



# For Pets' Sake Humane Society

## The Companion

July 2023

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

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(970) 565-PETS  
[www.forpetsakehs.org](http://www.forpetsakehs.org)  
[info@forpetsakehs.org](mailto:info@forpetsakehs.org)

### Foster Home Application



Check out our [facebook page](#).

## THE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS ON!

For Pets' Sake cannot provide critical programs to local animals alone. We are supported by our members who share their love of dog and cat companions and our desire to help them live better lives. We connect in ways both big and small—by volunteering at events that raise the funds we need for our work, by fostering a homeless dog or cat on its way to a new life, by spaying/neutering an animal to eliminate pet overpopulation, by helping feral cats live a better and healthier life, and by assisting with medical care for an animal who is sick or injured and needs our help. It is all about connecting with YOU!

We also connect when we donate. No one person could possibly pay what it takes to support local pets, but when we put all our individual donations together, we really can do SO much! One big way to connect is by being a For Pets' Sake member. Members receive our newsletter, where you will be touched by stories of the animals we've helped—truly the most important part of our mission. You will also hear about ongoing events and activities as well as opportunities to volunteer.

Each year in early June, we send out membership packets and ask for your continued support. You should have received your packet in the mail already. If you didn't get it, or lost it, just call (970) 565-7387 and we'll be happy to send you a new one. Or visit our website:

[www.forpetsakehs.org](http://www.forpetsakehs.org) and sign up for membership there. If you've never been a member, or if you know of someone you think would like to join, call and we'll send out a packet. We LOVE to sign up new members! And don't forget your furry friend(s). You can honor your best friend with a Pet Membership. And you

can highlight your business with a Business Membership. Once a year, we ask you to join us. Let's all connect because the animals need us. Together, we really can do so much more.

Along with becoming a member of For Pets' Sake, we invite you to join us for our Annual Membership Meeting at 1:00 pm on August 20th at the Picnic Pavillion in City Park. We need new ideas and new Board members. Please consider giving your time and talents as a member of our Board. **In order for For Pets' Sake's work to continue, the Board needs to grow.**



Many hands make for less work and not enough hands becomes overwhelming. If you are interested in becoming a Board member, please contact Marian at 970-565-9327. **WE NEED YOU!**

# KITTEN SEASON: HEARTACHE AND JOY

In early April, For Pets' Sake got a call: there was a litter of tiny kittens in a box on the porch of one of the apartments in Cortez. The neighborhood kids were picking them up and might have scared the mom away. I went over that day and trapped a very persistent female cat. The caretaker said it wasn't the mom. After about two and a half hours of waiting for the "mom" to show up, I checked the trapped cat more thoroughly and discovered that she had been nursing. I finally gave up trapping and checked the nest box. I took out five one-day old kittens and hoped that I had the right mom. When I reached in to be sure I had gotten the last kitten, I found a dead one. I checked the box thoroughly and sadly I found FOUR more dead kittens pushed off to the sides. They were probably about three days old when they died and had probably been dead for about two days. I'm guessing that the first mom went in the box and had her five kittens, nursed them for two or three days and then was scared off by the local kids. Then the kittens either died from handling or froze to death. A couple of days later, the second mom went in and had her kittens. I took the feral mom and her five kittens home to take care of and took the five dead kittens home to bury. The image of five tiny bodies lined up at the bottom of a small hole will stay with me a long time.

I named the mom Polly and her kittens became Chickadeedle, Raven, Robin, Gray Jay, and Dovelet. They grew up quickly, as kittens do, and turned into BIG, healthy, friendly, LIVELY kittens. At 10 weeks old, we transferred them to Eagle Animal Services, one of our rescue partners, to find their forever homes. Polly has remained very timid, though not aggressive. We've decided to keep her. She's not truly adoptable, and I just couldn't bring her back to the apartment complex. So now she is settling in with our other rescues and will become part of our big furry family. ~Marian



Polly and her flock of kittens at 6 days



*Our happy volunteers at the Spay/Neuter Clinic. . .  
Debbie, Rachel, and Evelyn.*

## BERGEN SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC UPDATE:

HUGE thanks to [Bergen Spay and Neuter Alliance](#) for holding another very successful spay/neuter clinic in Cortez. A total of 237 dogs and cats will lead healthier and happier lives thanks to your service to our community. The breakdown was 95 dogs (54 female/41 male) and 142 cats (83 female/59 male). For Pets' Sake helped with funds from our [Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund](#) grant. Thanks also to the [City of Cortez Shelter](#) and their amazing staff for hosting the clinic. AND all the wonderful volunteers who gave up their time to make this clinic happen. THANK YOU!

# THE HUGE YARD SALE IS COMING

Our fall yard sale will be at the Montezuma County Fairgrounds again this year from September 20-23, so start saving those great, gently-used items now. **Donation day will be Tuesday, September 19.** As usual, we will need a LOT of volunteers. This year we especially need someone to coordinate the items to be picked up: you will need to talk to people and set up a pickup schedule for the day before the sale. And, of course, we will need our usual large, dedicated group of volunteers helping to set up the sale, take in donations, work during the sale, and clean up afterwards. You can call For Pets' Sake starting August 15 to find out about early donations and pickups. And we will email volunteer sign-up sheets shortly after that. Join the fun, help FPS with our biggest fundraiser of the year, and find some great bargains!



## Board Meeting Dates

*(Now on Mondays, instead of Thursdays)*

**Monday, July 10th at 6:30**

**Monday, August 7th at 6:30**



## DON'T FORGET: Pennies for Pets

**SATURDAY, July 1, Farmers' Market, 7:30-11:00**

Bring those coins to our table for the *Pennies for Pets* event at the Cortez Farmers' Market (tomorrow). Local animals appreciate all forms of coins and bills to support For Pets' Sake programs.

## For Pets' Sake Annual Membership Meeting

Please bring your favorite dish to share and join FPS for our annual membership meeting. Learn about everything that YOU made happen over the past year and see why YOUR membership is so important. Please join us at the Picnic Pavilion in City Park on August 20, 2023 at 1:00 pm. Drinks will be provided. A drawing will be held and the lucky winner will receive a set of Animal Art Works trading cards. We will also vote on 2024 Board members. If **YOU are interested in becoming a Board member**, please call Marian at 970-565-9327. WE NEED YOU!



# PAWS FOR OUR PETS

Many thanks to Aimee King, her staff, Willow (her sweet dog), all the talented quilters at **Cortez Quilt Company** and everyone who made Paws For Our Pets so much fun! The beautiful quilts that were in the silent auction ("Rescued and Loved" and "All You Need is Love and a Dog") raised \$300 for For Pets' Sake. The silent auction items For Pets' Sake added raised an additional \$415. Amiee generously donated 20% of her sales for the day of and the day following the event. That generosity resulted in an additional \$400 donation to For Pets' Sake. The photos of the quilts don't even begin to do justice to how beautiful these and all the quilts showcased at the event were. Thank you SO much Aimee for all you have done for the dogs and cats of our local area. We REALLY appreciate you!



## THANK YOU TO OTHER FPS SUPPORTERS

Many thanks to **Colorado Pet Pantry** for their dog food donation. For Pets' Sake had to rent an additional unit to store all of it! Special thanks to Suzanne and Eileen from CPP for the donation and to our FPS volunteers: Cindy, Peter, Marian, Pam, and Debbie for moving all of the food to our storage unit. We truly appreciate CPP's support for our food program.

The Mother's Day Bake Sale was a huge success. Thank you to all our bakers and buyers. For Pets' Sake Bake Sales are popular events thanks to all who bake, buy, stop to talk, and donate. For Pets' Sake made \$832 on the Mother's Day sale. Save up those taste buds for the October Bake Sale, one of our largest and best.

The May Newsletter summarized the successful Animal Art Works Event. **A BIG thank you goes to Sonya Horoshko** for donating her time and the production costs, and for then presenting a check to For Pets' Sake for \$918.50. We Appreciate You So Much.



Summer is an important time to consider pet safety. You may remember much of this page from last July's For Pets' Sake newsletter. We feel it contains some important and timely information, so here it is again...

# HAZARDS of SUMMER



**FLEAS, TICKS & CHEATGRASS** Keep your pets well-groomed and be on the lookout for excessive scratching or licking which may indicate problems. Topical flea and tick medication can be costly but important for your pets' comfort and health. Avoid cheatgrass by keeping your pets away from dry grassy areas. These troublesome barbed seed pods can be found anywhere on the body, working their way through skin, causing serious infection and requiring Veterinary care ASAP!



**FIREWORKS & THUNDER:** Keep your pets away from Fireworks! Pets can become frightened and disoriented by this noisy summer activity. Animal shelters around the nation report a dramatic increase in lost pets July 4th. Summer storms also bring loud and scary thunder. Keep your pets leashed or better yet, bring them safely indoors.

For Pets' Sake sells Thundershirts for \$40, with \$20 going directly to our organization. Thundershirts work by hugging the body, and this physically calms most dogs and cats. They are guaranteed to reduce the symptoms of anxiety or your money back.

Relax and call (970) 565-PETS to order one today!



**Heat & Hot Cars** Protect your pets from the dangers of summer weather. High temperatures put your pet at risk for heat stroke, which can become deadly very quickly.

Never leave your pet in a parked car, even if the day doesn't seem that warm. On an 85 degree day the temperature inside a car – *even with the windows cracked* – can rocket to 102 degrees within just 10 minutes. After 30 minutes, the temperature will reach 120!



## Make sure your pet is wearing a Collar and I.D. Tag

All pets, even those kept indoors full-time, should always wear collars with identification tags. Better yet, MICROCHIP! Indoor only pets can become so frightened by fireworks or storms that they take desperate measures to escape the noise, including breaking through windows or screen doors.

# KEEP COOL & have FUN this SUMMER!



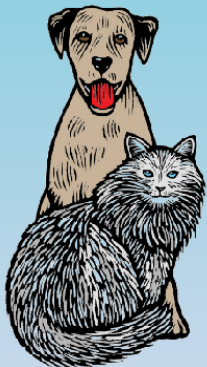
*THANK YOU TO OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS,  
AND TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS!*

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For  
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