NORMAN ANIMAL WELFARE CENTER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE Aug 3, 2015

The Norman Animal Welfare Center Oversight Committee of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in the Multi-Purpose room on the 3rd day of August, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. The notice and agenda of the meeting were posted in the Municipal Building at 201 West Gray Street on the 28th of July, 2015. The meeting was also posted on the City of Norman website.

I. <u>CALL TO ORDER.</u>

Co-Chairperson Mark Howery called the meeting to order at approximately 6:02 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Co-Chairperson Mark Howery Kathryn Schwartz Bierman Jayne Crumpley Ginger Noble, D.V.M. Jennifer Kidney PhD . Joe Carter D.V.M Councilman Stephen Tyler Holman Rebecca Bean

OTHER PRESENT:

Jeanne Snider, Assistant City Attorney Rick Knighton, Assistant City Attorney John Bowman, Animal Welfare Supervisor Jim Maisano, Deputy Chief Darci Poe, Animal Welfare Kellie Seeds, Animal Welfare

III. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE MINUTES

Chairperson Mark Howery introduced new committee member Kathryn Schwartz Bierman.

Chairperson Mark Howery asked if there were any correction or additions. A couple of corrections were noted on names. Dr. Joe Carter motioned to accept the minutes, Jayne Crumpley seconded, and the motion was carried.

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IV. MONTHLY STATISTICS

Chairperson Mark Howery said he appreciates the extensive statistics and thanked John for them.

John Bowman went over the statistics, explaining the categories and their numbers compared to last year at this time including On the Job Injuries (OJIs), vehicle accidents, and owner relinquished animals.

Rebecca Bean asked if people can rent out traps at the office. John Bowman answered yes and explained that the trap needs to be covered if a skunk is trapped in order for it to be picked up.

Dr. Joe Carter asked why the city pet license numbers are down. John Bowman explained that there was a back log that is now caught up. John Bowman also explained how the money is tracked that comes from the city pet license fees and how it is used for the low cost spay/neuter program. John Bowman explained how the spay/neuter program works and that Animal Welfare pays 100% of the cost for the spay/neuter program by using Spayway. Dr. Joe Carter asked if it was possible to get that information emailed. John Bowman answered yes, as soon as he gets it all together.

Dr. Joe Carter said he noticed the citations issued more than doubled this year, and asked if there was an explanation for that. John Bowman went over the categories and numbers on page four. Assistant city attorney Jeanne Snider also explained how the municipal court handles them and the fines.

Dr. Joe Carter noticed the donation account was up, saying that was good. John Bowman said several months ago there was a large donation of \$60,000.00 that went into that account. Dr. Joe Carter suggested that when construction is over or perhaps before that we could talk about what we would need next and organize a fund raising event. There was some discussion on what the funds could be used for and how those funds could go directly to the shelter. Deputy Chief Maisano said we want the large family donation to be for something that will be a long term benefit. He mentioned the donation trailer that is being looked into that could be purchased with that money. Kathryn Bierman said she reviewed the donation process at other metro shelters and found that Oklahoma City Animal Welfare has a place on their website where people can donate and even specify what they want to donate their money to, for example, for heartworm treatment. She asked if there was a way Norman Animal Welfare could do something like this.

V. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Deputy Chief Maisano said they completed the underground plumbing and electric. He said they should be able to pour the slab tomorrow, then Wednesday or Thursday they can put the masons in so they can start setting up the scaffolding and start construction of exterior walls. Dr. Joe Carter asked when the estimated completion date is. Deputy Chief Maisano said right now the final punch list is set for December 15th.

VI. CITY ORDINANCE UPDATE

Deputy Chief Maisano presented a power point review of the city ordinances that were updated.

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Questions and comments regarding the ordinance review: Mark Campbell asked if pets are allowed at festivals such as the Medieval Fair and the Art Walk where food is.

Amy Bradshaw said she is not finding where it was mentioned that if you have your pet microchipped, it doesn't have to wear a tag. She asked if there was any public notice that animals are at the shelter. Amy also said she is very happy and thankful for all the changes and appreciates all the work going into it. She also asked if the CPL's could be prorated.

Curtis Ensler asked if a vicious dog had to be muzzled in the house. He said that in Sec 3-205 it says "but not limited to" regarding disposals. He asked what that meant and suggested it be taken out.

Mark Campbell gave examples of taking his dogs with him to Sprouts and other local places and leaving them in the shade with water; he asked if someone called Animal Welfare about his dogs, what would happen and if what he was doing was okay. He also asked if Animal Welfare Officers are able to scan animals. Deputy Chief Maisano said they would look at the totality of the situation and yes, Animal Welfare Officers can all scan animals in the field.

Mark Howery asked if there was a permitting system for exotic animals in Norman. He said there are pythons and boas for sale at PetSmart and argued dropping them from the list of exotics. He also said that there is a redundancy because it says anaconda though anacondas are boas. Deputy Chief Maisano asked Mark to please email him the corrected statement.

Kate Bierman said sub section I under exotics needs to be clarified.

Jayne Crumpley asked what the definition of dangerous is regarding the boas/pythons. She also asked if people could be in the Walmart parking lot giving away animals. Deputy Chief Maisano did answer no; they did have to be on their own property. Jayne also said she didn't understand why cats don't have to be contained like dogs. Dr. Joe Carter said there was some opposition before regarding that subject in the past and explained why.

Mark Howery asked if the requirement of animals tethered in vehicles could only be enforced on public roads; he suggested that it should state "on public roads" in the ordinance.

Rebecca Bean asked what the definition of the shelter and its role in our community. She also asked what happens to owner relinquishments when the shelter is full; are they turned away? She asked what else we can do for owner relinquished animals. She said that is another reason why we need a foster program. She asked if we would euthanize an owner relinquished animal rather than the person being turned away and the animal left to a worse fate. Deputy Chief Maisano asked Rebecca Bean if she is approving us to euthanasia on spot for space. Rebecca Bean answered yes, that is one of the worst jobs of a public shelter. She also asked about being able to walk a nuisance dog off property.

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Kate Bierman said if you can walk a dangerous animal with a leash and muzzle, which is above and beyond a nuisance animal, then the nuisance animal should be able to be walked.

Rebecca Bean said when it comes to rescue groups, they often have animals for a longer time than the period recommended in the ordinance; Second Chance just had a dog that had been there three years and just got rescued. She said she thinks the ordinance disallows an important feature of a rescue to take those hard cases and it needs to be looked at.

Darcie Woodson said that Annie's Ruff House has had dogs for several years because they were hard to find homes for. She asked if a rescue is only supposed to keep an animal for a year, what are they to do after that.

Amy Bradshaw said she thought that was only for fosters specifically.

Deputy Chief Maisano said we had talked about this at the last meeting; at what point in time do you take ownership? He said we changed it from 6 months to 18 months, but at what point are you the owner of the animal?

John Bowman explained commercial kennel licenses.

Rebecca Bean asked what the penalty is if the animal is kept longer than the 18 months. Assistant City Attorney Jeanne Snider explained the penalties.

Amy Bradshaw asked if the person could apply for another extension.

Rebecca Bean asked to be walked through the steps of owner relinquishments. Deputy Chief Maisano said staff will talk to you about your dog; ask about the dog's temperament and behavior and medical conditions. She also asked if a judge can say a dangerous animal can be euthanized. She asked who evaluates the animal. Deputy Chief Maisano said they would look at the totality of the situation and it has to be beyond a reasonable doubt with each side heard. Assistant City Attorneys Jeanne Snider and Rick Knighton explained the court process and the likelihood of a judge ordering an animal to be euthanized. Rebecca asked why we went from 3 strikes down to one strike. She asked how an Animal Welfare Group would get approved. Deputy Chief Maisano said they have to come down to the city and fill out the appropriate paperwork.

Deputy Chief Maisano said if you have any comments, please email John Bowman.

Rebecca Bean asked if Chinchillas and a bird were taken in. John Bowman said the bird was returned to its owner. Rebecca asked if the Chinchillas were available. John answered no; they are currently illegal in Norman. Chairperson Mark Howery asked if they will be okay under new ordinances.

Rebecca Bean asked if we will look at the final revisions at the next meeting. Chairperson Mark Howery said he thinks we should and hopes for a quorum for August 24th. Deputy Chief Maisano said he will look at the issues and bring them back for next meeting.

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VII. <u>MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS</u>

John Bowman talked about the Shelter Me Workshop that was held on July 25th that staff, some volunteers and others attended that was put on by Norman Animal Welfare. He also gave everyone a copy of the newspaper article from the Norman Transcript.

Chairperson Mark Howery said that since the next set of statistics will start a new year, could we have a one liner added to the stats to show the volunteer hours? John Bowman said it was supposed to be on there this time but will figure out how to add it.

Kathryn Bierman said she just scheduled her volunteer orientation. She said she does not want to volunteer less than other committee members. She invited up to two other members to join her. She asked how often we meet with other shelter directors to discuss good practices. She said she would be happy to take the lead to make that happen. Chairperson Mark Howery said quite a few who don't volunteer are on the committee. Jennifer Kidney said being on this committee is volunteering. Kathryn Bierman also said that going to the shelter and being there to see the day to day procedures would eliminate a lot of the questions there are at these meetings. Rebecca Bean read the Animal Oversight Committee's resolution that states it "Insures that the Animal Shelter and Pet Adoption Facility are run in a humane manner; implements adoption policy; educates the community; coordinates volunteer services and implements on-site spay and neuter program"; we need to know what we are here for and how we can help.

Darcie Woodson welcomed the new committee member. She asked if the city pet license goes to the general fund because the website says it goes into a special revenue fund for the Norman adoption center. She suggested listing a place for Animal Welfare donations on the city's utility payments. Friends of Animals of Norman (FAN) will raise money for any treatment; they pay the veterinarian directly. She said Animal Welfare could buy foster equipment with the \$60,000.00 donation. Friends of Animals of Norman would be happy to help out as much as they can. She asked what is the difference between foster to adopt and a foster program as far as bite liability goes. She thanked everyone for all the changes made since the last meeting.

Mark Campbell said he sees stray dogs posted on Facebook, and less than 10% of those people want to bring those dogs to the shelter. He said he hopes the new facility and other positive changes help with this. Mark also said he would like to see some rabies awareness in Norman and that September 28th is World Rabies Awareness day. He said the trailer idea is great and it would be great if the shelter could get an

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octagon pen to go with the trailer so people could get in it with a dog if they are interested in adopting the dog.

Chairperson Mark Howery said the city pet license money was earmarked for paying for the old building but is now going to the general fund now that the Denise Miles adoption center has been paid off.

Darcie Woodson said it is not out of bounds for these funds to go back to the shelter, perhaps for a foster program then?

Assistant City Attorney Jeanne Snider said people can donate \$250.00 or more though it has do go before council although they never say they don't want the money.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Rebecca Bean and Jennifer Kidney. Jayne Crumpley seconded. The motion was carried at 8:41pm.

ATTEST:				
Mark How	ery Co-(Chairpe	rson	

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ATTEST:

Mark Howery Co-Chairperson

The last major review and update to Chapter 3, Animal Welfare ordinances, occurred in 2009.

The focus of those changes were:

- To clean up definitions and outdated ordinances.
- To establish updated numbers for the number of dogs and cats allowed at a residence.
- To establish guidelines for Kennels and Animal Welfare Groups in our community.

The proposed changes are from a group of various notable and reliable sources which include:

- HSUS Humane Society of the United States.
- ASPCA American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.
- UC Davis Veterinary Medicine Univ of CA, Veterinary Program.
- Sandra Newburt, DVM, with UC Davis, National Medicine Program
- ASV Association of Shelter Veterinarians
- AVMA American Veterinarian Medical Association
- North Carolina Law Dangerous Animals
- Animal Welfare Center at Fremont, CA.

The main modifications currently being request cover:

- Review, updates and addition of needed definitions.
- Update language in several existing ordinances.
- Update City Pet License requirement.
- Establishment of a working ordinance for a dangerous animal within our community.
- Currently, there is not enforceable ordinance, only a definition.

Definitions:

- 3-103: Altered (Mod)
- approved procedures to make and animal incapable Expands definition to allow for other medically of reproduction in accordance with state law.

3-104: Animal Welfare Groups (Mod)

- Allows for approval of Animal Welfare Groups registering with the City.
- Defines conditions for approval or denial of registrations

- 3-105: Animal Welfare Center (new)
- Provides definition of the Animal Welfare Center.
- 3-107: At Large (mod)
- Removes chains, cords and ropes as approved items to restrain an animal.
- Must be designed to restrain the animal.

- 3-108: Dangerous Animal (new)
- surrounding area, constitutes a reasonable Any animal whose behavior, temperament, circumstances, including the nature of the size or any combination thereof, when risk of injuring a human or animal or damaging personal or real property. considered under the totality of the

- 3-108: Dangerous Animal (new)
- an animal(s) biting or attacking or attempting That behavior includes, but is not limited to, to attack a human or another animal.
- animal that has been subject to provocation or However, this definition shall not apply to any if the victim has been trespassing, as defined in Sec. 15-605, upon the animal owner's premises.

- 3-109: Confined of the premises (mod)
- approved methods of physically restraining an - Removes chains, cords and ropes as animal upon the premises.
- Must be designed to restrain the animal.

- (pow) 3-111: Foster Home
- works under the direction of an <u>approved</u> Animal Welfare Group.
- Registered with the City of Norman.
- May provide housing for up to twelve (12) months.
- Provides for a temporary extension of six (6) months for an animal with a documented medical condition that requires extended housing.

- (pow) 3-112(3): Kennel classifications
- Rescue Kennel:
- May provide housing for up to twelve (12) months and;
- Allows for a six (6) month extension for an animal with a documented medical condition that requires extended housing.

- (mod & new) 3-113 Nuisance
- A nuisance is an animal that:
- bed, garden, tilled soil, vines shrubbery, or small plans and in so *including, but not limited to* scratches or digs about any flower (1) Damages the property of anyone other than its owner, doing injures them:
- (5) Annoys or disturbs any person by loud and frequent barking, howling, yelping or <u>causes noise in an excessive, continuous or</u> untimely fashion/manner so as to interfere with the reasonable use and enjoyment of neighboring private premises.

- (mod & new) 3-113 Nuisance
- A nuisance is an animal that:
- (6) An animal that habitually or repeatedly chases, snaps at, or barks at pedestrians, joggers, dogs walked by owners, bicycles or vehicles.
- with the ordinary use and enjoyment of his property njures a member of the general public or interferes (7) Disturbs the rights of, threatens the safety of or

- · 3-115 Unprovoked (new)
- An act of aggression towards an animal or human that occurs without apparent cause, reason, prompting or motivation.
- 3-118 Exotic Wildlife and Native Wildlife (mod)
- Ord 3-501.e: Keeping of animals other than dogs and
- Exotic animals already prohibited but there was no definition of what exotic wildlife is.

Definitions: Deleted

Shelter: Definition deleted, replace throughout Chapter with Animal Welfare Center.

Dangerous Animal definition and Section on how Vicious Animal: Definition deleted, replace with it is to be enforced.

- 3-201: Authority of Animal Welfare Supervisor and Officers (Mod)
- structure or place licensed with a kennel license with at least one (c) The Animal Welfare Supervisor or Animal Welfare Officer may upon complaint or on their own imitative inspect any inspection being conducted annually at each licensed or registered location.

Ordinance:

3-202: Duties of Animal Welfare Supervisor (mod)

in violation of the provision of this chapter or any animal that is or person designated by the City Manager, shall pick up all animals incarceration or other excusable, involuntary absence of the (b) The Animal Welfare Supervisor, his officers, and other person responsible for the care of such animal and shall will be without proper care because of injury, illness, impound them at the Animal Welfare Center.

- 3-202: Duties of Animal Welfare Supervisor (mod)
- destroy with firearms or other methods any dangerous animal when (c) The Animal Welfare Officer may within the City, search out and causing an immediate threat to a human or another animal after a reasonable attempt is unable to be captured.
- Removes the "pack of dogs" not causing any harm
- Previously was agricultural areas only

- 3-202: Duties of Animal Welfare Supervisor (mod)
- (d) Requires fees to be paid before impounded animals are released.
- Allows the Supervisor to waive part or all the fees to allow an animal to be returened to its owner.
- Based on documentable, reasonable and necessary needs.
- Supervisor or his/her designee from seizing and/or forfeiting an impounded animal pursuant to any other provision of the City (f) Nothing in this section shall prevent the Animal Welfare ordinance or state law.

- 3-203. Fees, charges, and deposits (mod)
- Cleans up language of fees charged.
- Add those on the Administrative List, but not in ordinance.
- Clarifies fees are on file in City Clerk's Office

- 3-205. Sale and disposition of animals not retrieved by owners (mod)
- domestic animals other than dogs and cats sale by auction may released or sold to any facility for educational, scientific and/or euthanasia, or transfer to <u>another animal welfare groups, an</u> be utilized as outlined in state law. No live animals shall be animal rescue group or other animal welfare facility. For (d)disposal may include but not limited to adoptions, medical research.
- (e) Outlines reasons adoptions could be refused

- 3-206 Owner relinquishment (new)
- Provides guidelines for when an owner relinquishes ownership of an animal.
- Shall be screened for placement into the adoption program.
- If accepted, owner will complete a release of ownership form.
- If space is not available, the owner will be referred to other Animal Welfare groups / rescues.

- 3-206 Owner relinquishment (new)
- Provides guidelines for when an owner relinquishes ownership of an animal.
- Generally not accepted solely for the purpose of euthanasia.
- Owner must declare the animal a dangerous animal, or
- and/or injury and that the animal needs to be euthanized for Owner must declare the animal untreatable due to disease humanitarian reasons.

- 3-207 Refusal to redeem impounded animal (new)
- Requires owner to redeem as soon as reasonably possible
- 3-208 Quarantine of animals which injure humans (Mod)
- Requires quarantine of a bite animal in accordance with Health Department regulations.
- Makes it unlawful to refuse to quarantine a bite animal.

- 3-211 to 223 Pet License Required (new and mod)
- License still required, clarifies moving into City or changing ownership.
- Allows for a one (1) or three (3) year license, to correspond with new three (3) year rabies vaccinations.
- License valid for set time period, from date of purchase, only while rabies vaccination is valid.
- Still allows for cost reductions and for part of fee to go to non-city licensing locations.

- (new and mod) 3-211 to 223 Pet License Required
- Anti-rabies vaccination required
- Tags to be issued and displayed
- Allows use of micro chip for identification
- Requires tags to be displayed upon request
- Lost tags
- Counterfeit tags

- 3-224 Authority to euthanize
- Provides codified authority to euthanize animals.
- Affected with any dangerous, painful, incurable, communicable disease; or
- Incurably crippled or suffering after reasonable efforts to notify the owner.

- 3-301 Cruelty to Animals (Mod)
- verbally or physically confront any animal, whether confined or unconfined, in (7) It shall be unlawful to intentionally torment, harass, throw objects at, a manner to cause unjustified agitation or injury to the animal.
- (8) No person shall cause an animal to be overloaded or forced to work in a manner unsuitable to its species, breed, condition or health so as to cause injury to the animal.
- possession, care or control, reasonable medical or necessary veterinary care (9) No person shall fail to provide or deprive, any animal in their if the animal is sick, diseased, and/or injured.

- 3-302 Transportation of animals in open areas of motor vehicles (new)
- unintentionally fall, jump or be thrown from the vehicle and be injured ...to transport an animal in the open area where the animal could or killed.
- Safely tethered
- Enclosed in an carrier of adaquate size and properly ventilated

- 3-302 Animals that are nuisances (mod)
- (a) No person shall own, keep, possess, or harbor any animal that is a nuisance unless the animal is confined on the premises of the owner as described in section 3-109.
- Upon conviction the animal may be ordered to be confined on the premsis of the owner.
- Upon three convictions within a 12 month period, the animal will be ordered to be removed from the city or destroyed, owner's choice.

Ordinance:

- 3-402 Confinement of dogs and cats (Mod)
- Removes the exemption for areas zoned A-1 and A-2.
- Some Parks and School areas in town still fall in this exemption.

3-403 Prohibition of dogs and cats in certain areas

- Guide, signal or service dogs changed to a service animal.
- animals in places were food or drinks are dispensed commercially Included source, Oklahoma Administrative Code, for prohibiting

- 3-465 Number of dogs and/or cats allowed
- Adds: or any combination thereof to all sections
- Combines the limit for altered and unaltered animals.
- 2 dogs unaltered and 4 dogs maximum if all are altered
- 3 cats unaltered and 6 cats maximum if all are altered

- 3-476 Sale of dogs or cats
- Cleans up language
- Animal Welfare Groups doing off-site sales or adoption events must be an approved registered group with the City.

- 3-501 Keeping of animals other than dogs and cats
- Removes limitation of only on land on which the owner resides
- Example: Farmer leasing pasture land for cattle.

- 3-601 to 611 Dangerous Animals
- Prohibited to possess of a Dangerous Animal, except in compliance with provisions in this Section.
- Cannot bring animal declared dangerous by other governmental entity (city) with out complying with provisions in this Section.

- 3-601 to 611 Dangerous Animals
- Unlawful to keep or allow animals to bite or attack.
- Must report all animal bites.
- Animal bites will be investigated by Animal Welfare.
- Bite animals must be confined during investigation.

- 3-601 to 611 Dangerous Animals
- If incident meets criteria for classification of a dangerous animal a municipal citation will be issued.
- Conviction in Municipal Court will deem animal as a Dangerous Animal.
- Animal may remain in City limits under following restrictions, or
- Animal may be removed from City limits, or
- Animal may be euthanized

Ordinance:

- 3-601 to 611 Dangerous Animals
- Dangerous Animal Permit required:
- Annual Dangerous Animal Permit fee required
- Leash and Muzzle when outside kennel

Confinement: Indoors or enclosed locked pen

- Signs to be posted
- Proof of Vaccinations and license
- Photo on file at Animal Welfare
- Micro-chipping required
- Minimum \$100,000 liability insurance
- Notification of change of status (loss, escapes, death)
- Notification of change of ownership

Ordinance:

3-601 to 611 Dangerous Animals

Exemptions to classifications

- Animal is confined on own property and attacked by other animal.
- Person was committing a willful trespass.
- Tormenting, abusing, or assaulting the animal.
- Committing a crime.

- 13-1205 Dangerous animal permit
- \$100 initial fee, \$50 annual renewal
- At least one inspection conducted annually

Questions or Comments

MORC AND DRIVE ted from 36th Avenue NW. affic control devices will be iced to protect the public d direct motorist around a closure.

- Staff Reports

exington nan dies

One person died at the ene of a fatality collision, eveland County Sheriff PIO eghan McCormick said. Family members identid the victim as longtime xington resident Robert liam Haley. The crash happened

iturday at 7:15 a.m. in the 1700 block of Box Read in eveland County. The victim normally walked that area in the mornings. ore details will emerge after

estigations are complete.

— Staff Reports

IORD f the day

SCOP (n) scop [skop]

an Old English bard or poet. ample: As a child, he'd ight out the tales told in marketplace or in the cient songs, passed down m one scop to another.

- Dictionary.com

nsored by:



INSURANCE Monty Moore

321-0153

INSIDE

Business C1 Classifieds D5 Crossword B7

Deaths



Sarah Kirby / The Transcript

Nanette Martin gets a sloppy kiss from Oedipus, her "souvenir" from Hurricane Katrina. Martin is the cofounder of Shelter Me Photography, a non-for-profit organization that provides on site professional photography and shelter-photography workshops.

Frame of mind

Photographer uses craft to encourage adoptions of abandoned pets

By Sarah Kirby Transcript Staff Writer

Some may say that a picture is worth a thousand words, but some photos are worth saving the lives of abandoned animals.

Area shelter workers and aspiring photographers developed skills to help place a cat or dog with a forever home Saturday at the former Norman Army Reserve Center. The facility served as a makeshift studio for participants

while they took photos of the canine volunteer subjects from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

International award-winning editorial and documentary

See PETS Page A2