



A Note From Ed Sayres

The ASPCA is guided today by the same belief on which it was founded in 1866, that animals are entitled to kind and respectful treatment at the hands of humans, and that this is not to be left to the compassionate impulses of humans, but is an entitlement that must be protected under the law. Despite the very significant gains the ASPCA has made in improving the lives of animals, millions of adoptable pets are still being needlessly euthanized each year.

Behavioral problems are a major reason pets end up being relinquished to shelters. This is why the ASPCA is committed to helping people build healthy, strong, loving bonds with their pets through relationship building, education, and training. I know that you are also committed to the ASPCA, and you can help change the fate of America's animals by urging all those you know to Make Pet Adoption Your First Option® when seeking a companion animal, volunteering at your local shelter, or even just passing along this issue of *ASPCA Action* to a friend or family member when you are done reading it.

With the support of devoted members like you, the ASPCA can continue making real, lasting and measurable improvements in the lives of America's companion animals.

Edwin Sayres
ASPCA President & CEO

ASPCA Action

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This newsletter is not intended to provide advice on individual pet health matters or to substitute for consultation with a veterinary doctor.

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Old Pets, New Tricks

The ASPCA Animal Behavior Center offers lifesaving advice for a trouble-free pet

Bringing Out the Best in Pets

Laura Huth, a business consultant from Urbana, IL, had a problem on her hands. Her three-year-old cat, Frankie Eddie, a beloved farm rescue she had hand-raised since he was only a few weeks old, was not using the litter box. Scarred by kitten-hood trauma, the smoky gray tabby was urinating on her nice wood floors and new bedroom carpets. The man she'd been dating was not amused.



"I thought I was going to have to choose between my cat and my boyfriend," says Huth, who had asked her local veterinarian and others about the problem, to no avail. "Then a friend mentioned the ASPCA, located right in my own community."

She called the ASPCA Animal Behavior Center, part of the ASPCA's Midwest Regional Office. It offers a range of services for pet parents with troublesome animals, from advanced educational programs for aspiring and seasoned professionals, to hands-on behavior modification by expert ASPCA staff. It is fast emerging as a leading resource for animal behavior issues throughout the United States.

"Behavior problems are a leading reason people surrender cats and dogs to animal shelters," says Dr.

"Frankie is cured, not just 'better,'" says pet parent Laura Huth.

Pamela Reid, VP of the ASPCA Animal Behavior Center and one of five Certified Applied Animal Behaviorists who work at the ASPCA. "But most behavior problems can be resolved or significantly improved within a few months. Our goal is to help pets and their parents bring pleasure to each other's lives."

Huth received a home visit from the ASPCA's Dr. Crista Coppola, who created an individualized treatment plan for her misbehaving feline. Measures included two weeks of confinement in a large, toy- and bed-equipped crate; plenty of supervised playtime; praise and treats for using the litter box; and thorough scrubbing of soiled areas with an enzymatic

cleaner.

“I was skeptical about putting my spunky little kitten into a dog crate, but once I worked up the courage, I’m so glad I did,” says Huth. “Surprisingly, Frankie didn’t mind it, and it ended up solving our problem.”

“The consultation cost a couple hundred dollars, but I would have paid \$1,000 it was so successful,” adds Huth, who has since moved into her boyfriend’s home, where Frankie enjoys run-of-the-house, along with their other two cats. “I don’t know how anyone could give up a companion animal without first going to the ASPCA.”

Mouse Calls

ASPCA Animal Behavior Center house calls aren’t a practical option for the millions of pet parents who live outside of central Illinois. But anyone with a computer can access a wealth of invaluable behavioral advice on the ASPCA website (www.aspc.org/behavior). There, expert training tips and science-based techniques tackle everything from pet etiquette and destructive behaviors to new adoptions, keeping your animal stimulated, and finding a good

trainer or behaviorist.

Dr. Stephen Zawistowski, a Certified Applied Animal Behaviorist and Science Advisor for the ASPCA and SVP of National Programs, knows the value that a highly trained animal behaviorist can bring to modifying pet behavior problems. A kitten that nips at people’s ankles, for example, may be expressing the normal predatory behavior of felines, he says. Providing the cat with a variety of toys to redirect that behavior, along with regular play sessions to dissipate the predatory play drive, may correct the problem.

A dog terrified of thunder, on the other hand, may require a different tack. One approach: Shower the pet with treats or hugs while playing a recording of thunder at a low rumble. By slowly increasing the volume during subsequent sessions, all the while providing positive stimulation, pet parents can counter-condition their pet to “unlearn” the frightful associations and link the loud sound with comforting sensations.

“So many people have problems with their pet and don’t know



Top Pet Peeves

Dogs:

- aggression to family members, strangers, or children
- aggression over food, bones, or toys
- fears and phobias (thunder, etc.)
- destructiveness
- anxiety when left alone
- urinating or defecating in the house
- excessive barking
- compulsive behaviors, such as excessive licking, tail chasing, pacing, or snapping at flies

Cats:

- urinating, defecating, or spraying outside the litter box
- aggression to family members or strangers
- extreme shyness
- excessive vocalizing
- nighttime over-activity
- compulsive behaviors, such as excessive licking or aggressive tail chasing

For expert advice on these and other problems, visit www.aspc.org/behavior.

Did You Know?

The ASPCA Animal Behavior Center offers a free Pet Loss Hotline for those coping with the loss of a beloved companion. The service is led by Stephanie LaFarge, Ph.D., a psychologist with a deep understanding of the human-animal bond. As Senior Director of Counseling Services for the ASPCA, Dr. LaFarge helped hundreds of pet parents following the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and continues to aid those facing difficult circumstances. She offers these tips for coping with the loss of a pet.

1. Very intense, often unpredictable, feelings of grief are normal in the days following the death of a pet. Some people are shocked to find they feel more upset than they did when a close friend or relative died, and may even “hallucinate” an absent pet is still around.
2. The most responsible pet parents are the most likely to feel guilty and that they made the wrong choices regarding end-of-life care. These feelings should lessen after a couple weeks.
3. Be reassured that the decision to euthanize your pet is

where to turn,” says the ASPCA’s Dr. Reid. “Most veterinarians aren’t trained in behavior, and some people who call themselves ‘trainers’ are not well qualified. And even if you are lucky enough to live near an applied animal behaviorist or veterinary behaviorist, their fees can pose an insurmountable barrier.”

That’s one reason the ASPCA is ramping up efforts to create a “smarter” website, tailored to individual pet problems. The innovative program will walk pet parents through a series of questions, then offer personalized guidance and tutoring videos based on an animal’s unique history. The ASPCA also offers continuing education programs for professionals and has teamed with the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign to offer a Master’s-level degree in Applied Animal Behavior.

“The ASPCA has the expertise to help so many people on a national scope,” says Reid. “We are dedicated to helping people understand their pet’s behavior, and to fostering happy, loving relationships between people and their pets.” ■

Bob’s Turnaround



Jeri Cochran knew right away that something was terribly wrong the moment she walked in her house. Drawers had been opened, their contents strewn about, and her usually joyful four-year-old Rat Terrier, Bob, lay cowering and traumatized under the bed.

“After that robbery, Bob would have an anxiety attack anytime he saw a man he didn’t know,” says Cochran. “He would hide for hours, run in circles, or dash across the road. It was heartbreaking, and life-threatening.”

Fortunately, a man in her local dog club, Dave Stone, put her in touch with Dr. Pamela Reid, VP of the ASPCA Animal Behavior Center in nearby Urbana, IL. Through a series of in-home behavior sessions and intensive follow-up involving the strategic use of anti-anxiety medications, treats, and male volunteers willing to play ball with the terrified terrier, Bob was soon on the road to recovery.

“Pam’s methods are the only thing that pulled Bob through this,” says a grateful Cochran, thrilled to have her happy little fellow back in action. “I would heartily encourage anyone with a problem to contact the ASPCA.”

not the same as “killing” your pet. Euthanasia provides a good, peaceful end for an animal that would otherwise suffer.

4. Plan to memorialize your pet in a way that includes others who cared about him or her. They can help form a support network, even if family and friends don’t understand the depth of your attachment. Learn to ignore thoughtless comments.

5. Much of your mental energy will be preoccupied with

thoughts of your pet, so be careful when driving, and eat and sleep on a regular schedule. Consult your doctor if severe symptoms of grief persist for longer than a month.

The ASPCA Pet Loss Hotline is free and available round-the-clock. Call 1-800-946-4646, enter pin number 140-7211, then your own phone number, or call 1-217-337-9773. Dr. LaFarge will return your call. For more advice, including helping kids cope with loss, visit www.aspc.org/behavior.

2007

ASPCA Humane Awards

And the ASPCA Humane Award goes to...



The ASPCA is asking you to help identify extraordinary animals and animal lovers who have furthered animal welfare in the United States over the past year. Winners will be chosen by a committee selected by the ASPCA, and will be invited to attend the Humane Awards Luncheon in New York City.

Deadline for entries is August 15, 2007, at 12:00 PM (EST).

Please select a category:

ASPCA Dog of the Year

For the dog who has performed a heroic act in the past year.

ASPCA Cat of the Year

For the cat who has performed a heroic act in the past year.

ASPCA Kid of the Year

For someone 14 years of age or younger who has performed a heroic act in the past year.

ASPCA Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

For the member of a municipal police force—or other public service officer—who made a heroic effort to save an animal in the past year.

ASPCA Firefighter of the Year

For the member of a fire department or rescue squad who has made a heroic effort to save an animal in the past year.

Submit your nominations via the ASPCA Web site at:

www.asPCA.org/nominate.

Shelter Dogs Say "Cheese," Get Adopted



Mick poses for potential adopters.

Who could resist Mick, the fresh-faced canine in the clown suit, or Wolfman Jack, the big brown mutt with an endearing underbite? Both dogs were featured in the ASPCA's Shelter Dog Photo Contest, held last year in honor of "Adopt-a-Shelter-Dog Month," and both were among many pets that found loving homes, thanks to the ASPCA and humane organizations nationwide.

"Mick had been at our shelter for a while," says Angela Malik, volunteer at the League for Animal Welfare, a nonprofit group serving the greater Cincinnati area. "The day his picture hit the ASPCA website, a wonderful woman from New York saw it and couldn't stop thinking about him."

"It was the joy in his eyes," says

Kathleen Moore, who in January made the 16-hour trip from her home on Long Island with her cattle dog Jack to meet Mick. "Within minutes, the two were racing around the yard, and I knew he would be my dog."

Moore made a return trip in February to pick up Mick. "When it is you, the dog, the road, and three bad radio stations, you tend to bond pretty quickly," she says. "The second night back, Mick was curled up next to my bed,

watching me very seriously. He then let out a huge sigh, as if he knew he was finally home."

"We are so grateful to the ASPCA for making this happen," says Malik. "They would never have met without your photo contest!"

All in the Family

Margaret Melson of Lewes, DE, was captivated by the photo of the "sad but regal" Wolfman Jack. "I took one look at that unusual face and knew I had to meet that dog," says

Melson, who with her dog Candace drove five hours to the New Rochelle Humane Society in New York. "We played with Wolfie for two hours to see if they were compatible. Needless to say, the adoption has been a grand success."

"This is one fabulous dog, a little naughty, but such a big, lovable goofball," says Melson of her latest adoptee. "I have this wonderful, loving family of animals once considered disposable by others. My other dog loves him, and so does one of my cats. The other cat is not yet convinced!"

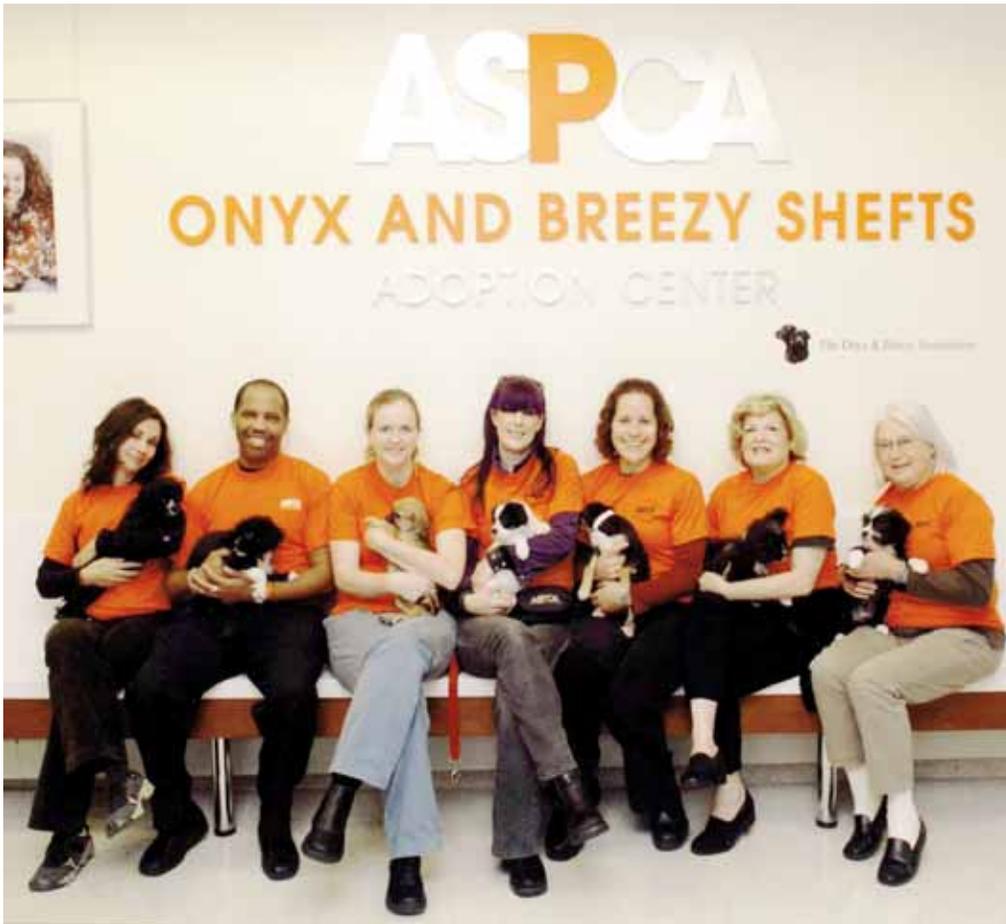
"Jack's story is so special in so many ways," says Dana Rocco of the New Rochelle Humane Society. "He's the perfect example of how shelters working together can increase adoptions and success for all!"

Reminder: October is Adopt-a-Shelter Dog Month. Visit the ASPCA, or your local shelter, to adopt a pet in need. ■



Who could resist Wolfman Jack?

In Honor of Onyx and Breezy Shefts



ASPCA staff and volunteers pamper pets up for adoption at the Onyx and Breezy Shefts Adoption Center.

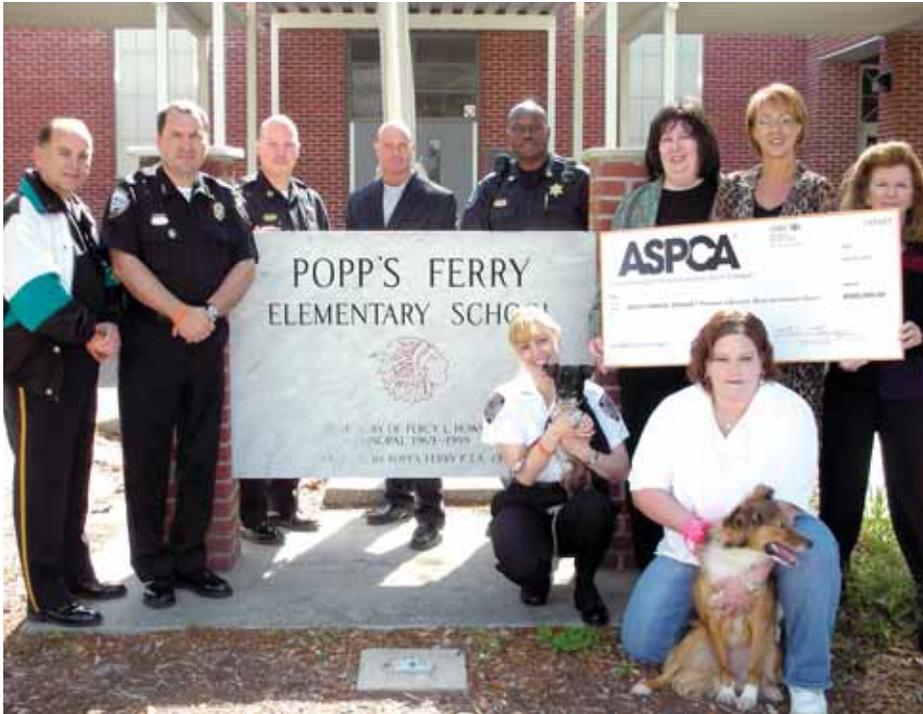
Wanda and Mark Shefts of New York, look back fondly on the years they enjoyed with their beloved Labrador Retrievers, Onyx and Breezy. “We first adopted Onyx back in 1991, and the moment she came into our lives we learned of a new happiness and love that we never knew before,” remembers Wanda. Six years later, Breezy joined the happy family and took on the role of the mellow, affectionate couch potato, playing the perfect counterpoint to Onyx’s ebullient and athletic personality. The Shefts couldn’t imagine life without their two beloved dogs. Then, in 2004, the unbearable

happened; both dogs died within seven weeks of one another, Onyx of old age and Breezy following a two and a half year battle with cancer. The Shefts were immediately determined to keep their memories of their two companions alive, and decided there was no better way to do so than to continue to support and advocate for animals. At the end of 2004, they established The Onyx and Breezy Foundation (www.onyxandbreezy.org) to improve animal welfare through funding of equipment for medical facilities, needed research and other endeavors that benefit the welfare of animals.

When the Shefts heard of the ASPCA’s shelter renovations at our headquarters in New York City, they knew immediately they had to get involved. “For us, the ASPCA represents the national effort to ensure that no adoptable pet is without a loving family,” says Mark Shefts. “We knew that this opportunity to become part of the ASPCA’s adoption efforts was the perfect way for us to remember how Onyx and Breezy enriched our lives, and to encourage other people to bring the same sort of joy into theirs through shelter adoption.”

After touring the ASPCA and meeting with Vice President of Development Matthew Bershader about the renovation efforts, the Shefts set their hearts on contributing toward the building campaign,

and in March 2006 they pledged \$250,000 toward the shelter renovation efforts. Their gift earned Onyx and Breezy a permanent place in the ASPCA’s shelter—the new lobby level adoption center is now named the Onyx and Breezy Shefts Adoption Center. For Mark Shefts in particular, their contribution has brought his experience with animals full circle in a very special way: “As a boy, I adopted my first dog from the ASPCA. This contribution was so special to me because it is benefiting the place that first taught me to love animals.” ■



ASPCA® Mission: Orange™ Kicks Off on Gulf Coast

Representatives from such organizations as the Gulfport and Biloxi Police Departments, the Harrison County Sheriff's Department, the Humane Society of South Mississippi, and Mississippi Spay and Neuter joined ASPCA staff in April for the launch of ASPCA Mission: Orange, the ongoing ASPCA initiative to create model humane communities in select cities nationwide. The festivities took place at Popp's Ferry Elementary School, which received a set of the winning ASPCA Henry Bergh Children's Book Award books (see page 22). ■

Louisiana Partnership

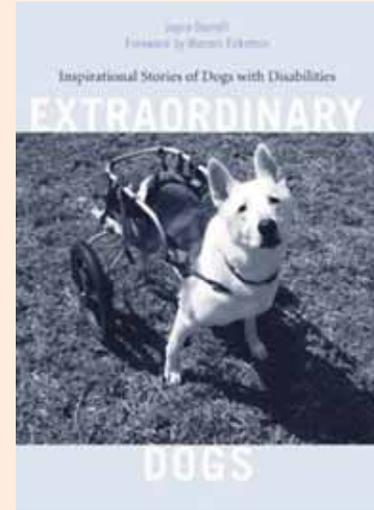
The ASPCA has teamed with the Louisiana Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (LA/SPCA) to form the Louisiana

Partnership, a collaborative effort to boost animal welfare groups in rural parishes still struggling to recover from the ravages of Hurricane Katrina. "We want to help agencies that will positively impact their communities and the animals they serve," says Kate Pullen, a Senior Director in National Outreach for the ASPCA. Initiatives include working with local agencies to improve operations; a legislative review of state animal laws; and training local sheriffs so they can better investigate and prosecute animal cruelty and dog fighting cases. ■

School Kids Go Orange

Students at Steeple Run Elementary School in Naperville, IL, "Went Orange for Animals" on ASPCA Day, April 10, raising \$680 for the ASPCA. "Just think if every school in our district did it?" says Deb Palmer, health technician at the school. "It would

Reader's Choice



Extraordinary Dogs

The story of Sweet Pea, the partially paralyzed pooch rescued by the ASPCA's Humane Law Enforcement team in 2005, is featured in *Extraordinary Dogs: Inspirational Stories of Dogs with Disabilities*, by Joyce Darell. Sweet Pea received a custom-fitted cart from Leslie and Eddie Grinnell of Eddie's Wheels, who later adopted the four-year-old Pit Bull. The book is available at the ASPCA Online Store (www.asPCA.org/store). ■



mean so much to all the animals, and your cause." ■

Leaving Two Legacies

A wonderful way to provide for pets and people



Ella and Peter Wulff.

Ella and Peter Wulff are long-time animal lovers and ASPCA donors. A number of years ago they had a meeting with their financial advisor to plan for their retirement and review their estate planning options. They talked about their children, their love for animals, and their philanthropic interests. At the end of the discussion, the financial advisor presented Ella and Peter with an idea that enabled them to fulfill their philanthropic desires and provide their two daughters with more of an inheritance than they ever thought possible.

The Wulffs had highly appreciated securities which they did not plan on using for their retirement income. They planned to leave the securities to their two daughters and did not anticipate being able to make any substantial charitable gifts. But their financial

advisor had another idea that would enable them to do more for their children and their beloved animals: establish charitable gift annuities and a second-to-die life insurance policy.

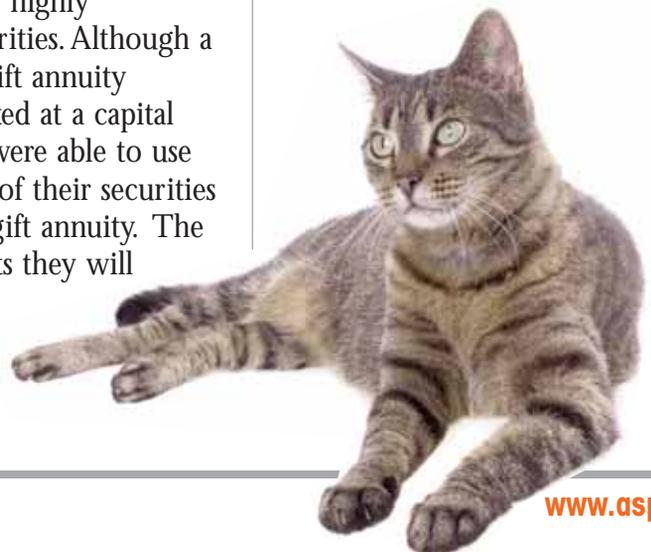
A charitable gift annuity is a way of making a gift to charity while providing income for life for yourself and/or a loved one. Ella and Peter established gift annuities with the ASPCA and other charities that were important to them using their highly appreciated securities. Although a portion of the gift annuity payments are taxed at a capital gains rate, they were able to use the full amount of their securities to establish the gift annuity. The annuity payments they will receive for the rest of both of their lives will pay for the

“We are both so interested in animal welfare that we donated money to several organizations.”

—Peter and Ella Wulff

premiums on a second-to-die life insurance policy. Those premiums tend to be less than the premiums on two individual policies, and the Wulffs were able to get a policy that will give their daughters more than three times what the securities were worth.

A charitable gift annuity with the ASPCA is a wonderful way to provide for animals in need while still providing for you and your loved ones. For more information on how an ASPCA Charitable Gift Annuity can work for you, please call our Director of Planned Giving, Marsha Pierson, CFP®, at 212-876-7700 ext. 4505, or email her at marshap@aspc.org. ■



Nothing has exposed the face of cruelty like the reality TV series *Animal Precinct* on Animal Planet. ASPCA rescue brings a second chance to one neglected mutt.

The DaVinci Dog



DaVinci enjoys a quick cool-off.

Valerie Angeli, Senior Director of Grassroots Marketing at the ASPCA, first spotted the small, white bundle of fur while giving a behind-the-scenes tour of the ASPCA's Bergh Memorial Hospital in Manhattan to members of a visiting animal welfare group.

"He was excruciatingly cute, lying upside down with his paws in the air and the most ridiculous look on his face, part Dennis-the-Menace mischief combined with incredible wisdom," she says. "He was also one of five animal cruelty cases being treated at the ASPCA that day."

With both back legs broken and a fractured rib, "the dog could barely walk," says Dr. Robert Reisman, the ASPCA's Medical Coordinator of

Animal Cruelty Cases. After careful assessment, "the conclusion I drew was that a person had done this to him," he says.

Make that Call

Thanks to an anonymous tip from a neighbor, the badly injured pet had been rescued from the Rockaway neighborhood of Queens, NY, by Special Agent Paul Lai, a five-year veteran of the ASPCA's Humane Law Enforcement team. The owner was arrested and charged with animal cruelty.

"It's important that people get involved and make that call," says Joseph Pentangelo, Assistant Director for Humane Law Enforcement for the ASPCA. Whether it's the ASPCA, the police,

or an animal control agency in your hometown, "animals can't pick up the phone and call for themselves."

"You may be saving not only the life of that animal, but other animals you don't see," adds Dr. Reisman. "You could even be saving the life of a person, because abusive individuals often have multiple victims, both animals and people, including children, a spouse, or the elderly."

A Work of Art

Angeli couldn't get the little mutt off her mind and soon became his foster parent. After months of physical therapy involving "leg bicycles and stretchies," she officially adopted him this spring, naming him DaVinci for his crooked, Mona-Lisa-like smile. "Amazingly, he went from broken in half to completely healed, a magnificent work of art," she says.

Today, DaVinci's busy life includes moving his many toys from one side of the apartment to the other and back, and romping through his new baby pool during weekend visits to Long Island.

"He was one animal of thousands that got a bad start in life, through no fault of their own," says Angeli. "There are so many others in shelters across the country waiting for a second chance." ■





\$600,000

ASPCA® MISSION: ORANGE™

■ Washington

Spokane, WA, is the newest beneficiary of ASPCA Mission: Orange, the groundbreaking ASPCA initiative to create model humane communities in towns and cities nationwide. The ASPCA has committed expert staff and \$600,000 in community grants over three years in each of these locales to boost collaboration between animal welfare groups as they strive to find good homes for all animals in need.



\$3,000

A SECOND CHANCE FOR HORSES

■ Colorado

A barn full of hay means Spring Creek Horse Rescue of Ignacio, CO, will be able to take in more of the abused and neglected equines it rehabilitates and readies for adoption each year. "We're very thankful for the ASPCA's \$3,000 grant, which will go for feed, medications, and bedding," says Executive Director Diane McCracken. "When a horse who otherwise wouldn't be alive comes and

puts his head on your shoulder, it makes all the hard work worth it." The ASPCA has awarded more than \$260,000 in equine grants in 2007, furthering its 141-year commitment to horses and all animals.

\$5,000

FIGHTING CRUELTY

■ Texas & Arkansas

Two hundred elementary and middle school teachers learned ASPCA lessons in humane education at a January workshop in Houston, thanks to ongoing efforts by the ASPCA to sow a culture of compassion in classrooms across America. Educators can incorporate humane care in their curriculum, with standards-based lessons on such topics as fighting cruelty, alternatives to dissection, and pet-friendly books. Many more teachers will be trained in the coming year, as ASPCA teacher workshops are being planned for ASPCA® Mission: Orange™ communities in Austin, Gulfport-Biloxi, Tampa, Philadelphia, and beyond.



Your Dollar



\$20,000

SAFE STEPS HOME

■ Indiana

An outside cattery as well as a mobile "kitty condo" in the lobby has helped to boost adoptions at Indianapolis Animal Care and Control, thanks to a \$20,000 Safe Steps Home grant from the ASPCA and Fresh Step Scoopable Cat Litter. Funds also went to spay or neuter hundreds of feral cats and provide free sterilizations and vaccinations for hundreds more low-income pet parents. "It will have a tremendous effect on our community," says Leslie Fatum, administrator for the group. "I am so grateful to the ASPCA and Fresh Step for allowing us to do that."



\$300,000

CURBING PET OVERPOPULATION

■ North Carolina

A \$300,000 ASPCA pledge to the Humane Alliance of Western North Carolina's National Spay/Neuter Response Team (NSNRT) will go to open 12 high-volume spay and neuter clinics across the country this year. First



stop: Hickory, NC, where the Humane Society of Catawba County, currently under construction with generous help from the Ryan Newman Foundation, will work with local shelters and rescue groups to operate one of the model clinics. Since NSNRT began their highly effective spay/neuter initiative in 2005, more than 200,000 companion animals at 21 new clinics have been sterilized.

\$10,000

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

■ Florida

The ASPCA was among the many groups and individuals that came to the aid of the Jacksonville Humane Society (JHS) after a devastating overnight fire demolished much of the Florida shelter this spring. "The generous grant from the ASPCA will help us build the type of shelter that will provide for the complete comfort and safety of our homeless pets, as well as serve the needs of the Jacksonville Community, not just now, but for many years to come," says JHS Executive Director Leona Sheddan.



PUT THE POWER OF YOUR EVERYDAY PURCHASES TO WORK FOR HOMELESS PETS



KITTY PLATINUM



BEST FRIEND PLATINUM



HLE PLATINUM

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ASPCA[®]
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¹The ASPCA receives .2% of all purchases made using the ASPCA rewards card and .7% on the ASPCA non-reward card with a minimum guarantee from Chase of \$2.4 million. Your card must remain open for a minimum of six (6) months and you need to make a purchase. Subject to credit approval. The ASPCA credit card is issued by Chase Bank USA, N.A. and may be serviced by its affiliates.

Help Assure Our Pet Food Is Safe

Early warning system moves forward in Congress

Responding to the massive pet food recall incident this past spring, members of Congress heeded the call for better laws regulating the pet food industry. “New measures are critical to help assure the safety of our pet food supply,” says Lisa Weisberg, Esq., Senior VP of ASPCA Government Affairs and Public Policy. The department has been meeting with lawmakers in recent months to advise on the need for an early warning system to protect our pets. The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center has likewise taken an active role in providing advice to pet parents concerned about tainted food, providing scientific expertise to

investigators, and working with representatives to implement a warning system consistent with its own sophisticated system of monitoring and responding to poison complaints.

Legislation to establish an “Early Warning Surveillance and Notification System” was introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senator Richard Durbin of Illinois, with Representative Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut leading efforts in the House. Both bills would amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide an immediate, efficient mechanism for pet parents, veterinarians, and organizations to report suspected cases of adulterated pet food and outbreaks of illness associated with ingestion of suspect food.

Protecting Pet Health

Modeled after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention system, which monitors human health, this early warning system would provide a central reporting mechanism and more quickly identify harmful food, thereby minimizing danger to other dogs and cats. Both bills would establish standards for processing pet food and the ingredients used, and would update the labeling requirements to include nutritional and ingredient information. These measures would also speed the identification of other pet food brands that may have been contaminated in plants where the adulterated food originated, or where adulteration occurred during processing.

Other steps would require the Secretary of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to issue an alert if an adulterated food has been associated with repeated and separate illnesses; require recall of harmful pet food; and require FDA inspection and certification of foreign plants, where an increasing amount of human and pet food is imported into the U.S.

As *ASPCA Action* went to print, both bills were moving ahead in Congress. The ASPCA government affairs and public policy department will continue to lobby members of the House Committee for the passage of this life-saving legislation. ■



State Highlights

Tennessee:

*Protective Orders for Pets:

A new law in Tennessee (House Bill 1161/Senate Bill 196) extends court orders of protection to family pets, helping to break the cycle of abuse in which abusers threaten to harm a cherished pet in order to terrorize human victims. "Animals are often used as pawns in domestic disputes," says Sherry Rout, ASPCA Legislative Liaison for the southern region, who met with the bill's sponsor last fall to raise awareness about the need for such legislation. "This legislation protects both people and their pets."

*Spay/Neuter Leadership

Conference: The ASPCA, along with other animal welfare groups, is a proud sponsor of the Southern Regional Spay/Neuter Leadership Conference, scheduled for September 13-16 in Memphis, TN. "It's a great opportunity for individuals at any level to meet other

folks in the field, share successes and pitfalls about their programs, and coordinate resources," says the ASPCA's Sherry Rout. This year's program includes a special track for veterinarians. For more information, visit www.spayneuterconference.org.

Texas:

***No Horse Slaughter:** The ASPCA applauds the Texas Legislature for upholding the ban on horse slaughter.

***No More Dogfights:** House Bill 916 increases penalties for participating in and attending dogfights.

***Aid Cruelty Prosecutions:** House Bill 2328 closes loopholes in Texas's Animal Cruelty Statute, particularly for stray dogs and horses.

***Limit Tethering:** House Bill 1411 provides penalties for the excessive continued restraint of dogs by tethering.

***Simba's Law:** House Bill 88 bolsters plans for evacuation, transport, and temporary sheltering of service animals and household pets in a disaster.

***Officer Training:** Senate Bill 1562 provides for training and certification of animal control officers.

"The anti-cruelty laws of any state are a reflection of our basic values and attitudes toward animals," says ASPCA President & CEO Ed Sayres. "I commend Texas lawmakers on truly being the voice of their constituents, and taking a significant and measurable step forward by passing this wonderful collection of bills."

Illinois:

*Potentially Dangerous Dogs:

House Bill 822 requires that a new category of "potentially dangerous dog," defined as unsupervised and found running at large with three or more other dogs, be spayed or neutered and microchipped for permanent identification.

*Increased Penalties for

Fighting: Dog fighting is a felony in Illinois; House Bill 3614 makes fighting cocks and other animals a felony as well.

***Horse Slaughter Ban:** House Bill 1711 prohibits engaging in any way in the slaughter of horses or the trafficking of horse meat for human consumption.

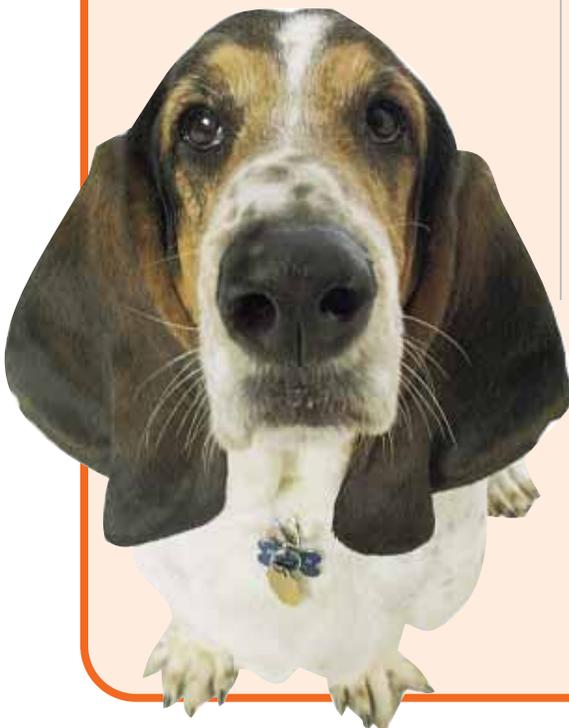
***Domestic Protections:** House Bill 9 helps protect pets caught up in domestic violence conflicts by allowing judges to include animals in orders of protection.

***Breed Discrimination:** Senate Resolution 166 will address and study the issue of dog breed discrimination by insurers.

"It has been a stellar year in Illinois, but not quite time to sit back and rest," says Ledy VanKavage, ASPCA Senior Director of Legal Training and Legislation who drafted several of the bills. "Governor Blagojevich has signed only the horse slaughter ban. If you live in Illinois, please let the Governor know that all would be terrific laws to add to his legacy!"

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.





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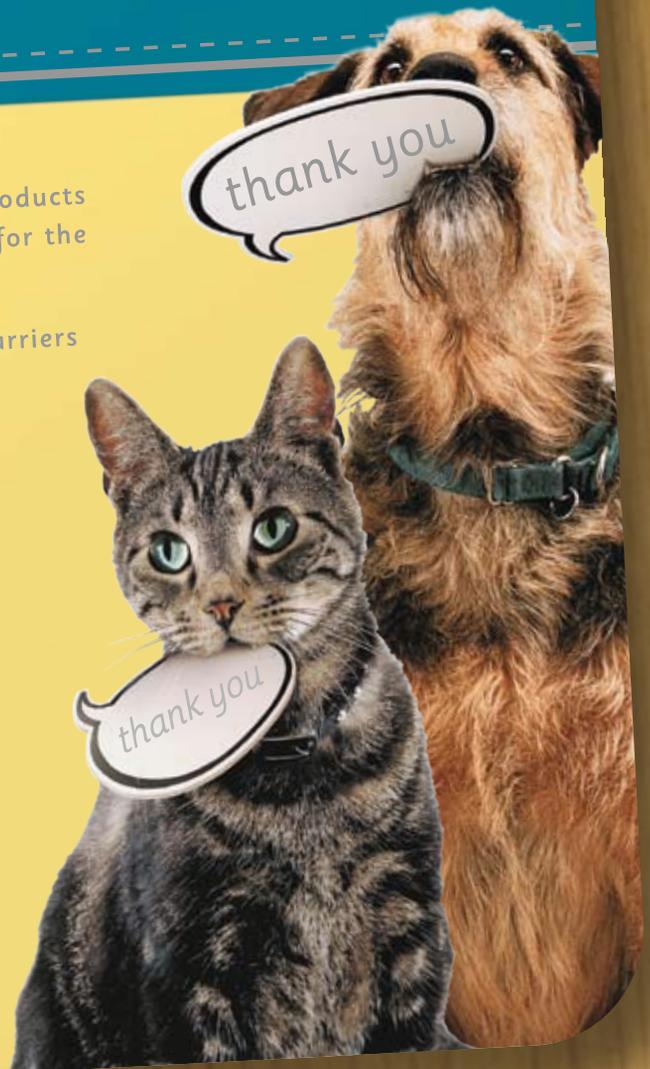
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WE ARE THEIR VOICE.™

Be Pet-Ready in Emergencies

Hurricanes, floods, tornados, fires. Emergencies come in many forms. The best thing you can do for you and your pets is to be prepared.

1. During storms, bring your pets inside and make sure they have plenty of food and water.

2. Arrange a safe haven for your pets in the event of evacuation—don't leave your pets behind. When disaster strikes, many emergency shelters will not accept animals because of health and safety regulations, so it is vital you determine where you will bring your pets ahead of time. With your family, work out an evacuation plan in the event of a crisis.

3. Keep emergency supplies and traveling kits handy for your pets, and make sure everyone in the family knows where they are. Include these items in a Pet Grab 'N Go Bag, one bag per pet:

- Medication (make sure it's current)
- Medical/Vaccination Records
- Special Medical/Behavioral Instructions
- Picture of Your Pet, Picture of You with Your Pet
- All ID Numbers (tag/microchip, tattoo)
- List of Identifying Features/Marks
- Emergency Contact Info for You
- Emergency Contact Info for Your Pet (vet, petsitter, caregiver, etc.)
- Emergency Contact for Someone Outside the Disaster Area

Also include:

- Food/Water for 7 Days
- Pet First-aid Kit
- 2 Extra Collars and Leashes
- Collapsible Food/Water Bowl



4. Obtain "Animals Inside" stickers. Order yours free from the ASPCA, on the Web at:

www.asPCA.org/rescuesticker.

Place on doors and windows to alert firefighters and rescue workers. Consider including a phone number where you could be reached in an emergency.

5. Choose a designated caregiver who can take care of your pet if you are unable to reach home immediately, or in the event something should happen to you.

For a detailed list of emergency and evacuation preparedness suggestions, visit

www.asPCA.org/emergency.

We're All EARS

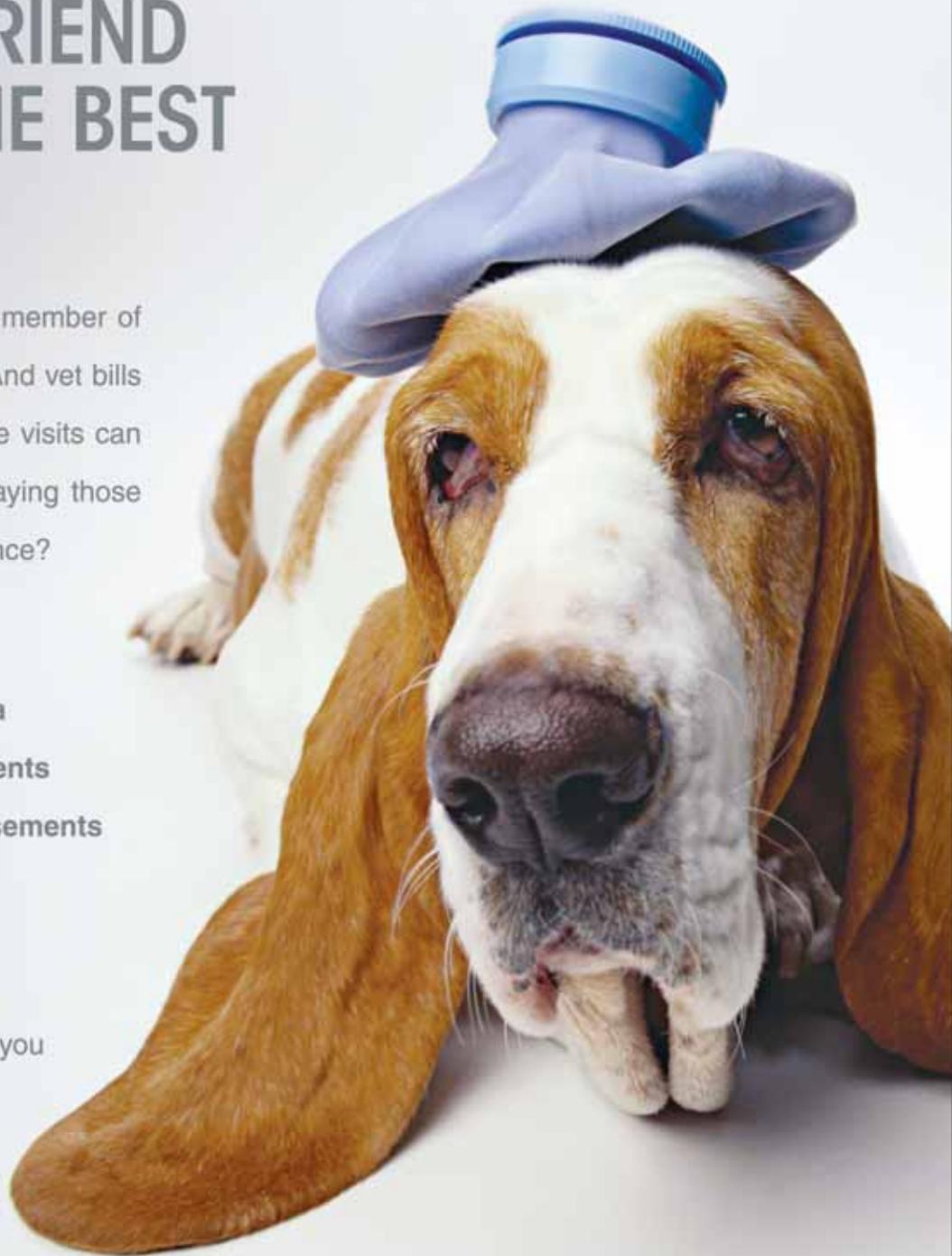
The ASPCA, along with United Animal Nations, sponsors Emergency Animal Rescue Services (EARS) Volunteer Training in cities across the U.S. "Whether it's a power outage in your home or a tornado that hits a metropolitan area, effective preparation and training saves lives," says Tiffany Mahaffey, National Disaster Preparedness Manager for the ASPCA. The next EARS workshops are scheduled for Oct. 6 and 7 in the Boston area. To learn more, visit www.asPCA.org/disaster.

YOUR BEST FRIEND DESERVES THE BEST PROTECTION

You never know when that special member of your family might get hurt or sick. And vet bills can really add up fast. Even routine visits can be expensive. Why not get help paying those bills with ASPCA Pet Health Insurance?

- * Five great plans to choose from
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Plus, you'll be helping the ASPCA continue their lifesaving work when you protect your pet with us.



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The ASPCA has been protecting animals for over 140 years. Who else would you trust to protect your pet? Call one of our friendly pet health insurance specialists at 1-866-861-9092 to choose a plan that's right for you and your pet!

*Provided no claims have been filed (not applicable in all states).

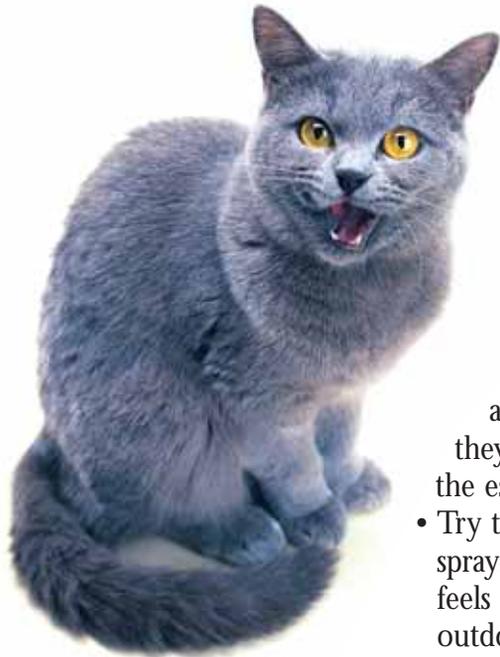
Plans may not be available in all states. See coverage terms and conditions for a full description of the scope and limitations of coverage. Plans are underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company.

Feline Spraying



Pamela Reid, Ph.D., is VP of the ASPCA Animal Behavior Center and a Certified Applied Animal Behaviorist.

Q. Help! My 6-year-old cat always tries to urinate in the living room — she even tries to nail the wall! Can she be treated? D.S.,



A. Your veterinarian can rule out a medical condition, but it sounds like your cat is urine spraying. Cats spray for many reasons: during territorial disputes, aggressive conflicts, and sexual encounters.

- Have your cat spayed if she is still intact. Even though female cats are less inclined to spray than males, they will still urine spray, especially around the estrus cycle.
- Try to identify the reason(s) your cat is spraying and eliminate triggers. If your cat feels threatened by the sight of cats outdoors, for instance, block your cat's view out windows and doors.

- If the spraying is due to conflict among resident cats, see a behavior expert. You may need to separate the cats until harmony is restored.
- Place foil, plastic wrap, or upside-down vinyl carpet runner near spray areas so it is uncomfortable for your cat to walk on.
- Encourage different behaviors in sprayed locations by placing her food dish and toys, as well as a litter box, in spots where she sprays.
- Clean sprayed areas with an enzymatic cleanser designed to eliminate urine odors.

Never punish your cat for spraying, and do not take her to the area and admonish her. She may actually spray more if she is stressed by the realization that she can't trust you not to harm or frighten her.

Salty Snacks



Steven Hansen, D.V.M., is a veterinary toxicologist and Senior VP of the ASPCA Midwest Regional Office, which includes the Animal Poison Control Center.

Q. My mutt loves pretzels. Is the salt bad for him? T.B., Portland, OR

A. It's a good idea to avoid feeding your pet salty foods. While a mini-pretzel or two is not likely to pose a problem, large amounts of salt can produce excessive thirst and urination or even be life-threatening. That's one reason why we recommend hydrogen peroxide, rather than salt, when it's deemed appropriate by a veterinarian to induce vomiting at home. We see cases of dogs that develop dangerous symptoms of sodium poisoning after lapping up too much ocean water as well. Symptoms of sodium poisoning may include vomiting, diarrhea, depression, tremors, fever, seizures, and even death in severe

cases. If you suspect that your pet may have ingested a significant amount of salt, call your veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at 1-888-426-4435 (fees may apply).



Bergh Ball "Tails of Time"



(Far left) Ellen Scarborough, Linda Lambert, Chuck Scarborough, Margo MacNabb, Somers Farkas. (Left) Ed and Michelle Sayres. (Right) Isaac Mizrahi and Lake Bell.

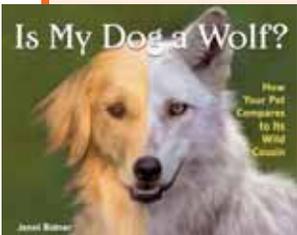
Hundreds of animal lovers gathered at Manhattan's Mandarin Oriental Hotel on May 10 for the Tenth Annual 'Tails of Time' ASPCA Bergh Ball, named for ASPCA founder Henry Bergh. Fashion designer **Isaac Mizrahi** was Master of Ceremonies for the benefit,

which raised more than a million dollars for animals in need. For a second year, the event was sponsored by Swiss jewelry and watch brand Chopard, with artwork donated by **David LaChapelle, Bruce Weber, Roberto Dutesco, Ross Bleckner, and Arthur Elgort**. The

Bergh Ball's Benefit Committee included **Matt and Annette Lauer, Chuck Scarborough, Richard Meier, Jonathan and Somers Farkas, Linda and Benjamin Lambert, Nicole Miller, Lorenzo Borghese, Lake Bell, and Dylan Lauren**. ■

Bergh Book Awards

Visitors to the American Library Association's Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. in June enjoyed a special presentation of the ASPCA® Henry Bergh Children's Book Awards, which recognize exemplary children's literature relating to animals and the environment. Some winners are listed below; for a complete list, visit www.asPCA.org.

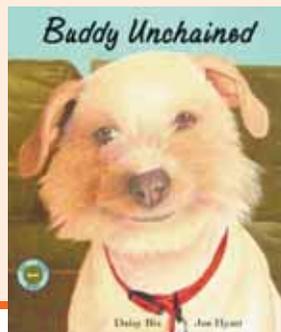


Is My Dog a Wolf? by Jenni Bidner. Can a wolf be trained? Why do dogs like to lick your face? How your pet compares to its wild cousin.

Wings, by William Loizeaux. Ten-year old Nick nurtures a baby

mockingbird named Marcy to adulthood, then learns a valuable lesson about loving someone enough to allow them their freedom.

Buddy Unchained, by Daisy Bix. Buddy, a lovable mutt, chronicles his rescue from an unhappy, neglectful home into a new, loving one.



Adoption Extravaganza

More than 170 cats and dogs were adopted at the first-ever Spring Pet Adoption Expo, hosted on May 19 by the ASPCA and No More Homeless Pets, an ASPCA® Mission: Orange™ partner in Tampa, FL. More than 20 Hillsborough County rescue organizations participated in the event. "The collaboration of so many groups to find permanent, loving homes for these wonderful pets goes to the very core of what we're trying to accomplish," says ASPCA Tampa Team Leader, Sherry Silk. Plans for a fall Expo are underway. ■

Community Leaders

Geoffrey Tischman Photography



“imprisonment” shifts under cramped tables covered with such words as “neglect” and “cruelty.” The event raised awareness of harsh conditions animals face in the U.S. and \$220 for the ASPCA.

Members of the Animal Health Club at Becker College in Leicester, MA, enjoyed a tour of the newly renovated ASPCA Adoption Center in Manhattan in May as winners of the ASPCA’s 2007 Community Leaders Contest, which honored creative celebrations of ASPCA Day on April 10.

“To receive recognition for something we truly believe in is definitely the ‘cat’s meow,’” said contest winner **Victoria Axford**, who made the trip with fellow club member **Lynn Kelley**. The group held an on-campus demonstration where students took 15-minute

The pair met with ASPCA Supervisory Special Investigator **Annemarie Lucas** and ASPCA President & CEO **Ed Sayres**, who notes, “It is young people like these who will be our standard-bearers in years to come.”

Honorable mentions go to Jenny’s Country Manor, a personal-care home in New Tripoli, PA, where therapy dog visitors wore ASPCA Orange bandanas; **Patrick Sims**, a University of Kentucky student whose 8-hour stationary bike-a-thon raised money for the ASPCA; and **Justine Berkhouse**, a 4th grader at Ingram Elementary School in Pittsburgh, where students wore hats for a \$1 ASPCA donation. ■

ASPCA Day, April 10!



The pictures tell a thousand tails, as ASPCA well-wishers gathered in New York City’s Union Square Park to celebrate ASPCA Day on April 10. Across the country, landmark buildings were lit in orange, school-kids held special orange-themed fundraisers, and pets donned orange attire to mark the ASPCA’s 141 years of protecting animals in need. ■

Celebrity Corner

Sarah McLachlan,
Singer



Q. What was the name of your first pet?

A. Molly, our Shetland Sheep Dog. We got her when I was four.

Q. Do you share your life with pets now?

A. Yes. A Black Lab named Rex, a Chocolate Lab named Ripley, and a barn cat named Simba, who rules the house. India, our daughter, feeds them their dinner every night.

Q. What’s your fondest pet memory?

A. When we first brought our daughter home from the hospital, we wondered how our dogs would react. They were both frantic with excitement, wagging their tails and eager to meet her. Then they both lay down beside her in her car seat as if to say they were happy to have a new addition to protect. Their devotion has never faltered.

Q. Why are groups like the ASPCA so important?

A. Animals are helpless in many ways, as they have no voice. So advocate groups like the ASPCA are very important to speak up for and protect them.

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

A. They are just a part of our family. The joy and love they bring to our lives is immeasurable.

Life of Riley

Melissa M., Raleigh, NC



I never knew that plants were a problem for pets. But one day I found Riley, my huge, orange, 20-pound tabby, suddenly lethargic and salivating like a bulldog. He seemed so miserable.

I had recently purchased two little baby palm trees, and I could

see where Riley had chewed a couple of the really stiff, sharp leaves. I called the animal hospital and explained what was going on. They gave me the number for the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, which I called.

I was so knocked out, not only by the information they gave me, but also by how kind the ASPCA vet was. She really cared that Riley got better, and that I was calm. She explained that no part of the plant was toxic, but that it could be a matter of needing to mask the taste, or that he might have a thread from the plant lodged in his throat.

She advised giving Riley tuna juice, which he was very pleased with. That worked, and he got to feeling better. I've since passed on the ASPCA number to friends who have pets. I am still so grateful for the kindness and peace of mind they provided me.

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

Peaceable Kingdom

Pegeen F., Falls Village, CT

It takes a certain amount of vision to look out from the tall windows of a high-rise in New York City and imagine a bucolic refuge for pets. But that's what radio hostess Pegeen Fitzgerald did many years ago, and her dream and goal, The Last Post Animal Sanctuary, is 25 years old this year.



The sprawling 37-acre property along the Housatonic River in northwestern Connecticut has become a retirement home for more than 300 cats, 7 dogs, 2 goats, a rooster, 3 pigs, and at various times raccoons, skunks, turkeys, donkeys, and deer. Pampered pets lounge on luxurious day beds, eat only the best food, and are cared for by a patient, loving staff.

Led by Jeanne Toomey, the staff has ridden to the rescue of endangered or abused pets throughout the area and beyond, some from as far away as Kuwait. Classical music is the order of the day in the main day room, where the more sociable cats climb along the ceiling beams and scratch against posts.

A daily highlight is the trip to McDonald's, where canine denizens enjoy a treat, and no one in the drive-through window has ever asked why there's no need for napkins, sauce, or anything to drink.

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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