

For Pets' Sake Humane Society

The Companion

APRIL 2022

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

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ANIMAL ART WORKS RETURNS

Against the backdrop of the beautiful, new Turquoise Raven Art Gallery, Animal Art Works returned. And, it returned with a roar! The popular event celebrated its fifth year, after being absent for two years due to COVID. Forty artists submitted more than 80 animal-related works of art representing many diverse mediums. Over 200 people ventured out on a beautiful spring day to enjoy art, socialize with friends, partake of great food and beverages and, most important of all, purchase art.

Animal Art Works, the creation of artist Sonja Horoshko, is a perfect blend of local art and two humane societies, For Pets' Sake and Black Hat. The artists gain exposure and sales, and the humane societies receive funds to assist animals in need. Mary Fuller, owner of Turquoise Raven Art Gallery, was thrilled to see so many people in her gallery enjoying the art and the ambiance.



The event took place on March 26, from 4:00 to 6:30, and final sales results and donation amounts to the humane societies will not be available for several days. We will follow up with an announcement in the May newsletter.

Thank you to Sonja, Turquoise Raven Art Gallery, the exceptional artists, the wonderful For Pets' Sake members and supporters who provided food, the great music provided by Black Hat, and especially THANK YOU for attending and supporting For Pets' Sake. Let's do it again next year!



DOG HAPPENINGS

The For Pets' Sake Dog Program is alive and well! In 2021 we successfully transferred 75 dogs and puppies to rescue partners in other parts of Colorado, adopted 2 puppies to their local foster families, and assisted other local organizations in placing 47 dogs and puppies.

It seems that 2022 is shaping up to be an even more challenging year. Most rescue partners are full to overflowing, making finding partners willing to take animals more difficult. The pandemic resulted in many canceled spay/neuter clinics, and the current economy is preventing many people from getting their animals spayed or neutered, resulting in an explosion of puppies and kittens. So far in 2022, we've had the opportunity to help re-home seven beautiful dogs and puppies. Several are highlighted here.

FPS was contacted by a woman facing a serious illness who needed to downsize her pack in order to travel for treatments. She had two beautiful spayed young females, Honeybun and Josie, that were transferred to rescue partners. Honeybun went to Gunnison Valley Animal Welfare League, and Josie to Roice-Hurst in Grand Junction about a week later. They were both immediate staff favorites and were adopted into wonderful homes within a week of arrival.

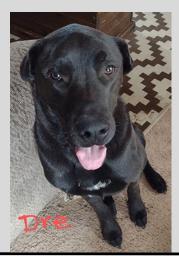
This same woman also had a friend's dog living with her that was diagnosed with hip dysplasia as a pup. He's a beautiful, young lab mix named Dre. FPS has been working for several months to help keep him mobile, but the long-term solution is surgery. We put the plea out to rescue partners multiple times, and finally got a positive response from Animal Alliance in Fort Collins. They're committed to performing the surgery, but need to first secure a foster home for 16 weeks during his rehabilitation. We still have that hurdle in our path, but we're much closer to helping sweet Dre.

FPS also came to the rescue for a family that had an "accidental" litter. The family found homes for all the puppies except one. That girl they named Ducky because of her unusual gait. FPS had her evaluated and x-rayed and learned that she has double luxating patellas, which are very painful and require surgical correction. Once again it was very challenging to find a rescue partner that was willing to invest that kind of money in one dog. Thankfully, Denver Dumb Friends League stepped up.



Next came the challenge of getting Ducky to Denver. FPS learned of a flight through Pilots and Paws going from Durango to Broomfield and managed to secure Ducky a spot. It was very exciting to have a dog transported via air, and hopefully Ducky will not be the last. Ducky is enjoying all the attention of the shelter staff and her first surgery has already been scheduled.

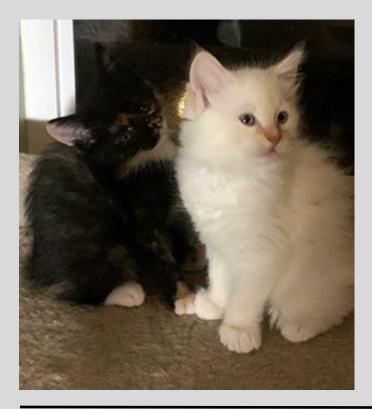
These rescues were possible because the dog owners were willing to hold on to their animals until FPS could find placement. Unfortunately FPS does not have any dog foster homes that meet PACFA criteria, but we are in desperate need of dog foster assistance. If you have a setup where you can foster and keep a dog or puppy in a completely separate area from your other animals for up to two weeks, please let Debbie Davis know. Just leave a message on the FPS line, 970-565-PETS, and Debbie will get back to you. All supplies are provided for foster animals.



KITTENS, KITTENS, KITTENS

If nothing else, For Pets' Sake rolls with the punches. Over the past couple of weeks there have been two cat/kitten situations that were a bit out of the ordinary. The first involved a cat that was left in a carrier under one of our feral cat feeding stations—obviously not good for the cat. But, we couldn't leave her there so she became an FPS foster. The poor kitty had obviously been a pet and had been very well cared for. We're sure there is a tragic story behind her, but she is not sharing. Unfortunately, she's pregnant and that may be why her owners felt they could no longer keep her. Miss Lexie is now living the life of a pampered foster kitty awaiting the birth of her kittens.

Not a week later, For Pets' Sake received a call that a local apartment complex was enforcing their pet policy and several tenants were not in compliance. All excess animals were to be removed within 3 days. One tenant had quite a few cats, one with kittens. FPS agreed to take the Mama cat and her babies. Upon arrival, it was discovered that there were two Mama cats with kittens, so FPS took them all: two cats and six kittens. We were fortunate that all the cats and kittens could be kept together. The adult cats, Topio and Mittens, are sisters and they each care for all the little ones. One set of kittens is about 3 weeks older than the others, but they still like to "play" with their younger cousins. They are simply cuteness overload.





The kitten saga is just beginning. FPS has 18 pregnant cats on the waiting list. All of these kittens will need to be fostered, vetted, and placed in partner shelters. If you can help foster a litter of kittens, please call 970-565-PETS and leave a message. All related expenses are provided to foster homes.

Each kitten FPS fosters costs at least \$50 in vet visits. That can amount to a lot of expense.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR A KITTEN FOR \$50?

If so, please visit our website, www.forpetssakehs.org to donate, or send a check to FPS, Box 1705, Cortez, CO 81321. Be sure to note it is for a kitten foster. Kitten Sponsors will be recognized in a future newsletter along with some ooh and awe kitten photos.

Thank YOU.

For Pets' Sake is Sponsoring a Low-Cost, Dog and Cat Vaccination Clinic this Spring

When: Saturday, May 7, 2022, 9:00 am to noon **Where:** Montezuma County Annex Building, 107 N. Chestnut Street, Cortez

Veterinarian: Dr. Michelle Schmidt, DVM, Montezuma Veterinary Clinic

- \$55 Dog Package includes DHPP/L, Rabies, Bordetella
- \$55 Cat Package includes FVRCP/L, Rabies
- \$40 Package without Rabies
- \$20 Rabies only

Dogs must be on leashes – Cats in Carriers Cash or Checks Only – No Credit or Debit Cards.

Vaccinations for our human population have been a topic on every newscast the past two years due to the global pandemic. But don't overlook the importance of keeping your pet's vaccinations up-to-date. Why?

The American Veterinary Medical Association gives 5 reasons to vaccinate your pet:

- Vaccinations prevent many pet illnesses.
- Vaccinations can help avoid costly treatments for diseases that can be prevented.
- Vaccinations prevent diseases that can be passed between animals and also from animals to people.
- Diseases prevalent in wildlife, such as rabies and distemper, can infect unvaccinated pets.
- In many areas, local or state ordinances require certain vaccinations of household pets.

The essential or core vaccines should be given to all dogs and cats at regular intervals. Puppies and kittens should start receiving their first shots at 6 to 8 weeks followed by 3 booster shots until they are 12 months old.



Puppies are especially vulnerable to parvovirus. Kittens are highly susceptible to panleukopenia (also known as feline distemper) and calicivirus.

The core vaccine for dogs given at our vaccination clinic is DHPP/L. Cats receive FVRCP/L. What does all this alphabet soup mean?

DHPP/L protects dogs against Distemper, Hepatitis, Parainfluenza, Parvovirus and Leptospirosis. Dogs also receive protection against Rabies and Bordetella.

FVRCP/L protects cats against FelineViral Rhinotracheitis,Calicivirus, Panleukopenia, Chlamydia, and Feline Leukemia. Cats also receive Rabies vaccines.

All of the diseases listed above are highly contagious, potentially fatal and costly to treat.

\$2 of the proceeds from each package purchased will be donated to For Pets' Sake!



PENNIES FOR PETS

It's not too early to start saving those pennies, as well as dimes, quarters, and nickels for the Annual July Pennies for Pets event. Start saving now so FPS can really fill those jars with coins. The For Pets' Sake Booth is scheduled to be at the Cortez Farmers Market, Saturday Morning, July 2nd.

NEXT MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

Thursday • April 21st • 6:30 pm Thursday • May 19th • 6:30 pm

Call for information. (970) 565-7387

FPS Helps to Spay/Neuter

From our newsletter articles, you can see the need for spay/neuter continues. Too many kittens and puppies. Please spread the news that FPS will pay 50% for any spay/neuter. We'll cover vets in Durango and Moab as well as in Montezuma County, since local appointments are hard to find. Please help FPS eliminate unwanted animals. Thank YOU.

The Yard Sale is Coming

As you do your spring cleaning this year, think of For Pets' Sake. The Fall 2022 FPS Yard Sale is scheduled for September 21-24. It will be held again in the Beef Barn at the Fairgrounds. More information will follow in upcoming newsletters.



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For Pets' Sake Humane Society

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

Donate via <u>PayPal</u> at info@forpetssakehs.org Donate on our webpage, <u>forpetssakehs.org</u> Or by mail at PO Box 1705, Cortez, CO 81321 (970) 565-7387



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