



ARC NEWS

Winter 2001

A publication of the Animal Rights Coalition to promote a compassionate world

The “Best Boys” and the Bunnies

by Heidi Greger

In early July the ARC office received several calls that a cat and a domestic rabbit had been abandoned by their human guardians and were trapped in the construction site at the future home of Best Buy headquarters in Richfield. ARC contacted and worked with Best Buy Corporation, the City of Richfield, and United Properties to assess the situation and get permission to access the construction site.

When I was notified about the rabbit, I drove to the area (located at 494 and Penn) to scout it out and determine a plan for the rescue. I knew the construction site was enormous, covering many blocks, and I was concerned I would not be able to find the animals. To my astonishment, in the yard of the very first house I pulled up to was a beautiful white and gray rabbit, munching on what was left of the yard’s dying grass.

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The Amazing Maizie

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MN Spay/Neuter Pilot Program a Success

In June 2001, the Minnesota Spay/Neuter Project (MNS/ NP) completed a pilot program that provided free sterilization, rabies vaccinations, and microchip ID implants to 50 dogs and cats from low-income families in North Minneapolis.

Working in cooperation with neighborhood associations, local animal control, and a neighborhood vet clinic; the entire community became involved in promoting proper animal care and litter prevention. With one small article in the local paper, MNS/NP received over 100 inquiries from northside residents wanting to have their animals sterilized.

MNS/NPs focus is on low-income neighborhoods as these neighborhoods are underserved by local humane societies and are a significant source of unwanted animals. Humans have a need for the companionship of animals and low-income residents are no exception.

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Best Boys continued from page 1

I threw a carrot over the construction fence and then raced home for my live trap and some rabbit pellets and greens to entice the rabbit into the trap. When I returned to the site, I crawled through an opening in the fence, placed the trap, and waited. By nine o'clock that evening, "The Amazing Maizie", as she has come to be known, was safely at my home.

The next evening, with the help of Duane Korb, a retired police officer, the cat, an un-neutered male tiger tabby, was also rescued. Duane and another concerned neighbor, Holly Deardon, had called the ARC office to report the abandoned animals. In talking with Duane I learned that there had originally been a pair of white and gray rabbits at the site. I knew I would have to walk the site to find the other rabbit.

Over the next two weeks, wearing a hard hat and carrying a flashlight to peer into overgrown shrubs, dark window wells, and deserted houses, I trudged around the site in sweltering heat. I managed to cover every inch of the site, which by then resembled a ghost town, at least half a dozen times. I never saw ~~any sign of the second rabbit. Discouraged, I reluctantly came~~ to the unhappy conclusion that he was already dead.

*The family refused to continue caring for the rabbits
and turned them loose.*

During this time, however, I received a call from Duane that he had seen a second cat, almost identical to the first one we had already caught, trapped at the site. After several evenings of setting the live trap, we were able to rescue the second cat, another un-neutered male tiger tabby.

Duane's help was especially valuable, as he lives in Richfield and was able to check the trap every couple of hours. When joined with his former mate, the two cats quickly became known as "The Best Boys."

We don't know who abandoned the cats, but with a little detective work I was able to track down the people who had abandoned the rabbits and paid them a visit. The man to whom I spoke told me his son had the rabbits and when the son moved out of the country the family refused to continue caring for the rabbits and turned them loose. I informed the father that domesticated animals could not survive on their own in the wild, hence the term *domesticated*. I also informed him that abandoning companion animals is against the law. I requested that he not bring any more animals into his life but that if he did and decided he could no longer care for them, at the very least he needed to take them to an animal shelter where they would have a chance to get a new family.

The "Best Boys" at Rest

Vaccinations for all of the foundlings. I have adopted Maizie and she now enjoys the friendship of two other rabbits, Tuck and Fagin. The second cat rescued, now named Tigger, was placed almost immediately by ARC board member Sandra McNeal into a loving, adoptive family.

Everybody finds a home.

The first cat, Mickey, remained in foster care with Sandra for several weeks and was then also placed into a happy, permanent home. Both adoptive families have since called ARC to report that Tigger and Mickey are doing well in their new homes.

It saddens me to know that the other rabbit met an untimely death because of the irresponsible actions of uncaring people who threw away their animal companions the moment it became inconvenient to care for them. At the same time I am heartened to know that people like Duane Korb, Holly Deardon, and Sandra McNeal are out there. We owe them our gratitude for stepping up to the plate and taking responsibility for these animals who would surely have perished without their intervention. ✂

Residents may lack access to vet clinics, transportation, and funds to sterilize their animals. Most shelters offer a discount coupon for sterilization when an animal is adopted, but even a \$10 fee is a barrier for some low-income families.

MNS/NP lacked the resources to help every eligible person in the pilot program, but hopes to repeat the program in low-income neighborhoods across the metro area on an ongoing basis if funding can be found.

In 2000, MNS/NP completed a comprehensive Metro Area Animal Shelter Survey, which revealed that nearly 20,000 dogs and cats are killed each year because nobody wants them. MNS/NP was created with the conviction that the only way to end the killing in metro area shelters is to stop the flow at its source – by preventing unwanted litters. Data collection for the 2001 Survey is now underway.

Some Revealing Statistics

The following statistics about the North Minneapolis residents who needed MNS/NP services help illustrate the scope of the problem and how the program helped the community:

- ❑ 31 cats and 19 dogs were sterilized.
- ❑ Two program animals had been adopted sexually intact from a local humane society.
- ❑ Only eight out of the 50 program animals had ever been seen by a veterinarian and only three of the 50 program animals had current vaccinations.
- ❑ 13 applicant animals had given birth to litters in the last year.
- ❑ One lost program dog was reclaimed from Animal Control thanks to its new microchip ID implant.
- ❑ According to accepted animal control population formulas, in six years one female dog and her offspring can give birth to 67,000 dogs. This means that spaying 19 female dogs in North Minneapolis in the year 2001 may have prevented the birth of 1,273,000 dogs by the year 2007.
- ❑ In seven years, one female cat and her offspring can give birth to 420,000 cats. This means that spaying 31 female cats in North Minneapolis in the year 2001 may have prevented the birth of 13,020,000 cats by the year 2008.

New Program Slated for St. Paul

MNS/NP has completed the groundwork to repeat the 50 animal sterilization, vaccination, and microchip program in St. Paul. MNS/NP met with St. Paul Animal Control officials, who were very enthusiastic about the program and provided a prioritized list of low-income neighborhoods that represented the highest volume of animal-related complaints. One vet has already committed to participating in the program. Several St. Paul city council members are also interested in the program. The only roadblock at this point is the need for more funding.

Because the Animal Rights Coalition believes that metro companion animal overpopulation has reached a crisis stage, ARC has given a grant to MNS/NP in support of their St. Paul program and hopes its members will do the same. Each program costs approximately \$6,000, but contributions of any size are gladly accepted. To make a tax-deductible contribution to MNS/NP, please send your donation to:

Minnesota Spay Neuter Project, Inc.
P.O. Box 2067
Minneapolis, MN 55402

If you are interested in volunteering for MNS/SP, call 952-996-9292. ✂



| I benefited from the MN Spay/Neuter Program.

Minnesota Attorney General Warns AHS

Following a complaint filed earlier this year, the Minnesota Attorney General has told the Animal Humane Society in Golden Valley that they must change their method of reporting euthanasia statistics.

On June 26, 2001 a complaint was filed with the Minnesota Attorney General's Office against the Animal Humane Society (AHS) in Golden Valley, Minnesota, one of the largest animal shelters in the country. The complaint alleged that AHS misrepresented their placement statistics in an effort to generate additional financial support from the community.

Documents filed with the complaint demonstrated that AHS consistently reported placement rates in the 65% to 75% range. In some documents, AHS reported placing "98% of all adoptable animals," but never clearly indicated what criteria were used to determine *adoptability*. These documents are in sharp contrast to documents filed with the complaint that suggested the actual euthanasia rate at AHS might be in the neighborhood of 50%. For example, in its year 2000 tax return, AHS wrote, "Animals received are placed for adoption or destroyed. 18,264 animals were received and 9,446 were placed." These figures suggest a placement rate of just over 52% for the year 2000.

Effects of Inaccurate Reporting

In their complaint to the Attorney General's office, the complainants argued that this misrepresentation of the statistics could have negative effects on the population AHS serves. These negative effects included the following, according to the complaint:

- ❑ The practice of misrepresenting their placement statistics effectively hides much of the companion animal overpopulation problem from the public.
- ❑ Hiding the volume of euthanasia may lead supporters of the organization to believe they are supporting an organization with a high placement rate.
- ❑ Failing to report accurate euthanasia statistics may lead people to feel a false sense of comfort when surrendering a family companion animal.

Attorney General to Monitor Future Animal Humane Society Reports and Publications

Following up on the complaint, the Attorney General's office concluded that AHS was using ambiguous methods of reporting their statistics, which may have led people to make inaccurate conclusions about the organization's placement rates.

According to a representative for the AG's office, they have asked AHS to develop a new and accurate method of statistics reporting that can be easily understood and that will accurately reflect the activities of the organization. The Attorney General's office will monitor AHS publications and funding materials in the future to ensure that they comply with this request. ✂

AHS Gas Chamber Update

A Dog is for Life, Not Just for Christmas

by Sandra McNeal

With the holidays approaching, many people think about giving a living gift – a puppy, kitten, or other animal. If you hear someone discussing this, here are some good points you may want to bring up.

Although people may say they want a companion animal, the responsibility takes time and money beyond the original adoption fee. Animals need daily human interaction and quality time. They require yearly visits to the vet and may require monthly preventative medications like heartworm pills and flea repellents. There are also food, litter, toys, and accessories to consider.

What if the person has the time and the money? Is a new puppy under the Christmas tree ok then? Well, think about all the confusion and activity during the holidays. Now try to imagine you are the new puppy or kitten. You are totally new to the family and you've been put right in the middle of a chaotic situation. Often young animals eat things they shouldn't, including chocolate, bones, tinsel, and package wrappings. This leads to upset tummies, accidents, or worse. Older animals may be terrified of all the noise and try to hide. Many people travel over the holidays, and new animals should not be left alone right after they come into a new home. Try to think what the entire holiday experience must be like for a new little one coming into a strange environment.

So what is an animal-loving person to do for the holidays?

Some good ideas for animal-friendly gifts include giving a gift certificate to a local shelter or rescue organization. Buy the person pet accessories: food and water bowls, toys, a litter box, bedding, a collar, a leash, etc. Offer to go with the person to find a new animal friend after the holidays when everyone's life has calmed down. ✂

Christmas Returns

*Santa comes quietly long before dawn
While shops are still busy and lights are still on
While dinners are simmering and kitchens are warm
And children count presents they'll open by morn.*

*He slips past the trees and the windows aglow
Through the gate to the backyard as icy winds blow
To find the pup from last Christmas chained up in the snow
And kneeling he whispers "Are you ready to go?"*

*There are too many stops like this one tonight
Before the beginning of his regular flight
He leaves not a note or a footprint in sight
Just an unbuckled collar on a cold Christmas night.*



ARC Offers Educators Humane Alternatives to Dissection

This October, the Animal Rights Coalition sponsored booths at both the Education Minnesota Professional Conference in St. Paul and at the Minnesota Math and Science Teachers Conference at North St. Paul High School. These conferences gave ARC a unique opportunity to talk with teachers, students, and visitors about animal issues and to provide them with information.

Because 8 to 10 million animals (frogs, cats, baby pigs, rabbits, snakes, crayfish, clams, starfish, dogfish shark, turtles, worms, rats, mice, guinea pigs, hamsters, pigeons, and even armadillos) are callously killed and dissected each year in schools; ARC's emphasis at these conferences was dissection and the many alternatives now available.

ARC at Work – Pride Festival

Again this last June ARC volunteers were out at the annual Pride Festival in Loring Park. Traditionally, ARC has received a very positive response to its message of compassion for all living creatures. With the good weather this year, the turnout was even greater than previous years – giving our volunteers the opportunity to talk with many attendees and pass out much literature and information.

ARC 's Booth at the Pride Festival

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conferences. With the help of these organizations, ARC was able to give Minnesota teachers the most up-to-date information about dissection and its alternatives. ARC provided manuals describing humane science projects and demonstrated computer software that students can use to do online, virtual dissection.

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Hunting for Some Answers About Hunters

by Jacqueline Michard

Reprinted from the Milwaukee Journal

In my state, we sometimes fall a little short of things to kill. Last spring, the proposals considered at a meeting of the Department of Natural Resources included removing wolves (the symbol on our endangered species license plates) from the endangered species list to start novelty hunts in the name of "species management". Another idea was giving hunters the chance to use mourning doves (already the most hunted bird in North America) for target practice. Ten doves a day limit. It's a funny use of language. The DNR is not a department dedicated to preserving natural resources, among them wildlife, at all. It is a department for preserving opportunities to for hunting.

That means "conserving" wildlife. *Conserving wildlife* is not what it sounds like. Conserving wildlife, in my neck of the woods, means keeping wildlife healthy long enough to kill it. It makes as much sense as putting a guy on Death Row on a 24-hour suicide watch, although this is also something that happens in our wacky culture, and is provided for by law.



Minnesota White Tail Deer

"Conservation" sometimes means carefully reintroducing and nurturing species like wolves and cranes until those species begin reproducing and behaving in the ways they behaved before they were hunted to near extinction - in order to give people the chance to hunt them.

People actually say they dream of shooting a timber wolf, even if a timber wolf is not threatening them or their cattle, but running the other way. Conservation mean that it's important to keep deer herd populations up, to allow for the annual slaughter of half a million or so individuals every fall during the big gun-deer season, even if those deer get so habituated to humans they're virtually giant garden pests (like 800-pound rabbits).

And hunting, although you wouldn't know it from gun-safety programs such as *Take a Kid Hunting*, is not really "hunting," which is stalking and finding prey. It's just killing. It's taking firearms with laser sights and milled barrels so high-tech they could probably knock a bottle off the moon out to kill things like deer and doves and pheasant (which are farm-raised and essentially are colorful chickens).

My state is a haven for hunters. The DNR, and everyone else, knows better than to rile them. From having written a couple of essays like this, I know how hunters work. If you disrespect the name of the sacred practice, essentially, they hunt you. They write you letters that start out sounding like a cross between *The Yearling* and *Field of Dreams*, about how hunting with their fathers (mothers, cousins, uncles, friends) taught them the responsibility and decency and respect that have made them the kind of human being they are today. How those values have helped them be better fathers, husbands, reverends, mothers, and sisters. Only hunting, evidently, rather than any other parent-child pursuit, can nurture such values. Not team sports nor hiking nor anything else but hunting.

These letters often posit our differences as a matter of ignorance, a disparity between people of goodwill. But if you stick to your guns, as it were, the letters take on another tone. In the second wave, they often begin to use terms you wouldn't want your kids to use in reference to women. The third wave of letters begins to suggest some of the damage that guns and bows can do, and not just to deer. Reading those letters makes it easier to understand why hunters often get their way in the Legislature. It makes writing a column like this something you tend to put off to think over.

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At the booth, ARC also distributed information about how schools can obtain the software on loan.

Dissection desensitizes students to animal suffering by using them as inanimate tools in the laboratory, in effect, cheap objects to use, cut up, and then throw away.

In times when we are struggling to reduce violence in our society, the practice of harming and killing millions of living creatures for an “educational exercise” seems sadly out of place.

If You Have Questions

If you have questions about dissection and humane alternatives, or know a student who does not want to dissect, please call:

Animal Rights Coalition
612-822-6161 or
email: animalrightsmail@aol.com.

You can also contact the following organizations for information:

American Anti-Vivisection Society
800-729-2287
email: aavsonline@aol.com

Humane Society of the United States
202-452-1100
email: www.hsus.org

The Ethical Science and Education Coalition
617-367-9143
email: esec@ma.neavs.com

New England Anti-Vivisection Society
617-523-6020
email: info@ma.neavs.com



Memorials

In loving memory of Paul Manley from Ella Manley – you remain in our hearts forever.

The Rainbow Bridge

Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge. When an animal dies who has been especially close to someone here, they go to Rainbow Bridge.

There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water, and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable. All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor; those who were deaf or blind can hear and see with all the sharpness of their younger days; and those who suffered injuries are made whole and strong again. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. Her bright eyes are intent; her eager body quivers. Suddenly she begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, her legs carrying her faster and faster. You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again.

The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your friend, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross Rainbow Bridge together.

-- Author unknown

In loving memory of Bonkers,
Beloved cat friend of Sandra McNeal.
She will be missed.

Wild Animals Don't Belong in the Circus

by David Hancock

Reprinted from the Seattle Times

Keeping wild animals in zoos and circuses is such an ancient custom that, like most traditions, its viability and purpose are rarely questioned. Putting wild animals on show to satisfy people's curiosity was acceptable in former days, but is no longer acceptable in civilized societies. In recent years, accredited and professionally operated zoos around the world have been seeking firmer foundations to justify their existence.

Over the past two decades, such zoos have formed two strong platforms: in public education and in wildlife conservation. They have become experienced at creating simulations of natural habitats and presenting wild animals as integral inhabitants of those habitats. Their purpose is to interpret animal behaviors within that habitat context. In this way, zoos have become more valuable – as emotional links to wild places, eliciting community and political support for habitat conservation around the world.

Increasingly zoos are becoming directly involved in conservation activities in the wild, lending their expertise and enthusiasm to recovery programs worldwide.

Circuses, conversely, have not progressed in any of these directions. Indeed, the very nature of their itinerant structure makes such evolution impossible. They are now an anachronism in our society.

*Animals in the circus are reduced to
mere caricatures of their kind*

When they portray animals as freaks and curiosities, devoid of context or dignity, circuses perpetuate outdated attitudes. Wild animals in the circus are reduced to mere caricatures of their kind, exhibited for financial gain. In this way, they corrupt our children, promoting the notion that exploitation and degradation is acceptable, even brave or funny.

Although I am not aware of any scientific studies on the levels of stress and trauma on circus animals, it is intuitively obvious that the removal of an animal from anything that resembles its natural habitat, the constant relocation of circus cages, separating social animals, and the unnatural bundling together of normally solitary species, constant noise and

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ARC At Play – Annual Veggie Picnic

Last June, ARC members met to share veggie food and fun at the annual Veggie Picnic, held this year at Minnehaha Park.

In addition to sharing good times, ARC members shared some of their favorite vegetarian/vegan recipes.

Turn to page 10 for some favorite veggie recipes.

Civic Group Warns Against Circus Fundraisers

Lions Club International (LCI), the world's largest service association, recently advised its clubs to beware of using "circuses and other events that may abuse animals used as part of the entertainment."

LCI stated, "Organizations that may use inherently dangerous wildlife, such as elephants, tigers, lions, bears, and primates, may pose a potential safety hazard to the public and could raise ethical concerns regarding the humane treatment of animals."

LCI suggested clubs decline to sponsor these events as fundraisers.

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disruptions, the training and subjugation techniques (which have often been revealed as unspeakably cruel) all combine to make a life of useless misery for circus animals.

They may be well fed and watered, but every other detail of their lives is completely unnatural. And to what end? Are our children's lives in any way enriched by watching bears dance like crazed men?

Do we understand anything more about elephants by dressing them in princely regalia and parading them in lines? Are we ennobled by reducing the king of beasts to an impotent hoop jumper?

Circuses without animals can bring magic into our lives. That is the only tradition they should now pursue.

Seattle has a tradition of progressive standards and would strike a profound blow for the dignity of people and of wild animals if it limited circus shows in town to those that brought us the wonder of clowns and jugglers, but not the pathetic pacing and saddening sight of wild animals in circus shows. Those days are gone. Or should be. ✂

David Hancocks is former Woodland Park Zoo director and is currently director of Victoria's Open Range Zoo in Werribee, Australia.

Hunting continued from page 7

I know that the most devoted hunters realize that words like "hunting" and "species control" are pretty talk for what they really do and what they really feel while they are doing it.

Why not just say the words? Why not call it *Take a Kid Killing*? Why not describe hunter-safety courses as a way to make sure the only living things that get ripped open by slugs are not human things? Why not encourage kids to raise flocks of chickens or ducks and then, when the chickens or ducks are grown, take them out into a field and let them run a little before shooting them?

If hunting is indeed the "sport" that make families hereabouts strong and traditional, why can't hunters stand up proudly and say, "I like to kill. I want my kids to like killing, too." After all, language is supposed to be a way to seek truth, not to speak falsehood. ✂

Picnic Recipe Favorites

Tofu-Avocado Spread

1 package of silken tofu
1 1/2 T. lemon juice
2 T. olive oil
1/2 t. salt
1 smashed, very ripe avocado
2 T. minced onion (or to taste)
Dash of Tabasco sauce

Blend ingredients until smooth. Using a blender is very helpful, but not necessary. For best flavor, allow the spread to sit for at least 30 minutes before serving.

Kung Pao Tofu

1 pound extra-firm tofu, cubed into bite-sized pieces
1/3 cup unsalted, skinned peanuts
2-10 dried red chilies
4 green onions, trimmed and sliced into 1-inch pieces, (white & green parts)
Oil for frying
4 T. water
1 T. corn starch
4 T. soy sauce
3 T. dry sherry, rice wine, or mirin
1 t. sugar
Prepared rice for 4 people

Prepare tofu: Put a medium pot of salted water to boil. Rinse the block of tofu and cube it into bite-sized pieces and place the tofu into the rapidly boiling salted water. Let tofu remain in the water until it returns to a boil and the tofu cubes rise to the top. Drain and put on a plate in a single layer to cool.

Make sauce: In a bowl, mix the cornstarch into water. Add soy sauce, dry sherry, and sugar. Stir to blend.

Cook the dish: Heat the skillet and pour enough oil to coat bottom. Fry chilies until they turn brown. Remove with slotted spoon to plate. In same oil, fry peanuts until they begin to turn brown and remove with slotted spoon to plate. In same oil, fry tofu cubes. Let tofu cook until brown and crispy, turning to brown all sides, about 3-5 minutes. Pour sauce over all. Sauce will thicken very quickly - 30 seconds. Add green onions, cook together less than a minute. Add chilies and peanuts back to re-heat for a few seconds and serve over rice.

Greyhound Pets of America – MN

If you have room in your home and your heart, you may wish to consider adopting a retired racing dog. With the closing of the dog track in Wisconsin, many retired “racers” are looking for new homes. If you think you might be interested, please contact:

Greyhound Pets of America – Minnesota
P.O. Box 49183
Minneapolis, MN 55449
763-785-4000 or www.gpa.mn.org

Steps in the Process

1. Do research to see if a greyhound is the dog for you.
2. Contact GPA-MN to request an adoption application and information packet.
3. Complete and return the application. An adoption representative will contact you.
4. Set up an adoption appointment.
5. Select your dog who will then be spayed/neutered. You will receive a call from your adoption representative when your dog is ready to go home.
6. Pick up your new greyhound companion animal!

Membership info

Meeting Calendar

ARC in Action Meetings are held the second Saturday of every month from 10:00 – 11:00 am . Please join us to work on current projects and campaigns. This is a great way to meet other people who care about animals. We are just launching some new campaigns, so now is a great time to get involved!

The ARC office is located at 3249 Hennepin Ave. S. in Minneapolis. The office is open every Wednesday from noon to 8 pm.

Chicken article

by Mary Britton Clouse

Animal Rights Coalition, Inc.

P.O. Box 8750

Minneapolis, MN 55408

Non-Profit Org.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

For over 20 years ARC has been dedicated to ending the suffering, abuse, and exploitation of non-human animals through education, activism, and intervention.

ARC is now part of the new Animal Ark Affiliate Program, which allows our members to purchase premium food and animal-related products, and help ARC at the same time. Purchases made from our new, online catalog benefit both ARC and Animal Ark of Hastings, Minnesota, a no-kill animal shelter. Helping out is as easy as going online to purchase your companion animal's food. Just visit the ARC web site at www.animalrightscoalition.com and click on the "Catalog" link from the home page.

There is a great selection of items so please consider doing some of your holiday shopping here! Foods offered for sale have been reviewed by Dr. Linda Wolf, DVM, and meet the following criteria:

- Products that use meat or grain byproducts are not permitted.
- Pet foods must not contain chemical preservatives.
- No unidentified meat sources are permitted.
- A meat-based protein source must be the primary ingredient.
- Products listing separate parts of the same ingredient as different ingredients (a practice known as *ingredient splitting*) cannot be used.
- Preference is given to pet foods that use only USDA Grade A meats and USDA Grade 1 grains.

To learn why you should be concerned about most commercial pet foods, visit the Animal Ark web site at <http://www.animalarkshelter.org> and click on the "Articles" link *from the home page*.



