YOUR KINDNESS CLUB LETTER

JULY 1971

KINDNESS IS HELPING ZOO ANIMALS
It wasn't just any zoo, but one where the people in charge did everything they could to make the animals happy.

He lived in the nursery in the animal hospital and was fed from a bottle. He was so cute that soon the caretakers let him run and play wherever he wanted in the hospital.

Right about that time people in Maine were catching bears and putting them in cages. Then they charged a fee to let someone shoot a bear, just so he could say he had shot a bear. Many people wanted to put a stop to this. So Donald was invited to appear on the Dick Cavett television show. Naturalists Sue Pressman and Roger Caras were to appear with Donald, to urge protection for bears from being shot.

The caretakers bathed Donald, and brushed his fur so he would look nice on television. Then they let him run play for awhile. Down the hall he ran, just as fast as his four fat little legs would run. He was headed for a door that opened either way. Just as he got to it, someone came through from the other side. Donald was going too fast to stop, and crashed right into the edge of the door and broke his nose. Like all babies, Donald howled.

The pain didn't last long and he soon forgot it, and ran off to play again. When he appeared on television people thought he was wonderful. But his caretakers were upset because his nose was crooked.

Now there is a law in Maine that forbids killing bears in cages. Donald and all the people that worked to get the law have helped a lot of bears. Many people will long remember the playful baby bear cub on television with the funny crooked nose.

Donald will never know what it is like to live free, search for his own food, raid a honey tree, or find his own place for his deep winter sleep. He has done a lot of good for the protection of bears, with the help of his naturalist friends. Since he lives in a zoo where the caretakers offer special care, he probably won't be too unhappy. But he can never be free, now that he has learned to trust people.

Because he gets special care, Donald will be able to continue to help others. Young people can come and visit him and see what bears look like, and learn to appreciate and respect bears. Then they, too, will want to see bears protected so they can live free in their own way.

Your friend,
YOU CAN HELP ZOO ANIMALS

There are many zoos in America. Only a few of them are really nice zoos. These few try very hard to make an animal’s home as much like his native habitat as possible.

They have tried to get rid of all the old cages and fences and iron bars, and replace them with larger yards and pens. Sometimes this is done with a moat of water or a steep wall the animals can’t climb. People stand on top of the wall to visit the animals.

Most zoos still have cages where the animals are prisoners. There’s no fun in going to see animals who are not happy. Most people will never get to see many wild animals or learn to appreciate them unless they see them in zoos. Don’t you think people would appreciate them more if their homes were nice, and the animals were happy?

A different kind of zoo is the roadside zoo. This is a place where a business, like a restaurant or gas station, keeps a few wild animals just to attract people. Once they have stopped to see the animals, they usually buy something, increasing the profit of the owner. This is exploitation of animals and should be stopped.

You can help animals that are kept prisoners. No matter what kind of zoo you may visit, look carefully at each animal and write and tell me what you saw. List the things you would want to be different if you were that animal in that cage. If your family is on a trip and stops at a roadside zoo, refuse to buy anything there. Write me about those animals, too.

If the zoo in your town invites people to become members, ask your parents to join. Some have family memberships, or even junior memberships. As a member, you may help your community zoo help other young people learn to appreciate, respect, and help many animals.

Make a map of where you live. Mark every place where you have seen an animal, or where an animal lives. You can also make a map of your local park or any other place you may go on a field trip. Write about the animals you see.
TELL ME WHO I AM

FIND THE INSECTS, BIRDS, AND ANIMALS BY THE WORK THEY DO. SEE HOW MANY YOU CAN NAME. TURN THE PAGE UPSIDE DOWN FOR SOME OF THE ANSWERS YOU CAN FIND.

OCCUPATION

CLEAN-UP SQUAD
ROTO-ROOTER
ENGINEER
RAT PATROL
NATURE'S ALARM
FLYING FLOWERS
JET SET
JOHNNY APPLESEEDS
TRAPEZE ARTIST
COPYCATS
LIVING STARS
WEATHERMEN
MOUSE HOME DWELLER
HO' WRECKER
SONAR EXPERTS

HINTS

THEY CLEAN UP THE EARTH
THEY AERATE AND BUILD THE SOIL
THEY BUILD PONDS, KEEP THEM FROM OVERFLOWING, OR EXCEL IN CONSTRUCTION WORK.
THEY CONTROL POPULATIONS
THEY WARN OF ANIMALS OF DANGERS
NATURE'S BEAUTIES
THEY USE JET ACTION TO MOVE IN DEEP WATERS
THEY PLANT TREES AND REFOREST OUR LANDS
THEY SWING THROUGH THE TREE TOPS
THEY MIMIC OTHER ANIMALS AND SOUNDS
THEY GLOW IN THE NIGHT
THEY TELL TEMPERATURE OR REACT TO WEATHER CONDITIONS
THEY CARRY THEIR HOUSES WITH THEM
THEY DESTROY WOOD
THEY NAVIGATE BY SOUND

The best zoos are now building Ha-Ha fences. This is any kind of construction that keeps animals separated, or people and animals separated, without using cage bars. This is a Ha-Ha fence. The zebra knows the lion can't get across the deep pit and says: "Ha-Ha, you can't eat me."
ZOO CHECK LIST

1. **LOOK AT THE ANIMALS CAREFULLY. DOES THEIR HOME LOOK CLEAN?**

2. **ANIMALS EXERCISE TO KEEP HEALTHY. ALL ANIMALS ESTABLISH TERRITORIES. DO YOU THINK THE ANIMALS HAVE ROOM ENOUGH TO GET THEIR EXERCISE? IS IT AS MUCH ROOM AS THE TERRITORY THEY WOULD ESTABLISH IF THEY WERE FREE?**

3. **DID YOU OBTAIN GOOD INFORMATION AT THE ZOO THAT WOULD HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THE ANIMALS BETTER, SO YOU COULD HELP THE ANIMALS? TELL WHAT YOU THINK ZOOS ARE FOR.**

4. **DO THE ANIMALS HAVE ANYTHING TO DO? ARE THERE THINGS FOR THEM TO PLAY WITH, SWINGS, OR THINGS TO GET INTO OR CLIMB UP ON? WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY WITH IF YOU WERE THAT ANIMAL?**

5. **WHEN THERE IS MORE THAN ONE ANIMAL IN A PEN, ARE THERE ANY HIDING PLACES WHERE AN ANIMAL CAN GET AWAY FROM THE OTHERS OR JUST OUT OF SIGHT OF THEM WHEN HE WANTS TO BE ALONE?**

6. **TELL WHETHER YOU THINK THE CARETAKERS LIKED THE ANIMALS AND ENJOYED CARING FOR THEM.**

7. **FIND THE WORST THING YOU CAN AT THE ZOO, DESCRIBE IT, THEN TELL HOW YOU THINK IT SHOULD BE CHANGED, AND WHAT IT WOULD LOOK LIKE, AND WHY THE ANIMALS WOULD ENJOY IT MORE.**

List the different kinds of animals you see in the zoo, and tell everything you can about how you think each animal could be made happier.

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**Have You Met . . . .**

known birds whose ancestors came from Europe? He's now a naturalized citizen, and manages to live just about anywhere he chooses. He's the most common bird you'll find in most big cities, walking right on the sidewalk, with people passing by all the time. Some people become annoyed with the English Sparrow because he lives so close, and call him a tramp or a hoodlum. Many more will go out of their way so they don't disturb a nest that a sparrow has built near a doorway or path that is used often.

Sparrows were brought from Europe where they were called House Sparrows, in 1850. Used to living near houses, they build nests in gutters, water spouts, traffic lights, or ledges of buildings.

English Sparrows raise three broods a year. Anytime during the summer you may find a baby sparrow that has fallen from the nest. Although both parents raise the young, the nests they build are not usually very well made.

If you find a very young baby bird, not old enough to fly, try to locate the nest it fell from. Get someone to help you gently return it to the nest. If you can't find the nest, place it high off the ground, near where it fell, so it will be safe from cats. The parents will not reject a baby bird if you must touch it to help it. They will feed it when you leave.
MR. BELL IS A TEACHER WHO VISITS SCHOOLS TELLING ABOUT ANIMALS. HERE'S HIS GOOD ADVICE TO STUDENTS:

LABORATORY SCHOOL
Indiana State University
Terre Haute, Indiana

To my many friends in the Elementary Grades.

Dear [Write your own name on this blank line], You have shown in many ways your intense interest in other living things. You have talked to me about your pets, and birds and animals you've seen. You have brought your sick pets and most of the time I couldn't help. So I know that most of you wouldn't do anything to hurt wild birds or animals. But sometimes people make mistakes. I have seen boys shoot birds with BB guns. This is a very bad mistake. I've seen children bring baby birds, or bird eggs, or bird nests with eggs to school. This is a very serious mistake too. Parent birds work very hard to build their nest, and raise their young. They have very strong feelings about their children and do everything they can to protect them.

I am asking you to please continue to enjoy wild things where you find them, by watching them, by putting feed out when the ground is covered with snow, and by keeping your dogs and cats fastened up when the baby birds are on the ground. You might want to conduct a scientific observation by keeping a record of nest-building and other activities. I am also asking you to please never touch or destroy a bird's nest, nor to bring young birds to school. Baby birds are never lost unless their parents have been killed.

I do hope you have a real enjoyable spring and summer.

Sincerely yours,

Marvin R. Bell

Wild bunnies and other baby animals should be left alone if you find them without their mother. She is probably hiding very near, and will return to her baby as soon as you leave. If you should touch it, trying to help it, some wild animal mothers are afraid of the strange odor your hands have left and might refuse to care for their babies.

KINDNESS IN ACTION

CIRCULATED MUSTANG PETITIONS

Jan Rowan, Youngstown, Ohio age 10
The Good Kind Lion Club, Youngstown, Ohio, sponsored by Animal Charity League, Sondra Dastoli, Raccoon Captain The Eagles Club, Heathwood Hall, Columbia, South Carolina, Miss Nell Mellichamp, Raccoon Captain Sandy Bissell, Painesville, Ohio age 7
Barbara Hall, Beaver, Pennsylvania age 10
Allison Barlow, Chevy Chase, Maryland Miss Diane Kessler's class, Roosevelt School, Passaic, N.J. Anne Christiansen, St. Louis, Missouri age 10
The Cool Raccoons Club, Burlington, Vt., Mrs. Draper, Capt.
Dale Van Every, Minneapolis, Minnesota Kay Van Every, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Vicki Lea Blain, Virginia, Virginia age 10
Marc Tamarin, West Los Angeles, California age 7
Miss Steele's class, Toronto Montessori School, Thornhill, Ontario, Canada
Lars Wallin, Danbury, Connecticut

MANY THANKS to everyone who circulated mustang petitions or sent contributions to help Wild Horse Annie save the mustangs. MUSTANG PETITIONS CAN STILL BE USED. IF YOU HAVEN'T SENT YOURS IN, SEND IT RIGHT AWAY.
Dear Arahkun,

I saw our neighbor's dog and cat hurting a bird so I ran over and got the bird, and carried it to my house. We thought the bird had a very hurt leg because he wouldn't use it. So we stood it in a high place in our back yard. It took him about an hour to get over its frightfulness. Then it started to hop around. Then it flew away. We saved a bird!

Alison Bach, Burbank, Calif.

Linda Draper, Caroline Smith, Michelle Burke, Judy St. Hilare, and Tina Curtis have just earned their Certificates for "Fur Friends". Each had her Certificate framed and then had a picture taken, each holding her Certificate. I'm proud of that picture. Thank you, girls, and Congratulations! Mrs. James Draper is Raccoon Captain.

BRANCH CLUB NEWS

Mrs. Coby McElroy's First Grade Class, the "Cougars" branch club, wrote letter to Congressmen to ask for protection of animals, and wrote stories on how to be kind to their pets. The "Cougars" club is in Long Beach, California.