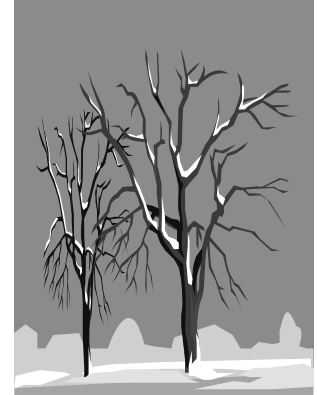


Winter 2006



Suffolk County SPCA
363 Route 111
Smithtown, New York 11787
631 382-7722

THE HELPING PAW NEWSLETTER



EIGHT ALLIGATORS FOUND IN HOME!!!

We never know what we will find when entering a home! A neighbor became suspicious of activities, and contacted the Suffolk County SPCA. When agents arrived, they found a virtual zoo in the basement of the home. Suffolk County SPCA Agents were shocked to find eight alligators, a Nile crocodile, a Spectacled Caiman, 2 electric eels, a Burmese python, 7 Diamondback Terrapins, turtles, iguanas, emus, and other exotic animals in a local residence. Some of the alligators were in cages, one was found suspended from the ceiling. A tortoise was found in a bathtub in its own feces. The process of removing the reptiles was difficult, but a team of SPCA agents were able to safely and humanely remove them all.

Because of the size and quantity of the animals, the SPCA MASH Unit was needed to transport them to a safe haven. The owner of this menagerie of animals was arrested for animal cruelty and additional charges may be forthcoming.



WINTER SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR ANIMALS...

As winter approaches, we offer you the following tips to keep your animals safe during the cold weather.

- Keep your pets indoors to prevent injury, frostbite and hypothermia.
- Be alert to frostbite signs: skin turning red, white gray or scaly.
- Keep ID tags on pets as more pets are lost in the winter than any other time of year. Pets lose their ability to scent their way home in snow and ice conditions.
- Always walk dogs on a leash, as they can become disoriented or lost.
- Be aware of sheltered cats and wildlife as outdoor cats and other animals will seek shelter beneath the hood of a car.
- Never leave pets in the car for any length of time.
- Be aware of exposure time. Dogs who are ill, very young or short haired cannot endure prolonged exposure to winter weather.
- Keep your pets dry. Never take them out unless they are 100% dry.
- Have a clean up routine. Keep a towel by the door to wipe wet feet.
- Road salt can irritate and burn as well as cause vomiting. Antifreeze has a sweet, attractive smell and can be deadly to pets if ingested. Keep paws, belly and legs clean to avoid problems.
- Keep your pets warm. Always keep beds slightly elevated and away from cold drafts.
- Keep your pets safe from fire. If using a fireplace, put a protective barrier on the screen to prevent burns.
- Don't use metal dishes outside. Tongues can stick to frozen bowls.
- Change water daily. Snow is not a substitute for fresh water.

HAPPY ENDINGS...



Our agents recently were involved in a story of true caring. We were informed about an 81 year old man whose dog had been hit by a car. The elderly gentleman did not have any money for veterinary care. The Suffolk County SPCA arranged for a local vet to provide free services and a local Animal Shelter provided transportation. The veterinarian also went back to the gentleman's home and provided free care to his other animals. We are thankful that these pets were well cared for by the generosity of so many dedicated people.

SPCA PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2006

The Suffolk County SPCA Humane Division had an active year, thanks to our dedicated volunteers. Highlights included many presentations at local schools, with demonstrations on caring for pets, animal safety and disaster preparedness. Many young students were enthusiastic about learning tips on caring for their pets and procedures to follow in case of emergencies.

Our Spay/Neuter program successfully held multiple clinics in various towns throughout the County. Our MASH unit served as a mobile hospital to spay or neuter cats and dogs at a low cost to pet owners.

Rabies clinics were held to inoculate cats and dogs, and more than 2,000 animals took advantage of our services.

Humane Division Volunteers also provided informational services at local fairs, dog walks, and community events.

Our sincere thanks to the many individuals who gave of their time to help the community.



Chief Roy Gross and Cody

As 2006 ends, we look back at the year and the work that the Suffolk County SPCA has accomplished. Our agents investigated more than 1,200 abuse, neglect and cruelty charges....dogs, cats, birds, lizards, farm animals, snakes, rabbits, swans, ducks.... We have saved many an animal who would otherwise have died without our intervention.

Our MASH Unit was called to action to help at the Republican National Convention, at the Masters Golf Tournament, and was ready to deploy should any disaster hit the area. Again, our volunteers were ready for any call needing our services.

We need your help to continue our work! We rely entirely on donations from the public, as we are not funded by the County, State or any other organizations. Your gifts to us keep us working, which in turn helps us to keep so many animals safe and protected from abuse.

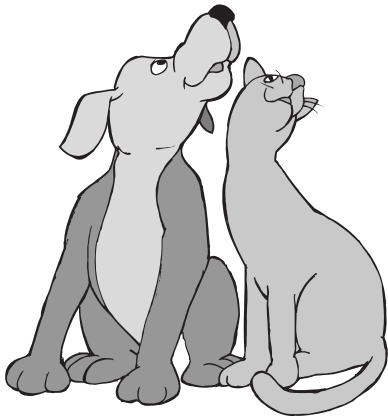
Please consider an end-of-year donation to the Suffolk County SPCA. Your gift is tax deductible and will be used to continue our many programs. We wish you and your families and your pets a safe and healthy new year.

Suffolk County SPCA

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**Check our website:
www.suffolkspca.org**



The Suffolk County SPCA is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit agency consisting of over sixty non-paid individuals from all walks of life. Our peace officers are both active and retired law enforcement personnel who enforce the New York State Agriculture and Market Law with regard to the prevention of mistreatment and cruelty to animals.

Our civilian humane workers are volunteers who work on non-criminal investigations as well as delivering the support services (free rabies clinics, spay/neuter programs, animal rescue) that the SCSPCA provides.

The Suffolk County SPCA is funded entirely by charitable donations. Our existence depends upon your generosity, as we do not receive funds from the State. Your gifts to us are tax deductible.

Suffolk County SPCA Board of Directors: Roy Gross, Dr. Gerald Lauber, Herbert Kellner, Alex Parathyras, William Wexler, Lois Gross.

Advisory Board: Ret. Comm. John Gallagher, Ret. Sheriff Alfred Tish, Dr. Lisa Pius, Wendy Diamond.

Veterinary Advisory Board: Dr. John Charos, Dr. Barbara Kalvig, Dr. Michael Shorter, Dr. Harry Littman

Thank you for your generous support. Your gifts are important to us!!

WEBSITES OF INTEREST...

Looking to adopt a pet?

- www.nationalpetregister.com
- www.missingpet.net
- www.petrecovery.com
- www.petfinder.com
- www.petline.org
- www.1888pets911.org
- www.birdhotline.com

Pet Friendly hotels

- www.bringyourpet.com
- www.takeyourpet.com
- www.dogfriendlydirectory.com
- www.travelpets.com
- www.petswelcome.com
- www.homesteadhotels.com
- www.loewshotels.com

We are looking for donations of cages, leashes, muzzles, medical supplies to prepare our MASH UNIT to provide assistance wherever needed. Monetary donations are also welcome to help us prepare for a disaster so we can take care of companion animals. Call our office at 631-382-7722 if you can help!