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Human Animal Relationship Awareness (HARA) Week is nearly upon us and ASI will be celebrating it by focusing more attention on some of the ways that we work to support, protect, and enhance our relationships with other animals.

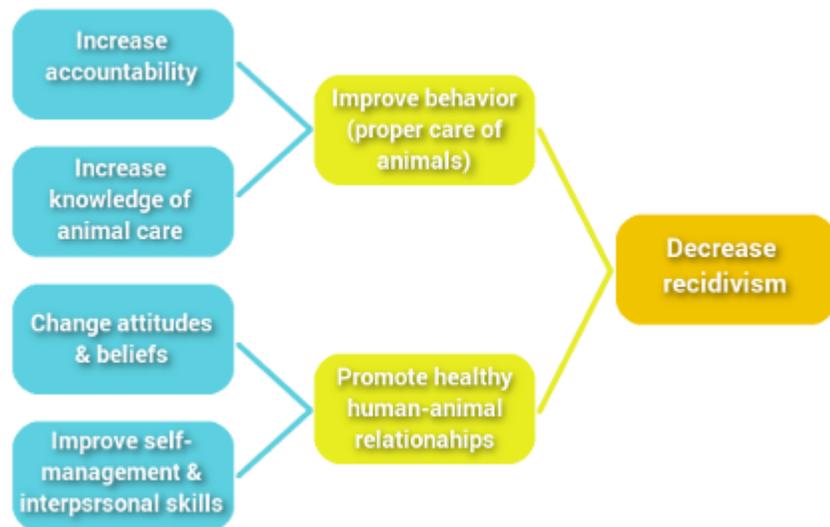
As people who care about other animals, we live with them as companions, enjoy watching wildlife, and make dietary, entertainment, and other personal choices based upon how animals are affected by exploitative industries. These are all relevant to the human-animal relationship.

To learn more about HARA week and ASI's efforts, watch our [Facebook page](#) next week and visit our [website](#).

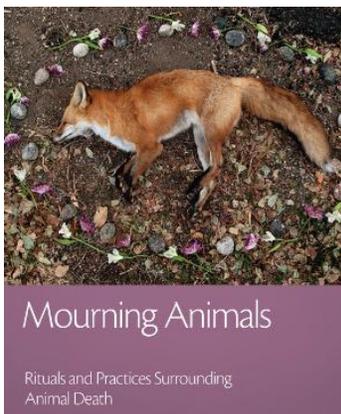
HAP Corner

We are thrilled that ASI's diversion program for animal abuse offenders kicked off in Syracuse on October 23 with 16 participants. The 16-week program is the first of its kind in the country and offers prosecutors and judges an alternative for holding offenders

accountable and reducing the likelihood of future offending. We are working to get it adopted in jurisdictions nationwide. This innovative program was featured on all of the major media outlets in Syracuse; [read more here](#).



HAS Corner



ASI has two exciting announcements to share. Our program director, and editor of "Mourning Animals", Margo DeMello, visited the University of Wisconsin-Madison in early October, and gave a talk sponsored by the Center for Culture, History and the Environment entitled "Sorry for your loss: how we grieve--and do not grieve--animal death." While there, she met with a number of faculty and students, and learned that a new human-animal studies program is in the works, and will be unveiled soon. Also in the works: a new HAS major is about to be unveiled at Eckerd College in Florida!

In other HAS news, our two most recent awardees for the International Development Project are moving along. Our 2015 awardee, the University of Athens, has seen its program proposal get passed by the academic senate of the two universities with which it will be partnering (Panteion University and National Technological University of Athens), and expect to see the program very soon. Our 2016 awardee, the Tata Institute in Mumbai, India, has also just had its program approved and it will begin in the coming academic year. It is a good time to develop a new HAS program!

Volunteer Spotlight

Melanie Gill is in her last year of grad school at Eastern Michigan University where she is pursuing her Masters of Public Administration degree, with a concentration in Nonprofit Management. Last month she married her college sweetheart, whom she met during her undergraduate years at Michigan State University. Prior to interning for ASI, Melanie worked as a teacher in an early childhood education center located in Ann Arbor, but her true passion has always been service to her community. She has previously volunteered with Operation: Military Kids (a 4-H program dedicated to supporting children of suddenly military families during times of deployment) and managed the community outreach program for a big-box retail store. Melanie was drawn to the ASI internship because of her lifelong love of animals, and the opportunity to learn from the day-to-day operations of the organization. In her spare time she enjoys hiking, watching Spartan football, gardening, trying new vegan recipes, and cuddling with her cats Reese and Rogue. We're grateful for Melanie's help over the past semester and will be sorry to see her go.



Student Animals and Society Institute (SASI) chapters are student groups-either undergraduate, graduate, or both-that are affiliated with the ASI and share its mission of helping animals by promoting human-animal studies in colleges and universities. Students from the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) SASI group recently visited Leuk's Landing, a sanctuary for feline leukemia + cats. We've got more adorable photos on our [facebook page](#). You can learn more about SASI chapters on our [website](#).

ABOUT

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**#GIVING
TUESDAY**

November 28th is #GivingTuesday! To celebrate, ASI is participating in a matching campaign on Facebook. Each dollar that you and your friends donate to ASI via our [Facebook page](#) on #GivingTuesday will be matched by Facebook and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Facebook is waiving fees for donations. This is an opportunity to make the most of your donor dollars and we're asking for your help. Please Like Us on [Facebook](#), invite your Facebook friends to Like our page, and help us

to double our donations on #GivingTuesday. Thank you for your generous support.

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