

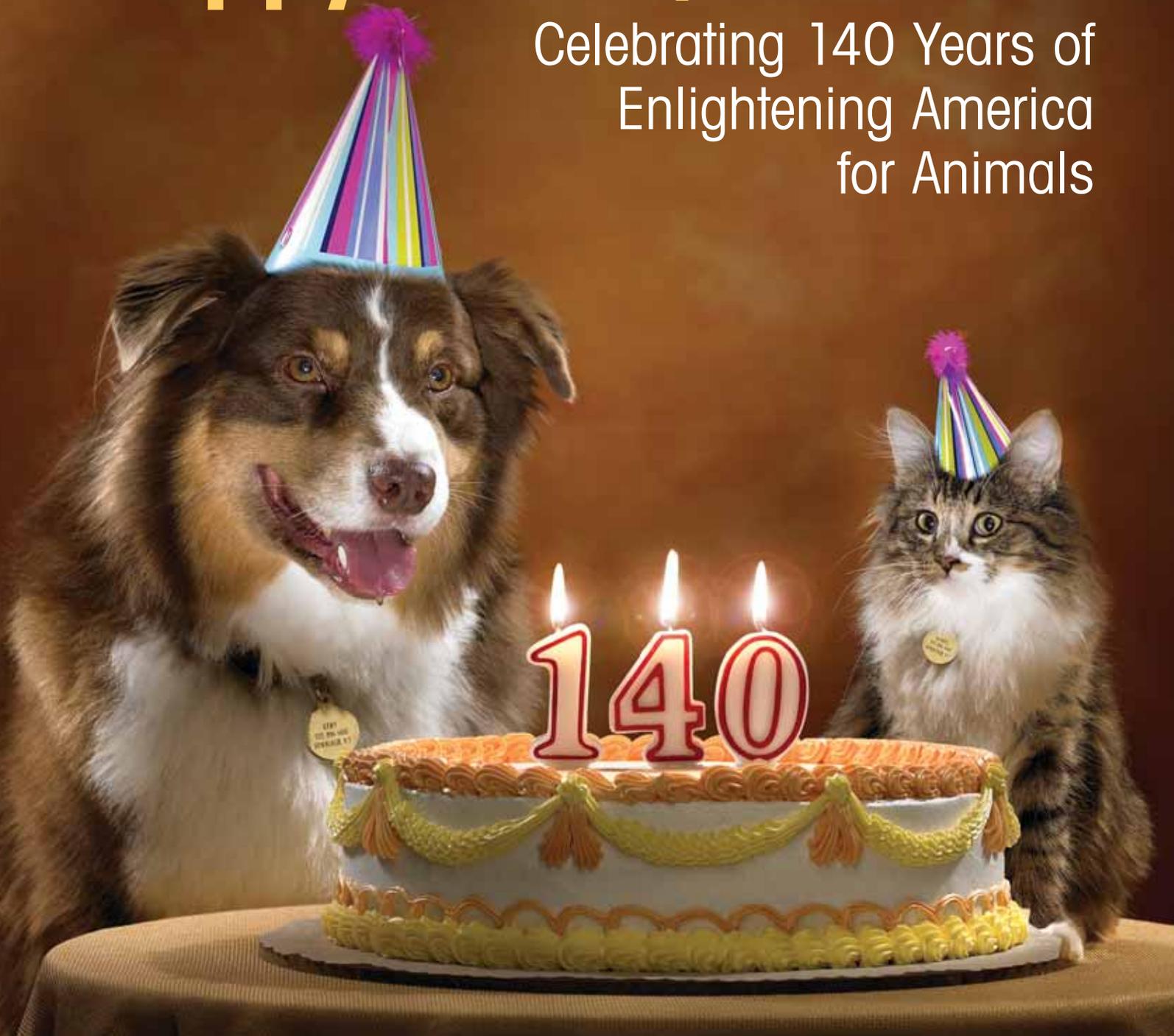
# ASPCA<sup>®</sup> Action

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS<sup>®</sup>

Spring 2006

## Happy 140th, ASPCA!

Celebrating 140 Years of  
Enlightening America  
for Animals





## 140 Years of Compassion

As a member of the ASPCA, you are part of a unique group of individuals who have chosen to act on their convictions—to help defenseless animals find peace, comfort, and healing. I am truly

grateful for your activism and compassion—highly commendable qualities that are truly inspiring. Qualities not unlike those of Henry Bergh, the ASPCA Founder.

As we make our way into 2006, I look back with great pride on our 140-year history as America's first animal welfare organization. 2005 alone was a year filled with planned and unplanned challenges on our time and resources. Yet, through the unrelenting commitment and support of ASPCA staff, volunteers, and members we were able to make great strides this past year in improving the lives of animals across the country. We have created and are implementing some very ambitious initiatives in conjunction with local animal shelters and rescue groups all across America. And I'm certain you'll agree they are all worthy and deserving of your support—for they are saving animals' lives every day.

I hope you too are proud of your membership in the ASPCA and will show your support on April 10 by helping to enlighten your community. Please join us in celebrating 140 years!

Edwin Sayres  
ASPCA President & CEO

### ASPCA Action

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# Happy 140th Birthday, ASPCA!

## Celebrating 140 Years of Enlightening America for Animals

It was on a warm spring evening in 1866 that ASPCA founder Henry Bergh first took to the streets of New York City, boldly stopping a cart driver from beating his weary horse. Just days before, on April 10, the ASPCA had received its official charter. So began the ASPCA's 140-year mission to provide effective means for the prevention of cruelty to animals throughout the United States—an effort that continues today.

To commemorate that watershed event, on Monday, April 10, 2006, the ASPCA plans to “go orange” in a big way with its orange-themed, animal-centered “Enlighten America for Animals” celebration [see sidebar, page 5]. Animal supporters around the country will don orange bracelets bearing the ASPCA logo. Evening skies over New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, Philadelphia, and countless communities in between will glow orange to heighten awareness of the ASPCA's ongoing commitment to the care and welfare of animals.

“Orange is the color of life-saving gear, and saving lives is what the ASPCA has been doing since its founding 140 years ago,” says ASPCA Senior VP Jo Sullivan. “It seemed particularly fitting to use this color

to spark recognition of our anniversary year and to heighten awareness of the ways Americans can help end the suffering of those who have no voice.”

### 140 Years Ago

When world traveler Henry Bergh first spoke up for animals in Civil War-era New York, America was not an animal-friendly place. Workhorses hauled overloaded carts, only to be whipped or abandoned to die in the gutter if they grew too lame to work. Dogcatchers, paid by the animal, rounded up pets in cages and tossed them in the river. “Sportsmen” openly bet on animals that took hours to fight to the death.

With a knack for oratory and friends in high places, Bergh's impassioned accounts of the horrors inflicted on animals led the New York state legislature to pass the charter incorporating the ASPCA on April 10, 1866. Nine days later, the first effective anti-cruelty law was passed and, with a staff of three, the ASPCA began its work to enforce it.



## TIMELINE ASPCA: 140 Years of Compassion for Animals

1866



### ASPCA Leads the Way

Henry Bergh founds the ASPCA, the country's first humane organization. The Society also prompts the New York State legislature to pass the country's first effective anti-cruelty law.

1867



### First Ambulance

The ASPCA operates the first ambulance for injured horses in New York City, two years before Bellevue Hospital put the first ambulance for humans into service.

1920

### Humane Care

ASPCA veterinarians advance the use of anesthesia in animal surgery and first use radium to treat cancer in pets.



The ASPCA first began operating a motorized horse ambulance in 1902.

“Day after day I am in slaughterhouses, or lying in wait at midnight with a squad of police near some dog pit,” wrote Bergh, whose lean and well-tailored figure became a familiar sight on the city’s streets. “Lifting a fallen horse to his feet, penetrating buildings where I inspect collars and saddles for raw flesh, then lecturing in public schools to children, and again to adult societies. Thus my whole life is spent.”

Bergh’s compassionate ideas

quickly took hold and spread. Within five years of the ASPCA’s founding, humane societies had sprung up in such far-flung cities as Boston, Buffalo, and San Francisco. Many adopted the ASPCA seal depicting an angel with upraised arm and sword standing guard over a symbolic carthorse under attack from a stick-wielding driver.

Bergh’s pioneering animal work translated into benefits for human society as well. To transport injured horses, the ASPCA began

operating the first ambulance service in New York City within a year of its founding, two years before Bellevue Hospital adopted a similar idea for people. And by 1874, child advocates, emboldened by Bergh’s dramatic street rescues of mistreated horses and livestock, turned to the famous leader to help found the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children on behalf of a horribly abused nine-year-old, Mary Ellen McCormack.

By the time Bergh died in 1888, 37 of the 38 states in the Union had passed anti-cruelty laws. He left his mark not just on the streets of New York City but throughout the nation.

### Furthering Bergh’s Mission

Throughout its history, the ASPCA has continued Bergh’s efforts to end cruelty and protect and care for animals. Highlights include:

**Humane Communities** In 1894, the ASPCA assumed the job of caring for New York City’s stray animals from the city government. Since then, the ASPCA has helped millions of unwanted animals find

## TIMELINE continued

1928



### A New Generation

The ASPCA expands its humane education program with demonstrations in public school classrooms and summer playgrounds.

1944

### Obedience Training

The ASPCA inaugurates obedience training classes for dogs and their owners.

1973

### Spay & Neuter

The ASPCA Adoptions department begins a compulsory spay and neuter program for all animals.

1992



### Greyhound Rescue

The ASPCA begins promoting the adoption of retired greyhounds to help rescue groups across the country.

loving homes through its city shelter and mobile adoption programs and by sharing adoption expertise and funds with shelters large and small from Maine to California. A \$5 million ASPCA grant in 2005 helped launch Maddie's Fund (named for a beloved miniature schnauzer) in New York, with a five-year goal of making the city a model humane community, where homes are available for every adoptable animal that needs one.

**Animal Wellness** The ASPCA opened its first veterinary facility, a free horse dispensary, in 1912 and advanced the use of anesthesia and cancer treatments for animals in the 1920s. In 1976, ASPCA veterinarian Dr. Gordon Robinson and vet tech Louis McCoy developed the Bergh bandage, a highly efficient design still used across the country. Today, the full-service Bergh Memorial Hospital in Manhattan provides hands-on critical care to tens of thousands of injured and abused animals each year, while nationwide more than 90,000 pet parents make use of around-the-clock, life-saving advice from the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center in Urbana, IL.

## Enlighten America for Animals

It takes a band of animal lovers to build a humane community. On April 10, go orange for animals and join us in celebrating the ASPCA's 140th birthday:

**Wear an orange wristband**, or join a city wristband brigade in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, or Miami. Tell everyone to watch the evening skyline as the Empire State Building and other city landmarks glow orange.

**Light up in orange.** Replace the lights on your porch or driveway with an orange bulb, deck your shrubs with orange string lights, organize a glow-light parade, or ask your town board or local shelter to light up in orange for animals.

**Display ASPCA Anniversary** posters at school or work.

**Tie an orange bow** to your front door, tree, or mailbox. Wear orange shirts or pants, and accessorize yourself or your pet with orange jewelry or collars.

**Offer orange cupcakes or orange-ade** at a bake sale to benefit your local shelter.

For more ideas, to download posters, and to order wristbands, T-shirts, caps, and more, visit [www.ASPCA.org/140](http://www.ASPCA.org/140).

**Humane Education** In 1916, the ASPCA began a formal animal education program for school-children, raising money to help care for the 934,000 horses serving in World War I. The ASPCA expanded its educational outreach in the 1920s, holding demonstrations in public school classrooms and summer playgrounds and beginning a weekly series of talks over the newest communications medium—radio. Today, millions of Americans young and old learn about fighting cruelty and

preventing abuse through such programs as the Henry Bergh Children's Book Awards and the reality TV show *Animal Precinct* on Animal Planet.

These are just a few of the ways the ASPCA has continued to build a better future for animals since its founding as the first animal welfare organization in the Western Hemisphere. There is still much work to do. Join us on April 10 to "Enlighten America for Animals" and celebrate the ASPCA's 140 years of humane compassion. ■

### 1996 24/7 Poison Control

The ASPCA acquires the National Animal Poison Control Center, the only veterinary toxicology telephone service in the United States operating 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

2001



### Animal Precinct

The reality TV show *Animal Precinct* premieres on Animal Planet, taking viewers on patrol with ASPCA Humane Law Enforcement agents.

### 2005 Disaster Relief

The ASPCA Disaster Relief Fund (established after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001) receives an unprecedented outpouring of support from ASPCA members after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastate the Gulf Coast. The ASPCA helps rescue thousands of animals and commits millions to rebuild shelters and restore animal control programs throughout the storm-ravaged region.

# Katrina Update

Months later, the ASPCA helps reunite pets with loved ones and rebuild shelters

## Birthday Bonanza

The ASPCA isn't the only one celebrating a special birthday. Sir Romeo, a black Lab stranded in New Orleans by rising floodwaters during Hurricane Katrina, celebrated his ninth birthday on Friday, January 13, in Wilmington, NC. Sir Romeo was reunited with his pet parent, Lenniece Morrell, who had lost nearly everything in the storm.

Monroe shelter. Ross dipped into her savings to fly both Morrell and herself to celebrate Romeo's birthday in Wilmington—a birthday treat none of them will ever forget.

## Christmas Reunion

Noland Allemand of Chalmette, LA, was devastated when his 10-year-old white Lab-Dalmatian mix Sugar leapt through a window to escape the rapidly rising waters from Hurricane Katrina and was lost in the storm. When he finally tracked her down months later at Animal Companion Network in Asheville, NC, Allemand drove 13 hours so he and his cherished pet wouldn't have to spend the Christmas holiday apart.

"I realized right away that someone had taken care of her and loved her very much," says Joan Worth, Sugar's foster mom in North Carolina. "When her daddy walked in the door on Christmas Eve and called out 'Suga-doo,' she leapt off the couch, tail wagging. It was a very happy reunion."

"The ASPCA made it possible for us to do as much as we did," says Eileen Bouressa, executive director of Animal Compassion Network, whose volunteers took in more than 100 Katrina cats and



Katrina dog Sugar enjoys a special Xmas visit.

dogs. "They got the animals to us, paid for heartworm and medical treatments, and made reunions possible via train, plane, and automobile."

"The ASPCA has disbursed or pledged over \$10 million in rescue, recovery, and rebuilding efforts to hundreds of groups across the country, with millions more committed to restore shelters and to spay and neuter animals throughout the storm-ravaged region," says Julie Morris, ASPCA Senior VP of National Outreach. "We are committed to the long term."

"Sugar is doing great," says Allemand. "It's God's gift to animals that we have a lot of wonderful people that would leave their homes and families to go save dogs and cats. Four and a half months after the hurricane, they're still saving animals in my backyard." ■



Romeo, one of thousands of animals rescued from the devastated region after their pet parents were forced to flee without them, spent a month recuperating at the emergency shelter run by United Animal Nations (UAN) in Monroe, LA. With the help of the ASPCA, Romeo then boarded a van to North Carolina, where he was cared for by foster mom, Pat Nowak, of Carolina Canines for Service.

The happy reunion was made possible by UAN volunteer Debra Ross, who had fallen in love with Romeo while helping out in the

Nothing has exposed the face of animal cruelty like the reality TV series *Animal Precinct* on Animal Planet. For one aged and abused horse named Blondie, rescue provided a deserving retirement.

## Greener Pastures

ASPCA Humane Law Enforcement agents Tina Salaks and Joe Pentangelo, former mounted police officers with the NYPD, knew right away that the old white Appaloosa left without food or water in a vacant, nail-strewn lot in Queens, NY, was in serious trouble. She was horribly thin, with a weeping puncture wound and painful, untended hooves and teeth. “There’s no excuse,” says Salaks. “If you can’t keep a horse, you shouldn’t have one. It’s a huge responsibility, like having 10 dogs.”

The ASPCA rescued the horse and, thanks to member donations, had the resources to nurse her back to health. Her neglectful owner was tracked down and placed under arrest. After the gentle horse, named Blondie, was featured on *Animal Precinct*, the Dana family of Randolph, VT, adopted her. “After watching the show and seeing her kind expression and everything she’d been through, we knew we had to have her,” Erica Dana explains.

Blondie settled in well to life on the farm, putting on weight and sleeping in the sun. Elderly and slow moving, she was put in a stable with a pregnant mare. “They got along really well,” Dana says. “When the colt was born, Blondie

was so happy. She adopted that colt as her own. People would drive by and ask if the big white horse was the mother. We told them she was the grandma.”

“Blondie liked being out on the grass, getting groomed, being with other horses, doing horse stuff,” Dana recalls. “Being in Vermont was a perfect retirement for her.”

### A Fitting Legacy

The old horse had slowed down considerably before, sadly, dying suddenly last May. “Our vet told us she was quite aged.

It was cancer, and she didn’t suffer,” says Janet Dana, Erica’s mother. “We feel so lucky to have known her and to have been able to give her a good life after she arrived here. She was a funny old thing and deserves to be remembered.”

Blondie’s story has been an inspiration to many. The Danas have rescued four horses from the pregnant mares’ urine industry and two abandoned cows. “One teacher



Blondie enjoyed her last years in the country.

we know adopted a special needs dog, something she had never thought of before meeting Blondie. She regularly shows Blondie’s *Animal Precinct* episode to her high school class,” Janet Dana adds.

“Another friend is working towards adopting donkeys because she’s seen it can be done. We like to get the word out about adopting and helping animals, even big hay-eating ones, because bit by bit, one by one, people do come through.” ■



# The ASPCA Henry Bergh Legacy Society

The ASPCA Henry Bergh Legacy Society was established to recognize and thank those who participate in our Charitable Gift Annuity Program or have provided for the ASPCA in their estate plans. Through their thoughtfulness, they have made a timeless commitment to continue the work of the founder of the ASPCA in combating animal cruelty.

For more information on becoming a member of the ASPCA Henry Bergh Legacy Society, please contact Marsha Pierson, CFP, at 212-876-7700, extension 4505, or [marshap@aspca.org](mailto:marshap@aspca.org).

## The ASPCA is proud to list, with appreciation, the following members of the ASPCA Henry Bergh Legacy Society as of December 31, 2005.

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## \$10,000

### BORN TO BE WILD

#### ■ South Dakota

A \$10,000 grant from the ASPCA Equine Fund will help the International Society for the Protection of Mustangs and Burros preserve and promote understanding of wild horses and burros throughout the United States. Situated on 680 acres in Lantry, SD, the organization cares for three separate and unique wild horse herds and continues to play a vital role in saving animals' lives, protecting habitats, and promoting equine adoptions.



## 300+

### TRAINING POLICE OFFICERS & OTHERS

#### ■ Oregon to New York

Hundreds of attorneys, law students, veterinarians, police, and animal control officers attend dozens of talks given by ASPCA anti-cruelty experts each month to learn more about protecting animals in their communities. Recent topics ranged from "Circuses: Recent Legal Challenges & Evolving Standards of

Animal Cruelty," presented at the Lewis & Clark College School of Law in Portland, OR, to "Advocating for Animals: Effective Use of the Legislative Process" at the Empire State Animal Protection Forum in Albany, NY.



## \$10,000

### ANIMAL UPGRADE

#### ■ Texas

San Antonio Animal Care Services received a \$10,000 ASPCA grant to train staff, purchase equipment, and provide more humane methods of euthanasia. Funds will help to improve the level of care and service at the agency, which serves animals throughout the city of San Antonio, TX. It's just one of the ways the ASPCA is reaching out to shelters across America to promote adoptions and raise the standards for homeless pets, one animal at a time.

# Your Dolla



**\$7,500**

**FIX'M NOW!**

■ **Ohio**

A \$7,500 grant from the ASPCA will go a long way toward helping PetFix Northeast Ohio of Chagrin Falls stem pet overpopulation in a nine-county area in the northeastern part of the state. The funds will help pay for surgical supplies for the 33-foot mobile clinic on wheels, adorned with colorful "fix'm now!" graphics, designed to perform dozens of low-cost spay and neuter surgeries a day. The ASPCA served as advisors to help get the program up and rolling this past December.

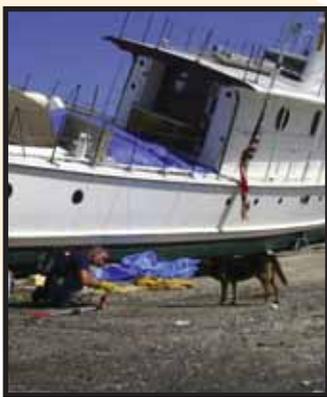


**\$5,000**

**TO THE RESCUE**

■ **West Virginia**

When the Mason County Animal Welfare League in Point Pleasant, WV, suffered a devastating fire and explosion while a new heating system was being installed in November, the ASPCA was there to help. A \$5,000 grant will help the organization to recover and build a new no-kill shelter on the site. It's just one of the many ways ASPCA Disaster Relief aids animals impacted by hurricanes, wildfires, and other disasters, both natural and man-made.



**\$10 million and counting**

**STORM RECOVERY AND REBUILDING**

■ **Gulf Coast**

Months after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the Gulf Coast, the ASPCA continues to provide on-site expertise and to disburse millions of dollars to aid animals displaced by the storms. Efforts to rebuild such shelters as The Humane Society of South Mississippi in Gulfport, MS, and the Louisiana SPCA in New Orleans are underway. Millions more have been awarded to hundreds of animal protection agencies nationwide to rescue, reunite, and re-home pets displaced by the storms and restore animal control programs throughout the area.

rs **At Work**

# Protect Pets in Emergencies

Support the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (PETS)



The ASPCA's Allison Cardona helps rescue pets left behind after Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast.

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, it has become shockingly apparent that provisions must be made for our trusted companions in major disasters and emergencies. ASPCA legal experts have been working closely with lawmakers to draft a bill that would protect both people and animals in the event of similar major disasters.

The Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (PETS) would require the Director of FEMA, in approving standards for state and local disaster preparedness plans, to ensure that the plans take into account the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals.

Many Katrina disaster victims were forced to leave their pets behind when they evacuated their homes because no provisions had been made to evacuate companion animals along with their families. The emotional trauma and suffering was compounded by the health and safety risks that resulted from so many abandoned animals in one area. Moreover, many pet owners, knowing their companion animals could not accompany them, opted to stay in their homes with their pets, further complicating human rescue efforts.

The humane community was able to rescue many pets left

behind, but the burden placed on animal rescuers was overwhelming. Many risked their lives saving as many abandoned animals as possible. This could have been avoided if state preparedness plans had taken people with pets and service animals into account prior to the disaster.

The PETS bill would help ensure that this situation does not repeat itself if another major disaster strikes. Take action now. Write your representatives and urge them to support and cosponsor this important legislation. For contact information and sample letters, visit [www.asPCA.org/lobby](http://www.asPCA.org/lobby). ■

# State Highlights

## Fighting Cruelty by the Book Illinois

The ASPCA and the Regional Institute of Community Policing have partnered to bring police officers and prosecutors a new tool to fight animal cruelty: the Illinois Cruelty Investigation Manual. The guide, written by Madison County Assistant State's Attorney Amy Maher, is a valuable addition to on-site ASPCA anti-cruelty training and has been mailed to law enforcement agencies and shelters throughout the state. Remember: Illinois Cruelty Law pocket cards are also now available through the ASPCA resource guide. Call Tawnya at (217) 337-9821 for more info. Thanks for taking action!

## Picking Up on Pet Safety Connecticut

In recognition of the avoidable injuries and deaths that have occurred to dogs riding in the back of pick-up trucks, Governor M. Jodi Rell has signed Senate Bill 1116. This bill prohibits the transport of a dog in the back of a pick-up truck unless the dog is secured or otherwise protected from jumping or being thrown from

the truck. Many thanks to Governor Rell for signing this humane measure!

## Fingerprinting Abusers, Controlling Pet Overpopulation New York

The past year has been a good one for animal-friendly legislation in New York State. Highlights include new laws aimed at cracking down on animal abusers and stemming the problem of pet overpopulation, issues vital to the ASPCA.

A.1011-A, newly effective legislation written and spearheaded by the ASPCA, requires that individuals arrested for misdemeanor animal cruelty be fingerprinted and photographed as required for other misdemeanor crimes. Up until now, there was no means to ensure accurate criminal history records for these offenders. The law also makes misdemeanor cruelty a "Class A" rather than an unclassified misdemeanor.

Another law that was written and spearheaded by the ASPCA, A.7644, expands the coverage of New York's low-cost spay and neuter program to low-income New Yorkers regardless of where they obtain their pets. The previous Animal Population Animal Control Program was limited to residents who adopt dogs and cats from shelters and humane societies within the state.

## Tax-Season Benefits Louisiana

Now you can donate all or part of your income tax overpayment to help promote the proper treatment and well-being of animals in the Bayou State. To take part, Louisiana residents can simply

check their choice on line 17C of state tax forms. Donations go directly to fund the Louisiana Animal Welfare Commission, which supports such worthy initiatives as spay and neuter, public education, and anti-cruelty enforcement. For more info, visit [www.asPCA.org/lobby](http://www.asPCA.org/lobby).

## Fear-Free Reporting Colorado

In order to stop animal cruelty and abuse, animal lovers must be able to report suspected cruelty without fear of civil or criminal liability for reporting the incident. Thank Governor Bill Owens for signing House Bill 1202 into law, granting immunity from liability for reporting animal cruelty to authorities.

## Ban Leghold Traps Rhode Island

Steel-jawed leghold traps cause excruciating pain not only to wildlife but to "nontarget" animals like household dogs and cats. Though Rhode Island law currently prohibits the use of these traps, special permit exceptions may be obtained for "nuisance" animals. House Bill 5533 would eliminate the possibility of obtaining a special permit to use leghold traps. Urge your House leaders to support this bill and release it for a vote by the full House; for contact info and a sample letter, visit [www.asPCA.org/lobby](http://www.asPCA.org/lobby).

### 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](http://www.asPCA.org/lobby).



# A Pet-Safe Garden

Many plants and garden products can be harmful, even toxic, to pets. Some extra care can help keep your pets safe this planting season.

## Plants that can be toxic to the heart

Lily of the Valley (*Convallaria majalis*)  
 Oleander (*Nerium oleander*)  
 Rhododendron, Azalea, and Rosebay  
 Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*)  
 Kalanchoe

## Plants that could cause kidney failure

Lilies (*Lilium* and *Heimerocallis* species, in cats only)  
 Rhubarb (*Rheum* species, leaves only)  
 Shamrock (oxalis species)

## Plants or fungi that could cause liver failure

Cycads (*Cycad* species, such as Sago Palm)  
 Mushroom (*Amanita phalloides*)

## Plants that could damage multiple organs

Autumn Crocus (*Colchicum* species, may damage the GI tract, bone marrow, kidneys, or liver)  
 Castor Bean (*Ricinus* species, can cause kidney or liver failure, convulsions, and death)

## Mushrooms

ALWAYS assume that any ingested wild mushroom is highly toxic until a mycologist positively identifies it. Toxic and non-toxic mushrooms can grow in the same area.

## Pesticides and fertilizers

Make sure your pets do not go on lawns or in gardens treated with fertilizers, herbicides, or insecticides until the time listed on the label by the manufacturer has elapsed. If you are uncertain about any product, call the manufacturer before using it. Always store products in areas that are inaccessible to your pets—read the label carefully for proper usage and storage instructions.

Although you could train your pets to avoid certain areas of the home or yard where poisonous plants grow, the safest method is to prevent exposure by not planting hazardous species or removing them if they are already there.

## If you suspect your pet has ingested a poisonous plant:

Contact your veterinarian immediately. Bring part of the plant to a nursery for identification if you're unsure of the exact species. Symptoms of poisoning can include not just digestive upset or loss of appetite but almost any clinical sign. The animal may even appear completely normal for several hours or days.

For more toxicology tips or to view a toxic and non-toxic plant list, visit the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center on the Web at [www.aspc.org/apcc](http://www.aspc.org/apcc).



## Canine Good Citizen



Jacquie Lynn Schultz, M.A., CPDT, is Director & Companion Animal Programs Advisor for ASPCA Shelter Outreach.

**Q.** What is a “canine good citizen”? J.J., Mobile, AL

**A.** The moniker Canine Good Citizen (CGC) is one that is awarded to a dog that has passed a ten-item canine etiquette test, thus proving itself to be safe and responsive to obedience cues such as “sit,” “down,” and “stay” in public. Designed by the American Kennel Club (AKC) in 1989 as a tool to fight breed-specific legislation, the CGC program stresses the importance of responsible pet guardianship and basic training for dogs and is the only AKC program that welcomes both mixed breed and purebred dogs. Some pet therapy organizations use the test as a partial screening tool, and 4-H groups have designed pet-training programs for kids around it. Throughout the country, state legislators have recognized the CGC program as a way to advocate responsible pet ownership and 22 states now have Canine Good Citizen resolutions.

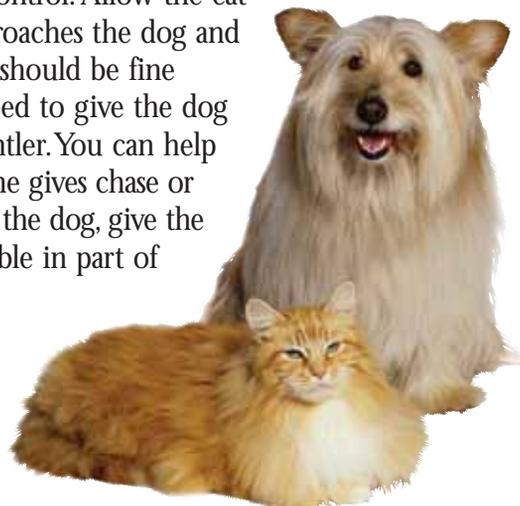
## The Truth about Cats & Dogs

Pamela Reid, Ph.D., is VP of the ASPCA Animal Behavior Center and a certified applied animal behaviorist.



**Q.** I have a dog and was hoping to adopt a homeless cat rescued from Katrina. Can a cat and a dog get along fine? L.B., Altoona, PA

**A.** Absolutely! Dogs and cats can become fast friends. It is usually necessary for them to be accustomed to the other species when they are youngsters. This early exposure teaches them that it is normal to co-exist in a household together. If possible, select a cat that is confident and curious about dogs. When you introduce them, the dog should be leashed and under control. Allow the cat to explore the room. If the cat approaches the dog and he doesn't try to grab the cat, they should be fine together. Sometimes the cat will need to give the dog a swat or two for the dog to be gentler. You can help by verbally discouraging the dog if he gives chase or gets too rough. If the cat is afraid of the dog, give the cat a few days to become comfortable in part of the home before introducing them again. If the cat ends up hiding for more than a couple of weeks, you may need to find a dog-free home for this particular cat.



## Easter Bouquet

Steven Hansen, D.V.M., is Senior VP of the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center.

**Q.** Is it OK to send my sister lilies this Easter? She just got a cat. G.X., Austin, TX

**A.** No. *Lilium spp.* (Easter Lily, Tiger Lily, Asiatic Lily and other ‘true’ lilies) and *Hermerocallis spp.* (Daylily) are both highly toxic to cats, producing life-threatening kidney failure. All parts of these plants are toxic, and even ingestion of small pieces of plant material can produce clinical effects. Therefore, it is critical that these lilies never be brought into a home with cats.

## Readers' Choice



### Living a Dog's Life

In her new book *Living a Dog's Life* (March 2006, St. Martin's Press), *New York Post* gossip columnist and bestselling author Cindy Adams shares the big life lessons she has learned from her tiny Yorkies Jazzy and Juicy.

Just when life was at its best, Cindy suffered a terrible tragedy when her first Yorkie, Jazzy, died unexpectedly. Cindy was devastated and certain she would never love again. But as her relationship grew with her second Yorkie, Juicy, and the loving, single-minded pooch claimed her rightful place in the center of Cindy's lap, she realized that once again a wise furry companion had shown her that "Life is good. Life goes on."

With her trademark wit, Cindy tells hilarious stories from her glamorous life: covering the Tony Awards, dating a baron, being a bridesmaid at Liza Minnelli's wedding. But Cindy soon realized that not even the most glamorous celebrity gala can compare to the intimate heartfelt joy she receives from parenting two little "hairballs" that warm her bones and share her home.



### Dogs Hit Catwalk

Adoptable pups from the ASPCA hit the catwalk in New York's Riverside Park this fall for the Nintendogs Doggy Fashion Show. The celebration was hosted by

Nintendo, makers of the Nintendogs computer game that lets virtual pet parents train, care for, and play with lifelike puppies on their computers. ASPCA hounds found loving homes after donning fashions from Little Lily, the designer to the stylish pups of stars like Paris Hilton, Britney Spears, Lindsay Lohan, and Hilary Duff. In recognition of the ASPCA's life-saving work for animals, Nintendo and the computer game retailer GameStop donated \$50,000 to the ASPCA. ■



### Carriage Horse Safety

Horse lovers were shocked by January's news that one of New York City's graceful carriage horses and its driver were critically injured after the animal bolted in midtown traffic and collided with a car. "A horse can be spooked and no one is sure why — with all that stimuli, anything can do it," said ASPCA President Ed Sayres. "We think a

reasonable position is to keep them in Central Park and out of traffic."

The ASPCA continues its 140-year tradition of protecting working animals by continuing to lobby for laws restricting carriage horses to the park, away from hazardous urban traffic. ASPCA officers also routinely monitor the animals' health and living conditions and are authorized to order carriages off the streets if temperatures climb too high or low. ■

# World's Coolest Pets



Best Dog



Best Cats



Best Biker



Best Friends



Best Yawn

Thanks to all of you who voted in Dogster.com and Catster.com's "World's Coolest Dog & Cat Show," sponsored in part by the ASPCA.

## April Is Anti-Cruelty Month!



Join us on this 140th Anniversary Year by doing your part to fight animal cruelty in your home town.

\* Be aware. Without phone calls from concerned citizens, humane organizations wouldn't know about most instances of abuse.

\* Learn what constitutes cruelty. Possible signs include wounds, thinness, limping, or dogs left chained in yards without food or water.

\* Know who to call. In some towns, police investigate animal cruelty; in others, it's local animal control.

To learn more about ways you can join the fight to end animal cruelty, visit [www.aspca.org/cruelty](http://www.aspca.org/cruelty). Together we can make a difference.

## Celebrity Corner

### Maureen McGovern

Singer, Actress  
with Nicky (who has  
since passed away)  
and Rocky



**Q.** What was the name of your first pet?

**A.** Tinkerbell, a Boxer.

**Q.** What's your fondest "pet memory"?

**A.** Nicky, my late Yorkie, accompanied me to President Clinton's first inauguration. While his Sherpa bag went through the security x-ray machine, the secret service remarked, "Well, this is a first!"

**Q.** Cats or Dogs?

**A.** Big dog lover...sadly, allergic to cats.

**Q.** Why are groups like the ASPCA so important?

**A.** Since Henry Bergh's passionate and hard work in establishing the ASPCA in 1866, many organizations have followed suit in providing care and protection for all animals. The ASPCA remains the leader in its passionate and steadfast commitment to eradicating cruelty to animals and protecting their quality of life. Cheers to the ASPCA!

**Q.** Do you share your life with pets now?

**A.** Yes. With Rocky, my 11-year-old Yorkie, and Hannah, my 7-year-old Silkie.

## Artist's Corner



Brandy showed up as a puppy on our doorstep after nearly getting run over by a car. Cute and frisky, he tumbled over to my son and licked his face. The week before we had been to our local shelter and adopted Mae, a shepherd pup who had spent her life tied to a tree before being rescued by an animal rescue team. The

ropes had grown into her neck, and she needed surgery to repair the damage. Brandy and Mae, now seven years old, are wonderful dogs and best friends who do everything together.

Yvonne M. Ward, Bronx, NY

[www.yessy.com/ymward/gallery.html](http://www.yessy.com/ymward/gallery.html)

## Our 3 Sons

Greg F., Teagan B.,

and Ben W., Coopersburg, PA

Parents from Pennsylvania write: The tragedy that hit the Gulf Coast region earlier this year struck a particular chord with our three boys—Greg, Ben, and Teagan. As news of the devastation unfolded, our children, who are friends and neighbors, watched with quiet concern, unsure of what to feel or do. Yet they wished to help.

All three boys have birthdays around the same time of year. This year, in lieu of gifts, they asked their friends and families to donate money to the ASPCA Disaster Relief Fund at a joint birthday party held September 23, 2005. They collected \$1,128.56!

Greg's dog Parker, rescued by caring hands after the Florida hurricanes, was our "poster dog." We know that there are many more Parkers out there. Please use this money to care for and save the displaced animals of Louisiana and Mississippi and to help find them homes.



## My 3 Kids

Olga A., Fall River, MA

Lady (left), my first cat, arrived hungry, dirty, and homeless after her previous owner abandoned her after an apartment fire. Two months later, my vet showed me two tiny kittens whose owner had wanted them killed because each had only one eye. I fell in love with those two balls of fur and took them home. Today, Julia and



## FUN FACT:

People who have pets live longer, and have less stress and fewer heart attacks.

Shorty are THE happiest cats in the world, so happy to be alive. As for me, I could not have asked for better friends, and they are my kids, too. What would the world be without animals?



## Forever Home

Debbie A. and Bailee, Pittsfield, MA

Bailee had been left at a "high-kill" shelter in Ohio but rescued by a Connecticut group called Amanda Connections. When I got him, he didn't want to go outside or get in the car because he was afraid I was going to leave him somewhere. But once he realized he had a "forever" home with my cats and me, his self-confidence grew daily. Now he loves going for rides and walks. Adopting a dog through a shelter has really opened my eyes. I hope sharing "our" story will help other pets find a home where they can count on being loved and taken care of.



## Smiling Giant

**Morgan and Alexis W. with Isabelle,**

**Minneapolis, MN**

We had wanted a dog for the longest time when we spotted Isabelle at our local shelter. She was a Great Pyrenees, a breed our mother had been researching to buy. Campers had found her wandering with no tags in the northern woods. She was so thin and her fur was shaved where burrs had clung to her, but she seemed so gentle and loving. We had no choice but to bring her home.

Five years have now passed, and Isabelle is one very big, furry six-year-old. We are certain that sometimes she looks as though she is smiling, happy in her new home.

## Cat Coincidence

**Heather R. and Pez, San Marcos, TX**

I try to do something charitable whenever I get some luck in my life. So when I was given a generous break on renting a house, I decided to adopt a third cat.

My first day in the house, I went to check my rental mailbox late at night. There I found this dark, big-eyed tabby without a collar singing her heart out and looking

distinctly lost. I came back with a cat carrier and in she marched.

When I took her to my vet in the morning, it turned out she'd belonged to one of the vet techs! What are the odds? The tech had named her Pez but had to give her to the pound for adoption because of an allergy. She was visibly upset how thin Pez was after living on the streets for three months, declawed.

That's the train of coincidences that let me fulfill my promise to save a life. My Pez is soft as



## In Memory of Magnum

Hidden beneath the rubble and the trash, a black dog's eyes flash.  
Paws tied behind a deeply scarred and burnt body, a sad looking little tottie.  
Wagging his tail from left to right, this guy had to fight.  
He only lived a few days more, but his memory will kick down the door.  
So...As he was laid to rest, let's not forget the quest, and that is to fight and fight some more,  
To end animal cruelty and shove it out the door.

— Jessie N., Wichita, KS

cashmere and keeps my older cats on their toes. Every day I wake up and find her in the trio of waiting faces (feed us!), I'm so grateful we found each other.

## Therapy Team

*Thanks to all of you who shared your tales for our ASPCA Therapy Dog contest!*

**Kay and Elvis, Encinitas, CA**

Pet parent Kay Mangio learned the value of therapy dog work after her father developed Parkinson's disease and moved to an assisted-living facility. She would take him on outings, but "he always had to be back by 2 p.m. to visit with the dogs." After she adopted a special needs older mutt from the Rancho Coastal Humane Society, a cocker-Basset hound mix named Elvis, she was delighted to be able to spread the warmth by joining the shelter's pet therapy program. She and Elvis now make regular visits to a local nursing home. "We may be the only visitors that some of these patients receive," she says. Although Mangio calls Elvis "a bit of a drama king" because of his need for attention, together the team is making a big difference in the lives of others.



## Angel Annie

Jackie K. and Annie

ASPCA Member, San Bernardino, CA



“Never judge a book by its cover,” I often quoted. But one cold and rainy morning a few short years ago, I was challenged to “practice what I preached.” As I leaned through the window of my husband’s truck for a quick kiss as he left for work, the kiss I

received in return came not from my husband but from a small brown and white bundle of canine fuzz seeking refuge from the elements under our truck.

I quickly scooped up the pup, only to discover the little stray was a pit bull terrier. Suddenly every horror story I ever heard about the breed flashed through my mind. She could stay until we found her a home...but she would have to go!

Luckily we found her the perfect home—our own! I had fallen madly in love. We named her Annie—not a red-head, but a red-nosed orphan just the same.

I spent hours researching the breed, and trips to the dog park were met with disbelief when I revealed that this exuberant, overly friendly dog was indeed a pit bull. Annie made friends wherever we went, and never passed up an opportunity to ham it up in front

of the camera or flirt her way into someone else’s game of fetch.

Sadly, Annie’s time with us ended all too soon. Shortly after her second birthday I noticed her stomach felt tight. Exploratory surgery revealed her organs were riddled with cancer and her prognosis grim.

Brokenhearted, we let her go. We received floods of e-mails from those who knew Annie and shared our sorrow. Prior to Annie’s death we’d rescued our second pit bull, Hannah. We visited a local shelter the day after we lost Annie and adopted our third, Gracie.

It was then I’d realized Annie was very special indeed. Annie saved lives, including the lives of Hannah, Gracie, and others we’ve adopted as our rescue efforts continue. Sometimes I wonder who rescued whom, but deep in my heart I know the answer and it puts a smile on my face: Angel Annie.



Annie (photo, left) inspired many subsequent rescues.

### Have a rescue tale? Send us YOUR STORIES

E-mail us: [ASPCAAction@aspc.org](mailto: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 American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) 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](http://www.aspc.org) for more information.

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

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