

The Record

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Tenaflly pet rescuers help save dogs stranded by spill

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A woman who runs a Tenaflly pet rescue group is looking for permanent homes for 13 stranded dogs that will be flown in from the Gulf of Mexico region this weekend.

Working with the organization Pilots N Paws, Robyn Urman and friends will pick up the dogs from Essex County Airport in Fairfield on Saturday. From there, all but one will be transported to area homes and a rescue group where they'll be fostered, she said.

Urman, owner of Tenafllybased Pet ResQ Inc., will temporarily care for one of the dogs that has heartworm, she said.

But her goal is to find homes for all of the small animals of varying breeds, including a pug, poodle and Chihuahua. Urman plans to post pictures and descriptions of the pets on her Web site.

Through the Pilots N Paws Gulf Coast Rescue Flyway event, pilots and volunteers on Saturday will help relocate between 150 and 160 animals from New Orleans to shelters and rescue centers in New Jersey, Florida, Iowa, Washington, D.C., and Tennessee, said Debi Boies, co-founder of South Carolina-based Pilots N Paws.

"These animals need help now," Boies said in a release. "Many had families who loved them and are victims of the

Getting in touch

Anyone seeking information about Pet ResQ can call 201-450-5992 or visit petresqinc.petfinder.com.

oil spill. Their owners have lost their jobs, their homes and are barely surviving. They no longer have the means to care for their pets."

Six planes will arrive at Essex County Airport on Saturday evening taking 13 dogs for Urman and eight for a Rhode Island-based pet rescue group, Friends of Homeless Animals, Boies said. Those eight dogs will be fostered out of state and adopted, said Roie Griego, president of Friends of Homeless Animals.

"Animals are being dumped in record numbers at the shelters down there," Griego said.

Urman, 46, of Haworth, said she couldn't resist helping and plans to accept more animals through Pilots N Paws in future weeks.

"I never say no because I can't," she said. "How do you say no and not just want to jump on the bandwagon?"

Rescuing pets from different regions is nothing new for Urman, who drove to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina and helped save more than 50 dogs and cats and find them homes.

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