



For Pets' Sake Humane Society

The Companion

March 2023

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

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P.O. Box 1705
Cortez, CO 81321
(970) 565-PETS
www.forpetsakehs.org
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SPRING IS COMING! SO ARE PUPPIES AND KITTENS!

This year's winter has left many of us longing for spring. However, for a humane society, spring brings challenges when unwanted puppies and kittens show up in homes, barns, garages, under porches, and, honestly, almost everywhere. The answer to unwanted litters is, of course, spaying and neutering the adults before they breed. Since our beginning in 1984, For Pets' Sake's number one goal has been to reduce the unwanted pet population through spay/neuter. In addition to committing our own funds to this goal (thanks to YOUR donations), we have two grants helping local pet owners and caretakers get their animals fixed. The Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund will pay for half of the procedure for qualifying pets, and grants from the Friends of the Aspen Animal Shelter have helped the FPS Feral Cat Project spay and neuter over 5500 feral cats. Both of these grants are available now to pet owners and caretakers to limit the number of unwanted animals.

But the current situation is complicated: most of our local veterinarians are overloaded and are not taking new patients, so getting your animals fixed can be a challenge. We have compiled a list of other options for people looking for spay/neuter assistance. These spay/neuter clinics are low- or no-cost and usually include vaccinations.

The Four Corners Community is coming together to eliminate unwanted animals and make spay/neuter more easily available. Thanks to YOU for helping For Pets' Sake eliminate the problem of unwanted pets. Every animal deserves a Forever Home.

The following all require appointments:

La Plata County Humane Society, Durango
970-259-2847

Register online: laplatahumanesociety.org
Also feral cats in traps

Four Corners Animal Alliance, Blanding
970-442-2031

Monthly two-day clinic, call for appointment.
Also feral cats in traps

Moab Veterinary Mobile Clinic, Monticello
435-259-8710

Clinic Every Tuesday, call for appointment.

D-SNiP, Durango d-snip.org

Schedule appointment online.
Also feral cats in traps



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

from Lynn Dyer/ FPS President

FPS is sure many of you were concerned about the recent article in the Journal concerning the euthanasia of 18 dogs. Since FPS has worked hard for several years to solve the problem with these dogs, the FPS Board felt a letter to the Editor was appropriate. To keep all our members informed, we are printing a copy of that letter (below) We have included many photos of some of the dogs FPS rescued from that property in previous newsletters. Even in tragedy there is success. The success is thanks to your support.

Letter to the Editor

*“Regarding your 2-20-23 article titled **Records show gaps in process after 18 dogs are euthanized in Cortez.** The article did not paint a full history of the situation. Since September of 2021, FPS, Paired Souls, Denkai, and the Cortez Shelter have worked to resolve the feral dog problem at this property. Together 45 puppies and 4 adults were removed from that location, as well as the trap, neuter, and return of 4 adult males. In January 2022, the property owners stopped cooperating with all of us, leaving several intact dogs that continued to breed. FPS provided/ offered the use of traps and fencing to acclimate the dogs and agreed to provide free spay/neuter services for any of the approachable animals, as well as placement for any pup-pies. FPS was again turned away. Recent puppies could have been saved if surrendered to FPS for placement at the appropriate time.*

The tragic euthanasia of these 18 dogs was the result of human failure to be sure, but better cooperation between law enforcement, the property owners, and local humane groups could have addressed the issue back in 2022. The high euthanasia rate at the Cortez Shelter cannot be laid at the feet of Jennifer and her staff but at the feet of irresponsible people whose actions cause these difficult decisions to be made. Euthanizing an animal is never easy.”

Read the Journal Article Here

DRAEGO AND SUNDANCE

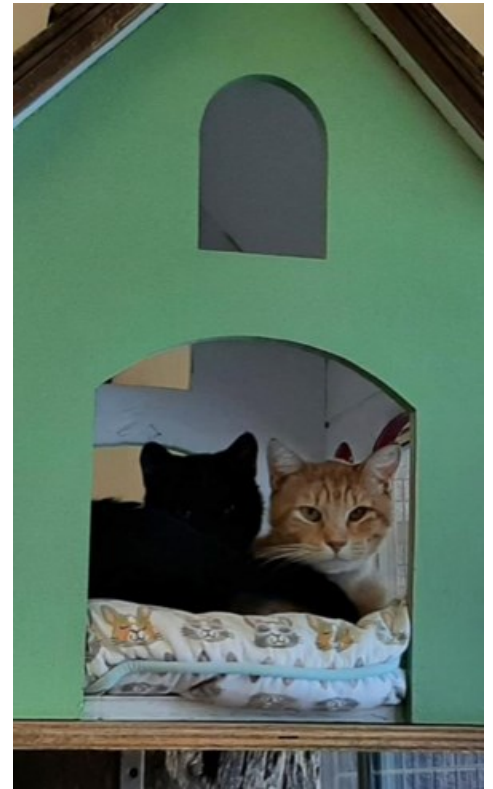
This is a happily ever after story for two of our kitten rescues: Draego and Sundance

Sundance came into our lives when he showed up at the home of one of our volunteers as an abandoned older kitten.

Our volunteer worked on taming him for close to a year as an outside cat. Then he disappeared for a short time. When he returned, he was injured: he had a large scratch on his head with a bulging eye that had an abscess behind it. Sundance was brought inside and nursed lovingly back to health. Despite the best of care, he lost the vision in that eye. What a sweetheart he became. It turns out that he loves kittens and became an uncle to her other fosters.

You were introduced to Draego in an earlier article. He is the kitten who contracted panleukopenia along with his brother, Dobbin. Only Draego was able to survive this horrible disease. The high temperature that he ran while ill left him with a neurological disorder. Despite his inability to walk correctly, he persevered and turned out to be absolutely fearless and a lovely boy.

The time came that both boys were well and able to be transported. They went to CARE in Glenwood Springs where the two of them met accidentally while in their play area. They became fast friends and were inseparable: Sundance is Draego's legs, and Draego is Sundance's eye. And then the BEST thing happened - they were adopted together! The For Pets' Sake volunteers were more than ecstatic over this news. Now we hope that someday we will get a progress report on the two.



LEO THE TAX CAT

Leo here. I know – taxes – ho hum. I don't have to file a tax return this year – napping in the sun and looking handsome don't pay very much. But there IS something to get excited about. I'm here to tell you about how you can help Colorado dogs and cats when you file your state tax return. If you are getting a refund, you can donate all or a portion to the Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund or CPOF. This is a fund that gives grants to shelters, rescues and hu-mane societies to help Colorado pet owners pay spay and neuter costs for their pets. For Pets' Sake used their 2021/2022 grant to spay and neuter 283 dogs and cats in the Four Cor-ners area. Just use form DR0104CH and look for line 5 to donate. You can also go to line 17 to make a donation to a Colorado nonprofit or-ganization that you specify (of course I'm partial to For Pets' Sake [Registration Number 20053004763](#)). Thanks for taking time to read my article. Now, back to work - napttime!



Leo at Work



iGive

Thank you for supporting For Pets' Sake over the years while shopping AmazonSmile. Unfortunately, AmazonSmile has ended. Fortunately, however, we are already set up with a great alternative! Join iGive today (for free) via this link: <https://www.iGive.com/FPSHS>.

When you login and shop their 2,000+ stores (think Chewy, Walmart, Expedia and so many more), FPS will earn donations at least TWICE what we earned through AmazonSmile. The average donation through an iGive store is about 3%, with some offering 25% or higher! Once you have joined iGive with the link above, simply log on to iGive.com every time you shop. Click on the store you want to shop (e.g., Chewy) and place your order.

There are so many stores to choose from. You can search for a store or category once you are on the website. The potential is unlimited and all the benefit goes to FPS. Thank you for your continued shopping support.

DOVE CREEK CATS

Last fall, For Pets' Sake volunteers started working with a feral cat colony in Dove Creek. So far, we have trapped sixteen adults and rescued seven kittens and one adult. Most of the trapped adults had moderate upper respiratory infections. They were spayed/neutered, given a rabies shot, a shot of antibiotics, and returned to the colony. The rescued ones were in much worse shape. Three of the kittens had ruptured eyes from the virus infection and had to have the eyes removed. One had thick scar tissue over one eye, but since the eye was healthy, she got to keep it. All of the rescues had serious infections that took several rounds of antibiotics to knock down, but they will probably snuffle off and on thru their lives. ALL of them are VERY sweet. Several of the kittens have moved on to their forever homes and a couple are still waiting. The rescued adult is going to be adopted by his foster mom. Roxanne and Ryan, who were shown in the last newsletter, are both bouncy, happy kids now. Just look at those faces!

Fortunately, we now have the money to get everyone fixed! We started a Gofundme just for this colony. The Cortez Journal kindly published an article on these cats and that helped generate enough donations that we have raised almost all of the \$1950 we're guessing it will take to fix and treat the remaining fifteen-twenty cats before any more kittens are born. (Too late for the two three-week old kittens already bouncing around there). And if we're lucky, we'll raise extra to help with the 400-500 cats we have on our waiting list right now who need to be fixed. Thank you to the many people who donated to this cause. We can't always help all of them, but we certainly try!

<https://gofund.me/ea2a016a>



Roxanne



Ryan



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Board Meetings

March 16 and April 20 at 6:30pm

St. Patrick's Day Bake Sale

March 11, 10:00—1:00, City Market

With a little luck of the Irish, the Saint Patrick's Day Bake Sale will bring in some lucky coins.

Pennies For Pets

It's never too early to start saving those pennies, dimes, and quarters for the annual Pennies For Pets in July. The animals aren't picky, they will accept dollar bills, too.

For Pets' Sake Annual Yard Sale

September 20 – 23, 2023

Watch future newsletters for donation and pick up days.



St. Patrick's Day BAKE SALE

To Benefit
**FOR PETS' SAKE
HUMANE SOCIETY**



SATURDAY MARCH 11th
10:00am to 1:00pm
at CITY MARKET/North Entrance

YOU CAN HELP!

- Drop off your baked goods at City Market Saturday morning starting at 9:30 am. Early drop-offs can be made at NetForce PC (1011 N. Mildred Rd.) Friday, March 10th, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.



- Pick up some home baked goodies for yourself, family and friends Saturday morning. It's easy!
- Or stop by and make a Kind-Hearted donation to For Pets' Sake for pets sake!

If you have any questions, please call (970) 565-PETS/7387.

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

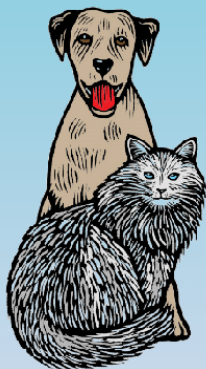
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IFA Country Store
JC Pets
The Journal
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Serving pets and the people who care about them
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