

## Spring at the ranch means new crop of calves

Spring calving season has started at the Callicrate cattle operation in St. Francis, Kan., owned by Ranch Foods Direct founder Mike Callicrate. Two Great Pyrenees puppies, Callie and Polly, are being raised and trained to patrol the ranch and help guard the calves from predators during the calving season. These stark white heavy-coated dogs are strong and athletic, naturally territorial, and bred to withstand the cold as they work faithfully to protect livestock.

### Continuing inspiration from an animal welfare pioneer

The Callicrate Cattle Company has adopted many practices from consultations by international livestock handling expert Temple Grandin, shown below. A professor in Colorado State University's animal science department, Grandin is an animal welfare pioneer famous for designing improved corrals, loading pens and processing plants. She also speaks openly about being autistic, the challenges and the special gifts that have resulted from her condition.

We last featured Grandin in our April 2009 newsletter after the release of her book, *Animals Make Us Human*, the definitive resource for understanding proper pet and livestock care. Now available in paperback, it is a bestseller.

Grandin's stirring life story and her insights are the subject of a new HBO movie, starring Claire Danes as Grandin, which debuted last month and will eventually be sold on DVD.

