HUMANEWATCH.ORG

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE ON THE CRIMINAL LAW SIDE THEREOF, WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 1973

PRESENT: HON. DAVID F. BERRY, JUDGE

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA.

VS.

INDICTMENT # 2837

DAVID KEITH WILLS

On this the 30th day of May 1973, came the Attorney for the Commonwealth and David Keith Wills, who stands (indicted for a felony) to-wit: breaking and entering, appeared in obedience to his recognizance, and likewise appeared Robert Dwoskin, his court appointed counsel.

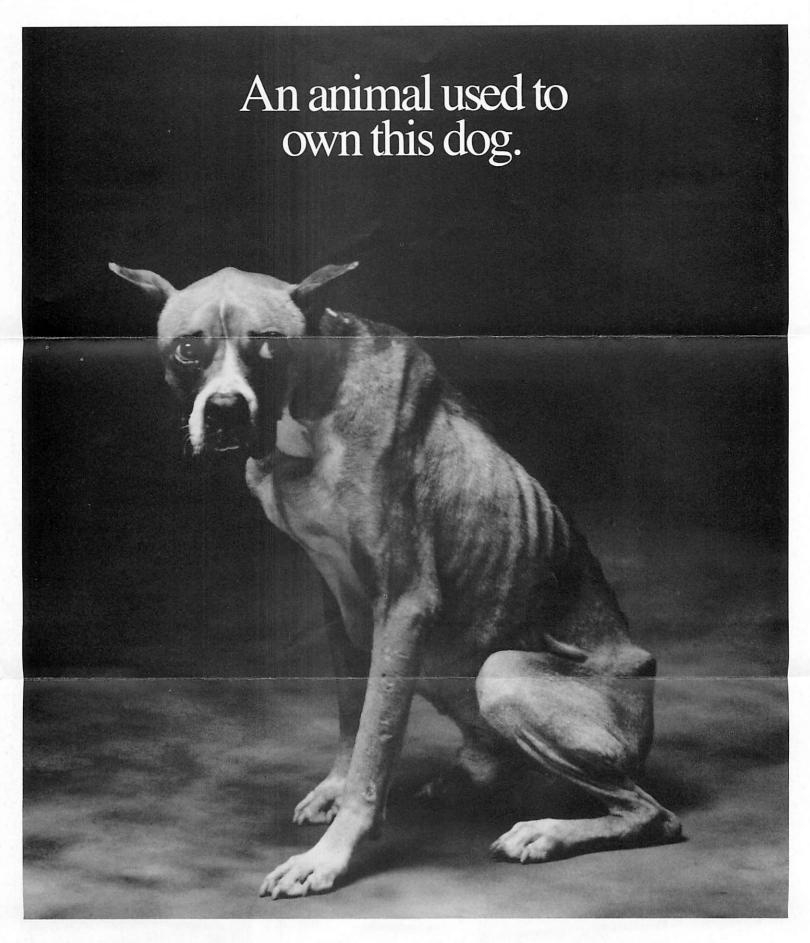
Whereupon the accused was arraigned and after private consultation with and being advised by his said counsel, pleaded GUILTY to the indictment, which plea was tendered by the accused in person, and the Court having made inquiry and being of the opinion that the accused fully understood thenature and effect of his plea and of the penalties that may be imposed upon his conviction and of the waiver of trial by jury and of appeal, proceeded to hear and determine the case without the intervention of a jury as provided by law, and having heard the evidence and argument of counsel, doth find the accused GUILTY of breaking and entering.

And it being demanded of the defendant if anything for himself he had or knew to say why judgment-should not be pronounced against him according to law, and nothing being offered in delay of judgment, it is accordingly the judgment of this Court that the defendant is sentenced to confinement in jail for a period of twelve c(12) months, of which term the Court doth suspend all but 90 days, condtioned upon restitution for darringer taken from the home of G. Martin Brill Watts, in said break in, and that the Commonwealth of Virginia do recover against the defendant its costs in the amount of \$55.00, by it about its prosecution in this behalf expended.

The Court certifies that at all times during the trial of this case the defendant was personally present, and his attorney was likewsie personally present and capably represented the defendant, for which services he is allowed \$150.00.

Whereupon the defendant was remanded to jail.

DOCKET NO. 12211 to appear before the Court of WARRANT OF ARREST County (City). COMMONWEALTH under penalty of \$ 3-23-73 DISPOSITION OF CHARGE: Liquidated Damages COSTS C.C. - 131 e copy TESTE: Date 23 SHELBY J. 114 Guilty [] Clerk of Court Not Guilty [] (City) on the Certified, Commital (Date Nolle, Prossed [] Jáil term days) months Sheriff/Sergeant: Mileage Acknowledged before me Commonwealth Attorney_ Weighing Fee_ Fine Reportable Violation D.M.V. (\$5.00)_ D.M.V. Abstract Fee (509)_ Costs Blood (Sample \$____ ____Analysis \$_ Court Appointed Attorney_ JUDGE Total Costs_ Dunken



You wouldn't want to meet the man who used to own this dog. The Michigan Humane Society had that unpleasant task on October 9, the day we responded to a call from a concerned citizen in northwest Detroit and found a young boxer chained to a fence without any sign of food or water.

Understand, this dog wasn't a stray. He was someone's pet. A pet who'd suffered unprotected through 26 straight days of rain and thunderstorms in September, never allowed off a 5-foot chain in his owner's backyard. A pet whose only shelter was a tattered piece of cardboard lying on the ground. A pet so emaciated, so worm-infested, he couldn't even stand.

When the Michigan Humane Society cruelty investigation van brought the dog we named Rocky into our downtown shelter, he weighed just 39 lbs. A boxer his size should weigh about twice that.

Rocky was immediately put on intra-

venous feedings and medication. In no time at all, he was able to eat solid food and go for short walks. With each passing day, Rocky gained weight and appeared to be growing stronger. Soon he was running instead of walking around the yard.

By all outward appearances, Rocky seemed to be recovering nicely. However, subsequent diagnostic testing revealed the dog had serious cardiac problems. On Oct. 30th, three weeks from the day we picked him up, Rocky died of heart failure. He was 2½ years old.

The kind of apathy and abuse this dog experienced under his former owner isn't just sad. It's illegal.



That's why we're currently involved in the prosecution of Rocky's former owner. Through the efforts of our cruelty investigation team and staff legal counsel, he has been charged with three separate counts: failure to provide adequate food and water; failure to provide shelter; and failure to provide medical treatment. The accused faces a maximum fine of \$500 or 90 days in jail, if convicted.

We're determined to make certain Rocky didn't die in vain. That's why we're turning to you in this season of giving. Please find it in your heart to make a donation, no matter how large or small, to the Michigan Humane Society.

Because it's your contribution that helps us feed and shelter neglected dogs and cats. It's your contribution that helps us give many of these animals a second chance in a new home. And, it's your contribution that helps us prosecute people who do things like this to dogs like Rocky.



When we started our cover story on Rocky, frankly, we hoped it would have a happy ending. We were all shocked and saddened by Rocky's sudden death. Regardless, we've gone ahead with his story. When you make your holiday contribution to the Michigan Humane Society, it will be accepted in his memory.

I would like my gift of: ____\$10 ___\$25 ___\$50 ___\$100 ___othe to go to the following programs of the Michigan Humane Society: □ Cruelty Investigation □ Shelter/Care □ Wildlife Rehabilitation □ Animal Rescue □ Pet Therapy □ General

Thank you

Your contribution is tax deductible.

MICS 2284

Please make checks payable to: Michigan Humane Society 7401 Chrysler Drive Detroit, MI 48211



\$25 will provide medical treatment and food for one injured animal for an entire week.

\$100 will operate the evening rescue program for one night.



\$10 will vaccinate 10 puppies against distemper and parvo.



\$15 will provide food and care for a litter of kittens or two cats for one week.

\$50 will pay for five preliminary investigations of cruelty complaints.

\$500 will cover the cost of one prosecution of cruelty to animals, including the needed long term care for the abused animal.



The Michigan Humane Society isn't just working for dogs and cats; we rehabilitate injured wildlife, investigate cruelty and neglect of farm animals, and do much, much more. In our state, the M.H.S. is the leader in working to make this a truly humane world for all animals.

wishing you and yours all the best this holiday season all the best this and staff at trong society.





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The Humane Society of the United States 2100 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037 (202) 452-1100

October 6, 1987

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Aida Flemming Virginia Milliken Andrew Wyeth

Dear Director:

I am pleased to forward to you minutes of the recent meeting of the Planning and Policy Committee held in Dearborn, Michigan, September 16 and 17. I am also enclosing a copy of materials pertaining to the Executive Director of the Michigan Humane Society, David Wills, which were presented at that meeting by director Brook Speidel.

You will note from the minutes that it was decided to defer without recommendation the decision as to whether or not to approve a union of The Humane Society of the United States and the Michigan Humane Society. Consideration of that proposal will be a principal agenda item for the meeting of the Board of Directors on Thursday, October 15 in Phoenix.

Enclosed find an agenda for that meeting as well as other background materials. I look foward to seeing you in Phoenix.

Sincerely,

John A. Hoyt President

Enclosures



MACOMB VETERINARY ASSOCIATES

48024 VAN DYKE AVENUE . UTICA, MICHIGAN 48087 . (313) 731-2600

December 30, 1982

Mrs. Jean Goldenberg Washington HS/SPCA 7319 Georgia Ave N.W. Washington, D.C. 20012

Dear Mrs. Goldenberg,

Thank you very much for the reply to my inquiry regarding David Wills. I believe your letter will have a well deserved impact regarding the study of the background of David Wills. This information, added to the other information that's been gathered, makes an incredible record regarding his history. Interestingly, we still don't know where he was from 1972 to 1976.

I'll keep you posted as this investigation evolves and the outcome.

I would appreciate, it if any individuals contact you regarding this matter, that you not mention my name or even involve veterinarians specifically, in case Wills is able to survive.

Thank you again, and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Alan F. Berger, D.V.M.

AFB/il

CONFIDENTIAL RESUME OF

David Keith Wills

Education:

1970

Albemarle High School Charlottesville, Virginia

1970 - 1972

Bluefield Jr. College - 7,3-Bluefield, Virginia Major: Biological Science &

Wildlife Management

1972 - 1973

University of Virginia Charlottesville, Virginia

Major: Journalism

Minor: Biological Science

1973 - 1974

University of Maryland College Park, Maryland

B.S. in Journalism

1974 - 1976

University of Maryland College Park, Maryland M.S. in Journalism

Professional Experience:

6/72 - 9/72

Department of Interior - U.S.
Government - Everglades, Florida
Population survey of wildlife under
supervision of Dr. Lee Rollins,
biologist.

6/73 - 9/72

Department of Interior - U.S. Government - Jackson Hole, Wyoming Elk herd survey.

1/74 - 1/75

Montgomery County SPCA, Maryland Kennel work and animal paramedic for rescue league.

1/75 - 11/75

Washington Humane Society, Washington DC Investigator-investigated and prosecuted cruelty to animals complaints.

11/75 - 11/76

Washington Humane Society, Washington DC Director of Cruelty Investigations. Responsible for staff of 5.

1/77 - present

Nashua Humane Society, Nashua, N.H.

Executive Director. Responsible for the direction of a staff of 20, animal welfare and fund raising programs, public relations and the Animal Emergency Rescue League of an animal shelter serving 14 communities. Strong emphasis placed in fund raising and public relations. Reports to board of Directors

During your time of employment with the Nashua Humane Society, did you ever take any monies that you were not authorized to?

2. Do you know the present whereabouts of the Nashua Humane Society checkbooks (ledgers) drawn on the Nashua Trust Company, Account and Account or the Merchants National Bank checkbook (ledger), Account # 00371725-12?

In respect to Mr. Michael McNamara during his employment as a C.E.T.A. employee with the Nashua Humane Society, did you supplement his income by any sum (particularly \$50) on a weekly basis? Hole C

During your employ with the Nashua Humane Society, did you own property in the State of Maryland? Checks were written by you to the Equitable Trust Company. Check stub bearing notation "Master Charge Payment".

Why were Humane Society checks utilized for your personal Master Charge account?

5. Nashua Humane Society check issued to First Bank Mortgage Corporation in the amount of \$462.01. Check stub bearing notation "cross reference Baltimore, Maryland bank, house payment".

Why were Humane Society checks utilized for your house payment?

- 6. Contract forwarded to the Nashua Police and the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office by your attorney, Mr. Deday Larene, where is the original?

 The typing on pages 1, 2, and 3 appears to be different than the typing on page 4. Can you explain this?
- 7. The above mentioned contract was viewed by the signees as well as an additional Humane Society employee. They do not remember this contract. Is this a contract substituted by you?
- 8. On 29 August 1977, you issued a Nashua Humane Society check, the payee being "The Carpet Center" in the amount of \$171. It purchased Sundial red brick linoleum for your home on Flint Pond Drive in Hollis, New Hampshire. Why were Humane Society checks utilized for your residence?

Cod 603 889 0057

CARPET CENTER CORP. 320 AMHERST ST.

NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03060

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Washington Humane Society WHS/SPCA

7319 Georgia Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20012 202/333-4010

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Edward S. Moms, DVM
Diana Post, DMV
Ean O Strimple, DVM

Counsel
Mr. Miles P Kaufman, Esq.

December 27, 1982

Dr. Alan Berger 64511 Hartway Romeo, Michigan 48065

Dear Dr. Berger:

This is in response to your queries about David Wills, a former employee of the Washington Humane Society.

I have examined David Wills' resume, which you forwarded to me. Certain information given in this resume is, according to our records and my personal knowledge, untrue. For example, his resume states that Wills obtained a B.S. in Journalism from the University of Maryland in 1974 and an M.S. from the same school in 1976. To our knowledge, David Wills had neither degree when he was employed by the Washington Humane Society in 1976. He did say that he was taking a night course in Journalism and was working toward a bachelor's degree. This was never verified. I recall that we were pleased to learn that he was taking writing instruction, since his writing skills were very poor.

The resume indicates that, from January 1974 to January 1975, Wills worked for the Montgomery S.P.C.A. as a kennel worker and an animal paramedic. The Montgomery County S.P.C.A. has never owned or operated an animal shelter, to our knowledge.

The resume also indicates that from January 1975 to November 1975 Wills worked as an investigator for the Washington Humane Society. David Wills never worked for the Washington Humane Society in 1975.

The next line on the resume indicates that, from November 1975 to November 1976, Wills worked for the Washington Humane Society as Director of Cruelty Investigations, responsible for a staff of five. This is not accurate.

Our records show that David Wills began his employment with the Washington Humane Society in the last week of January 1976, when he was hired as a Humane Officer. He responded to an employment ad that the Washington Humane Society had placed in the local newspaper. Wills worked for the WHS/SPCA for approximately nine months - from the last week in January 1976 until early November 1976.

Preceding and during the period of Wills' employment here, the Washington Humane Society was in the midst of what was probably the most difficult period in its 112-year history. There were two factions within the membership that were polarized over the firing of the Society's Executive Director. Mid-way through Wills' tenure here, every member of the Board of Directors resigned and an entirely new Board of Directors took over management of the Society.

Various members of the Board, including myself, found that David Wills exacerbated this unfortunate situation by contacting Board members and playing one faction against the other. Minutes of Board meetings show that in April of 1976 the acting Executive Director, George Hall, recommended to the Board that David Wills be fired because he had "an uncooperative attitude and was a disruptive influence in the organization." Wills presented his case to the Board of Directors, who voted to place him on two weeks' probation rather than fire him.

Wills <u>was</u> given the title "Director of Cruelty Investigations" for a few months. During that time, he was responsible for the other two Humane Officers who were then in the Society's employ.

Toward the end of Wills' time here, internal stability returned to the WHS/SPCA. Those who then became responsible for the Society's operations, myself included, made the decision that David Wills would have to be let go because his work was unacceptable and his attitude toward his work was poor. Wills may have sensed this decision, because he contacted our President, Bianca Beary, and said that he would resign if she would write him a letter of recommendation.

Wills had previously threatened to call the press if a demand he had made to the Society was not met. He did get one television station to cover derogatory statements he made against the WHS/SPCA. Given this experience and the strife the Society was just recovering from, Mrs. Beary felt that she should write the letter of recommendation in hopes that Wills would quietly leave the Washington Humane Society. David Wills submitted his letter of resignation the day after receiving this letter of recommendation from Mrs. Beary. (I have enclosed copies of both letters.)

Also enclosed please find a resume of David Keith Wills, prepared while he was the employee of the Washington Humane Society. It appears that there are significant discrepancies between this resume and the "Confidential Resume" that you forwarded.

I regret having to write such a negative report about someone who was employed by the Washington Humane Society.

Jean V. Goldenberg

Sincerely

Executive Director

Encls

WASHINGTON HUMANE SOCIETY

1621 WISCONSIN AVENUE, NORTHWEST WASHINGTON, D. C. 20007

TELEPHONE: (202) 333-4010

Oct. 18, 1976

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known David Wills since April, 1976. As a cruelty investigator, and more recently, as Director of Cruelty Investigations, Mr. Wills has been a reliable and conscientious employee. He has consistently shown energy and initiative in his work and genuine compassion for animals in distress.

Sincerely,

Bianca Beary President To:George Hall
Reason:resignation of David Wills

This is to make offical my resignation from the WHS on November 13,1976.

I feel the need for my services here is no longer a consideration in the treatment I received as an employee. I have enjoyed the organization and wish all concerned the best of luck in their future battles to stop animal abuse in the future.

Director of Investigations

- It's the Humane Society vs the Veterinarians:
- 1-24-83 , I'm Mike Windland, that story and more coming up on the I teams inside report.
 - and abondoned animals. That's just one of the stories News 4 Mike Windland has in his weekly I Team Inside Report and Mike, who; s involved in this battle?

Well, Carmen, the Michigan Humane Society says that there is a war going on between it and the a group of Oaklnad County veter narians. The war is being fought over the issue of buisness competition. At stake is money, prestige, and the treatment of animals in northern Oakland County. This is the facility that is the object of the controvery. The Society's animal welfare center in Avon Township. The Humane Society plans to use a part of it for a full service veterinary hospital which will treat all needy animals regardless of their owners ability to pay. But the Oakland County Veter nary Assoc. sees the Humane Society as a competitor. Indeed, by using it's tax exempt status and it's ready and unpaid access to the media, the Humane Society has an unfair business advantage say the vets. They've been fighting the clinic for months hoping to work out a compromise on staffing it, but so far, the humane sockety has hung tough and says it plans to open without the vets next month. vets say they x want an IRS investigation into the society's tax exempt status.

TV Program aired Thursday, Jan. 27, 1983

I'm going to break the story of a man who had everyone fooled, who holds a responsible position in Detroit, but he is not the man who everyone thinks he is. A News ker 4 I Team investigation tonight at 6:00....

An exclusive report... the I team reveals a man saving the lives of animals but his own life is under suspecion.

A past life that exists only on paper about a man who is not who he says heis. The Michigan Humane Society Director. I'm Mike Wondland, and now an I team investigative report ... New England and Washington,... coming up....

An investigation by News 4 I Temm is bringing up many questions tonight about the farkx background of a man who is well known here in the Detroit area. Mike Wendland joins us now for this exclusive report...and Mike, what's this investigation all about...

Mort, this is the story of public trust and credibility. This involves the highly visable director of a non-profit service agency supported by the community here in Detroit. The man is popular... highly respected...and he is at the forefront of animal causes. Indeed, it is his name that is used in the solictitation of the agency's funds, but in this first of a two part I Team investigation, you will see that the man who has not broken any laws, is not what he has claimed to be...

This is the Michigan Humane Society... a non-profit organization dedicated to helping animals. It operates on a one and a half million dollar budget.. all of that provide by public donations. And this is David Wills, 30, the Society's outspoken director for the past 3 years. He is a highly visable man frequently appearing in the media, traveling about the state giving speeches... he is loyally supported by his board of directors. But David

Wills is not the man they and the public have been told he is. For David Wills has lied repeatedly about his background and professional qualifications starting here with this resume which was sent to the Humane Society when he applied for his 30,000 a year job. Under Wills, the Society has turned itself around from a near bankrupt organization to one of the most active and publically supported groups in the country. This ultra modern 1.1 million shelter in Oakland County's Avon Township will open next month and stands as a symbol of that prestige and power, but unknown to many of the society's supporters, there is another side. One that involves Wills and the society in a series of tangled lawsuits involving his actions and public pronouncments. An IRS investigation into the society's use of tax exempt funds and the bitter alienation between the society and the one groups it should most get along with... the state's veterinarians. To understand these issues and controversie. it's necessary to look at David Wills, and that goes back to the resume. false claims begin with this assertion given on the resume and in press interviews, that he holds a bachelors degree and a masters degree in journalism from the University of Maryland. In truth, Wills holds no such degrees. Work related claims to have done animal population surveys with the Dept. of the Interior, the Everglades in Flerida, and among the elk herds in Wyoming, are similarily false.

When it comes to hands on experience, David Wills told the Michigan Humane Society that he spent a year here in Montgomery County Maryland working for the society of prevention of cruelty to animals. NEXKYMM On his resume, he said that he performed animal paramedic work...and did kennel work as well for the SPCA. The only problem is that the Montgomery County SPCA says they don't have a kennel, nor a paramedic service, nor have they ever heard of David Wills.... the resume says that Wills then went to work for the Washington DC Humane Society. The resume says that he spent almost two years there. IS THAT ACURATE? No. it is not... how long was he here? David Wills worked for us for about 9 months." When we interviewed Wills, he denied

ever seeing the x resume before,, repeatedly. He branded it a forgery and denied making such claims.

"Not my resume, part of it is and part of it isn't." (Wills)

"You didn't fill that out?" (Windland)

"No. I don't know where you got this. As a matter of fact. Well, that resume is not accurate. I wouldn't think I would have done that. I mean once again, that I've got a lot of enemies, that I don't know where that came from, but no, that's not mine." (Wills)

"That was yesterday. But hours after our taped interview, Mrs. Irving Rose the society's board president, said that Wills admitted to her that he did make the phoney claims. He then, she said, offered to resign if the board wanted him to. But said Mrs. Rose, even if it is all lies, we don't care what happened before. We're solidely behind David. Wills also admitted to us today, that he did lie in the earlier interview. He refused a second on-camera interview.

In January, 1977, David Wills moved from Washington to take a new job, far to the north. David Wills came to Nashua New Hampshire, a conservative New England town of about 60,000. When Wills took over the foundering old Nashua Humane Society, he described himself as a seasoned animal welfare worker. He particularly liked to brag about his enforcement of cruelty cases back in Washington. This is Nancy Soule...she worked for Wills and took over as executive director of the HIMMAN Humane Society when he left Nashua for Michigan.

The bragged a lot about the numerous cases he successfully prosecuted on animal cruelty down in Maryland and Washington DC. He said that he did considerable numbers of them down there, and as far as actual court cases

legal action was taken. That involved an animal owner who had two dogs that were starving. It was a serious case... the owner was charged with cruelty to animals, however, the charges were eventually dropped because David left the area and didn't return for trial, so we've had to drop the charges." (Nancy Soule)

In Nashua New Hampshire, the Humane Society used to be run out of this decrepet old building. David Wills is credited with raising the money to build a 250,000 shelter for the Nakhua Humane Society. Nancy Soule is the woman who typed the controversial resume shortly before Wills left.

"This is the letter that David Wills sent to the president of the Michigan Humane Society. On the p bottom it says, NLS, is that you?" (Windland)

"Yes. I typed that up" (Nancy Soule)

"With that, was the resume, confidential resume of David Wills." (Wendland)

"Yeah, it sure does. I typed that also. That was the attachment that went with this letter to Mrs. Rose." (Nancy Soule)

"and the information on that resume came from...."

"David..Wills" (Nancy Soule)

"When did it become apparent to you that there was something wrong with the way David Wills ran the humane society?" (Windland)

"Well, a few weeks after he left, we had to present the board of directors at their next meeting, with all the financial records and I was unable to logate them, so I called David in Detroit, and asked him where they were. He explained to me that he had taken them with him and these mincluded the ledgers of all the activities that took place for the last six months at the shelter, and he wanted to clean them up and make them presentable for

the board of directors. Unfortunately, we never were able to retrieve those records." (Nancy Soule)

"She says you took financial records and the ledgers fr m the Nashua Humane Society:" (Wendland)

"That's a lie." (Wills)

"Was there money missing from the Mx Nashua Humane Society under David Wills?" (Wendland)

"I can't comment on that. " (Nancy Soule)

"Why?" (Wendland)

"I've been told not to." (Soule)

"By Who?" (Wendland)

"By the Nashua Police Dept." (Soule)

"Why?" (Wendland)

"They are investigating it right now and I can't comment on it. (Soule)

Cent Bany

"The Attorney General's office made a request to this command to conduct an investigation into the Nashua Humane Society. That investigation is presently in our hands now. It is an active investigation with this headquarters and procedure here, we don't discuss active investigations."

(Detective Barry)

"David Wills says that he is innocent of any wrong doing in Nashua or anywhere else. He says that his only concern is for the animals his society takes care of. Indeed, he is still strongly supported by his board of directors which now knows of the false statments he has made about his past.

Tomorrow, we will hear more from David Wills and look at the way he has run the Michigan Humane Society.

Mike, when you confronted him with this information, he did offer to resign?

(Mort Crim)

He did not offer to resign to the Humane Society Board which supports him unqualifingly. They say the society is much better now than it ever was before.

"He has been a controversial man since he first got to Detroit and took over the Humane Society. Could this be a vendetta? (Crim)

David Wills mays that it is... He blames it alternately on the veterinarians, on his ex-wife, on enemies that he had made in his controversial career elsewhere. (Wendland)

Thank you Mike.....

-0-

Taped from TV program aired January 25, 1983

Coming up, the I Team looks at the Michigan Humane Society and the controversia. actions of it's executive director.

This began an exclusive investigaton into the man who heads the Michigan Humam Society raising questions about the man's past. Mike Wendland is with us again tonight with more, and Mike, what are the latest developments?

Mort, our story tonight focuses on the operation of the Humane Society under DAvid Wills. Last nite, we saw how Wills used false claims about his background and professional life in getting his job here in Michigan. Wills lied about his educat on, falsely claiming to have a masters degree and when he came here from New Hampshire in 1980, he did so under a cloud of suspecion. That suspecion is still evident by an ongoing investigation in financial irregularities at the Humane Society by the Nashua New Hampshire police. It is important to stress that David Wills has not broken any laws, but he is a highly controverial figure whose past lies jepordize the credibility of the Michigan Humane Society.

David Wills, the Michigan Humane Society has become the states leading animal rights group, annually making 3,000 rescues, investigating 2,000 cruelty cases, and helping adopt more than 15,000 abandonded or stray animals. It is a far cry from the days before Wills came aboard in 1980, when the Society was barely functioning.

"In 1979, this place was almost bankrupt, you remember it was almost closed. Remeber all that...yeah, and the place was so bad, that was no in house sterilaztion, there was no downtown rescue league at nite, there were none of those things for animals. Three years later, they all exist. " (Wills)

But how has Wills accomplished this? His critics maintain that the public David Wills, articulate, charming, caring, is vastly different from the private Wills who is abrasive ego has alienated almost every other segment of the animal care community. For example, one of the things Wills was most active in was the issue of euthanasia.... the way animals are disposed of.

This is the Detroit 'Animal Control Shelter...the dog pound...and up until last year, animals here were disposed of through carbon monoxide which the Humane Society xxx says is a cruel way of animal disposal. Other dogs are used for a research purposes here. Frequently, David Wills of the Humane Society has spoken out against this place urging the public to send their animals to the Humane Society instead. What the public doesnt know is that the Humane Society under David Wills, continued a little known policy begun in 1979. It's how stray dogs brought to the humane society turned over to the Detroit dog pound. These records obtained by the I Team from the Detroit Animal Control files, show that the humane society often received donations for dogs accepted but them turned over to the city for disposal by the controversial carbon monoxide method....the very method they opposed.

"They would call us and say they had dogs, and we would send the truck by and pick them up. The dogs would come down from the Detroit Animal Control Center where we would hold them 4 days under law, to allow the rightful owner to blaim the animal, and if the animal wasn't claimed, then the animal would be disposed of." (Dr. Wood)

"At that time, how mr were the animals disposed of?" (Wendland)

"OK, now if they weren't euthanized, what happened to them after 4 days?" (Wendland)

"Well, we'd, the dogs would be offered for sale to the general public, or else they possibly could be picked up and used for research." (Dr. Wood)

The Humane Society does not dispute this. David Wills XXXX however, says he was unaware of the practice when he began work at the society, and didn't discover it for a year.

"I didn't know about it...when I found out about it, I stopped sending strays there. And if they were some fees in the first year that we didnt catch up on, then we took care of them as soon as we could. We're not perfect...I never said I was perfect...I make mistakes all the time...but I only can correct it if I see it or know about it... (Wills)

Dr. Wood disputes Wills account. He said it was the dog pound that decided to stop taking animals from the humane society because the humane society was sticking the city of Detroit from aniamls ax outside of Detroit forcing KM Detroit to pay for other cities strays.

"There's evidence that we were receiving animals from various other localities other than Detroit. Namely Highland Park, Hamtramck, Hazel Park, Oakland County and so forth. (Dr. Wood)

Wills internal operation policies of the humane society have also brought strong critism. This woman quit her veterinarians job at the Westland Center because of what she said were unsafe procedures ordered by Wills.

"There are what is called animal technicians who are licensened by the sate. They are legally allowed to give animals anesthestic. Anesthestic is extremel critical. At the time that I was at Westland, we had no licensened animal health technicians at the facilities and he was telling me, that beginning in two or three weeks, I was to have my unlicensened assistants who are just

assismtants, to do anesthesia....and I told him that I would not comply....
and he says you have to do it....you must do it...you train them to do it,"

(Dr. Scales)

"Did you do that?" (Wendland)

"No. I did not...I quit" (Dr. Scales)

We talked to Wills today and asked him about Dr. Scales account. He denied it saying never does he tell veterinarians how to practice. There were other controversies that Wills and the humane society have become mired in. Perhaps the most bitter involves a bill...Bill 6099...Wills unsuccessfully tried to push it through Lansingthat would mandate the property sterilazation, prohibit sport hunting, and severely restrict animal breeders.

"His 6099 alienated most of the animal groups, animal control, DNR, veterinaring what have you because he had almost a power, or wanting a power to woo all of the animal world. He is not really willing to cooperate with any group

ERX I don't care if they meet with him 10 times a day." (Smiddling)

David Wills meanwhile says he is only concerned for the maimls and his critics he says are out to get him because he is not shy to point out their lack of concern.

-,-

it, I'll leave.... I mean I care for the animals, I'll help them any way I can... (Will:)

Again, David Wills has broken no laws, but to recap, he has lied repeatedly about his background. He is under crive criminal investigation by the Nashua New Hampshire police, he has alienated almost every segment of the animal care community, and because of his dispute with veterinarians over the societies tax exempt status, he has caused a major IRS investigation into the socities financial activies. David Wills denies any wrongdoing, and the humane societies board of directors continues to strongly support him. Mrs Audry Rose, the board president, told us they dont care about the lies, that Wills current performances is what counts, and that she says has been outstanding. The controvery continues and we'll stay on top of the story and be back with more as it develops.

Mike, David Wills has made himself a media person in this town. Many of us know him from having covered stories out at the shelter.... How is he taking all this storm personally? (Mort Crim)

We talked to him just a little while ago and David said that he was hanging in there...he conceeded that his credibility has been hurt. " (Wendland)

Interestingly, Mike, David called me just about 2 hrs ago to say, Yes, I did forge the sesume, just what he told you, he said, I'm sorry I'did it, it was years ago and I have decided not to run this time...I'll stay here and stick it out....we'll see... (Crim)

Follow up of I Team Investigation aired January 31, 1983

Last week News 4 I Team shed light on the questionable past and present practices of David Wills. He's head of the Michiga. Humane Society and in one of the stores in tonights I Team Inside Report, Mike Wendland is here with the latest reaction to that report, and Mike, I quess there has been considerable....(Mort Crim)

There has...Mort, one member of the societys board of directors has resigned...partially in protest of David Wills. He is Dr. Richard G. Pearce a respected local veterinarianx. Dr. Pearce's resignation came early last week and ends more than a decade of work on the humane society board. He also was one of the key board members involved in the hiring of David Wills three years ago. Although Pearce refused to talk to us about his resignation, other sources say a letter sent to the board over the weekend, details his strong disappointment with Wills.

STERILIZATION CLINIC HOURS

Telephone Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Phone 872-SPAY for an appointment or information.

ADMISSION AND DISCHARGE

On the day of your pet's appointment, plan to be at the clinic between 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Your pet must be picked up the day after surgery between 8:30 am and 9:00 am.

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Date:	Time:
You must teleph	one 48 hours (2 days) in advance if
you are unable to	keep your appointment.

BE A RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER

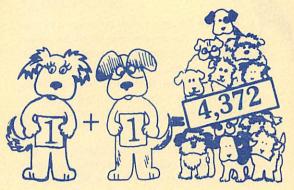
- Spay or neuter your pet.
- · Leash and license your dog.
- Keep your pet up to date on vaccinations and health check ups.
- · Train your pet to be a good neighbor.
- · Exercise your pet daily.
- Give your pet affection and attention.
- Obey your local animal ordinances.
- · Keep your cat inside.

ADDITIONAL MHS STERILIZATION CLINIC LOCATIONS

MHS Oakland County Clinic 3600 Auburn Road Auburn Heights, MI 48057 Clinic Appointments 852-7420

MHS West Clinic 37255 Marquette Road Westland, MI 48185 Clinic Appointments 721-4195

HOW IS YOUR ANIMAL ARITHMETIC?



Start with one female dog and one male dog and in just 7 years the cummulative offspring can number well into the thousands.

Be Responsible... Spay or Neuter Your Pet visit

the



Sterilization Clinic

Central Clinic 7401 Chrysler Dr. Detroit, MI 48211

Phone: 872-SPAY

Additional Clinic locations listed inside

In animal shelters across the U.S., over **20 million** surplus animals will be destroyed this year purebreds and mixed breeds. No one has the right to allow their pets to contribute to the tremendous pet overpopulation, and at present, the only sure way to keep your pet from mating is to have them spayed or neutered.



 To accomplish surgical neutering, the veterinarian removes certain reproductive organs. If your cat or dog is a female, the veterinarian

will remove her ovaries, fallopian tubes and uterus. The correct name for this operation is an ovariohysterectomy, commonly referred to as SPAYING.

• The testicles are removed from a male animal. This operation is properly called orchiectomy, although it is usually referred to as castration, or NEUTERING.



- It is the most effective way to prevent the birth of unwanted puppies and kittens.
- It eliminates blood stains on carpets and floors during messy heat periods.
- In most cases, it stops tom cats from spraying strong-smelling urine in and out of doors.
- It lessens or eliminates your pets desire to roam or get in fights.
- It eliminates the attraction of unwanted male animals during a female animal's heat period.
- In a female pet, spaying eliminates the chances of developing uterine infections and reduces the possibility of developing mammary cancer.
- Spaying or neutering your dog or cat shows that you are a responsible pet owner and are taking positive steps to end animal suffering.

Spaying and Neutering Myths Exposed

- The "Miracle of Birth" . . . procreation is simply a biological need stimulated by hormone production. When this hormone production is stopped through sterilization, the biological needs are removed. "The miracle of birth" is not so miraculous when one considers the tracic reality of overpopulation.
- "My pet will get fat"... obesity is controlled by diet and exercise and is not determined by a surgical procedure.
- "My pet will get lazy"... exercise and play time will determine how playful your pet will be. Pay attention to your pet; give them love, and they will stay a youngster for a long time to come.
- "Surgery is dangerous" . . . a spayed or neutered animal has a better chance of staying in good health for a long time to come. Also, the risks involved in bearing young will be avoided.

Eligibility for Surgery

- Current distemper vaccinations are required. Low cost vaccinations are available at MHS Clinics with Sterilization.
- The veterinarian may decide not to spay an animal, if in the veterinarian's opinion, the animal is not qualified for surgery.

Pre and Post Operative Requirements

1. Call the MHS Clinic nearest you to schedule an appointment.

SURGERY IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

- Fees must be paid in full and in cash, check, VISA, or MasterCard at the time of admission.
- 3. Food and water must be withheld from your pet after 8 p.m. the night before surgery. Anesthesia and recovery may be complicated by vomited food. Inhaling vomited stomach contents can be fatal! A patient will be refused surgery if he has not fasted properly.
- We suggest an exercise period just prior to transporting your pet to our clinic. Give your pet plenty of time to empty his bladder and bowels.
- Your pet will remain under our veterinarian's care for a short time after surgery. This will insure proper recovery. You may pick up your pet at the time specified by the clinic.



Going Home

Your pet has just undergone major surgery and is waking up from a general anesthesia. This can be a frightening experience. Special care must be taken to keep your pet calm and warm for at least 10 days after surgery. Be sure that your entire family understands that your pet

must stay inside. This is the safest way to handle post-operative care.

LOW COST FEE SCHEDULE

Male cat neuter
Female cat spay
Male dog neuter - under 20 lbs 20.00
-between 20-39 lbs 25.00
-between 40-59 lbs 30.00
-over 60 lbs
Female dog spay - under 20 lbs30.00
-between 20-39 lbs
-between 40-59 lbs 40.00
-over 60 lbs

Fees include:

- Pre-surgical exam
- Anesthetic and surgery
- · Post surgical care
- Suture removal.

NOTE: Pets that are in heat, pregnant, obese, or cryptorchid will be done at the doctor's discretion for an additional fee.

- LOW COST VACCINATIONS

Available only at time of admission for sterilization
DHLP-P (canine distemper/parvo) 9.00
Rabies Vac (canine 1 yr. and 3 yr.) 9.00
CVR (feline distemper) 9.00
Rabies Vac. (Feline, 1 yr.)9.00

If you have a special problem, let us know. We will try to help. At Michigan Humane Society, the animal is our number one priority.



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BE KIND TO ANIMALS WEEK Activities Will Be Kicked Off With The

4th ANNUAL ROSEY MUTT DERBY

To be held at the Michigan State Fair Coliseum on Sunday, May 3. Chief Barker for this year's Derby will be WXYZ-TV personality, John Kelly. Entry forms are available at all three MHS shelters. Even if your pet is not in the championship speed class, we invite all of you to come and watch the fun. General admission is \$2.00 for adults, children under 12 free. Racing begins at 1:30.









one week.

and care for a litter of kittens or two cats for

\$15 will provide food

\$500 will cover the cost of one prosecution of cruelty to animals, including the needed long term care for the abused animal.

\$50 will pay for five preliminary investigations of cruelty complaints.





\$10 will vaccinate 10 puppies against distemper and parvo.

\$100 will operate the evening rescue program for one night.

\$25 will provide medical treatment and food for one injured animal for an entire week.



Please make checks payable to: Michigan Humane Society 7401 Chrysler Drive Detroit, MI 48211

WIC2 5584

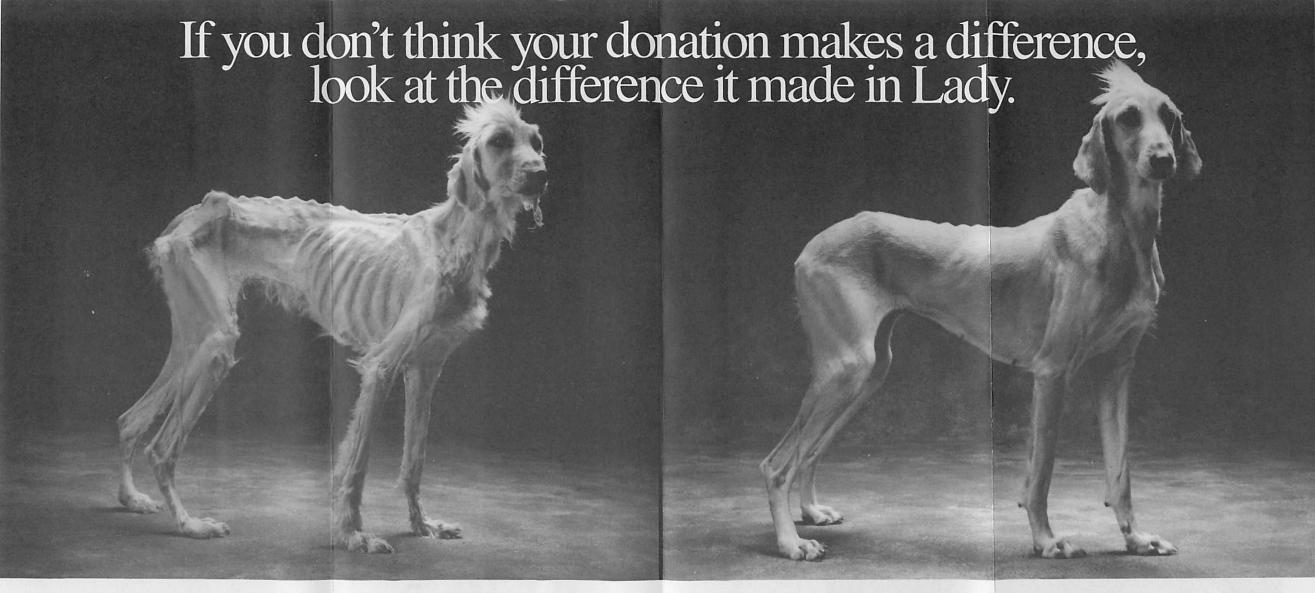
Your contribution is tax deductible.

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Lady's former owner faces two charges of animal cruelty. However, that didn't stop him from calling the Michigan Humane Society demanding that the dog be returned to him. With your financial help, we can make sure this will never happen.





What comes to mind when you think of an Afghan Hound? Probably a pampered purebred. Wellgroomed. Aristocratic.

Certainly nothing like the dog Michigan Humane Society Cruelty Investigator Phil Doyle discovered lying inside a padlocked garage last January 30th.

What Doyle found was one of the most horrifying cases of starvation and neglect the Michigan Humane Society (MHS) has ever encountered. A tan, 6-year-old, female Afghan named Lady, weighing just 19 pounds and suffering from violent seizures.

She had been locked up without any food for more than a month. Abandoned. The only water Lady

received dripped down from a hole in the roof of the garage in which she had been left to die.

Doyle carried the dog into the humane society's downtown shelter where Dr. Barbara Blaine, D.V.M. issued the following report:

"Dog is alert but weak and barely able to stand...all bones are very prominent...very little muscle mass... literally skin and bones...it is very difficult to believe that this dog is alive."

But Lady is alive today and looking better with each passing day.

Her weight has doubled in just three months' time. Her coat, which was so hopelessly matted it had to be completely shaved off, is beginning to grow back. Her seizures stopped when the malnutrition ended.

Lady is going to make it, thanks to people like you. People like you who donated generously to the MHS to keep cruelty investigators like Doyle on the street.

People like you whose contributions feed, shelter and find new homes for thousands of homeless and unwanted animals every year. And people like you who provide the kind of financial support necessary to prosecute persons who abuse the privilege of owning a pet.

In Lady's case, that involved tracking down her former owner who has since been charged with two separate counts of animal cruelty.

Incredibly, the same man recently contacted the humane society demanding that the dog be returned to him.

If stories like this one make you madder than hell, there is no better time than "Be Kind to Animals Week" (May 3-9) to express your outrage. And there is no better way to do it than mailing a check, however large or small, to the Michigan Humane Society.

We promise your donation will make a difference. For Lady, it was the difference between life and death.

Humane society falls short of motto

By RODDY RAY
Free Press Staff Writer

The Michigan Humane Society, which appeals for money on the principle that all animals deserve proper treatment, is reluctant in some cases to provide medical care for pets whose owners cannot pay, the Free Press has found.

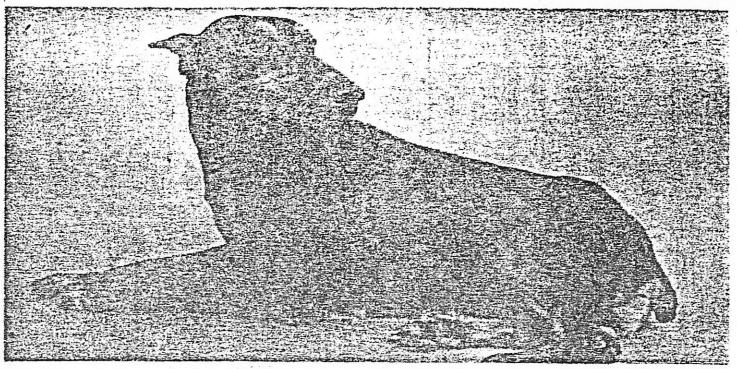
In some instances, pet owners withbut money to pay for treatment have been urged to have their sick but curable animals put to death.

"It is the belief of MHS that every animal, rich owner or poor owner, deserves proper preventative medical care and humane treatment for illness or injury," says a society brochure that solicits contributions.

Elsewhere, the agency states: "...
surviving on donations from people
like yourself who care about their
suffering, the Michigan Humane Society daily battles to protect the rights of
animals and to act as their champion."

MUCH OF what was learned by the Free Press in the last three weeks, however, contradicts that policy and supports what a veterinarian and former agency board member said in a letter in this month's Veterinary Economics magazine:

See PETS, Page 15A



· Free Press Photo by ED HAUN

This Doberman, suffering from heartworm, was taken to two Michigan Humane Society clinics by a Free Press reporter who said he didn't have any money. Clinic veterinarians suggested the dog be put to sleep rather than treated.

"Every animal, rich owner or poor owner, deserves humane treatment."

> — Michigan Humane Society brochure.

"An animal is a luxury. You don't have to have this dog."

— Michigan Humane Society veterinarian.



Free Press Photo by IRA ROSENBER

This unvaccinated puppy was taken to the society's Detroit clinic. A veterinarian initially said the dog didn't need shots, and the reporter was urged to give up the dog.

humane society

DETROIT FREE PRESS/SUNDAY, AUG. 26, 1984

PETS, from Page 1A

counter to all humane principles, and that clearly reveals their chief priority - profit," wrote Dr. William Ezell, a Detroit veterinarian.

Said Gary Tiscornia, assistant director of the society: "We are operating a fairly large organization. Any endeavor of the size and magnitude of this one is going to have problems. We would like them not to be there.

Society literature states that clinic fees charged to those who can pay are not always lower than those of private veterinarians.

It goes on to say: "If you cannot afford the competitive price, you will be asked to fill out a financial form and then the price will be reduced (with a payment plan) and the work will be performed — under no circumstances will the animal be refused help."

THE SOCIETY, which almost closed in 1979 for lack of money, has accumulated more than \$800,000 in cash and securities, according to a December 1983 audit. The society got more than \$500,000 in grants and donations last year. Society officials say an Increase In membership from 4,000 to 25,000 in the last five years explains the turnaround.

The Free Press reviewed cases of six people who took their pets to humane society clinics in Detroit and Westland. The Free Press found the cases through private veterinari-

ans. One person said her dog went four days at a humane society clinic with no splint on its broken leg; another said a yeterinarian told him his dog needed an expensive operation without which it has done fine; another said she "gave in" when she repeatedly was told to have her puppy put to sleep; another said a clinic put her dog to death without contacting her. (The cases are described on this page.)

Last week two Free Press reporters went to the society's Detroit Clinic, off Interstate-75 at Clay, representing theinselves as pet owners with no money. One had a sick dog; the other had a puppy that required vaccinations.

On the first visit, after diagnosing a dog as having heartworm, a veterinarian at the clinic chastised the reporter who brought in the sick animal, saying: "See, an animal is a luxury. You don't have to have this dog."

Conly when the reporter refused to have the dog put to death and was preparing to leave did the veterinarian offer am application for a reduced payment plan and tell the reporter to bring the dog back in two weeks.

- ASKED ABOUT that visit, Tiscornia said: "What you have seen is not our policy.... We have some problems with some of our people.... I think it's unfortunate that you pappened to pull that straw."

Later that afternoon, the reporter took the dog to another of the agency's three clinics, in Westland. The veterinarian there also painted a grim picture of what the heartworm treatment would do to the dog.

"In the treatment you use an arsenic compound," the yeterinarian said. "She'd never be the same, you know. It would probably kill her."

After the reporter said he couldn't have the dog put to , sleep, the veterinarian offered free treatment for the dog. The reporter took the dog to three private veterinarians the next day. All said treating that dog for heartworm involved some risk, but none suggested that the animal be put to death. Each quoted prices ranging from \$70 to \$200, compared with a price of more than \$300 cited by a technician at the humane society.

The Free Press has arranged for the dog's treatment

-- 1 -

"THE OTHER REPORTER went to the Detroit clinic Thursday, saying she had no money to pay for vaccinations for a puppy. The same veterinarian said: "Nothing's free, young lady.... You'll have to come back when you have the \$10 to give her a shot."

'The veterinarian left the examining room — the extent of the examination had been a look at the puppy's teeth to determine its age — stood in the hallway and announced: "You don't have to give her a shot. The dog is perfectly OK." A technician then told the reporter that veterinary care required for the puppy would cost \$100 and urged her to turn the dog over to the humane society.

The reporter stood her ground. Finally, another veterinarian came into the room and gave the puppy a shot. She gave the reporter a puppy care booklet and a box of puppy food and told the reporter to bring the dog back in two weeks for another shot.

WAS the Michigan Humane Society humane?

"I think we have a really good record, and I'm willing to stand on it," said Executive Director David Wills. He then referred other questions to Tiscornia.

Added Tiscornia: "We aren't here necessarily to accommodate the owner. We want to do what is best for the anlmal.

But some private veterinarians don't see it that way.

"It's been known for years and kind of a laugh among the profession that you just don't send indigent people to the Michigan Humane Society for pet care," said Alan Berger, a yeterinarian In Utica.

Lluda Scales said she resigned as a humane society veterinarian because she refused to practice treatment she thought was not proper. She now is in private practice in Detroit.

"The only thing I could think of is that they're trying to build the veterinary hospitals and not places for the indigent," she said.

THE AGENCY, one of 179 non-profit humane societies in Michigan, almost went broke and closed five years ago. According to a December 1983 audit by the Touche Ross & Co. accounting firm, the society had an operating loss of

nearly \$70,000 last year.

But the same audit showed that the society had accumulated more than \$800,000 in cash and securities, which were earning income in an investment fund.

Tiscornia said money earned from the fund is divided among several programs, including animal cruelty investigation, education, wildlife protection, and spaying and

neutering programs.

"We, aren't here to make a profit," Tiscornia said. "We're here for the best interests of the animal. But we have to remain in existence to do that.... There are other humane societies in this country that are certainly far better endowed than we. In the broad picture of things, that is not a great deal of modey to be able to keep this organization going for any period of time.'

Free Press Staff Writer Andrea Ford contributed to this report.

before owner can claim it

Last November, Jamle, a German shepherd puppy, got out of the yard when someone left the gate open. She belonged to Georgette Holst, who lives near interstate-96 in Detroit.

A motorist later saw the dog injured along the . freeway. He stopped, picked it up and took it to the 16th Precinct police station. The police called the humane society, which sent an ambulance to pick the dog up.

Holst came home from work and found Jamie gone. She searched the neighborhood and called police.

"They said, 'Yes, she was here,' " Holst said. "They told me not to worry, the humane society had picked up the dog."

She called the humane society. They had put the dog to death.

"I went down to get the body," Holst said. "They gave me his collar with his name tag still on it."

She took the dog to O.L. Smith, a private veterinarian in Rochester, who performed an autopsy.

"Basically, there was a fracture in the pelvis and a fracture in the tibia and fibula," Smith said. "There was a little evidence of bruising but basically everything inside looked pretty good. It could have been treated."

Holst still has the name tag that was returned to her when she picked up the dog's body from the humane society. It has Holst's name and phone number on it.

Holst said she has sued the humane society for \$15,000. Tiscornia would not comment on the case because of the litigation.



Jamie: Georgette Holst of Detroit is suing the Humane Society for \$15,000 over the puppy's death. She charges the society put Jamie to death without calling her, and that the puppy's injuries were treatable.

Dog owner says veterinarian at clinic cited 'negative aspects' of treatment

"It was a good dog," Linda Moore of Detroit said,

Last January, Moore took Joey, a German shepherd-collie mix she had for about a month, to the Michigan Humane Society Detroit clinic. A car had hit Joey and left him with a broken ieq.

"No medication was given,"
Moore said, "and no X-rays were
taken. The first thing the doctor said
to me was, if this dog had been on a
leash this never would have
happened."

Moore said the doctor told her Joey's leg was "fractured very badly," that repairing it would cost from \$300 to \$500, and that the dog would probably die anyway.

"He said, "I've seen lots of cases like this, and it probably isn't worth your money," Moore said.

Moore said she told the veterinarian she could afford \$300 but "he was talking so fast, the conversation got up to around \$500." She asked the veterinarian if there was a less expensive clinic.

"He said, 'No,... We are the cheapest in town for this kind of operation. And other vets would want \$400 or \$500 up front.' He never

explained to me what kind of operation he was referring to or gave me any cheaper alternatives, nor did he administer any medication to eliminate the dog's pain.

"He literally coerced me into signing the slip to have the dog put to sleep. He cited all the negative aspects of having surgery on the dog, but mostly he made me feel belittled because I could not afford such an expensive surgery."

Moore, who sald a payment plan "was not even mentioned," left her dog at the clinic to be put to death. She later called private veterinarians, she sald, and was told the cost for repairing a dog's leg ranged from \$75 to \$200.

Tiscornia said records show Moore was told an X-ray would be needed to determine "a more definitive estimate."

"At that point... she opted for euthanasia, because of the length of time she'd owned the dog and the expenses involved," he said.

Said Moore: "They said, Well, you haven't really had the dog that long. Surely you aren't that attached." I thought it was pretty cold. It was a good dog."

'Immediately he just said the dog should be put to sleep'

refin July, 1983, Linda Scales, a private veterinarian in Detroit, examined Conan, a 12-week-old Doberman pinscher that had diarrhea, was lethargic, and refused to eat or drink.

Scales, a former Michigan Humane Society veterinarian, diagnosed the puppy as having parvo virus, which dehydrates an animal, attacks its bone marrow and lowers its white blood cell count, weakening resistance to infection.

Scales, whose only parvo isolation cage was occupied, placed the dog on an intravenous solution, and arranged for the MHS Detroit clinic to examine the dog.

soundoff ...

is on Page 124

The dog's owner, who asked that her name not be used, said sne took the dog to the MHS Detroit clinic. She saw a different veterinarian than the one Scales had spoken to, one of the factors she believes led to Conan's death.

"Immediately he just said the dog should be put to sleep," said the owner. "He hadn't even examined it...."

The owner said she left the room and found the veterinarian who Scales had talked with on the phone.

"I asked if he had conversed with Dr. Scales," she said. "He said yes, but he didn't know I was coming."

The owner said she returned to the examining room to hear the first veterinarian "saying repetitiously this dog should be put to sleep. He told the prices involved if I kept the dog overnight.

side. He didn't tell me what the possibilities for treating the dog were."

Conan's owner said she gave permission to put the dog to death.

Tiscornia said records indicate the dog's temperature was 104.6, it was dehydrated and had a low white cell count. He called parvo "an extremely debilitating and very serious" disease.

Scales said the dog's temperature was 101.8 — normal — when she took it, but added that it is conceivable that it could have risen.

"in my opinion, I saw the dog and It was not desperately ill," she said. "The chances of it pulling through may have been 50-50, but I've got beautiful adult dogs who have been pulled through paryo."

Said the owner: "I just felt like the odds were against me at that given instant." m not medically inclined to

For the lack of \$75, dog mends on its own

One Saturday evening last March, Michael Gipson, 25, of Inkster was walking with his dog, Smokie, near his home. Smokie ran into the street and was hit by a car. The car kept going; the dog lay still.

He took Smokie, a Bouvier-sheepdog mix, to the Michigan Humane Society clinic in Westland and told the veterinarian he did not have the money to pay for the dog's treatment.

Gipson said the veterinarian "told me that he X-rayed Smokie and he had seven broken ribs and his abdominal organs were pushed up into his chest." The veterinarian also said the dog was bleeding internally, he said.

Gipson said he was told the dog needed an operation, and that the minimum cost would be \$200, \$75 of which Gipson was told he must pay up front.

Tiscornia said Gipson was given a reduced-fee form. "What we were looking for was some indication that the owner valued the dog," Tiscornia said, "and it was indicated to him that financial arrangements could be made."

Gipson returned to the clinic two days later — without the money.



Michael Gipson and Smokie

"When I got there" the veterinarian "said the bill would be \$300 and, if I paid the \$75, he could work out a payment plan for the rest. He said the reason he had to have the \$75 was because a lot of time people don't pay the bill after he does the surgery."

Although the veterinarian said Smokie would die without the operation, the dog now is "just like nothing ever happened," Gipson said.

'Street cat' has brush with death—at clinic

"I've got three animals and I love animals," said Janice Hakala of Detroit. "I've got two dogs I treat like babies. I've got big pictures of all three animals in my living room."

Hakala found a kitten six years ago. She took him home and named him Ferdinand. "He was a street cat," she said.

In June 1983, Ferdinand came home limping badly one night. She took Ferdinand to a private veterinarian, who told her the cat's leg was broken and would be expensive to fix. She then took Ferdinand to the humane society clinic in Detroit and told them she could not afford expensive surgery.

"They X-rayed the leg and said there was no way they could fix it," Hakala said. "They said they could amputate the leg or I could have it put to sleep.

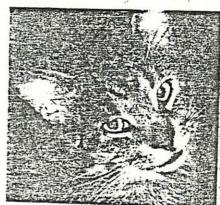
"I told them I didn't want to do either one. They didn't want to give the cat back. They gave me a lecture on how cruel I was being by not putting the cat to sleep. I said, 'No, I'm not putting him to sleep.'"

Tiscornia said records showed that the veterinarian recommended a referral to an orthopedic specialist and sent the cat home with a sedative.

Hakala said what is in the agency's records doesn't paint an accurate picture of what

went on. She said the veterinarian offered the sedative "only after I begged him for something to take my cat out of the pain so I could take him to the doctor. And they wouldn't hand me the cat."

Hakala took Ferdinand back to the private veterinarian, who fixed the cat's leg. The cat is doing fine now.



Ferdinand: The cat's owner says the society offered only to amputate a broken leg or put the cat to sleep.

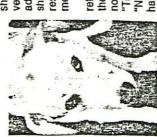
Eroken leg goes unfreated intil publy finds an owner onedy in April, 1983, Helen Moore Grantt of Westland

One day in April, 1983, Helen Moore Grantt of Westland saw a mixed-breed puppy hit by a car on Michigan Avenue in inkster. She picked it up, took it to a private veterinarian for temporary treatment and then took it to the Michigan Humane Society clinic in Westland.

One of the dod's leas was broken in three or four places.

She was told at the MHS clinic that the puppy wou kept for four days and then put to death if its owner dishard for the show up. Grantt told the

responsible for paying its medical bills.
Four days later, Grantt returned with her daughter the clinic. The puppy's leg h not been treated, Grantt sal "They held the dog up," she si "No splint, no nothing. The that had been four days like that. Throw a fit."



Grantt said she was charged \$328.
The dog was given fluids and antibiotics durin reday holding period," said Gary Tiscornia, assistor of the humane society. "It was as comfort sible. We kept it for the statutory period of tin an we do not have ownership of the animal, we fact the owner to authorize treatment. We wen to contact the owner."

able to contact the owner."
Sald Grantt: "They sald they don't fix an they might not be picked up by the owners. Thumane, is It?"

Animal house

By ROSE MARY REIZ ANP Staff Writer

In what many interpreted as a good omen, the sun broke out of the clouds to shine on animal welfare leaders and local celebrities who gathered this month for the dedication of a new Michigan Humane Society animal hospital in Westland.

"This charitable facility stands as a beacon for those who have become discouraged," Dr. John Hoyt, president of the Humane Society of the United States, said during a keynote address.

"The construction of this hospital signifies that the animal welfare movement has indeed come of age, and that we are capable of competing with the brightest and the best."

The completed hospital, lo-MHS shelter at 37255 Marquette, represents the first of a twophase project that will include a 23,000-square-foot center.

Scheduled for completion next year, the \$1.9 million state



of the arts shelter and veterinary hospital will double MHS operations in Western Wayne County.

The MHS now operates three full-service shelters which receive owner-surrendered animals, offer adoption and animal rescue services and operate veterinary medical clinics.

The local Society has also acquired a reputation of influential leadership in the animal rights movement. The MHS investigated 5,000 cases of animal cruelty last year and has published what many consider. one of the most definitive handbooks on anti-cruelty laws in existence.

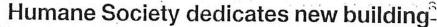
"We are today witnessing the .. emergence of a new philosophy regarding animal rights,' Hoyt said. "This charitable hospital is a microcosm of what cated at the site of the present is taking place in the larger sphere in animal rights across the country.

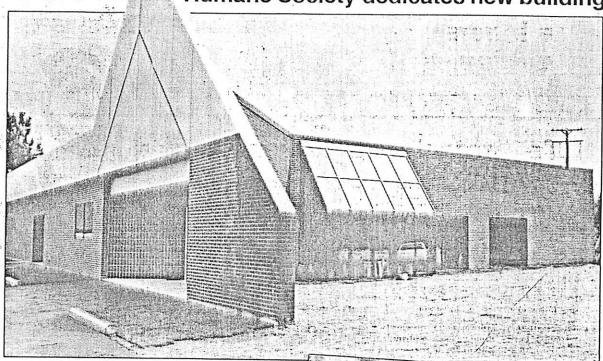
"Most veterinarians are dedicated to serving the needs and desires of animal owners, rather than the animal themselves," the president added. "But this charitable hospital will dedicate itself to eradicating animal suffering regardless of an owner's social or economic status."-

The hospital will accept patients beginning next month.

Funding for the project comes from trust funds, fund raising efforts and contributions from the non-profit society's more than 23,000 members and donors.

Current services at the Westland shelter will continue during construciton of the new facility. The present center, built in 1971, will be leveled and paved for a parking lot once the new center is complete.







A place for healing

Dr. John Hoyt (far left) president of the Humane Society of the United States, delivers a keynote address during the dedication of the newly completed Michigan Humane Society animal hospital (above) in Westland. Left, MHS Executive Director David Wills also speaks and visits (right) with celebrity supporters Marilyn Turner and John Kelly.

ANP photos by Guy Warren



CENTRAL SHELTER BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SHERRY SILK, OPERATIONS MANAGER
7401 CHRYSLER DRIVE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48211
(313)872-3400

The Central Shelter, MHS's main headquarters is situated in downtown Detroit. The shelter was built in the late 1890's. Over one hundred years old, the building is in poor repair and repairs are needed continually for the eroding physical structure and appliances. Despite its antiquation, the shelter does a booming business and handles almost 25,000 animals each year. Central is one of the few remaining inner city humane society-run animal shelters left in the United States.

In 1986, the facility handled a total of 22,503 animals. Of those 4,562 were stray dogs, 6,989 owned dogs, 3,847 stray cats, 6,322 owned cats, and 782 wildlife or miscellaneous animals or miscellaneous animals. Approximately 2,000 animals are adopted yearly. Wildlife that cannot be immediately released, or is not severely injured requiring immediately euthanasia, is transfered to the North shelter through an MHS-run courier.

A tour of the Central Shelter would start at the dispatch office. The switchboard averages 350-400 phone calls per day. Along with answering general information calls and transferring calls to the proper department, the dispatcher operates a twoway radio which keeps her in constant contact with our five rescue vehicles. The rescue program runs from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., seven days a week, including all holidays. Anyone seeing injured or sick animals, of any kind, can call the rescue number and we will respond immediately. Due to major philosophical differences with Detroit Animal Control (DAC) , we will also pick up an "healthy" stray animals that are The DAC sells the majority of its animals to research dealers. In 1986 we rescued 4,542 animals through our rescue program. During the first eight months of 1987, we have rescued 3,397 (an increase of 874 over 1986 at this time). Present funding does not allow us to operate a 24-hour rescue service, although this is given a high priority in future program growth.

The public entry leads directly in the front lobby. All intakes and adoption paperwork take place in the lobby. Each potential adopter goes through an adoption consultation that reviews a two-page questionnaire. During the first eight months of 1987, approximately 30% of the people who wished to adopt were refused because they did not want a pet for companionship or could not adequately care for a pet. Adoption refusal rates have been as high as 50% in past years. Coming out of the main lobby into the shelter the first area is the public adoption areas.

Puppy, Cat, and Kitten Area

The puppy, cat and kitten area houses approximately 25-30 puppies and 35-40 cats and kittens. This area has been newly renovated with moveable stainless steel bank cages replacing antiquated cement cages. The ceiling was also replaced and much improved lighting installed. All adoptable animals have a cage card for the public designed to introduce the animal potential adopters.

Adoption Cubicles

Private stalls opposite the first run of adoption kennels allow adoption counselors to conduct confidential adoption consultations. Adoption counselors spend a considerable amount of their time providing health and basic pet care information for owners.

Adoption Kennels

The adult dog adoption kennels house approximately 30 dogs for adoption. There are more than 30 runs, however we try to house the animals in every other cage so they do not share drains and cannot touch noses, so the risk of disease is minimized. Each of these animals has been seen by one of our evaluators. The adoption kennels have outside runs under a covered roof. They have passed a medical and temperament examination and have had their initial vaccinations. They are also checked for worms, heartworm, fleas, ear mites, etc. Treatments are administered on a daily basis as necessary. Many adopted animals are sent home with medications allowing the new owner to continue treatment at no charge. Due to the unique integration of our veterinary service with our shelter programs, MHS animals are recipients of a more thorough medical scrutiny and treatments (if necessary) than most other humane programs. Any animal over six months is sterilized before it leaves the shelter. (Animals under six months of age are adopted with a stringent sterilization contract.) On the day of adoption, the food and water are pulled and the animal is sterilized at the clinic the following day. The animal then spends the night in the clinic and the new owner picks up their new pet the following day.

Stray animals and owner-surrendered animals prior to evaluation are housed in a series of observation wards. Stray animals without identification are held for four working days. After the four-day holding period, they are evaluated for health, temperament, and availability of cage space and are either put up for adoption or euthanized. We receive the large majority of our strays from the public, who feel that the animals have a better chance at MHS than animals control, and through our rescue program.

PRIVATE STAFF AREAS

Observation Wards

OBl	Houses stray cats and kittens
OB2	Houses owner-surrendered cats/kittens and puppies
	(and overflow from OB1)
OB3	Houses owner-surrendered dogs and stray puppies
OB 4	Houses injured strays
OB5	Houses injured strays and wildlife

Stray Kennels

The adult stray dog kennels houses approximately 30 dogs. Adult dogs are held in the stray area for the entire legal holding period. Strays that are then placed up for adoption are moved to the adoption kennels. The public is not admitted to the stray kennels without a kennel attendant. Owners must provide adequate proof of ownership before the animal is returned.

Evaluation

Evaluation is a small area opposite OB2 where all the basic evaluation and medical treatment is attended to. The veterinary staff tour the shelter daily with the evaluators to attend to special problems. Additionally, any injured or sick animal is written up on a treatment sheet for special veterinary attention. Emergency animals are seen immediately. Severely injured animals arriving on a rescue truck can be seen on the truck if necessary. Animals are housed in evaluation only temporarily during the evaluation process.

Euthanasia

The euthanasia room is off the garage area. This is helpful when a rescue driver or cruelty investigator pulls into the garage and has an extremely injured animal. A veterinarian can be paged to the garage to determine the disposition. If the animal is severely injured the enthanasia technician can euthanize the animal directly on the truck to minimize pain (i.e. dogs with broken backs). All euthanasia is done by injection of sodium pentobarbital. Intravenous injection is the preferred method of euthanasia, although some intraperitoneal injections are used in very young animals and some wildlife. The MHS does not utilize intra-cardiac injections on any conscious animals.

The Central Shelter houses the main administrative offices (upstairs), the clinic, and the Cruelty Investigation Division (CID) in addition to the animal shelter.

The CID consists of an operations manager, staff attorney, office manager and four full-time investigators. Any legal matters are handled by the MHS General Counsel. Investigators are usually in the office for one hour in the morning to do paperwork, phone calls, and map out their day. They are then on-the-road investigating cruelty complaints for the balance of the day. Each investigator has his own territory and is equipped with a two-way radio in their vehicle and a hand-held radio for field work. Due to the dangerous climate of Detroit, the hand-held radios are essential if investigators need immediate assistance. They are also essential for prompt response to emergency investigations (i.e. dogfight in progress).

In 1986, 4,298 cruelty complaints were investigated including: 2,380 cases of failure to provide food, water, shelter, or all three; 749 abandonments; 538 cases of medical inattention; 277 cases of beating and torture; 68 killings; 67 beatings/killings; and 40 cases of dogfighting. The emphasis of the Cruelty Investigation Division is to provide immediate relief for the animal(s). Secondarily, emphasis is placed on educating the offender and seeing if the situation can be rectified. And, finally prosecution is utilized, if necessary. Over 60 cases resulted in prosecutions in 1986.

The clinic is vital to the shelter, rescue, and cruelty operations. The veterinarians oversee the evaluators who check the animals for adoption and maintain kennel health standards. All stray, injured animals brought in by rescue are checked by a veterinarian and proper treatments administered. Staff veterinarians are often called to testify in cruelty cases and they oversee cruelty evaluations and perform necropsies, as needed.

The Central Shelter is severely overcrowded and is functioning way over capacity. A site search is ongoing for future relocation and reconstruction in the midst of Detroit's cultural center.



- Is the largest and oldest sheltered animal rights organization in Michigan.
- Has an operating budget of 2 million plus dollars annually.
- Shelters and houses approximately 40,000 dogs, cats and wildlife yearly.
- Places 5,000 dogs and cats in new homes annually.
- Prosecutes cruelty cases, maintaining a successful prosecution percentage of over 99% during the last 3 years.
- Successfully treats and rehabilitates hundreds of wild animals in our wildlife recovery program annually.
- Provides services for thousands of pet owners in our veterinary hospitals annually.
- Performs over 6,000 spay and neuters annually.
- Rescues over 5,000 animals hit by cars, or animals in other extreme distress situations through our Rosey Rescue League annually.
- Published the only definitive work on cruelty laws across the United States.
- Has received requests and has given instructional and advisory aid to humane organizations from Hawaii to Florida.

DID YOU KNOW
THAT THE
MICHIGAN
HUMANE
SOCIETY:

SHELTER LOCATIONS:

MHS CENTRAL 7401 Chrysler Drive Detroit, MI 48211 872-3400

MHS OAKLAND COUNTY DIVISION 3600 Auburn Road Auburn Heights, MI 48057 852-7420

MHS WEST 37255 Marquette Westland, MI 48185 721-7300

CENTRAL SHELTER: A S



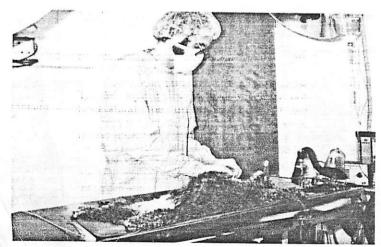
Central Shelter's Manager, Sherry Silk with Dave Perry, Assistant Manager.



Margaret Rector with her 20 lb. baby "Tony". Margaret is a Euthanasia Technician at Central. Margaret has been instrumental in training people from around the state to perform humane euthanasia.



Beth Burch, Animal Evaluator, examines a new arrival.



Dr. Wojciechowski prepares a dog for surgery.

The owners don't want the red female Doberman anymore — they don't have time to deal with her. She is so malnourished, she can hardly stand. Two open sores on her legs reflect much time spent on a bed of concrete, while hair loss around her neck tells of a collar too tight and a life at the end of a chain. Her brown eyes are glued to her owners as they sign the give up form.

The ambulance doors open and a large mixed shepherd is seen lying on his side shaking spasmodically in the advanced stages of distemper. He has been lying in a backyard for two days unable to walk. Someone finally called our rescue number to report a sick dog.

A cruelty agent is carrying a small cat into the clinic. The cat meows frantically as his two hind legs dangle uselessly. Two large puncture wounds mark his abdomen and side. Some neighborhood children were seen teasing a pitbull with the kitten; holding him by the hind legs and swinging him above the frenzied dog's jaws.

Welcome to The Michigan Humane Society's Central Shelter. You have just been greeted with a mere glimpse of the animals who daily arrive at our Central Shelter/Clinic in downtown Detroit. These stories represent an agonizingly accurate picture of everday life here.

As each day progresses, the individual cases of misery and suffering increase. You can tell the time of day by the looks on the employees' faces. No clock is needed. In the morning before we open there is laughter as cleaning and feeding routines are performed. Within one hour after the doors open, the laughter is gone. Usually between 10:00-12:00 a.m. comes the anger toward the people who would let these horrors happen, or worse yet, perpetrate these horrors upon their defenseless companion pets. After lunch, comes the frustration and rage directed at a system structured so that there seems to be no answers or solutions. So far today, fifty animals have been turned in to our already crowded shelter, and one has been adopted — all of them scared, but still blindly loyal to those who just left them. Many look in puzzlement as their owners walk out of the door. Dedicated staffers feel frustration and anger toward those who don't care, and even more anger toward those who ignorantly or callously misjudge The Michigan Humane Society and do not understand the magnitude of what we contend with daily. By the late afternoon, there comes cynicism coupled with pessimism that reflects the lack of care by too many human animals on the outside and the lack of hope for the non-human animals on the inside.

The people who work for The Michigan Humane Society do so because they care about animals. In the MHS Central Shelter's shock trauma, battlefield-triage

TRUGGLE TO SURVIVE

atmosphere, if you allow yourself to think or feel too much or too deeply, you can't survive. For anyone who cares, it can become too much misery to face.

Yet, we need those very people at Central. For if they don't care, who will? Indeed, we need the Central Shelter itself, for it is here that the needs of the animals are the greatest.

More than twenty-two thousand animals ended up at our Central Shelter last year. Five thousand sick and injured animals were brought in by our Rosey Rescue League, which is the only metro area rescue service operating seven days a week, 365 days a year. This service, however, is only available until 9:00 p.m. because there aren't enough funds to operate on a 24-hour basis. Yet, the need to expand is great; animal suffering does not stop at 9:00 p.m.

It is for those twenty-two thousand animals that the rescue driver will go into the most dangerous neighborhoods to retrieve an injured dog, it is for those twenty-two thousand that the young girl who works at the front counter will suffer the daily verbal abuse from a seemingly uncaring public. Indeed, our entire staff, from our rescue drivers, to our kennel attendants, to our cruelty agents, to our doctors ... all working long, emotional hours ... will take societal abuse and criticism in silence, for one reason and one reason alone — BECAUSE THEY CARE!

This is where we want to be. The Central Shelter is one of the last inner city refuges in a major city in the vast United States. It represents a dying breed. The departure of humane societies from other cities has left a tremendous void; - this city, its residents, human and animal, deserve better. While we understand their reasons for leaving: rising crime rates, vandalism, and rising costs, we cannot overlook the desperate needs of the inner city animals. We hope that the day never comes when we are forced to turn our backs on them and walk away. Our animal welfare programs cost a great deal. Injured animals picked up by our rescue drivers can't give a donation to help cover the driver's wages, gas used, or veterinary medical treatment provided. The animals in need here don't come in accompanied by a generous donation, like many in the suburbs do. The private contributions that enable us to be here are getting harder and harder to come by with each passing month. Central represents the MHS's belief in the City of Detroit. Unfortunately, we have no product to sell, only a service to provide; a service of taring and a professional commitment to battle against the tide of hopelessness for hese animals and bring relief from suffering nd hope for future city pets. Our ommitment is strong, but we need financial ommitments from others. If you know of a siness, an individual, a foundation, anyone to cares about the plight of the animals of

Detroit, please contact them and encourage them to help. Or contact us and let us approach them for funding. The MHS is making a difference in this city. A difference between a city with a cold, uncaring heart, or a compassionate caring city of rebirth and renewed hope.



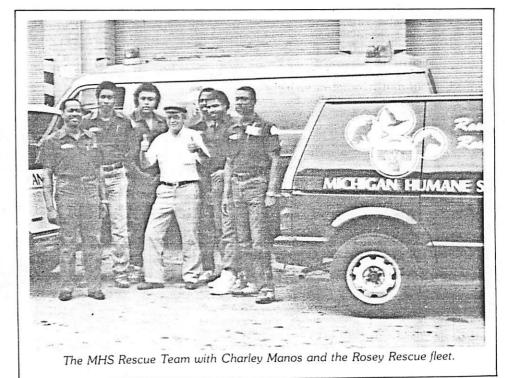
Central's switchboard flashes constantly with rescue, clinic, cruelty, adoption, and general information calls. The operator also keeps in touch with the drivers over 2-way radios



New Friends!



Penny Josephs, Cruelty Office Manager, writing up complaints of cruelty to animals.



WILD PETS — THE PROBLEM INTENSIFIES

The recent publicity surrounding the hypothetical activities of a black panther roaming the Milford, Michigan countryside has instituted a new round of discussion regarding ownership of wild and exotic pets. Whether or not a black panther is roaming the Milford countryside is open to speculation. What is undeniable, however, is that the exotic pet trade in Michigan and around the U.S. is flourishing, and that both the animals and the public find themselves innocent victims of this trade.

The MHS has repeatedly spoken out against allowing wild animals (domestically raised or not) to be kept as pets by private citizens.

After a pet wolf killed a young child in 1982 in Wayne County, we tried unsuccessfully to find a state legislator who would pass a bill to prohibit this practice.

Currently, State Senator Richard Fessler has indicated his strong interest in drafting a bill to deal with this problem. The MHS has sent him some initial information and has offered him our complete assistance and support. We have also been in contact with various government agencies and others with experience in the problems of private ownership of wild and exotic pets in order to enlist their direct involvement and help in the drafting and passage of state legislation.

The problem is a simple one: wild animals do not make good pets. They are unpredictable, hard to handle, and do not belong in close proximity with people. Through loopholes in federal laws, animals that are wild by nature, but born of captive parents, are not protected from being marketed in the pet industry or by individuals. By the time a child, domestic animal, or adult is injured or has problems with such an animal, it's too late to do anything. The person either suffers extensive injuries or dies, and the wild animal forfeits its life. Unfortunately, the protection of the animal and the public does not seem to have the priority that the "profits" from the wild animal trade have.

This practice also places the MHS in a very difficult position for other reasons. Many of these pets are declawed, defanged, or altered in other ways to protect their human owner. When these animals become a nuisance or threat, we are called with pleas like, "Help us!", "Can't you find them a good home?", or "Can't you get them back into the wild?". Sadly, these animals are now incapable of surviving either in the wild or coexisting with people. Therefore, the MHS (a group dedicated to protecting animals) must once again destroy many of these creatures because it is the only humane alternative. The Society finds this so-called solution morally repugnant.

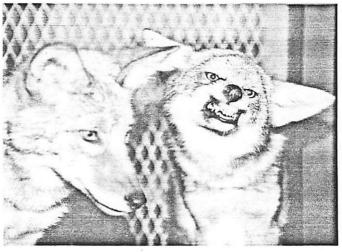
The only way to effectively deal with this problem is for Michigan to adopt a progressive law that prohibits the private ownership of wild and exotic pets. Once enacted, this legislation could become a





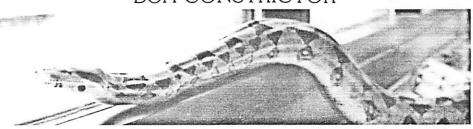


RED FOX TIMBER



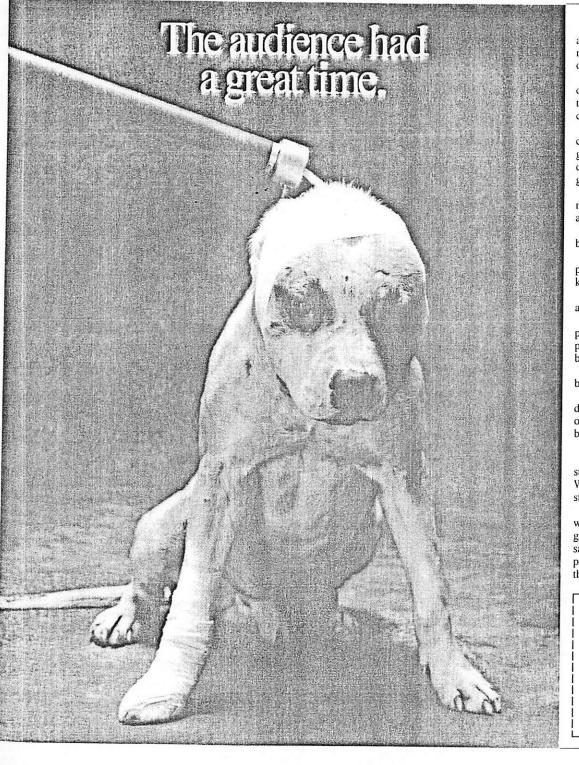
COYOTE PUPS





model for other states. Until then, animals and innocent people will suffer as always; a constant reminder of man's priorities — profits over morality.

Pictured here are a few of the "victims" of Michigan's wild pet trade who are now or have been cared for by the MHS. (Over the years the MHS has helped many wild and exotic animals including: lions; cougars; macaques and other primates; boa constrictors; a caiman [South American member of the crocodile family]; coyotes; foxes; wolves; ferrets; coati mundis [South American racoons]; indigenous racoons; and skunks.)



Two pit bulls square off in a crowded room of an abandoned home. The dogs literally try to rip their opponent's throat out. Inevitably, one of the dogs is incapacitated or killed. And the audience is delighted.

The pit bull pictured was rounded up from just such a dog fight on Detroit's northwest side. The people conducting the fight got away. But this dog and five others were carefully captured using a 6-foot control stick like the one shown.

This pit bull's ears, like those of many others, were crudely cut off by his master to prevent opponents from grabbing hold of him during fights. The fresh wounds and deep scars all over this dog's body are graphic evidence of the growing popularity of dog fighting in Michigan.

In the last 20 years, fans of the so-called sport have managed to genetically manipulate a strain of pit bull so aggressive it often attacks without provocation.

Not all pit bulls carry this trait. But the ones specifically bred for fighting do.

 Pit bulls like this one are conditioned to kill-using live puppies and kittens in bags as bait. They are rewarded for killing.

Worse, pit bull attacks aren't limited to other dogs but are now increasing among people.

These attacks have prompted one state senator to propose legislation that would make it a misdemeanor to own a pit bull. Others have called for complete extermination of the breed.

Unfortunately, it's not that simple. Eliminating the pit bull won't eliminate the problem.

The same people who ignore the present felony against dog fighting would certainly ignore a misdemeanor for owning an outlawed breed. But even if the pit bull were banished, another dog would be used for this blood sport.

The real blame rests on two legs, not four.

The Michigan Humane Society needs your support for stricter enforcement of licensing, leash and vicious dog laws. We need to crack down on suspected dog fighting and strengthen fines under existing laws.

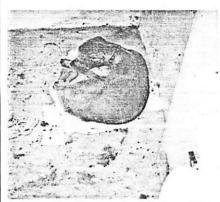
Your contributions to the MHS will help us protect people from dangerous animals like this one. That same contribution will help us protect pit bulls from the people who make them that way.



Name				
Address				
City		State	Zip	
\$10	\$25	\$50	\$100	Othe
The Michigan I by private contri you for caring.	lumane Soci butions. All	ety is a non- contribution	profit organizat s are tax deduc	tion funded tible. Thanl
			Humane Socie	7.00

A DOG NAMED JAKE: A STORY OF CRUELTY AND COMPASSION

BY PATRICIA CURTIS



Jake, as the Humane Society found him.

mily was at a party when she saw the dog. Some of the guests, laughing and joking, showed her the animal lying in the basement. All night she lay awake thinking about him, and when morning came, she picked up the telephone. "I want to report a case of cruelty," said Emily to Cynthia Fields of the Michigan Humane Society in Detroit. Within an hour, a van pulled up in front of the address. Three staff members got out: Roy Warner, the cruelty investigator; Dr.

Wills, executive director.

At first the people in the house denied knowing about a dog, but finally one man said, yes, there was one in the basement—but its owner wasn't home. Nevertheless, they let the three men in.

William Nemeth, veterinarian; and David

"The basement was dim and dirty," Wills relates. "We noticed a bathroom, and looked in. I saw blood on the walls and floor, and a large pair of bloody shears in the sink. Suddenly a little head rose in the gloom and a pair of eyes looked up at us. A thin, half-grown, boxer-type dog was lying on the floor. His ears had been cut off."

"The dog was cowering, trembling with pain," Dr. Nemeth remembers. "He had lost a lot of blood and was in shock."

"He had every reason to try to attack us," Wills continues, "but when we petted him, he licked our hands and whimpered. We rushed him to our clinic."

Dr. Nemeth anesthetized the dog and cleaned and sutured his ears. "The scars healed in two weeks," the veterinarian says. "But complete recovery took months because the dog was so emaciated and loaded with parasites."

"We named him Jake," says Wills. "What struck us immediately was his sweet disposition. The owner tried to get him back. He denied knowing that he'd hurt his dog, couldn't see anything wrong with cutting his ears off—said he only wanted to make him look 'mean,' like a fighting dog. Incredible! In such cases, our objectives are to: Get the animal out of the situation, back on its feet, and permanently removed from the person who harmed it."

Roy Warner filed a detailed complaint with the Detroit Police Department. Then, under the direction of Sienna LaRene, the attorney who heads the Michigan Humane Society Investigations Department, a case

was brought against Jake's owner.

He was stunned at being taken to court. He had assumed the dog was his property to do with whatever he liked. But the judge fined him the maximum the law allowed, \$200, and sentenced him to two year's probation—with no pets.

The Humane Society published Jake's story in its newsletter, and offers to adopt him poured in. One call was from David

and Veronica Bathurst, who live in a Detroit suburb. "I had the most compelling premonition that we were meant to take this dog," says Veronica. "My husband said that if God intended us to have him, we would. Sure enough, a few days later, a woman called from the Humane Society, and Jake became ours."

When Jake arrived at the Bathursts', he became hysterical with joy. He wouldn't let the family out of his sight, and for several weeks he was so excited he was difficult to housetrain. But the Bathursts' patience prevailed. "He's still a big, loving, playful baby," Veronica says affectionately.

Jake's troubles are over, but what of the millions of animals who aren't so lucky? Most people wouldn't have known where to get help, or they wouldn't have wanted to get involved. Emily's action illustrates what a compassionate citizen can do.

"The fate of abused animals depends on the people of a community, as well as on the efforts of their law-enforcement officers," says Sienna LaRene. Active concern for the plight of those who can't defend themselves does make a difference.



call was from David Jake at home today with his new family, the Bathursts.

WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Both active cruelty, such as beating, shooting or torturing, and passive cruelty—failing to provide proper shelter, food or medical care—are crimes in every state, and anyone committing them can be stopped.

1. Report what you believe to be cruelty to the police. If cruelty investigation is not their job, they will tell you whom to call—the animal control department, humane society, SPCA or other animal protection group.

2. Give accurate, specific information. The cruelty investigators will need every possible detail. (Your identity will be kept confidential on request.)

3. Follow up. If the appropriate agency fails to act, report this to your district attorney's office. Be pleasant but firm; ask that action be taken.

4. Inform the news desks of your local newspapers and TV stations if the lawenforcement agency drags its feet. Often publicity inspires the authorities to act

For information, contact Sienna La-Rene, General Counsel, Michigan Humane Society, 740l Chrysler, Detroit, MI 4821l; (313) 872-3400.

Michigan's dove hunters should be able to stay home

MONGO, Ind. — It's a shame, really. You can't avoid comparing the Indiana Department of Natural Resources' early dove hunting program here on the Pigeon River Fish & Wildlife Area — and the demand and the money it has generated — with a multitude of state game areas lying idle across southern Michigan this September.

Indiana has similar dove hunting programs all across the state.

You sit at your assigned stake in the sunflower fields and watch squadrons of doves dart and wheel on the incoming winds. The wingshooting is difficult, as you expect it to be. Chances are almost endless on good days, though, and you are grateful for such fun at a time of year when little else is going on for the outdoorsman.



Tom

Yet — thanks to the Michigan Humane Society and the Michigan Audubon Society, which wear the badge of success proudly — Michigan's game areas remain empty each September, and Michigan

sportsmen drive two or three hours south to another state, taking with them tourism income that could have been spent in Michigan. Our eight-man party, for instance, arrived without the proper shotgun shells and emptied a local sporting goods store's shelves of all the No. 8 20- and 12-gauge shells we could find. One retailer made a tidy profit because his state officials were ruled by common sense rather than emotionalism.

Area officials said that almost 60 percent of the shooters here on opening day were from out of state. Ninety-five percent of those came from Michigan.

I HAVE SPENT 20 years campaigning for dove seasons in Michigan, recounting all the biological arguments until they've become boring. The facts don't change. Mourning toves are America's No. 1 game bird. Very few states fail to ave dove seasons, and, as migratory birds, doves' welfare looked after carefully by state and federal wildlife theres.

Hunting won't wipe out the dove population. Nor will it use an increase in vandalism, as some fear, if proper ulations prevent such actions as shooting at birds on

n short, dove hunting has everything to recommend it nothing to detract from it — unless you are an antier to whom biological reason means nothing. Logic is ys in short supply (or non-existent) among antiers.

Last year's dove season fiasco was probably predictable. Several years earlier, the Michigan Legislature, in an omnibus wildlife bill, added the technical name of the dove and pigeon family to the game bird list. That fact may have slipped by some legislators, but it was clearly known to the chairmen and members of the various committees dealing with the bill.

The new definition lay there unused for years until the Michigan United Conservation Clubs asked the state Natural Resources Commission to set a dove season. Several emotional hearings later, the commission agreed — but then was hauled into court by the Michigan Humane Society (an affiliate of the Humane Society of the United States, the country's largest anti-hunting lobby). A sympathetic judge decided that legislators didn't know what they were doing when they voted to add the dove family name to the game bird list.

How judges are sure of legislative intent — and why that judgment so often corresponds to their own personal views — has always mystified me.

Anyway, no dove season. Not without a protracted court fight. So the DNR gave up.

Back to square one. The Humane Society and the Auduboners (who are better at letter-writing than hiring lawyers) were overjoyed. The hunters once again got the short end of the stick.

STRANGE, ISN'T IT, how Auduboners (and Sierra Clubbers and other preservationist groups) always want organized sportsmen's support for refuges, sand dunes, wetlands and wilderness, yet when sportsmen want support for thoroughly defensible, expanded hunting opportunities, the preservationists tell sportsmen to take a hike? Even more, that many of them will actively work against sportsmen on hunting issues?

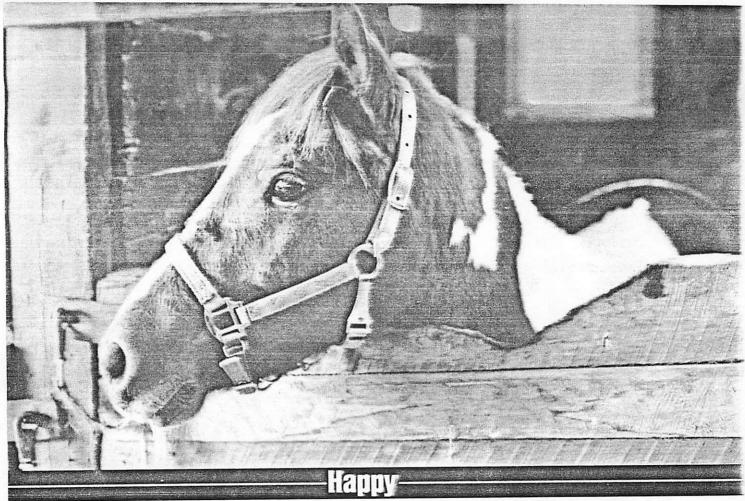
Outdoorsmen ought to be more careful about whom they embrace and on what issues they decide to help.

So you sit in Indiana's dove fields and enjoy the quality of the wingshooting and the companionship of friends and family. Yet you cannot go long without reflecting on what Michigan is missing. This kind of dove management would produce dynamite wingshooting in Livingston or Ingham or Branch or St. Joseph or Ottawa counties. Michigan's southern game areas (where, although purchased with license dollars, hunting now ranks about 14th on the usage list) could be similar beehives of activity. Private landowners might even realize a little profit by providing quality hunting.

After all, when the first cold snap hits, these very doves wing southward over places like Pigeon River. Hoosiers shoot them.

Dumb.

How much longer will a handful of anti-hunters keep 100,000 cash-paying wingshooters from enjoying a biologically legitimate hunt? It's a question that leaders in the sportsman's movement should be forced to answer frequently.



After being on the lam for 11 days, the peripatetic pony still casts a wary eye on anyone who comes near him.

A PLUCKY PONY TWICE STALLS THE GRIM REAPER AND BECOMES A PINTO PINUP IN THE PROCESS

PEOPLE magazine
Nov.11, 1985

month, a two-level trailer filled with horses bound for a Canadian slaughterhouse was rolling along Interstate 94 about 50 miles west of Detroit. At some point part of the trailer's top level collapsed, spilling horses great and small onto the horses underneath. Unaware of what was happening behind him, the driver kept on trucking. Two hours later the floor of the trailer buckled, and at the sight of sparks and smoke coming from the back of the rig, the driver finally said whoa.

By the time police and firefighters had arrived, 22 of the 42 horses in the trailer were dead or so badly hurt they had to be destroyed. One of the survivors was a 3½-year-old pinto pony stallion, the hooved hero of this tale. Along with half a dozen other wild-

eyed survivors, the pinto was taken to a nearby stable owned by William Wilson and corralled there to await another truck headed for the same dolorous destination. When the fateful vehicle arrived and the last roundup began, our pony protagonist exhibited enough horse sense to make his escape.

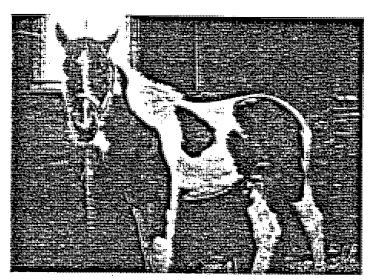
Said eyewitness Wilson, 40, "He raced four or five times around the pen, then he jumped the fence. It was bigger than he was, but he just ticked the top and kept going." The energetic equine proceeded to make horses' asses of the suburban cowboys who tracked him for 11 days by hiding out in a 500-acre area of scrub, trees and sand quarries.

The unnamed pinto, by now appropriately being called "Lucky" by some, was finally snared by a couple of wran-

glers wielding tranquilizer darts who had been hired by the Michigan Humane Society. The sole survivor of the hapless herd that was headed for the slaughterhouse, Lucky was stabled at an undisclosed location by the Humane Society. Aside from respiratory problems and various cuts and bruises, he appeared none the worse for wearing out his pursuers.

The Humane Society plans to use him as their poster pony in a nation-wide battle for legislation to regulate animal hauling. Actress Pam Dawber, who was visiting her parents in Michigan at the time of Lucky's adventures, offered to adopt him. Even if Lucky doesn't end up on Dawber's 400-acre farm in Upstate New York, the Humane Society promises they will find our maned character a happy home.

SOLE SURVIVOR



Rescued from the slaughter, the pinto is safe now in an Oakland County barn.

One way or another, the horses were going to die. Twenty-two were killed when the big rig fell apart on I-94. Another nineteen were delivered to the slaughterhouse. But one remarkable pinto decided to live.

One way or room, closed the door and cried. He'd another, the horses been my friend for twelve years.

Pico was a palomino quarter horse and he taught me that a horse and a man can spend hours and days together; that they can be friends; that they can play, work and talk.

It took me three years to get over Pico's death—three years to get to the point where I could consider making friends with another horse. Now I have two that I'm getting acquainted with. It's a good feeling. We move through the trails and woods of the Pinckney recreation area. For hours.

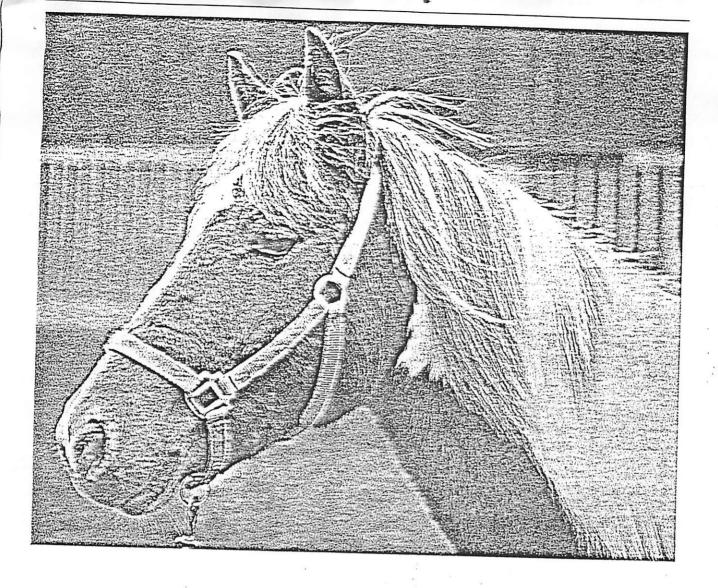
Horses are special.

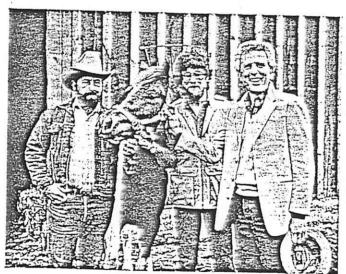
IT WAS my birthday when I learned of that horrible accident on I-94. A double-decker trailer truck carrying forty-two horses to a slaughterhouse in Samia fell

apart as it barreled down the highway. Twenty-two horses were killed. Thirteen of the survivors were put in another truck to continue their journey. The remaining seven were sent to a paddock in Oakland County to await shipment the next day.

The carnage on I-94 headed up the television newscasts all day. David Wills, executive director of the Michigan Humane Society, called me from Chicago. David, a good friend, had been located by Channel 7 news and asked for comment. I filled him in.

The wreckage on the freeway was soon cleared away and the surviving horses were presumably on their way to becoming gourmet meals on well-laid tables in Europe, where horse meat is considered a delicacy. But David and I couldn't let it rest. We knew we couldn't do anything for these horses—dead or soon to be dead—but we made plans to find out what Michi-





Tom
Davis,
David
Wills and
John Kelly
stand with the
little pinto
they worked so
hard to save.
Kelly named
the escapeartist horse
Houdini.

ASYMBOL AGAINST CRUELTY

OUDINI; the frightened pinto who alone survived the accidental and intentional carnage that claimed forty-two horses late this fall, is in good health today, temporarily under the care of the Michigan Humane Society on an Oakland County farm.

The farm's location is being kept secret because Houdini still belongs to the firm that was shipping him to slaughter. But the owner has made no attempt to reclaim the horse

David Wills; the humane society s, executive director says the horse will be given a lifelong home on a Michigan farm. Wills hopes to turn the survivor into a living symbol of the fight against inhumane transport of livestock.

The society has completed an investigation of what happened when nineteen of Houding's traveling companions were killed in a truck accident on 1-94. Wills says he is turning the results of his investigation over to the Wayne County prosecutor, and he hopes charges will be filed against the Wisconsin shipper that owned the truck. But Wills knows that even if cruelty is proven, nothing much will happen. Under Michigan law, cruelty to animals is a missemeanor, punishable by a maximum of ninety days and a \$1,000 fine. Judges rarely assess any penalty at all. Wills says.

The horses, all bound for slaughter in Samia, Ontario, were being transported in a double-tiered truck; called by some a possum-belly truck. Says: Wills, I think possum-belly trucks are inherently cruel. The animals; he says, bump into each other uncontrollably as the truck sways.

Just before the accident, Wills says, the floor of the truck's top tier broke, spilling terrified horses onto the others below. And the driver continued on Wills says, anger creeping into his usually calm voice. My God, can you imagine what went on in there? Then with the truck still running down the highway, the bottom floor gave way, dumping the animals onto the concrete.

Currently says Wills, the only laws protecting horses and livestock on any trek to the slaughterhouse are minimal. A federal law, dating back to 1906, says livestock must be unloaded every so often to be watered, fed and rested. But every so often can be stretched to once every thirty-six hours. Michigan's only applicable law is extremely vague. Only four states have updated their laws to eliminate two-tiered trucks and limit the length of time livestock can be carried without stops for water and food, Wills says:

says Wills, pointing out that eight of ten pleasure horses (horses used by their owners just for riding) wind up their lives as pet food, human food or leather items. Generally, horses can be ridden until they are about twenty years old, Wills says, and then they are sold. A horse's average life is twenty-eight years, but few are allowed to die a natural death.

But Wills believes the laws can be changed to make sure that animals are not mistreated on their way to being slaughtered. And he thinks Houdini can be a symbol to spearhead that statewide and national legislative battle. "We think we can pass a state law and a federal one," Wills says.

The Michigan Humane Society, headquartered in Detroit, can be reached at (313) 872-3400.

gan law requires of shippers who are transporting live animals. We wanted to determine if the shipper of the horses or the truck driver should be prosecuted. We also made plans for a dinner that weekend to celebrate my birthday.

But our dinner plans fell apart when David got a call on Friday from the Romulus police. One of the horses from that truck accident, the police told him, had escaped before it could be sent on to Samia, jumping a paddock fence and disappearing into a heavily wooded area of Van Buren Township near Ecorse Road. Could the Michigan Humane Society heip out?

"Of course," David told them.

Maybe we could still save one of those horses.

DAVID AND I make the forty-mile trek on Saturday morning, hauling our horses in a borrowed truck and trailer. We are going to search for the survivor on horseback, because horses are social animals who usually will walk right up to another horse, ignoring the rider.

So we unload our horses, saddle up and begin to find our way around. Impossible. The size of the area where the horse escaped—2.000 acres—and our ignorance of the layout, coupled with rain, mud, mist and fog, prove a formidable obstacle. My horse goes lame.

The next day, Sunday, is bright and clear. Tom Davis, owner of the Hell Creek Ranch of Pinckney, a man I've known and trusted for almost twenty years, is with us. Half horse himself, Tom is a woodsman and a tracker. This time we pull the trailer far into the area, parking near a gravel pit. While I saddle up, Tom and David disappear into the woods to "scout around." Sixty seconds later, David emerges from the scrub surrounding the heavy woods. He's running.

"We've got him. He's right there. We can't use horses," David calls in a stage whisper. "Tom is watching him. He's a hundred feet away, watching us."

I'm told that the horse is a pinto. We're highly excited. We agree no one else should go in.

I talk to some of the many well-meaning people who have also been searching. They have not seen the fugitive, and I don't tell them that we have. A woman is walking around with a big bag of carrots; a man has a huge Appaloosa which he canters along the trails. I know these two and the others are not going to help us capture a terrified animal.

About an hour later, David and Tom slowly come out of the woods. The fugitive horse has disappeared again. The animal, Tom says, is frightened of people, ropes and other horses. Not too surprising, I think. Tom and I head back to the Hell Creek Ranch to drop off our horses. David decides to call for the Michigan Humane Society's tranquilizer gun.

Two hours later, I'm back. It is late afternoon. David, with the cooperation of the police, has cleared the area so that as little as possible will frighten the pinto.

We set off to make one more pass through the woods and fields. We're as quiet as possible. David carries the tranq gun and darts. After an hour of paths and tracks and trails, shoving through the heavy stuff, peering through trees that are yellow and gold in the late afternoon sun, we've covered the most likely area. Nothing.

We wind up on a sort of wagon road with a densely wooded section on one side and a bean field on the other. It's about five, and we decide nothing more can be done before dark. We begin to walk back, talking about the problems of the search, when I spot the pinto.

He is about seventy-five feet into the woods near a jumble of old logs. His head is turned to watch us. I'm sure my heart is going to bang out of my chest. "David," I whisper. "David, there he is!"

"I got him." David replies quietly. "I'll circle around behind him, John...you move on down the road to turn him if he moves out." I move slowly forward, never turning my head from the pinto. He is beautiful, and he is motionless. Shortly, I see that David is close enough to shoot.

We both begin to talk softly and soothingly to the horse, and he begins to walk away into the woods. David levels the trang gun and shoots.

The dart hits the pony's rump; he kicks out and tears away. We follow, no longer caring how much noise we make. We are about fifty feet apart, running, flailing away at branches, tripping, falling and calling to each other. I lose sight of David and finally stop to listen, gasping for breath. Not a sound, except the faint hum of traffic on I-275 in the distance.

After a bit, I move back on the track and begin to walk the dirt road around the woods. I'm almost at the car when Ed Grajek, a helpful retired policeman whose twenty acres border these woods, appears. He has wandered into the woods on his own search. He is looking for me.

David and the pinto are walking in circles, he says. The tranquilizer appears to be taking effect. Ed leads the way.

DEEP IN THE woods, where no sunlight penetrates, we find David and the pinto. There are some old fallen trees and, in places, the brush is thick and tangled. The horse has made a sort of path—a



circle about fifty feet in diameter. David is walking behind him. The horse seems to be a little leaden, but alert. David has used all his tranquilizer—an amount that should have stopped a small herd of horses—and we are baffled. The colt simply won't stop.

"Hayull, John," says David, his speech slower, his Virginia accent much thicker than usual. "Ah don't know what else to do." David is white-faced, dead tired. I go for more tranquilizer darts from the car.

By the time I get back, the circling pinto is finally slowing down; whatever has been driving him this long is finally giving out. This will do it, we think.

We get close enough to try the tranq gun one more time. But the dart misses and the horse somehow summons the energy to run away, disappearing into the now pitch-black woods.

That night, we both sleep like the dead. The next day is Monday, October 14. David has hired Tom Davis and tracker Rick Fusina to help us capture the horse. It's mid-afternoon. The weather is still clear and mild. By now, the horse has established patterns and has even cut some trails. An hour or two passes and I am wandering along a path he's cut through an area of chest-high scrub and grass. Suddenly he appears, coming straight at me around a turn in the trail. Quickly I find I am not alone; the others

are closing in.

We haze the colt toward Tom, who hides next to the trail. But Tom's rope hits the horse's neck and the pinto bursts into a flat run and disappears.

When we meet Tuesday, it's another bright and beautiful day. We feel the horse should appreciate all our efforts on his behalf and try to cooperate. He does, by leading us on an incredible chase. We

don't even get close.

Twilight comes. Four whipped cowboys wrap it up.

THE NEXT DAY I have to go back to work. At the station, I immediately fall out of favor with Channel 7's news department. It seems that the previous night they aired a story on the hunt for the horse, and I am terribly afraid the publicity will bring out all the nut caseswhich could spook the pinto even more. I roar into the newsroom and speak in loud, clear terms about my doubts. Then I depart for the search area to discover I was right. Ed Grajek and his wife Ann tell me that among the citizens who appeared early that morning carrying new ropes and halters, there was one character on a tractor with a six-pack.

David, I'm told, soon asserted his authority and the circus departed. But not before some damage was done. The fugitive horse was apparently driven across a dirt access road to the west and is in a narrow wooded area bordering the freeway. We set out in that direction.

Somehow David, carrying the tranq gun, becomes separated from us. And then, there's the horse. It's the same old thing, it seems. We get close, but no closer. The day ends. We are a long way from our cars and trucks.

Everyone is down in the dumps. I tell them never mind. The pinto—who, by now, I'm calling Houdini—will be caught the next day because I have to go back to work. The bosses have spoken.

Thursday, I'm back on Kelly & Company with Marilyn. I show the photographs of the horse that I've snapped and I tell his story—the sole survivor of a doomed herd. Unlike the news folks, though, I keep the location to myself.

By now, everyone is caught up in it and we're starting to get mail with offers of homes and help and support. Many telephone calls, too. It's very encouraging. It's easy for me to me encouraged, of course, because I'm not banging my way through the bush with the others.

Continued on 142

SOLE SURVIVOR

Continued from 107

My bruises are getting a chance to heal and I'm bravely hiding my limp.

About three o'clock. David calls. The pinto has been caught after a wild chase. They're leading him in! Or are they being led in?

HOUDINI. as you might have expected, is a handful. I learn later that it took David, Tom and Rick more than an hour to lead the colt a mere quarter of a mile through the brush. During that trip, David suffered a jammed shoulder; Tom and Rick were bitten: all three were kicked. But the pinto is finally safe.

The next day is Friday, gloomy and raining. At noon, David and I drive out to the Oakland County farm where Houdini is being sneltered. It's been a hard fight for the pinto and he's paying a price. He has viral pneumonia, is running a fever and suffering from diarrhea. But the vet assures us he's going to make it.

David and I wander out to the barn alone. It is the first time I've seen him so close, and I'm amazed. He's so little. Barely fourteen hands and 650 to 700 pounds. Not big for a horse. His head is down, but he keeps an eye on us. He is frightened, suspicious, dirty. He still has a slaughterhouse tag on his tail. And he looks beautiful.

Houdini. The only one of forty-two horses still around. Twenty-two killed by an uncaring snipper. The rest carved into steaks and roasts.

But this little pinto survives.

He is living testimony to a couple of certain facts:

 Courage and persistence come in many different forms and can be found in many different creatures.

The laws governing the shipment of all animals must be tightened. Both federal and state laws have to be tougher and there has to be some enforcement. Someone must speak for the animals.

I'm writing this on a weekend. It is bright and sunny outside. It's that way inside, too, when I think of Houdini. To my right, there's anold photograph of Pico and me. My old horse is facing directly into the camera. I believe he's smiling.

JOHN KELLY, co-host of Detroit's highest-rated television talk shows, is a friend of Skippy and Barney, his horses, and a board member of the Michigan Humane Society.

CENTRAL CLINIC BACKGROUND INFORMATION

DR. SHIRENE CECE, SUPERVISING VETERINARIAN
7401 CHRYSLER DRIVE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48211
(313)872-0004

Opened in the late 1950's, the MHS memorial Clinic has provided health care for hundreds of thousands of companion animals, regardless of their owner's ability to pay. Even though housed in an antiquated facility, the clinic offers state-of-the-art veterinary medicine. Humane and caring veterinarians see over 10,000 cases every year. They care for and assist with the prosecution of numerous cruelty cases and provide expert care for the thousands of animals brought in by our rescue program.

The clinic has sophisticated laboratory equipment which provide important data concerning animal diseases. This equipment was designed to provide accurate data in less time with minimal trauma to the animal patient. In the lab, we can track the course of such diseases as feline leukemia, canine distemper, canine parvovirus, study the functions of the body's organs, and determine the best antibiotics to use on various infections.

Out-patient surgery is used for such procedures as dentistries, treatments, and blood sampling. Many other procedures are performed in the prep room.

A small, but well-stocked pharmacy provides the newest drugs and treatments available. Intensive care is available for the most critical care of cases, providing temperature and humidity regulation and oxygen therapy.

The radiology department offers complete x-ray services. Radiographs are made available to the veterinarian, complete and ready-to-read, within 90 seconds with the aid of an automatic x-ray processor.

The surgery department routinely performs sophisticated orthopedic procedures, such as bone plating and grafting, once only offered at the largest of veterinary schools. Tumor removals, wound repairs, and complicated internal surgery are done on a daily basis at the clinic. Over 40,000 sterilizations (at all three clinics combined) have been done since the inception of the low-cost spay and neuter clinic in 1982.

Rounding out the veterinary staff are well-trained licensed veterinary technicians and assistants and compassionate receptionists. Not only do they give assistance to the veterinarians, but they educate the public on important health care topics such as sterilization and vaccination procedures.

The Michigan Humane Society Memorial Clinic is dedicated to quality health care for all animals.

NORTH SHELTER BACKGROUND INFORMATION

ELAINE GREENE, SHELTER MANAGER
3600 AUBURN ROAD
AUBURN HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48057
(313)852-7420

The North Shelter (Oakland County Division) is currently MHS's most modern shelter. It was opened in March of 1983, replacing a former location in Pontiac. The Pontiac facility was sold to Oakland County Animal Control with an agreement that any animal not adopted or returned to their owner be euthanized by sodium pentobarbital, and that no animal be sold for research purposes.

The building is 13,000 square feet on ten acres of land, located in Northern Oakland County. The shelter handles approximately 6,500 animals each year. In 1986, the facility 336 stray dogs, 2,188 owned dogs, 450 stray cats, 2,651 owned cats, and 739 wildlife or miscellaneous animals. Aproximately 1,500 animals are adopted yearly. Wild mammals raised or rehabilitated and released have included: rabbits, squirrels, foxes, muskrats, opossums, raccoons, and woodchucks. Avian species raised or rehabilitated and released have included: goldfinches, kestrels, robins, chickadees, blue jays, bobwhites, canada geese, great horned owls, blue herons, mallard ducks, meadowlarks, mourning doves, warblers, mute swans, red tailed hawks, ring necked pheasants, crows, sea gulls, pigeons, juncos, sparrows, starlings, and wood ducks. Additionally, such animals as covotes, wolves, coatimundis, lions, cougars, caimans, ferrets, macaques, monkeys, and a chimpanzee have been placed in permanent sanctuaries.

The lower level of the building houses the Society's accounting and administrative areas, as well as the multi-purpose room. The accounting area handles all the accounting and payroll functions for the Society and houses a mainframe computer. Shelter management offices are also housed on the lower level. The auditorium (or multi-purpose room) has a room capacity of 40-50 people. The room is used for board meetings, staff meetings, scout and youth group classes, school tours and classes, staff training sessions, and special events. Special events from 1986 included a workshop by the National Alliance for Animal Legislation and a World Farm Day vegetarian celebration.

The upper (main) level of the building houses the shelter and clinic facilities. The public entry is at the main level directly into the front lobby. Coming from downstairs, the front lobby is at the top of stairs and through the hallway. Each animal comes through the main lobby area to the reception area. Both the clinic and shelter admittance areas are in the reception area. General information and promotional sale items are also available at the front desk. Coming out of the main lobby, the first area is the public adoption areas.

PUBLIC ADOPTION AREAS

Cattery

The cat room houses approximately 20-30 cats or kittens. The cattery was specifically designed to eliminate as much kenneling stress as possible. The area is isolated from the dog and puppy areas for noise reduction and large windows offer much natural light and allow the cats to see outside.

Acquaintance Room

On the way to the puppy room, is a glass-front acquaintance room. The acquaintance room has its own drain and can be completely disinfected. The room is used primarily by staff adoption counselors as a get-acquainted room for potential adopters and their new pet. The room is also used as an exercise/play area for kittens and for volunteers socializing with shelter animals.

Puppy Room

The puppy room has fifteen cages with capacity for 15-20 puppies. The puppy room has a special night light for scared or frightened puppies. There is a small puppy wall area with a separate drain that is used while cleaning cages.

Kennels

The main kennels have 29 indoor and outdoor runs. Each run has a guillotine door so that dogs have access to both the inside and the outside. The doors are left open during pleasant weather and dogs are locked inside during inclement weather and let out periodically. All cages have fiberglass resting boards for comfort. The high ceilings allow for good air flow and the ultraviolet (germicidal) light is on constantly.

Adoption Desk

Adoption consultations are conducted at this desk, if more than one adopter is being interviewed the benches in the kennel walkways and atrium area are also utilized. The adoption computer is located at this area and adoption paperwork is processed here. The computer stores a caution list of refused adopters and cruelty cases, a caution notice will come up on the screen if the interviewee is on the list. The list can then be consulted for additional information and a decision made based on that information.

PRIVATE STAFF AREAS

Kitchen

The kitchen is used primarily for food preparation and cleaning of dishware. There is a special triple sink for disinifecting, bleaching, and rinsing of dishes.

Garage

The garage is used for a number of purposes. There is moveable cage rack for stray animals that are housed temporarily,

awaiting transport to the Oakland County Animal Control, (OCAC) facility. (Injured strays are not transferred to OCAC but kept at North for treatment). Cleaning supplies and disinfectant are housed in the garage, with additional storage areas both downstairs and in the garage loft. And finally the shelter rescue vehicles are housed in the garage at night for safekeeping. (As part of the Society's recue program, the North shelter has two rescue vehicles for pickup of injured stray animals and wildlife.)

Euthanasia Room

Returning from the garage you enter in the euthanasia room. The euthanasia room is designed to reduce animal stress. A moveable rack faces the far wall so that animals cannot see (and noise is reduced) animals being euthanized. Larger dogs are placed in stalls prior to euthansia, which afford minimal privacy from each other and the blocking wall eliminates visual contacts with the euthanasia team.

Isolation Rooms

There are two isolation rooms -- one for shelter animals and one for clinic animals under treatment. Each room is totally self-contained and has a separate air handling system. The area outside of isolation is designed to avoid all possible disease transmission through "dead space."

Evaluation

The front door of evaluation opens into the front lobby for easy access to newly admitted animals. Each animal is taken into evaluation after admittance. Animals brought in for adoption are evaluated for health and temperament and animals brought in for euthanasia are moved to the euthanasia room. The evaluation room is spacious and offers an opportunity to hold animals for additional days for observation. This is especially helpful for frightened animals who need some additional time to come out of their shell. The room is equipped with a raised tub and special cage dryers for easy grooming and flea dipping. All medical treatments are entered into the computer terminal in evaluation. This information will then be printed out on the adoption paperwork for the new owner.

Wildlife

The wildlife wing houses a wide variety of wildlife and miscellaneous animals (predominately guinea pigs, rabbits, and rodents). The permanent wall cages are used for young birds and small mammals, the moveable cage bank is used for rabbits, guinea pigs, and medium-sized mammals (raccoons and opossums). Two indoor/outdoor runs are used for larger mammals like coyotes and foxes and large groups of orphaned waterfowl. The aviary is used primarily for waterfowl and larger mammals (foxes, adult raccoons). During pleasant weather, waterfowl is housed outdoors and brought into the aviary or indoor kennel runs at night.

The North facilty was built with \$1.1 million of private funds and designed to be a functional facility that accommodates both the physcial and psychological needs of shelter animals.

NORTH CLINIC BACKGROUND INFORMATION

DR. RACHEL JONES, SUPERVISING VETERINARIAN 3600 AUBURN ROAD AUBURN HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48057 (313)852-7422

Built in 1983, the Michigan Humane Society Oakland County Clinic is 2,500 square feet of modern veterinary facilities. It is one of three charitable, full-service veterinary hospitals staffed by the MHS. Providing for all the medical needs of animals, we strive to offer the finest veterinary care possible, utilizing caring, humane professionals and the most modern techniques in veterinary medicine.

The veterinary hospital provides complete surgical and medical services including low-cost sterilization. Radiology, laboratory facilities, and modern surgical procedures such as endoscopy and cryosurgery are available as well as well as preventative health care such as vaccination programs and dental care. We do not perform declawing or cosmetic surgery such as ear cropping, only those services essential to an animals's well-being. At a charitable animals hospital, the animal is always the client and his or her best interests are tantamount.

The physical design of this hospital was carefully formulated to enhance both the quality of service delivered to animal patients and the quality of service delivered to pet owners. Accommodations were designed to minimize the occurrence of infectious disease. Humane, high-quality veterinary care has attracted thousands of new patients to the clinic and it is hoped that we will be able to expand in the future to accommodate the growing needs of the animals.

One of the most important aspects of all three of the MHS Veterinary Hospitals is the amount of indigent care that we perform. Our first concern is the care of the animal, no one is turned away regardless of their ability to pay. Currently we have over 10,000 indigent clients that receive free or reduced fee health care for their pet. Last year alone, we provided over \$90,000 worth of this care and the numbers steadily increase. A special fund has been set up, the Healy Memorial Spay and Neuter Fund, to subsidize those who cannot afford even low-cost sterilization. The hospitals provide a haven for those who want the best quality care for their pet but are faced with financial constraints. No animal is denied treatment, including those who arrive as injured strays with no owners. Every animal in need receives the same quality of care. If an injured stray is brought in and a decision is made that the animal is treatable, then the same modern technology and advanced medical techniques that are available for the animal of the paying owner are utilized.

The North Clinic is a prime example of a quality charitable animals hospital, serving the animals.

WESTLAND CLINIC BACKGROUND INFORMATION

DR. TIM DOBSON, SUPERVISING VETERINARIAN
37255 MARQUETTE
WESTLAND, MICHIGAN 48185
(313) 721-4195

In 1984, The MHS began a two-phase building project in the city of Westland. Phase I, completed in October, 1985, houses the veterinary hospital. The AAHA--affiliated hospital (AAHA affiliation is the first step in AAHA Accreditation, we are currently awaiting our inspection for full accreditation) comprises 6,000 square feet of the most advanced ideas in veterinary medicine and animal husbandry.

Ease of traffic flow patterns is demonstrated in the reception area with a separate check-in and exit area that lead to a common parking area. The clinic has four examination rooms, the largest of which is also used for emergency treatments. Radiograph viewing screens, examination lights and piped-in oxygen and nitrous oxide are all featured in exam room one.

Designed with ease of cleaning and disease prevention in mind, the clinic has several important structural features. Flooring in the exam rooms and the treatment areas is a poured aluminum oxide compound that is coved up the walls and under the cabinetry. This eliminates seams and corners where disease-carrying agents can collect. The walls and kennel area are composed of Spectra Glaze tiles, extremely durable yet easy to maintain.

The hospital is equipped with a built-in vacuum system. Outlets are positioned throughout the building and wet and dry debris are separated and collected in different areas of the building. A complete fire protection system has been installed including sprinklers, smoke detectors, alarms, and even fire-resistant ceiling tiles.

Air handling systems in the clinic have been designed in zones to eliminate any possible disease-laden air from entering the rest of the hospital. A heat reclaiming unit mounted in the ceiling space has reduced utility costs by 30% and 10 air exchanges in the kennel area keep the hospital as fresh and fomite-free as possible.

The doctor's office houses our staff veterinarians and provides them with a quiet place to work on cases or catch up on the latest books offered in our library. This is the beginning of a library that will eventually carry all of the important animal care and welfare titles as well as a complete video section.

Two isolation wards are attached to the clinic with entrances from the outside and viewing windows from the inside of the hospital. These wards have a separate air handling system so that all stale air is exhausted to the outside.

A built-in manifold system for oxygen and nitrous oxide use is located at the rear of the building. These gases are piped through the clinic and outlets are located in the surgery and treatment areas. An alarm system is located in the prep area to forewarn of any problems that may occur.

The Radiology department has a state-of-the-art x-ray unit. Powerful enough to radiograph even the largest of companion animals, it is equipped with a float-top table. This allows the technician to move the table instead of the animal to position correctly, reducing stress for the animals during the procedure. A cold-water processor delivers x-rays to the practitioner in 60 seconds, dry and completely ready-to-read.

Two large surgical suites are used daily to perform such procedures as cryosurgery, endoscopy and complex orthopedics. Low-cost sterilizations are also offered and done at the rate of 10 to 15 per day. All animals are monitored carefully during surgery by means of a Burdick Heart Monitor and EKG machines. Each pet is placed on heated water pads during the procedures to minimize stress.

The laboratory has several technologically advanced pieces of equipment including a cell counter that will do a complete six-parameter blood count in 45 seconds using only one drop of blood. This greatly reduces the stress of blood testing on animals, especially tiny puppies and kittens where drawing blood can be a great trauma. Blood chemistries, bacteriology, immunoflourescent antibody testing and routine fecals and heartwork checks are also performed.

The treatment area provides a place to do minor procedures such as dentistries, fluid therapy, or wound management. An intensive care unit is kept there, in full view, to allow constant monitoring of critical patients.

A grooming area, complete with a walk-up bath tub and a kennel area round out the hospital facilities. A common cleaning area between the runs allows for complete disinfection and vaccum drying of each run before an animal is placed into it.

High technology and environmental quality is the focus of the Westland facility.

WEST SHELTER BACKGROUND INFORMATION

KATHY BLAUET, SHELTER MANAGER 37255 MARQUETTE WESTLAND, MICHIGAN 48185 (313)721-7300

The West Shelter located in Western Wayne County was built in 1971. The building appears to have been constructed to residential not kennel standards. While the building looks fair externally, it is in an irreversible state of decline internally due to the limited serviceability of the basic structure and the inadvisability of expending limited resources in attempting to stopgap fixes to major problems. The basic drywall and ceiling are collapsing and there are continual plumbing, heating, and cooling problems. The caging is highly inadequate and the shelter is extremely overcrowded.

Blueprints have been drafted for construction of a new shelter (on-the-same-site) and ground breaking is scheduled for March of 1988. The new shelter will be attached to the clinic and the old shelter razed for parking. The current shelter is approximately 4,500 sq. ft., while the new construction plans are for a facility almost 20,000 sq. ft. (over four times as large as the present shelter).

In 1986, the facility handled a total of 13,198 animals. Of those 3,271 were stray dogs, 3,455 owned dogs, 3,133 stray cats, 2,972 owned cats, and 367 wildlife or miscellaneous animals. In addition to the usual miscellaneous animals were exotic animals including, two caimans, an abandoned iguana, and almost twenty turtles turned in after a salmonella scare. Approximately 2,000 animals are adopted yearly. Some minimal treatment and rehabilitation of wildlife is conducted at the West facility but the majority of wild animals are transferred to the North shelter.

The main entry at the front of the building is used for visitors, and potential adopters. People turning in animals or looking for lost pets are directed to the side entry. Beginning the tour at the main entry you are brought directly into the front lobby. Due to severely limited space, adoption consultations are conducted at the front counter. This is both inconvenient for staff and public, and allows virtually no privacy for the adopter. In addition to adoption consultations, all adoption paperwork, general information and sales of promotion inventory are conducted at the front counter. Coming out of the main lobby to your left, the first area is the public adoption areas.

PUBLIC ADOPTION AREAS

Cats and Kittens

The cat room houses approximately 30-40 cats and kittens. The cats are housed in moveable stainless steel banks as well as one fiberglass bank on loan from the clinic because of the excess number of cats. There is also a special rabbit cage for adoptable rabbits.

Dogs and Puppies

Adoptable dogs and puppies are housed in cage banks, kennel runs, and juvenile puppy cages as space allows. There is room for approximately 30-40 dogs and puppies. Adult dog cage space is very limited and most often filled to capacity.

PRIVATE STAFF AREAS

At the end of the adoption areas is a closed off-limits door leading into the stray sections of the building. General public wishing to view the strays are accompanied by a shelter receptionist from the back counter. The West shelter takes in over 6,500 strays each year and has animal control housing contracts with five nearby cities (Canton, Dearborn Heights, Livonia, Redford, and Westland). Animal control officers from these cities respond to stray complaints and bring all animals picked up on patrol to the West shelter. The shelter has an emergency rescue program for pickup of injured stray animals and wildlife. West shelter holds the animals for the legal holding period and determines disposition. In addition, the city of Wayne which operates an animal shelter, brings their animals to West after they are held at the Wayne facility for the legal holding period for disposition. The total housing capacity of all the stray sections is approximately 60-65 dogs and puppies and 40-45 cats and kittens.

Section B -- Adoptable Strays and/or Injured Animals

The first stray section is used primarily for "adoptable strays" and/or injured animals. Adoptable strays are those strays that staff immediately feels (before evaluation) will be placed up for adoption, if not claimed by their original owner before the end of the legal holding period. Injured, but healthy strays are also housed in the B section. The animals are divided into distinct sections for health reasons. Because of the poor to non-existent air handling systems, air-borne viruses are extremely difficult to control. By isolating, as much as possible, animals that are obviously adoptable, they stand a better chance of remaining healthy.

Section Q -- Quarantine

While there is no real isolation ward, the quarantine section is a small room at the back of the stray areas that affords some minimal isolation. Animals in the quarantine area are under veterinary supervision.

Sections E and F and Small Stray Banks

Sections E and F are the kennels for general population strays. The kennel runs are single runs without outside access. Dogs have to be tied outside their cage during daily cleaning. Stainless steel bank cages against the right-hand wall are used for small breed adult strays and stray puppies.

Stray Cats

At this point there is a set of double doors leading to the rear reception area and the stray cat area. These areas are not

separate and stray cats are housed directly in the reception area. The stray cat and kitten area is extremely overcrowded.

Receiving Lobby

The receiving lobby (or back counter area) is for all intakes, return to owners, and lost and found. A shelter receptionist will accompany owners looking for lost pets to the appropriate areas.

Garage Area

More strays are housed in the garage area both in kennel runs and free-standing cages. The garage area is also the unloading area for the animal control officers. Off of the garage is another room for bite case dogs (both stray and owner-surrendered). The bite case room is also used on occasion for nursing mothers because it is quiet and off the beaten track.

Exiting from the back of the garage area is a holding room for owner-surrendered dogs awaiting evaluation and animals surrendered for euthanasia.

"Green" Room

The Green Room, so named for the green fiberglass cage banks, is used for adoptable strays, underage puppies and some miscellaneous animals. Underage puppies are often fostered by volunteers until they are ready for adoption.

Euthanasia Room

A small euthanasia room off of the green room and exiting into the holding room is next. As with the other shelters all euthanasia is done by injection of soldium pentobarbital by shelter personnel who have been euthanasia certified under veterinary supervision.

Special Animal Room

A "spare" room, that was previously part of the old clinic, is used for miscellaneous animals. The caimans, the iguana, and the turtles, among others, have been housed there.

Evaluation

The main evaluation room is used for evaluation and treatment, as needed, of all owner-surrendered animals. Some miscellaneous animals (ferrets, parakeets) are also housed in evaluation. A separate evaluation room is used for evaluating strays for potential adoption.

Another small room is used for holding owner-surrendered puppies and cats awaiting evaluation. This series of small rooms were all previosuly used by the clinic when it was housed in the shelter facility.

The West shelter is well-established in the area and has an excellent working relationship with the local media and governmental agencies. The shelter is actively involved in many educational tours, mini-classes held in the front lobby, and pet visitation programs of the Society.