

**Suffolk County SPCA**

363 Route 111  
Suite 5  
Smithtown, NY 11787

Phone: 631-382-7722  
Fax: 631-382-4042  
Email:  
webmaster@suffolkspca.org

Check our website:  
[www.suffolkspca.org](http://www.suffolkspca.org)



The Suffolk County SPCA is a 501 ( c ) (3) volunteer 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:** Sheriff Vincent DeMarco, Ret. Comm. John Gallagher, Wendy Diamond.

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

Please consider making a donation, no matter how small - every little bit really does make a difference. Your gifts are important to us!!

See us on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOfH7emP-VA>

**Cast your Juror Ballot**

How will you vote?

Suffolk County S.P.C.A. and  
Pet Lovers of Long Island )  
)  
Plaintiffs )  
V. )  
Animal Abuser )

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

JUROR NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_  
THE ABOVE NAMED IS THE JUROR

1. As a law abiding individual of the United States of America and the recipient of this Juror's BALLOT whose name is signed below, I do hereby find all animal abusers:

GUILTY  NOT GUILTY

as charged on the counts of animal abuse or animal neglect.

2. I am returning my JUROR'S BALLOT and I:

WILL  WILL NOT

make a tax deductible doantion to Suffolk County S.P.C.A. to help protect and defend the rights of animals. Please check and send your tax deductible donation to:

**Suffolk County S.P.C.A. • 363 Route 111 • Smithtown, NY 11787**

\$10  \$25  \$50  Other

3. Sign Here to validate your verdict: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

OR YOU CAN MAKE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION ON OUR WEBSITE AT: [WWW.SUFFOLKSPCA.ORG](http://WWW.SUFFOLKSPCA.ORG)



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**THE HELPING PAW  
NEWSLETTER**

Fall/Winter, 2010



**ANIMAL ABUSER REGISTRY... First in the Nation**

On October 13, 2010 history was made! A bill, sponsored by Legislator Jon Cooper to create a public Animal Abuser Registry, was passed by a unanimous vote of the Suffolk County Legislature in a move that would make Suffolk County the first municipality in the nation to create such a list to prevent animal abusers from adopting animals. The registry shall contain the names and residence information of individuals living in Suffolk County who are convicted of an animal abuse crime. The law directs the Suffolk County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SCSPCA) to establish and maintain a registry for such individuals.

Roy Gross, who heads the Suffolk County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said that the SCSPCA will be maintaining the registry at no cost to the county or taxpayers. All abusers 18 or older must supply authorities with their address, a head-and-shoulders photograph and any aliases. Convicted abusers will remain on the registry for five years. Those failing to register face up to a year in jail and a fine of up to \$1,000. "This bill will provide the ammunition to fight the ongoing war against animal abusers. Let this law be a model for other municipalities , not only in New York State , but throughout the nation".

The Suffolk County SPCA investigates more than 2,000 animal abuse cases per year in Suffolk and has seen a 20 percent increase this year compared with last year, a trend that is related to the economy. An increased number of foreclosed houses has led to more people abandoning their pets, leaving them behind in their former homes to die.

Legislator Cooper is also proposing a companion bill that would bar anyone on the registry from buying or adopting a pet from a shelter, pet shop or breeder.

A video about this legislation can be viewed on YouTube.  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LcBollhY7Tk>

## HUNTINGTON COUPLE CHARGED WITH ANIMAL CRUELTY

The Suffolk County SPCA has charged a Huntington couple with Felony Aggravated Animal Cruelty. The couple was charged by Suffolk SPCA Detectives for allegedly mistreating their 9 year old Shetland Pony. An SPCA Veterinarian examined the Pony and found bone deformity of the Pony's hooves due to neglect and lack of care. This caused great discomfort and an abnormal gait. In addition to the horse, 115 small mix-breed dogs, 2 goats and a cat were removed from the premises and dead dogs were also found. The investigation is continuing.

## REWARD FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST OF A CAT KILLER

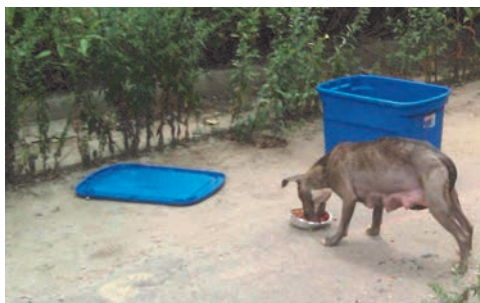
The Suffolk County SPCA is offering a \$2,000.00 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for throwing two cats from a moving vehicle on the Southern State Parkway.

## SEVEN MONTH OLD PUPPY BEATEN TO DEATH

Suffolk County SPCA detectives were called to a Centereach home where they learned that the homeowner had beaten his seven month old Bloodhound to death. The pup, "Jack", ran out the back gate of his yard, and enraged his owner. The owner of the dog was arrested and charged with aggravated animal cruelty.

Roy Gross, chief of the Suffolk County SPCA, reports that the owner of the dog allowed agents to dig up the pup's body from the backyard. Jack's body was taken to a local veterinarian who determined that the dog had been beaten and suffered a broken neck, which caused him to slowly suffocate to death. Chief Gross stated that even after 26 years of this type of work with animals, he still loses sleep over cases such as Jack.

The dog's owner was arraigned and now faces charges of aggravated animal cruelty.



## TORTURED PIT BULL

The Suffolk County SPCA is offering a \$6,000.00 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) who tortured and abandoned a female pit bull. Roy Gross, Chief of the Suffolk County SPCA said that on Sunday August 15<sup>th</sup>, a resident of Brown Ave., Amityville was walking in a wooded area on Brown Ave. and spotted

the dog inside of a closed storage container. The emaciated dog appeared to have recently given birth and had wounds on her body indicating that she had been tortured and burned. The resident took the dog to a Veterinarian where it was found to be lactating. The location of her puppies is unknown at this time. The woman who rescued the dog fell in love with her and decided to keep her. We need your help to identify the person(s) who committed this terrible act of animal cruelty.

## DOBERMAN IS RESCUED FROM ABANDONED HOUSE



In a case of animal starvation that shocked Suffolk County SPCA officials, a man has been charged with a felony for allegedly abandoning his dog in an empty house without food or water. The 2-year-old Doberman pinscher mix was found on May 23 emaciated, dehydrated and near death in a closed bedroom in an abandoned home on Edwin Street in Centereach. The dog weighed 17 lbs. when rescued.

The dog's owner now faces up to 2 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine on charges of felony aggravated animal cruelty. He was released from jail after posting \$1,500 bail following his arrest. The SPCA rescued the animal after a neighbor heard barking from the home and called police. The dog was found covered with feces and urine in a locked bedroom where he couldn't stand on his own due to lack of food and water. The dog was taken to Long Island Veterinary Specialists in Plainview where he gained 10 pounds and was being treated for a bad eye infection.

"He was a fighter but probably wouldn't have made it one more day in those conditions," Gross said at a news conference on Tuesday. When agents first arrived at the vet, they had to carry the dog wrapped in a blanket because it could barely stand on its own.

SPCA Sgt. Regina Benfante said the dog, which the SPCA nicknamed Justin - because he was found just in time, seemed to understand that the officers were there to save him.

"He just sighed and put his head on my shoulder," Benfante said. "It was like the dog knew he was going to a safe place."

Despite having been in the early stages of organ failure, the dog responded well to treatment and likely will make a full recovery, said Dr. Dominic Marino, chief of staff at Long Island Veterinary Specialists in Plainview.

Justin stole Sgt. Benfante's heart. He has made a full recovery, now weights 70 lbs. and resides with Sgt. Benfante and her family. The dog's owner is due back at court soon.

**If you wish to receive our newsletter via email, please visit our website [www.suffolkspca.org](http://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.**