you know that...*



- Animals are capable of more complex communications than researchers previously thought. Researchers in Germany have found a border collie who understands more than 200 words—including the names of dozens of play toys. The dog, named Rico, can even identify toys simply from hearing the name of whatever he is asked to find. Out of 40 tests, Rico got it right 37 times. Even more exciting, the researchers discovered that Rico can learn new words as quickly as many children!
- Pandas are one of the world's rarest animals. Fifteen years ago environmentalists warned that the demise of the panda was imminent. While the panda still faces extinction from hunting and logging of their isolated mountain habitat in China, a new survey conducted by the Chinese government indicates that 1,590 giant pandas now roam China's forests. (This is up from 1,110 pandas found in the 1988 research study.) In their efforts to increase the number of pandas, the Chinese government has shown pandas porn films to encourage them to breed.
- Bats have only one baby a year and they cherish it dearly. Bat mothers can recognize their own baby's squeaks among thousands of others.
- Maternal instincts can be deadly. Mother skunks act with aggressive bravado in the spring to protect their babies. Sometimes humans mistake the mom-skunks' protective behavior for rabies and kill them.
- It is untrue that birds abandon their babies if a human has touched them. Birds actually have a very weak sense of smell. Wildlife experts say you can try to help fallen baby birds (and baby squirrels) by placing them in a makeshift nest near the tree where they are found so they can be reunited with their mothers.
- Today, Africa's black rhinos number around 3,600. Fortunately, their numbers are now on the increase. Black rhinos numbered as low as 2,400 in the mid-1990's, down from 65,000 in the 1970's. The primary reason for the excessive decline? Poachers who hack off the horns of these great creatures, leaving them to bleed to death. The black rhino (actually gray in color) still faces many threats. High demand for the rhino horn in East Asia (where they are wanted for medical reasons) and the Middle East (where their horns are used for dagger handles) have caused governments and protective agencies to step up law enforcement and create habitats to protect black rhinos.
- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), deer, cows, dogs, bears, raccoons, and squirrels are to blame for more than 26,000 accidents involving injuries to humans each year in America. In 2000 (the most recent federal highway data available) there were 247,000 crashes involving animals in the U.S. According to the CDC, auto collisions involving animals typically occur on rural roads or highways. Ninety percent of such accidents involve deer. Though costly, the CDC recommends communities put up tall fences at deer crossing spots and channeling deer to underpasses.
- Dogs in Portugal will soon be required to wear radio tags. Radio frequency identification tags (RFID) allow law enforcement to track animals. The new law began as a government initiative to control rabies. Portuguese legislators have mandated that the estimated 2 million dogs in the country must be implanted with radio tags and registered in a national database by 2007.

*Sources: Associated Press, Washington Post, San Francisco Chronicle, New York Times, Reuters, C-NET News*

## Strange But True Animal Stories

- This summer neighbors complained to authorities that an Arctic fox was being kept as a pet by a woman living in an apartment in Wisconsin. The exotic animal was kept in a cage in the basement of the apartment building. Neighbors complained that the animal made the apartment complex smell like rotten eggs.



- Officials in Marseille, France called off a three-week hunt for a black panther this summer after the animal turned out to be only a very large house cat. The house cat was about 24 inches long and weighed some 22 pounds.

- A Texas woman convicted of cruelty to animals will get only bread and water for the first three days of a 30-day jail sentence. The woman received what has been called an “Old West-style punishment fitting for the crime” after leaving her two horses without food and unsheltered for four months outside her mobile home. The horses were more than 200 pounds underweight and in poor health when rescued.

- For years authorities in New York City have been receiving reports of pigeon kidnapping. As the reports go, around dawn men jump out of vans with the license plates covered with tape. The men toss seed around the ground and when the pigeons descend they entrap the birds in a net. Authorities believe that once captured, the pigeons are driven to Pennsylvania and sold to private gun clubs for use in live bird shooting.

- Austin, Texas is home to the largest urban bat colony in North America. Between April and October approximately 1.5 million bats fly about nightly. Steve Huey, a local businessman, has a bat on his business card, sells specially designed Beanie Baby bats, and when guests stay at his hotel during this time a portion of the room rate goes to bat conservation. He also offers guests of his hotel an official bat adoption certificate.

-It turns out that Leona Helmsley, dubbed the Queen of Mean, has a soft spot for animals. It was announced this past summer that Helmsley is planning on financing the construction of a new nonprofit animal hospital in New York City.

-During a domestic dispute a man in Florida grabbed his 3-foot pet alligator from the bathtub. When he failed to get the alligator to bite his girlfriend the batterer beat her with it several times. He was later charged with domestic violence and several wildlife crimes.

-A one-year-old female moose and a 20-year-old female horse have become ever the best of friends on a farm in Vermont. After their first encounter the moose followed the horse home. They now romp together, and have become inseparable. The horse is the leader and the moose follows wherever they go.

-Fifty “working” cats live full time in the basement of the Hermitage Art Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. The cats work as mousers, preventing rodents from overtaking the museum. The cats are well taken care of and dine on fish, chicken liver, and porridge twice a day. Cats were originally brought in to the museum in 1764 by empress Catherine the Great to keep it rodent-free.

-A mixed-breed shepherd hitched a ride in the vacant back of a semi-trailer truck and rode 85 miles through Nebraska in the downpour rain before being discovered. The free-spirited canine is currently staying on a farm with animal lovers while authorities search for his family.

-Computer geeks have developed a contraption that allows your pet gerbil, hamster or mouse to live INSIDE your computer—literally. ThinkGeek.com’s PC HabiCase is a rodent cage that allows your pet to live and play inside your computer. PETA has endorsed the product according to the Think Geek web site. (If you are interested: [www.thinkgeek.com](http://www.thinkgeek.com))

*Sources: Associated Press, Reuters, New York Times, Washington Post, San Francisco Chronicle*

## Animal Well-Being

### Toxic Plants and your pet

A lily plant can cause kidney failure in cats, avocados can kill birds, and azaleas and rhododendrons can be deadly to puppies. Unfortunately, there are many, many other plants that can be toxic to your pet and some (like certain ivies) can cause a delayed reaction, taking weeks or even months to appear! Major symptoms in pets who have been poisoned from eating toxic plants include vomiting, diarrhea, seizures, depression or hyperactivity, difficulty breathing, and even kidney failure or cardiac arrest. If you think your pet may have been poisoned by eating a toxic plant don't fool around, call your vet immediately! You can also call the ASPCA's 24-hour poison control hotline at : 1-888-426-4435 (there is a \$50.00 per case charge). Being able to provide details such as the type of plant ingested (knowing the scientific name of the



plant is best), how much and when it was eaten, the symptoms and the basics about your pet's breed, age and weight will assist professionals to more quickly determine the best course of action.

### Help a dog and save a relationship

Here's a resource to pass along to a coworker or friend having behavioral problems with their new puppy or dog...you may just save a life: A cult classic written by the monks of New Skete, a small religious order from the hills of Glens Falls in upstate New York, called "How to Be Your Dog's Best Friend". The book has sold over 500,000 copies.

*Sources: Washington Post, New York Times*

## Animal-Related Events

### Home 4 the Holidays Campaign

More than 261,000 homeless pets were adopted through last year's Home 4 the Holidays campaign. And your local shelter, rescue group, or animal control department can sign up now to be part of this lifesaving campaign this year!

The 8-week adoption campaign starts in November, but the Helen Woodward Animal Center, the event sponsor, is asking you to sign up your local group now so they can get your guide book out in plenty of time and to be sure they'll have enough adoption kits on hand. Over 700 organizations have already joined the effort.

Each registered organization will receive a how-to guide to help you make the event a success, and Iams pet food kits to be presented to adopting families. Your local group will also benefit from the publicity Home 4 the Holidays generates and will be eligible to win a grant from the event sponsors. Best of all, participating in Home 4 the Holidays is free to animal shelters and pet rescue organizations.



Registering is easy. You can sign up online at: <http://animalcenter.org/home4theholidays/signup.htm> OR call Pat Downing at the Helen Woodward Animal Center at 858-756-4117 x 302.

*Source: Best Friends Animal Society*

### National Feral Cats Summit

Attend the first annual National Feral Cat Summit, to be held in NYC on National Feral Cat Day (Oct. 16) and presented by Neighborhood Cats, the ASPCA, In Defense of Animals and the Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals. Lectures and workshops will be presented by leading animal control officials, animal welfare professionals and feral cat activists.

All attendees will receive a copy of the Neighborhood Cats kit, which will contain videos from Neighborhood Cats ("How to Perform a Mass Trapping") and Alley Cat Allies ("The Humane Solution"), plus our new TNR Handbook, a detailed policy presentation aimed at local

*Continued on page 11*

## Animal-Related Resources



- **Information about caring for rabbits...**

- **Friends of Rabbits:**

- [www.friendsofrabbits.org](http://www.friendsofrabbits.org) and
    - Rabbitwise: [www.rabbitwise.org](http://www.rabbitwise.org)

- **Information about caring for feral cat colonies...**

By October 16 of this year, Neighborhood Cats will have available (for the cost of printing and shipping) their TNR handbook and recommended outline for a feral cat workshop. Once you have these materials, you are welcome to reproduce them for educational purposes. Contact Neighborhood Cats for further information.

[www.neighborhoodcats.org](http://www.neighborhoodcats.org); Phone: 212-662-5761; Neighborhood Cats, 2565 Broadway, No. 555, New York, NY 10025

- Information about solving litter box problems: [www.ddfl.org/behavior/litter\\_box\\_problems.htm](http://www.ddfl.org/behavior/litter_box_problems.htm)
- Information about solving cat spraying problems: [www.ddfl.org/behavior/territorial\\_marking.htm](http://www.ddfl.org/behavior/territorial_marking.htm)
- Information about helping stop suffering of geese/anti-foie gras campaign: [www.StopForceFeeding.com](http://www.StopForceFeeding.com)
- Information about companion animals + lost or found pets: [www.pets911.com](http://www.pets911.com)
- Help sea turtles (Parlamas): [ww.artemaya-cg.com/parlamas](http://ww.artemaya-cg.com/parlamas)
- Animal Charities of America (Workplace giving to help animals): [www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm/bay/search.summary/orgid/3297.htm](http://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm/bay/search.summary/orgid/3297.htm)
- Innovative Pooper-Scoopers: [www.tidyurf.com](http://www.tidyurf.com)  
[www.Muttmitt.com](http://www.Muttmitt.com)  
[www.fourpaws.com](http://www.fourpaws.com)  
[www.hound-dog.com](http://www.hound-dog.com)

- A new sanctuary for all types of pets of families in or of domestic violence:

Helping Paws Sanctuary  
P.O. Box 534  
Alamagordo, NM 88311

~~~~~

## Education Update

*continued from page 3*

abuse human family members but never touch their companion animals. The article is entitled, "Selective Battering of the Family Pet", *Anthrozoos* 17 (1), 2004. There is a limited quantity of outprints available. For a copy please email:

[DrPFrank@firepaw.org](mailto:DrPFrank@firepaw.org) with your snail-mail address.

### Teaming up:

FIREPAW's goals to educate others about our findings have been considerably furthered through the publication of our research and data analyses in the Maddie's Fund Newsletter and the high-traffic, high-hit Maddie's Fund web site. You can view the results of several FIREPAW research projects conducted on behalf of Maddie's Fund at [www.maddiesfund.org](http://www.maddiesfund.org).

**Future scientific articles:** FIREPAW principals will be working on two future scientific articles to get the word out about the findings of their research on the other study they conducted on companion animal victims (comparing the perceptions, attitudes, beliefs and behaviors of violent and non-violent families) and the Companion Animal Renters Study. Also on the radar screen is the write up of the findings of the national Guardian-Owner study.

### Mainstream articles:

FIREPAW's President Pamela Frank, Ph.D. has recently completed writing an article written for mainstream audiences on the issues surrounding the guardian-owner debate. The article includes insightful responses from interviews with leaders of the animal welfare arena. There will be other articles written when the results from the research study are in. Stay tuned for future updates.

## Editorial

*continued from page 2*

around the term “animal welfare” has never supported any kind of measure or policy that actually helps animals’ welfare.

Philosophically speaking, animal welfare has sometimes been interpreted as a more moderate view than animal rights. But the term “animal welfare” itself says nothing about how strongly a welfarist supports animals. Animal welfare simply means what it says—concern for the welfare of animals—this could imply a willingness to weigh human and animal interests, or it could imply a belief just as uncompromising as the strongest animal rights advocate, just from a different philosophical basis. But one thing “animal welfare” certainly does not mean is the complete disregard of animals as sentient, feeling beings. Hiding behind the term “animal welfare” to justify and win support for using animals to make a profit (be it breeding animals for research & vivisection labs, for fur coats, for pets, for entertainment, and the like) is unacceptable...and vehement advocacy of the unfettered “right” to harm animals has nothing to do with animals’ welfare.

If this is all a bit confusing here is a simple test to determine if someone is genuinely a part of the animal welfare team: If the individual or group is either more concerned or as concerned about animals as it is people then they are legitimately using the term “animal welfare”. If the individual or group has as its primary concern supporting and maintaining the conditions that help them make a profit (or career) from animals then they cannot really be interested in animals’ welfare except as it affects their ability to make the most money possible.

The next time someone begins passionately carrying on about the dangers of the animal rights movement stop and ask yourself this question: Does this person have a valid argument that supports the well-being of *the animals*, or is it the well-being of this person’s bank account or career that’s at stake? If the answer is the latter, be wary of their ‘animal welfare’ proclamations. These days ‘animal welfare’ has become an umbrella-term large enough to hide just about anything under.

## News

*continued from page 1*

### Exciting research coming down the pike for Maddie’s Fund

FIREPAW has recently completed exciting new research on Maddie’s Fund programs. The research provides brand new statistical evidence of the effectiveness of spay/neuter programs for reducing intake. The results also include interesting and positive news regarding the impact of discount spay/neuter programs and no-kill adoption programs. The research report has not yet been finalized. Stay tuned for an update regarding when detailed results will be available to the public.

~~~~~

### Animal-Related Events

*Continued from page 9*

governmental officials, a guide to setting up a community TNR program, and a recommended outline for holding a TNR workshop. You’ll also enjoy a delicious vegan lunch courtesy of PETsMART. Sponsors, including PETsMART, PetCo, Humane Society of NY, Maricopa County Animal Care & Control, and Animal Care & Control of NYC.

Contact: Phone: 212-662-5761; Neighborhood Cats, 2565 Broadway, # 555, New York, NY 10025 [www.neighborhoodcats.org](http://www.neighborhoodcats.org)

### The Violence Connection Workshop

Workshop focusing on the link between animal abuse and violence directed toward people. Materials & information provided by HSUS.

Brookhaven, NY—Holtsville Ecology Park.  
Wednesday, October 13, 2004, 7PM-9PM.  
Contact: 631-736-8207

### World Farmed Animals Day

October 2, 2004—An event dedicated to educating the general public and public officials about the need to end cruel and unnecessary suffering and death of 50 billion farmed animals each year. To receive an Action Kit including instructions, media packet, materials and an events directory call: 1-888-FARM-USA.



**FIREPAW, Inc.**  
228 Main Street, #436  
Williamstown, MA 01267-2641

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO 16  
AVERILL PARK NY

----- cut here -----

### **Express Yourself!**

Do your part to change public consciousness about animal suffering. Speak up for the animals by getting a really cool FIREPAW T-shirt (two slogans), button or extra-sturdy shoulder tote-bag. See them online or stop by the headquarters. Outside of Albany? You can order online at [www.firepaw.org](http://www.firepaw.org) or by calling (518) 462-5939. Proceeds go to support our research, education and community outreach programs.

### **Send Your Contributions and Announcements to:**

email: [info@firepaw.org](mailto:info@firepaw.org) -or-  
[firepaw@earthlink.net](mailto:firepaw@earthlink.net)  
Web: [www.firepaw.org](http://www.firepaw.org)

FIREPAW, Inc.  
228 Main Street, #436  
Williamstown, MA 01267-2641

### **Play an active role in helping to stop animal suffering...**

Sign up for a FIREPAW Membership TODAY! Regular memberships are just \$20.00. Students and low-income memberships are just \$10.00. Send your check to: FIREPAW, Inc. 228 Main Street, #436, Williamstown, MA 01267-2641 or use your credit card at our web site: [www.firepaw.org](http://www.firepaw.org)

### **Get in the Loop!**

Join the FIREPAW national listserv\* for all the news you need concerning animals, animals, animals!

To join send an email to:  
[ListAdministrator@firepaw.org](mailto:ListAdministrator@firepaw.org)

\* Recognized by the American Anti-Vivisection Society's (AAVS) Winter, 2003 Magazine