ALL SOWN UP

I just received the September/October issue and inhaled the article “Humane Backyard.” After toying for a couple of years over what to do with an empty patch on the south side of our house, I have decided to turn the area into a bee/butterfly/hummingbird/bird haven and have ordered native plants beneficial to these creatures from Missouri Wildflower Nursery in Jefferson City, Mo. I can’t wait to receive the plants and enjoy the wildlife! As a personal gardener, I’ll be asking some of my clients to do the same.

— EDY GARRISON, OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS

WE DON’T HORSE AROUND

I always look forward to receiving your magazine but tentatively read the articles on the Tennessee walking horses and soring. It is so hard to accept that humans can be so cruel to horses. I was pleasantly surprised to read (“Healthy Strides,” September/October) how far you have come in assisting legislators make the only humane laws that should be acceptable for these beautiful animals. It is obvious that your investigation into this industry is what aided these much-needed changes. Thank you for all the animals you help and watch over by trying to have the laws changed to protect them. This is why I am an HSUS member.

— CLAIRE DIBLE, SMITHTON, PENNSYLVANIA

VEGGIE THRILLS

As vegetarians of more than 45 years, we were delighted to read “Grill Thrills” (September/October 2013) about the Veggie Grill restaurant. We were also thrilled that The HSUS is a recent co-investor in the chain. We can hardly wait until one of the stores opens in New Mexico. What better place to have the Santa Fe Crispy Chickin’ than in Santa Fe, N.M.?

— BOB AND DIXIE RAY, SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

THIS ISSUE’S MUSE

Adopted from Maryland-based Small Angels Rescue by the son and daughter of All Animals senior writer Karen E. Lange, the nearsighted Sno-Ball is on the shy side and mostly enjoys sleeping in her hammock. But her sister Oreo is eager for adventure. When the cage is opened, she perches on the door’s edge, then scampers up an extended arm, sometimes exploring inside a shirtsleeve. Playing on a bed, Oreo burrows beneath the covers or leaps for a nearby bookshelf, steering with an expert twist of her tail. It’s the tail that makes some adult visitors shudder. But not kids. They break into smiles as she stretches forward to greet them—intelligent, gentle, and ready to play. To read more about this amazing species, turn to p. 40.

— OREO
Susan M. Seidman’s earlier book about shelter animals, *THE PET SURPLUS—What Every Dog and Cat Owner Can Do to Help Reduce It*, won praise from humane professionals. Now, this vivid memoir of her own pets unites fond reminiscence with practical guidance for others. Her engaging tales of Supan, Harry, Felicia, Angela, Tim, Freddy, Cindy, Chico, Daisy, Toby and a dozen more may—or may not—remind you of cats you have known.

The wealth of insights and useful tips in *CAT COMPANIONS*, gained from the author’s years of hands-on experience with four generations of pets, will enlighten and entertain every cat lover.

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