

For Pets' Sake Humane Society



The Companion

July 2024

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Lynn Dyer—President
Debbie Davis—V.P.
Liz Markum—Treasurer
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Jack Schuenemeyer
Pam Smith

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Check out our Facebook page



THE FOR PETS' SAKE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS ON!!!

For Pets' Sake has provided its critical programs to local animals for **40 years**, but we can't do it alone!! We are supported by our members, who share their love of dog and cat companions, and their/our desire to help our four-legged family members live better lives. Members help For Pets' Sake in ways both big and small. Members volunteer at events that raise the funds needed for our work. Members help foster a homeless dog or cat on its way to a new forever home. Members help spay/neuter an animal to eliminate pet overpopulation. Members help feral cats live better and healthier lives. Members assist with medical care for an animal who is sick or injured and needs our help. It is all about YOU!

Members donate the funds that make possible all For Pets' Sake accomplishes. 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 help is by being a For Pets' Sake member. Members receive our newsletter, where you will be touched by stories of the animals you've/we've helped-

- truly the most important part of our mission. You will also learn when specific help is needed. Please pay special attention to the call for help to manage the feral cat program, posted later in this newsletter. This incredibly successful program will be suspended at the end of the year unless a new manager is found. Will you step up? Or maybe share the duties with a friend?

Each year in early June, we send out membership packets and ask for your continued support. By now, you should have received your membership packet in the mail. Special thanks to all of you who have already responded.

If you didn't receive a packet, or lost it, just call (970) 565-7387 and we'll be happy to send you a new one. Or visit our website: www.forpetssake.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 (970) 565-7387 and we'll send out a packet.

We LOVE to sign up new members!

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THE FOR PETS' SAKE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS ON, *cont.*

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, because the animals need YOU. 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 pm on August 25th at the Parque de Vida East Playground Picnic Shelter. Please help us celebrate 40 years of helping animals in our community.

For Pets' Sake welcomes new ideas and new board members. Please consider giving of your time and talents as a member of our board. In order for For Pets' Sake to continue for another 40 years, the board needs to grow and needs younger, stronger board members. Many hands make for less work, and not enough hands becomes overwhelming. IF you are interested in becoming a board member, please contact Lynn at 970-570-9250.

WE NEED YOU!!!!!!

Lynn Dyer, President

Pet Member Yahzee (Little One)



Pet Member Mindy



Feral Cat Project Coordinator Needed!

About 12-15 volunteer hours per week

For Pets' Sake started the **Feral Cat Project** in 2009. Since then, **we have fixed over 6100 cats and rescued over 1000 feral kittens and a few friendly abandoned cats**. We have helped over 750 cat colonies and their caretakers throughout Montezuma and Dolores Counties. The person who started the program and has been running it for 16 years is retiring and if we don't find a new coordinator, the program will have to be put on hold. The position breaks down as follows:

1. Take phone calls from caretakers of feral cat colonies who need to have their cats spayed and neutered.
2. Work with them to get appointments with the local veterinarians working in the program.
3. Loan them FPS traps, get them back, and clean them. (This could easily be done by a second person, if you can find someone to help you).
4. Review and record invoices every week and work with the FPS treasurer to get them paid.
5. Keep lots of records!
6. Find, write, and manage grants to cover the surgeries. (This could be at least partly done by a different person, too).

For more information, please contact Marian at marian.rohman@gmail.com and leave your name and telephone number.

RIVER'S STORY

Beautiful, friendly River was surrendered to For Pets' Sake several months ago. His family said he had killed chickens, and they weren't able to keep him. There were other dogs and puppies on the property at the time, and after River left chickens continued to die, so in all likelihood River was not the culprit. Plus, River has been around chickens in two of his subsequent foster homes and has ignored them at both locations. River was in a foster home for a couple months while FPS tried to find a rescue partner or adopter. During his time in foster care, he caught the eye of a very nice couple right here in Cortez. They met him, they loved him, their other dog, who had been in a funk since they had to put their other male down, loved him. It seemed like the perfect match. However, River had been limping off and on during his past weeks in foster care. FPS took him to a vet, for some imaging and palpating of his legs. It was determined River had one, possibly two, torn ACLs. A devastating diagnosis for such a sweet, young dog. River was then taken to the vet who would perform the surgery to get his opinion, and he agreed that at least one ACL was almost completely torn, and the other one looked like it had begun.

River loves everyone and everything, is great with people, kids, other dogs, cats, and even chickens. Despite the pain he is in, he's so sweet and friendly. This was really terrible news and FPS knew we could not adopt him out



with this injury untreated. The couple still very much wanted to adopt River, but they didn't have the funds to pay for something like this. We reached out to our wonderful community for help raising \$2800 for his first

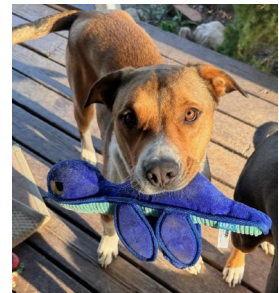
surgery. Through gofundme and mailed in checks, we were able to raise about half the amount. River received surgery on his right rear knee June 12, 2024. It was a pretty invasive surgery. A lot of muscles and ligaments had to be moved, bone had to be sawed and then plated together. The good news is that they took additional X-rays of River's left hind leg, and it looked to them as though that ligament is in pretty good shape after all, and at least at this time does not require surgery.

River was adopted a week after his surgery and his new family is ecstatic to have him as a permanent member. Despite his discomfort as he recovers, he is still as sweet as ever.

For Pets' Sake is grateful to YOU, our supporters, for helping us say yes to River!!

Debbie Davis

*Foster Dog Program
Coordinator*



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

Mother's Day Bake Sale

Thanks to our wonderful bakers, buyers, donors, volunteers, and especially co-chairs Bill and Janet, For Pets' Sake made \$876 from the Spring/Mother's Day Bake Sale.

LOR Foundation Grant

For Pets' Sake announces a generous grant from [LOR Foundation](#) to provide behavioral training for dog owners. The **\$8,350** grant aims to address the root cause of pet surrenders and support canine-human relationships. Training tools, boarding, and vetting to bring vaccines up to date prior to boarding are included.

Our target audience will be owners who are considering rehoming their dogs, and that can't afford training on their own. The owners must be willing to work with local trainers, and do the homework and exercises requested. Our hope is that this will result in fewer surrendered dogs, and a better understanding of our canine companions.

A common misconception is that many training sessions are required and the cost is prohibitive, but in many instances, only a few training sessions are needed to give the owner the tools he or she needs to deal with the unwanted behavior.

With adoptions way down and more and more animals being surrendered, it's become increasingly important that we explore all options to keep dogs in the homes they know and love whenever possible. Many times depending on the behavior and the dog, there is no adopter and no rescue partner that will take a chance on them in their current state. We're very hopeful that we will be able to make a positive difference in the lives of dogs and their people.

IFA Food Donation

IFA Cortez made another special delivery of 800 lbs. of cat food to For Pets' Sake! Lots of hungry cats and kitties will be well fed thanks to the wonderful customers who helped by donating to the Feeding Furry Friends project.

Thank you so much IFA and customers!



Montezuma Animal Resource Day

For Pets' Sake participated in Montezuma Animal Resource Day hosted by Hospice of Montezuma. Various speakers presented information on: building trust with dogs, caring for aging pets, emergency planning and advance directive plans for your pets, pet hospice, keeping pets safe, and more. FPS President Lynn Dyer spoke about our organization's accomplishments over 40 years and the support we need to continue into the future.

Thank you Sunny Bossenmaier and the hospice staff for bringing so many resources together to provide this valuable information to our community!



Farewell to Pam

At the end of June, For Pets' Sake bid farewell to Pam Smith, our Vice President and extremely hard-working volunteer. Pam decided to pack up her nine cats and a dog, leave the mountains, mesas, wind, and tumbleweed of the Southwest for the green rolling hills of North Carolina in order to be closer to family and friends. During the five years that Pam volunteered for FPS, she trapped, fostered, transported, and saved hundreds of cats and kittens. She and Marian shared the monumental task of organizing our annual Yard Sales. Pam graciously allowed us to use her home for board meetings and even provided snacks and home-baked goodies.

Pam will remain on the For Pet's Sake board of directors and will attend meetings and continue to help with anything that can be done remotely. She is planning to return to Cortez to help with the Fall Yard Sale in September.

We will miss Pam's "can do" attitude, her Southern charm, her generosity, and her compassion for helping anyone, animal or person, in need. We hope you and your pet family enjoy your new home!

Thank you for all you do!



SAVE THE DATES FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

PENNIES FOR PETS

Saturday, July 6th

Cortez Farmers Market

7:30 to 11:00



ESOTERRA CIDERWORKS - DOLORES

Saturday, August 3rd: music, games, food truck, cider, wine, silent auction. We're still working on planning this one. More details to follow on our Facebook page.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Please join us **Sunday, August 25th from 1-3 at the Parque de Vida East Playground Picnic Pavilion** for the For Pets' Sake Annual Membership Meeting. This year we will be celebrating our **40th** year!



Learn about everything that YOU made happen over the last year and see why YOUR membership is so important. Reminisce with us about how FPS has changed and grown over the years.

We will be voting on 2025 board members. If you are interested in becoming a board member, please call Lynn at 970-570-9250. **We need you!**

FALL YARD SALE

The **2024 FPS YARD SALE** will be held again in the Beef Barn at the Fairgrounds

September 25th to 28th

Donation day will be **Tuesday, September 24th**. As usual, we will need a **LOT** of volunteers to take in donations, help set-up sale items, work during the sale, and clean up afterwards. We will be emailing volunteer sign-up sheets soon. Join the fun, help FPS with our biggest fundraiser of the year, and find some great bargains!



Board Meeting Dates

Monday • July 8th • 6:30 pm

Monday • August 12th • 6:30 pm

Call for information. (970) 565-7387



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 /7387 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!**

Business Members

Cortez Adobe Animal Hospital
Dr. Nancy Wegner

Encantos Products, LLC

Fine Feathers Realty
Katherine Chaffin

First National Bank, Cortez

Four Corners Financial LLC

Heart and Core Yoga Studio
Sherry Dawn Carter

Keesee Motor Company
Mary Ann Keesee

Montezuma Veterinary Clinic
Dr. Michelle Schmidt

Slavens True Value Hardware

Tequila's Mexican Restaurant

Terry Woodrow / 4 Corners Properties

The Dog Ranch
Kathy Hennek

Trees of Trail Canyon
David Temple

VanDeventer & Associates, P.C.

Business Supporters

A&C Milling

A to Z Storage

Animal Assistance Foundation

Aramark Mesa Verde

Best Friends Animal Society

Books

City Market

City of Cortez-Library & Parks

Cliffrose Garden Center & Gifts

Cold Stone Creamery

Colorado Animal Rescue Express (CARE)

Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund

Colorado Pet Pantry

Cortez Animal Bed & Breakfast

Cortez Quilt Company

Dairy Queen

El Grande Café

Fahrenheit Coffee Roasters

FB Organics

The Farm Bistro

Fiona King / Artist

Four Corners Free Press
Gail Binkly

Frends of the Aspen Animal Shelter

Goodwill of Durango

Housing Authority of the County of Montezuma

IFA Country Store

JC Pets

The Journal

Kokopelli Bike & Board

KSJD Dry Land Community Radio

KVFC/KRTZ Radio

LOR Foundation

Lotsa Pasta

Mona Makes

Mud Creek Hogan

Once Upon a Sandwich

Pioneer Printing

Salvation Army Thrift Store

Smitty's Liquors

Sonja Horoshko / Artist

Tiger by the Tail
Lan Degeneres

Turquoise Raven Art Gallery

Vibrant Pet Animal Hospital

Walmart

WildEdge Brewing Collective

ZU Gallery



**For
Pets'
Sake
Humane
Society**

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

Donate on our webpage: [For Pets' Sake](#)

Or by mail at:
PO Box 1705
Cortez, CO 81321
(970) 565-7387



Other ways to donate:

