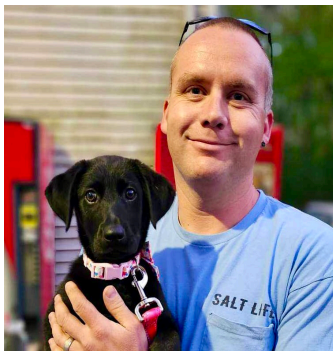




April 2024



Dear Animal Defender:

April is **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals** month - a perfect time to highlight our work for Louisiana's abused and neglected animals. Your monthly donations fund all of our programs to prevent cruelty and rescue the animal victims of abuse. We are so grateful to you for making this work possible!

Remember Sweets, the puppy who was cruelly abandoned in a cardboard box last month? Look at him now, with his new Dad! The pair found each other in New Jersey, after one of our cross-country adoption transports.

NO EXCUSE FOR ANIMAL ABUSE: LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST CRUELTY

Did you know that the *Humane Society of Louisiana* is the only animal protection charity in Louisiana, which is also a licensed detective agency? We were granted that distinction many years ago, based on our body of effective investigative work. Our Executive Director and founder, Jeff Dorson, is a licensed private investigator, with decades of experience, and our investigative team includes more than a dozen volunteers, including case managers, pro bono attorneys and experienced field investigators. While we do not have the power to make arrests and seize animals, we have extensive statewide contacts with law enforcement and humane officers, and we routinely network with them to aid and rescue animals. We pay vet bills for abused animals, offer rewards, take custody of animals, provide boarding and care; coordinate transports, offer professional testimony, training and more. With your help, we'll keep expanding our lifesaving network and developing more resources, which can be used in the fight against cruelty.

JUSTICE SOUGHT FOR BELOVED GOATS IN SLIDELL

Two Slidell friends and coworkers, Barbara and Mary, share a love of goats, so they jointly adopted three Nigerian dwarf goats, Shep, Red and Blue. One day, they returned home to find that their beloved animals were missing. The frantic women alerted their friends and went on a desperate search. Someone that they spoke with suggested they check behind a local convenience on Bayou Liberty Road. They went to the back of the building and were horrified to find Red's carcass; he had been butchered and hung up on the back of a wooden fence. Blue was tied up nearby in a small crate, thankfully still alive. The women untied Blue and brought him home, then went on to file complaints with multiple agencies, including HSLA. Shep remains unaccounted for, and it is strongly suspected that he was also killed. There is also another tragic twist to this case. According to Barbara, Blue was profoundly changed after his rescue and grieved for his lost siblings. He never really recovered from his ordeal. Not long afterwards, Blue stopped breathing. Barbara performed CPR on him, but he did not survive. Barbara and Mary and everyone who loved the goats are absolutely heartbroken by this loss. The Slidell Police Department and the Louisiana Department of Agriculture Brand Commission assure us that the investigations remain open and active. We will monitor the case and continue to seek justice both for the animal victims and the people who loved them.



To keep the pressure on enforcement agencies and help the community express their grief and outrage, HSLA supporters joined Barbara, Mary and their friends for a peaceful protest in front of the Slidell store where poor Red's body was discovered.

