

## **IT'S FACT, NOT FICTION: BESTSELLING AUTHOR LINDA LAEL MILLER TEAMS UP WITH THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES**

WASHINGTON—(January xx, 2007) Linda Lael Miller's books are not about animals. They're tales of romance, adventure, mystery set in the west—all the themes that have sent her works to the top of the bestseller lists again and again. But her books always have animals as part of the storyline. And it's the way she portrays animals that makes her a natural partner for The Humane Society of the United States.

According to Stephanie Shain, The HSUS's director of outreach for companion animal issues, "Whether the story is set in the old west or contemporary times, the animals in Linda's books aren't set dressing, and they aren't victims. They share a bond with the human characters. They're respected, and they're loved." That kind of relationship is also at the heart of The HSUS' Pets for Life campaign, designed to keep pets and their people together for a lifetime.

It's a goal that resonates with Linda Lael Miller, both as an author, and as a person who shares her life with rescued animals. Linda lives in Spokane, Washington with her four horses – one of them a rescue animal named Buck – as well as two dogs and two cats at last count, although her urge to give homes to abandoned animals always threatens to swell the population at any time. So Miller is partnering with The HSUS to spread the Pets for Life message through her books, newsletters, and public appearances. HQN Books is also making a significant donation to the Pets for Life campaign in Miller's name.

"I'm so proud to be working with The HSUS to tell people about the importance of such basic issues as pet adoption and spay/neuter," Miller remarked. Shain adds that

having Miller as an advocate will help reach millions of people who care about her work, and care about what she has to say.

As a child, the *New York Times* bestselling author developed a love and respect for animals that has stayed with her throughout her life. She grew up listening to tales of the cowboy life from her father and uncles. Her grandmother told her stories of the frontier days in Coffeyville, Kansas when the Dalton brothers met their doom in a failed attempt to rob the local bank and Jesse James rode up and asked to sleep in the barn. (Of course, what Mr. James wanted, he got.) Her childhood remembrances also include riding horses and playing cowgirl on her grandparents' farm in rural Washington State.

Now the author of some 80 books, Linda is always inspired by her home in the west as she develops her plots. "There's a feeling of anticipation, of the discovery of something new that continues to live in the west even today. The struggle for civilization is just that much closer out here," says the author. "What better place for characters from today or yesterday to wage their battles with adversity?"

"Having Linda talk about Pets for Life and The HSUS is great," Shain noted. "The fact is that every time someone reads one of her books they're getting an insight into how animals and people should share each others' lives."

-30-

Media Contacts: Karen L. Allanach (301) 548-7778, [kallanach@hsus.org](mailto:kallanach@hsus.org)  
Bridget DiMartino (212) 477-8090, [bridget@tbtp.com](mailto:bridget@tbtp.com)

The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's largest animal protection organization with nearly 10 million members and constituents. The HSUS is a mainstream voice for animals, with active programs in companion animals, disaster preparedness and response, wildlife and habitat protection, marine mammals, animals in research, equine protection, and farm animal welfare. The HSUS protects all animals through education, investigation, litigation, legislation, advocacy and field work. The

nonprofit organization is based in Washington and has field representatives and offices across the country. On the web at [www.hsus.org](http://www.hsus.org).

HQN Books is an imprint of Harlequin Enterprises Limited, one of the world's leading publishers of women's fiction. Linda Lael Miller's books can be found online at [www.HQNBooks.com](http://www.HQNBooks.com).