

augustus

CLUB

Issue No. 50 | Fall 2009



When Animals Are in Danger, PETA Is Only a Phone Call Away

... a message from Ingrid E. Newkirk

In this edition of our Augustus Club newsletter, I have the pleasure of sharing with you an insider's view of two very important PETA divisions: the Emergency Response Team and the Community Animal Project.

You'll read the blow-by-blow account of how a cruelty case is handled from start to finish. Bearing in mind that PETA handles thousands of such cases every year, you will get a picture of just how many animals' lives you touch through your support of our work.

I am also excited to include a review by Augustus Club and Vanguard Society member Arthur Frank Benoit of my book *The PETA Practical Guide to Animal Rights*. In the *Guide*, I answer some of the many questions that people ask PETA every day, from where to get protein that doesn't come from animals to why anyone would object to wearing wool. It's also a great resource if you're looking for information on where to buy animal-friendly coats, shoes, and belts; which health charities have chosen the Petri dish over animal tests; and which cosmetics and household products are cruelty-free.

Inside are also profiles of Leeanne Siart and Faith Betz. As dedicated staff members in the PETA Foundation's Planned Giving Department, their goal is to serve animals by working with wonderful Augustus Club members like you who have made a lasting commitment to PETA's mission.

One Augustus Club member who inspires us all is Simon Woodrup, the director of community outreach at the Durham County, N.C., animal shelter. We're paying

tribute to Simon in this issue with our profile on page 8. If everyone were as dedicated as Simon, our Emergency Response Team and our Community Animal Project staff could post an "out of business" sign and happily retire!

From recipes for fabulous vegan holiday dishes to a coupon for a free PETA 2010 "Rescued" Calendar, this issue is packed with features that I hope you'll find helpful, interesting, and informative. Most of all, I hope we convey just how much your support helps us achieve victories for animals and how grateful we are to have you as part of the PETA family.

On behalf of everyone here at PETA, I want to thank you for your kindness and generosity, and here's hoping that you have a wonderful holiday season.





PETA's Emergency Response Team Is There for Animals

24/7/365

In animal emergencies, people's attempts to help are often thwarted by unresponsive government agencies and other "dead ends." For the people who are trying to help, these roadblocks are maddening. And for the animal victims, the consequences are dire.



Misty and Coco

That's why the members of PETA's Emergency Response Team (ERT) make themselves available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It doesn't matter if it's 3 a.m.—if people call PETA with an animal emergency, one of us will help them.

Cruelty Casework Manager Stephanie Bell has been a core ERT member for six years. We've selected one case out of the hundreds that she handles each year in order to give you a snapshot of the lifesaving work that your support makes possible.

One summer weekend, a call came in to the ERT from a woman in Arizona who had been shopping for a car at a local dealership and had heard a cat meowing in distress. A kitten had been stuck in a storm drain on the property for more than 24 hours in the blistering Arizona heat!

After trying in vain to persuade the dealership to help the kitten, the caller contacted law enforcement authorities, who also refused to respond. In desperation, she called PETA and reached our after-hours emergency line.

The caller was advised to contact the city's fire department. She succeeded in getting firefighters to respond to the scene but was told that a rescue attempt would be "too dangerous."

ERT members spent the next few hours making phone calls. The ERT maintains a database of people from all over North America, including veterinarians, animal rescuers, wildlife rehabilitators, helpful government officials, and others who have assisted PETA in animal emergencies. If there's no one in ERT's database who lives within driving distance of the emergency site, we start calling people in PETA's Activist Network who are in the region.

Our staff eventually reached a former cruelty investigator who agreed to help. At this point, night had fallen, and there was no way to get into the dealership, but at the crack of dawn the next morning, the rescuer—and her fiancé—arrived with her equipment.

The dealership initially refused to give them access to the storm drain, but with coaching from Stephanie, the rescuer got the dealership to open the grate. The rescuer's fiancé then crawled into the pipe and emerged a few minutes later with an exhausted and dehydrated 3-month-old kitten who was covered with ants and fleas. This wonderful, lifesaving couple named the kitten Linnea (pictured on the next page) and have now made her a permanent part of their family!

This case is a great example of just one way that PETA's ERT saves animals' lives. So many people have the desire to help animals who are in danger, but without PETA, they don't know how to overcome obstacles such as property owners who won't cooperate. ERT's role often means the difference between life and death for an animal victim.

Sometimes, all it takes is a phone call from PETA to prompt a law enforcement agency to take action on a case. Our reputation is such that we actually hear people say, "Oh, my—it's PETA!" But other times, the most effective way for us to ensure that a rescue is successful is for us to work painstakingly with the caller or with other people "on the ground." In those cases, we guide people through the process every step of the way. We identify who has the authority to act, and we coach the caller on how to get them to do so. We inform people about local anti-cruelty statutes so that they have the confidence to say, "This situation is illegal, and it has to stop." Knowing that we are supporting them drives people to do whatever is necessary for the animals' safety.

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Linnea

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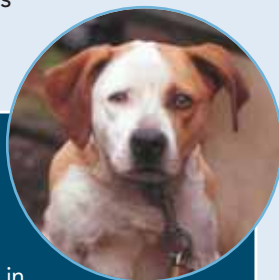
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Misty and the veterinarian who examined Didi both testified at the trial, and the young man and his father (who was also Didi's legal "owner") were convicted of cruelty to animals. The son—who appealed the decision and lost—received a 12-month jail sentence. The sentence was suspended on the condition that he remain on good behavior. The father had to pay court costs and a \$500 fine, and he also received a suspended 12-month jail sentence.

Most importantly, both men have been banned for life from ever owning animals again. We push hard to ensure that this crucial component is included in criminal sentencing for cruelty-to-animals cases, and in large part because of PETA's work, judges are increasingly issuing this prohibition.

Your support has enabled PETA to rescue thousands of animals like Linnea and achieve convictions in cases like Didi's. Thank you so much for being on our team and allowing us to save even more animals and bring their abusers to justice.



You Can Help

Please visit HelpingAnimals.com to learn what to do if you spot an animal in trouble. If you know of an animal who is being abused or neglected, your involvement may be his or her only hope. Please contact PETA at 757-622-PETA if you need guidance or support or if officials fail to respond quickly to your complaint. Thank you for taking a stand against cruelty!

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Last winter, some of the volunteers gave straw to a dog named Didi in a nearby town. They also put Didi on CAP's "to monitor" list. This is a list of animals whom CAP workers check on regularly—the kind words, pats, and treats from CAP workers are often the only attention these dogs get for days!

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As Misty put straw in the doghouse, she noticed the smell of rotting flesh and infection. With horror, Misty saw that the rope wrapped around Didi's neck had become embedded in her flesh as her neck grew around it! With a level of

Holiday Delights!

Holiday Almond Ball

Give cows something to celebrate this holiday season by replacing the traditional cheese ball with this delicious and nutritious appetizer.

8 oz. tempeh
½ cup vegan mayonnaise
(try Vegenaise—
followyourheart.com)
½ cup nutritional yeast
3 Tbsp. soy sauce
1½ cup sliced almonds, toasted

- Steam the tempeh for 20 minutes, then place it in the freezer for 15 minutes.
- Place the tempeh, vegan mayonnaise, nutritional yeast, and soy sauce in a food processor and purée.
- Scoop the mixture into an oiled bowl, cover, and place in the freezer for 10 minutes.
- Put the toasted almonds into a shallow bowl.
- Oil your hands and scoop out the entire tempeh mixture, patting it between your hands to form a ball.
- Roll the ball in the almonds to coat it then place it on a plate, cover with plastic wrap, and refrigerate for 2 hours.
- Serve with crackers.

Makes 8 servings

Pumpkin Custard

This award-winning custard is delicious and good for you too.

18 oz. silken tofu
1 cup canned pumpkin
12 oz. nondairy cream cheese
(try Tofutti Better Than Cream
Cheese)
1¼ cups sugar
½ tsp. ground nutmeg
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
¼ tsp. ground cloves
1 Tbsp. vanilla extract

- Preheat the oven to 325°F.
- In a blender or food processor, purée the tofu and pumpkin until smooth. Add the nondairy cream cheese, the sugar, spices, and vanilla. Blend well.
- Pour into custard cups.
- Bake at 325°F for 50 minutes or until firmly set.
- Turn off the oven, leaving the custard inside for another hour. Remove and let cool to room temperature.
- Refrigerate overnight. Serve chilled.

Makes 8 servings

Hot Spiced Cranberry Punch

This winter punch will warm you up and is packed full of vitamin C from wholesome cranberries.

2 quarts cranberries
2 quarts water
1 cup maple syrup
4 cinnamon sticks
1 tsp. whole cloves
1 lemon, cut into thin slices
1 cup orange juice
Dash of nutmeg

- Cook the cranberries in water until the skins pop. Strain through a sieve or blend in a blender.
- Add maple syrup, cinnamon, and cloves and boil 2 minutes.
- Remove from heat and add lemon slices and orange juice.
- Reheat and serve hot, sprinkled with nutmeg.

Makes 9 cups

Giving Animals a Future

Meet Faith and Leeanne

Faith Betz

Please help us welcome Faith Betz, the PETA Foundation's newest planned giving officer. From her home office in Loveland, Colo., Faith is helping PETA members in 14 states determine how best to support PETA's work through their estate plans. She is a licensed attorney in Colorado and Tennessee, and she previously worked in planned giving for a national conservation charity.

Joining the PETA Foundation is a dream come true for Faith: "When I turned my career from law to planned giving, I found the satisfaction I was looking for. I wish everyone could see the faces of the animals I get to see every month in staff meetings—the faces of animals who have a much better life because of the work PETA does."

Recently, PETA's Emergency Response Team called on Faith to go

investigate the alleged neglect of nine horses. "The horses had no shelter, no water, no hay, and no one to stand up for them except PETA," said Faith. "It meant a lot to show up for those horses—an elderly horse who was very thin and approaching emaciation, two moms with foals, and six other thin horses. PETA's caseworker said we got the information we needed to get law enforcement moving on the case."

Faith grew up near the Great Smoky Mountains in east Tennessee and now enjoys life in the Rocky Mountains with her cats Gracie, Critter, and Little Dude and her husband, Mark. When she is not working and traveling for the PETA Foundation, she enjoys yoga, vegan cooking, and even taking her cats for walks on a leash!

Leeanne Siart

Leeanne Siart is the PETA Foundation's can-do planned giving coordinator. She started her career as a wildlife biologist, primarily working on turtle conservation research, but she soon transitioned into a life devoted to activist efforts in behalf of both animals and the environment. After high school, she became involved in animal rights and immediately decided to go vegetarian after reading some PETA literature. The more she learned, the more she wanted to help. She eventually went vegan and put her research career behind her to work for animals in a different way.

Leeanne grew up in Massachusetts and has lived in New Hampshire, Virginia, and Oregon. Before coming to the PETA Foundation, Leeanne was a crew member onboard a



© Peter L. Webb

Sea Shepherd Conservation Society vessel that patrolled the Galapagos Islands Marine Reserve looking for illegal fishing. She also worked in Oregon to protect old-growth forests and rare wildlife from loggers.

While some of Leeanne's passion is still focused on the plight of turtles, she also longs for the day when chickens, cows, and pigs are no longer considered "food" and elephants and dolphins are no longer held captive for "entertainment." Working with PETA members gives her hope that this is achievable. She says, "It is inspiring to talk with members across the country who not only have a soft spot for animals but are also interested in leaving a legacy through a planned gift for animals in order to help out when they are no longer around to carry the torch themselves."

Leeanne has been with the PETA Foundation for nearly four years as a planned giving coordinator, working to ensure that PETA's efforts will continue and carrying out the wishes of Augustus Club members. Currently, Leeanne is a foster mom to Charlie, and she plans to continue fostering dogs who come from her local animal shelter. She lives and works out of her home office in North Carolina.

If Only Ingrid Newkirk Had Built the Ark

By Arthur Frank Benoit

The PETA Practical Guide to Animal Rights by Ingrid Newkirk (2009) St. Martin's Press, New York

In August 2009, *Harper's Magazine* ran a news article on abuse charges against a Catholic Church-run school for the poor. Testimony was given about a boy who



adopted a kitten as his companion and fed him from his own meager and inadequate food portion. One night, a nun pulled the boy out of bed by the hair and dragged him and the kitten to the kitchen. She forced the boy to open the plate on the top of the stove—which was filled with burning wood—push the kitten into the stove, and put the lid back on. The 12-year-old boy ended his story with the words "and the screams."

So where do we draw the line? Well, Newkirk gives us a very well-thought-out answer in the tradition of the Buddha and Albert Schweitzer. If one has a nervous system, one feels pain and is worthy of our compassion. Put whole wheat pasta into the boiling water—not a chicken, thank you.

Still, each day brings new stories of horror: elephants abused by their trainers, dogs ripped apart by sports personalities, the systematic extermination of sentient species, vice presidents who hunt quails in confined spaces after the birds' wings are clipped. And monkeys in laboratories—their misery is unending.

Against this litany of horror, there is in our lifetime a consistent advocate for downtrodden animals. In her latest encyclopedic book, Newkirk writes in a clear and passionate style, which lays out each problem in lucid and descriptive detail. All too often, for example, a "pet" is bought from a store or a breeder while a loving cat or dog in need desperately waits in a pound or animal shelter for a home.

Thus, a well-meaning person unknowingly contributes to the expanding population of shelter animals who will languish in cages for their entire lives or be put down to make room for new arrivals.

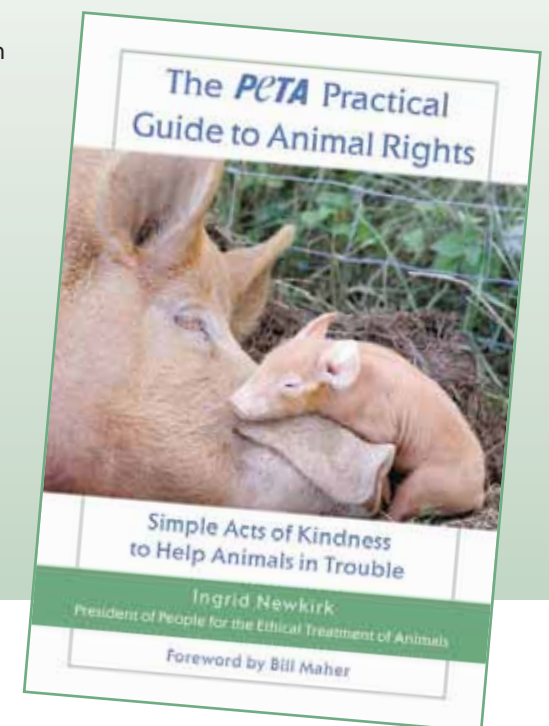
Newkirk goes beyond the usual screed and offers straightforward and simple ways in which anyone can make a difference. How difficult could it be to give water to a chained dog, to refuse to buy or wear a product made from the body parts of an animal, to eat a vegetarian meal, or to report any act of animal abuse to the authorities?

I found her chapters on animals who are best left in their natural habitats to be well written and a "must read" for anyone who is considering an exotic animal as a companion. A cheetah does not belong in your townhouse and will revert to his or her natural (read: aggressive) self at puberty. And there goes another Monet.

To her credit, Newkirk gives solutions that are within the capabilities of any ordinary person. She explains what not to buy, what not to take home, and how not to harm.

She lists all the organizations that are involved in turning the tide toward compassion for all life and talks at length about the needs of the animals we have come to regard as companions.

It's the best \$18.95 you can spend toward educating yourself to transcend the frequently heard phrase "but it's only an animal." Last time I checked, we are also animals.



Arthur Frank Benoit was for many years a critic for the *South End News* in Boston, where readers enjoyed his mirth and merriment.



Leeanne and Charlie

you
ARE *PETA*



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MEMBERS IN ACTION!

Simon Woodrup: Tackling Companion Animal Overpopulation in His Community

While bonding with his adopted kitten, Patches, Simon Woodrup came to view animals in a new light after witnessing the wide range of feelings that Patches expressed. In 1995, upon seeing news coverage of a religious sacrifice in which a goat was dropped alive from a church steeple, Simon finally made the connection between Patches' emotions and the terror that the goat felt—in that moment, he says, "[E]mpathy for animals was born for me!"

Haunted by the image of the goat's horrible death, Simon resolved to take action to help animals. Knowing that animals on factory farms and in slaughterhouses were subjected to pain, fear, and stress, he began with what he chose to put on his plate, and Simon has now been a vegetarian for more than 10 years. Soon, Simon was volunteering at an animal shelter, and eventually, he became involved with a local animal rights group.

After several years of increasing advocacy efforts, Simon still wanted to do more. Realizing that he wanted to make helping animals his life's work, Simon left the private sector and began working full time for the Animal Protection Society of Durham, which operates an open-admission animal shelter serving Durham County. Today, he's the organization's director of community outreach and also

oversees the shelter's volunteer and foster programs.

Simon lives in North Carolina with his girlfriend, Laura, and their three adopted cats, Mya, Zoey, and Pinky. He finds meaning through working each day to make life better for animals in his community—providing shelter and care for thousands of homeless, abandoned, and abused animals each year while also attacking the overpopulation problem at the roots by promoting spaying and neutering as well as adoption. "The work can be challenging, but being able to make a living doing something so important is priceless," says Simon.

Recently, Simon took his compassion for animals one step further. To ensure that he will leave an enduring legacy for animals, he added PETA to his estate plan through a bequest in his will. Says Simon, "I plan on being around for a long time and will continue to work on behalf of the animals, but when the time comes, I know that PETA will use the financial resources I leave to them to continue to make progress for all animals. Knowing that I can help even after my work is done gives me a sense of peace, and I thank PETA for that."

Thank you, Simon, for everything that you do to give animals a brighter future!



PETA's 2010 'Rescued' Calendar

Our 2010 "Rescued" Calendar is now available. The calendar is full of heartwarming stories and beautiful pictures. If you would like to receive a complimentary copy, please fill out the coupon here and return it to: Attn.: Augustus Club, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, 501 Front St., Norfolk, VA 23510. You can also e-mail your request to PlannedGiving@peta.org. Quantities are limited, so order today!

Yes! Please send me PETA's complimentary 2010 "Rescued" Calendar.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Tel. _____

E-mail _____



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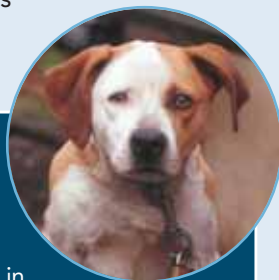
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- Roll the ball in the almonds to coat it then place it on a plate, cover with plastic wrap, and refrigerate for 2 hours.
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Makes 8 servings

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This award-winning custard is delicious and good for you too.

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Faith grew up near the Great Smoky Mountains in east Tennessee and now enjoys life in the Rocky Mountains with her cats Gracie, Critter, and Little Dude and her husband, Mark. When she is not working and traveling for the PETA Foundation, she enjoys yoga, vegan cooking, and even taking her cats for walks on a leash!

Leeanne Siart

Leeanne Siart is the PETA Foundation's can-do planned giving coordinator. She started her career as a wildlife biologist, primarily working on turtle conservation research, but she soon transitioned into a life devoted to activist efforts in behalf of both animals and the environment. After high school, she became involved in animal rights and immediately decided to go vegetarian after reading some PETA literature. The more she learned, the more she wanted to help. She eventually went vegan and put her research career behind her to work for animals in a different way.

Leeanne grew up in Massachusetts and has lived in New Hampshire, Virginia, and Oregon. Before coming to the PETA Foundation, Leeanne was a crew member onboard a



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Sea Shepherd Conservation Society vessel that patrolled the Galapagos Islands Marine Reserve looking for illegal fishing. She also worked in Oregon to protect old-growth forests and rare wildlife from loggers.

While some of Leeanne's passion is still focused on the plight of turtles, she also longs for the day when chickens, cows, and pigs are no longer considered "food" and elephants and dolphins are no longer held captive for "entertainment." Working with PETA members gives her hope that this is achievable. She says, "It is inspiring to talk with members across the country who not only have a soft spot for animals but are also interested in leaving a legacy through a planned gift for animals in order to help out when they are no longer around to carry the torch themselves."

Leeanne has been with the PETA Foundation for nearly four years as a planned giving coordinator, working to ensure that PETA's efforts will continue and carrying out the wishes of Augustus Club members. Currently, Leeanne is a foster mom to Charlie, and she plans to continue fostering dogs who come from her local animal shelter. She lives and works out of her home office in North Carolina.

If Only Ingrid Newkirk Had Built the Ark

By Arthur Frank Benoit

The PETA Practical Guide to Animal Rights by Ingrid Newkirk (2009) St. Martin's Press, New York

In August 2009, *Harper's Magazine* ran a news article on abuse charges against a Catholic Church-run school for the poor. Testimony was given about a boy who



adopted a kitten as his companion and fed him from his own meager and inadequate food portion. One night, a nun pulled the boy out of bed by the hair and dragged him and the kitten to the kitchen. She forced the boy to open the plate on the top of the stove—which was filled with burning wood—push the kitten into the stove, and put the lid back on. The 12-year-old boy ended his story with the words "and the screams."

So where do we draw the line? Well, Newkirk gives us a very well-thought-out answer in the tradition of the Buddha and Albert Schweitzer. If one has a nervous system, one feels pain and is worthy of our compassion. Put whole wheat pasta into the boiling water—not a chicken, thank you.

Still, each day brings new stories of horror: elephants abused by their trainers, dogs ripped apart by sports personalities, the systematic extermination of sentient species, vice presidents who hunt quails in confined spaces after the birds' wings are clipped. And monkeys in laboratories—their misery is unending.

Against this litany of horror, there is in our lifetime a consistent advocate for downtrodden animals. In her latest encyclopedic book, Newkirk writes in a clear and passionate style, which lays out each problem in lucid and descriptive detail. All too often, for example, a "pet" is bought from a store or a breeder while a loving cat or dog in need desperately waits in a pound or animal shelter for a home.

Thus, a well-meaning person unknowingly contributes to the expanding population of shelter animals who will languish in cages for their entire lives or be put down to make room for new arrivals.

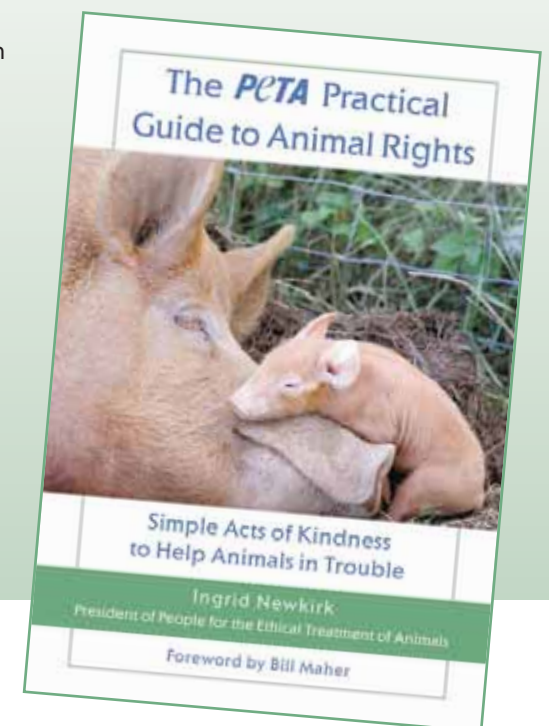
Newkirk goes beyond the usual screed and offers straightforward and simple ways in which anyone can make a difference. How difficult could it be to give water to a chained dog, to refuse to buy or wear a product made from the body parts of an animal, to eat a vegetarian meal, or to report any act of animal abuse to the authorities?

I found her chapters on animals who are best left in their natural habitats to be well written and a "must read" for anyone who is considering an exotic animal as a companion. A cheetah does not belong in your townhouse and will revert to his or her natural (read: aggressive) self at puberty. And there goes another Monet.

To her credit, Newkirk gives solutions that are within the capabilities of any ordinary person. She explains what not to buy, what not to take home, and how not to harm.

She lists all the organizations that are involved in turning the tide toward compassion for all life and talks at length about the needs of the animals we have come to regard as companions.

It's the best \$18.95 you can spend toward educating yourself to transcend the frequently heard phrase "but it's only an animal." Last time I checked, we are also animals.



Arthur Frank Benoit was for many years a critic for the *South End News* in Boston, where readers enjoyed his mirth and merriment.



Leeanne and Charlie