



Suffolk County SPCA

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Fall/Winter 2009



THE HELPING PAW NEWSLETTER

SUFFOLK COUNTY SPCA HONORS "HERO NURSE"



The Suffolk County SPCA honored a "hero nurse" today and credited her with saving the lives of two dogs from a burning home.

On the morning of September 10th, Kristan Probeck, R.N. and her eight year old daughter Jackie were waiting at the bus stop when Jackie heard a smoke detector going off at a nearby house. Jackie alerted her mom and then Kristan ran to the house when she saw flames inside the kitchen window. She knew that

the owners had left for work and that there were two dogs inside the house. While another mom called 911 from a cell phone, Kristan was able to open a window and enter the burning home. She tried to put out the fire with a garden hose, but was unsuccessful so she grabbed one of the two dogs and brought it into the back yard. An arriving Suffolk County Police Officer was able to retrieve the second dog.

Roy Gross, Chief of the Suffolk County SPCA, presented Ms. Probeck with a Certificate of Merit and proclaimed her and her daughter heroes. "Without Jackie and Kristan, these dogs could have easily perished in the fire, Gross said."

HOLIDAY PET TIPS

The holiday season is fast approaching. As you prepare for the first family feast of the season, the Suffolk County S.P.C.A. asks that you remember your pets in the preparation of these festivities. Turkey bones can lodge in you pet's throat. Chocolate should be kept out of your pet's reach all the time. It is a toxic substance to animals, particularly dogs. Dark chocolate is the most toxic and can be fatal. Walnuts and macadamia nuts can cause severe vomiting and diarrhea. Avocado can cause buildup of fluid in internal organs and cause damage to the heart. Onions and garlic can cause severe anemia especially in cats. Raisins and grapes can cause significant kidney damage and result in renal failure. (cont'd on back page).

GOAT FOUND DECAPITATED

On October 24th, the Suffolk County SPCA was called by Suffolk County Police to a location on Brook Street, Islip, to handle an investigation involving the killing and mutilation of a goat. The goat was found decapitated, and its remains stuffed into a plastic trash bag. Additional evidence was also found at the scene by SPCA agents, and is being investigated at this time.

The Suffolk County SPCA is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for killing the goat.

ARRESTED AND CHARGED WITH ANIMAL CRUELTY

During this summer, two Selden residents were arrested and charged with felony animal cruelty after three dogs were found languishing in filth and garbage at an apparently abandoned home on South Evergreen Drive. Investigators with Suffolk County SPCA checked the house after receiving a tip that animals were inside. "There was an odor coming from the house, "Everything was closed up, there were cobwebs on the doors, and they could hear the faint cries of dogs coming from the home." After obtaining a search warrant, agents entered the home through a rear door and found 3 severely malnourished dogs living amid garbage and feces. Debris was piled from floor to ceiling; the house contained no food and did not appear to have electricity or running water.

The animals - a male Siberian husky, a male pointer mix, and a female pit bull mix - were taken to Brookhaven Town Animal shelter for treatment. It was not clear if the animals, which had sores and were in very poor condition, had been kept as pets or guard dogs. "You can't just leave animals in the house to suffer like that," Gross said, calling the dogs' treatment "very, very severe negligence and depraved indifference to an animal.

" The two adult residents of the home were apprehended and arrested on animal cruelty charges.. "They're facing two years in prison and hefty fines," he said.

FIFTH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN DOG WALK



The fifth annual dog walk sponsored by Patricia Hurley from Little Lucy's in Southampton was another success.

Dogs dressed in their Halloween best paraded through Southampton on October 31st. Once again Pat worked diligently to make this annual event a success. We are not sure who had more fun, the pets or their owners.

Awards were given for ten categories. The prizes were donated by Patricia Hurley of Little Lucy's.

Thank you Pat for another wonderful, fun filled day.



HUSKY LEFT IN ABANDONED APARTMENT

The Suffolk County SPCA received a complaint about a dog abandoned in an apartment. When we arrived we found a male husky tied to a table, sitting in a pile of broken glass. There were two empty bowls in close proximity to the dog. The dog was removed from the location and transported to a veterinarian for evaluation. The findings were that the dog was suffering from severe weight loss—

emaciated—malnutrition. The tips of both ears were deformed from untreated fly strikes. The coat and skin were urine scolded. The dog is currently being treated for its severely neglected condition and hopefully when he has recovered he will be adopted out to a good home where he will live a happy, healthy life where he is loved.

ARREST IN ROOSTER FIGHTING

Suffolk County Police arrested a Bay Shore man for owning and training roosters for the purpose of fighting. Along with members of the Suffolk County SPCA, a search warrant was executed. During the search, 24 roosters were found in separate cages with their waddles and combs removed, an indication that the animals were being used for fighting. Officers also found spurs, scales, hypodermic needles and performance-enhancing drugs. Detectives have charged a 40 year old male, with Owning or Keeping an Animal for the Purpose of Fighting, a misdemeanor, and Training an Animal to Fight, a felony, under the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law.

INJURED DOG TIED TO LAWN MOWER

Suffolk County SPCA agents were called to investigate the case of Matilda, an 11 month-old female English Bulldog who sustained fracture injuries after being struck by a car. She suffered a severe fracture of her elbow, and two torn ligaments in her hind leg.



Mattie was originally observed tied to a lawnmower on a two foot lead in the yard of her owner's home. After her injury, arrangements were subsequently made for the voluntarily surrender of the dog after the owner refused medical care for the dog due to "financial constraints". Maddie is now in a safe, thriving, stable environment and will be receiving proper vet treatment. Once she is well enough she

will be adopted and live out her life in a healthy, happy home.

If you wish to receive our newsletter via email, please visit our website www.suffolkspca.org and enter your e-mail address in the appropriate box. This will allow us to save postage and use that money to continue our services and programs.



THE SUFFOLK COUNTY SPCA

The Suffolk County SPCA is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization consisting of over sixty 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 where we inoculated approximately 1200 animal, spay/neuter programs, animal rescue, educational programs, Pet Friend Shelter) 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 County, State or Federal Government. Your gifts to us are tax deductible to the extend allowable by the law.

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

Advisory Board: Sheriff Vincent DeMarco, Ret. Comm. John Gallagher, Wendy Diamond.

Veterinary Advisory Board: Dr. John Charos, Dr. Dennis Dougherty, Dr. Charles Greco, Dr. Barbara Kalvig, Dr. Michael Shorter, Dr. Frank Valenzisi.

The Suffolk County SPCA is a local, independent not- for-profit organization that has been servicing the humane needs, requirements, and enforcement of cruelty laws for Suffolk County, New York animals for over 25 years - NY State Law provides that there is to be but one SPCA per county in the State - the Suffolk County SPCA is in no way affiliated with, a subdivision of or funded by any other local, state or national organization. Please support your Suffolk County SPCA.

HOLIDAY PET TIPS (CONT'D FROM FRONT PAGE)

If you keep your dog outdoors provide a well-insulated dog-house. For all dogs that are left outdoors in inclement weather, a housing facility, which must: (1) have a waterproof roof; (2) be structurally sound with insulation appropriate to local climatic conditions and sufficient to protect the dog from inclement weather; (3) be constructed to allow each dog adequate freedom of movement to make normal postural adjustments, including the ability to stand up, turn around and lie down with its limbs outstretched; and (4) allow for effective removal of excretions, other waste material; dirt and trash. The housing facility and the area immediately surrounding it shall be regularly cleaned to maintain a healthy and sanitary environment and to minimize health hazards.

Very Important: Be sure to clean up those antifreeze spills right away. Antifreeze is a highly poisonous substance that attracts pets to it. If you pet ingests antifreeze contact your veterinarian immediately.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE SUFFOLK COUNTY SPCA AT HOLIDAY TIME. YOUR GIFTS TO US ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AND WILL HELP SO MANY ANIMALS IN NEED!

THANK YOU.