

2007 New Jersey State Jefferson Awards



SALUTE YOUR 2007 AWARDS HONOREE, RUTH PERLMUTTER

NOMINATED BY ROBERT DAKELMAN



Medalist Ruth Perlmutter



From left: George Arwady, Publisher of the Star-Ledger, medalist Ruth Perlmutter and Sam Beard, co-founder of the Jefferson Awards

Do you know someone who makes a difference in your community?

If you do, then nominate them for the prestigious Jefferson Award by visiting www.nj.com/jeffersonawards

Jefferson Awards honor ordinary people who, through public service, do extraordinary things for other people, their community, their nation, or the environment.

Most of Ruth's life has been dedicated to volunteer activities that have helped domesticated animals. Twenty years ago, with a few dedicated volunteers, she founded Jersey Animal Coalition, her work focusing on helping animals in need. She was keenly aware of the lack of a facility in which to house the community's stray, abused and abandoned animals, which were housed by veterinarians for the required minimum of ten days, after which they could be euthanized. Ruth convinced veterinarians to provide board for these strays beyond the state mandatory ten days, in order to "buy time" to find them homes, all the while raising money for a needed haven for these unfortunate animals until loving homes could be found. In June, 2005, JAC, after fifteen years of raising sufficient funds, was able to build a new state of the art shelter with the support of Maplewood and South Orange. This new building has made possible Ruth's dream of expanding JAC's activities to include many educational programs stressing the mutual bond between people and animals.

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