

PASS IT ALONG!

Parsippany Animal Supporters Society

APRIL IS PREVENTION OF ANIMAL CRUELTY MONTH

Welcome to Parsippany Animal Supporters Society, Inc., also known as PASS! PASS is an all volunteer, non-profit group of citizens.

PASS mission statement: PASS is dedicated to the improvement of animal welfare by providing education on animal issues for the general public, by supporting the Parsippany Animal Shelter in its efforts to place unwanted animals in caring homes, and by fundraising to support these goals and other animal welfare initiatives.

PASS was officially organized as a non-profit corporation on May 29, 2003.

The agreement between PASS and the Township of Parsippany–Troy Hills was signed on July 31, 2003.

On September 5, 2003 PASS received its 501(c)(3) status from the IRS.

Any person who is in sympathy with the objectives of the organization may become a member. So enjoy our newsletter and pass it along!

PASS NIGHT AT



Sunday, March 19th is PASS night at the Rattlesnake Ranch Cafe, located at 559 East Main Street, Denville. A portion of all dinner checks from PASS members and friends will be donated to our spay/neuter efforts. Consider going there with friends to help support our group. When ordering, BE SURE TO MENTION TO THE WAITSTAFF THAT YOU ARE DINING TO SUPPORT PASS. You can preview their menu at www.rattlesnakeranchcafe.com.

Comedy Night

March 31, 2006
Doors open 6:45
Boonton Elks

"Nutty by Nature" is our featured, eight-member Improv Comedy Troupe. They have been

performing in the New Jersey area for over eight years.

As an added bonus, our show will open with performances from "The Motion Dance Company" of Butler.

Refreshments, raffles and more!
Tickets are \$15.00

Contact Camille for tickets:
camilleo@att.net or call 973-402-7387, box 3.



MEETING SCHEDULE

Our meetings are fun and informative and will give you all the latest PASS news. So come join us and bring a friend!

- ✓ Tuesday March 14
- ✓ Tuesday April 11
- ✓ Tuesday May 9

These meetings will be held at the Lake Hiawatha Library on the corner of Nokomis Avenue and Hiawatha Boulevard at 7:00 pm.



POINTS FROM THE PREZ

JOANNE SLAMAN

Spring is a time of excitement for most pets. From a pet's point of view, winter offers less sights and sounds and when the life of spring arrives, expect your pet to react!

Pets (especially those that go outdoors) need more attention to their coats in the spring time. Spring is usually a wet time which creates a muddy problem and the additional exercise also calls for an extra bath from time to time.

The excitement of spring leads to many pets finding a way to escape. The extra sights and sounds is sometimes too much for a pet with spring fever! Some safe pet tips:

- Fences—Take a walk around your yard and check for winter damage
- Doors expand and contract during the winter—check to be sure they close tightly
- Remind guests to watch for the pets when entering the house or yard

Extra exercise is a big help to keep the pet calm in the home. Cats that watch outside all day will appreciate a walk on a leash and dogs would love a good walk around the neighborhood. Take advantage of play toys that give the pet a good workout.

Always remember that when you are out with your pet to be courteous to others. Do not let your dog approach others and never let your cat run free so a neighbor will come out to find paw prints on their new car! And of course, spay or neuter.

FURBURBIA—ADOPTION CENTERS OF THE FUTURE... AT THE MALL!

Furburbia, the hip place to find true love, is a pet adoption center located in ... the mall! Every week you can find dogs, cats, puppies, and kittens, all waiting for a dandy new family to take them home. Furburbia also carries the latest in nifty pet toys, treats, collars and leashes. So, you can purchase all the accessories you need to make your new (or old) pet one happenin' quadruped. What an easy way to up your cool factor!

Is Furburbia a shelter or a pet store? Actually, Furburbia is a rather unique pet adoption center. Dozens of rescue groups and shelter from all over the state bring their pets to Furburbia to be adopted. All of the dogs and cats at Furburbia are rescued, unlike the pets at pet stores, who often come from puppy mills or disreputable breeders. If you choose to adopt from Furburbia, you will be saving a life.

Is there a wide variety of pets up for adoption at Furburbia? Furburbia hosts 10 to 20 dogs and 15 to 25 cats every day, which makes for quite a variety. Also, because so many groups utilize Furburbia, there are different animals there every day. With a little patience, you'll be able to find the pet you're looking for.

How much does it cost to adopt a pet? And what does the fee include? Cats are \$85, kittens younger than 16 weeks are \$95, and dogs and puppies range from \$105 to \$175. All adoptions include a spay/neuter surgery and up-to-date vaccinations. Cat adoptions include a plastic carrier. Dog adoptions include a collar and leash.

Where is Furburbia located?



Right now there are two in Utah: Furburbia Salt Lake City is located in Cottonwood Mall, 4835 S. Highland Dr. in SLC and Furburbia in Park City is located at the Tanger Outlet Center, I-80 and Kimball Junction.

For more information about Furburbia or if you are interested in starting your own Furburbia, visit www.utahpets.org/furburbia.html.

Board of Directors

- Trustee 1:** Sue Meade
- Trustee 2:** Al Goldberg
- Trustee 3:** Susan Groll
- Trustee 4:** Mike Clarey

- President:** Joanne Slaman
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- Newsletter and Art Director:** Patty Wallenburg



EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

Please join us for these informative seminars. They are free and open to the public. Mark your calendar with these important dates.

April 10, 2006—7:00 pm

Pets and Allergies—The Benefit of Keeping Pets in Your Life.

Allergies—Truth or Myth—ASK AN EXPERT!

Location: Lake Hiawatha Public Library, Lake Hiawatha, NJ

Does your child always sound congested? Do you constantly have a runny nose? Do you think you could be allergic to your pet? Probably not. 80% of allergic reactions that are blamed on pets are due to something entirely different. Come meet our expert and learn what you can do to feel better and keep your symptoms to a minimum.



The talk looks at alternatives to handle pet allergies and focus on the multiple health benefits we experience when we have pets sharing our life.

Our Speaker—Louise Umberto

Louise Umberto, RN, C, HNC, CHTP, AHC, BS has been a Registered Nurse for over 18 years.



Louise has received Certification in Holistic Nursing, Psychiatric Nursing, Healing Touch and Hypnosis. She is also certified in Prepare for Surgery and

HypnoBirthing.

Louise is co-founder of Hearts and Hands, part of the Center for Holistic Wellness located in Denville, NJ. At Hearts and Hands, Louise combines her years of experience and gifts in Holistic Nursing, Hypnosis, Healing Touch, Personal Coaching and Aromatherapy to accomplish her mission to empower individuals to become actively involved in taking control of their health and well being.

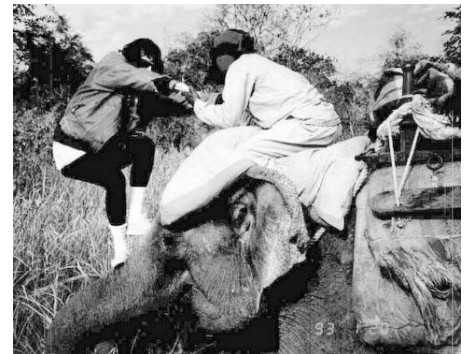
June 12, 2006—7:00 pm

Vacation Volunteering Abroad

Location: TBA

Tired of spending two weeks a year sitting at the Jersey Shore? Suzanne Griffin, PASS Vice President, will present an informative seminar on opportunities to volunteer abroad on international animal welfare projects. Generally, you can volunteer for as little as week. Details on how to research projects that appeal to you, approximate costs, tips to fit in culturally and all you need to know to make this experience a once in a lifetime one will be given.

A short slide presentation will be given on “Project Panda,” a panda rehabilitation effort in Beijing and



“Hakuna Matata,” a Masai tribal educational effort in Kenya that Suzanne participated in, will be shown. Question and Answer time will follow the presentation.



PASS LAUNCHES “PETS FOR SENIORS” PROGRAM

The Parsippany Animal Supporters Society (PASS) is proud to announce its Pets for Seniors Program. This is a win-win partnership among PASS, the Parsippany Animal Shelter and the Seniors from Brookside Senior Complex.

PASS presented the Pets for Seniors program to the Seniors at Brookside on January 16th. The gathering was held in the Community Room at the Senior Complex on Parsippany Boulevard, Parsippany, NJ. In addition to the seniors, members from PASS, representatives from the Brookside Management Staff and Animal Control Officers from the Parsippany Animal Shelter were also in attendance.

The essence of the program is based on various studies that have come to the following conclusion: “You’ve probably noticed that when you pet a soft, warm cat or play fetch with a dog whose tail won’t stop wagging, you relax and your heart feels a little warmer. Scientists have noticed the same thing, and they’ve started to explore the complex way animals affect human emotions and physiology. The resulting studies have shown that owning and handling animals significantly benefits health, can lower a person’s blood pressure, and that in convalescent homes, medication use goes down when there’s an animal present. In fact, pets may help

elderly owners live longer, healthier, and more enjoyable lives.” We totally agree and want to help to match the right pet to a potential owner. Chances are good that by adopting a cat or dog from the shelter, the senior will have found a wonderful, loving animal who will be eternally loyal to his or her new “forever” family. They have so much love to give and will bond quickly.

Many seniors have limited financial resources or need transportation assistance. After a Brookside Senior resident has selected a new pet from the Parsippany Animal Shelter, PASS will assist him/her by:

- Transporting the new pet from the Parsippany Animal Shelter to the Pet Owner’s home to help them both settle in to their new family together.
- Provide a “Pet Adoption Kit.”
- Provide financial assistance by paying the deposit required by the senior housing development for any senior having a pet. The deposit advanced on behalf of the senior, will be returned to the “Pets for Senior” Program in the event the senior no longer has a pet or no longer resides at Brookside. We hope that this will ensure the continuation of available funds for new partners in the program.



We are excited to announce our FIRST adoption! Immediately following the presentation at the Brookside Senior Apartments, Audrey O'Shea adopted “Felix” (formerly Denzel) and brought home her new companion.



Mary Anne Mancuso talking to the seniors about the Yorkshire Terrier she adopted from the shelter—she is holding “Terry” who is very popular with the other Brookside residents.



FUNdraising!

We have a lot of fundraisers scheduled for 2006! Should be another great year. Please contact Camille Oakie (Camilleo@att.net) to volunteer or for more information on any of the events on our calendar.



March	Comedy Night—Camille Oakie Feral Food Drive—Suzanne Griffin and Holle Kathenes
April	Can Shake—Susan Groll
May	Tea at Cafe Metro—Joanne Slaman
June	50/50—Patty Wallenburg and Bill Henderson
July	Bowling Party or Night at Races—Camille Oakie
August	Can Shake—Susan Groll
September	Picnic—Nick and Sue Meade
October	Tricky Tray—Suzanne Griffin
November	Open
December	Holiday Get Together—PASS Committee

UPCOMING SPAY DAYS

MARCH 14

This is a feral/stray only event. For this Spay Day we are only accepting animals from residents of Morris County.

Price:

- \$25.00 Includes rabies and mandatory ear tip except on kittens or strays perhaps going up for adoption
- \$ 5.00 Distemper
- \$25.00 FIV/FeLv combo testing

- | | |
|---------|---|
| CATS | |
| \$25.00 | Spay/neuter |
| \$ 5.00 | Rabies or distemper shot (\$10.00 for both) |
| \$25.00 | FIV/FeLv combo testing |
| \$ 5.00 | Nail trim |

Anyone wishing to book an appointment, should call 973-402-PETS ext. 7

Pet owners and/or feral caretakers will receive a return call regarding space availability and scheduling.

APRIL 24

For pets only.

Price:

- DOGS
- \$50.00 Under 45 pounds only
- \$ 5.00 Rabies or distemper shot (\$10.00 for both)
- \$ 5.00 Nail trim



WWW.PASS4PETS.ORG

Our website is up and running! It looks great and is a fantastic source of information about our group, our fundraisers and what we have planned for the future. We have a new series of educational seminars prepared for the year that may be of interest to you and are posted as well. Please make time to take a look!

Wanted

Creative person to make decorative bows from ribbon we will provide to you. We are using them to decorate baskets at several of our upcoming fundraisers. Please contact Blvdtravel@aol.com or leave a message at 973-402-PETS box 7.



THINGS TO DO

March 18 – New Jersey Association of Wildlife Rehabilitators (NJAWR) 2006 Annual Conference

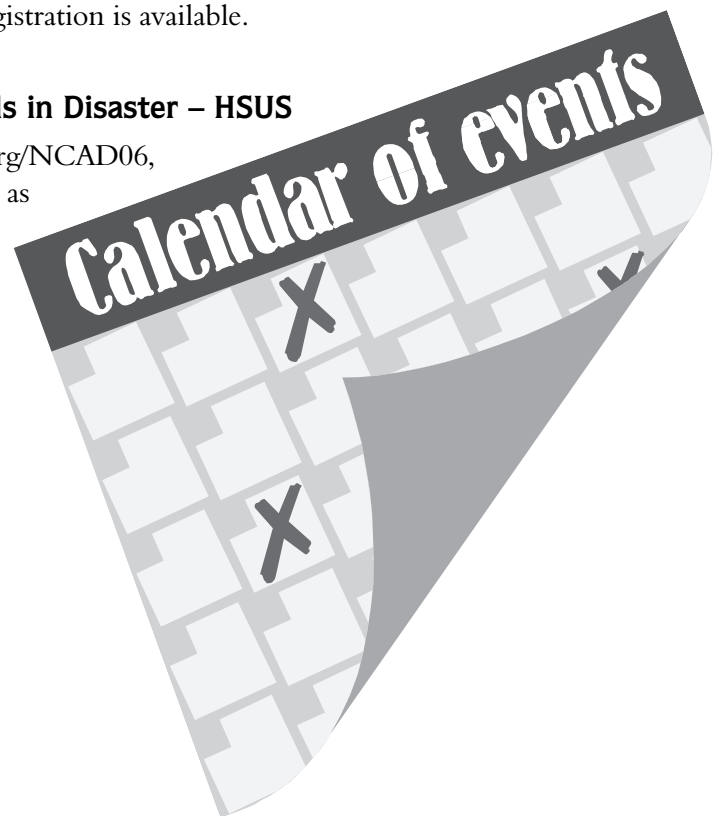
8 am – 5 pm. County College of Morris, Randolph, NJ. Speakers include Kip Parker, Earth Rangers, Erica Miller, DVM, Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research, Jennifer Orme, ACES, Diane Nickerson, Mercer County Wildlife Center, Harriet Forrester, Turtle Rescue of NJ, Chris Clark, Chris' Squirrel's & More, Giselle Smisko, Avian Wildlife Center, and more. Lecture topics include Intro to Owls, Fostering to Wild Mom, Turtle Triage, Eastern Gray Squirrel, Avian Triage for Mammal Rehabbers, Mammal Triage for Avian Rehabbers. Ever notice how diagnosing and treating wild patients resembles the gathering of clues to solve a mystery? Enjoy expanding your skills through diagnosing case studies with the Solving the Mysteries Workshop. Fine tune your capture techniques while sharing in fun competition with your fellow attendees in the Wildlife Olympics workshop. **ALL WORKSHOP ATTENDEES MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE. FOR INFORMATION AND CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM CONTACT** Tim Steinbeiser, President NJAWR at 609-538-1933, e-mail: tsteinbeis@aol.com.

March 24 – March 26—Animal Welfare Federation of New Jersey Conference 2006

Woodbridge Sheraton, Iselin. The conference includes workshops on cat health, coalition building, TNR, marketing your organization and your animals; humane education; dog behavior, defensive dog handling, customer service and more. National and local experts will present. The conference includes an exhibit hall and great networking opportunities. Visit awfnj.org for the brochure. Online registration is available.

May 31 – June 3—National Conference on Animals in Disaster – HSUS

Hilton Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia. Visit www.hsus.org/NCAD06, to learn more about the issues, speakers, and other events, as this information becomes available. If your company or organization would like to learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please email ncad@hsus.org





HOW TO GIVE A CAT A PILL

1. Pick cat up and cradle it in the crook of your left arm as if holding a baby. Position right forefinger and thumb on either side of cat's mouth and gently apply pressure to cheeks while holding pill in right hand. As cat opens mouth pop pill into mouth. Allow cat to close mouth and swallow.
2. Retrieve pill from floor and cat from behind sofa. Cradle cat in left arm and repeat process.
3. Retrieve cat from bedroom, throw soggy pill away.
4. Take new pill from foil wrap, cradle cat in left arm holding rear paws tightly with left hand. Force jaws open and push pill to back of mouth with right forefinger. Hold mouth shut for a count of ten.
5. Retrieve pill from goldfish bowl and cat from top of wardrobe. Call spouse from yard.
6. Kneel on floor with cat wedged firmly between knees, hold front and rear paws. Ignore low growls emitted by cat. Get spouse to hold head firmly with one hand while forcing wooden ruler into mouth. Drop pill down ruler and rub cat's throat vigorously.
7. Retrieve cat from curtain rail, get another pill from foil wrap. Make note to buy new ruler and repair curtains. Carefully sweep shattered figurines and vases from hearth and set to one side for gluing later.
8. Wrap cat in large towel and get spouse to lie on cat with head just visible from below armpit. Put pill in end of drinking straw, force mouth open with pencil and blow down drinking straw.
9. Check label to make sure pill not harmful to humans, drink 1 beer to take taste away. Apply Band-Aid to spouse's forearm and remove blood from carpet with cold water and soap.
10. Retrieve cat from neighbor's shed. Get another pill. Open another beer. Place cat in cupboard and close door onto neck to leave head showing. Force mouth open with desert spoon. Flick pill down throat with rubber band.
11. Fetch screwdriver from garage and put cupboard door back on hinges. Drink beer. Fetch bottle of scotch. Pour shot, drink. Apply cold compress to cheek and check records for date of last tetanus shot. Apply whiskey compress to cheek to disinfect. Toss back another shot. Throw tee shirt away and fetch new one from bedroom.
12. Call fire department to retrieve the friggin' cat from tree across the road. Apologize to neighbor who crashed into fence while swerving to avoid cat. Take last pill from foil-wrap.
13. Tie the little x&*@#"'s front paws to rear paws with twine and bind tightly to leg of dining room table, find heavy duty pruning gloves from shed. Push pill into mouth followed by large piece of steak. Be rough about it! Hold head vertically and pour 2 pints of water down throat to wash pill down.
14. Consume remainder of Scotch. Get spouse to drive you to the emergency room, sit quietly while doctor stitches fingers and forearm and removes pill remnants from right eye. Call furniture shop on way home to order new table.
15. Arrange for Humane Society to collect mutant cat from hell and call local pet shop to see if they have any hamsters.

HOW TO GIVE A DOG A PILL

1. Wrap it in bacon.

[Circulating on the Internet. Please don't relinquish your cats over a pill. Take some lessons at your veterinarians office!]



FEATURED PETS



These two sisters were found as strays. They are very sweet and affectionate. They are about 8 months old. Why not come in and meet them.



Sammy was brought into the shelter because his owners could no longer care for him. He's a sweet guy who would love to go home with you. He loves attention and loves to play. He can't wait to meet you.



DOC was dumped in a vets office in town. She is a very sweet girl who would make a wonderful addition to your family. She does have a dislocated kneecap that is fine without any surgery or medical treatment. It just may take her a little longer to get up in the morning. Why not come down in and meet her, she's a real sweetheart.

Tiger was surrendered because her owners could no longer keep her. She is a very sweet girl who would prefer a nice quiet home where she can get all the love she deserves.



Jack was found wondering the streets of Parsippany, Jack is a Retriever in a Pit Bull body all he wants is love and

attention. When found, Jack was malnourished, but still just looking for love. So why not come on in and see if Jack is right for your family.

Brian was surrender to the shelter, because is owner was moving to



New York and couldn't take him. Brian is a good dog, but can be stubborn when he wants. Why not come and see if Brian can fits in your family tree.



Amber was surrendered to the shelter because her owner could no longer keep her. She is a very sweet bullie who needs a person who is willing to understand her. She has a past which no one really knows what had happened. She seems shy of men at first, but will quickly warm up to them. She also seems to be afraid of small children. Amber would love for you to come in and meet her, she will be eagerly waiting for you.



IN THE NEWS . . . IN THE NEWS . . . IN THE NEWS . . . IN THE NEWS . . .

NJ A. 1928 Animals and Disasters

Bill Number: A. 4438

Requires the State, counties, and municipalities to create emergency plans for certain animals.

Introduced and referred to Assembly Homeland Security and State Preparedness Committee on 1/10/06.

Pet Animal Welfare Statute of 2005

Bill Number: S. 1139 & H.R. 2669

Extends animal welfare protections to address the sale of puppies and kittens over the Internet and through newspaper ads, closing a loophole that exempts those breeders as "pet stores." Many young kittens, puppies and other companion animals cross state lines and consumers have no opportunity to view the conditions the animals were bred in, which was the original intention of the Animal Welfare Act.

Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (PETS Act)

Bill Number: H.R. 3858

Requires local and state emergency preparedness authorities to include in their evacuation plans how they will accommodate household pets and service animals in case of a disaster. Local and state authorities must submit these plans in order to qualify for grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. In addition to the trauma experienced by evacuees who are forced to abandon their animal companions and the subsequent suffering the animals endure, there

are serious health and safety risks to disaster areas that are exacerbated by the abandoning of pets. Many of these problems can be mitigated or eliminated simply through the proper planning.

Animal Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act

Bill Number: S. 382 & H.R. 817

To upgrade current penalties by authorizing felony-level jail time for violations of the federal animal fighting law, and to prohibit interstate and foreign commerce of cockfighting weapons.

NJ A. 764 & S. 574 Prohibit Internet Hunting

Bill Number: A. 4087 and S. 574

Prohibits computer-assisted remote hunting or providing or operating a facility for computer-assisted remote hunting in New Jersey. Computer-assisted hunting means the use of a computer or any other device, equipment or software to remotely control the aiming or discharge of a firearm, bow and arrow, or any other weapon to hunt any game bird, game animals or fur-bearing animal. If found guilty of violating this section the person is liable to a civil penalty of up to \$500.

If you live in New Jersey, please contact your state assembly member and senator and urge him or her to support A. 764 and S. 574.

NJ A. 909 Alternatives to Animal Testing

Bill Number: A. 909

Prohibits product testing with traditional animal test methods if federally recommended alternative test method exists, with certain

exceptions; and provides for injunctive relief for violations.

OMEGA: MORE THAN SHINE

Is your dog's coat dry or coarse? It could be a deficiency of fatty acids in her diet, and, if that's the case, a dry coat is the least of her problems. Without essential fatty acids, wounds don't heal, kidneys degenerate, the liver fails, glands dry up, and the whole body falls into disrepair. And while your dog can synthesize most fatty acids on her own, she must import one from her diet: omega-6. Many vegetable oils, including sunflower and safflower, contain omega-6 fatty acids. Although dogs can make the other critical fatty acid – omega-3 – on their own, most benefit from it in their diet. The best source is fish oil, although flaxseed oil also contain it. High-quality dog foods add these fatty acids in a balanced ratio of 5-to-1. Alternatively, you can buy them as supplements.

—as reported in *DogFancy*
February 2006



SCRATCHING TIPS FROM THE ASPCA

Cats like to scratch—and with good reason. They scratch to mark their territory. They scratch as a means of threatening other cats. They scratch in play. They scratch while stretching. And the act of scratching actually removes frayed and worn outer claws, exposing new, sharper ones. Unfortunately, cats can cause a lot of damage to furniture, drapes, and carpeting with their claws.

What to Do

1. Provide your cat with a variety of scratching posts—cardboard, carpeting, wood, upholstery, etc. Some cats prefer horizontal posts and others prefer vertical posts, while still others favor slanted posts. Some cats like pile carpeting, while others will only scratch on sisal. Some prefer a longitudinal grain for raking, while others like a latitudinal grain for picking. Once you ascertain your cat's personal preferences, provide additional posts

in various locations. All cats should have a sturdy post that won't shift or collapse when used. Cats also like a post that is tall enough so they can stretch fully—presumably why they like drapes so much!

2. Encourage the cat to investigate the posts by scenting them with catnip or hanging toys at the tops of the posts. Take care to place posts in areas where the cat will be inclined to climb on them.

3. Discourage inappropriate scratching by removing or covering desirable objects in your home. Turn speakers to the wall. Use plastic, double-sided sticky tape, sandpaper or vinyl carpet runner (turned upside-down to expose the knobby feet) on furniture or on the floor where the cat would stand to scratch. Place scratching posts adjacent to these objects.

4. Clip the cat's nails regularly.

5. Consider using plastic caps (Soft Paws™) for the cat's nails.

These caps attach to the nails with an adhesive so that if the cat scratches, no damage is done. The caps are temporary, lasting about 4 to 6 weeks.

6. If, and only if, you catch your cat in the act of scratching an inappropriate object, you may try startling the cat by clapping your hands or squirting her with water. Do this sparingly because the cat may associate you with this startling event and come to fear you.

What Not to Do

1. Do not hold your cat up to the scratching post and force her to drag her claws on it. This procedure may frighten the cat and teach her to avoid the scratching post completely.

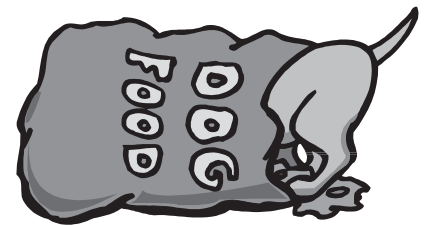
2. Do not throw away your cat's favorite scratching post when it becomes unsightly. Cats prefer shredded and torn objects because they can really get their claws into the fabric—and best of all, the object is infiltrated with their scent.

WHAT'S NEEDED

PASS works to help ensure that all the animals are spayed or neutered before being adopted, plus up on their latest shots. We try to keep everyone healthy and happy! So of course we can always use monetary donations, but the animals also need toys, treats, food, 6" paper plates,



and rugs (especially large bath rugs for the dog areas, approximately 3' × 5'). A consistent diet is so important for the dogs: ProPlan chicken and rice, Pedigree for canned food. For the cats: canned and dry food for the adults, Evolve or Science Diet for the kittens. For a current list of what is needed, you can go to www.petfinder.org then to "shelter & rescue groups." Search in New Jersey and scroll down to "Parsippany Animal Control & Animal Shelter." You can also call the animal shelter directly at 973-263-7083 or stop by the shelter at 1069 Parsippany Boulevard (near the Morris Hills Shopping Center) and



speaking to any of the Animal Control Officers to see what is needed and what has recently been donated. Also feel free to contact PASS at 973-402-PETS.

PASS always needs volunteers. Need a Membership Application? No problem! Give us a call at 973-402-PETS and leave a message in the "membership" mailbox and we'll be sure to send you an application.



CONGRESS PASSES AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS BILL SUPPORTING UNIVERSAL STANDARD FOR PET MICROCHIPPING

Report Language Calls for End to Encryption by Microchip Manufacturers

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Nov. 8 /PRNewswire/ — Both Houses of the U.S. Congress have passed an Agriculture Appropriations bill that supports the microchipping of pets for identification under a system of open microchip technology. Clearing the measure for the President's signature, the report underscores the need for an open system, a blow to manufacturers that employ proprietary encryption technology which prevents all readers of RFID tags or transponders from reading the identification.

In addition, The Crystal Import Corporation, the U.S. distributor of DataMars SA, a manufacturer of radiofrequency identification microchips that supported the bill, recently announced a federal court in Alabama to deny motions by AVID Identification Systems, Inc. and Digital Angel Corporation to dismiss the antitrust lawsuit brought by Alabama-based Crystal Import Corporation.

Crystal originally filed its complaint against radio frequency identification manufacturers AVID and Digital Angel in December 2004, alleging that the two companies together control approximately 98% of the market for animal RFID products in the United States. The latest court decision, by U.S. District Judge L. Scott Coogler of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, confirms that Crystal has sufficiently stated claims of antitrust

violations and can proceed with its lawsuit against AVID and Digital Angel.

The dispute centers on Crystal's allegations that AVID and Digital Angel have attempted to monopolize the U.S. market by producing encrypted microchips in the U.S. that are not compatible with the International Standards Organization (ISO). AVID's proprietary encryption technology prevents all readers of RFID tags or transponders from reading the identification information contained in the tag, except readers made by AVID or which possess AVID's proprietary encryption code. Crystal opposes this practice, contending that this encryption technology stifles competition in the U.S., increases prices for consumers, limits the spread of this technology and, most importantly, hampers the goal of reuniting lost pets with their owners.

Crystal's lawsuit alleges that AVID and Digital Angel are hindering the adoption of a universal pet microchip scanning system in the United States

Losing a pet is a significant problem and, while microchips implanted under a pet's skin may seem like an attractive solution, they may be providing a false sense of security. The number of pets that currently carry microchips in the U.S. is estimated to be in the millions, but many of these ID systems are encrypted and can only be read by proprietary technology.

Crystal asserts in its suit that a key goal of AVID and Digital Angel is to prevent Crystal from introducing animal RFID products in the U.S. which operate on the internationally accepted frequency of 134.2 kHz, the standard adopted by ISO.

The United States is one of the only countries in the world that does not use the ISO standard to regulate the use of microchips in pets. However, the U.S. currently employs the ISO standard in fisheries to track more than two million fish. Recent developments, including this decision, signal a move to an open standard.

DON'T BLOAT YOUR DOG

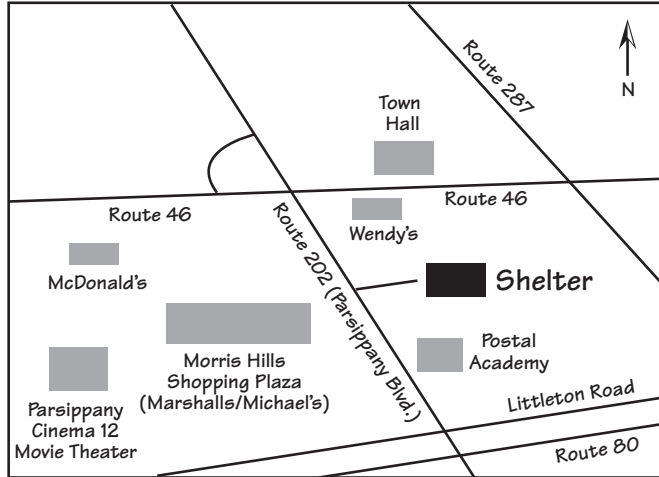
Each year, thousands of dogs die from bloat—gastric dilatation-volvulus. The stomach swells with fluid or gas, and may twist, cutting off vital blood supply to the organs. If you have a large, deep-chested breed—often prone to bloat—you may be able to reduce her risk by feeding her several small meals a day and encouraging her to eat slowly.

—As reported in *DogFancy*
February 2006



PET ADOPTIONS

Please stop by the Parsippany Animal Shelter to visit with all the homeless pets up for adoption. The shelter is located at 1069 Parsippany Boulevard in Parsippany, near the Morris Hills



Shopping Center. The shelter is open to the public Monday through Friday from 3 pm to 5 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 12 pm. You can also make an appointment by calling the shelter at 973-263-7083. You can also “visit” the shelter at www.petfinder.org then to “shelter & rescue groups.”

Search in New Jersey and scroll down to “Parsippany Animal Control & Animal Shelter.” If you have additional questions, please feel free to call PASS at 973-402-PETS and leave messages in either the “dog” mailbox for dogs and exotics or in the “cat” mailbox and we’ll be sure to get back to you.



CONTACT US

We’d love to know what you think! Comments, questions or suggestions regarding our newsletter can be sent to PASS, PO Box 5077, Parsippany, NJ 07054 to the attention of Patty Wallenburg, email typewriting@earthlink.net or leave a message at 973-402-PETS and we’ll be sure to contact you. And don’t forget to PASS It Along!



P.O. Box 5077  Parsippany, NJ 07054