



April 2023



Dear Friend of the Animals:

This **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals** Month, we're receiving a record number of complaints of neglect, abuse and abandonment. We appreciate you for providing the consistent support we need to rescue, rehabilitate and defend these innocent victims. Together, we can save lives and prevent abuse!

'PET UNFRIENDLY' LANDLORDS BREAKING UP FAMILIES

More and more, animal-loving tenants are contacting us to say they are being forced to surrender their pets or risk homelessness. In one such case, we recently rushed to help Joanne Stewart, who was faced with this terrible choice. For many years, Joanne had lived happily and quietly in her rental unit, with her 5 chihuahuas. Ms. Stewart's new landlord unexpectedly issued an ultimatum, however. She was told she must give up 3 of her senior dogs to comply with her new lease - or get out! The situation got even worse, when she was subsequently served an eviction notice and faced the terrifying prospect of being put out on the streets



with all of her dogs. We rallied to help and engaged the services of our pro bono legal counsel, Brigette Piattoly, in an effort to stop the eviction. With Brigitte's assistance, and with the generosity of Tara Pickering, who stepped up to rehome three of the little dogs, we were able to at least stop the eviction and ensure everyone's safety. We also provided the dogs with some needed senior dental work. There is a heartbreaking and fundamental unfairness to the fact that uncaring landlords can break up little families like this without cause, but this is a scenario that is playing out more and more often in our communities. The lack of affordable and 'pet friendly' housing is causing an increasing number of beloved animals to be surrendered to already overcrowded shelters. We'll be developing new strategies to help families with pets in these heartbreaking circumstances, as we will no doubt be dealing with the pet-friendly housing crisis for some time to come.



ST HELENA PARISH. A scared, starving beagle recently staggered up to a house in the small town of Greensburg. The residents, who are fortunately animal lovers, heard scratching at their front door. When they went to investigate, they found an exhausted dog on their porch. The dog, later named Leatrice,

walked into the house and collapsed, after her new friends gave her some food and water; she slept for hours. The residence where Leatrice sought refuge is luckily the home of the assistant chief of the local police department, who has worked with the *Humane Society of Louisiana* in the past. His fiancee (pictured left, with Leatrice) is also a rescuer. Given that they are already caring for a house full of rescued animals, they asked if we could help cover the initial costs of her care. We agreed to help, to support the couple's life-saving work for animals, in an area of great need.





We are happy to report that Joanne Stewart's 3 surrendered chihuahuas have been placed with loving families.

APRIL ARREST

Late last month, Concordia sheriff's deputies responded to a complaint in the town of Ferriday, which led to an arrest and the seizure of a mare, her foal, and two starving dogs. Deputies handcuffed the owner and turned the animals over to HSLA volunteer investigators, Kelly Roy and Josh Spears. We're raising funds for their medical care and rehabilitation this month.

An Easter Education: Protecting Bunnies, Chicks and Small Animals



One of the things the Humane Society of Louisiana does best is get the word out on a range of animal issues through local media outlets. We don't even have to spend much money to accomplish this, thanks to our many caring media contacts and our credibility around the state. This spring, HSLA was all over the airwaves and in print, encouraging people not to give live animals as Easter presents. We reached countless thousands of people with this important message, helping to keep discarded small animals from swamping our state's already overcrowded animal shelters.

Promoting Compassion for Farm Animals

HSLA is committed to defending all animals in need, so we are delighted to return to vegan outreach and education in 2023. After back-to-back hurricanes and Covid lockdowns, we're particularly pleased to be able to come together again for vegan dine-outs, outreach events and more. We'll soon be rolling out a New Orleans vegan dining guide and announcing more ways for vegan-friendly volunteers to get to work promoting healthy and compassionate lifestyles. After all, lambs, cows, pigs and chickens deserve love and kindness, too!





A beautiful Canadian goose was helped recently, thanks to your support. Shelly Haydel, a certified wildlife rehabilitator, contacted us about a poor bird, who had rope tied around her leg and neck. It prevented her from flying and looking after her goslings. Shelly repeatedly tried to catch the goose with a net, unsuccessfully. We agreed to purchase a net gun to aid Shelly in this and future rescues. UPDATE: After the net gun arrived, Shelly set out to rescue the goose but was happy to find that concerned neighbors had successfully cornered her. Kelly was able to use a regular net to contain the bird and successfully free her from the twine. She is already planning to use the gun in another rescue effort - to capture an injured duck in Kenner and deliver the bird to LSU Veterinary School. Care to help hands-on with wildlife rescue efforts? Volunteers are always needed to respond to injured or orphaned wildlife calls. You can be trained to capture injured and orphaned wild animals and/or and deliver them to licensed rehabbers.

HARLEY AND HARPER



Sweet Harley has already found a home, but Harper is still looking for his forever family.

Times are heartbreakingly tough out there. We've simply never received so many reports of animals being abandoned, surrendered, or forsaken. When you look at the sweet faces of these gentle, trusting and loyal animals, you simply can't understand how anyone could do such a thing. HARLEY and HARPER are two such dogs, but they are among the lucky ones. It's a miracle that these two were found in the woods in Franklinton, in Washington parish. Fortunately, a neighbor heard the dogs barking, which led to their rescue. The good Samaritan alerted animal control, who came to the scene, and we subsequently took custody of the animals. Apparently, the owner is incarcerated, and a family member or friend, rather than caring for or rehoming them, abandoned the dogs. The investigation is ongoing.



ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW. www.HumaneLA.org info@humanela.org 1.888.6.HUMANE