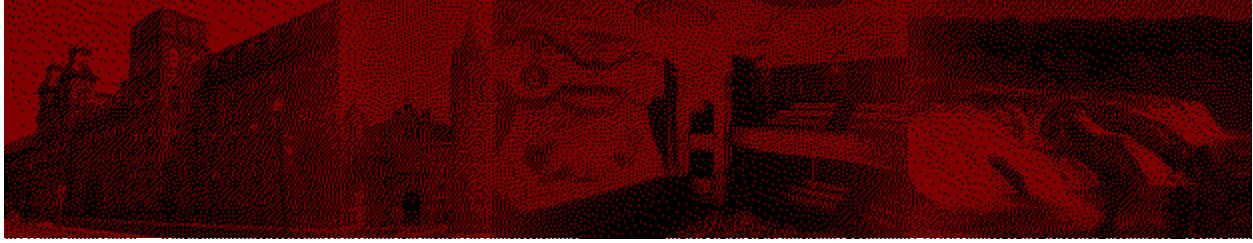


## LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS HAVE AN IMPACT ON GULF OF MEXICO OIL SPILL



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As the oil slick spreads in the Gulf of Mexico, communities worldwide have started showing support for relief efforts by working with an organization that is helping to clean up the Gulf Coast, through an innovative solution that involves hair clippings.

Chiloe Hunt, proprietor of the Animal House, and Jean Tower, proprietor of Bark and Bubble Pet Salon are working with Matter of Trust to assist with this environmental clean up through the initiative of this nonprofit organization. Through donations made by the business owners, donated hair clippings are stuffed into donated nylon stockings creating booms that will hold off the encroaching oil slick.

Hunt and Tower are part of a coordinated effort of thousands of participating salons, barber shops, pet groomers, and wool farmers across the nation to send clippings to the distressed part of the continent quickly. To date, 400,000 pounds of hair have been donated and put to use in the Gulf.

"When we heard about the damage being done to the wild life in the Gulf of Mexico and to the environment we had to find a way to help. When we heard about Matter of Trust, we knew we could work with them to provide relief. Combined, The Animal House and Bark and Bubble groom up to 25 dogs a day. That's a lot of hair. I encourage my clients, old and new, to make an appointment and be part of this important effort. If you bring your dog in, we will groom him or her, and we can all be a part of this solution and have a real impact," said Chiloe Hunt.

Matter of Trust explains that the concept behind using hair clippings is simple. Hair collects oil. It grabs oil from the pollution in the air, and therefore, it can be used in this regard, to soak up oil spills.

The Animal House is committed to the well being of the canine community and the community and the globe as a whole. They provide grooming services to the canines from the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society. They offer clinics on your dogs well being including first aid and maintenance. They are a full service professional grooming salon in Cohoes. Services include bathing, nail care, ear cleaning, hand stripping, and haircuts, as well as add-on services including new, therapeutic mud baths that significantly reduce shedding and helps to heal dry, itchy, problem skin; a SPA line of bubble bath treatments for cracked pads and blueberry facials for tear stain removal; puppy packages for pets up to four months old; and doggie day care. The Animal House also offers referral and military discounts.

The Bark and Bubble Pet Salon is a Full service pet grooming salon, offering all natural pet styling products for bathing, conditioning and caring for your pets needs. They bathe, condition, hand dry and style each pet to your specific needs and also provide the fun add-ons, such as nail polish, foot pad treatments and Oral Hygiene care. They also offer Doggie Day care, Pet Birthday Parties and Obedience classes taught by K9 Police Officer, Ed Meyers. Don't forget to check out their Biscuit Bakery counter filled with homemade treats for the cat and dog as well as fun dog accessories such as collars, leashes and shirts for pets.

The Animal House is conveniently located three blocks up from I-787 in Cohoes, and less than four miles from I-87 in Latham. Clients wishing to book an appointment may call the Animal House at 518 590 9966. Walk-ins welcome. Closed Sundays and Tuesdays.

The Bark and Bubble Pet Salon is located on Rt 9 (new Loudon Rd), directly across from the Guptills Rollerskating Rink, North of the Latham Circle. Please call (518)783-5117 for appointments in Latham/Cohoes. With a second location in Duanesburg off of Rt 20 at (518) 366-6049.

Matter of Trust, established in San Francisco in 1998, is an ecological public charity that links ideas, sparks action, and materializes flourishing systems to promote environmental sustainability. It concentrates

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on manmade surplus, natural surplus, and eco-education.

The organization's Hair Clippings for Oil Spills program has been cleaning up oil spills in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond by repackaging donated hair and fur into highly absorbent hairmats and booms. Bravo reality TV show, "Tabitha's Salon Takeover" and Jean Paul Mitchell Systems have already embraced Matter of Trust as sponsors and donors. Matter of Trust has also been recently featured on the Today Show, the Wall Street Journal, and PBS. Call 415 235 2403 or [MatterOfTrust.org](http://MatterOfTrust.org) for more information.