# houston HUMANE

# Gradie

The Houston Humane Society's animal cruelty investigation team seized 20 dogs from 2 residences in Highlands, TX near Baytown on April 14, 2015. Officers began investigating the locations after a bite case involving a dog was reported. The animals were confined in kennels caked in filth and feces creating an environment that threatened their health and well-being.

One of the little ones rescued from Highlands was the worst matting case many of us had ever seen. We named her Gracie after Sandra Bullock's character in Miss Congeniality... because let's face it, we haven't seen a transformation like this since the movie! Gracie is about 4-5 years old. She weighed in at 27 pounds before we started, and 2 hours later she weighed 20 pounds! That's 7 POUNDS of matted fur, feces and who knows what else after being shaved by our team! Due to the severity of her condition she had to be sedated while being shaved. Her eyes were in pretty bad shape, and Dr. Harkness immediately began treating them for inflammation and ulcers.

Through the power of Facebook, we had a wonderful woman contact us. She was following Gracie's story and thought she might be the perfect fit for her home. After 2 weeks of medical care, Dr. H gave the all clear for Gracie to have a meet and greet. In no time at all, the two had fallen in love with each other. Gracie left May 3, to her forever home, and we couldn't be happier or more amazed at this sweet girl's transformation in just 3 weeks!



**OCIETY** 



# Happy Tail Gracie

Thank you so much for the wonderful story about Gracie. I think I fell in love with her when I saw her "shaved" picture and bad eyes on Facebook! She has turned out to be one of the sweetest little dogs I've ever had. Thank you for letting me adopt her. She is very happy in her new home. Our other dogs, Nugget and Copper have met her and are getting to know each other without any problems! She follows me around the house, loves the garden and has already gone on several hunting/exploring expeditions, and loves our group walk in the mornings. She's been to see our vet, Dr. Wood at VCA Kelliwood and apart from her eyes, she passed with flying colors! Next stop is the ophthalmologist at Gulf Coast. I know we will have loads of fun and laughs with this little angel in the years to come. Thank you ever so much!

Did you know you can give directly to our Animal Cruelty Program to help dogs just like Gracie get a second chance? Just visit www.HoustonHumane.org/giving/designate-your-gift and choose the RAIDER animal cruelty investigations fund. Kindly, Pam and John A.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### PRESIDENT

Connie Reeves Cooke VICE PRESIDENT Beverly Brannan TREASURER Jim Griffing SECRETARY Cynthia A.K. Rigoni, D.V.M. ADVISOR Carl Wilson

Pat London Tony Roubik Belinda Smith Keith Thayer

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Sherry Ferguson FINANCE DIRECTOR AND ANIMALS' KINGDOM DIRECTOR Gary Poon SHELTER DIRECTOR Edward Perez

#### SHELTER LOCATION

14700 Almeda Rd. Houston, TX 77053 Phone: 713-433-6421 Fax: 713-433-4325 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,

I'm so happy to share how **YOUR DONATIONS** will be leveraged to stop animal suffering as we work diligently to make every dollar do its best for the animals.

We are proud to announce the HHS RAIDER cruelty investigation program is moving to Harris County Precinct 5. By joining forces we increase the efforts of both organizations in the battle, and under the leadership of Chief Ted Heap we intensify the fight

in the war against animal cruelty. Charles Jantzen will be heading up our division spending 100% of his time and utilizing his many years of expertise, processing complaints from investigation to prosecution. A sincere 'Thank You' to Chief Larry Baimbridge and his team for their compassion and for being animal advocates. Their actions prove their oath *To Protect and Serve* extends to the innocent animals that cannot protect themselves. We are proud to count them as friends of HHS.

Chief Heap and I are steadfast in our commitment to grow this division and to work with the District Attorney's office to see that animal cruelty felons receive the highest penalties allowed by law.

<u>Harris County has been blessed to have people who care</u> about the humane treatment of animals. HHS officers, veterinarians, technicians, staff and volunteers have saved thousands of animals from the hands of cruel and uncaring people, nursed and nurtured them back to health and found loving homes for them. Crime Stoppers Houston has located perpetrators who otherwise would have gone unknown. District and County Attorneys have prosecuted and educated those that abuse animals. The animals have been blessed to have YOU.

**YOUR PAST SUPPORT HAS SAVED** many animals from suffering, abuse and neglect. The fight against animal cruelty is costly. The HHS underwrites 100% of the cost of the animal cruelty program. From the officers, the animal transportation, medical examinations, surgeries, medications, housing, daily care and everything else that goes on until the trials and appeals are completed and then the animals are adopted.

**YOUR FUTURE SUPPORT WILL SAVE** many animals from suffering, abuse and neglect. We must keep dedicated law enforcement officials on the streets and in the courts safeguarding innocent animals. It is essential that those sincere in their belief that animals deserve to be protected and abusers deserve to be prosecuted be unfaltering with financial support and encourage others to do so as well. You can ensure this vital program continues, by making an additional donation and denoting on your check or going to www.HoustonHumane.org. and designating your tax deductible donations to this program.

Again, THANK YOU for your commitment to the animals. YOU HAVE, AND WILL SAVE LIVES. Wilma is proof of that.

For the animals,

Sherry Ferguson 🕖 Executive Director



Executive, Executive Director

P.S. We give sincere THANK YOUS to Sgt. Stacy Schuelke and Sgt. Joe Guerra for all the wonderful work they did on behalf of the animals.

# RAIDER

The Houston Humane Society is dedicated to ending cruelty, abuse and neglect for all animals. Our animal cruelty investigation team has been busy in 2015! So many animals have had a second chance at life thanks to the dedicated staff members that fight daily to speak up for those that can't protect themselves.

The team handled 4 different horse seizure cases in less than 2 weeks. One horse, Monty, touched the hearts and lives of many of us. A late afternoon call led us to a school parking lot near the Acres Homes Area. We arrived to find a severely malnourished male horse. Monty had been a victim of neglect for a very long time. He was extremely underweight with open wounds that were severely infected. Monty was so weak he collapsed in the trailer as we tried to load him to get him back to the shelter. His prognosis was very grim, but we were able to help him rally that night. For 9 days our veterinary team, led by Dr. Timothy Harkness, worked round the clock to do everything they could for Monty. Fluids, warming blankets, shots, medication, dewormer, pain medication, hay and feed, you name it, we tried it. Unfortunately, the neglect and abuse Monty suffered prior to coming to HHS was just too much. Losing Monty touched so many of us, and he became the poster child for what we all aim to fight against. No animal should ever suffer the way Monty did, and the Houston Humane Society is devoted to protecting animals just like him every day.

Our team doesn't just help animals in Houston. Recently, we assisted Matagorda County officials in a cruelty investigation case. The dilapidated trailer was home to 25 dogs, 7 rats and a snake, all living in rusted, filthy cages covered in debris and feces. Deplorable doesn't even begin to describe the conditions these animals were forced to endure. Just one day later, The Houston Humane Society's animal cruelty team rescued 20 small, older dogs from a Houston residence. The animals included pomeranians, chihuahuas, a mini schnauzer mix, jack russell mix, papillions, a mini dachshund mix and terriers. The canines were owned by an elderly couple, whose situation got out of control when one was hospitalized. The dogs were filthy, matted, and suffered from severe dental disease among other things.

Each case is different, but the truth remains the same: the animals count on us and we count on YOU. Your support gets animals out of dire suffering and into a safe, comfortable place to stay, nutritious, fresh, safe food, put back together medically and given love, some for the first time. You've made the difference, and for that, Gracie, Wilma, Lauren, Monty, Tommy, Teddy, Leo, Timmy...the list goes on.....Thank You. You can make a difference for....? ? ...and for that, all of us at the HHS stand ready.

Help us convert crisis to care today by visiting <u>www.HoustonHumane.org/giving/designate-</u> <u>your-gift</u> and choosing to designate your gift to the RAIDER animal cruelty investigations fund.







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

vaccines. The hurricane prep package was offered at a reduced rate of just \$45.

# Fix Felix for Free

On Wednesday, February 18, HHS neutered 610 male cats for free during our annual Fix Felix for Free event.



## Did You Know?



**Wellness Exams** 

- treatment and
- **Flea and tick**



\$25 microchipping

dental cleanings, removals, and more

# Maximillian

Many animals arrive at the Houston Humane Society in need of more than just food, water and shelter. The HHS Animal Wellness Clinic aids thousands of injured, sick and malnourished pets each year. When a little beagle pup was turned in as a stray in June, our veterinary team immediately went to work. The poor guy had something caught around one



of his front legs for days, and the blood circulation had been completely cut off causing permanent nerve and tissue damage. By the time he arrived at HHS it was too late to save his leg, but not too late to save his life.

At just 3 months of age, this scrap of a puppy went through a big surgery to amputate his leg. He immediately became a staff favorite around here, probably due to his propensity to give out kisses to everyone that helped save him! He was confined to cage rest for about 3 weeks, and by the time the Doctors cleared him to start exercising he was ready to go! He adapted quickly to walking on three legs, and he was an instant fan of playing fetch. Each time he stumbled he would pick himself back up and try it again... and again.

A longtime volunteer, Nyla, saw a video we posted on Facebook and immediately fell in love with him. The next day she visited, and the feeling was mutual. The pair have been inseparable ever since! Nyla named her little guy Maximillian, and the two enjoy playing endless games of fetch, going for runs in the park... well, Nyla runs while Max rides in his new stroller, and takes long naps.

You can help animals just like Max get a second chance by designating your donation to our Special Needs Fund. Just visit <u>http://www.HoustonHumane.org/</u> giving/designate-your-gift and choose the Special Needs Fund tab.

# Upcoming Events

## FALL INTO FUN WITH HOUSTON HUMANE SOCIETY AT THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

Mark your calendars for the Houston Humane Society's 4th Annual Fall Festival on Saturday, October 24th. 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 free copy of the photo



## PETS FOR VETS

To honor the men and women who serve our country, the Houston Humane Society commemorates Veteran's Day by offering free pet adoptions for all active and retired military personnel. This year's event, held Monday, November 9 – Sunday, November 15, is extended to veterans of all branches of the military. It is well known that companion animals reduce stress, relieve anxiety and alleviate depression, and this is a wonderful opportunity for our organization to match up deserving pets with military veterans.

## Santa Paws is Coming to the Houston Humane Society



The Houston Humane Society is at the top of Santa's nice list! The jolly big guy is stopping by on Saturday, December 5, for free photos with pets and kids. Visitors are encouraged to bring a Kong toy or a dry pet food donation to the event.

# Happy Tails Ziggy & Marlei

Ziggy & Marlei came to the Houston Humane Society years ago and were adopted out together. After 8 years, they were returned when their family was moving. We made the hard decision to split the dogs in an effort to help find them a forever home. First Ziggy was adopted, then Marlei found her new dad, Michael.

As fate would have it, Ziggy was returned for separation anxiety. We reached out to Marlei's new dad right away to see if she was having separation anxiety as well. Michael had another dog (one he had also adopted from HHS years ago) that was helping Marlei adjust to her new home. He really felt for Ziggy though, so he scheduled a time to meet him. The sweet boy captured Michael's heart right away, and he had some serious thinking to do!

We'll let Michael tell you the rest in his own words:



I want to start off saying I had no intention ever of getting two more dogs. I saw Marlei, fell in love, and to bring Ziggy home was just a

no-brainier. I truly believe things and circumstances are placed before us for a reason....I had to spend the last week thinking things through to make sure this was the best decision. And today, I can't imagine not having these two dogs my life.

Yes, Ziggy does have some destructive tendencies. Nothing a sheet of plexiglass on a door won't fix to protect it from his paws. He and Marlei together are such loving creatures. I spent 2-3 hours with Ziggy last night. Brushed him, cut out the mats, bathed him twice, conditioned him, brushed him again and used the blow drier on him. While I was brushing him, Marlei stayed right next to him licking his eye and licking his left ear. I think she knows he's got ear issues. She was being very nurturing like she just wanted to take care of him.

Many thanks....and I'm so glad Ziggy's other situation was a bust!

We are so in awe of Michael. We can't imagine a better home for these two. We couldn't do what we do without the help of fantastic people like Michael choosing to adopt... and then choosing to adopt again!









# Thieves Break In at the Houston Humane Society

Early morning hours on June 2, 2015, thieves smashed in the front door of the Houston Humane Society Animal Wellness Clinic in the dark of night. Luckily they could not get back to where the animals are kept, but they did manage to steal equipment and make a horrible mess.

Thanks to the generosity of several Houstonians, we raised enough funds to replace everything stolen and to invest in additional locks, improve our monitoring system and upgrade our current cameras to a more sophisticated digital camera surveillance system.

Once again, **YOU CAME TO OUR RESCUE.** We are grateful for all the donations, emails, calls and shows of concern which were all appreciated.





610 cats were neutered for free at Fix Felix for Free this year



Girl Scout Troop 9686 made toys for the dogs and cats and held a donation drive to benefit the Houston Humane Society



The 34th Annual K-9 Fun Run in March was a big hit this year



Natural Pawz donated 25,000 pounds of dog and cat food to the Houston Humane Society to help feed our pets

# Wish List

### **ADMINISTRATIVE:**

Batteries (AA, AAA) Colored Copy Paper Copy Paper (letter) Double-sided Tape Jump/Flash Drives (2GB+) Laminating Pouches Markers (dry erase, permanent) Paper Towels Pens (black) Plastic Storage Bins (18 gallon) Printing Labels Scotch Tape Scissors

### **CLINIC NEEDS:**

Sam's Gift Cards 
Bleach 
Odo Ban (at Sam's Club)
Cotton Swabs 
Disposable Latex Gloves 
First Aid Kits
Hand Sanitizer 
Rubbing Alcohol

#### LIVESTOCK/RESCUE NEEDS:

Dust Pans <sup>©</sup>Feed (horse, pig, poultry, goat) Hay <sup>©</sup> Lawn Equipment

#### **CRITTER NEEDS:**

Kuranda Dog Beds & Kuranda Cat Towers & Bath Mats & Small Rugs & Dog & Cat Shampoo & Dog Brushes Dog Food & Cat Food & Kitty Litter & Leashes & Collars Newspaper & Small Animal Feed & Bedding (guinea pigs) Sturdy & Washable Toys (Cat & Dog) & Bath Towels PetCo & PetSmart Gift Cards

## 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 to donate a dog bed or cat tower.

Special donation discounts apply and beds ship directly to the shelter.



## 26th Annual houston humane society par fore pets golf tournament

Tuesday, September 22nd, 2015

### Memorial Park Golf Course 1001 E.Memorial Loop Houston, TX 77007

Sponsorships available + Silent and live auctions PLEASE COME JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FOOD, FUN AND FRIENDS

## More info online: www.HoustonHumane.org



