



For Pets' Sake Humane Society

The Companion

November 2022

Supporting Planned Pethood: Volunteers working to improve the lives of companion animals in Montezuma & Dolores Counties, Colorado

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Lynn Dyer- President

Pam Smith- V.P.

Liz Markum -Treasurer

Rachel Caciagli -Secretary

Debbie Davis

Rachel & Jon Ficken

Sally Jo Leitner

Kathy McWhite

Randy Rober

Marian Rohman

P.O. Box 1705

Cortez, CO 81321

(970) 565-7387

www.forpetsakehs.org

info@forpetsakehs.org

[Like us on Facebook](#)



[Check out our facebook page.](#)

FOR PETS' SAKE AND THE "I" WORD

We are all dealing with that nasty word "inflation." Prices are up, demand is up, and supply chains seem to breakdown at every point. FPS knows that we're not alone in this situation, but we thought our members would like to know what we have been facing and how, with your help, we have continued to care for the animals that need us.

The Feral Cat Program continues to be extremely successful. This year FPS has spayed/neutered 108 more cats than in 2021, for a total of 5,349 cats since the program began. Food costs have continued to rise and now cost FPS \$350/month more than last year. Demand for food has also increased, as caretakers face the financial burden of feeding hungry cats. In total, the Feral Cat Program has spent almost \$15,000 more in 2022 than last year.

The Cat Foster Program has fostered 136 cats this year. The major problem FPS has faced with this program is the inability to transfer out kittens to our partners like we have done in the past. According to Shelter Animals Count, 7.3% more animals are entering shelters than leaving. All of our partners are full, and as foster kittens stay longer, they need to be spayed or neutered and receive their three sets of required shots. This has led to the Foster Cat Program spending almost \$10,000 more this year than last.

The Dog Foster Program has faced many serious, life-threatening situations this year, with animals whose owners put off caring for their pet due to lack of financial resources. FPS is called in when the animal is truly suffering and medical costs for treatment are high. The Dog Foster Program has seen a 36% increase in medical expenses and is \$5000 ahead of last year's spending.

The Public Food Assistance program has taken several hits this year. Lack of resources and increased transportation costs have eliminated the possibility of discounted food from Colorado Pet Pantry. Walmart is still generous with donations when available, but requests for food support have also increased as people need more help feeding their animals. Buying food locally has resulted in a \$2,500 increase in this year's food expense.

For Pets' Sake is grateful to all of YOU, our supporters, who make it possible for us to continue these programs in our community, even with that nasty "I" word continually plaguing us.

THANK YOU!!



TANKERBELL'S TALE

SOMETIMES IT TAKES A VILLAGE

On Saturday October 22, a FPS volunteer was notified that a cat was hit by a car off Hwy 184 late the previous night. The driver stopped to see if the cat was okay and it was still alive but obviously injured. He picked it up and took it home with him, but had no idea what to do with a cat that could not move its hind end. So he asked FPS for help. She was posted on Facebook and FPS also checked with the shelter to determine if anyone was looking for her. Sadly it appeared no one was. With no local vet available over the weekend, the rescuer drove her to Riverview in Durango where it was determined she had a broken femur. The recommendation was to amputate. With the desire to try and keep the leg, FPS contacted another vet who is a proponent of saving a limb whenever possible, especially when it's such a young cat, not even full grown. Her rescuer took her to Moab on Tuesday the 25th where she received the surgery to repair and plate her broken bone.



The rescuer wanted to do the right thing but didn't have a lot of money. A friend set up a Go Fund Me campaign for him which raised approximately half the cost in a couple of days. For Pets' Sake also provided financial assistance with the x-rays, and a number of Board members, volunteers, and supporters also pitched in. The kitty, Tankerbelle, needs to be kept quiet and mostly im-mo-bile for a number of days and then her activity may be gradually increased as the bone starts to mend.

She's a beautiful little cat, and her future is much brighter thanks to your generous donations and the caring man who invested the time and money to make sure she received the care she needed. It's not certain yet if she will be adopted by her rescuer or be transferred to one of our shelter partners.

FPS is proud to be part of a community of people who want to help a little, injured stray cat.

A Big Thank YOU to all our Supporters and Volunteers!!!



Photo: FPS Board Members Lynn Dyer, Pam Smith, and Liz Markum don dog masks at the Zu Gallery Event.

Montezuma Mutts Calendar Release Party at Zu Gallery

Dogs and dog owners alike joined together at Zu Gallery on October 7th for the unveiling of the cover photo for the 2023 Montezuma Mutts Calendar. Unique dog masks, whistles, and doggie boxes enhanced the celebration. The incredible monthly calendar photos were displayed on the gallery walls, and after the drum roll the cover photo was unveiled. Advance sales and sales that evening contributed \$5 of each calendar to For Pets' Sake, resulting in a \$400 donation. Additional calendars may still be available. Drop by Zu Gallery to determine if you can still purchase one.

Many thanks to owner Jodi Jahrling and Zu Gallery for a really fun evening and for including For Pets' Sake in this project.





A SPOOKTACULAR BAKE SALE

Our exceptional bakers outdid themselves with goodies galore for our first bake sale in two years. Food just kept coming in and people were purchasing before prices could even be put on the items. All that pent up energy from the last two years was really apparent with the variety of cakes, cookies, brownies, muffins, cinnamon rolls, pies, coffee cakes, breads, and more available. What a treat for all who purchased, many of whom are past supporters happy to see us out and about again. Of course, the trick to all these treats is FPS raising money to help the animals in need. Thank you to organizers, volunteers, bakers, buyers, and City Market. The grand total for the morning was \$973. Quite a treat!

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING DATES

Thursday • **November 17th** • 6:30 pm

Thursday • **December 15th** • 6:30 pm

Call for information and meeting location.
(970) 565-7387



PANLEUKOPENIA: A TALE OF SIX KITTENS

Panleukopenia strikes when you least expect it. (Warning: this is a sad story.) It started when one of my foster kittens became ill and it was decided that a stool culture was in order. I never thought the test would be positive for panleukopenia. I was devastated! July just wasn't that sick. Just as she was diagnosed, one of her sisters, Summer, became ill. We were given IV fluids for when they became dehydrated, a long lasting antibiotic to counter secondary issues they could develop, and medicine to counteract the nausea that would keep them from eating.

Fortunately, other For Pets' Sake members had dealt with panleukopenia before and were willing to help me try to get my kittens through this crisis. I never knew how hard this fight was going to be. At least three times daily the kittens had to be weighed, checked for dehydration, syringe fed, given shots and IV fluids when necessary. That meant that someone had to come over to help me with administering IV fluids. There were different individuals for each session. Their willingness to drop everything to help my babies was phenomenal. This process took approximately 2 hours for each session. In order to not spread this to anyone else, each person entering their room had to have on special clothes, gloves, and foot covers.

The day after July was diagnosed, another kitten, Dobbin, became ill. He was so pitiful. This disease hit him so hard and so fast that he died that same afternoon. Not long thereafter, his brother Draego, started showing symptoms. For those of you who don't know, a normal kitten's temperature can range from 99.5 to 102.5. Poor Draego's temperature shot up to 105.2, then skyrocketed to 107.2.! Usually a kitten dies from such a high fever. Help came immediately when I called and we got his fever back down to 105.2 by sponging his ears, feet, and stomach along with IV fluids. That was a long night. We thought for sure he wouldn't make it but surprisingly, his temperature was normal the next morning. Two days later he developed a severe wobble in his back legs. His neurological condition never cleared and is thought to be a result of his high fever.

Just as Draego was showing improvement, another kitten, Inde, became ill. She kept getting worse while her sisters seemed to be holding their own. Miss Inde had always been a favorite of mine; she was as beautiful as she was sweet. I so wanted her to beat this thing, but it was not to be. I could tell that she was terribly ill when I made my early morning rounds. Bless her, she had waited for me to come hold her so she could die. My heart was broken.

Things turned around for everyone and we were cautiously optimistic at this point. We still had one more kitten, Libby, who could become ill, but thankfully that didn't happen. Everyone is now well, Draego will always have neurological issues, but everyone is thriving.

Kittens can shed the panleuk virus for up to 6 weeks so everyone was in quarantine. This means that, although they feel well and act like normal kittens, protective clothing, shoe covers, and gloves still have to be worn. Their 6-week quarantine is over, so now comes the cleaning phase. Everything, and I mean everything, has to be wiped down with a special veterinary grade cleaning solution. The sad part is that I will not be able to have small kittens in my home again. The panleukopenia virus can live for years in the environment, so all of my fosters will have to be fully vaccinated before coming into my home.

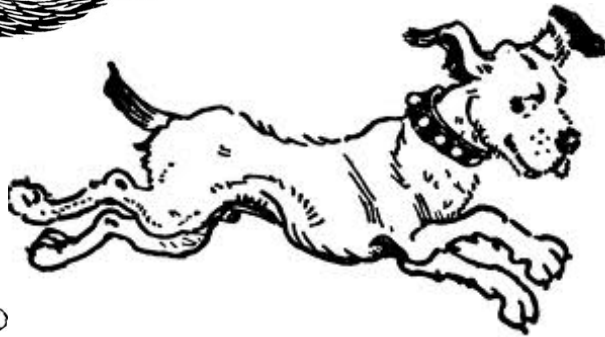
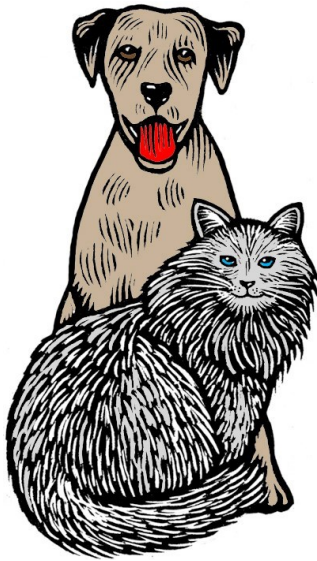
~Written by Pam Godbold Smith, FPS Vice President

2022 19th ANNUAL CORTEZ

TURKEY TROT

to Benefit

FOR PETS' SAKE
HUMANE SOCIETY



Thanksgiving Day • November 24

1 Mile FUN Walk
for pets & their best friends!

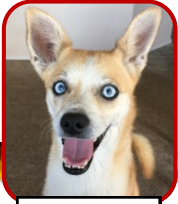
10:00 am at Parque de Vida
Registration begins at 9:30 am

\$25 registration includes a *Cool T-shirt*.

*Prizes for best costume, first & last to cross
the finish line and best trick!*

(970) 565-PETS/7387

Meet Your 2022 For Pets' Sake PET MEMBERS!



NUTMEG

**ELLA &
OLLIE**

SPARKY

**WHITE
WOLF**

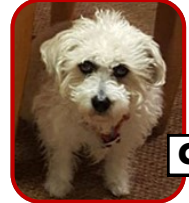


**BOOTS &
PUSSY
CAT**

**HANNAH,
ART, HAL
& MOKI**



M'SITA



CLEO

CARNEY

**RANGER
& SCOUT**

**LITA &
LOKI**

**GOLDIE,
BROWNIE
& MAMA**



BUDDY



BRADY



CORY

HARLEY

**BUSTER, RHODA, ROSE BUD
& PERFECT PEARL**

SQUIRT



GRACIE

BEAR

MILES

ERNIE



HAZEL

CORBIN



BAILEY

**HARRY,
JORDIE
& WYATT**



LUCY

BART & PEEWEE



AMY



CLIFF



RAZIN

ARNIE

KATY & MACI



PIPER



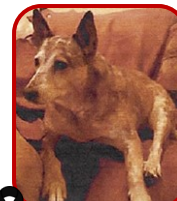
RUGER



BATMAN



OLIVIA



CRICKET



ZIPPY

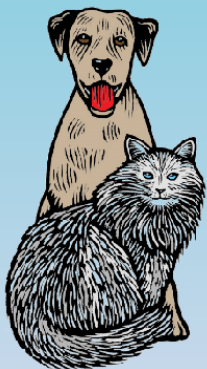
THANK YOU TO OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS, AND TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS!

Business Members

Absolute Bakery & Café
Amrit Yoga, Mimi Scott
Cortez Adobe Animal Hospital
Dr. Nancy Wegner
Dolores Food Market
Encantos Products, LLC
First National Bank, Cortez
Four Corners Financial LLC
Keesee Motor Company
Mary Ann and Joe Keesee
Mancos Valley Veterinary Hospital
Dr. Bruce Byrd
Mary Hanson
Mesa Verde Media Services
Jennifer Hope
Montezuma Veterinary Clinic
NetForce PC, Inc.
Slaven's True Value Hardware
TDS Broadband-Cortez
Tequila's Mexican Restaurant
Terry Woodrow: 4 Corners Properties
The Good Life Pet Foods and Supplies
Trees of Trail Canyon
David Temple
VanDeventer & Associates, P.C.
XTROV Realty
Katherine Chaffin

Business Supporters

A&C Milling
A to Z Storage
Animal Assistance
Foundation
Aramark Mesa Verde
Best Friends Animal Society
Books
Brand Central
City Market
City of Cortez-Library & Parks
Cliffrose Garden Center & Gifts
ColdStone Creamery Colorado
Animal Rescue Express(CARE)
Colorado Pet Overpopulation
Fund
Colorado Pet Pantry
Cortez Animal Bed &
Breakfast
Dairy Queen
El Grande Café
Fahrenheit Coffee Roasters
FB Organics
The Farm Bistro
Fiona King/ Artist
Four Corners Free Press/
Gail Binkly
Friends of the Aspen Animal
Shelter
Habitat for Humanity ReStore
Housing Authority of the
County of Montezuma
IFA Country Store
JC Pets
The Journal
Kokopelli Bike & Board
KSJD Dry Land Community
RadioKVFC/KRTZ
Lotsa Pasta
Methodist Thrift Store
Mona Makes
Mud Creek Hogan
Once Upon a Sandwich
Pioneer Printing
Smitty's Liquors
Sonja Horoshko/ Artist
The Dog Ranch
Tiger by the Tail/ *Lan
Degeneres*
Vibrant Pet Animal Hospital
Walmart
WildEdge Brewing Collective



For
Pets'
Sake
Humane
Society

Serving pets and the people who care about them
since 1984. Can YOU Help?

Donate via [PayPal](https://www.paypal.com) at info@forpets sakehs.org
Donate on our webpage, forpets sakehs.org
Or by mail at PO Box 1705, Cortez, CO 81321
(970) 565-7387



Check out our profile on
SWCOGives.org