

# HOUSTON HUMANE



# SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT 2011  
FULFILLING OUR VISION FOR ANIMALS





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**FELINE CONSULTANT**

"Pirate"

**SHELTER LOCATION**

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

**MAILING ADDRESS**

P.O. Box 450528  
Houston, TX 77245

**SHELTER HOURS**

Admissions/Receiving:  
Mon – Tues: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Wed: CLOSED  
Thurs: 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.  
Fri – Sun: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Adoptions:**

Mon – Tues: 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Wed: CLOSED  
Thurs: 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.  
Fri – Sun: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**CLINIC LOCATION**

14810 Almeda Rd.  
Houston, TX 77053  
Phone: (713) 433-6453

**CLINIC HOURS**

(Vaccinations & Exams)  
Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri:  
10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
Thurs: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Sat & Sun: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Please arrive at least one  
hour before closing.



## FULFILLING OUR VISION FOR ANIMALS

It's been said that vision plus action makes a positive difference. Every day at the Houston Humane Society, we work hard to fulfill our vision of a better world for animals. Our actions include: humane education; cruelty investigations; veterinary advancements; and, giving comfort to the thousands of animals that come to our facility each year. The individuality, love, and needs of these amazing dogs and cats, and all other winged and furred friends, inspire us to keep going.

In 2010, HHS hit many challenges head-on. We cared for more than 47,000 animals through the shelter, Wellness Clinic and as a result of R.A.I.D.E.R cruelty investigations. We seized over two hundred animals from horrendous conditions at puppy mills and saved as many as possibly could be saved, and they will live the rest of their lives in caring and safe homes. It's safe to say that for most of them, it was the first time their welfare had ever been considered, as many had never even seen the light of day or been allowed outside for fresh air and exercise.

In this New Year, we continue our firm commitment to saving lives through our expanding foster and mobile adoption programs, seizure of cruelly treated animals through the R.A.I.D.E.R program and shelter adoptions. Our goal is to increase the number of adoptions and provide our animals with top-notch care and comfort.

To better serve the animals, construction will be a high priority for us in 2011. HHS plans to build a modern dog exercise area adjacent to the adoption facility in memory of our wonderful mascot, Burnie. "Burnie's Backyard" will allow our in-house residents to have a much needed larger space to play and be trained. We will finish renovation of our intake department which will now include a clean modern place for our foster home and volunteer programs, along with a grooming area. In addition, we are renovating our Wellness Clinic so it can continue on for as long as possible. It has really been overworked for too many years. Most of these activities are being done by shelter staff to maximize each dollar you send in.



Sherry Ferguson, HHS Executive Director

We'll also unveil as many details as possible about our new cutting-edge Wellness Clinic that's in the works. It will be across the street from the HHS complex. We don't have drawings yet, but our plan is to build a one-of-a-kind clinic to provide the latest in veterinary medicine for animals in our community, as well as our own HHS dogs and cats. There's more about it in the report. So, read on!

Even with all of our optimism and enthusiasm, HHS still felt the economic tremors of the past years. Unfortunately, more owners desert, abandon or turn in their animals in tough financial times. We have compensated by filling our kennels, canine chalets and kitty kat kondos to above capacity. In addition, we continue to offer more low-cost veterinary services at our clinic to help all pet owners facing monetary hardship. We also educate the public about the various steps that can be taken as an alternative to giving up a pet family member.

None of our work at HHS can be accomplished without our loyal donors and supporters. I cannot thank you enough for sticking by us through thick and through thin. We're here to do the work, but can't do it without your financial support and your friendship so I hope we can count on your continued help in 2011.

For the Animals,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sherry".

Sherry Ferguson  
Executive Director

From the Animals, Staff and Volunteers at the Houston Humane Society "Have a Happy, Healthy and Humane 2011"

## TAKING RESPONSIBILITY

Because the Houston Humane Society turns no animal away, in 2010 there was a sharp rise in the number of animals taken in at our shelter. In some cases, dogs and cats were found wandering and brought in by kind-hearted strangers. There were also many pets turned in by individuals, stating they could no longer care for them. The reasons varied, from financial difficulties to relocation, but the reality is a shelter filled above capacity with amazing animals that need life-long loving homes.

At HHS, our vision encompasses a day when all pet guardians assume responsibility for their pets. This includes food, water, veterinary care, exercise, love and a permanent home. In the vast majority of cases, turning a pet over to a shelter is completely avoidable. Willing guardians can keep their pets by utilizing easy solutions that go a long way in minimizing challenges and future or long-term financial costs and—of course—the stress a pet will surely undergo when given up by a beloved family. Please help us spread some common sense advice about proper pet care:

- ❁ A good diet is important for health. Buy the best pet food affordable in large bags or by the case to reduce costs, or clip coupons. Pet food companies frequently offer online discounts. If it becomes necessary to change pet food, do it gradually to avoid gastrointestinal issues and unnecessary veterinary bills.
- ❁ Heartworm Disease can kill and is easily avoidable! Heartworm preventative medication can cost as little as \$6 per month. Compare this with treatment for Heartworm Disease which can run \$1000 or more.
- ❁ If relocating, look for a new home or apartment that is pet-friendly. Animals are family members and should be considered when moving. More and more places are understanding the bond and opening up to animals.
- ❁ Most behavioral issues are easily remedied with a few lessons from a reputable trainer. Veterinarians can usually recommend a qualified trainer with proper credentials.
- ❁ Routine veterinary checkups can prevent serious and expensive future health problems. The HHS Wellness Clinic offers a wide-range of low-cost veterinary services, including yearly vaccinations, heartworm exams (treatments and prevention), deworming, feline leukemia tests and many other services.
- ❁ Spay or neuter! Dogs and cats can give birth to several litters a year, requiring veterinary care for additional animals. Spaying and neutering can prevent a myriad of health problems and are key factors in the battle against animal homelessness. Our Wellness Clinic offers low-cost spay and neuter surgeries, starting at only \$30.
- ❁ Regular at-home exams are important! Check pets for external parasites. Flea and tick medication can prevent disease. Also, remember to check teeth for early signs of dental disease, like bad breath and mild tartar. Look inside ears for signs of infection, including redness, crustiness or unusual odor, before a situation becomes severe. Report anything unusual to your veterinarian. As with many things, . . . an ounce of prevention is worth the cost and suffering of a cure.
- ❁ Ask family members or close friends for help before giving up a pet.

**OUR MISSION:** The Houston Humane Society (HHS) is non-profit animal shelter dedicated to eliminating cruelty, abuse and the overpopulation of animals.

**OUR VISION:** HHS is committed to creating the awareness of, and promoting animal welfare throughout the Houston community by providing numerous programs for Houston area residents and their pets, including acceptance of all animals, pet adoptions, humane education, R.A.I.D.E.R. cruelty investigations and Houston's only \$30 spay and neuter clinic offering reduced cost wellness services to those in need.



## IN LOVING MEMORY OF BURNIE

With heavy hearts, the Houston Humane Society staff said goodbye to Burnie on May 17, 2010. Burnie, a Shepherd/Chow mix and our beloved mascot, played an important role at HHS for 14 years.

Burnie first came to HHS following an act of extreme cruelty. In 1996, two teens tied her to a tree, doused her with gasoline and set her on fire. A police officer intervened and called HHS for assistance.

As a result of the heinous act, Burnie suffered third-degree burns which were treated at the HHS Clinic. Despite the pain of dressing changes throughout a lengthy rehabilitation, Burnie was always true to her friendly and loving nature. Her background and sweet disposition prompted HHS to embrace her as the shelter's mascot, replacing Annie who had held the title for 15 years.

Burnie adored her role as HHS ambassador. Every year, she visited the Shriners Hospital for Children to deliver holiday gifts and lift the spirits of patients and staff. During her extraordinary life, she was also made an honorary K-9 cop by Precinct 6 Constable, Victor Trevino. As a part of this role, she visited many schools with her law enforcement partners to teach children and teachers how to recognize and report animal cruelty. Burnie's story and name reminded people of all ages that animal abuse is rampant, and awareness is critical.

*"Burnie was a survivor in every sense of the word, and her incredible story impacted the lives of just about everyone who met her," said Sherry Ferguson, HHS Executive Director. "We miss her very much. We're all better people for having worked with this sweet beautiful soul."*



Beloved HHS mascot, Burnie, will never be forgotten.

To Report Cruelty: HHS law enforcement officers handle only Animal Cruelty issues.

Call (713) 433-6421, ext. 396

File a report online at  
[www.houstonhumane.org](http://www.houstonhumane.org)

For stray animals, excessive barking or other animal control issues call your local Animal Control:

Harris County (281) 999-3191

BARC (City of Houston) (713) 229-7300

Fort Bend County (281) 342-1512

Montgomery County (936) 442-7738

Brazoria County (979) 849-2441

## ADOPTION SPECIALS

It's been a money-driven trend of many breeders to sell mixed breed "designer" dogs with names like Schnoodle and Puggle. If you're considering a new pet, please skip the breeders and check out our adorable mixed breed/designer and purebred dogs that need homes full of heart. More of a feline person? We have lots of kitties, too! Plus, if you adopt from us, you'll be a superhero for helping prevent animal homelessness and not giving breeders the financial incentive to continue producing litter after litter. Visit our website for monthly adoption specials and see up-to-date pictures and bios of our awesome adoptables!





## BURNIE'S BACKYARD










In memory of Burnie, the Houston Humane Society is improving its dog exercise area on the shelter premises. As you can see from our cover, right now it's only rubble, but not for long. We have plans to set up agility equipment and provide fountains for dogs and humans. A special bone-shaped pool will also be built to promote health and a romping good time. Our vision is a quintessential modern-day dog park exclusively for HHS resident animals to enrich their lives while they wait for their new families. If you would like to help fulfill that vision, please consider a donation to the Burnie's Backyard project.

In memory of Burnie, a dog park for the future designed especially for HHS dogs.



## PLEASE DONATE TODAY! WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Throughout the HHS annual report, you may notice several small red bones to remind you of different donation options. Contributions can be made to our general fund, or for a specific program or purpose. You choose where you want your money to help. The economic downturn has affected many aspects of our organization, including an increase in animal intake. We depend on and thank you so much for your past contributions. Your continued support of HHS makes a huge difference, by allowing us to advance our fight against animal cruelty and provide housing and medical care for thousands of needy animals. We receive no federal, state or local government funding, but rely solely on donations and special events. We are also not a part of, or under an umbrella of the Humane Society of the United States. We receive no operational income from any national animal welfare group. Only the donations sent to the Houston Humane Society benefit our homeless animals and the work we do. HHS earned Charity Navigator's 4 star rating for 6 consecutive years, proving its ability to efficiently manage and grow its finances. Only 3% of the charities have received at least 6 consecutive 4-star evaluations. A contribution reply is included with our report, or you can visit our website to donate online. Please consider the following options:

-  Shelter Animal Care
-  Low Cost Spay/Neuter and Wellness Clinic
-  Have a Heart/Heartworm Program
-  Burnie's Backyard
-  R.A.I.D.E.R. Program
-  Foster Program
-  Mobile Adoption Program
-  Diamonds in the Ruff
-  Memorials and Honorariums



All animals in the Annual Report are available for adoption at HHS, or have been placed in a new home.



## R.A.I.D.E.R. PROGRAM 2010 HIGHLIGHTS



In 2002, the Houston Humane Society became the first and only animal shelter in Texas to hire law enforcement officers as full-time animal cruelty investigators by contracting with Harris County Constable Victor Trevino, Precinct 6. Today, the R.A.I.D.E.R. (Rescuing Animals In Danger and Education Resources) program is comprised of three full-time officers—Sergeant Joe Guerra, Sergeant Stacy Schuelke and Deputy Brian Bair—along with an expanding Volunteer Reserve Program. Our officers teach police recruits how to investigate animal cruelty cases, saving HHS hundreds of dollars each month and ensuring the essential manpower needed to respond to cruelty calls.

Each day the R.A.I.D.E.R. program receives calls involving the neglect, abandonment, abuse, hoarding or torture of animals. In 2010, approximately 2000 calls were answered, and R.A.I.D.E.R. law enforcement officers conducted investigations involving over 3500 animals. Nearly 500 were seized.

In addition to cruelty investigations and teaching volunteer recruits, the R.A.I.D.E.R. team also educates the public about issues ranging from vaccinations and proper animal care to the prevention of cruelty. Every opportunity to educate is utilized, during investigations and through public speaking engagements at schools, civic club organizations and other groups. The HHS R.A.I.D.E.R. team is committed to saving lives and making the world a better place for animals.

### ANIMAL SEIZURE AT PANOLA COUNTY PUPPY MILL

In February 2010, the Houston Humane Society's R.A.I.D.E.R. officers teamed up with the Panola County Sheriff's Office to investigate a report of animal cruelty at a residence in Tenaha after being tipped off by a Houston news station. While on the premises, the

officers discovered 87 dogs and six kittens living in overcrowded, dark and filthy conditions. Kennels were described as "caked" in accumulated, fetid waste, and officers said many of the dogs had likely not been exposed to sunlight in years. The 93 animals were immediately transported to the HHS Animal Wellness Clinic.

*"After rescuing all those wonderful animals from the deplorable living environment, it just made me think: How much longer would this have continued had we not known?" said Sergeant Joe Guerra, HHS R.A.I.D.E.R. team.*

At the clinic, each animal was examined and prescribed a special rehabilitative program, including multiple vaccinations, extensive dental care, deworming, spaying, neutering and treatment for severe malnutrition. Thirty of the animals gave birth after arriving at HHS. The costs associated with the seizure, medication and surgeries exceeded \$133,000. Adoptions began in April.

Congratulations to Brad Woodard of KHOU 11 News for his Emmy-winning coverage of this important story!



Sgt. Guerra (left) and Sgt. Schuelke (right), HHS R.A.I.D.E.R. officers



## LEGISLATION IN 2011

The Texas State Legislature convened on January 11, 2011. As Texas residents, it is up to us to contact our legislators and let them know our opinions on issues we deem important. Many animal-related bills will be introduced during the session, including the bills summarized below. Check out the Houston Humane Society website for updates.

### THE LARGE SCALE COMMERCIAL BREEDERS BILL

This bill applies to large-scale commercial breeders of dogs and cats. The bill requires a commercial breeder (defined as a person who has 11 or more breeding females and is in the business of selling their offspring) to obtain a commercial breeder license from the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR). This agency regulates many businesses and professions in Texas—from manicurists to electricians to guard dog companies.

The bill further requires a commercial breeder to allow the TDLR, or another government agency it contracts with, to perform an initial inspection and thereafter an annual inspection of the facilities to ensure they are in compliance with the standards set by TDLR. These standards pertain to the housing, feeding, veterinary care and sanitation at the commercial breeder's facilities.

Currently, there are no laws against puppy mills and no state regulation to require minimum care standards. The Puppy Mill Bill will be filed by the Texas Humane Legislation Network (THLN). A similar bill was derailed by special interest groups in 2009.

### CLARIFYING APPELLATE PROCEDURE IN CASES INVOLVING SEIZURE OF CRUELLY TREATED ANIMALS

In the 2009 session, the Texas Legislature passed a bill allowing appeals of cases involving the seizure of cruelly treated animals. Under this new law, an owner who has been divested of ownership of his animals for cruelly treating them has a one-time right of appeal.

Numerous questions have arisen about the timing of the various steps in the appellate procedure and the amount and type of bond needed to assure the cost of caring for the animals by the government or a designated nonprofit humane society. The bill, which will be filed by THLN, requires that adequate security for the costs of the government or humane society caring for the animals during the litigation process be met. It would also expedite the appeal, so animals are not held in limbo for an extended period of time.

### PETS IN PROTECTIVE ORDERS, S.B. 279 BY DAVIS

In domestic violence cases, abusers often threaten or harm pets to control a victim. This bill would amend current law to allow inclusion of companion animals in domestic violence protective orders. It would also prohibit interference with the care, custody and control of the animals included in the protective orders. This bill has been filed by the Texas Federation of Animal Care Societies (TFACS).

### SPAY/NEUTER

The Spay/Neuter Bill would not require the mandatory spaying or neutering of all pets, as many people have wrongly interpreted. Pet owners not wishing to have their pets sterilized would have the option of purchasing a license for each unsterilized animal.

Those that would not be subject to the law include service animals; animals younger than six months; purebred animals displayed at competitive exhibitions to determine physical conformation to established breed standards; animals used for lawful hunting by owners holding valid Texas hunting licenses; and animals certified by veterinarians for health reasons. Animals for which an owner holds an intact animal license would also not be subject to the spay/neuter requirement, as aforementioned. In addition, the bill would require animal shelters to spay or neuter all animals before releasing. This bill will be filed by the Texas Federation of Animal Care Societies (TFACS).



## FOSTER PROGRAM

Donate Today

Many animals admitted to the Houston Humane Society have issues preventing them from being able to go up for immediate adoption—like mothers with nursing puppies or kittens, ill or injured animals, or those too young to be spayed or neutered. Our foster families help by providing a temporary environment until the time is right for adoption. Foster placement can last from a couple of days, to a few weeks, or in some cases several months.

Foster parents provide food, water, a nurturing home, toys, blankets or beds, and a carrier for transport to and from HHS for appointments, if necessary. If an animal has issues requiring medical attention, the HHS Wellness Clinic provides exams and medicine at no charge to the foster parent.

Since July, over 180 HHS animals have been placed in foster care. Currently, there are approximately 65 HHS foster families/individuals, a huge increase from 2009. But not all foster parents are available year-round.



Erin Fuqua, HHS Adoption Outreach Coordinator

HHS is constantly searching for dedicated people, including those available to open their homes during summer vacations and holidays.

*“Anyone can be a good candidate for fostering if they are willing to put in time and effort,” said Erin Fuqua, HHS Adoption Outreach Coordinator. “For most people who love animals, it comes very easily.”*

If you’ve ever considered fostering an animal, turn those thoughts into action. Assist us in fulfilling our vision for animals needing an extra boost before going to a forever home.

## MOBILE ADOPTION PROGRAM

Donate Today

You may have noticed us around town! We’ve been to Aeros games, the Galleria, Half Price Books, Lone Star Pet Lodges, the Houston Center and various Petco and Petsmart stores, to name a few, in our quest to match up the right animal with the right family. At HHS, we believe in “going mobile,” so as many people as possible can see our fabulous animals “up close and personal.”

Our mobile adoption program is a collaborative effort between HHS staff and volunteers. Approximately eight times a month, Adoption Outreach Coordinator, Erin Fuqua, travels by van with five or more canine friends to look for open hearts and homes. Upon arrival, she is greeted by volunteers who help her move the animals from the van to a designated area with pens and cages. A typical event lasts from four to six hours, allowing people who probably would not have visited the shelter that day a chance to adopt.

The program is growing, but we can’t do it without our supporters! HHS is looking for a few more faithful mobile adoption volunteers to walk and feed the animals, communicate with potential adopters and assist with the adoption application process.

The effort is fun, and the rewards include plenty of wagging tails and, if you’re so inclined, lots of doggie kisses. If you would like to be a part of our dynamic mobile team, please visit our website and sign up today for our volunteer orientation.



## GREAT NEWS FOR THE DIAMONDS IN THE RUFF PROGRAM!



Diamond in the Ruff, Gilbert, was adopted at an Aeros Game!

At HHS, we know every one of our animals have incredible personalities and unique traits, since we have the privilege of caring for them until they are adopted. Some of our smaller residents only stay for a short time, but many of the most talented dogs are 40 pounds or more and have been with HHS a lot longer. These *Diamonds* have their own program and are affably attending training with anticipation of a wonderful new home.

There are two components to the Diamonds in the Ruff Program. Some of these handsome hounds are boarded at Lone Star Pet Lodges in Missouri City, where they receive training to teach them basic commands. Others work with a part-time trainer on HHS premises. The time spent working with these dogs goes a long way in opening up new channels of communication, so each one learns about behavioral boundaries and how to fit perfectly into new families.

*"It's a myth that larger dogs are harder to care for," said Monica Schmidt, HHS Program Director. "Training is key. Basic skills will allow a big dog to be more manageable."*

In 2010, HHS received a \$25,000 grant from Pedigree especially for the program, so even more of our *Diamonds* can participate in training, polish up proprieties and learn important commands. The dogs that have been at HHS the longest receive training first—a step that will give them a paw up in the pursuit of permanent parents.

## COUNTRY CLUB CHIC

Wills and Kate aren't the only ones receiving the royal treatment! The Canine Country Club in Katy is opening its doors to one HHS dog per month in 2011. These lucky dogs will board for four weeks at this knocked-out new facility where they will receive love, treats and a whole lot of training! We send thanks galore to the club staff for helping us fulfill our vision to find more homes for our deserving animals!

## HAPPY TAIL: MATTIE

Mattie, an eight pound Shih Tzu, is a puppy mill survivor saved by R.A.I.D.E.R. during the animal seizure in Panola County last February. Following Mattie's arrival at HHS, she delivered a litter of puppies and spent many weeks in foster care. After her puppies were weaned, tiny Mattie was spayed and went home with her new family to Fulshear. "Mattie is one of the sweetest little beings I've ever known. We absolutely adore her," said Bliss, Mattie's new mom. "Sometimes she'll just stare at me with this loving expression. It's like she's in total disbelief that she has it so good." Another Happy Tail: All of Mattie's puppies were adopted by loving families.



Six months after being rescued from a puppy mill, Mattie relaxes in her new forever home.





Dr. Timothy W. Harkness, HHS Chief Veterinarian

### EASTERN MEDICINE VERSUS WESTERN MEDICINE: WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

The Houston Humane Society continually strives to provide up-to-date, progressive medical care for our in-house animals, as well as our patients that come to the clinic for numerous reasons to receive treatment and care. We have embarked on a wider path to obtain the latest diagnostic tools and equipment from Western medicine, as well as tools from Eastern medicine and innovations to incorporate both; thus we have the term Integrative Medicine.

So what makes Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) different in its approach to Western or Contemporary medicine? They both involve patients, problem lists, diagnosis and treatment. The biggest difference lies in the thought process.

In Western medicine, we can define the disease—then we have a good deal of insight into the pathophysiology of the disease. We identify the disease and therefore we know the treatment.

In TCM, there is a saying, “One disease, many treatments; one treatment, many diseases.” This perhaps is the basis of the difference. In western thought, we believe that opposites never exist at the same time and at the same place. In fact, one cannot exist without the other. Yin/Yang theory also holds that Yin is continuously transformed into Yang and vice versa.

In western logic, we believe there is a causative factor, a single point or mechanism that leads to a problem, and if we know that causation we can repair or fix the

problem. The eastern approach would be to examine the process of transformation of Yin and Yang and correct any excess or deficiency. Both will ultimately result in repair of the condition.

This is what makes the integration of the two processes so amazing in medicine. Using the causation model, Western medicine has developed incredible diagnostics and acute medical treatments. We can help the body itself, assisting some of the major processes necessary to support life. For instance, we provide fluids to correct hypotension in shock cases. In TCM, we raise Yang to move Qi and Blood. The causative model of Western medicine allows great insight in covering necessities like cardiac arrhythmias. The transformation insights of TCM help get past road blocks in our approach like renal failure, boney changes and tumors.

Nothing in the body is permanent. It can all be transformed. Some transformations may be more difficult, but still there is a flow of Qi, Fluid, and Blood that leads to health. This flow is the continuous transformation of Yin into Yang and Yang into Yin. The integrating of the causative logic of Western medicine (a snapshot frozen in the moment) with the transformative logic of TCM (the flow of processes in the body) can greatly enhance our ability to heal our patients.

### GRANT FOR PIT BULL SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES

Last year HHS received an important grant from PetSmart Charities especially for the spaying and neutering of 500 Pit Bulls whose owners reside in the following zip codes: 77045, 77053, 77489, 77545, and 77583. These surgeries are at no cost to the owner and by appointment only at our Wellness Clinic until 500 surgeries have been performed.





### ALL THE VETERINARY BELLS AND WHISTLES! BIG PLANS IN THE WORKS!

Major news! In 2010, the Houston Humane Society purchased 4.65 acres of real estate across the road from our main complex. We are excited to announce that the site will be the future home of our new state of the art veterinary clinic.

Our present Wellness Clinic has 30,000 current clients, which means 30,000 to 40,000 animals are seen each year. We have the most qualified veterinarians and staff around, but the facility is in poor shape and too small. Although we're still renovating to keep it going, its days are numbered, having been overworked for its maximum number of years. Most of the renovations are being done by our staff.

Our new clinic will be larger and benefit resident HHS animals and local pet patients by providing the latest and greatest in veterinary advancements. Our goal in 2011 is to work through design and planning stages with PBK architectural firm. Construction will begin as quickly as we can raise the funds. If all goes as anticipated, the new clinic will open some time in 2014. Check our website for updates!

## UNSUNG HEROES



Natan was a brave Narcotic Detection Canine Officer.

### HOUSTON HUMANE SOCIETY'S FIRST K-9 UNSUNG HEROES RECIPIENT: NATAN (DECEMBER 25, 2004 – AUGUST 14, 2010)

Natan, a courageous and handsome German Shepherd, began his career as a Narcotic Detection Canine at the Tomball Police Department in October 2006. As the Department's sole canine officer, he aided in the arrest and conviction of many suspects to keep the streets of Tomball drug-free. Natan was a protective and dedicated partner to the other officers on the force and an ambassador of friendship between the Police Department and the community. On August 14, he passed away suddenly in his sleep, leaving a void in all who knew him. Natan's memorial service, held in Tomball, was attended by a large crowd of family and friends. He will be remembered always as a beloved guardian and talented friend.



Sherry Nassar, a dedicated advocate for Houston animals.

### SHERRY NASSAR

You may have heard Sherry on the radio or seen her at an animal adoption event. For years, she has worked non-stop to advance animal welfare in our city. Sherry is a former board member of both the Rescue Bank and the Houston Animal Rights Team (HART). She has also volunteered for E-Rescue and the Zeke Fund Animal Rescue Group. Over the past couple of years, she has worked alongside other Houston animal advocates for reform at the Bureau of Animal Regulation and Care (BARC), Houston's city shelter. Kudos from HHS to Sherry Nassar for her efforts on behalf of Houston's animals!



## HHS IS GRATEFUL FOR OUR GENEROUS DONORS

## NOSEY'S NOTABLES

### IN HONOR OF:

19th wedding anniversary of  
Roberta Apolant & David Duerr  
60th birthday of Gary Hastings  
Michelle Abrego  
Laura Aleman  
Amy Alexander  
All Cats Clinic  
Jacqueline Alldredge  
Kristen Allegri  
Ellen, Jeff & Lilly Allen  
Meg Allison

Matthew Apiecione  
Baby Kitty  
Angela Bacot  
Lindsay Baird  
Carol Cronin Barbour  
Larry & Sarah Barker  
James Barnum  
Kaye Barr  
Charles Bass Jr  
Crystal Beisert  
Larry Bergeron  
Charles Berglund  
John & Kathy Bernhardt  
Robin Berret  
Steve Bloodworth  
Amy Boatman  
Cecilia Bodey  
Milton Bolanos  
Beth Boone  
Kelsey Bowen  
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## VOLUNTEERS

### VOLUNTEERS HELP FULFILL THE HHS VISION FOR ANIMALS

Our cover says it all! Every single person on it is an HHS volunteer. Through unwavering dedication and work, our volunteers help HHS animals in so many ways. We thank each and every one of them for making a huge difference! We also present the following awards to five remarkable volunteers:

**HIT THE GROUND RUNNING AWARD** | This award is for a newcomer who has made a huge impact for our animals in a short period of time. Congratulations to **Megan Schreyer**! We appreciate her consistency and great attitude!

**HIT THE GROUND RUNNING A MARATHON AWARD** | We created this award to highlight a volunteer who has been here for years and continues to make giant strides for our shelter residents. We salute **Debbie Kutty** for true dedication!

**TRUE SPIRIT OF HHS AWARD** | There are two recipients of this year's award, **Priscilla Scott** and **Donna Kroning**. We thank these wonderful women for fostering so many kittens that would otherwise have had little chance of survival. Our little ones love them for it!

**TEEN VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD** | **Coleman Oubre** is a young volunteer whose commitment is a shining example for teens and adults alike. He is a true inspiration!

**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD** | **Carole Raulston** has gone above and beyond the call of duty over and over again. She is at the shelter almost every weekend exercising, bathing and grooming her canine buddies. And when we needed a little creative spirit, she put together a Power Point presentation for our Volunteer Orientation sessions that was insightful and thoughtful. Carole has also volunteered at our annual Gala, serving as canine fashion assistant and dog walker. We cannot say enough about Carole's contribution to HHS. Hats off to our Volunteer of the Year!



Carole Raulston, HHS Volunteer of the Year

### OUR THANKS GO OUT TO:

**Special Humane Thanks  
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Colored Paper  
Copy Paper (letter)  
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Jump/Flash Drives 2GB+  
Laminating Pouches  
Markers (dry erase, permanent)  
Paper Towels  
Pens (black)  
Plastic Storage Bins (18 gallon)  
Printing Labels  
Printing Services (Kinko's etc.)  
Scotch Tape

### CRITTER NEEDS

Kuranda Dog and Cat Beds  
Bath Mats and Small Rugs  
Dog & Cat Shampoo  
Dog Brushes  
Dog Food  
Cat Food  
Kitten Food  
Kitty Litter  
Leashes & Collars  
Newspaper  
Small Animal Feed and Bedding (Guinea Pigs)  
Sturdy, Washable Cat & Dog Toys  
Bath Towels  
PetCo and PetSmart Gift Cards

### 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  
Scrubs (all sizes)

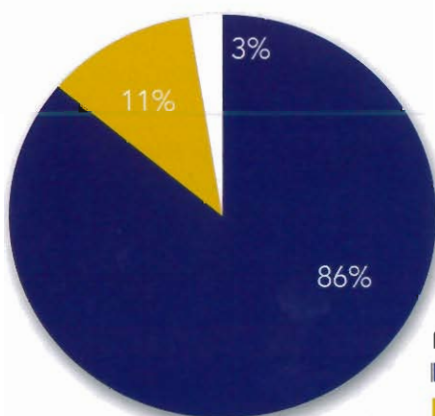
### LIVESTOCK/RESCUE NEEDS

Binoculars  
Dust Pans  
Feed (horse, pig, poultry, goat)  
Hay  
Horse Trailer  
Landscaper  
Lawn Equipment

### WISH LIST: RED ALERT! The following items are desperately needed:

Bath Towels, Bath Mats and Small Washable Rugs, Cat Litter, Leashes/Collars, Newspaper, Paper Towels, Copy Paper (letter), Pens (black)

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION



EXPENSES BY CATEGORY  
 Program Services  
 Fundraising Costs  
 General & Administrative

### REVENUE:

Contributions	\$1,563,918
Special Events	\$223,561
Merchandise sales	\$39,661
Service fees	\$2,833,167
Other	\$299,512
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$4,959,819</b>

### EXPENSES:

Program services	\$3,378,793
Fundraising costs	\$448,880
General and administrative	\$97,702
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$3,925,375</b>

<b>CHANGES IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,034,444</b>
Net Assets, beginning of year	\$7,895,281
Net Assets, End of Year	\$8,929,725

HHS financial information has been summarized from audited financial statements for Fiscal Year 2009.



## 2011 HUMANE HAPPENINGS

### FEBRUARY - PREVENT A LITTER MONTH

16 • Fix Felix/500 free male cat neuters

**All month:** Have a heart adoption & fundraising campaign.

### MARCH

13 • Chilly's Pet Pals - Bring your dog to the Aeros game.

27/30 • Annual HHS K-9 Fun Run & Walk "Pooches of the Caribbean"

### APRIL - PREVENTION OF ANIMAL CRUELTY MONTH

5 • Houston Independent Fashion Week Event benefiting HHS

10-16 • National Volunteer Week

16 • Aurora Picture Show Screening Event at Market Square Park. Bring your dog. Event features vendors, HHS adoptions & training demos by HHS resident dogs.

### MAY - BE-KIND TO ANIMALS MONTH

7-8 • PETSJAM Concert to Benefit HHS

8-14 • National Pet Week

**All month:** Despurrrate Housecats Adoption Specials

### JUNE - ADOPT A SHELTER CAT MONTH

4 • HHS Pet Preparedness Clinic, First Saturday of Hurricane Season

20-24 • HHS Companion Camp for kids 7-13

27-July 1 • HHS Companion Camp for kids 7-13

### JULY

11-15 • HHS Companion Camp for kids 7-13

18-22 • HHS Companion Camp for kids 7-13

19-24 • Visit HHS at the Reliant Dog Show

25-29 • HHS Companion Camp for kids 7-13

### AUGUST

1-5 • HHS Companion Camp for kids 7-13

26-28 • Visit HHS at the 59th Annual Charity Cat Show

### SEPTEMBER

18-24 • National Dog Week

1-6 • Labrador Day Weekend at HHS

Adoption specials on Labs and Lab mixes

### OCTOBER - ADOPT A SHELTER DOG MONTH

HHS GALA

HHS Par Fore Pets

### NOVEMBER - ADOPT A SENIOR PET MONTH

6-12 • National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week Show HHS your love! Check out the Black PAWDAY and Cyber CATDAY Adoption Specials at HHS.

### DECEMBER

Open House – check HHS website for dates and activities.

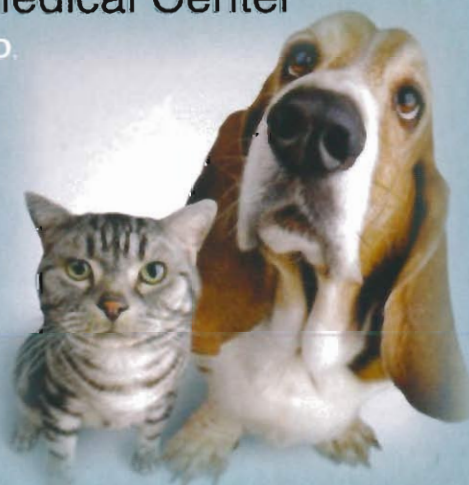


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# 2011

# Pooches of the Caribbean

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