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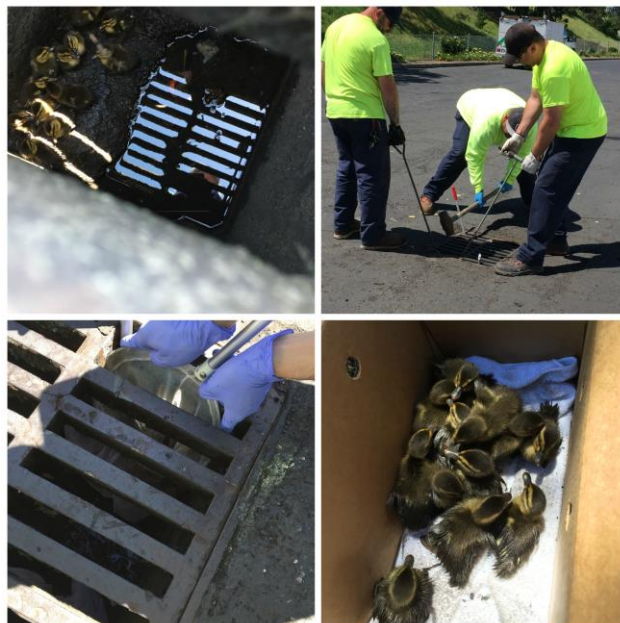
### **Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA Rescues Thirteen Baby Ducklings From Storm Drain in San Mateo**

San Mateo, CA—A dramatic rescue reunited thirteen baby ducklings with their mother yesterday after being trapped in a storm drain in San Mateo. The rescue was a joint effort of the Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA (PHS/SPCA) and the City of San Mateo Public Works.

“We received a call from a concerned resident who had seen the mother duck pacing near a storm drain on South Grant Street in San Mateo and could hear the baby ducklings trapped underneath the grate,” said PHS/SPCA’s Communications Manager Buffy Martin Tarbox. “Our rescue staff arrived, but were unable to remove the grate to reach the ducklings since it had been paved over. We called the City of San Mateo Public Works department for assistance with the grate, and they ended up cutting one of the metal bars so we could maneuver a small net into the drain to rescue the ducklings.”

PHS/SPCA staff were able to scoop up the trapped ducklings in groups of two and three with the net bringing them to safety. The rescue effort took more than an hour.

“Throughout the entire process, the mother duck stayed nearby. Once we had all thirteen of the ducklings above ground, we checked them for injuries, and thankfully they were fine despite their ordeal,” according to Tarbox. “We then moved the ducklings to an area away from the drain where the mother duck took back possession of her babies and led them into the safety of nearby bushes.”





**Tom and Annette Lantos Center for Compassion**  
1450 Rollins Road, Burlingame, CA 94010-2307  
650-340-7022 • 650-685-8428 *fax* • [www.PHS-SPCA.org](http://www.PHS-SPCA.org)

PHS/SPCA's Wildlife Care Center successfully rehabilitates 1,200 to 1,400 animals each year and is funded entirely by donations.

Photos are courtesy of Elise Brand.

#### About the Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA

The Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA (PHS/SPCA) is a local, private, non-profit charitable organization dedicated to animal welfare. Among our major programs, PHS/SPCA adopts fully 100% of the healthy dogs and cats in our care and also, through our charitably funded Hope Program, makes well and finds homes for thousands of animals who come to us sick, injured, or too young to survive without supportive care. PHS/SPCA is truly an open admission shelter, not only accepting many pet animals who might be refused at other shelters, but also taking care of injured and orphaned native wildlife from San Francisco through San Mateo and the northern half of Santa Clara County. Our work means 6,300 lives saved each year. Please visit [www.phs-sPCA.org](http://www.phs-sPCA.org) to learn about all our programs and services, ways to help our animals and special events.

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