



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 5, 2017

CONTACT:

MARY KELLER
MARKETING MANAGER
Direct: 610-750-6100 x213
MKELLER@HUMANEPA.ORG

BRIAN PINTO
CHIEF ADVANCEMENT OFFICER
Cell: 610-698-4584
BPINTO@HUMANEPA.ORG

Humane Pennsylvania Seeks Action for Animal Abuse Case

Reading, PA—There is a reason why this cat was dubbed “Miracle Maisy.” After being found doused in gasoline, blankets strapped around her body, stuffed in a trash bag and essentially crushed by a garbage truck, Humane Pennsylvania is calling for justice.

In the early afternoon on April 4, two workers from Harold Adam Refuse Removal were finishing trash collection on the 500 block of N. Front Street, Reading, when they heard meowing coming from one of trash bags already packed and crushed inside the truck. Upon finding the 1 year-old female cat, they brought her directly to The Humane Society of Berks County (HSBC).

“This is the worst animal cruelty case I’ve ever seen or experienced,” says Chelsea Cappellano, Office Coordinator at the HSBC. “We are so thankful to these men and the trash company for bringing her in. Many people would turn a blind eye in this situation, but they were proactive in getting her the help she needs.”

At first glance, Miracle Maisy was in frightful condition. “She was still alert but definitely in rough shape,” Chelsea comments. “She was so patient as we looked her over for obvious or noticeable injuries.”

After an initial intake evaluation, the shelter staff then transferred her to next door to Humane Veterinary Hospitals (HVH) Reading for further evaluation and treatment. According to Dr. Kimya Davani, Veterinarian at HVH Reading, the veterinary staff spent hours bathing the feline and monitoring her vitals.

“The technicians spent all day bathing and drying her,” says Dr. Davani. “The gas was so embedded in her fur that she wasn’t drying, and because of this her internal body temperature had dropped. We had to shave most of her body in order to get her temperature up again. She is also very underweight and suffering from skin sensitivity.”

Dr. Davani continues, “The first 24 hours are crucial. Though there are no visible life threatening injuries, we are worried that the toxicity of the gasoline has affected her lungs and neurological functioning. At this time, we’re monitoring her for onset illness and ensuring that her chemical burns and bruises heal properly.”

Miracle Maisy is awake and alert, and the staff at Humane Pennsylvania hope a full recovery will lead to a foster home situation and, eventually, adoption.

PAGE—2

An animal cruelty report is being filed with the local police enforcement. Humane Pennsylvania is offering a \$1,000 reward to anyone who is able to bring forth information that will lead to a conviction.

“It’s critically important that we protect the animals in the community,” states Karel Minor, President and CEO of Humane Pennsylvania. “It’s our goal for whoever committed this terrible crime to receive the help they need or the prosecution they deserve.”

Leads should be reported to the Reading Police Department by calling 610-655-6116 or filed in-person at 815 Washington Street in Reading.

The Humane Society of Berks County and Humane Veterinary Hospitals Reading are Humane Pennsylvania partners, located respectively at 1801 and 1729 N. 11th Street in Reading.

###