

Letterbox, p.5

The message we are sending is that all area shelters face space issues; they need to be part of the solution. We can't do it alone. >>

Animal Sheltering

animal services / rescues / shelters



26 Home Sweet Home

For those who helped rescue and reunite Gulf Coast animals in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the name of the Louisiana SPCA may recall images of a flooded shelter, stranded pets, and desperate families. But this spring, the organization offered up a new paradigm: a facility so progressive that the construction crew couldn't believe it was meant for animals.



32 The Costs of Dogfighting

The public's ignorance about organized dogfighting came to an end last summer with the indictment of Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick. The outcry against the bloodsport was deafening—and gratifying to those who've long coped with the burdens of investigating dogfighters and caring for their victims.

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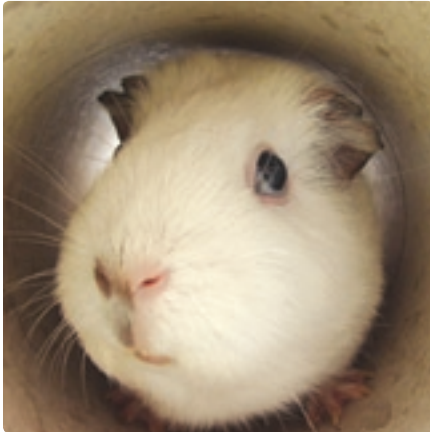
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A Chicago shelter offers a "spa day" for rabbits, guinea pigs, and cats; an 11-year-old girl wants dog food for her birthday; a study sheds light on employee turnover; a Wisconsin shelter's new facility shows the "ark" of progress; and more.

16 Coffee Break

In your space, you talk about the signs of progress you've seen in the sheltering field—and the challenges we still face.

19 Creature Feature

Like many of the other critters dubbed "starter pets" by the retail pet industry, guinea pigs turn up at shelters all too frequently. Find out how to keep your little pigs happy and healthy. (Hint: hay and hiding places help.)



41 The "101" Department

Shelters that seize animals from dogfighters or abusers often have to hold the victims for months while the cases make their way through the court system. Learn how bond and forfeiture laws can help lessen the burdens of long-term holding.

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Social marketing expert Caryn Ginsberg explains how targeted messaging can drive social change.

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Alert! Alert! Shelters are seeing outbreaks of virulent systemic feline calicivirus ... or are they? In this issue, Dr. Kate Hurley explains the basics of diagnosing and controlling strains of FCV. Her advice: Don't panic.

59 The Behavior Department

Trainer and behaviorist Nan Arthur explains how new dog owners can help their pooches make a less stressful transition from the shelter to the home.

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An Arizona shelter's pop-culture promo boosts adoption rates for cats.