

1st Quarter  
2015  
ISSUE

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Happy St Patrick's Day



Another great trip!!! John Gates, along with his wife, Stacey and daughter, Izzy went back to Honduras to do some more volunteer work with their church.

After landing and going through customs, they were stuck in traffic for 2 hours waiting their turn to cross a bridge. (while waiting in line to cross the bridge, many vendors tried to peddle

their goods to them. This is the way some people make a living there.)

After 3 days of drilling, they made it to 50', but not without facing many rig problems and with working in very hard formation. There was no sign of water, so the last day they were going to start drilling & went in the hole only to reach 18' and lost the hole.



# A Look From Within: More from Honduras

So, even though they were not successful in completing a water well for the village, the money they saved on their budget by not installing a well was used to provide a roof on the addition to the school. The Pastor had brought that request to them when they were down there on their pre-trip and this request was granted in spite of the water well being completed.



Stacey & Izzy were able to visit the hospital and see what needs were there for future missions and help out with VBS while spending time with their host family.



John is always eating crazy stuff on this trip!!

(This is pretty tame for him.)

← Cinnamon Leaf

Chorizo →



*“Life leaps like a geyser for those willing to drill through the rock of inertia”*

Alexis Carrel



# Otis' Corner



We decided to write a special "Otis' Corner" in this newsletter. Otis would like to make his friends and followers aware of this upcoming event. This organization is very special to Otis and his owners. Although Otis was not adopted from Helping Strays, we adopted him from a family when he was 6 mos. old. Since Sherri volunteers for HSMC she sees how important it is to support this organization and the lives they save. We are asking you to consider a donation of any amount. It can be gift cards, sports tickets or an item you may want to donate to a good cause. You can also attend this fun and exciting event. Your support would be greatly appreciated by all of our furry and non-furry friends!! Items are needed by March 23rd. Below is information regarding HSMC and the event. Thank you for your time.



Dear Friends:

On April 11 2015, Helping Strays, the Humane Society of Monroe County will host its 11th Annual A Cause for Paws Benefit, at The Falls in Columbia, Illinois. This benefit is our largest fundraiser of the year and a celebration of the tremendous accomplishments of the past year.

Prior to Helping Strays becoming involved 11 years ago, a majority of animals in the county pound were euthanized after five days. Still today, there are no other alternatives, no one to help the lost and abandoned animals if Helping Strays does not rescue them. In 2014, Helping Strays rescued and successfully adopted out over 430 animals, for a total of more than 3,100 animals in the past eleven years! All of these animals would otherwise have been euthanized at the county pound or died on the streets!

We are excited to announce that we have picked a contractor to build our new facility! This year we continue to focus on raising funds for the day-to-day operations of the shelter and veterinary care of all the animals. It has taken all of you to help see this goal accomplished. Thanks to you we should be in our new facility by the year's end.

We need the help of all animal lovers in the community to make Helping Strays a success. Helping Strays, a no-kill shelter, is a completely independent organization, NOT affiliated with any other humane society or group. This makes YOUR support vital to our continued success and our future growth. We are asking for your presence and financial support at our 2015 benefit. Will you please be generous in your support of this benefit by donating items to auction (item donation & ticket reservations must be received no later than March 23) and bringing your friends on April 11th for a wonderful evening to help the animals? Tickets for the event are available at \$70 each or a table of 10 for \$630. The homeless dogs and cats in the area are depending on you!

To donate items to the auction or to purchase tickets, please contact:

\*Paula Hutchinson at [paula.hutchinson@helpingstrays.org](mailto:paula.hutchinson@helpingstrays.org) or 618-281-5199 or

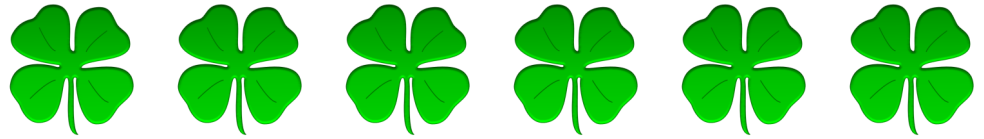
\*Deb Dubis Foster at [deb.dubisfoster@helpingstrays.org](mailto:deb.dubisfoster@helpingstrays.org) or 618-939-7389.

Sincerely,

*Paula Hutchinson*

Paula Hutchinson, President of Helping Strays





We would like to welcome our newest employee, Marlow Hill to our staff. You may be confused about Marlow being a new person because he came to us approximately 7 months ago from Aerotek, which is a staffing agency we use to obtain employees from time to time. After a 6 month trial period we have the option to hire these individuals if we are satisfied with their performance. Mr. Hill has exceeded our expectations in regard to his work ethic and the ability to learn quickly. He has been a great addition to the Bulldog Team. If he happens to be on a project for you, congratulate him on his new position with BDI!!



### IRISH PROVERB



May you have the hindsight to know where you've been, the foresight to know where you are going, and the insight to know when you have gone too far.

Thank you for taking the  
time to read the  
Bulldog Bulletin!  
We appreciate all your  
support and business.



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