THE SENTINEL
NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA STATE AGRICULTURAL RESPONSE TEAM

The 2017 SART Planning Meeting is scheduled for March 28-30, in Daytona Beach, Florida. This photo of SART members was taken at the 2015 Planning Meeting.

Preparations Begin for the 2017 SART Planning Meeting

As we kick off the New Year, preparations are underway for Florida SART's biennial team meeting.

The 2017 SART Planning Meeting will be held at The Plaza Resort and Spa, 600 North Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach, Florida. The meeting will take place March 28-30, 2017.

The meeting provides participants with an opportunity to better understand the SART mission, and learn about resources and services SART and its partners have to offer.

This meeting will also be an excellent networking opportunity, with members of SART, County Emergency Management Directors, and IFAS County Extension Agents in attendance.

Some of the featured topics and presenters include FDACS' Summer Williams and the Florida Integrated Rapid Response Team's Food Safety Response, Dr. Suzan Loerzel with an update on Avian Influenza, and IFAS' Dr. Saqib Mukhtar on the Agricultural Extension experts in your community.

The two-and-a-half-day event will also host Stephen Barneau, Dr. Greg Christy, Ben Burns, John Haven, Consie von Gontard, and Dr. Matt Hersom with some exciting presentations for SART.

Additional details, including registration, will be posted on www.FLSART.org.

(See *2017 SART Planning Meeting Agenda,* page 5)

Special Features of this Issue:

- *UF VETS Team Members Complete Rope Rescue Training*
- *Florida Integrated Rapid Response Team Members Attend Annual Meeting*
- *Awareness Level Small Animal Emergency Sheltering Class Scheduled for Lee County*

"Dr. [Julie] Levy's career achievements could be strikingly quantified through hundreds of research publications, hundreds of students trained, millions of dollars raised for shelter medicine and millions of cats and dogs saved, but her true impact on our new specialty is even more lasting,"

— Drs. Staci Cannon and Amie Burling, Association of Shelter Veterinarians

(Story on page 3)

SART M.A.R.E. Unit Helps Rescue Horse in Lakeland

Last month, a 22-year old quarter horse mare known as "Star" fell into a water-filled hole behind a residence in Lakeland, Florida. The hole was approximately six feet deep, and filled with water. Surrounding the area was "mud, muck and decomposing mulch."

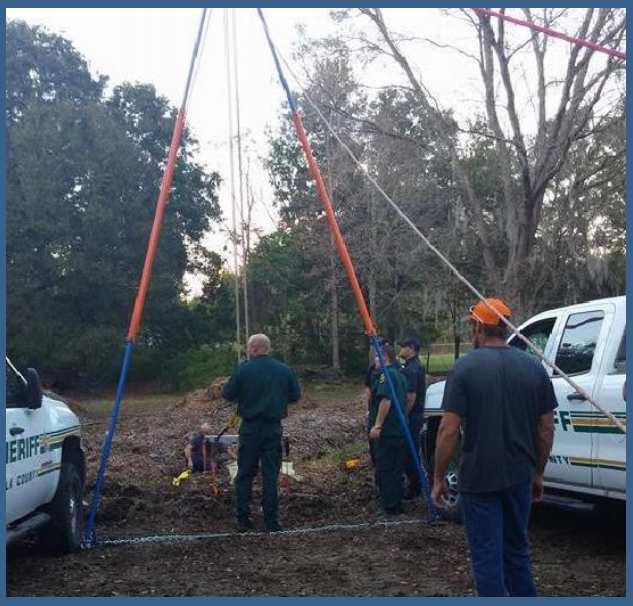
When the owners of Star discovered her in the hole, only her head and a small portion of her back were visible. They immediately contacted emergency services for assistance.

Deputy Sherriff Chris Hartsfield, along with two other members of the Polk County Sheriff's Office – Agricultural Unit, responded to the residence with the SART Mobile Animal Response Equipment (M.A.R.E) trailer to attempt a rescue. Additionally, Squad 591 and Engine 111 with Polk County Fire / Rescue respond to assist with manpower.

The responders assembled an A-frame and pulley systems, and the horse was sedated by Dr. Katie Hennessy. The animal was packaged for lifting, and then successfully removed from the hole after being stuck well over 2.5 hours.

Immediately after being removed, Star was evaluated by Dr. Hennessy, dried, and blanketed by team members due to her low body temperature and the possibility of hypothermia. A short time later, Star's condition improved and she was up and walking and grazing.

The entire operation went very smoothly with minimal issues and everyone worked well together.



UF Veterinary College Faculty Member Honored by National Shelter Group

Dr. Julie Levy

Dr. Julie Levy, a professor of shelter medicine at the UF College of Veterinary Medicine, has received the Meritorious Service Award from the Association of Shelter Veterinarians. The award was presented during the annual meeting of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, held Oct. 5-8 in Atlanta.

A board-certified small animal internal medicine specialist, Levy is associated with the UF Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program. She was nominated for the award by two of her former residents, Dr. Staci Cannon, who now serves as medical director of Metro Animal Care and Control in Nashville, and Dr. Amie Burling, who is an assistant teaching professor with the University of Missouri's shelter medicine program.

Cannon and Burling called Levy "a true pioneer" whose contributions to the field of shelter medicine over the past three decades have had a profound international impact on community animals and the humans who care about them.

"Dr. Levy's career achievements could be strikingly quantified through hundreds of research publications, hundreds of students trained, millions of dollars raised for shelter medicine and millions of cats and dogs saved, but her true impact on our new specialty is even more lasting," the former residents wrote in their nomination letter. "She has dedicated her life to a vision where words hold precise and meticulous power to advance understanding, where better is always possible, and where knowledge and intellect serve the least represented among us."

Levy, who joined the faculty in 1997, also founded Operation Catnip, a local organization that brings together veterinarians, technicians, students and community volunteers in an effort to trap, neuter and return stray and feral cats to their environment. The program, which has provided free neuter and vaccination services for more than 50,000 cats since it was founded in 1998, has been replicated in other veterinary schools around the world.

The award was established in 2010 to honor a remarkable Association of Shelter Veterinarians member for their contributions to the advancement of the field through leadership, public service, research, education, advocacy and/or clinical practice. The award recognizes those who serve as exceptional ambassadors of the profession.

Story from http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu/2016/12/01/uf-veterinary-college-faculty-member-honored-by-national-shelter-group/

Florida Integrated Rapid Response Team Members Attend Annual Meeting

The State of Florida was well represented at the National Rapid Response Team Face-to-Face meeting in November. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Food Safety, sent several members of the Florida Integrated Rapid Response Team, commonly known as FLIRRT. Participants included Brenda Morris, Matt Colson, Cleone Cooper, Rich Stephens, and Dr. Jason Crowe.

Other team members that attended to represent FLIRRT included Dr. Bess Ormond (FDA- FL District Office), Doug Fiorentino (FDA- FL District Office) and Jamie DeMent (DOH).

The 2016 National Rapid Response Team Face-to-Face meeting was held November 16-18 in Savannah, Georgia. This annual meeting gathers all 21 states that are part of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's cooperative agreement for the Food and Animal Feed Rapid Response Team

Summer Williams did a poster presentation on the 2016 Hurricane Hermine FLIRRT activation, while Brenda Morris participated in a panel discussion about information sharing challenges in decentralized states. Meanwhile, Dr. Jason Crowe presented on Whole Genome Sequencing, and Jamie DeMent discussed a Listeria case study regarding a Florida retailer in 2015.

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Curious about Florida's Rapid Response Team?

Visit the USDA's National Agricultural Library at https://www.nal.usda.gov/fsrio/research_projects//printresults.php?ID=10363

The 2017 SART Planning Meeting

March 28-30, 2017 Dayton Beach, FL

Stay up-to-date at www.FLSART.org!

2017 SART Planning Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, March 28th, 2017

1:00 p.m. - Welcome/Introductions

1:30 p.m. - SART 2.0 Overview, Stephen Barineau

2:00 p.m. - Introduction of FDACS ESF-17 Specialists & Duties, Stephen Barineau

2:30 p.m. - Break

2:45 p.m. - FLIRRT: Food Safety Response, Summer Williams

4:00 p.m. - Adjourn

5:00 p.m. - Reception

Wednesday, March 29th, 2017

8:00 a.m. - Day 2 Welcome

8:15 a.m. - Florida SARC: Emergency Sheltering, Consie von Gontard

8:45 a.m. - UF Vet College: Education Outside of the Classroom, John Haven

9:15 a.m. - New World Screwworm: Sending the Right Message, Dr. Greg Christy

10:15 a.m. - Break

10:30 a.m. - IFAS: Experts Next Door, Dr. Saqib Mukhtar

11:30 a.m. - Lunch (On your Own)

1:00 p.m. - Zika Panel Discussion- Where We Stand Today

2:00 p.m. - LECALE- Pilot to Production, Dr. Matt Hersom

3:00 p.m. - Hillsborough County Training Workshop, John Haven

4:00 p.m. - Adjourn

Thursday, March 30th, 2017

8:00 a.m. - Day 3 Welcome

8:15 a.m. - Homeland Security Funding and The Role You Play, Ben Burns

9:00 a.m. - Local SART County Visits: Why We Meet, Stephen Barineau

9:45 a.m. - Break

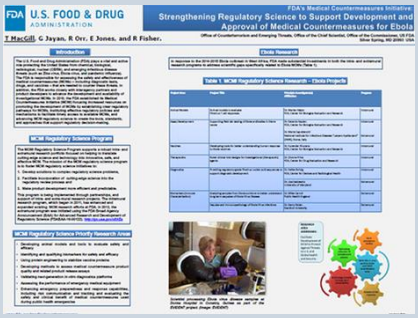
10:00 a.m. - Avian Influenza in Review, Dr. Suzan Loerzel

11:00 a.m. - Closing Remarks

11:30 a.m. - Adjourn

FDA Regulatory Science Supports MCM Development

The FDA Medical Countermeasures Initiative (MCMi) Regulatory Science program supports a robust research portfolio focused on helping to translate cutting-edge science and technology into innovative, safe, and effective medical countermeasures (MCMs).



Learn more about how FDA research is supporting development of MCMs for Ebola in this poster (PDF, 526 KB), presented by FDA scientist CDR Tracy MacGill, PhD, at the Hemorrhagic Fever Viruses conference in Santa Fe, NM in December 2016.

Related Information

- Challenges in the Development of Medical Countermeasures (PDF, 219 KB) - slides presented at The Biology of Anthrax Conference in Tampa, FL in November 2016
- MCMi extramural research funding and projects
- MCMi intramural research projects
- Ebola response updates from FDA

Awareness Level Small Animal Emergency Sheltering Class Scheduled for Lee County

When
Saturday January 28, 2017
from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM EST

Where

Lee County Domestic Animal Services
5600 Banner Dr.
Fort Myers, FL 33912

The Florida State Animal Response Coalition and Lee County Emergency Management would like to offer you an opportunity to take their *Awareness Level Small Animal Sheltering* class.

When disaster strikes, their team of trained volunteer responders will be there to shelter and protect Florida's companion animals.

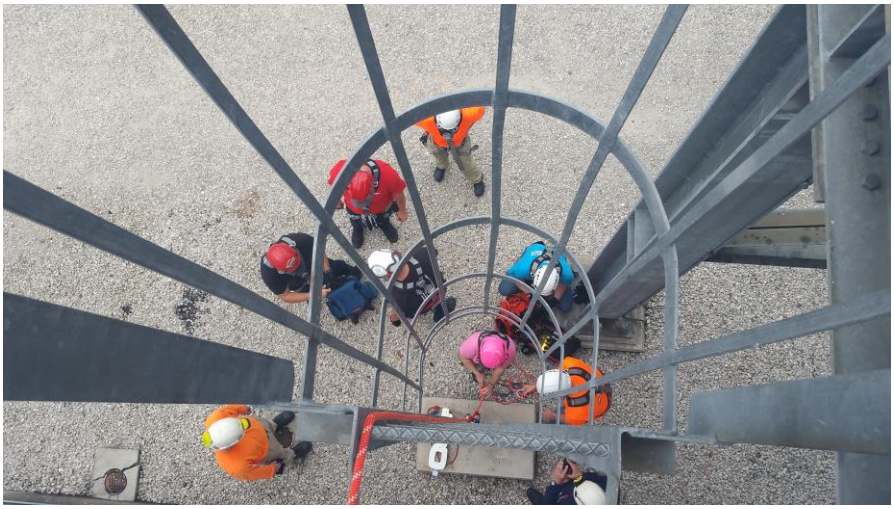
The Awareness Level class will give participants the knowledge needed to work in an emergency animal shelter. The class provides the expertise and practical experience required to become a professional disaster animal responder.

The Awareness Level Small Animal Emergency Sheltering class is certified by the Florida Department of Emergency Management and is required to respond in Florida to help companion animals during a disaster.

The animals in Florida need help when disaster strikes. To register, please visit http://flsarc.org or contact:

Andy Bass, Operations Assistant
Florida State Animal Response Coalition
andyb@flsarc.org
561-325-9738

UF VETS Team Members Complete Rope Rescue Training



Congratulations are in order for several UF VETS team members! Last month, team members Brandi, Matt, and Dane completed their human Technician Level Rope Rescue instruction as part of a joint training with Gainesville Fire Rescue.

For the duration of the course, participants learned about highline systems, litter attendant operations, pick off rescues for people stranded on their rope system, basic tower rescue, and the math behind safely rigging systems.

Meanwhile, team members John, Josh, and David were re-certified as "Rope Rescue Instructor 2's." Several of the participants will attend the Operations Level Animal Technical Rescue course in January.

For additional information, please visit:
https://www.facebook.com/UFVETSDisasterResponseTeam

Please log in and update your membership information online at:
www.FLSART.org

About the *SART Sentinel*

The *SART Sentinel* is an email newsletter prepared monthly by the members of the **Florida State Agricultural Response Team**. Past issues of the *Sentinel* are archived on the Florida SART website, www.flsart.org.

If you have a story or photo that you would like to have considered for publication in the *SART Sentinel*, please contact the editors.

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