

In April, we helped horse groups rescue 133 Polish Arabian horses from neglect in Maryland.

We are... helping equines



By rescuing and rehoming animals in need, and campaigning against cruelties such as soring and horse slaughter, we're securing better futures for our equine companions.



EQUINE BOOT CAMP: Fabio (shown at left) once spent his days harassing picnickers at Maryland's Assateague Island National Seashore. Sent to The HSUS's Doris Day Horse Rescue and Adoption Center in Texas, the stallion was trained to get along with people and other horses. "We figured we couldn't go wrong with The Humane Society of the United States as long as they could take him," says the National Park Service's Allison Turner. "We knew he would get the care and

respect he needs." The center, which opened in May at the Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch, cared for 41 horses in 2011.

RINGING OUT THE OLD: The HSUS helped secure a nearly 40 percent increase in funding (to \$696,000) for the USDA to attend Tennessee walking horse competitions and enforce the Horse Protection Act. The law bans soring, whereby trainers cause intense pain to a horse's legs or hooves in order to exaggerate his high-stepping gait and gain a competitive edge in shows.

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK: In a change pressed for by HSUS staff, the USDA closed a loophole that had allowed the horse slaughter industry to transport horses in dangerous double-decker trucks. Designed for short-necked animals, the vehicles forced horses to ride for long distances in an unnatural position, increasing chances of injuries and deaths.

BRADY BERGIN Donkey Defender

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The donkeys were in trouble. Descended from working animals set loose on Hawaii's Big Island, they were straying onto roads and helping themselves to livestock feed. Assisted by veterinarian Brady Bergin and local advocates, a yearlong HSUS trap-neuter effort rehomed more than 200 on the island, while 119 were flown to mainland sanctuaries. "I feel we kind of owed the donkeys for what they did for us as 'beasts of burden' for so many years," says Bergin.

