

From: "Fran Carey" <franc@blackfoot.net>
To: <lhs@blackfoot.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2006 4:14 PM
Subject: Fw: Larry & Nadene A. Latzke dogs

Lhs@cm
726-4245

EXHIBIT 3
DATE 3/3/11
NR 515

----- Original Message -----

From: Fran Carey
To: Evelyn.M.Celli@aphis.usda.gov
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2006 3:52 PM
Subject: Larry & Nadene A. Latzke dogs

Hello:

My name is Frances Carey. I was given your e-mail address by Linda Schure, as she asked if I would write to you and give you information about ~~the dogs~~ dogs.

La Kennel's

When we learned that they were moving in next door to us and that they would have approximately 500 dogs, I called the county attorney and asked what rights we have as citizens and neighbors. I was basically told by him that we had no rights, and that whoever had the biggest pocket book for a law suite would be how our rights would be determined. The area is not zoned. Well, you can imagine what it is like when 500 dogs start barking. It about drives us nuts. We and most of our neighbors signed a petition against them, but nothing was done with it. We turned it in to the Lake County Sheriff's office. Basically, if the ~~dogs~~ were up playing loud music at their place we could complain and they would get in trouble. They can have 500 dogs barking, and nothing is done about that. All of us that live around them are just sick of listening to the dogs barking.

Another thing of interest is that they had their dog septic system pumped and they had it all dumped on the field right next to our house in about 90 degree weather. We couldn't hardly stand to be outside for about a week after they spread dog crap all over about 100 to 200 feet from our house. The next time they pumped it, I found out they were doing it and called the Lake County Sanitation Department and complained. They got one load dumped before we got them stopped, but the county said there is a dumping station for that, and they made them take the next load to it and dump. That was last summer. They haven't had it pumped since then, but I think it needs it again, as sometimes when we pass their place coming by on the county road you can smell the dog sewage.

They go on trips and take the dogs to sell at auctions out of state. They just returned home last night from one of those trips. The time before last when they went, (they take the dogs in a big 5th wheel camper) when they got home they took their camper out in the field and dumped the sewer from it out in the field next to our property. That's human sewage they dumped from the campers holding tank.

Their attitude toward everyone living around them is (too bad, everyone will just have to live with it). I heard they were ran out of the state they lived in before coming to Montana.

The dogs are kept in three buildings in small wire cages, stacked 2 or 3 high. They do not get any exercise, as they are kept in cages their whole lives. One of the neighbors saw ~~one~~ take one of the males out one day. He could hardly even walk, as all he does is live in a wire cage and breed dogs.

Having this puppy mill in our neighborhood lowers the value of our property. Who would want to move next door to 500 or more dogs???

I just feel this is inhumane for these dogs. They certainly don't have a good life, by any means. It just makes me furious that people like this can just move in and destroy a good neighborhood. They are seldom home to listen to their own dogs, as they are on the road a lot of the time selling them. They also do not do any weed control on their property. The place is going to weeds and they spread to everyone around them.

Well, now you have my story about the situation. Any help to stop this situation would be welcome by everyone in our area.

Sincerely,

Frances Carey
fcarey@lakecountybank.com

Original letter
sent to county sheriff
and Mitch Young
along w/ enclosures

April 2, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

The intent of this letter is to provide the facts about the health status of two dogs I purchased from [REDACTED] Kennels last September. My objective is to make the appropriate authorities aware that [REDACTED] Kennels is failing to provide their dogs with the minimum level of care that is required by law.

On September 26th 2005, I examined a puppy belonging to Mary Jo Barrett. The puppy had recently been purchased from [REDACTED] Kennels and was presented to me for a post-purchase exam. The puppy had numerous problems which led me to inquire about the presence of other puppies at the facility. Mary Jo expressed great concern about the remaining puppy in the litter that appeared very frail and sick. I immediately contacted [REDACTED] Kennels about purchasing this puppy since it was clear by Mary Jo's description that the puppy was in dire need of veterinary care. The following day I spoke with [REDACTED] who owns [REDACTED] Kennels with her husband [REDACTED]. They agreed to sell me the puppy and offered to sell her mother as well as they were preparing to take her that day to a puppy mill auction in the Midwest.

On September 27th 2005, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] delivered two Bernese Mountain Dogs to my place of business, Four Paws Veterinary Clinic, located at 2625 Connery Way, in Missoula. The puppy, born 3/6/05, was obviously very sick and her emaciated condition suggested that she had been ill for a long time. [REDACTED] sold the puppy to me for \$300.00 as a "bargain" puppy and offered no guarantee and no registration. She admitted that she was not proud of the way this puppy looked. This puppy who I named "Minnow" (microchip # 076 113 061) was seriously underweight at 24 pounds (the average BMD at 7 months is 55-60 pounds). I examined her immediately upon purchase and she had a temperature of 105 degrees, she was struggling to breathe, had a mucopurulent nasal discharge and a severe cough. Radiographs of her chest indicated a severe pneumonia. She also had skin problems and 2 types of intestinal parasites. I contacted Dr. [REDACTED] who provides veterinary services for [REDACTED] Kennel and he claimed to have never seen this dog. I provided Minnow with aggressive medical care for 1 month, including an evaluation by an internal medicine specialist. Despite the aggressive care, Minnow needed to be euthanized on October 22, 2005. Her medical care came too late to save her life.

I claim that, according to the Montana Anti-Cruelty Statutes 45-8-211 (1cii), the owners of [REDACTED] Kennels, committed the offense of cruelty to animals by failing to provide an animal in their custody with appropriate medical care by a licensed veterinarian. I claim that appropriate medical care at the onset of illness could have

cured Minnow's pneumonia. Failure to provide her with veterinary care caused her pain, suffering and eventual death.

The second dog (Penny Bear – microchip # 087-823-312) was sold to me for \$600. Born 3/17/04, she had already had a litter of puppies. She was dirty, had a very poor brittle, discolored hair coat. She was very timid and fearful. She had a foul smelling, dark brown vaginal discharge. Vaginal cytology suggested a uterine infection. Her ears were dirty and she had whipworms. I started her on antibiotics and spayed her 5 days later. At the time of spay I also radiographed her hips and found her to have hip dysplasia. At the time of purchase I asked the ~~XXXXXX~~ why they were selling her. They told me that it was because she had too many puppies. 1 ½ weeks later when I told the ~~XXXXXX~~ that she had hip dysplasia they told me that that is why they sold her.

I claim that as in the case of Minnow, ~~XXXXXX~~ Kennels failed to provide Penny with appropriate veterinary care. Further more they knowingly misrepresented their reason for selling Penny.

The Montana Department of Livestock requires that a certificate of veterinary inspection be completed for any dog being transported out of state. This certificate must include a correct description and identification of each animal including any tests and vaccinations required by the state of Montana per species. Since I literally bought Penny Bear off the truck enroute to the auction, I also received her Montana Certificate of Veterinary Inspection and her rabies certificate. Both documents are incorrect. These documents reflect a microchip number belonging to Penny but state her age to be 6 months on 9/21/05 rather than 18 months. Both documents are legal documents that have been falsified.

Enclosed with this letter are copies of the following:

Montana Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (Penny Bear)
Certificate of Vaccination (Penny Bear)
Record of Disposition of Dogs and Cats (sale)
Bill of Sale
Copies of Medical Records (Minnow and Penny)
Copies of Veterinary Bills (Minnow and Penny)
Picture of Minnow

I would appreciate your involvement in this case. Please contact me if you have any questions or need any more documentation.

Sincerely,



Patti Prato, DVM
2625 Connery Way
Missoula, Montana 59808
(406) 542-3838 – Work
(406) 273-7823 – Home
pratop@qwest.net

■ *Puppy mills*

Happy to have found loving dog

Karyn Moltzen, with her Jan. 13 guest column on puppy mills, wrote about my dog Hope.

Hope is a Karelian Bear Dog (the breed's actual registered name, even though she has never seen a bear) and was one of those females who was forced to pumped out babies as fast as her little body could produce them.

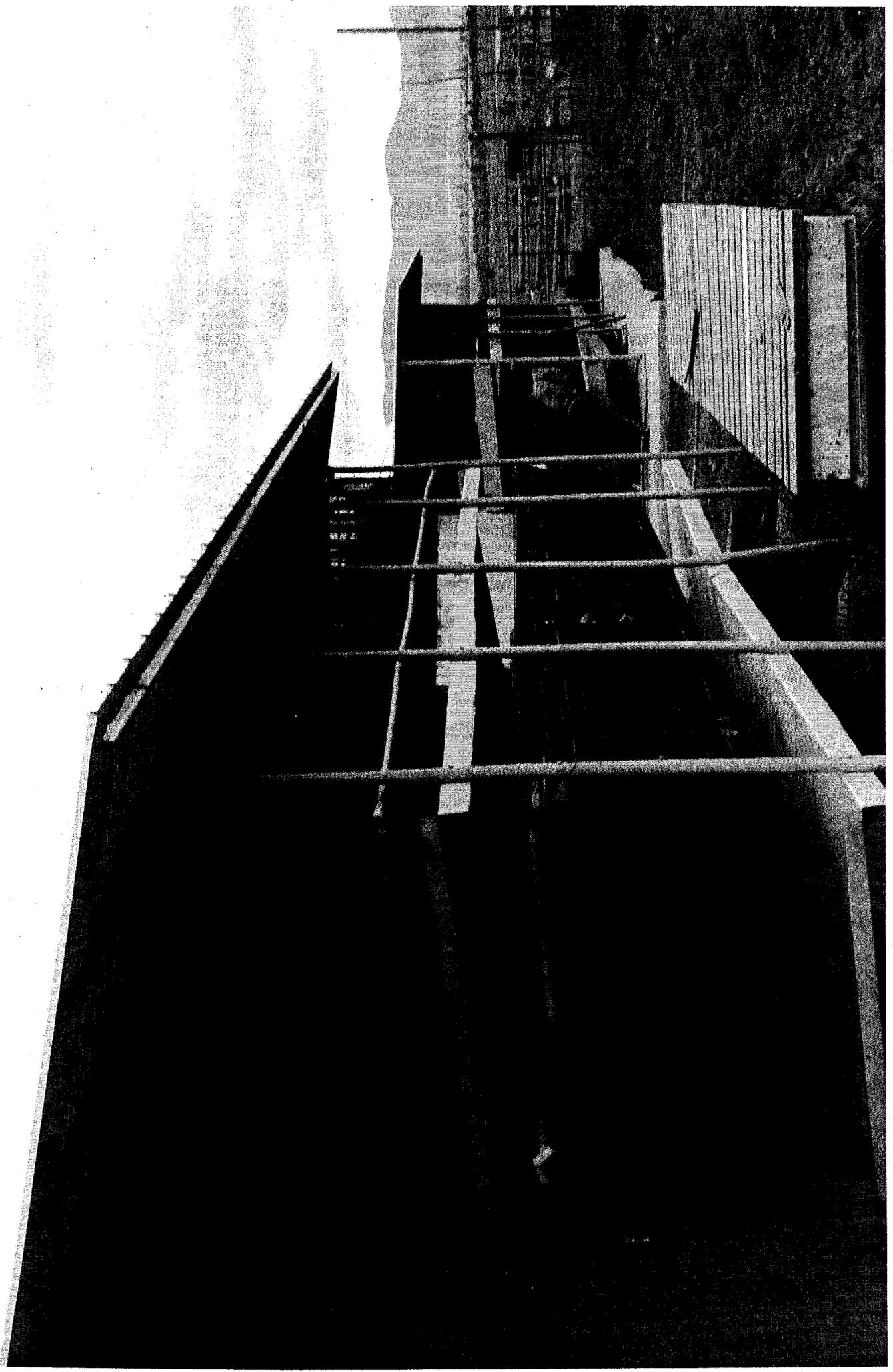
I first saw her running loose in Glacier National Park, six miles within the park's boundary. I tried, but couldn't catch her. Asking around, I found out she belonged to a fellow who lived just outside the park. I called and his response was, "Yeah, that sounds like my dog. I got her free from an ad a month ago but the day I got her I realized she wasn't the gal for me so I turned her loose. I have her papers and if you catch her you can have her." It took two weeks, but I finally did catch her. According to her papers, she was 6 years old.

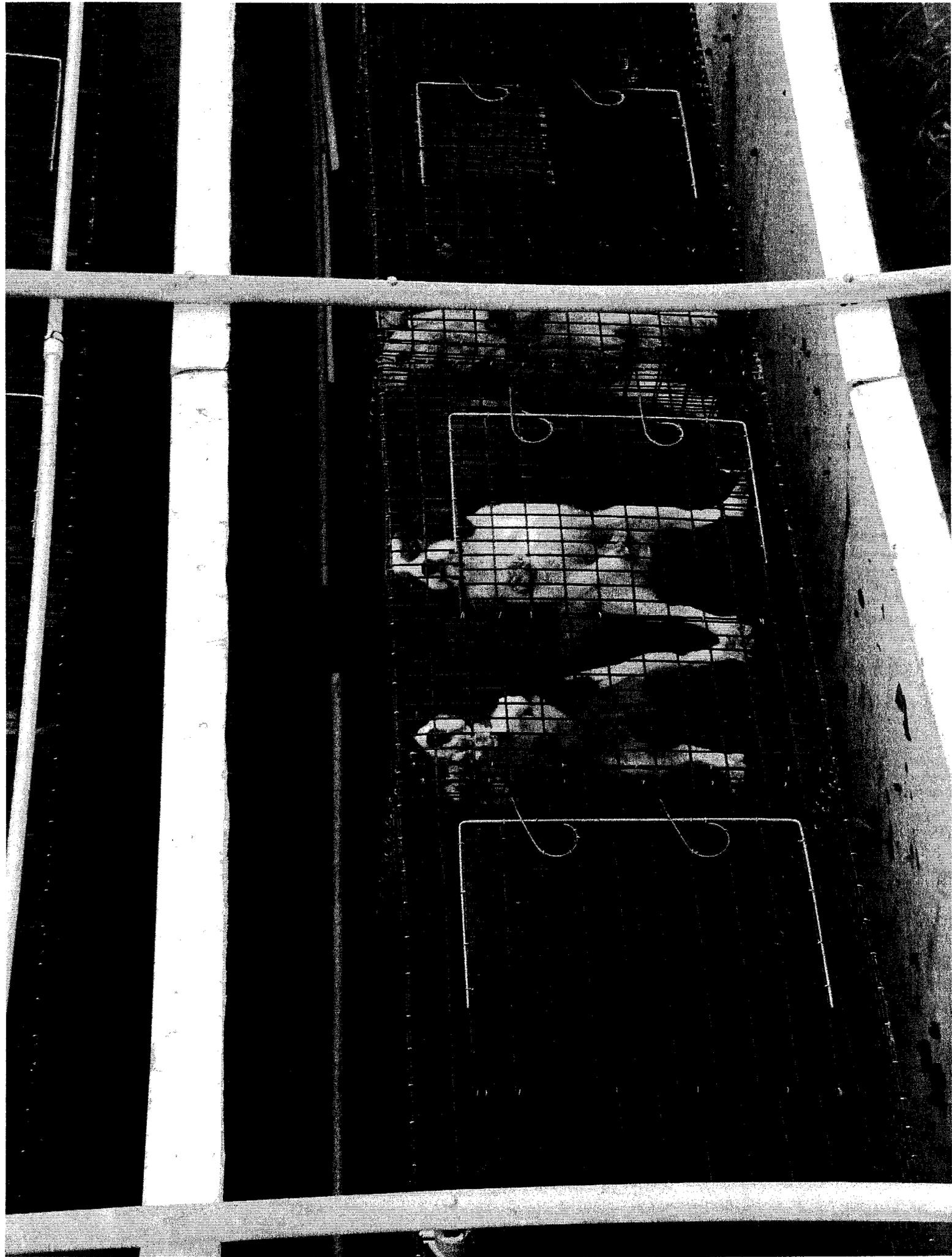
Hope's background: She "originated" from a puppy mill in Northwest Montana. Someone who knew of the facility told me that the owner had a few hundred KDBs living in squalid conditions, and if they barked she would blast them with a pellet gun. Hope's face is still scarred, probably from trying to break free from her cages. She had never been socialized with people. It took six months for her to make eye contact with me.

Hope is an old girl now, will be 16 in February. We have had a darned good life together these past nine-and-a-half years, and I am so grateful I found her.

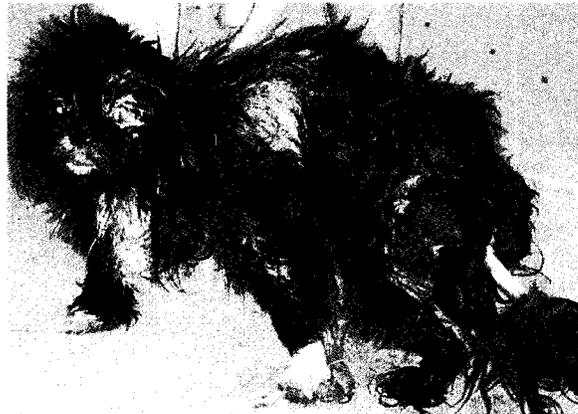
*Carleen Gonder,
Greenough*

PICTURES FROM MONTANA COMMERCIAL BREEDING FACILITIES









This dog, rescued from a puppy mill, is suffering from a severe case of untreated mange and a ruptured eye.

"Brood Bitches"

Dogs that are kept in puppy mills their entire lives are called "brood bitches." They are typically undernourished and receive little veterinary care, in spite of being kept perpetually pregnant. Their puppies are frequently taken from them before being weaned; as a result, some puppies do not know how to eat and die of starvation. At approximately six or seven years of age, when they can no longer breed more puppies, "brood bitches" are killed.



This "brood bitch" will have many more litters before she is killed.



The hind leg of this "brood bitch" was eaten off by another dog in a puppy mill. She lay for two days without medical attention -- even though the puppy miller was aware of her condition -- and died in a hospital shortly after being rescued.



This mill dog's body is covered with sores. Her cage barely allows her room to turn around.

The Problem with Pet Stores

- Most of the puppies sold in pet stores come from puppy mills. Purchasing pet store animals entails not only supporting the cruel puppy mill industry but also taking a home away from one of the 17 to 20 million unwanted animals who are killed each year.
- Because of the inbreeding and filthy conditions common to puppy mills, they often produce animals with serious health problems, which typically result in hefty vet fees for adopters.
- Pet stores generally do not socialize their animals; the puppies may consequently develop behavioral problems which make them far from ideal pets.
- Most pet shops do not check the references or histories of their customers. They therefore send animals home with potentially abusive and irresponsible "owners" without taking even the slightest precautions.
- Pet shops dispose of unsold animals in, at times, unscrupulous ways. For instance, former pet store employees have reported finding animals starved or frozen to death.
- Cockroach and rodent infestation may spread disease to animals in pet shops.
- The overcrowding common in pet stores sometimes causes animals such as birds to beat up on one another.

Ailments Common to Pet Store Puppies

- Parvovirus
- Distemper
- Upper respiratory disease
- Diarrhea

- Ear infections
- Eye infections
- Worms
- Mange
- Coccidia
- Giardia

Transportation and Sale

At four to eight weeks of age, puppies are taken from their mothers and sold to brokers (or retail businesses). The brokers then pack them in crates and transport them for sale at various pet shops. Frequently, the puppies are not provided with adequate food, water, ventilation, or shelter during transport; consequently, many die en route. Those that are not sold will be killed, brought back to the mill to breed, or sold to laboratories for research.



Cramped, filthy conditions like the ones in this mill are common to the industry.

Photo Credit: Animal Protection Institute

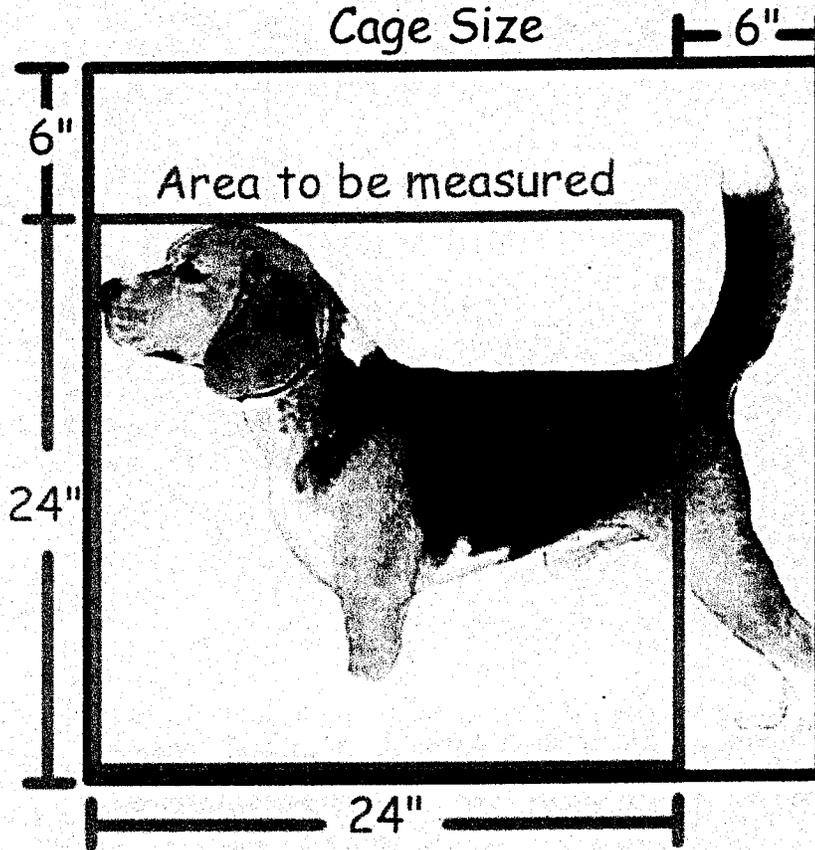
Diseases Common to Puppy Mill Dogs

- Deafness
- Epilepsy
- Cataracts
- Eye lesions
- Retinal degeneration
- Glaucoma
- Hip dysplasia
- Retardation
- Personality disorders such as excessive aggression
- Dislocated kneecaps
- Periodontal disease
- Mammary tumors

[left.htm]

Using USDA minimum standards, Oliver is measured from the tip of his nose to the base of his tail (as shown in red). To determine cage size, you add six inches from the top of his skull, and six inches to the back. The width of the cage is then squared to get an overall cage size.

Copyright © 1998-2007 All Rights Reserved
Kim Townsend * 22000 State Route "J" * Newburg, MO 65550



[left.htm]

USDA requires that dogs be exercised at least five times a week for thirty minutes a day, however if a kennel doesn't want to exercise a dog they can simply provide the dog with two times (2X) the minimum cage space. Using USDA's guide, the below image illustrates the standard size cage in which a dog in a commercial kennel will live its entire life! With the exercise rule safely skirted, Oliver would NEVER be let out of this cage, EVER!

* This is not an over-dramatization, This is what it means to be USDA licensed.

