



*Voice for Animals (VFA) is grass roots, non-profit and no kill organization established in 1987 and originally headquartered in York, Maine.*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,  
A cruel winter is finally behind us and we can all begin to look forward to warmer weather and more opportunities to do things for animals in Maine and New Hampshire.  
If you are reading this, then you are interested in Voice for Animals and care about the creatures we help. Please take a moment to review the volunteering opportunities our editor, Olivia Chasse, has listed and see how you might be



able join our efforts..

As we said so many years ago when we first began, "*Until they speak to everyone as clearly as we hear them through our hearts, there is a great and urgent need for you to join with us in becoming a **Voice for Animals.***"

Sincerely,  
Caryl McIntire Edwards  
President/Founder

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## REFLECTING ON APRIL

It was starting to feel like spring and summer were never going to arrive! With the cold weather that refused to give in, rescuing kittens and cats was still on everyone's minds at VFA. The long cold nights and windy days kept us on our feet and ready to take action as soon as a call came in about a cat in need of TLC.

The members of VFA continued to seek events to participate in with the remainder of 2015 and continued fundraising efforts on GoFundMe and Crowdrise. We also continued to promote our VFA store on Cafepress.com. In addition, we raised donations thanks to a volunteer who donated adorable homemade catnip toys.



## VFA WISHLIST

For those of you who would love to help V.F.A. but are not sure how, here are some items that would help us greatly:

- Donations
- Foster homes
- Walmart/Petco gift-cards
- Cat litter
- Cat food (canned/dry)
- Towels
- Cat blankets/beds

- Cat litter boxes
- Cat carriers/crates

If you would like to donate to V.F.A., please contact us on our Facebook page: Voice for Animals Inc.



“Whoever declared that love at first sight doesn’t exist has never witnessed the purity of a puppy or looked deep into a puppy’s eyes. If they did, their lives would change considerably.”

– [Elizabeth Parker](#), *Paw Prints in the Sand*

Vegan Pancakes  
Serves: 9 Pancakes

**Ingredients**

- 1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons white sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/4 cups water
- 1 tablespoon oil



**Instructions**

- 1 Sift the flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt into a large bowl. Whisk the water and oil together in a small bowl. Make a well in the center of the dry ingredients, and pour in the wet. Stir just until blended; mixture will be lumpy.
- 2 Heat a lightly oiled griddle over medium-high heat. Drop batter by large spoonfuls onto the griddle, and cook until bubbles form and the edges are dry. Flip, and cook until browned on the other side. Repeat with remaining batter.. **Author: All Recipes.com**

- 1 banana, broken into chunks
- 14 frozen strawberries
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 teaspoons white sugar

**Instructions**

- 1 In a blender, combine soy milk, oats, banana and strawberries. Add vanilla and sugar if desired. Blend until smooth. Pour into glasses and serve. **Author: All Recipes.com**



Vegan Strawberry Oatmeal Breakfast Smoothie

Serves: 2

**Ingredients**

- 1 cup soy milk
- 1/2 cup rolled oats



VOICE FOR ANIMALS NEEDS YOU!



Is spring really here? As we prepare for kitten season to arrive, we are also focused on fundraising. V.F.A. is a non-profit organization and all funds go to our shelter project and our rescues in foster care.

Check out our CafePress store:

<http://www.cafepress.com/voiceforanimalsinc>



We currently need volunteers with various skills:

- Applying for grants
- Fostering
- Newsletter assistance
- Event participants

We are still going strong with our online fundraisers found at:

- [www.crowdrise.com/voiceforanimalsinc](http://www.crowdrise.com/voiceforanimalsinc) and
- [www.gofundme.com/voiceforanimalsvfa](http://www.gofundme.com/voiceforanimalsvfa)

SHELTER PROJECT ASSISTANCE:

*Voice for Animals Inc. is looking forward to acquiring a shelter so they can help more animals in need. We do need animal lovers with hands on experience of fostering and caring for animals but we also need volunteers with experience with grants. Applying for grants will continue to help us towards obtaining a property of our own. We also need volunteers who can participate at fundraising events. We hope to attend as many summer events/markets/festivals as possible but can only do so with the help of volunteers.*

*Voice for Animals also needs participants and authors for our monthly newsletters. If you think you have what it takes to be a VFA volunteer, you can reach us on our Facebook page, website or at [olivia.chasse@yahoo.com](mailto:olivia.chasse@yahoo.com)*

*"Dogs have a way of finding the people who need them. And filling an emptiness we didn't even know we had." - A Place to Love Dogs.com*

## SUCCESSFUL ADOPTIONS

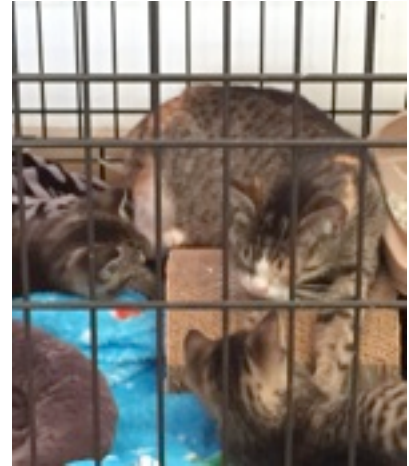
In our April 2015 newsletter, we featured a mother and her two kittens who were looking for homes. Well, we could not be more thrilled to announce that the family of three all went to the same loving home! We absolutely love when a family can be kept together and adopted out to one forever home. Now known as: Troy, Teddie and Tessie, we are more than thrilled to see how they thrive in their new environment. If you did not read our April 2015 newsletter (tsk tsk!), here's the story we featured on these kitties:

*"In the midst of the frigid cold January weather, Voice for Animals received a phone call about a pregnant, stray cat in a trailer park. A volunteer went to investigate the situation the same day and spoke to several people in the area. A plan was established to try to get the kitty to safety.*

*The volunteer also brought food and a shelter for this cat and a resident agreed to feed her and give her fresh water daily until she was coaxed inside or, if needed, humanely trapped. Unfortunately, the sightings on this pregnant cat were few and far between. It became clear she must have given birth to her kittens and was staying close to them to prevent them from freezing. The food was being eaten and the feeder kept watch in hopes of spotting her. Finally, in mid March, she was seen going under a trailer. For days she would go from under the trailer to the food bowl and immediately back under. It was obvious her kittens were under the*

*trailer. The feeder began putting the food in her shed along with the small shelter that had been set up for her. The plan worked! Finally, this mother moved*

*her kittens to the shed. At this point, the feeder was able to get the kittens and bring them into her home. Once the kittens were in, they were able to persuade the mother in as well. This brave mother persevered through the cold harsh winter and protected her two little kittens who are now about six weeks old."*



"Animals are such agreeable friends- they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms."  
 — [George Eliot](#)

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: BEN AND SWEETNESS **STILL** NEED A HOME!



Ben and Sweetness are finding their world torn into pieces after 10 years. They have been loved and part of a family since they were kittens unit recently. Their owner had to move after losing his job and could not take his beloved cats with him. They now live

isolated in a cluttered room at a relative's house. They cannot come into the general living area because of other animals that are not good with cats. They are ten-year- old litter-mates that love each other and human companionship. Sweetness was named for his disposition and he loves affection from people but was feeling a bit vulnerable in the small, unfamiliar room. They are neutered cats that have always been indoor only. Please help to free them from this most unfortunate situation. Call Voice for Animals at 207-715-0635 or email: [in2catz@gmail.com](mailto:in2catz@gmail.com)



**THE DEVASTING EFFECT OF FISHING LINE ON WILDLIFE**

A swallow entangled in line dangles precariously above the water, just short of drowning. This bird was rescued and released.

This crow hung upside down till it died after its leg became entangled in fishing line and then to a tree limb.

A close up of the crow's foot entangled with fishing line.



The above photos depict just some of the horrors caused by improperly discarded fishing line. The photo to the left (taken by Bill Buchanan) shows a swallow entangled in fishing line dangling just inches from drowning in the water. This bird was saved. The other two photos are of a crow that was not so fortunate. Its foot became entangled in fishing line and then to the branch of a tree. It hung there until it died.

Improperly discarded fishing line cripples and kills and wildlife at an alarming rate. Birds frequently become entangled in the line, usually resulting in their death though sometimes

severing a limbs to free themselves. Of those few that are able to sacrifice a limb for a chance of survival many will only eventually die when the wound becomes infected. This is a totally unnecessary and wasteful tragedy that can be easily prevented. If you fish, remove all line and hooks and take it with you for proper disposal, if you are hiking or bird watching and encounter discarded fishing line (or any other type of string) remove it.



## HSUS UPDATES

**Action Alert! SUPPORT the Ban on Chocolate in Bear Bait**

The vote by the Fish & Game Commission to ban the use of chocolate in bear bait is scheduled for May 13<sup>th</sup>. Please make a polite phone call to [your Commissioner](#) and express your support for the full ban before that date. Please do this even if you have already submitted public comments – the Commissioners need to hear from their constituents on this issue! You can simply say, “My name is X from X (town), NH and I support the full ban on the use of chocolate in bear bait as proposed by the Department of Fish & Game. Please vote in favor of this ban to prevent the deaths of bears and non-target wildlife from chocolate toxicity.” As a refresher, NH made [national headlines](#) when four black bears were found dead within 50 feet of a bait site due to chocolate toxicity in 2014. The eleven member Commission makes crucial decisions on how we interact with wildlife.

**Federal Updates**

Two major federal bills impacting horses were introduced this week by our very own NH Congressional delegates! The Prevent All Soring Tactics (PAST) Act was [reintroduced](#) by US Senator Kelly Ayotte-R who has been a leader on this issue for years and we commend her dedication to ending this cruel practice. Please call her office ([202-224-3324](tel:202-224-3324)) and thank her for reintroducing this crucial piece of legislation. You can simply say, “My name is X from X (town), NH and I’m calling to thank Senator Ayotte for introducing the PAST Act to ban the cruel practice of horse soring.” It’s so important for us to thank both our federal and state legislators when they stand up for animals. For her efforts on this issue and for her letter to the USDA calling for strong enforcement of the Horse Protection Act, Senator Ayotte is a recipient of our 2015 “Legislative Leader” award! Senator Jeanne Shaheen-D has signed on as a cosponsor of the PAST Act rounding out NH’s support for horses.

US Representative Frank Guinta-R introduced the Safeguard American Food Exports ([SAFE Act](#)) this week. The SAFE Act would ban horse slaughter in the US and the export of horses for slaughter in other countries. Please take a minute and call his office ([202-225-5456](tel:202-225-5456)) to thank him for his support of this legislation. You can say, “My name is X from X (town), NH and I’m calling to thank Congressman Guinta for introducing the SAFE Act to protect our country’s horses and our food supply.”

FOSTER  
ADOPT  
BUILD  
SPONSOR  
EDUCATE  
WRITE  
DONATE  
PARTICIPATE  
VOLUNTEER  
CARE  
LEARN  
GRANTS  
FUNDRAISE



D E P O P X H E M F B R L A H  
Q G R A N T S W U L D E E N Y  
A M Y A R D Q N C L T T U C G  
G D W F C T D W N P L S V F Q  
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A N K P A V X C D X P F L A W  
X F N I T R V M I T C E U M C  
M J S N R A E L K P T K N L X  
P E O B C I E U K A A W T D H  
R O S N O P S T N A R T E B P  
G B P G E R O O A I G Z E U N  
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