

# HOUSTON HUMANE SOCIETY



FALL 2014

SAVING JUST ONE ANIMAL WON'T CHANGE THE WORLD, BUT SURELY IT WILL CHANGE THE WORLD FOR THAT ONE ANIMAL.

## LAUREN

Lauren, an adorable tiny Chihuahua, was originally brought to Houston Humane Society by her previous owners because she had been hit by a car. X-rays showed a bilateral ischia fracture (pelvic fracture). When presented with options, Lauren's owners opted to sign her over to the shelter rather than treating her injuries.

Dr. Harkness immediately put her on antibiotics and ordered 24 hours of mandatory cage rest.

In a pelvic fracture case like Lauren's, surgery was not an option. As the injury began to heal, Dr. Harkness incorporated acupuncture into Lauren's treatment plan to speed up and aid in the healing process. In addition, acupuncture helped to control pain. Acupuncture was a great option because unlike traditional pain killers, acupuncture has zero negative side effects.

Thanks to Dr. Harkness, Lauren has a new lease on life. She's a happy, friendly, affectionate gal. The only signs of her previous trauma can be seen in her back legs. Her toes turn in a bit, but we just think it gives her a cute little wiggle when she walks.

We're searching for the perfect home for Lauren. If interested, please contact our adoption department at [adoptions@houstonhumane.org](mailto:adoptions@houstonhumane.org).

You can donate to help injured animals just like Lauren get a second chance by visiting [www.HoustonHumane.org/donate](http://www.HoustonHumane.org/donate).



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## SHELTER LOCATION

14700 Alameda Rd.  
Houston, TX 77053  
Phone: (713) 433-6421  
Fax: (713) 433-4325  
[www.houstonhumane.org](http://www.houstonhumane.org)

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Houston Humane Society is dedicated to, and working towards, ending cruelty, abuse and the overpopulation of animals while providing the highest quality of life to those in our care.

# FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

The past several months have been memorable for the Houston Humane Society. We said goodbye to a wonderful friend and fellow animal advocate Brad Woodard, a former KHOU reporter; our cover dog Lauren was just one of many animals that came to our shelter needing more than a safe place; and our Executive, Executive Director, HHS Mascot Wilma, is prepping for eye surgery as I write this note.



Wilma

During the year, our amazing staff and volunteers are always ready for the challenges we face. Through our low-cost spay and neuter efforts, affordable animal care services, pet adoption program, open-door admission policy and RAIDER Animal Cruelty Investigations, we will continue to care for nearly 50,000 pets each year.

As an open-admission shelter, we turn no animal away regardless of age, breed, temperament or physical condition. These animals will continue to come to us and we will continue to be there for them – just like we have been since 1956. The daily cost to care for the animals that pass through our doors is high, but with the support of our community and donors to assist us we'll continue to be a safe haven for animals in need.

Fall is an exciting time of year at Houston Humane Society. I hope you will join us at our upcoming Fall Festival, make plans to hit the links at our Par FORE Pets Golf Tournament and stop by for a very special day when Santa drops in for free pet photos.

Last year posed many challenges and this year will as well. My wish is that each of us will be up to the challenge and more. I look forward to saving more lives alongside all of you this year. Thank you for your continued confidence in our important work.

For the animals,

*Sherry*

Sherry Ferguson  
Executive Director



Wilma  
Executive, Executive Director

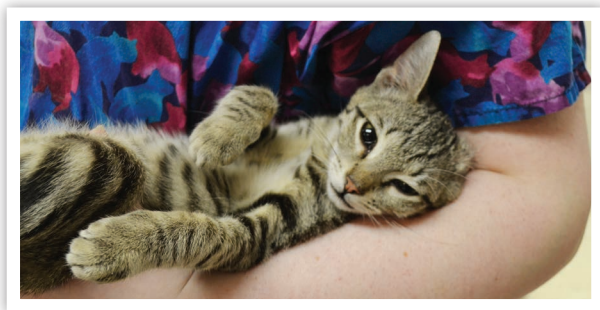
P.S. For the latest updates on Wilma's surgery and condition, please visit us at [www.houstonhumane.org](http://www.houstonhumane.org).



# 227

Number of dogs and cats helped during our June Hurricane Preparedness Event

June 1st kicks off hurricane season, and each year Houston Humane Society offers a hurricane preparedness event. This year we helped 227 dogs and cats get microchipped and up to date on necessary vaccines. The hurricane prep package was offered at a reduced rate of just \$40 (an \$80-\$93 value).



On Wednesday, February 19th, HHS neutered

# 574

male cats for free during our annual **Fix Felix for Free** event.



## TEQUILA

On May 9th, a Chihuahua/Mexican Hairless mix was brought to Houston Humane Society with severe ocular trauma to the right eye. The previous owner declined treatment options and signed the four-year-old dog, Tequila, over to HHS. Our veterinary team immediately went to work. Tequila was started on antibiotics and pain medication, and surgery was scheduled. Due to the severity of the injury, the eye had to be removed. Tequila came through surgery with flying colors, and he is recovering well in our clinic. The next step for Tequila will be our adoption department where we hope to find him the perfect forever home.



If interested in adopting Tequila, please contact our adoption department at [adoptions@houstonhumane.org](mailto:adoptions@houstonhumane.org).

# A TRUE FRIEND



It is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye to a true animal advocate and protector. Longtime KHOU 11 News reporter Brad Woodard passed away on July 2, 2014. It was Brad's investigation that uncovered a horrible puppy mill in Panola County in 2010. He contacted us after purchasing two of the pups as part of his investigation. We examined and treated the pups and our Chief Veterinarian, Animal Cruelty Officers and staff worked with him to rescue 85 animals.

We've lost a true friend to animals, and he will be greatly missed. Brad won a Lone Star EMMY for his work investigating the Panola County Puppy Mill where our very own Wilma came from. He saved a lot of lives that day, and continued exposing cruelty, saving even more.



## MAX



The Houston Humane Society's Animal Cruelty Investigators work hard throughout the year to save animals in danger. No case is too big or small for our officers, including a recent call that led them to a tragic case of abandonment and neglect. Animal Cruelty Officers received a call from a nearby resident regarding the property at 6215 Maxroy, Houston, TX 77091. Officers found the body of a horse that had clearly been starved to death along

with a malnourished canine tied up with speaker wire with no food or water in sight.

To ensure its safety, the canine was immediately brought back to Houston Humane Society for medical evaluation. After several weeks of medical care and plenty of big meals, the canine, a black lab named Max, was adopted! His new adopter said Max is an amazing dog that keeps him busy. The pair have a lot of fun together, and Max now weighs in at over 100 pounds!



# PETS FOR VETS PROGRAM AT HHS

Because heroes need special love  
— *free pet adoptions for all veterans!*



\$425

That's what HHS invests, on average, in every shelter animal until he or she finds a forever home:

- General Health Exam - \$35
- Spay/Neuter Surgery - \$100
- Tattoo - \$10
- Microchip - \$25
- Shelter Care & Housing - \$100
- Grooming - \$25
- Vaccinations - \$100
- Tests - \$20
- Deworming - \$10
- Exercising, love and play - No Charge

In honor of Veteran's Day each year, the Houston Humane Society offers free pet adoptions for all active and retired military personnel. During Veteran's Day Weekend, a free dog or cat adoption will be offered to veterans of all branches of the military. It is well known that companion animals reduce stress, relieve anxiety and alleviate depression. This is a wonderful opportunity for our organization to match up deserving pets with military veterans. It is our hope that both the pet and the vet will benefit from this newfound companionship. To qualify, veterans must have an approved adoption application and show proof of military service.

You can help sponsor our pet adoption program by visiting online at [HoustonHumane.org/donate](https://HoustonHumane.org/donate), then choose the Sponsor A Pet Adoption option under the Donate To tab.

## PETS FOR VETS HAPPY TAILS

### CINDY & BRIAN WIECHEC



We went to the "Pets for Vets" event; we had been looking to add a second dog into our home. The Houston Humane Society was so awesome; their trainer worked with us to find the best companion to get along with our spoiled current dog. They made us

completely comfortable with our decision. Added bonus was that Saki (formerly known as Sundance) was part of their "Project Dogs" program, so she already knows some basic commands. We love our new dog Saki; she was definitely meant for our military family.

### MARY SLAWSON

Our family came to the Houston Humane Society Center on Veteran's Free Adoption Day. We went there to find our family a cat. When Riley (Martian) found us he would not let us go. He stared and meowed for us to come over and get him. Then he would get on top of our head and sit, so we took him home. He is a ball of black and white fur and the most loving cat I have ever owned. He follows me everywhere I go. He sleeps with his head on my arm at night, drinks water from the faucet while I brush my teeth, then sits in the window and waits for me to get home. He loves playing with our two Boxers Esme and Taco. Thank you so much for the opportunity to have Riley in our life.



# FALL INTO FUN WITH HOUSTON HUMANE SOCIETY AT THE 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

The Houston Humane Society is hosting the 3rd Annual Fall Festival on October 25th. Dog owners are encouraged to bring their furry friends out to participate in a day of fun for the whole family at a price you can love: **FREE!**



- Free pumpkin painting for kids while supplies last
- Free hot dogs and popcorn while supplies last
- Free bounce house for kids
- Free face painting and balloons
- Free trick or treat stations for kids!
- Free photo session for kids and pets! Costumes encouraged, and you'll receive a CD of the image to take with you

## SANTA PAWS IS COMING TO HOUSTON HUMANE SOCIETY!



The Houston Humane Society is on Santa's list of favorite stops. The jolly big guy visits each year to take photos with pets. HHS invites Houstonians to the shelter on December 6th to enjoy free pet photos with Santa. Pet owners are encouraged to bring a Kong toy or a dry pet food donation to the event.



## Preliminary THLN 2015 Legislative Agenda Preview

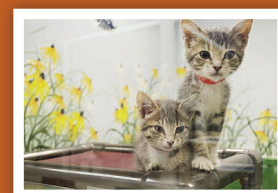
1. **HUMANE TETHERING LAW.** The current state wide tethering law is confusing, vague and as a result not being enforced by either animal control officers or law enforcement. When engaging with stakeholders all over the state, THLN learned that strengthening the tethering law was the most popular issue to be addressed. THLN will file a bill in order to strengthen the current law and ensure it is a “humane tethering law” with reasonable, enforceable provisions. Continuous chaining is both inhumane and a threat to the safety of the confined dog, other animals and humans. Strengthening the Texas tethering law will benefit the lives of thousands of dogs throughout the state.
2. **PEACE OFFICER CANINE ENCOUNTER TRAINING.** During the 2013 session, a bill was brought to mandate peace officer training for canine encounters. Although THLN supported this bill, it died in committee. Since 2013, more horrific dog shootings of pet dogs continue to occur across the state, typically on a weekly basis, making Texas the worst state in the nation for dog shootings. Such legislation will mandate peace officer training to eliminate or dramatically reduce the risk of these tragic incidents taking place.
3. **EXOTIC ANIMAL OWNERSHIP.** In 2013, there were two bills regarding dangerous wild animal ownership; one attempted to ban ownership while the other attempted to weaken the current dangerous wild animal law. As THLN has remained in the forefront to protect these animals, it will revisit the dangerous wild animal ownership issue in Texas. Reliable reports indicate thousands of dangerous wild animals are kept by private owners across the state, and often these animals are kept in deplorable conditions. THLN is in the process of releasing a report including the dangerous wild animal laws of the 254 Texas counties to help better understand how to move forward in protecting these majestic creatures that pose a serious threat to the safety of Texas citizens.
4. **OTHER ANIMAL WELFARE LEGISLATION.** Each session, THLN is the only organization that researches and tracks every single bill brought to the Texas legislature that relates to animal welfare. After extensive research into the bill, THLN offers support for those bills not on its agenda, but still a win for animals all over Texas.
5. **PROTECT COMMERCIAL DOG & CAT BREEDERS ACT.** As THLN closely monitors Texas animal groups, it has learned that a group of breeders plan to file a bill to repeal this critical Act. This Act provides for minimum standards of care for animals living in large-scale breeding facilities and ensures they are subject to inspection to ensure satisfactory adherence to the care mandates. In its quest for the protection of animals, THLN also fights bad bills that are brought and this is an example of one of them.
6. **UPHOLD THE HORSE SLAUGHTER BAN.** This act has been in place in Texas for more than 50 years, but during past legislative sessions, attempts have been made to repeal the law. THLN will fight to keep this legislation in place in Texas to protect horses.



## KURANDA BED DONATION

Every shelter pet deserves a bed, and Kuranda beds help keep our dogs off the cold, hard floors and afford cats a soft place to rest in their rooms. You can make a world of difference in a homeless pet's life by donating a Kuranda bed to Houston Humane Society. Visit [www.kuranda.com/donate/3078](http://www.kuranda.com/donate/3078) to donate a dog bed or cat tower. Special donation discounts apply and beds ship directly to the shelter.

For a full wish list or to donate online, visit [www.houstonhumane.org](http://www.houstonhumane.org).



# PAR FORE PETS

## 25th Annual Golf Tournament



T U E S D A Y  
N O V E M B E R  
11



Memorial Park Golf Course  
[HoustonHumane.org](http://HoustonHumane.org)