students who are choosing animal law as a specialty. The willingness of attorneys to practice in this field and the availability of information and resources to file civil and criminal charges for harm to animals are beginning to alter the landscape of American law.

Today, animal law is moving quickly from the unconventional to the mainstream. Gone are the days when opposing counsel would bark like a dog to ridicule an attorney representing the interests of an animal.

In addition to the growth in the number of law schools offering animal law classes, the burst of legal scholarship regarding animals has created many new possibilities for making a real difference in the lives of animals through the law.

There are now five law journals on the topic of animal law, newest among them being the Journal of Animal Law and Policy published by the Stanford Law School. The articles in these journals range from such subjects as damages in pet death cases and protecting dolphin habitat to approaching animal welfare from a strategy of nondiscrimination.

Having forums in which to publish articles on animal welfare, animal rights and the mechanics of practicing animal law has given a new focus to the legal profession and opened up many more issues to scholarly debate.

Why has there been such an explosive growth in animal law? There are many reasons. One, our media-driven lifestyle, with instant access to information and high-tech communications, has contributed to a growing awareness of the plight of animals and the need to address cruelty in all its forms.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Animal law can be defined as any legal issue that involves animals. More specifically, it is a combination of statutory and case law in which the nature of all non-human animals, whether legal, social or biological, is an important factor.
A legacy of compassion

In these challenging economic times, you may be finding it difficult to make a cash donation to your favorite charity. Being the caring and compassionate person you are, you may be wondering if there is something else you can do to support the cause in which you so strongly believe. Fortunately, there is an answer to your dilemma. Through planned charitable giving, you can support those organizations, like NAVS, that are uniquely qualified to carry on your own life’s mission even after you’ve gone.

If you think planned giving may be for you, we recommend discussing the matter with an estate planning professional. In the meantime, our brochure, The Legacy of Compassion, offers an easy-to-read introduction to the topic. Just call us today at 800-888-NAVS (800-888-6287), and we’ll be happy to send you a FREE copy.

You’ll find that there are many innovative ways to support your causes through planned giving. With the help of your estate planning professional, you can select a strategy that works best for you.

Working with an expert will enable you to make the most of the assets you’ve designated for charity by taking advantage of current laws that favor charitable giving. For example, the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, signed by President Bush on October 3, allows direct charitable gifts from Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) by anyone over 70-1/2 to qualified organizations, such as NAVS. Under the provisions of this law, you may make tax-free contributions from your IRA of up to $100,000 per year in 2008 and 2009.

Representatives from JMLS and NAVS met recently to discuss opportunities to expand awareness of the resources of the National Research Library for Animal Advocacy and to present a grant from NAVS to expand the collection. Pictured from left are: Professor Kenneth Kandaras, President of NAVS; Peggy Cunniff, Executive Director of NAVS; June Liebert, Library Director and Associate Professor; Anne L. Abramson, Foreign & International Law Librarian, Louis L. Biro Law Library; Marcia Kramer, Director of Legal and Legislative Programs for NAVS; and Kenneth Cunniff, NAVS General Counsel and a former professor at JMLS.

NAVS gives grant to the National Research Library for Animal Advocacy

Thirteen years ago the National Anti-Vivisection Society (NAVS) and The John Marshall Law School (JMLS) in Chicago launched the National Research Library for Animal Advocacy. This collection of books, law journals, periodicals and other printed materials is housed in a special section of the Law School’s library and, thanks to the generosity of NAVS’ supporters, continues to be funded by NAVS. It is a visible reminder of the growing importance of animal law within the academic community and serves as a valuable educational resource for law students and lawyers throughout the country who can take advantage of the reciprocal system for borrowing and loaning materials among law schools. A bibliography of available materials can be found on AnimalLaw.com and a link to the collection has been added to the JMLS library’s website.
Make animal advocacy a weekly habit with Take Action Thursday

We’re making it easier than ever to get in on the action for animals through Take Action Thursday. When you register to participate in Take Action Thursday, you’ll receive a weekly legislative digest of important federal and state initiatives that need your attention.

We’ll give you everything you need to write, call or e-mail your congressional representatives on the issues that matter most to animals. Take Action Thursday is a fast and easy way to be an effective animal advocate. All you have to do is register, and that’s easy, too. Just go to the NAVS website, www.navs.org.

Victory in Vermont!

We’re pleased to report that another state has moved to the top of the class by passing a law that gives students the right not to dissect. The new Vermont law, which becomes effective in the 2008-09 academic year, also bans science fair projects that:

1. experimentally medicate a live animal in a manner that would cause painful reactions;
2. induce painful or lethal pathological conditions; or
3. injure an animal in any other manner, including anesthetization and electric shock.

Senator William Campbell, who sponsored the legislation, said that although getting the bill through was a lengthy process, it was well worth the struggle. “The importance of this legislation could not be understated,” he said. “Rather than forcing our young students to undertake a task they deem repulsive or morally wrong, we are asking them that we trust and respect their judgment and personal beliefs.”

A message from the NAVS executive director

It is very humbling and gratifying for me to acknowledge the support and sacrifice of so many people, especially during these challenging times, for the thoughtful support of our cause on behalf of animals. I understand how difficult it is to make that additional sacrifice in light of market downturns and rising prices.

But you are a very special group of people, and your compassion for the plight of animals who are suffering is the fuel for the engine that will drive real and positive change for the innocent creatures who have no voice but yours.

This is what gives us all here at NAVS hope for an end to the suffering—and the determination to do what it takes to make it happen.

In a few weeks, you’ll be receiving our request for your holiday gift to NAVS. With all that’s happening, it’s especially hard for me to ask you once again to reach deep into your pocketbooks to help the animals who need you so much. That is why I would like to extend to you a very special thank you in advance for your remarkable generosity during this difficult period.

Without you, we would never be able to carry on our work to save animals from suffering. Together, we can make a difference. As Francis Bacon wrote, “If a man be gracious and courteous to strangers, it shows he is a citizen of the world, and that his heart is no island cut off from other lands, but a continent that joins to them.”

For the animals,

Peggy Cunniff

Shop early…shop smart!

Make your list, check it twice, and then order Personal Care for People Who Care for all the special people you want to remember during the upcoming holidays. This handy guide to compassionate shopping makes the perfect hostess gift or stocking stuffer. It’s a great way to share the joy of the holiday season, treat your friends, relatives and co-workers with a truly practical gift, and help animals—all at once!

Your gift recipients will truly appreciate learning how easy it is to become a compassionate shopper and a more informed advocate for animals through our comprehensive listing of cosmetic, personal care and household product companies that do and do not test their products and/or final ingredients on animals.

Best of all, you can have your copies of Personal Care shipped directly to you for a very affordable $15.00 per copy, including shipping and handling, without the inconvenience of going to the shopping mall. We’ll even send books directly to your gift recipient(s) to save you even more time!

Simply visit www.navs.org or call 800-888-NAVS (800-888-6287), fax your credit card order to 312-427-6524 or send in the donor form on page 11.
In states across the country, much animal protection legislation and many court cases litigating issues regarding animals have focused on companion animal protection. There are a number of reasons for this. Of all the animals on our planet, it is our companions—cats, dogs, birds, rabbits, hamsters and the like—with whom we share the closest, strongest bonds. Images of lost, abandoned and mistreated animals touch a strong emotional chord, and help move us to action to better protect them.

What's more, companion animal issues tend not to affect corporate America in the same way as issues involving vivisection or factory farming. This means that legislation focusing on these issues does not encounter the level of opposition fueled by big-money lobbying. Some of the most important companion animal issues today include pet trusts, pet rescue and care during natural disasters, food contamination and dog fighting.

**PET TRUSTS AND THE “WILL” OF THE PEOPLE**

Ten years ago, it was virtually impossible to write an enforceable trust for the care of your companion animal(s) when you die. As time went on, though, the idea of some sort of trust provision to provide care for a companion animal began to get traction as more estate planning attorneys showed a willingness to include such provisions in their clients’ estate planning.

This development resulted in a demand for state recognition of a valid, enforceable pet trust provision. Once states passed a law—and companion animal caretakers and attorneys learned of this possibility—the number of pet trust provisions being drafted increased dramatically.

Today, 39 states (plus the District of Columbia) have some statutory provision that allows people to provide for their companion animals after their death. Since 2000, 33 states have enacted pet trust provisions, many of them in response to the passage of a revised Uniform Trust Code in 2003. This serves as a model for many state laws and includes a provision to benefit animals.

For a list of states that have enacted pet trust laws, visit us at www.navs.org.

**WINDS OF CHANGE IN THE WAKE OF KATRINA**

Sometimes it takes a natural disaster to illuminate a terrible injustice, and in 2004, that natural disaster was Hurricane Katrina. Most of us remember the tragedy that resulted from a failure to provide for companion animals as millions of people were forced to flee their homes. Thousands of displaced pets were relocated, never to be reunited with their beloved families. Thousands more died a horrible death because of the lack of a cohesive plan of action.

The outrage that this abomination triggered resulted in the introduction of a rash of animal protection legislation in the aftermath of Katrina. The federal Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act was signed into law in October 2006, only five months after it was introduced. This Act requires state and local government planning to include provisions for the evacuation and emergency care of animals as a condition for receiving federal disaster assistance funds.

While 27 states had at least some provision in place to address this problem before Katrina, the chaos that resulted from a lack of a comprehensive plan resulted in new legislation for 24 states during the next two years to either establish emergency plans for animals or to improve existing policies.

**TAINTED PET FOOD SPARKS CALLS FOR INDUSTRY STANDARDS**

While natural disasters like Katrina can serve to highlight the need for change in a dramatic manner, man-made disasters have the potential to galvanize companion animal lovers, and in no less a dramatic way. In 2007, hundreds of cats and dogs died and thousands more suffered serious kidney damage after being fed certain brands of pet food manufactured by Menu Foods and sold under a variety of names.

As it turned out, the food contained a tainted ingredient imported from China. This revelation sparked concern about future consumption of commercial pet food and outrage at the amount of time it took for the pet food companies to respond.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
to issue a recall after the problem was first reported.

Federal legislation was introduced (HR 2108 and S 1274) in May 2007 to establish standards for the pet food industry. The proposed bills would establish processing and ingredient standards with respect to feed, pet food, animal waste, and ingredient definitions. They would also update standards for the labeling of pet food and provide an early warning and surveillance system to identify contamination of the pet food supply and outbreaks of illness from pet food.

This legislation remains in the respective committees where it was assigned in May 2007.

In addition to the proposed legislation, several class action lawsuits were filed against the pet food companies because of the loss of companion animals. Ultimately, these lawsuits were consolidated into a single class action suit.

Menu Foods settled in May 2008 for $24 million to be divided among individuals based on documented expenses related to the illness or death of their pet—including veterinarian bills or burial costs, and with a minimum amount being awarded for parties without documented expenses. The settlement received court approval in Oct. 2008, and owners of companion animals harmed by the tainted food had until Nov. 24 to file claims.

**COMPENSATION FOR EMOTIONAL DISTRESS**

The Menu Foods settlement was closely watched by animal attorneys, who were eager to learn if it contained a provision for compensation for the emotional distress caused to owners from the loss of their dog or cat. Most civil suits still don’t result in an award for emotional damages when a pet is injured or killed, and the actual value of the animal is held to be rather low (generally between $50 and $500) unless the animal is a pedigreed or service animal.

But that too is beginning to change. Although companion animals are still “property” under the law, and the courts have stopped short of basing damages on emotional distress alone, it has been recognized that companion animals “occupy a special place somewhere in between a person and a piece of personal property.”* The valuation of animals is also being watched closely as it relates to cases of veterinary malpractice or wrongful death of an animal. With more attorneys willing to bring such suits, and the slow upward climb of settlements, there has been a boom in such lawsuits over the past ten years. Since decisions in civil cases vary widely around the country, there is little statistical evidence to support this trend. But we hope that a law passed in Tennessee in 2004 is a harbinger of things to come. That law allows a pet owner to seek non-economic damages up to $5,000 for the death of his or her pet.

**CAUGHT AND SENTENCED: MORE ANIMAL ABUSERS GETTING THEIR DUE**

The message is getting louder and clearer: abuse an animal and you could be looking straight down the barrel of a felony conviction. That means jail time and significant fines.

Every state now has a felony animal cruelty provision except Alaska, Arkansas, Idaho, Mississippi, North Dakota and South Dakota. This includes a provision for jail time (from one year in Kansas to up to ten years in Louisiana) and significant monetary penalties ranging from $1,000 (North Carolina) to $500,000 (Colorado).

According to information provided by petabuse.com, there has been an upward trend in the prosecutions and fewer dismissals of charges in animal cruelty cases.

**ANIMAL LAW RESOURCES**

- www.AnimalLaw.com
- National Research Library for Animal Advocacy (at The John Marshall Law School in Chicago)
- International Institute for Animal Law (www.animallawintl.org)
- Animal Legal & Historical Web Center (www.Animallaw.info)
- Animal Legal Defense Fund (www.aldf.org)
- www.petabuse.com
- Center for Wildlife Law (http://wildlifelaw.umass.edu)
- Center for Animal Law Studies (www.lclark.edu/org/cals/)

From a legal standpoint, it is truly an exciting time for animal advocates. That is why we’ve devoted this issue of the Animal Action Report to some of the hot-button topics in animal law and their impact on trends in animal protection issues. There is a lot of good news and some bad, but the important thing to remember is that we’re succeeding as never before in using the power of the law to protect animals. With your help, we will be able to continue seeking respect, compassion and justice for all animals.

Understanding how the law can be a force for—and against—animals is a very important part of being an effective animal advocate. If you’d like to learn more about the issues related to animal law, call NAVS at 800-888-NAVS (800-888-6287) for your FREE copy of our newest publication on the subject, A New Perspective: Seeking Justice for Animals Through the Power of the Law. We also encourage you to consult the resources we’ve listed below.

---

* Corse v. Crawford Dog and Cat Hospital 415 N.Y.S.2d 182 Civil Court, City of New York, 1979

---

**A SIGN OF THE TIMES FOR ANIMALS**

- Half of the 200 law schools in the U.S. currently offer animal law classes
- 119 student animal law organizations have been established in U.S. law schools
- The American Bar Association has established an Animal Law Committee as part of its Tort Trial Insurance Practice Section
- 16 state bar associations and 11 city and regional bar associations have Animal Law Committees

---

**LAW CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

What’s more, we live in a time when society has evolved away from one that accepts the view that people should be able to do whatever they want to animals because they are considered “property” under the law. Although animals are still considered property under the law, societal attitudes today generally show greater evidence of compassion toward animals than in the past, and greater outrage when animals are mistreated.

It is this shift in societal attitudes that has helped spur the growth of animal-related legislation. Nearly 1,200 bills were introduced in U.S. legislatures this year alone, including state and federal initiatives. These include proposed laws on hunting, fishing, agriculture, animal cruelty, animal control and even rights for great apes.
LEGAL PROTECTION STILL STOPS AT THE LABORATORY DOOR

The vast majority of “laboratory” animals still have little to no protection under the law

Locked in cages behind the closed doors of laboratories and research institutions, the millions of innocent creatures used in biomedical research every year are the truly invisible ones. Victims of a society that in large part views their suffering as “a necessary evil,” they have fewer advocates, and thus less attention to their plight.

The Animal Welfare Act (AWA), first passed in 1966 to set up a regulatory program to license dealers in dogs and cats, to register animal research facilities, and to establish humane care provisions and a system of inspections, is more notable for its exclusions than its provisions. Although it has been amended several times, including in 2002, the AWA continues to specifically exclude birds, rats and mice from coverage.

According to the most recent edition of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal Welfare Report, 1,012,713 animals were used for research in the U.S. in 2006. While that number shows that 100,000 fewer animals were used than in 2005, this does not include the use of mice, rats and birds, which make up the vast number of animals used for research purposes. Since it is estimated that mice and rats alone make up 95 percent of all animals used in research, one may conclude that about 962 million mice and rats were used in 2006.

Overall, the number of primates used in research went up significantly between 2005 and 2006, with an increase of 4,784 animals in that one year. In fact, year to year there has been a steady increase in the use of non-human primates (primarily due to HIV/AIDS research), from 49,382 in 2001 to 62,315 in 2006. The use of cats and dogs has seen a slight decline since 2001, while the most significant drop has been in “all other covered species,” which includes animals other than cats, dogs, “farm animals,” mice, rats, birds, guinea pigs, rabbits, hamsters and non-human primates.

Although primate use overall is up, there is some good news for the great apes (chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans and bonobos). The Chimp Haven Is Home Act was signed into law in December 2007, making the sanctuary established under the CHIMP (Chimpanzee Health Improvement and Maintenance) Act a permanent refuge for those animals retired there. More significantly, The Great Ape Protection Act (HB 5852), introduced in Congress this year, would ban the use of great apes in research in the U.S. NAVS will be working hard to see that this initiative is passed.

Another federal bill introduced in both houses, The Pet Safety and Protection Act (HR 1280 and S 714), would end the use of dogs and cats from random source (Class B) animal dealers, who have been targeted for selling stolen companion animals and fraudulently obtaining animals from “free to good home” ads. These bills have been sitting in their respective committees since they were introduced in 2007.

MORE BANS ON ANIMAL TESTING?

California and New Jersey have enacted bans on the use of animals for testing cosmetics where scientifically validated non-animal tests are available. New York and Arizona have legislation to do the same.

On the international front, the European Union’s ban on using animals to test cosmetics and cosmetic ingredients has come closer to reality after many delays. The deadline for the ban on testing and the sale of products and ingredients tested on animals is March 2009, with a complete ban in place by 2013.
HORSE SLAUGHTER REARS ITS UGLY HEAD

A federal ban is stalled in Congress while four states propose new horse slaughter plants

Thanks to Equine Advocates, Jerry (above) was rescued on his way to slaughter, and was able to live out the rest of his days at the sanctuary in New York.

The Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act, a federal bill that would prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption has been stalled indefinitely in the House of Representatives while the committee on agriculture reviews the language of the bill.

Even though there are no horse slaughter plants currently in operation in the U.S., many thousands of horses continue to be transported across state lines to be slaughtered in Canada and Mexico allegedly under even more inhumane conditions. A federal ban would stop this practice once and for all.

Meanwhile, there has been another disturbing development. Four states—Iowa, Missouri, Oklahoma and South Dakota—have introduced legislation or resolutions that ask the federal government to support the horse slaughter industry or propose the establishment of horse slaughter plants in their state.

CONSUMER DEMAND DRIVES MORE HUMANE FARMING PRACTICES

One of the most interesting developments in animal law in the past decade is the effect of consumer pressure on legislative efforts to adopt a more humane approach to farming. As a result of consumer demand for more humanely raised animal products, Arizona and Colorado have banned the use of both veal creates and gestation crates, while California, New York and Washington have pending legislation to do the same. Florida and Oregon have also passed laws banning gestation crates.

In response to consumer pressure, hundreds of establishments—food stores, restaurant chains, hotel chains, universities, public institutions and municipal governments—have established policies to purchase eggs from more humane providers. Even meat producers, such as Smithfield Ham, have voluntarily undertaken improvements in their treatment of animals, and purchasers of large quantities of beef and chicken have established minimum standards of care for farmers who supply their meat.

The issue of downed animals continues to receive attention. After video footage taped by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) led to charges against the Hallmark Packing Company in California, that state passed a law prohibiting the dragging of non-ambulatory animals to slaughter in that state. Other states, as well as the federal government, also have pending legislation.

MICHAEL VICK CASE TURNS SPOTLIGHT ON DOG FIGHTING

Although dog fighting occurs in every state, most Americans were unaware of this vicious crime until professional football player Michael Vick was caught operating a dog fighting ring out of his Bad Newz Kennels in 2007. In fact, it had been only recently that every state adopted a felony provision for dog fighting—a law that is notoriously difficult to enforce.

The ensuing publicity—and public outrage—spurred the federal government to pass the Animal Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act of 2007, which increases penalties for transporting dogs (and roosters) used for fighting in interstate commerce, including sponsoring or exhibiting an animal in an animal fighting venture.

In addition, more than 880 separate state bills were introduced on the issue of dog fighting. Many of these bills were passed and include provisions for increased penalties, confiscation of animals, and disposition of dogs seized from fighting arenas.
To the rescue!
More animals rescued because of YOU

We wish there were more ways to say “thank you” to all of you who have given so generously to the NAVS Sanctuary Fund. Your overflowing compassion has made it possible for us to award over the past couple of months NAVS Sanctuary Fund grants to 14 worthy organizations in desperate financial need, and we are so grateful that you have been there when the animals needed you most.

Each of these organizations has a unique and inspiring story to tell, and they are all doing extraordinary work for animals, and almost always against the worst possible odds.

But since we gave out so many grants, we only have space enough to highlight three of them. Their stories, told in their own words and from their own hearts, are about tragedy, triumph and hope.

Your incredible generosity is matched only by the tremendous need across the country that we learn about every day. Because we have awarded so many grants of late, the NAVS Sanctuary Fund is beginning to run low on resources.

If you can find a way to help us be prepared for the next natural (or human-made) disaster with a gift to the Fund, we would be eternally grateful. Fully 100% of your donation will go to help animals. You may donate by logging onto www.navs.org, by calling us at 800-888-NAVS (800-888-6287) or by returning the donor form on page 11. Again and always, thank you so very much.

Animal Friends
Humane Society

When Hurricane Ike destroyed the roof of their outdoor dog runs at this shelter in San Antonio, TX, the NAVS Sanctuary Fund was there to help fund the roof replacement.

Houston SPCA

A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped volunteers at the Houston SPCA to safely transport hundreds of animals from Galveston to Houston in the wake of Hurricane Ike.

BY MAUREEN SHERIDAN

For many people, Jamaica is an island paradise. For this country’s forgotten animals—abused, abandoned, terribly injured, and often left to die alone and in agony under the hot tropical sun—it is an island hell.

Since no one was doing anything to help Jamaica’s many animals in critical need, I decided to establish a shelter with the hope of giving these animals a second chance at life.

Our mission is to rescue, rehabilitate and re-home as many homeless animals as possible, and to offer the few that prove to be un-adoptable a safe and secure sanctuary for the rest of their lives. At any given time, The Animal House Jamaica is home to about 150 animals, including dogs and puppies, cats and even a horse we named Baby Girl. All the residents have names and all are happy, healthy and loved.

Our 2007 hurricane was less than seven years after the devastation of Hurricane Ivan, which left the island in ruins. With five hurricanes hitting us in less than four years, we have had a very difficult time keeping our haven above water. Each deadly storm has left behind its own damage, resulting in a constant onslaught of problems to deal with in addition to the normal daily stress of managing an animal shelter in the Third World—not recommended, but definitely rewarding if you can handle it!

When Hurricane Gustav struck, NAVS was the only national organization to offer us any help. The NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant that we received will help us repair the damage caused by the storm, and we thank you for your generosity and concern from the bottom of our hearts.

Here is Orville Reynolds, kennel supervisor at The Animal House Jamaica, making sure every dog in his care gets a special treat.
It’s a fragile trust that we are given. All creatures’ fate in our dominion. To hold or hurt, to harm or cherish. To nurture life or let it perish.

BY LISA STONER

That’s what the sign reads at the entrance to Peace River Refuge & Ranch. To nurture is the choice we volunteers here have made together for the past ten years.

With your help—and we thank your for it with all our hearts—we will make it through these tough times.

We are a wild animal sanctuary dedicated to providing lifetime care to abused, neglected, confiscated or unwanted wild animals. The Peace River Refuge & Ranch in Florida is home to a Noah’s Ark of wildlife, including tigers, cougars, wolves, black bears, monkeys, Patagonian Cavies, deer, emu, horses, donkeys, Siberian Lynx, Black Australian Swans, and an ill-tempered black leopard. Our trained staff ensures that the medical, nutritional and emotional needs of the 200 or so animal residents are well met.

For the past ten years, our staff has driven to grocery stores five days a week to pick up donated food for the animals, saving $120,000 a year in food bills. Then, a law was passed in Florida that allows restaurants and grocery stores to donate unused food to food banks for human consumption with no risk of liability. This is a great thing for food banks and the people who need them. But the down side for us—and other sanctuaries throughout Florida—is that suddenly, the grocery stores have been approached by the food banks and are also using this law to insulate themselves from any liability if they donate this food for human consumption.

Since human needs are almost always considered before the animals, the grocery stores are now suddenly donating all of their food to the food banks, leaving us with nothing—and absolutely no advance warning that this was going to happen.

Now we are faced with the need for $8,000 in cash every month to feed the animals. We are tremendously grateful to the NAVS Sanctuary Fund for your help at this critical time. This much-needed grant will help Peace River purchase and install commercial refrigerators and freezers to handle the space needed for purchasing food in wholesale quantities.

Habitat for Horses

When Hurricane Ike virtually destroyed this horse sanctuary in Hitchcock, TX, a NAVS Sanctuary Fund helped rebuild the roads and paths throughout the property.

Contented Critters Animal Sanctuary

A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant covered the cost to spay/neuter 65 puppies and dogs that Contented Critters in Makinen, MN, took in when they discovered that the dogs, deemed a public nuisance, were going to be euthanized. Now these adorable pups will find the safe and loving homes they deserve.
Chimpanzee
Sanctuary Northwest

Burrito, one of a group of chimpanzees recently retired from research and brought to Chimpanzee Sanctuary Northwest in Seattle, WA, enjoys his new digs. A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant enabled the sanctuary to build a new outdoor enclosure for these chimpanzees.

Hope for Animals

When Hurricane Gustav struck, Hope for Animals in Thibodaux, LA, lost the roof to their shelter. A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped with the cost of replacing it.

St. Francis Animal Sanctuary

This paralyzed German Shepherd Dog is one of many animals taken in by St. Francis Animal Sanctuary who may have been considered hopeless, but now leads a full and happy life.

BY DEBORAH PARKER

I wish everybody would stop calling me a saint, because I'm not. I do what I do for the dogs. The dogs and puppies I take in have no hope in the world of surviving. Sure, I take the “worst of the worst” cases, but if I didn’t, who would? And I have the best, most dedicated volunteers in the world, including a group of teenagers from Vermilion High School. They help me care for sick and abused animals, regardless of the level of their injuries, their age, or their illnesses, at the sanctuary I’ve set up in my home here in Erie County, Ohio.

As long as I am able to, I will keep taking in the sickest of the sick and the oldest of the old and give them a home for the time they have left on this earth. No matter how badly abused or neglected, each precious life that lands on my doorstep will come to learn that the touch of a human hand is not always rough, and they will know what it feels like to be loved. My joy in life comes with each crippled, deformed and sick animal that I hug and kiss and tell how much I love them. I get so much in return. You could never know in a million years the love they give back to me. That’s why I push myself to the limit and take in as many as humanly possible.

A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant will help me continue to give the animals who come under my care the second chance at life they so richly deserve. And I am profoundly grateful for your help.
Join NAVS today!

You’ll be helping to support our educational and advocacy programs that spare animals from suffering. Plus, you’ll enjoy valuable membership benefits, including:

- A FREE copy ($15.00 value) of our 200-page book *Personal Care for People Who Care*.
- A FREE year’s subscription to the *Animal Action Report*, the official newsletter of NAVS.
- A FREE copy of *A New Perspective*, our special publication about animals and the law.
- Periodic Legislative Alerts to let you know about urgent situations and what you can do to help relieve animal suffering.
- For more information about NAVS membership, call us at 800.888.NAVS (800.888.6287) or visit us at www.navs.org

All donations are tax deductible.

Flooding victims rescued

The terrible tornadoes and flooding in the Midwest this spring created horrific problems for many animals and their rescuers. But thanks to your generosity, the NAVS Sanctuary Fund was there to help, and many animals were saved. (Not pictured, but also receiving a grant to rescue stray animals caught in the floods, is the Morgan County Humane Society in Martinsville, IN.)

A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped replace medication for the animals at the Joplin Humane Society in Joplin, MO, when a tornado caused extensive damage to the shelter.

Ouabache Valley Felines & Friends

A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped fund the medical expenses for all the stray cats, like Ginny (above), who were taken in by Ouabache in Terre Haute, IN, in the wake of flooding across the state.

Humane Society of Missouri

A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped with the purchase of “dry suits” for volunteers at the Humane Society of Missouri in St. Louis, so they could safely wade through contaminated waters to rescue animals during flooding.

West Hancock Canine Rescue

A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped cover the extra expenses incurred by West Hancock Canine Rescue in Hamilton, IL, when they needed to take in many additional dogs after the Midwest flooding.