

INSIDE NEWS

Correction

Markey Township officials did not go on record as opposing the proposed ORV legislation as reported in a story on page 9A of the May 13 of the Herald-News. The Markey Township Board has not yet taken a stand on the issue.



Paul H. Marcotte

Roscommon County Animal Control officer Terry MacKillop, right, is pictured above with Roscommon County Commissioner Ed Nellist after receiving a plaque for being selected Outstanding Animal Control Employee of the Year award.

MacKillop receives national recognition

By Paul H. Marcotte
Staff Writer

ROSCOMMON—Roscommon County Animal Control Officer Terry MacKillop is the recipient of the 2006 Outstanding Animal Control Employee of the Year award.

The award was established in October 1989 and is given by the National Animal Control Association. The winner of the award is chosen from animal control employees from across the United States.

Although the NACA Web site only lists winners back to 2001, it is believed that MacKillop is the first animal control officer from Michigan to win the award.

MacKillop is the director and lead control officer for Roscommon County Animal Control.

Roscommon County Commissioner Ed Nellist read a letter at the commissioner's June 13 meeting

praising MacKillop for his service to the county.

"Throughout the years, Terry has done a remarkable job to eliminate the need for euthanizing most of the animals that find their way to our animal shelter," Nellist read.

In 1991, MacKillop started at the animal control shelter as the Assistant Animal Control Officer, and within a year he was promoted to department head.

At that time he was hired, 95 percent of the 3,000 animals brought to the shelter each year were euthanized. Over the years, the number of animals received at the shelter has dropped to 1,000 with a 98 percent adoption rate.

He has been an active member of the Michigan Association of Control Officers for 15 years. Currently, he is the vice president of the organization. He is also a legislative liaison that lobbies for

new laws regarding animals and their safety.

To be considered for the award, a person must have been directly employed in the animal care profession for a minimum of five years and is a current member of the NACA or an affiliated state association.

Winners can be chosen for either a single outstanding accomplishment or for long-term exceptional performance in animal control.

MacKillop said the award came as a surprise. He also said over the years he has had tremendous support from the county and the animal shelter staff.

"On behalf of the board of commissioners, I want to congratulate him on this tremendous honor, and we are very grateful that we have a person of his caliber working for all the animals in Roscommon County," Nellist read.

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