



NATIONAL LINK COALITION

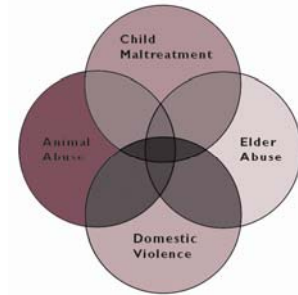
Working together to stop violence against people and animals

The LINK-Letter Vol. 5, No. 7 July 2012

A monthly report of news about the connections between animal abuse and other forms of violence

www.nationallinkcoalition.org

[Phil Arkow](#), Editor



Paws Place Kennels Dedicated at Kansas City Women's Shelter

The [Rose Brooks Center](#) in Kansas City, MO became the latest women's shelter to have pet housing capabilities on June 13 with the dedication of [Paws Place](#). Demand for pet housing is so strong that CEO Susan Miller told a crowd at the grand opening that by 3 p.m. the eight kennels would already be full.

"Women who have chosen not to come to shelter because they wouldn't abandon their pets are finally going to get safe. So, thank you for your support – its impact starts today!" she told the crowd and news media.



"We have always known and respected the incredible connection between victims of violence and animals. In fact, for years we have participated in pet-focused programs like the Delta Society that brings service pets out here twice a month to work with the young children in our shelter. We knew the benefits. But we also knew the cost. And at the time, we simply couldn't add a pet shelter to our very long list of programs."



That all changed in August, 2009 when a woman was rushed to Rose Brooks by the police after "J Matthew," her 110-pound Great Dane, heroically risked his own life to protect her from an abusive boyfriend (See *LINK-Letter February, 2012*). After both the woman and dog suffered numerous blows with a hammer, and were thrown outside and threatened with a shotgun, the woman told shelter staff, "I am not coming without my dog." She threatened to park outside the shelter gates and sleep in the car.

Plaque dedicated to J Matthew and his human survivor.

"Well, what could we do?" asked Miller. "We made an exception. And I must say, I am so glad we did. Their courageous story inspired us to redefine what family means to Rose Brooks Center. For this woman – like so many other pet lovers – her dog is her family, her safe place, her child."

A local [video interview](#) , [radio interview](#) and [national news video](#) of the woman recounting the rescue of her and J Matthew are available.

FIVE LINK PROGRAMS AT NCADV CONFERENCE

Space is still available to attend the 2012 conference of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, July 23-25 in Denver, CO. National Link Coalition members will present two Workshops, two Strategy Sessions, and a half-day Institute. NCADV has announced that CEUs for social workers and CLEs for attorneys will be offered. The four Link workshops and strategy sessions each qualify for 1.75 CEUs, and the Institute qualifies for 4 CEU credits.

In an extensive agenda featuring over 130 presentations, the National Link Coalition will present “Kids & Critters in Shelters,” “Practical Strategies for Serving Survivors with Pets,” “Issues of Safe Havens,” “Sheltering Animals and Families Together,” and “Working Together: Linking Communities for the Prevention of Family Violence.”

Speakers will include Phil Arkow, Diane Balkin, Marcie Foster, Amy Fristoe, Maya Gupta, Jane Hunt, Randy Lockwood, Anna Melbin, Allie Phillips, and Kath Schoen. Register at <http://www.ncadv.org/>.

News from the Coalitions

Washington, DC

[SNAAP](#) (Washington, DC) is starting Pet Crisis Hotline training for SNAAP volunteers. The hotline will be available to victims of domestic violence who have pets and are in need of crisis counseling. SNAAP will provide referrals to domestic violence shelters in the Washington area that accept pets, information about foster programs in the area, and other information for people needing help for their pets. SNAAP founder Blair Warner reports she has completed the Domestic Violence Advocacy Core Competency Training at SAFE.

Austin, TX

The Safe People and Pets Coalition of Austin was formally launched in April. Participants at the initial meeting selected the organization’s name, mission, vision statement, and an outline of what it wanted to accomplish in its first six months. Organizer [Georganne Duron](#) reports the group is establishing a website and a Facebook page, and gathering statistics from domestic violence shelters regarding the number of callers who have issues with their animals. A conference is being planned for Spring, 2013.



Charlottesville, VA

A group of community leaders is attempting to organize a Central Virginia Link Coalition to bring together animal welfare and control, domestic violence, child abuse prevention, and adult protection individuals and organizations in Greene, Orange, Albemarle, Fluvanna, Louisa and Nelson Counties. For details contact [Julie Palais](#).

Albuquerque, NM



The New Mexico Governor's Conference on The Link, a unique annual training symposium for seven years until it was discontinued following a change in administrations, has been resuscitated as an independent event with financial assistance from the ASPCA. Tammy Fiebelkorn, who coordinated the governor's conferences, announces that Positive Links: The 2012 [New Mexico Conference on The Link between Animal Abuse and Human Violence](#) will be

held on Monday, Sept. 17, at the Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel. An international cadre of speakers will address The Link, veterinary investigations, animal-assisted interventions and AniCare psychological assessments for cruelty offenders, hoarding, prosecution tactics, sheltering pets of domestic violence victims, elder care and The Link, animal fighting, international Link efforts, and establishing Link coalitions.

New Spanish Research Describes The Link in Domestic Violence and Incarcerated Offenders

[Nuria Querol Viñas](#), head of Spain's [GEVHA](#) Link program, delivered two presentations at the [2012 Stockholm Criminology Symposium](#) describing the impact of animal abuse in domestic violence situations and histories of animal cruelty among incarcerated offenders.



In her first paper, she described collaborations between SPCAs and women's shelters, and a screening program in hospital emergency rooms, to identify Link incidents. Over a one-year period, 76% of women reported their animals had been abused as well. In one case, an 8-year-old boy who was abused by the father killed a pet fish and tried to kill a canary; the boy also presented for enuresis, fascination for fire, self-harm, and bullying. 82% of the children reported their pets were sources of comfort and love. In two cases the abuser left aggressive German shepherds and bull terriers behind to further terrorize the family when he left home. "This victimized the women in a way that was new to us," she said.

Her second paper, on criminological and forensic correlations of animal cruelty and antipersonality disorder, described 24 male inmates of the Prison of Barcelona who were evaluated for psychopathy and other possible indicators for risk assessment such as cruelty to animals. 23.5% of the inmates had a history of a complete Macdonald triad (cruelty to animals, enuresis and pyromania), while 65% presented an incomplete triad of one or two of the triad behavioral characteristics. Animal abuse was found in 41.7 % of the subsample; pyromania was found in 71% and enuresis in 58.8%.

The Link in the Legislatures



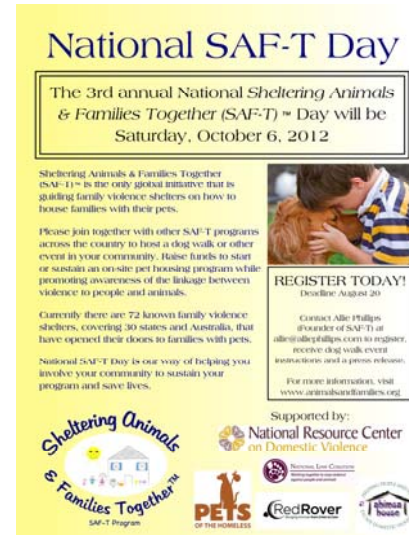
VIRGINIA: HB 363 which would have allowed the court to include pets in protective orders, died in the House Appropriations Committee when the legislature adjourned.



NEW JERSEY: Assembly Bill 347 would expand courts' ability to issue pet protection orders, which went into law this past January to affect animals harmed or threatened in domestic violence cases, to include any individual convicted of abusing an animal or the state's anti-cruelty laws. The bill cleared the Assembly and is in the Senate Economic Growth Committee.

National SAF-T Day Scheduled for October 6

The 72 women's shelters in 30 U.S. states and Australia that have facilities for caring for the animal victims of domestic violence will commemorate their work at the 3rd annual National SAF-T Day on Saturday, Oct. 6. Allie Phillips, who coordinates SAF-T ([Sheltering Animals and Families Together™](#)), encourages shelters to host dog-walks and other events to raise funds and awareness of The Link between domestic violence and animal abuse. The National Link Coalition is a sponsor of National SAF-T Day. The deadline for registering events is August 20. [Contact Allie](#) to register and to receive dog walk event instructions and a press release.



National SAF-T Day

The 3rd annual National Sheltering Animals & Families Together (SAF-T)™ Day will be Saturday, October 6, 2012

Sheltering Animals & Families Together (SAF-T)™ is the only global initiative that is guiding family violence shelters on how to house families with their pets.

Please join together with other SAF-T programs across the country to host a dog walk or other event in your community. Raise funds to start or sustain an on-site pet housing program while promoting awareness of the linkage between violence to people and animals.

Currently there are 72 known family violence shelters, covering 30 states and Australia, that have opened their doors to families with pets.

National SAF-T Day is our way of helping you involve your community to sustain your program and save lives.

REGISTER TODAY!
Deadline: August 20

Contact Allie Phillips
@founder of SAF-T at
allie@alliephillips.com to register,
receive dog walk event
instructions and a press release.

For more information, visit
www.animalsandfamilies.org

Supported by:
National Resource Center
on Domestic Violence

Sheltering Animals & Families Together™ SAF-T Program

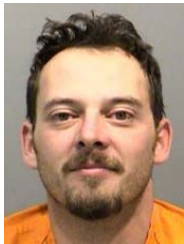
PETS OF THE HOMELESS

RedRover

Animal House

The Link in the News

Colorado Man Charged With Animal Cruelty in Domestic Violence Case



Samuel Talbert

Arvada, Colo. police charged Samuel Talbert, 35, with aggravated animal cruelty and criminal mischief for allegedly killing his girlfriend's dog after neighbors told police they saw him kick, hit and drag the dog by its leash. Neighbors tried unsuccessfully to intervene and witnesses said Talbert replied, "It's just a (expletive deleted) dog. I'm trying to train it." [Police reported](#) that when they arrived on the scene Talbert was drunk and the white German shepherd, Akasha, was dead. Police said Talbert had told his girlfriend that he was going to take both dogs out for a walk. The other dog was not harmed. Court records show the couple had had a serious argument two weeks earlier in which the girlfriend said Talbert had threatened to strangle her. She had said she was moving out. The charge was listed as "domestic violence-related" in court documents.

Animal Abuser Convicted in Maryland Murder



Matthew Correll

A Charles County, MD jury on June 29 convicted Matthew Correll of the murder of Chris Mader, a TV sports intern and bartender whose death went unsolved for years until a tip on "America's Most Wanted" led investigators to his assailant. Mader was shot to death in his car after finishing his bartending shift early Thanksgiving Day 2004 in an apparent robbery. According to [FOX5 TV](#) in Washington, Correll has a lengthy criminal history that includes assault and animal abuse. Correll will be sentenced on Aug. 21.



Chris Mader

Position Opening

The [Animals and Society Institute](#) is seeking to hire an AniCare/Rapid Response Project Director to administer two existing programs related to the cycle of violence. National in scope, the programs require interfacing with human service and criminal justice agencies. The Director will manage, further develop, and market existing program; organize workshops; facilitate the development of coalitions of stake-holders; write grants; and outreach to media. The position is part-time (12-18 hrs per week) and the location is open: the Director can work from home. The starting date is Sept. 1, 2012.



Education requirements: Minimum: M.A. in human services or in criminal justice or related fields. Preferred: Ph.D. in human service or J.D.; advanced degree in criminal justice or related fields considered. Certification or degree in human-animal studies or related field. Experience requirements: Minimum: Organizational work, development, marketing. Preferred: Work in human services and criminal justice fields. Skills: Organizational ability, project coordination, writing, computer (e.g., Access, Adobe). TO APPLY: Send cover letter and curriculum vita or résumé to [Kate Brindle](#).

LINK TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Coming Soon to a City Near You...

July 10 – Stockholm, Sweden: [Carin Holmberg](#) will speak on The Link at the International Conference in Social Work and Social Development.

July 11 – (Online): Allie Phillips will conduct a webinar on “Children Exposed to Animal Abuse” for the [National Children’s Alliance](#).

July 12 – Austin, TX: The Safe People and Pets Coalition of Austin will hold its second meeting. Contact [Georganne Duron](#) for details.

July 16 – (online): Geoff Fleck, Criminal Justice Program Contract Attorney for the Animal Legal Defense Fund, will present a free webinar on “Trial Strategies in Animal Cruelty Prosecutions” in a [webinar series](#) presented by the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, a program of the National District Attorneys Association, in partnership with the ASPCA and the ALDF.

July 17 – Philadelphia, PA: Phil Arkow will conduct a training on the implications of animal abuse for child welfare workers for the [Pennsylvania Council of Children, Youth and Family Services](#).

July 20 – Mystic, CT: Allie Phillips will present at the National District Attorneys Association’s Board of Directors meeting on animal abuse and its important connections to violence against people.

July 20 – Kansas City, MO: The KC-CAN Link Coalition will hold a meeting. Contact [Heddie Leger](#) for details.

July 23-25 – Denver, CO: Five Link workshops, strategy sessions, and Institutes will be featured at the [National Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#) biennial conference. Speakers will include Phil Arkow, Diane Balkin, Amy Fristoe, Maya Gupta, Jane Hunt, Anna Melbin, Allie Phillips, and Kath Schoen.

July 23 – Albuquerque, NM: The Animals & Society Institute, Animal Protection of New Mexico, and the N.M. Children, Youth and Family Department will conduct a training on the cycle of violence. Contact [Sharon Jonas](#) at APNM for details.

July 30 & 31 – (online): Allie Phillips will conduct two webinars on SAF-T™ – Sheltering Animals and Families Together – for the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence.

Aug. 2 – Orlando, FL: Allie Phillips will present on “Caught in the Cross Fire: When the Abuse of Animals Co-Occurs with Family Violence” at the [Florida Crimes Against Kids](#) conference.

Aug. 4 – San Diego, CA: Randy Lockwood will discuss veterinarians’ recognizing and responding to animal hoarding at the annual conference of the [American Veterinary Medical Association](#).

Aug. 23 – (online): Joel Lopez, Sr., Manager of Operations, Field Investigations and Response for the ASPCA, will present a free webinar on “Planning for a Large-Scale Seizure” in a [webinar series](#) presented by the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, a program of the National District Attorneys Association, in partnership with the ASPCA and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Aug. 23 – Farmington, NM: The Animals & Society Institute, Animal Protection of New Mexico, and the N.M. Children, Youth and Family Department will conduct a training on the cycle of violence. Contact [Sharon Jonas](#) at APNM for details.

Sept. 14 – Chesterfield, MO: Phil Arkow and Heddie Leger will present a workshop on “Women’s Best Friend: Social Work and the Domestic Violence/Animal Abuse Link” for the [Missouri Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers](#) annual Training institute.

Sept. 17 – Albuquerque, NM: The 2012 New Mexico Conference on The Link between Animal Abuse and Human Violence will bring in national and state authorities on The Link, including Phil Arkow & Allie Phillips. Contact [Tammy Fiebelkorn](#) for details.

Sept. 20 – (online): Dr. Randy Lockwood, Senior V.P. of Forensic Sciences and Anti-Cruelty Projects for the ASPCA, will present a free webinar on “Combating Animal Cruelty: The Past, Present and Future” in a [webinar series](#) presented by the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, a program of the National District Attorneys Association, in partnership with the ASPCA and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Sept. 21 – Saskatoon, SK, Canada: Dr. Robert Reisman of the ASPCA will present on veterinary forensics in the investigation of animal cruelty at the conference of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association.

Sept. 27 – Tustin, MI: [Allie Phillips](#) will train on The Link at the Michigan Chapter of Public Safety Communications Officials’ Fall Conference.

Sept. 28 – Saskatoon, SK, Canada: Randy Lockwood will discuss “Prosecuting Animal Hoarding: When, Why and How” at the [Saskatchewan SPCA](#) Animal Welfare Conference.

Oct. 3-5 – Universal City, CA: The [Association of Prosecuting Attorneys](#), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Assistance, will present the 3rd National Animal Cruelty Prosecution Conference, “Prosecuting Animal Cruelty & Preserving Community Safety.”

Oct. 9-10 – Wellington, New Zealand: Phil Arkow will lecture on “Empathy Education” and “Domestic Violence Prevention Programs” at the 23rd [New Zealand Companion Animal Conference](#).

Oct. 14 – Jacksonville, FL: Phil Arkow will discuss the links between animal cruelty and child maltreatment at Prevent Child Abuse America’s [National Conference for America’s Children](#).

Oct. 16 – (online): Diane Balkin of the Animal Legal Defense Fund will present a free webinar on “Anticipating Defenses in Animal Abuse Cases” in a [webinar series](#) presented by the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, a program of the National District Attorneys Association, in partnership with the ASPCA and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Oct. 19-20 – Charlottesville, VA: Phil Arkow and Clif Flynn will speak to the University of Virginia Law School and a community group to organize the Central Virginia Link Coalition. Contact [Julie Palais](#) for details.

Nov. 13 – (online): Clifton Flynn, professor of sociology at the University of South Carolina – Upstate, will present a free webinar on “Understanding Animal Abuse – A Sociological Analysis” in a [webinar series](#) presented by the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse, a program of the National District Attorneys Association, in partnership with the ASPCA and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Nov. 14-17 – Chicago, IL: Nuria Querol i Vinas will present on “Cruelty to Animals and Antisocial Personality Disorders: Criminological and Forensic Correlations” at the [American Society of Criminology](#) conference.

Dec. 5 – Lawrenceville, NJ: Phil Arkow will train [New Jersey Child Assault Prevention Project](#) representatives on “The Links between Child Assault and Animal Abuse.”

Feb. 3, 2013 – Indianapolis, IN: Phil Arkow will present “Practical Guidance for Veterinarians and Their Staffs for an Effective Response to Suspected Animal Cruelty, Abuse and Neglect” at the [Indiana Veterinary Medical Association](#) Annual Meeting.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL LINK COALITION

The National Link Coalition is an informal, multi-disciplinary collaborative network of individuals and organizations in human services and animal welfare who address the intersections between animal abuse, domestic violence, child maltreatment and elder abuse through research, public policy, programming and community awareness. We believe that human and animal well-being are inextricably intertwined and that the prevention of family and community violence can best be achieved through partnerships representing multi-species perspectives.



OUR VISION: The Link between violence against humans and violence against animals is widely known and understood. We believe that through the recognition and integration of this understanding into policies and practices nationwide, humans and animals will be measurably safer.

Members of the National Link Coalition Steering Committee:

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| <u>Phil Arkow</u> | Consultant, ASPCA; Animals and Society Institute; Chair, Animal Abuse & Family Violence Prevention Project, The Latham Foundation, Stratford, N.J. |
| <u>Lesley Ashworth</u> | Founder/President, American Veterinary Charitable Fund, Worthington, Ohio |
| <u>Barbara W. Boat, Ph.D.</u> | Associate Professor, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine Executive Director, Childhood Trust, Cincinnati Children's Hospital |
| <u>Maya Gupta, Ph.D.</u> | Executive Director, Ahimsa House, Inc., Atlanta, Ga. |
| <u>Jane A. Hunt</u> | Violence Prevention Specialist, St Paul, Minn. |
| <u>Mark Kumpf, CAWA</u> | Past President, National Animal Control Association, Dayton, Ohio |
| <u>Randall Lockwood, Ph.D.</u> | Senior Vice President, Forensic Sciences and Anti-Cruelty Projects, ASPCA, Falls Church, Va. |
| <u>Anna Melbin, MSW, MPP</u> | Director of Network Growth & Strategy, The Full Frame Initiative Founder, Catalyst Consulting & Training, Yarmouth, Maine |
| <u>Maria Luisa O'Neill</u> | Program Services Coordinator, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Denver, Colo. |
| <u>Emily Patterson-Kane, Ph.D.</u> | Animal Welfare Scientist, Animal Welfare Division, American Veterinary Medical Association, Schaumburg, Ill. |
| <u>Allie Phillips, J.D.</u> | Director, National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse Deputy Director, National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse National District Attorneys Association, Alexandria, Va. |
| <u>Chris Risley-Curtiss, MSSW, Ph.D.</u> | Associate Professor and Animal-Human Interactions Coordinator, School of Social Work, Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ |
| <u>Pam Russell</u> | Policy Analyst, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Reno, Nev. |
| <u>Barbara Shaffer, MSW, LCSW</u> | Senior Director of Chapter Services, Prevent Child Abuse America, Breckenridge, Colo. |
| <u>Kathleen Schoen</u> | Director, Family Violence Program, Colorado Bar Association Colorado Alliance for Cruelty Prevention, Denver, Colo. |
| <u>Hugh Tebault III</u> | President, The Latham Foundation, Alameda, Calif. |
| <u>Philip Tedeschi, MSSW, LCSW</u> | Clinical Director, Institute for Human-Animal Connection, University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work, Denver, Colo. |