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As a several year resident of Maine I'm horrified to learn about the brutal and shameful coyote-killing contests. Over the years I've heard testimonies about the superb ecological benefits of coyotes. As the primary predators here they help against the threat of Lyme and other serious tick diseases by controlling mice. Many farmers are appreciative of their rodent control. It's important to note that coyotes are not dangerous. Killing coyotes is futile in reducing population as litters are increased after killing sprees. Such killing can only appeal to the basest human behavior. Please protect the American song dog by ending this cruel inhumane killing!