New PA Law Protects Horses

A new law recently signed by Gov. Tom Ridge addresses the most serious concern in the humane transport of horses. The law makes it a violation to carry any equine in a double-deck vehicle. The bill passed the House by a vote of 199-0 and the Senate 49-0.

The bill's sponsor Rep. Jim Lynch worked this session with Pennsylvania Legislative Animal Network (PLAN), representatives of the Federated Humane Societies of Pennsylvania, and legislators to find common ground. This bill was supported by The HSUS, the ASPCA, the Fund for Animals, the Large Animal Protection Society, and by horse advocates throughout Pennsylvania.

Anne Irwin, president of the Federated Humane Societies of Pennsylvania, commented, "It will be a great step forward in humane treatment of horses." PLAN Chairperson Johnna Seeton added, "Thanks to Reps. Lynch, Bunt, and Perzel, and Sens. Waugh, Wenger, and Brightbill for working with all of us to improve conditions for horses in Pennsylvania."

Thanks to a new Pennsylvania law, horses will be safer during transport.

MARO Practices Humane Alternatives to Goose Round-ups

Some people think there are just too many Canada geese. But it is because of human activities that geese have been encouraged to remain in areas year-round rather than migrate. People have created ideal goose habitat in the form of parks, corporate developments, and golf courses. And they often feed geese, encouraging them to approach people. Despite our role in geese proliferation, people often complain about geese's fecal deposits and the large numbers of birds.

Inspired by Michigan's successful egg-replacement program carried out by The HSUS and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, our office joined forces with the U. S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Wildlife Services division and the Morris County Park Commission on a humane goose management pilot project to addle eggs in Morristown, New Jersey's Burnham Park, Cauldwell Playground, and private property adjacent to Loantaka Park. Morristown Health Officer Howard Steinberg worked with The HSUS and USDA to coordinate the Burnham Park and Cauldwell Playground projects, while Morris County Park Commission's Charley Zafonte assisted with Loantaka Park. According to the USDA, Morris is the number one county in the state for Canada goose complaints.

"Addling" refers to any process by which an egg is rendered unviable. Egg addling offers a humane alternative for reducing goose populations. All native bird species are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and neither they, their nests, nor eggs can be taken or injured in any way without a permit from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. All addling programs for Canada geese must take place under permit.

Volunteers Make the Difference

Volunteers are the key to making a project like this work. The HSUS's Director of Urban Wildlife Programs Dr. John continued on page 2
Black Bear Update

The HSUS has proposed a collaborative field study of immunoncontraception in black bears with the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife (NJDFW). The proposal expressed the importance of working together on developing new tools for helping the people of New Jersey live harmoniously with bears. The contraceptive most widely tested on wildlife at this time is the PZP (porcine zona pellucida) vaccine. PZP field research has been carried out for 13 years on free-ranging white-tailed deer, for five years on African elephants, and for eight years on a wide range of captive animals in zoos. These field studies have shown PZP immunoncontraception to be safe, effective, and reversible. We need you to contact Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Robert C. Shinn (201-157-0856 or rshinn@dep.state.nj.us) and acting Gov. Donald DiFrancesco (P.O. Box 001, Trenton, NJ 08625; or www.state.nj.us/gov contact.html). Ask them to support a pilot project of immunoncontraception in black bears with The HSUS and NJDFW. With your help, this cutting-edge science can work in our region.

Investigation Finds Room for Improvement in New Jersey Animal Protection

After a three-year investigation, the New Jersey State Commission of Investigation (SCI) made numerous recommendations to improve the state’s animal protection laws and their enforcement. In response to the 170-page report (which can be downloaded at: www.state.nj.us/sci) the HSUS issued the following statement: “The Humane Society of the United States is offering assistance to state officials to help rebuild the animal shelter system. SCI’s findings reveal an animal care and control system in crisis.” At the end of April, The HSUS sent a letter to Assembly Speaker Jack Ciattarelli thanking SCI for its in-depth investigation and offering assistance to help New Jersey address the problems in animal care and control and work to create a system that others across the nation will emulate.

“We want the state to know that our services are available to them,” said Nina Albuquerque, MARO director. “The HSUS has the expertise and experience to help in a multitude of areas to dramatically improve the level of care to the animals and service to community organizations. We also want to strengthen shelter inspections and participate in cross-reporting between agencies on animal cruelty and domestic violence.”

The report calls for renaming the operating structure of all of the state’s SPCAs, including dissolving all enforcement duties and rebuilding a new system from the ground up. Before any of the recommendations can be implemented, a solid structure of authority and oversight needs to be in place to address the report’s allegations. The HSUS recommends that an independent task force be appointed to evaluate and oversee the changes.

MARO praised SCI for its thorough investigation and recommendations that can make vast improvements to New Jersey’s current animal care and control system. The HSUS supports the recommendations for mandatory spay and neuter at shelters, updating animal codes, and enforcing state statutes already in place to protect the animals and citizens of New Jersey. We look forward to playing a part in improving New Jersey’s animal shelters and enforcing animal protection laws.
The HSU class included (left to right): Bill Karpack, Rockaway Animal Clinic (NJ); Joyce Clemmons, Center for Animal Care and Control (NY); Eric Grant, ASPCA (NY); and Judy Gorevic, ASPCA (NY)

HSU Prepares Shelter Managers

Humane Society University (HSU), an HSUS program, is offering a series of workshops designed specifically for the benefit of managers and future managers of animal shelters: Leadership Development for Animal Care and Control Professionals. At the completion of two three-day training cycles held in 2001 and 2002, HSU will award each participant a certificate in techniques of humane management and 45 continuing education units. Distance-learning exercises via the Internet will round out the training program between the first and second years of on-site training.

The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation awarded a generous grant to HSU in support of the workshops, which were launched in New Jersey in April. Six consecutive sessions were hosted monthly through September at locations throughout the state (New Brunswick, Morristown, and Cherry Hill), in order to provide easily accessible, affordable training for New Jersey residents working in the field of animal protection. The program also attracted residents from neighboring MARO states. At the end of the first day of each session, a reception provided an opportunity for students, instructors, and MARO and HSU staff members to meet. Attendees have responded enthusiastically to the quality and content of the workshops. Joyce Clemmons, shelter manager for the Center for Animal Care and Control in New York City, said after the training, “I have a greater understanding of who I am and what it will take to accomplish my goals for the shelter.” The 2001 classes included discussions on conflict resolution, client services, listening skills, and general management topics. Tentative courses for 2002 include volunteer management, public relations, and social marketing. Students may take the 2002 courses even if they did not participate in the 2001 round.

For further details about HSU, please contact its director, Valerie Sheppard, at 301-548-7713 or visit the program's Web site, www.HumaneSocietyU.org.

Celebrating, Protecting Farm Animals

The HSUS was a sponsor at the Farm Sanctuary 2001 Gala in New York City, Celebrating 15 Years of Protecting Farm Animals. MARO's Barbara Dyer and Kathy Bauch from HSUS headquarters represented The HSUS. Rep. Gary Ackerman of New York received the first Congressional Friend of Farm Animals Award for his compassion and commitment to farm animal protection.

Barbara Dyer is seen above at the gala with legendary artist Peter Max in front of his two pieces. Peter created the art on behalf of ecology, world peace, and animal protection, dedicating his time and talent to raising public awareness about the plight of farm animals.

Young Poet Writes for Bears

This past spring, New Jersey fourth-grader Sean Wilson, of Paradise Knolls School in Oak Ridge, New Jersey, won first prize in the Star Ledger's Newspapers in Education program The World Through Their Eyes for a poem he wrote about New Jersey's black bear situation. He won a mini stereo system and TV/VCR for his school. Here is his poem:

Life isn't fair.
I'm just a big black bear.
I come across some people
That want to shoot me here and there.
What am I to do?
Where am I to go?
I don't know.
Some people don't seem to care,
And I don't think that's fair.
My home was here.
And now all I cause is fear.
Show me where to go,
Since I don't know.
Don't hunt me.
I'm just a friend you see.
I lived among the woods and trees,
And now I'm lost and looking to be free.
Where am I to go?
I don't know.
Help Rusti Find a Home

Meet Rusti. He is an orangutan. Rusti was rescued from the Scotch Plains Zoo in New Jersey (formerly the Terry Lee Zoo, which was named as one of the 10 worst zoos in the United States by Parade Magazine). Rusti temporarily resides in the Honolulu Zoo. The HSUS Captive Wildlife Protection program wants to help put Rusti into a permanent orangutan sanctuary in Hawaii to be built by Orangutan Foundation International (OFI). Rusti will be the first inhabitant in a modern sanctuary that will not only provide for his needs but also enhance his quality of life. If you would like to help us help Rusti, enclose a donation marked “For Rusti.” Money donated will be divided between OFI and The HSUS Captive Wildlife Protection program so we can continue to help captive animals in need. Use the enclosed envelope to send your donation or mail it to HSUS MARO, 270 Route 206, FLANDERS, N.J. 07836.

Save These Dates!

When: May 29–June 1, 2002
Where: Radisson Plaza Hotel, Fort Worth, Texas
Why: The HSUS National Conference on Animals in Disasters. You’ll meet hundreds of people involved with caring for animals in disasters: emergency management personnel, animal shelter staff, community volunteers, and more. You’ll gain valuable information about disaster planning, preparedness, and responses as well as important hands-on training and much, much more. For more information, call 301-256-3083.

When: April 5–April 6, 2002
Where: Fontainebleau Hilton Resort in Miami Beach, Florida
Why: Animal Care Expo. Animal protection professionals from around the globe will gather at Expo. Don’t miss this opportunity to get some sun, sand, sun, and shelter education. Watch for more details about the next Expo in the coming months, or keep up with us on a daily basis at AnimalSheltering magazine and online at www.AnimalSheltering.org.

Reflect for a moment… How can I help animals and receive income and tax savings at the same time?

By making a planned giving gift to The Humane Society of the United States, you can assure that animals will receive the protection they need while providing significant tax savings and income to yourself. Naming The HSUS as a beneficiary of your estate or trust demonstrates your lasting commitment to animal care and strengthens the cause for future tasks. We will be happy to send our latest information on planned giving and our programs to help animals.

Mail this coupon to the envelope enclosed or send it directly to The Humane Society of the United States, MARO, 270 Route 206, Barley Sq., FLANDERS, N.J. 07836.

Name _____________________________
Address ___________________________
City State Zip _______________________
Phone _____________________________

New Jersey’s New “Mutts” Plates

New resident Patrick McDonnell, creator of the popular, nationally syndicated comic strip “Mutts,” distributed by King Features Syndicate, generously volunteered his talent and services to design a new animal-friendly license plate. The license plates will be available in early winter through the New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles.

Publication Request Form

Please check the publications you would like to receive and mail this coupon along with $1 for postage and handling in the enclosed envelope.

☐ All Animal (magazine)
☐ Animal Sheltering (magazine)
☐ “Canada Seese: Living in Harmony With Your Wild Neighbors” (brochure)
☐ “Give Wildlife a Brake” (brochure)
☐ Humane Activist (newsletter)
☐ KIND News (children’s newspaper)
☐ HSUS Publications Catalog (learn about all the information THE HSUS has to offer)
☐ “Pets and Disasters: Get Prepared” (brochure)
☐ RWV Neighbor News (newsletter)
☐ Working for Animals: A Handbook for Lobbyists (booklet)

Welcome MARO’s New Staffer

We would like to introduce you to Samantha Mullin, MARO’s new program coordinator. Samantha came to us from The HSUS headquarters in Washington, DC, where she served as director of training resources. In her former position as the administrator for the New York State Humane Association, she frequently advised and worked directly with animal shelters and police confronted with animal cruelty cases. Several such cases resulted from the phenomenon known as animal hoarding. She has frequently written, conducted workshops, and interacted with law enforcement personnel, psychologists, and journalists across the country about problems caused by animal hoarders.

As part of the MARO team, Samantha will be concentrating on companion animal issues and legislation, with a focus on outreach in New York State.