

PAW PRINTS



Inside Scoop...

'Tis the season for peace, love and generosity. It is our wish that every shelter pet finds a loving home for the holidays and thanks to our wonderful community it is possible for this wish to come true. The power of community is something to celebrate! This fall season started with the Decker Fire threatening homes on Methodist Mountain in Salida as our whole community scrambled to ensure people and pets remained safe and received the support they needed. We were absolutely amazed to see how many people in our community opened their homes to evacuees *and their pets!* Ark-Valley Humane Society was proud to serve as part of the emergency response team that involved so many local agencies. We set up services at the evacuation and disaster assistance centers, attended town meetings, and worked to provide emergency pet boarding, pet supplies, and pet transport to bring peace of mind and assistance to people and pets who were affected. The outpouring of support from businesses and attendees for our Cause for the Paws event in October,

the generosity shared through our Annual Friends Drive fundraising campaign, Giving Tuesday, Colorado Gives Day and holiday giving is further testimony to the strength and compassion of our community. Our Open House in November was a huge celebration of our new and beautiful shelter addition that welcomed a steady stream of visitors and recognized the incredible work of our volunteers.

"Puppy Love" by DiRico Fine Art found his fur-ever home at Ark-Valley Humane Society thanks to the generosity of artist Janene DiRico-Cable. The dogs and cats at Ark-Valley Humane Society have so much to be grateful for this holiday season thanks to the strength and generosity of our caring community.

Sincerely,



Amber van Leuken
AVHS Executive Director

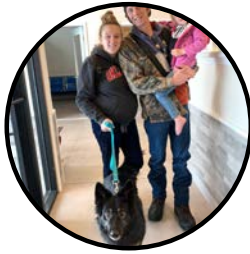




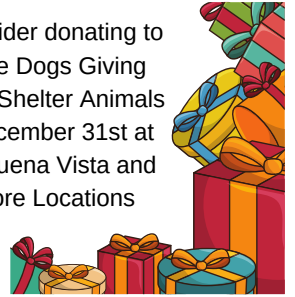
Home Fur the Holidays Adoption Promotion



Adopt a Cat this Holiday Season! All Adult Cat Adoptions, 8 months and older, have Adoption Fees Waived! All Kitten Adoptions are 2 for 1 Until Jan 4th!



Please consider donating to Gone to the Dogs Giving Tree for our Shelter Animals through December 31st at both their Buena Vista and Salida Store Locations



Puppy Love has found his fur-ever home! Donated By DiRico Fine Art, Puppy Love now greets everyone who comes to Ark-Valley Humane Society!

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Courtney Boutwell has been working at Ark-Valley Humane Society as an Animal Care Technician since May of 2019. When asked why she applied to AVHS she said: "As a PTSD survivor, I felt as though the position might be somewhat therapeutic for me. And it definitely has been. I came to AVHS after spending some time at a local goat farm. I knew I already enjoyed working with animals and wanted to keep my career path on that track." After joining the team Courtney quickly started fostering animals in need! She has since adopted an FIV positive kitten, Cersi, and a deaf kitten, Star, from the shelter- we're so grateful that she took these two special needs kittens into her loving home. Of her two adopted felines she says, "They've really taken to each other. It's kind of funny because Star seems to get "lost" in our home at least once a day and will begin to meow very loudly! Cersi always runs to go get him, and when she arrives he calms right down." When Courtney started working here she was immediately surprised by the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes. She says, "We are involved in the whole circle of life here at AVHS and there's a lot that goes into it that people might not realize. I know I certainly didn't. I have also been pleasantly surprised by the amount of community involvement. We have so many dedicated volunteers, and we really couldn't do it all without them!" When Courtney isn't at the shelter she spends her time skiing and hiking with her family and making all kinds of art.

"We are involved in the whole circle of life here at AVHS"



Another Successful Cause for the Paws!

BIG THANKS to everyone who came out to our 5th annual Cause for the Paws! With over 170 guests in attendance, it was our biggest year yet! There was live music by Two weeks in Fiji, delicious food catered by Kalamatapit, and a lot of great fundraising games that all sold out! Back this year was the Wine Pull, where everyone won a bottle of wine! The Balloon-Pop filled with gift certificates from local businesses, great raffle baskets filled with goodies and our Ears and Tails game- where the last person standing won a \$500 cash prize donated by the AVHS board of directors! Because of your support we were able to raise over \$10,000 for the shelter animals! Melissa Berndt-Synder was inducted into the AVHS Hall of Fame for her exceptional ongoing dedication and support of the shelter, and her vital role in successfully completing the new addition. Thank you Melissa!! Tanner, a stray dog that was found near Monarch Mountain this summer with an injured hip, made a special appearance with his new mom, Monica McCarthy, who helped a great deal with planning this event and many other AVHS events! Seeing all of the community's support meant so much to us. Thank you and we hope to see you at next year's Cause for the Paws!



Thank you to our 2019 Cause for the Paws Sponsors!

Platinum Sponsor



BANK OF THE WEST
BNP PARIBAS

All Star In Kind Sponsors



Monica McCarthy



COLLEGIATE PEAKS REALTY

Gold Sponsors



RALLY LIQUOR



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors

- BV True Value
- Big Sky Bed & Biscuit
- Heritage House Cabinetry, Inc
- Lund Eye Care Associates
- Lewis & Glenn Funeral Home
- Rev Whitman Weddings



We are extremely proud to be honored as the Best Nonprofit AND Best Place to Volunteer! Thank you Salida!



THANK YOU to all of our Volunteers! Special Shout out to these volunteers that were recognized during our Annual Volunteer Appreciation!



- BEST VOLUNTEER: Keli Daugherty
- FELINE FRIEND: Myrna Cunningham
- DEVOTED DOG WALKER: Jeff Yoder
- DEVOTED CAT CLEANER: John & Susan Ellis
- MOST DEDICATED FOSTER: Mike Ondrasek
- ROOKIE OF THE YEAR: Charles and Denise Washer



AVHS Boards 23 Animals During Decker Fire

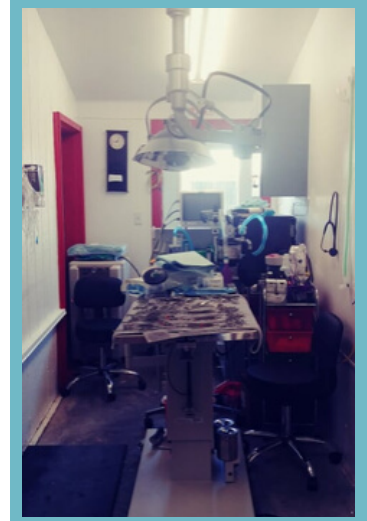
During the Decker Fire AVHS boarded 23 cats and dogs from evacuees. We're so thankful for the firefighters who kept everyone safe during this time. We also want to sincerely thank all the volunteers who stepped up to help transport animals, donate food and help the evacuees.



THANK YOU to Coldwell Banker Collegiate Peaks Realty for hosting a Pet Food Drive for AVHS Animals!

Our New Addition is Complete!

We've moved into our new addition!! Thank you to the donors, supporters, board and staff who made this new addition possible! We're so excited to now be working out of the beautiful new reception area, have our cats in the new Adoptable Cat Room, and three gorgeous Meet & Greet rooms for potential adopters to meet dogs and cats in! The Buena Vista Chamber of Commerce, Heart of the Rockies Radio and Chaffee County Times came out to our Open House and we had a ribbon cutting! Many folks stopped by to enjoy food and drinks while touring the new digs! If you haven't had a chance yet, make sure to stop by to see the new addition!



The Mama Sue Phillips Surgery Suite



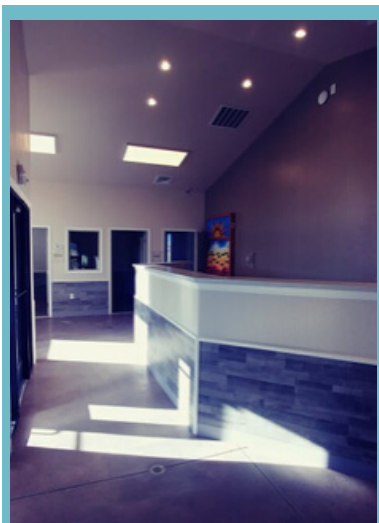
The Grace Powers Cattery



Adoptable Cat Room is For the Love Of All Cats



High Country Bank & Diesslin Structures Meet & Greet Rooms



Grant Heilman Reception Area



From Left to Right: Melissa Berndt-Snyder, Board Director & 2019 Hall of Fame Inductee, Justin Burns, Diesslin Project Manager, Amber Van Leuken, Executive Director, John Diesslin, Diesslin Structures CEO



Our Completed New Addition!

Board of Directors

John Ellis, Chair

Cindy Klinedinst, Vice Chair

Kay Gardner, Treasurer

Ruth Phillips, Secretary

Melissa Berndt-Snyder

Greg Phillips

Terri Buchanan

Forrest Whitman

Ruby Osberg

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Amber van Leuken,
Executive Director

Johny Sandoval,
Operations Manager

Amanda Racicot,
Medical Manager

Emy Luebbing,
Outreach Manager

Jenna Geldreich,
Volunteer Coordinator &
Behavior Lead

Courtney Boutwell

Jillian Garza

Nikki Ritter

Krissy Zic

Thank you to our Grant Funders!

These foundations and organizations helped with the building project, general animal care, and spay/neuter



Lauretta Boyd Charitable Trust

The Dr. Mary E Bates Foundation

The Mary Elizabeth Bates Foundation

Alice N. Jenkins Foundation



NUMBERS THAT COUNT

September through November

Animals Adopted **98**

Lost Animals Returned to Owner **54**

Volunteer Hours **542**

Number of Spay/Neuter Community Assistance Coupons Given **33**

Thank you, Fall Donors! September-November



In Kind Superstars:
Rocky Mountain Lumber
Dicarlo Fine Art

Your contributions to AVHS are invaluable to the lifesaving work we do everyday. The animals we help everyday have a second chance at life because of **you**.

Adele Alfson	David & Amy McCrary	Jennie Ridgley	Loralyn Brabson	Phillip & Kathleen Carey	Terry Andrews
Alan Cammack	David & Alrene Aldrich	Jennifer Bundrick	Lori Hudson	Phillip & Lanie Shaffner	Terry and Mary Ann Williams
Alice & Arron Morrison	David & Karen Monroe	Jerry Reitmeyer	Lorraine De Luco	Phyllis Kittel	Thomas Crocombe
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Amber Vanleuken	Dellina Strelow	Joan Adair	Lynn Schultz-Writsel	Prina Fitzgerald	Tim Harris
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Caroline Champe	Harold Millage	Keith Valerio	Monica McCarthy	N J and Marcia Adams	- Dr. Beth Ritchie
Carolyn Findley	Hazel Bracewell	Keith and Kay Krebs	Nancy Roberts	Nick & Jacqueline Avignon	Alice N. Jenkins Foundation
Cate Hazlitt	Helene Watson	Kelly Landau	Norman & Colleen Wheelock	Padgett McFeely	Vital Living Herbs & Nutrition
Cathie Dill	James Walker	Kenneth & Sharon Tiegs	Patricia Andreas	Patricia Juarez	Kaleidoscope Toys
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Christopher Richmond	Jane Cisco	Larry & Lily Dusza	Paula and Mike Wilder	Sharon Jahr	Sharon Schutzb
Cindy Reinhardt	Janene DiRico Fine Art	Larry and Janet Linn	Peggy Kraft	Sharon Adcock	Sharon Schutzb
Connie McMurry	Janet Mallow	Larry and Patricia Russell	Peggy Allen	Shelley Dennis	Shelley Mayer
Cortiney Bradley	Janet Schott	Lathrop Nelson	Peter Bond	Sherri Hamilton	Shirley Butala
Cyndi Rader	Janice Toniazzo	Laura Lygrisse		Shirley Butala	Stacie McWilliams
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Dana & Sandra Braatz	Jean Wilcox	Linda Brazil		Susan Nies	Susan Nies
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Danielle Steinhoff	Jeffrey & Deborah Blondeau				
David Robbins	Jeffrey and Geneva Dearthoff				
David Davidoff					

Over the Rainbow Bridge

Human Memorials

Alma Owens	Dr. Jack Rowland		
Brandon	Dr. Kim Saltus		
Collin Carey	Fred T. Carney	Jim Schutz	
Doris (O'Leary) Grasnliek	Jack Brabson	Michael Backsen	Wayne Strelow
Linda Mehos	Jane Wright	Paula J Bullington	Wilson Wanamaker



**"Until one has loved an animal,
part of one's soul
remains unawakened."
-Anatole France**

Pet Memorials

Amigo	Buster Cuffe	Earl	John Henry	Matilda Schwartz	Poncho	Strider
Ani Davis	Calypso Love & Lenidas	Elf Ludwig	Jordi	Max	Porter	Sushiwobbles Stubbs
Artois	Cannoli Weber	Finnegan	Julie	Meanie	Puddy Cat	Tanner
Aspen	Charlie	George	Kati	Mittens	Riley	Tater
Avalanche	Chaz Brown	Goliath	KC Wulfsberg	Molly	Rugby Fowler	TBWHKM
Axel	Chewy Brown	Goliath Born	Keiki	Monk	Sadie Schroeder	Tiberius Bryant
Bear Messic	Cleo	Gucci	Kelso	Mya & Emmy Carmell	Sally	Tiger
Blackie	Cowboy	Hannah	Hannah	Nonie Cat	Sam	Trapper
Blaze Smith	Daisy Bristol	Heathcliff Bentley	Holly Hollenbeck	Nutmeg	Sam the Dog	Two-Tone
Boo Radley	Demo	Holly Hollenbeck	Hope	Oreo Amesty	Sammy Wright	Weezie
Zimmerman	Deuce	Huxley Scherffius	Isabelle McKee	Pangur	Sasha	Willow
Bowzer	Digit	Janie	Jeepers	Pasha	Sebastian	Ziljian
Bruiser Zielinko	Django Sandoval	Dusty Pranger		Pete	Shadow	
Bryant Family pets				Piper Gastellum	Shay Vernon	
Bubba Morgan				Polly McGugan	Stella	



701 Gregg Drive
Buena Vista, CO 81211

return service requested

SAVE THE DATE-BOW WOW FILM FESTIVAL IS SATURDAY FEB 29TH!



**Saturday, February 29th
7:00 pm
Salida SteamPlant
A benefit for
Ark Valley Humane Society**

SAVE THE DATE- CRAFTS FOR A CAUSE AT SOULCRAFT BREWERY, JANUARY 15TH!



DONATE

\$10 can
help an animal



VOLUNTEER

sign up
online today



EMAIL

stay up-to-date
on AVHS news



CONNECT

connect with
AVHS online



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(719) 395-2737 www.ark-valley.org