



MESSAGE FROM MARSHA
House District 19, State Representative

BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL...

Since my election, many of you know that I have been working to address the recurring problem of animal neglect and abuse in Eastern El Paso County. Remember that horrible incident on Funk Road, where severely abused and neglected animals were rescued by **SAINT Animal Rescue** and **The Pikes Peak Humane Society**?

It is appalling to me that anyone would abandon helpless animals anywhere in our county! These animals usually end up starving, getting injured or killed by motor vehicles, or join packs of other abandoned animals. Not only is this inhumane, it is **AGAINST THE LAW!** Instead of abandoning these innocent animals, I encourage anyone who may be considering abandoning your animals to please drop them off at the **Pikes Peak Humane Society** or at **SAINT Animal Rescue** in Eastern El Paso County.

The Colorado Revised Statutes are very clear: a person who knowingly, recklessly, or with criminal negligence overworks, torments, deprives an animal of necessary sustenance, unnecessarily or cruelly beats any animal, or allows the animal or animals to be housed in a manner that results in chronic or repeated serious harm, carries or confines an animal in or upon any vehicles in a cruel or reckless manner, or fails to provide the animal or animals with proper food, drink or protection from the weather, or otherwise mistreats or neglects any animal, is breaking the law!

My heartfelt thanks to those pet and animal owners who properly care for their animals! Perhaps the humane and benevolent ways you treat your animals will be recognized by those who do not know, do not care, or do not have the means to properly care for their own animals. It is my hope that those people will surrender their animals!

After many meetings with Sheriff Terry Maketa, Dr. Wes Metzler of the **Pikes Peak Humane Society** and Scott Dutcher of the State Animal Control Division, it appears that one group outside of the **Pikes Peak Humane Society**'s Animal Control Area has stepped forward, and is willing to fill the gap and assist these neglected, abused animals. **SAINT Animal Rescue** is an example of some wonderful and merciful citizens working together as a team, offering their time, talents and treasures to save those animals that are being neglected or have been abandoned.

A **Town Hall Meeting** is scheduled for **August 22nd, 7:00 PM** at the **Calhan Veterans of Foreign Wars Building** on 5th Street to discuss and get your views about these animal neglect and abuse issues in the unincorporated areas of El Paso County. Joining me will be County Commissioner Chairman Denise Hisey, El Paso County Sheriff Maketa, Colorado State Animal Control Director Scott Dutcher, Dr. Metzler from the **Pikes Peak Humane Society**, and Jerry Renick from **SAINT Animal Rescue**.

HOWEVER, IN ORDER FOR THIS TO BE A PRODUCTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL MEETING, WE NEED YOU!

Another issue of great concern to the citizens of El Paso County is the recent confirmation of the Plague in prairie dog colonies in Eastern El Paso County. A representative from the El Paso County Health Department along with a representative for the Department of Agriculture will explain how to protect your family and

animals from being infected by the plague. For additional information about the plague, please visit WWW.ELPASOCOUNTYHEALTH.ORG or call 578-3199.

PLEASE JOIN US SO YOU CAN LEARN HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY AND ANIMALS FROM THE PLAGUE!

For additional information on **SAINT Animal Rescue** and the **Pikes Peak Humane Society** please visit the following websites: www.saintanimalrescue.org and www.HSPPR.org.

It is my honor to serve all of the citizens of House District 19! If you have any questions or concerns about this issue or any other issue, please call me at 719-238-5600 or visit my website at www.GOMARSHA.org . I look forward to listening to your concerns and suggestions at the August 22nd Town Hall Meeting in Calhan!

Respectfully,

Marsha Looper
Colorado State Representative
House District 19