

Winter 2007

ASPCA[®] Mission: Orange[™] Heads West

The ASPCA launches its
groundbreaking program in Spokane





A Note From Ed Sayres

The ASPCA never takes a holiday from saving animals. We have worked tirelessly over the years, and every act of compassion that we have been able to extend has added up to thousands upon thousands of loving animals getting a second chance at happy, healthy lives. Under the leadership of the ASPCA, our nation's capacity to combat animal cruelty improves constantly.

In the last year, our team faced unprecedented challenges and broke new ground. During the pet food recall crisis we were there serving as a resource for thousands of pet parents. When dog-fighting allegations involving Michael Vick arose, we were there bringing an end to the brutal conditions these dogs suffered and ensuring those responsible would be brought to justice.

This year also brought the launch of ASPCA® Mission: Orange™, and it's already having an impact by boosting adoptions and expanding anti-cruelty trainings and low-cost spay and neuter services in communities nationwide. Shelter by shelter and community by community, the ASPCA is bringing about immediate, measurable and sustainable change for the animals we are honor-bound to protect.

I would like to take this time to thank you for being there for us, which has allowed us, in turn, to be there for the animals we serve. Best wishes to you and your family at this special time of year.

Edwin Sayres
ASPCA President & CEO

ASPCA Action

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ASPCA® Mission: Orange™ Heads West

Spokane teams up with ASPCA to create humane community

On the tail of successful launches in Austin, TX, Gulfport-Biloxi, MS, Philadelphia, PA and Tampa, FL, on May 16, Spokane, WA became the latest city to team up with the ASPCA to launch ASPCA® Mission: Orange™ in its community – a collaborative effort to create a “humane community” by curbing the needless euthanasia of adoptable pets.

Through partnerships with local community groups and animal welfare agencies in target communities nation-

wide, ASPCA Mission: Orange works to improve save rates, prevent animal cruelty and create model humane communities. More specifically, the two main goals of ASPCA Mission: Orange are to increase adoptions by 10 percent in the first year, and move towards a 75 percent save rate over the course of the three-year campaign.

The ASPCA will work closely with Spokane County Regional Animal Protection Services (SCRAPS), SpokAnimal C.A.R.E. and the Spokane Humane Society to create innovative programs to boost adoptions of shelter pets and expand anti-cruelty training and low-cost spay and neuter services.

“I am extremely pleased that so many wonderful agencies in Spokane are joining with us to make their city a true humane community, where no animal is at risk simply because it lacks a home,” says ASPCA President & CEO, Ed Sayres. “As we work collaboratively



Left to right: Gail Mackie, Executive Director, SpokAnimal C.A.R.E.; John Pilcher, COO, City of Spokane; Ed Sayres, President & CEO, ASPCA; Dave Richardson, Executive Director, Spokane Humane Society; Mark Richard, Spokane County Commissioner; Nancy Hill, Director, SCRAPS.

toward achieving this goal, I am confident that the citizens of Spokane will support their community leaders in doing this, and recognize them for what they are – true heroes of the community.”

\$200,000 will be invested annually in Spokane over the next three years toward capacity-building and animal welfare efforts. An assessment study has been conducted by the ASPCA, and its Spokane shelter partners will help determine specifically how funding will be allocated.

Spokane is already demonstrating its commitment towards creating a humane community for animals. The three ASPCA Mission: Orange partners are receiving training and have committed to work toward a community-wide implementation of the Meet Your Match™ adoption program. In August, the city of Spokane took a major step forward by passing Ordinance C34045,

which prohibits the sale of animals on public property, protecting homeless animals from being sold or given away without the benefit of a secure and healthy adoption environment. In September, several local animal adoption groups participated in a booth at the county fair hosted by SCRAPS and sponsored by the ASPCA. Animals were available for adoption and educational materials were provided to the public.

October was a busy month. Pet Savers, a spay/neuter clinic, held a community-wide 'cat fix' weekend performing over 200 surgeries. Several spay/neuter veterinarians from SpokAnimal C.A.R.E., Spokane Humane Society, PetSavers and surrounding communities, attended a national spay/neuter conference, learning the latest information about high volume, high quality, spay/neuter programs and networking with each other. Additionally, C.E.O. Robin Starr and Board Chair, Anne Grier, from the Richmond, VA SPCA visited Spokane and gave a public presentation about their experiences in the journey to make Richmond, VA a humane community. As the "learning laboratory" for ASPCA Mission: Orange 2007 target communities, the Richmond SPCA is sharing its resources and expertise through learning and exchange programs to help these communities.

"We're extremely proud of what our ASPCA Mission: Orange partners have accomplished in such a short time," says Sayres. "The continued efforts of these dedicated organizations and individuals to improve the lives of animals make this campaign a model for the entire nation." ■

Making Great Strides

Austin: EmanciPET, a mobile and stationary spay and neuter clinic in Austin, treated 1,431 dogs and cats in September, making for a total of 12,985 surgeries so far this year! Additionally, the Austin Humane Society's (AHS) Feral Cat Spay Neuter Program is on track to hit the goal of sterilizing 1,500 cats this year. The program is ramping up to fix 5,000 feral cats in 2008. AHS also recently added three new community cat adoption rooms to their facilities, where feline residents lounge and play together in the sun, allowing adopters to meet them in a more natural environment.

Gulfport-Biloxi: Between May and July 2007, adoptions at the Humane Society of South Mississippi increased by 11 percent (from 1,199 to 1,330), while transfers were down 36 percent compared to the same period last year (from 548 to 353). Also of note is the news that "returns to owner" during these three months (i.e. animals that were turned in to the shelter that were redeemed by/returned to their owners) were up 24 percent (from 219 to 271), and surgeries at the Humane Society's high-volume spay/neuter clinic were up 78 percent (from 1,274 to 2,266). "We are thrilled with the recent successes we have had at the adoption center," says Tara High, Executive Director of the Humane Society. "We have been working extremely hard on a local level to implement positive changes in animal welfare, and are proud to be an ASPCA Mission: Orange target community."

Philadelphia: The Philadelphia Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) opened the doors to its new downtown adoption center in October, located in the heart of Olde City. The adoption center makes it possible for center city residents to adopt dogs and cats without traveling to the shelter or waiting for special events. The PAWS Adoption Center provides a tremendous opportunity to save lives, raise awareness, and increase the community's involvement in its mission.

Tampa: The city of Tampa has experienced great success in increasing adoptions. In May, local ASPCA Mission: Orange partners participated in a large-scale pet adopt-a-thon at the Florida State Fairgrounds where more than 170 cats and dogs were adopted. Between May and July 2007, adoptions in Tampa were up by 51 percent compared with the same period last year. Additionally, the Humane Society of Tampa Bay's 8th Annual Pet Telethon was met with a huge response. Held on August 4th and 5th, the telethon raised more than \$160,000 and found new homes for 84 cats and dogs.



Safe Steps Home

Through our partnership with Fresh Step® Scoopable Cat Litter, the ASPCA announced grant recipients for this year's Safe Steps Home™ program. Safe Steps Home was created in 2000 to help rescue cats in need through innovation, education and prevention. Thanks to funding made available by Fresh Step Scoopable Cat Litter (<http://www.freshstep.com/safesteps.html>), the program improves the lives of homeless cats and combats cat overpopulation nationwide.

In 2007, grants have been awarded to the following shelters:

Animal Management Division of Prince George's County,
Prince George County, MD
Safe Haven for Cats, Raleigh, NC
Capital Area Animal Welfare Society, Baton Rouge, LA
Humane Society of Tampa Bay, Tampa, FL
Citizens for Animal Protection, Houston, TX
MEOW Cat Rescue, Seattle, WA
East Bay SPCA, Oakland, CA
Cat Care Society, Lakewood, CO
Animal Humane Society, Golden Valley, MN
MSPCA, Boston, MA
Our Companions Animal Sanctuary, Bloomfield, CT
Pennsylvania SPCA, Philadelphia, PA



These shelters were also invited to participate in the Fresh Step Pet Den at 2007 Animal Planet Expo events. Adoptable animals were on hand and local vets from the shelters answered cat care questions. Fresh Step also supported ASPCA® Mission: Orange™ and Adopt-A-Shelter Cat Month through advertising grants and special promotions focused on the adoption of shelter cats awaiting loving homes. ASPCA veterinarians participated in Ask-The-Vet sessions and spoke with local media in Tampa and Philadelphia at the Animal Planet Expo events as part of the collaboration to raise awareness for homeless cats in these communities.

Honor Giving During the Holidays

With the holidays right around the corner, many of us find ourselves in the same quandary – what do you get for the person who has everything? Why not give a gift that keeps giving? An Honor, Tribute or Memorial Gift is a wonderful way to celebrate the special people, pets and events in your life – and give the gift of life to animals in need. If you are interested in giving this way, log onto www.aspc.org/donate or contact Linda Tiramani, Manager of Special Giving, ASPCA, 424 E. 92nd Street, NY, NY 10128, email: lindat@aspc.org.



Prepare To Meet Your Match™!

New classification system helps adopters select a feline companion



Dr. Emily Weiss, Coordinator of Meet Your Match.

When choosing a pet to bring into your home, it can be difficult to distinguish which, among the many adorable faces in the shelter will be the best fit for you and your lifestyle. That's why, in following with our successful Meet Your Match™ Canine-ality and Puppy-ality programs, the ASPCA has launched Feline-ality, the newest addition to the Meet Your Match adoption programs, aimed at helping potential adopters choose their perfect feline companion. Meet Your Match is currently the

only research based method available to shelters nationwide that specifically combines both the adopter's preferences and the animal's behavior to create the perfect match.

"The animals most at-risk in the companion animal world are those in shelters," says ASPCA President & CEO Ed Sayres, "and increasing and maintaining successful adoptions is an extremely critical element to providing these animals the second chance they so richly deserve."

The Feline-ality program helps to dispel the myth that cats have no distinguishing characteristics other than their looks. By assessing a feline's behavior and interest in play, exploration, "talking" and being the center of attention while in the shelter environment, shelter experts can predict how the cat will behave once they are adopted into a new loving home. During the assessment, cats are categorized into one of nine "feline-alitys" that fall into a tri-color coded system. A cat might be a purple "private investigator" that may need a few

days to adjust in the new home, a green "adventurer" or an orange "personal assistant" just raring to help you read your newspaper!

Potential adopters are asked to fill out surveys about their personal preferences and lifestyle to identify which feline-alitys they are most compatible with. Based on their answers, adopters are given color recommendations that help them to easily pinpoint which felines in the shelter are best suited to them. Even if adopters choose a cat outside of their recommended color range, the Meet Your Match tools will still help them to make a good match, and go home with the right expectations.

Based on two years of research including beta testing at five shelters around the country, the program has experienced encouraging results. Initial beta testing showed up to a 46% increase in adoptions, while returns and euthanasia decreased by up to 40%.

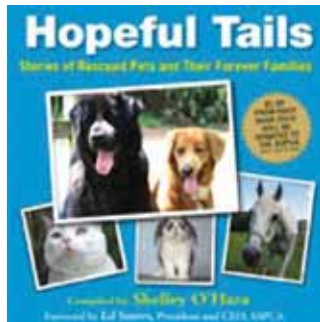
"The key to developing successful adoptions lies in making good matches between adopters and pets, based on the behavior of the pet, and the lifestyle and expectations of the adopter, thus creating lasting bonds," says Dr. Emily Weiss, Senior Director of Shelter Behavioral Programs at the ASPCA, and researcher of ASPCA's Meet Your Match. "Feline-ality is a tool that does precisely this; and everyone – adopters, shelter staff and most of all, the cats – benefits from the program." ■



An Interactive Zoo

Over 25,000 animal lovers came out for the last stop on the annual Animal Planet Expo tour in Coatesville, PA on August 18. Visitors got up close and personal with exotic creatures from around the world in the Animal House and visited with creepy crawlers at the Bug House. Other fun-filled activities included high-flying Frisbee dog shows, live animal presentations and the Kids' Zone, which had face painting, interactive trivia games and an 18-foot Spider Mountain climbing tower. Pets joined in on the fun, "chilling out" at the Expo's pet watering holes and misters.

The makers of Fresh Step® litter sponsored the Pet Den, which provided opportunities for pet adoption. The Den also hosted an Ask-The-Vet session, where pet parents got advice on pet-related issues from ASPCA Veterinarian Dr. Louise Murray. As part of the Expo, which was sponsored by Animal Planet and Comcast, the ASPCA, along with the makers of Fresh Step® litter made a \$10,000 donation to the Pennsylvania SPCA. ■



Borders Pet Project

The ASPCA teamed up with Howell Book House and Borders, Inc., for the Borders Book Project, a nationwide contest inviting pet parents to share their stories of animal rescue and adoption. Winning entries were compiled to create *Hopeful Tails: Stories of Rescued Pets and Their Forever Families*, a heartwarming collection of inspirational stories. The book is available exclusively at Borders and Waldenbooks stores nation-

wide, and online at www.bordersstores.com.

One dollar from the sale of every book sold through June 30, 2008 will be donated to the ASPCA.

"Ask pet parents to tell you their rescue stories, and you'll inevitably find how an oftentimes chance visit to the local shelter has irrevocably changed and enriched their lives," says Ed Sayres, President & CEO of the ASPCA, and author of the foreword for *Hopeful Tails*. ■

Remembering Ellie

It was a bittersweet visit to the ASPCA Adoption Center for Mary-Jo Duffy and her husband Matt on September 30; the plaque memorializing their beloved Pit Bull, Ellie, served as a painful, yet uplifting reminder of the effect Ellie had on everyone who met her.

Duffy first met Ellie almost 14 years ago, while running the ASPCA's foster care program. Ellie, a 5-month-old abused puppy, was brought in to the program. "The second I looked at her, I decided,

she was mine," says Duffy.

Ellie was enrolled in the ASPCA's obedience classes where she became the star pupil. She earned a Canine Good Citizen certificate, and was



Photo by Maureen Keating

certified by the Delta Society to do therapy work.

After Ellie passed away in May, Duffy wanted to carry on the legacy of her canine com-

panion. A \$5,000 donation was made to the ASPCA in Ellie's name to fund medical costs for animals rescued by the ASPCA's Humane Law Enforcement team, and Duffy is still collecting donations for the ASPCA in Ellie's name. "I can't believe the outpouring of love Ellie has received. She was certainly a once in a lifetime dog." ■

Vet Chat

To celebrate Adopt-A-Shelter Dog Month, the ASPCA's online community hosted several moderated discussions in October. One guest, Dr. Lila Miller, ASPCA Vice President of Veterinary Outreach, answered questions about shelter dogs and the health needs of pooches.

Highlights included questions about the benefits of adopting from a shelter rather than a pet store or breeder. Dr. Miller pointed out that most shelters examine their animals carefully, vaccinate, de-worm, spay/neuter and perform behavioral assessments. Also, dogs in pet stores often suffer from congenital health problems and poor socialization as a result of over-breeding. ■

Animal Enthusiast Donates New Spay/Neuter Mobile Clinic



Community residents and their pets line up for low-cost services offered by the ASPCA's mobile animal clinic.

Stephen Sander developed humanitarian ideas early when as a child he adopted Emily, a Golden Retriever and his family's very first pet. Growing up a stone's throw from the ASPCA's headquarters on East 92nd Street, and living with a number of shelter dogs and cats throughout his childhood, Mr. Sander became a natural advocate for animals.

So when Mr. Sander's business career proved lucrative, he knew he wanted to do something for animals like those he had loved throughout his life. Having recently lost his Brindle Pit Bull Jake after 14 years, he was also looking for an appropriate way to honor his faithful friend. He arranged a tour of the ASPCA's renovated shelter, and during his visit, asked President

& CEO Ed Sayres if there were any large-scale projects he could fund to show his appreciation for the organization's work.

In July, the ASPCA unveiled the fruits of this conversation: a new 685-square-foot mobile spay/neuter clinic. The addition of the new mobile clinic brings the number of vehicles in the ASPCA's spay/neuter fleet to 3, now allowing the ASPCA to perform free and low-cost spay/neuter surgeries on 18,000 cats and dogs annually throughout the five boroughs of New York City. The ASPCA's mobile clinics visit low-income neighborhoods throughout the city, providing services to members of the public as well as to independent rescuers and managers of feral cat colonies. The work of

the spay/neuter fleet is an essential part of the ASPCA's efforts to end the tragic euthanasia of healthy animals in New York City.

Prior to his donation of the mobile clinic, Mr. Sander enjoyed the unique experience of accompanying the clinic staff on their rounds for several days. "It was just incredible to see the work they do day in and day out. And seeing their work with my own eyes just reinforced my belief that spay/neuter efforts are the ultimate tool in preventing cruelty," he remembers.

Mr. Sander splits his time between his Manhattan apartment and Connecticut home, which he shares with his family and his two rescued dogs: Lupis, a Husky, and Stella, a Labrador Retriever. ■



Nothing has exposed the face of cruelty like the reality TV series *Animal Precinct* on Animal Planet. The ASPCA gave one mother cat a new lease on life.

A Very Lucky Penny



Penny, later renamed Simba, enjoys a leisurely afternoon in her new home.

A truly heartbreaking sight greeted Special Agent Omar Negrillo, member of the ASPCA Humane Law Enforcement team, when he arrived on the scene of a domestic dispute in Staten Island, New York – one dead kitten, and its mother, beaten within inches of her life.

Agent Negrillo was first called to the scene by observers who were witness to horrifying acts of animal cruelty following an argument between a couple. Still angry after the argument, the male came across a neighbor's cat and her kitten. He snapped the kitten's neck, killing it immedi-

ately, then proceeded to throw the mother to the ground with such force that her fur and whiskers were scraped off of her face, and caused one eye to hemorrhage.

The suspect was immediately arrested, and the cat, later named Penny by members of the ASPCA, was brought to the ASPCA's Bergh Memorial Animal Hospital to be treated for her injuries. Penny's owners decided to give her up after she was injured, so she was brought to the ASPCA Adoption Center to find a new loving home.

A New Start

Penny's heartwrenching story was reported in the local newspaper, *The Staten Island Advance*. Touched by her story, potential adopters immediately began lining up. After four months at the ASPCA, Penny found a loving home with Staten Island resident William Passo, who renamed her Simba. "I called the ASPCA almost every day for months and visited the adoption center four times before I was able to take her home," says Passo. "I wanted to let them know how badly I wanted her."

Simba is enjoying life in her new home, and has fully recovered from her injuries. She enjoys spending her days being combed and groomed, trailing Passo around the house and hanging out with the family dog, a Golden Lab named Yeller. "She's a terrific cat. At first she terrorized me and Yeller, but now she is like my shadow. Wherever I go, she is right there behind me," says Passo.

"As this case illustrates, too often pets are at the center of violent domestic conflicts. It's great that Mr. Passo has gone to such lengths and given Penny the care she so richly deserves," says Joseph Pentangelo, Assistant Director of Humane Law Enforcement at the ASPCA. ■



\$20,000

IMMUNOCONTRACEPTION FOR HORSES

■ **Montana**

The ASPCA Equine Fund awarded the ZooMontana Conservation and Science Center a \$20,000 grant for their wildlife contraception program. One project this grant has helped to fund is the use of immunocontraception on wild horses of the Shackelford Banks of the Cape Lookout National Seashore in North Carolina. This contraception program has reduced the birth of foals by more than half and has eliminated the need for an annual roundup to thin the herd and send those selected to an adoption group.



\$10,000

EMERGENCY AID FOR MUSTANGS AND BURROS

■ **South Dakota**

A \$10,000 emergency grant awarded to the International Society for the Protection of Mustangs and Burros in South Dakota has helped to provide hay for three wild herds of mustangs and burros during a time of historic drought, when supplies have become scarce and expensive.



\$50,000

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

■ **Colorado**

The Society of Animal Welfare Administrators (SAWA) is using a \$50,000 grant from the ASPCA to help fund disaster response and preparedness training activities, as well as their annual training conference and the creation of an online database of members and their resources for disasters. SAWA, a trade association for animal welfare professionals, has been instrumental in promoting communication and educational opportunities for individuals and organizations in the animal welfare field.

Your Dollar

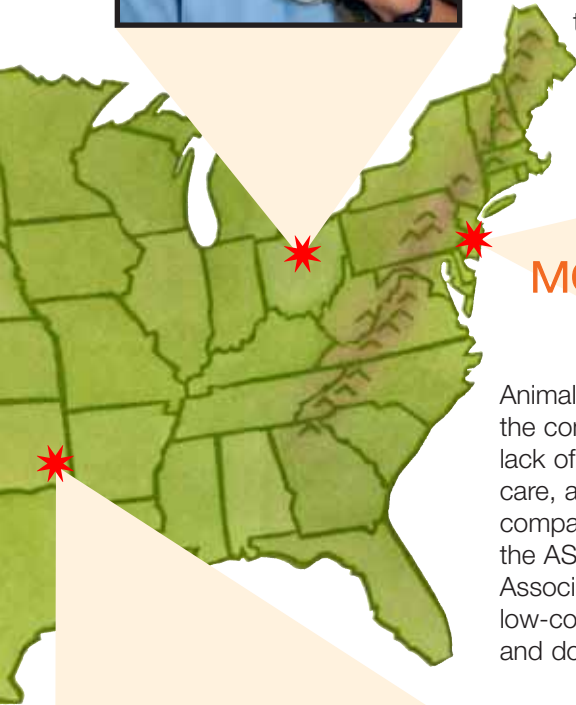


\$10,000

EXPANDED SPAY/NEUTER SERVICES

■ Ohio

Thanks to a joint \$10,000 grant from the ASPCA and PetSmart Charities as part of their Imagine Humane project, the Cleveland Animal Protective League has been able to expand their surgery suite in order to provide pediatric spay/neuter surgery to animal control groups, and affordable spay/neuter surgery to individuals and groups involved in trap-neuter-return programs for feral cats. "There has been a need for a proactive program like this for a long, long time... all we needed was this initial donation to get the ball rolling. There's no doubt our program will have a huge, positive impact on the animals in our community," says Sharon Harvey, Executive Director of the Cleveland Animal Protective League.



\$10,000

MOBILE VETERINARY SERVICES

■ New Jersey

Animals in Camden, NJ are endangered by the combination of inadequate resources, lack of accessible and affordable veterinary care, and ignorance about the needs of companion animals. A \$10,000 grant from the ASPCA is helping the Animal Welfare Association to fund the Camden Project, a weekly mobile veterinary unit offering free or low-cost spay/neuter surgeries and vaccinations. Staff and volunteers also hand out cat and dog food, collars leashes and educational literature to neighborhood residents.



\$2,000

SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES

■ Oklahoma

A \$2,000 grant awarded to the Oklahoma Humane Federation will allow seven of its member organizations to expand their spay/neuter services for low-income families throughout the state. The grant will help fund mobile clinics such as Volunteers for Animal Welfare, Inc.'s second Kitten Kaboodle Clinic (their first clinic resulted in 138 kittens being treated in just one day!), as well as in-clinic spay/neuter surgeries.



Advocacy Highlights of 2007

The ASPCA continues the fight to improve animal welfare nationwide



2007 has been quite a year for the ASPCA's advocacy efforts. One of the biggest victories we saw this year was the passage of the Animal Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act of 2007. This legislation prohibits sponsoring or exhibiting an animal in an animal-fighting venture if any of the animals have been moved across state lines. In addition, it raises the crime from a misdemeanor to a felony. It is our hope that this law will help deter others from participating in this cruel "sport".

Of course for every victory there are still so many battles that need to be fought to help create a humane community for all animals. Here is a look at some of the current pieces of legislation that the ASPCA is supporting:

Downed Animal and Food Safety Act – This measure would require the immediate humane euthanasia of any critically ill and injured cows, pigs,

sheep, goats, mules and horses too sick to stand and walk on their own. Currently, animals in these conditions are dragged or pushed to slaughter and are allowed to enter the food chain. Such a situation causes needless suffering of animals, while also posing a health risk to the meat that is produced.

Dog and Cat Fur Prohibition Enforcement Act – This legislation would make it illegal to sell apparel containing fur from raccoon dogs, members of the dog family native to China killed in large numbers for their fur. It would also mandate that apparel containing any amount of fur be accurately labeled. Under current U.S. law, the sale of dog and cat fur is prohibited; however raccoon dogs are not included in this ban. In addition, any item containing fur that has a value of less than \$150 is not required to be labeled, leading some consumers to purchase products they believe to

contain faux fur when this may not be the case.

The Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act – If it were to become law, this act would phase out, within two years of enactment, the common practice of feeding mass quantities of antibiotics important in human medicine to food animals. Livestock are currently given large amounts of these life-saving drugs to prevent diseases caused by the overcrowded and unsanitary conditions prevalent in factory farming. Such use has contributed to the rise of antibiotic-resistant infections in humans. Passage of this act would promote healthier conditions under which livestock are raised and have a positive impact on human health.

The American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act – This bill would prohibit the interstate and international transport, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling or marketing of any horse to be slaughtered for human consumption. Last year, the U.S. killed over 100,000 American horses and shipped the meat to Japan and Europe for human consumption. The horses suffer during this process due to the long trips to the slaughterhouse in double decker vehicles, overcrowding and inhumane slaughter practices. With this law, this cruel and inhumane practice could be put to an end.

To find out how you can help, please log onto www.asPCA.org/lobby. ■

State Highlights

Illinois:

The ASPCA applauds Governor Rod Blagojevich for signing into legislation several bills that will go a long way to help protect animals in the state of Illinois:

Expanded Orders of Protection

Like children, pets are often used as pawns in domestic violence. House Bill 9 allows judges to include animals in orders of protection in domestic violence cases. Petitioners will be given sole custody, care and control of the animal, and judges may order respondents to stay away from the animal, as well as forbid them to take, transfer, conceal or harm the animal.

Felony Penalty for Animal Fighting

Dog fighting is a felony in Illinois. Now House Bill 3614 has extended felony charges to fighting cocks and other animals as well.

Ohio:

A Disappointing Defeat

The Ohio Supreme Court has denied a motion for reconsideration and decided to uphold Ohio and

Toledo laws classifying Pit Bulls as vicious, and regulating Pit Bull ownership on this basis. "We have seen time and time again that responsible pet ownership is the key to successfully resolving the dangerous dog issue – and this decision does not take that into consideration," says Ed Sayres, President & CEO of the ASPCA. Urge your state legislators to help defeat these devastating laws; visit www.asPCA.org/lobby.

Tennessee:

Pets Included In Orders Of Protection

Hats off to Governor Phil Bredsen for signing House Bill 1161/Senate Bill 196, giving Tennessee courts the power to protect pets by including them in protective orders in domestic violence cases, helping to break the pattern of abuse and violence.

Connecticut:

Subsidized Spay/Neuter, Vaccination Programs

Recognizing the importance of spaying or neutering

companion animals in controlling pet overpopulation, Connecticut has passed HB 7194, which will establish subsidized spay and neuter services as well as vaccination programs for low-income pet parents, and expand these services for feral cat rescuers.

Protective Orders to Include Pets

Individuals involved in domestic violence situations often delay leaving the home and getting help out of concern for the safety of their pets. Thanks to the passage of Senate Bill 284, court orders of protection may now be extended to include companion animals, helping to break the cycle of abuse for both people and their pets.

California:

Companion Animals Included in Protective Orders

Studies show that abusers often threaten, injure or kill pets as a way of controlling others in the family. The ASPCA commends Governor Schwarzenegger for signing Senate Bill 353, allowing judges to include companion animals when issuing protective orders in domestic violence cases. This bill assures that pets of domestic violence victims are safe from batterers even if the animal is not in the presence of the victim.



TAKE ACTION IN YOUR STATE

To learn more about important animal welfare bills in your state and find contact info and sample letters for your state lawmakers, join the ASPCA Advocacy Brigade at www.asPCA.org/lobby.

Holiday Hazards

How to keep your pets happy and safe during the holidays

Beware toxic holiday plants.

Lilies are often used this time of year, and all varieties can cause kidney failure in cats. Common Yuletide plants such as mistletoe and holly berries can also be toxic to pets. Poinsettias are low in toxicity, though they may cause mild vomiting or nausea if ingested by your pet.

Place harmful decorations

out of pets' reach. Traditional decorations such as ribbons or tinsel can become lodged in the intestines and cause intestinal obstruction if ingested. Decorations made of glass or toxic substances such as bubbling lights can be very dangerous if they break open. Consider decorating your tree with ornaments that are less enticing to pets, such as dried non-toxic flowers, wood, fabric or pinecones.

Be cautious with Xylitol.

Candies and gum containing large amounts of this sweetener can be toxic to pets, as ingestions of significant quantities can produce a fairly sudden drop in blood sugar, resulting in depression and seizures. Keep such products out of the reach of your pets.

Keep pets away from

Christmas tree water. The water may contain fertilizers that can cause stomach upset if ingested. Stagnant water can also act as a



breeding ground for bacteria and, if ingested, a pet could end up with nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Water well covers will help to keep your pet away from the toxic water in the Christmas tree base.

Don't give your pets holiday

chocolate. Depending on the dose ingested, chocolate (bakers, semi sweet, milk and dark) can be potentially poisonous to many animals. In general, the less sweet the chocolate, the more toxic it could be – unsweetened baking chocolate contains almost seven times more theobromine (a substance similar to caffeine) than milk chocolate. Vomiting, diarrhea,

seizures, hyperactivity and increased thirst, urination and heart rate can be seen with the ingestion of as little as ¼ ounce of baking chocolate by a 10-pound dog.

Avoid a sour stomach.

Keep your pets on a normal diet. Any change of diet, even for one meal, may give your pet severe indigestion and diarrhea. Do not feed pets holiday leftovers, and be sure to keep them away from the garbage. Poultry bones can splinter and cause blockages. Greasy, spicy and fatty foods can cause stomach upset; spoiled or moldy foods could cause food poisoning, tremors or seizures. ■

“ASPCA Collection” now available to pet parents across the country!

A full line of pet travel and safety products for your companion animal



What better way to share over 141 years of pet-care expertise, than through a wholly-branded line of pet care products? The ASPCA Collection is just that. Developed in close collaboration with the ASPCA's staff of animal behaviorists and pet experts, this expanding line of products embody our unique understanding of the human-animal bond, and help pets feel safe, happy and loved. Just as the ASPCA is the voice for companion animals, ASPCA branded pet products are “What they'd ask for, if they could”™.

In August, Wisconsin-based Shopko became the first retailer to carry the newly launched “pet travel and safety” product line from the ASPCA in 13 states.

This is one of the first collections of pet care products under the ASPCA's brand new licensing initiative, and is the culmination of the ASPCA's partnership with Team Products International (TPI). Meeting the high standards of the ASPCA, the innovative collection of 22 products includes: “see-them-in-the-dark” light-up dog collars and leashes, “keep-them-safe” in-car seat belt restraints, no-spill travel water bowls and portable easy-to-carry/easy-to-set-up pet enclosures.

Future ASPCA branded products will include toys, basic pet-care items like litterboxes and grooming supplies, housewares and pet-themed pet products for kids and people.

Here's the best part: all sales of the ASPCA Collection will also help support the ASPCA's mission – the ASPCA will receive 5-7% of the purchase price on every product!

Bonus: Look for Dr. Z's pet care tips on every package!

Products are available at the ASPCA's online store at www.aspc.org/store. And starting in November, the complete line of ASPCA travel and safety products will also be available on **Amazon.com**. ■



ASPCA Holiday Store

The ASPCA Holiday Store is now open for business, and we have lots of great goodies to satisfy all your gift needs. Send your warmest holiday wishes to friends and family with our inspired holiday cards. Fill one of our cat or dog Christmas stockings with toys and treats for your beloved companion, and while you're at it, deck your halls with ASPCA ornaments. ASPCA sterling silver and enamel jewelry is always in season as are our logo t-shirts, tote bags and travel mugs. No animal lover's list is complete this year without bestselling author Traer Scott's new book *Street Dogs*, which is filled with 90 stunning and unforgettable photographs of dogs living on the streets in Puerto Rico and Mexico. Best of all, your purchase helps animals. Log onto www.aspc.org/shop today!

The \$12 Million Dollar Pooch

Plan ahead for the care of your pet in the event of an emergency

Leona Helmsley left a \$12 million dollar bequest to her dog “Trouble”. Call it extravagant or outrageous – but there is a lesson to be learned. Leona had a plan for the care of her pet in the event of her death. Unplanned emergencies could spell disaster for a pet.

What to do?

Carry a pet alert card in your wallet informing emergency personnel you have a pet at home. The card should have the name and phone number of the person you have designated as your ICE - “In case of emergency” contact. Put the same information in your cell phone under “ICE”. Place “pet inside” stickers with “ICE” information on your outside windows and doors to alert emergency personnel your pet is inside.

Identify a caregiver.

Who is the best person to care for your pet? A relative, friend, neighbor, pet sitter, dogwalker, veterinarian? Whoever it is, ask them if they would be your pet’s caregiver in the event of a temporary or life-threatening emergency. Once you have found a person, make sure you have at least one back up person whether you have one or multiple pets.

Provide instructions for care.

What food does your pet like/dislike? Are there health issues? How often should your pet visit the vet? Provide as much information as possible for the caregiver. It also makes the period of adjustment for your pet less traumatic

if their daily routine is maintained.

Informal arrangements.

Establish a bank account for the care of your pet in trust for the chosen caregiver. Or, name a caregiver to receive a portion of a life insurance policy or annuity. This way funds for a pet’s care will be available faster and will not be subject to a delay if a probate court has to intervene.

Contact a local animal organization or rescue group.

Ask about their adoption policy, and prearrange for the adoption of your pet.

Formal arrangements.

Consider will provisions, pet trust arrangements, animal sanctuaries and veterinary schools. Enlist the aid of an attorney to name a caregiver and provide funds for the care of your pet in a will or trust. Note: a will contest could delay providing immediate funds for the care of your pet versus a pet trust in which a trustee oversees funds given to the caregiver usually for the duration of your pet’s life. (See the ASPCA website for a list of states with pet trust laws.)

Several animal sanctuaries across the country will accept a pet on a prearranged basis. Some veterinary schools have lifetime care programs for pets of deceased pet parents.

Planning today will ensure that your pet has a safe and happy future. If you truly love your pet make sure your final act is also one of kindness.

For more information about pet planning log onto www.asPCA.org/pettrust or contact Kim Bressant-Kibwe, ASPCA Trusts & Estates Counsel, by email at Kimb@aspca.org or by calling 212-876-7700 ext 4554.





Water Hazards



Louise Murray, DVM Diplomate ACVIM, is the Director of Medicine at the ASPCA Bergh Memorial Animal Hospital.

Q. My Golden Retriever loves to swim in the oceans, lakes and pools. However, he always drinks the water. Afterwards, he will have diarrhea. Is this harming him? F.L., Sneads Ferry, NC

A. It isn't a good idea to allow dogs to drink salt water from the ocean, or fresh water from a river or pond. Salt water is dangerous when ingested in anything more than a very small quantity, because the salt can raise blood sodium to dangerously high levels, resulting in neurological problems and even death in some cases.

Pond and river water also have hazards. Stagnant water may grow algae, which can contain powerful toxins that cause 'blue-green algae poisoning,' leading rapidly to severe, often fatal, liver or neurological damage. (Stagnant salt water can also contain algae.) Dogs who drink stagnant water can also develop very serious fungal infections. And any body of fresh water can be contaminated with a microscopic intestinal parasite called *Giardia*. Additionally, bacteria called *Leptospires* can be found in fresh water that has been contaminated by animal urine. Infection with *Leptospires* can lead to kidney and/or liver failure (though dogs can be vaccinated against some types of *Leptospires*).

Clean, cold, moving, fresh water is safest (algae tends to grow in warm water); avoid warm, stagnant water. Speak with your veterinarian about vaccinating your dog against *Leptospirosis*, and have his stool checked regularly for *Giardia*.

Overzealous Travelers



Carmen Buitrago, CPDT is an animal trainer at the ASPCA Animal Behavior Center and is a Certified Pet Dog Trainer.

Q. My Shetland puppies get overly excited when going for a car ride, barking excessively. How can I train them to calm down before and during car rides? H.C.

A. Reduce your Shelties' reaction to the clues that they've learned lead up to a ride, such as picking up your purse. This desensitization involves patient daily training, proceeding in small increments over several weeks. Here are some suggested steps: Pick up your purse and do nothing. Be calm, ignore any reaction you get and don't leave the house. Once your dogs stop reacting, put the purse down.

Pick up your purse several times a day when you're not planning to leave. Do this at random intervals, sometimes several times in a row, sometimes once every few hours.

Keep this up until your dogs have habituated and no longer react. Your goal is to make purse lifting (and any other predeparture cues that trigger their barking) a ho-hum event for them. Make sure your Shelties are hungry beforehand, and give them a food-stuffed Kong, another food puzzle or a chew bone when you get in the car. This should distract them for those first few minutes and keep them occupied for most of your car ride.

A Hero Memorialized



Members of the ASPCA and Newfoundland descendants from local rescue groups assembled at Green-Wood Cemetery on September 30 to unveil a plaque commemorating the life of Gipsy, a Newfoundland who saved his mistress from drowning more than 128 years ago.

A second plaque, placed at the ASPCA sculpture near the tomb of Henry Bergh, Founder of the ASPCA, was also unveiled.

Gipsy, who belonged to Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Wilmarth of New York City, died in 1879 at the ripe old age of 23, and was buried in the Wilmarth

plot at Green-Wood. Mr. Wilmarth, one of Green-Wood's notable artists, intended to memorialize the dog's gravesite with a headstone, and Henry Bergh penned a poem to celebrate the life of the brave Newfie. But, alas, the headstone was never erected.

Over a century later, Gipsy received the honor that was rightfully his.

"The ASPCA is thrilled to continue Henry Bergh's work by honoring the timeless bond between human and animal at beautiful Green-Wood Cemetery, both Bergh's and Gipsy's final resting place," says ASPCA President & CEO Ed Sayres. ■

Hog Lovers Fight Animal Cruelty



Bikers turned out in droves with their pets in tow on July 15 to support the first annual Bikers Against Cruelty to Animals (BACA) fundraiser held at Outback Choppers in Tuxedo, New York. Hosted by Outback

Choppers owners Paul and Regina Maloney, the fun-filled event included live music, raffles with prizes donated by local businesses, BACA t-shirts for sale and even a bikini bike wash. Proceeds, which totaled over a \$1,000, were



donated to the ASPCA, and the Maloneys continue to accept donations for the ASPCA at their store.

"The ASPCA really helps to raise awareness about the mistreatment of animals, and makes people feel like we can all do something to help, either by donating, or adopting, or helping others who may not be able to care for their animals," says Regina Maloney. ■

A Comic Tribute

Comic lovers gathered at Flatiron Joe's in Manhattan on September 19 to pay tribute to beloved comic artist and animal lover Mike Wieringo, who passed away on August 12 from a heart attack. Artists Jae Lee, Tom Raney, Dennis Calero, Jimmy Palmiotti, Amanda Connor, Arthur Suydam, Paul Renaud, Rodney Ramos, Paolo Rivera, Joe Quesada, and Walt Simonson were on hand to sketch, auction and commission pieces, the proceeds from which were donated to two of Mike's "pet" charities – The Hero



Initiative, a federally chartered not-for-profit corporation dedicated to helping comic book creators in need, and the ASPCA. The successful event raised over \$4,000 in just two hours! ■

Horsing Around At The Hampton Classic



Equestrians, spectators, and ASPCA officials gathered in Bridgehampton, NY, August 26-September 2 for the 32nd Annual Hampton Classic Horse Show, which was sponsored in part by the ASPCA. Equestrian consultant to the ASPCA R. Scot Evans and Assistant Director of the ASPCA's Humane Law Enforcement department Joe Pentangelo presented the ASPCA

Maclay Trophy to ASPCA Maclay Class winner Olivia Fass, who will compete for a spot in the ASPCA Maclay National Championship in Syracuse, NY on November 3.

Several ASPCA sponsored events were scheduled throughout the week, including Q&A sessions with ASPCA Animal Behaviorists and Pet Behavior Specialists, as well as Supervisory Special Investigator and star of TV's *Animal Precinct* Annemarie Lucas. The ASPCA's Jennifer Dragotta read passages from some of this year's winners of the ASPCA Henry Bergh Children's Book Award, while ASPCA Humane Education Specialist Joanne Pentangelo and Joe Pentangelo taught children about the humane treatment of animals. ■

Celebrity Corner

Ryan Newman,

Nascar Driver,
Founder of the
Ryan Newman
Foundation



Q. What was the name of your first pet and what is your fondest memory?

A. We always had a dog or two at a time growing up. My favorite memories of our Yellow Lab, Lady, would be playing with her in the snow and watching her play tug-of-war with our cow.

Q. Why are groups like the ASPCA so important?

A. Organizations like the ASPCA provide resources, education and funding to community groups on the front lines of the fight against animal cruelty and pet overpopulation.

Q. Do you share your life with pets?

A. My wife and I have four dogs, all rescued. Digger, Mopar, Harley and Socks are like our children. Also, we're fostering a dog we rescued from euthanasia in Talladega. It seems like we always have a foster dog or two. The dogs outnumber us!

Q. What is the most rewarding part of owning a pet?

A. Our dogs like to go everywhere with us — to the shop, the lake and on road trips. They sleep with us at night, and hang out in our office during the day. They even swim in our pond while I'm fishing. I couldn't imagine our lives without them.

A Dog of a Different Color



Harley and Brac; Dena DeW., Granite Falls, NC

Harley, the black-and-white Dalmatian in the photo, was adopted from our local SPCA. We went there to adopt a terrier, but fell in love with Harley the second

we saw him. He was 12-weeks-old, and had been turned in by his owner because she felt he played too rough with her 18-month-old son.

Our love for Harley prompted us to become involved with a few Dalmatian rescue groups. One day I came across a website dedicated to “lemon” Dalmatians, which are Dalmatians of different colors. My daughter immediately decided she “just had to have one.” Much to my surprise, it was not long after that I got an email from one of the rescue folks we were working with entitled, “Didn’t you say you want one of these?” I opened the email to find a picture of the most adorable eight-week-old “lemon” Dalmatian brothers from Project Zero, a rescue group in Gaffney, SC.

As fate would have it, my daughter had a business trip planned for the upcoming week, just an hour away from Gaffney. When she got there, they asked her to please take both pups...which I think she was planning to do all along.

Pet problem? Call the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center Hotline at (888) 426-4435; fees may apply.

A Ricket-y Start

Delsie and Pete; Delsie L., Muskogee, Ok

I was driving home from work on a Monday back in March when I saw two adults and a child walking down the sidewalk.

Behind them, trying to keep up was a small white puppy, walking on his front elbows and dragging his paws. I stopped to visit with the people and the puppy, and decided to take the puppy to a veterinarian to have him checked out.



The vet told me the puppy had developed rickets from being starved, and also had red mange. The vet also informed me that the puppy was about 3 months old, and had a decent prognosis. I had the vet give Pete (as I had named him), his shots and treat him for the mange, and brought him home to meet my family.

After weeks of good nutrition, including a boiled egg a day and some home treatments, Pete began to flourish. Later that month I adopted another male puppy, a Corgi named Rodeo, for Pete to grow up with, and the two quickly became friends.

Three months after finding Pete and adopting Rodeo, I lost my 14-year-old dog Mary. Though they will never take her place, they have helped me overcome her loss. Animals are priceless in so many ways, I thank God everyday I was taught to care for and love animals.

Have a rescue tale for the ASPCA? Send us YOUR STORIES

E-mail us: ASPCAAction@aspc.org, or write: ASPCA Action, 424 East 92nd Street, New York, NY 10128.

Please include your name, address, and a photo (high-resolution digital or print) we can keep. Stories will be edited to fit.



Founded in 1866, the ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) was the first humane organization established in the Western Hemisphere and today has one million supporters. The ASPCA's mission is to provide effective means for the prevention of cruelty to animals throughout the U.S. The ASPCA provides national leadership in humane education, government affairs and public policy, shelter support, and animal poison control. The NYC headquarters houses a full-service animal hospital, animal behavior center, and adoption facility. The Humane Law Enforcement department enforces New York's animal cruelty laws and is featured on the reality TV series *Animal Precinct* on Animal Planet. Visit www.aspc.org for more information.

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