

**ANIMAL  
RESCUE  
LEAGUE  
of BOSTON**



*A champion for animals*

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## **Dog with Malignant Mass Left Outside ARL's Boston Shelter**

*ARL seeking hospice adoption for dog, reminds public to surrender pets in person*

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is currently caring for an 8-year-old Shih Tzu who was left tied to a fence outside of the organization's Boston Animal Care and Adoption Center, and ARL would like to not only find the dog, who's facing an uncertain future, a home, but to also remind the public that if anyone is faced with the decision to surrender of animal, ARL is a resource and is here to help.

ARL invites members of the media to meet Raggedy Ann, learn more about her story, and help encourage pet owners to reach out for assistance when faced with the difficult decision to surrender.

### **Media Availability**

**When: Thursday, September 7, 9 a.m. - Noon**

**Where: ARL's Boston Animal Care and Adoption Center, 10 Chandler St., Boston**

In mid-August, Raggedy Ann was spotted by a trash collector around 5 a.m., tied to a fence outside of ARL's shelter on the Tremont St. side, and notified staff a little while later when the Good Samaritan realized that the dog had likely been left by its owner. The animal had a collar but not tags, and was also left with a bowl of water. ARL surmises that the owner did not know what else to do, and left the dog in a moment of panic.

Raggedy Ann was given a thorough veterinary exam which revealed a mammary mass, which was removed and biopsied – unfortunately the mass was malignant. And while a chest x-ray did not show any sign of metastatic disease, it is possible that additional mammary tumors may appear or that metastatic disease may become apparent as she ages.

Given her medical condition, ARL wants to see Raggedy Ann find a new home as quickly as possible so she may enjoy the remainder of her life in a home with a loving family. Her adoption fee will be waived, and ARL will council her new family on how to proceed with her medically once she goes home.

For photos of Raggedy Ann, click the Dropbox link below:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/rdpkic4lijc51ak2metzk/h?rlkey=s8twv32zpdjt7sjrd2zpyex7v&dl=0>

### **ARL is a Resource**

Surrendering a pet is an incredibly difficult decision, and ARL understands this. If a pet owner needs to surrender an animal, ARL asks that pet owners do so in person, so transfer of the animal can be done safely, and it's also an opportunity for ARL staff to learn as much as they can about the animal.

Additionally, ARL understands that circumstances do arise in life when pet ownership is no longer feasible, and offers a comfortable, safe and perhaps most importantly, a judgement-free environment to complete a pet surrender.

If a pet owner is wrestling with the decision to surrender, ARL does offer a variety of services which may help keep the animal out of a shelter and in the loving home where they belong. Services include ARL's [Free Pet Behavior Helpline](#), the [Keep Pets S.A.F.E.](#) program, the [Wellness Waggin'](#), [Spay Waggin'](#), among others. ARL encourages pet owners to visit [arlboston.org](http://arlboston.org) for more information, or to simply reach out to an Animal Care and Adoption Center to speak with an ARL representative.

### **ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:**

***The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes.*** Founded in 1899, ARL provides high-quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2022, ARL served 20,601 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The Animal Rescue League of Boston does not receive government grants or public funding and relies on the generosity of our supporters to help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at [arlboston.org](http://arlboston.org); and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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