



Phoenix Animal Rescue

Gainesville, FL 32603
352-281-0994

Letter to Editor

Chloe Finch
Alligator
1105 W. University Ave
Gainesville, FL 32601

Dear Editor,

In recent weeks, many articles have been published regarding violence and abuse, including family violence. One form of family violence that is often overlooked is cruelty to pets. There are thousands of victims of animal cruelty in the United States every year.

April is a month dedicated to abuse and neglect prevention of every variety, and animal abuse should not be overlooked. Studies have shown that 83 percent of families reported for animal abuse had children who were at high risk of abuse or neglect. If animal abuse is reported to authorities there is a better chance to identify and prevent these situations.

In recognition of Prevention of Animal Cruelty Month, Phoenix Animal Rescue is working to raise awareness of animal cruelty in the Alachua County community.

Animal cruelty typically occurs in two forms: neglect or intentional cruelty. Neglect, the most frequent form, is the failure to provide adequate water, food, shelter or necessary care. Cruelty is the infliction of pain or harm upon an animal, for purposes other than self-defense or appropriate discipline.

If you believe an animal is being abused or neglected, please contact Alachua County Animal Services at 352-264-6870. You may be the animal's only hope!

We hope you join us in preventing animal cruelty this April, and throughout the year. It is up to all of us to prevent abuse, in all forms, and for all victims.

Sincerely,

Kayla Ellsworth
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Gainesville, FL
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