

PAW PRINTS



Inside Scoop...

Ensuring the welfare of companion animals through compassion and care. Each day, countless individuals live our mission to make the work of Ark-Valley Humane Society possible. These individuals include our donors, our volunteers, and our foster families. They include our board members, our staff members, adopters, and caring people who assist a lost animal. They include our partner veterinarians, partner agencies, sponsoring businesses, and grant funders. The list goes on and on. As a nonprofit organization, Ark-Valley Humane Society has the special benefit of doing more for animals than any one of these groups could do alone. In a recent training, our staff team discussed the difference between sympathy, empathy, and compassion. Sympathy, while well-intentioned, is limited in its feeling sorry for, perhaps even pitying, someone else's misfortune. Empathy, on the other hand, can feel like a superpower or a curse. When experiencing empathy, we understand and share the feelings of someone else. As a community of supporters, we empathically feel pain when we see an animal suffering. What we do with that feeling is most important. Do we let it bring us down into despair or depression? Or, do we take action? This is where compassion comes in. By feeling, but not becoming overwhelmed by our emotions, compassion enables us to move through the discomfort of sharing in another's suffering and then move toward helpful action. I'd like to recognize two individuals who have been models of compassion this year. As **Volunteer of the Year, Junia Fitzgerald**, has supported our cat adoption program through countless hours of volunteerism at the shelter and fostering special needs and elderly kitties in her home.

We are incredibly grateful for Junia's contributions as a donor, volunteer, foster parent, and adopter. Her joyful and calm presence at the shelter is uplifting for our whole team. As **Employee of the Year, Nikki Ritter**, our Transfer Coordinator, has partnered with ten different organizations from Colorado and New Mexico, resulting in saving the lives of 13 cats and 65 dogs that would have otherwise been euthanized for space at their shelters of origin this year. Junia and Nikki remind us that by acting, we are making a difference, and this provides protection against the dark side of empathy, empathy fatigue. Further protection comes from celebrating our successes, and measuring the impact of the work we accomplish together. Also, knowing we are not alone, but rather finding strength in the feeling of community in support of our cause. Thank YOU for your compassion in supporting the work of AVHS!

Sincerely,

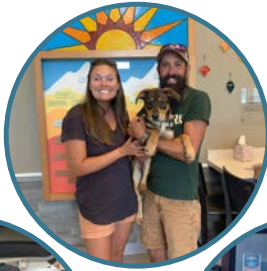


Amber Vanleuken
AVHS Executive Director



Freedom Ride Photos!

Thank you to everyone who adopted an animal this Fall!



Happy Tails update from Birdie!

We got a heartwarming update from AVHS alumni Birdie that we had to share! Birdie was found wandering around Poncha Springs in late June this year. She was in extremely poor health; we worried that this sweet dog wouldn't make it through the night. She received care right away and slowly started to improve. We suspected Birdie was partially blind and quickly discovered she was not housebroken. She was placed into a wonderful foster home where she started the hard work of house training and socialization. She stayed there until she met her perfect family! Birdie's forever family says: "She is a fearless little creature. She will quite often leap into the air to know that the couch cushion will catch her every time. This leap is at least a foot into the air for her little legs and she does so without warning! She is so brave!! I am blessed to have had her come into my life. I do believe she feels the same." We're so grateful to our fosters and adopters, thank you for giving animals like Birdie a second chance at love!



A Lucky Cat Named Easel

On a Tuesday afternoon in early October our Medical Manager, Amanda, got a phone call. It was from our shelter veterinarian, Dr. Annie Cordova. She had a kitten with her that had been stepped on by a horse and her front leg was badly broken. The kitten, who we named Bernice, was rushed to the shelter.

Upon arrival our vet and team went to work to save her. Amanda recalls, “we did a thorough examination of the leg and grappled with whether to try to put a cast on or completely amputate. After studying the radiographs we decided that amputation would be the best option. Bernice did great under anesthesia and it did not take long for us to find that we had made the right decision with electing amputation. The bone was shattered, something that was hard to see on the radiographs and was only truly evident when we were able to see inside. Dr. Annie carefully removed the fragments of bone and completed the amputation.” Little Bernice was only around 4 months old and just over 4 pounds when this all happened, but she was a fighter!



Easel in her forever home!

She had a successful surgery and started her recovery journey in the loving foster home of staff member, Nikki Ritter. In foster Bernice made fast friends with the other pets. She didn't let her disability slow her down one bit! She's able to get around just like any other cat, in fact she's found some climbing spots in the home that even the resident cat, Trout, couldn't get to (to her foster's dismay). Bernice loves playing with string, chasing balls, and climbing the cat tree to watch the nearby fish tank. After a few weeks in foster care, Nikki's family realized that they wouldn't be able to part ways with sweet Bernice and she was in fact already in her forever home! Bernice, now Easel, is right at home with Nikki, Kevin, Trout, Josh & Juniper and she couldn't be happier!



Easel on intake



Easel after her surgery

Cause for the Paws Radio Auction



This year we celebrated Cause for the Paws in a new way, with a radio auction! Thank you to all of the businesses who donated and everyone who participated in this auction. You helped raise \$3,475 for AVHS!

Special thanks to Su Casa! Furniture & Sleep shop for sponsoring this event.



Thank you to Tres Litros Beer Company for donating proceeds of a special brew to AVHS! You raised \$1,116 for the animals of AVHS and we are so grateful for your support!



Huge thanks to Moonlight Pizza & Brewpub for donating \$1,044 from Moonlight Monday!





Commemorative Glass Leaves & Brick Order Form

Take advantage of this special opportunity to acknowledge your support of Ark-Valley Humane Society with a commemorative glass leaf or brick paver. The bricks will be on permanent display outside of the new addition to our Buena Vista Shelter. Commemorative Glass Leaves may be returned to you as a keepsake or may be displayed on the AVHS memorial Tree in the Memorial Garden. If you choose to keep your leaf, there is no additional cost to you, however your donation will be reduced by the cost of the leaf and shipping if selected.

A hand-crafted glass leaf memorializes or honors a loved pet. A brick celebrates a special donation, honors a long-time volunteer or memorializes a loved one!

Questions?

Contact Amber van Leuken at avanleuken@ark-valley.org
719.395.2737

Glass Leaves



Green \$50 Donation

Green

Yellow \$75 Donation

Yellow

Orange \$100 Donation

Orange

Leaf to be displayed at AVHS

Leaf to be mailed to address listed below

Pet's name to appear on Leaf _____

Brick \$250 Donation

4x8 Personalized Brick Paver

PLEASE PRINT WHAT YOU WISH TO INSCRIBE BELOW



How To Order

Fill out this order form and bring in or **mail to:** AVHS
Attn: Glass Leaf/Brick Campaign, 701 Gregg Drive, Buena Vista, CO
81211

First & Last Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Email _____

Phone Number _____

Include check of appropriate amount along with this form filled out

*Please make check payable to Ark-Valley Humane Society

To pay with credit card, please make payment in person at our shelter located at 701 Gregg Drive in Buena Vista

Board of Directors

Terri Buchanan, Chair

Tom Purvis, Vice Chair

Sarah McMahon, Treasurer

Ruth Phillips, Secretary

Greg Phillips

Allison Gergley

Mary Ann Davidson

Thank you to our Grant Funders!

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



ANIMAL ASSISTANCE
FOUNDATION

The Dr. Mary E Bates Foundation

The Mary Elizabeth Bates Foundation

Alice N Jenkins Foundation

Staff

**Amber Vanleuken,
Executive Director**

**Johny Sandoval,
Operations Manager**

**Amanda Racicot,
Medical Manager**

**Emy Luebbering,
Outreach Manager**

**Jenna Geldreich,
Behavior & Enrichment
Coordinator**

**Nikki Ritter, Transfer
Coordinator**

**Krissy Zic, Volunteer
Coordinator**

**Heather Mills, Animal
Care Technician**

**Sydney Cook,
Animal Care Technician**

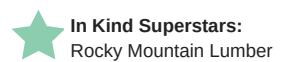


NUMBERS THAT COUNT SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER RECAP

Animals Adopted	110
Lost Animals Returned to Owner	32
Animals In Foster	62
Number of Spay/Neuter Community Assistance Surgeries	46

Thank you, Fall Donors! September - November

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**.



- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 4 Eyecandy LLC | Delaine Duprey | Joannette Norman-Sieve | Mary Peck | Split Happens Bowling Center | Thomas Small |
| Absolute Bikes | Denise & Paul Josefson | Joe Jonas | Mary Trauner | St. Rose Of Lima Catholic Church | Thomas Pahnke |
| Adriane Givant | Dennis Andrews | John Nahomenuk | Mary Loring | Stacie McWilliams | Thomas & Gail Clark |
| Alexander & Joan Ware | Diana Brady | John Shaw | Mary Therese Anstey | Stacy Upchurch | Tiffany Rhodes |
| Alice N. Jenkins Foundation | Dianne Nowlin | John & Cynthia Jacobson | Matthew & Amy Nuckols | State Of Colorado | Tracy Wartman |
| Always Azul Pottery | Donald Boyd | John & Jenny Price | Michael Souder | Stephanie Amend | Tris Litros Beer Company |
| Alyce & Jerry Hudnell | Donna Hassinger | John & Mary Ann Longwell | Michael Whittington | Steve Duhaime | Tricia Nickerson |
| Amica's | Donna Mausbach | John G Damrath, Jr. | Michelle & Sean West Leach | Steve & Lynn Nicks | Valerie & David Martinez |
| Angela & Susan Hancock & Maahs | Donna Chiordi | John Paul & Karen Boggs Bryant | Monarch Investment | Steve & Viva Borbas | Valley of the Sun United Way |
| Animal Care Center | Doris Donkle | John Walker and Roxann Moore | & Management Group | Stuart English | Veronica Rimbart |
| Anita Powers | Dwayne & Renae Kersenbrock | Joshua Kester | Monette & Butch Butler | Su Casa! Furniture & Sleep Shop | Vicki Berman |
| Ann Hueter | Edward Meyer | Judith Longo | Moonlight Pizza | Sue Teague | Vickie Humphrey |
| Anna Murphy | Elisabeth Evans | Judith Page | Mountain Phoenix Roasters | Sue Snively | Vino Salida Wine Cellars |
| Anne Dufex | Ellen Larson | Judith Dockery | Mr. & Mrs. Larry Cilerelli | Sue Wall | Virginia McLarty |
| Anne Parker | Erik Strzempko | Judith Smith | Murdoch's Ranch and | Sue DuBois | Wayne and Denise Forrester |
| Arkansas Valley Storage | Erin Stanton | Judy Hamontre | Home Supply LLC | Susan Porter | Wayne Close |
| Arlene & Fred Rollo | Erin Flavin | Judy & Earle Kittelman | Myrna Cunningham | Susan Wolfe | Wendy Thompson |
| Arlie Dale's Jug Liquors | EZ CLIPZ | Justin Allison | Nancy Mckinley-Cordiale | Susan Meise | William Hartcom |
| Aubrea Alford | First Colorado Land Office | Kaleidoscope Toys | Nancy Odean | Susan & Harry Deking | William & Donna Talbert |
| Barry Goldmuntz | First Street Flooring | Karalyn Capone | Neesen Enterprises LLC | Susan and William Frensey | William & Judy Lore |
| Becky Moore and Family | Frank Mansheim | Karen Watkins | Nick & Jacqueline Avignon | Tara Ali | William & Susan Helms |
| Bette/Lee Henry | Frank and Jill Connaghan | Karen Smith | Norman & Colleen Wheelock | Teri Dahn | Woodland Motel |
| Bill & Esther St. James | Frankie Lee & Charles Hankins | Karen Timbrell | Oveja Negra | Terri & William Mantia | Woods Distillery |
| Bill & Junia Fitzgerald | Free The Monkey Consignment | Karen Selsing | Pam Smith | Terry and Mary Ann Williams | YOLO |
| Bob Daniel | Frog Pond | Karen Kremer | Pamela Simpson | The Biker & The Baker | Your Best Friends' Mobile Vet - Dr. |
| Bob & Kate Garwood | Fun Street Family Arcade | Karen and Tony Laier | Pati & John McNeil | The Celler Wine and Spirits | Beth Ritchie |
| Bonnie Boylan | Gail Venturi | Katherine Rose | Patricia Barber | The Midland Stop | Yvonne DiCarlo |
| Brady's West | Gail & Phil Raznick | Katherine Oakley | Patricio Delgado | The Mixing Bowl | |
| Brent & Wendy Skean | Gary Danhauer | Katherine Granzella | Paul & Kathryn Arrambide | Thelma Felt | |
| Bruce & Mary Hall | Gary Hall | Katherine & Dan Larkin | Paul & Terry Andrews | | |
| Buena Vista True Value | Gaylynn Cowan | Kathleen Quinlivan | Paulette Sundgren | | |
| Buena Vista Vet Clinic | Gene Farrar | Kay Litz | Pavement Maintenance Services | | |
| Butch and Rhonda Butler | George Brown | Keith E. Boyd Pump Service, Inc. | Peggy Jean Allen | | |
| Candace Marthaler | Georgia Brown | Kellie & Richard Spradlin | Phillip Deluca | | |
| Cara Madde | Gerald Noe | Kenneth & Donna Nicholas-Griesel | Phyllis Persinger | | |
| Carl & Rosanne Pearson | Ginger Green | Kevin St Croix | Randal & Elizabeth Amettis | | |
| Carl J. & Jane M. Reno | Glenn Barnett | Kevin Hoss | Randy & Kerrie McFarland | | |
| Carla Gershenoff | Gloria Hopp | Kimberly Lopez | Rene Frazee | | |
| Carol Ahuna | Gone To The Dogs | Kristine Brands | Richard Yobak | | |
| Caroline Champe | Gordon & Shirley Trask | Kroger | Richard Sharpe | | |
| Carolyn Findley | Harriette Yeakley | Lanette Allen | Richard & Jane Shoemaker | | |
| Cathy Davis | Hazel Bracewell | Larry Jack | Rick and Connie Cameron | | |
| CC Barton Studio | Heike Petersen | Larry Dusza | Rita & Dave Walden & Noble | | |
| CCR Rolloffs | Helene Watson | Larry & Ida Hansen | Robert Vanderkooi | | |
| Charitable Flex Fund | Hunger Junction Poncha | Larry and Janet Linn | Robert Engel | | |
| Charlie Tilt | Intentions Spa | Laura's Dog Training | Robert & Barbara Engberg | | |
| Charlotte Jean Silva Charitable Fund | Iron Antler Tattoo | Laurence Chaffee | Robert & Margdele Vonderohe | | |
| Cheryl Byler | J. Wright | Lawrence Woody | Robert & Mohanta Schalit | | |
| Chris and Diana Hanes | James Walker | Leah and Billy Fairchild | Robert and Kathleen Truit | | |
| Christopher Moutray | James & Jean Ann McPhetres | Leland and Diane Lively | Robin's | | |
| Cinda Moore | Jamie Kessel | Leslie Meyer | Robyn Erler | | |
| Cindy Sasso | Jan H Schmidt | Leslie & John Toepfer | Roger & Candy Minke | | |
| Clifford Mestel | Jane Cisco | Lesly & David Eckstein | Ronald and Pamela Hamilton | | |
| Cogan Ranch | Jane Richards | Linda & Keith Barbeau | Salida Mountain Sports, Inc. | | |
| Comfurt Gas | Janet Mallow | Linda & Michael Brazil | Sally Mather | | |
| Conrad Nelson | Janet Schott | Lisa Leach | Sally Griego | | |
| Cynthia & Tom Bement | Janice German | Lisa Defabrizio | Sandra Bowers | | |
| Daniel & Prina Fitzgerald | Jason & Christina Wiswell | Lisa Wood | Sandra Starnaman | | |
| Dara Orron | Jason & Heather Boland | Lisa Utrata | Sarah & Bob McMahan | | |
| Daris Coxworth | Jean Wilcox | Lois Huyck | Sasha WangerowPo | | |
| David Davidoff | Jeffrey & Deborah Blondeau | Lorene Farney | Scott and Rebecca Leonard | | |
| David & Amy McCrary | Jennie Ridgley | Lori Hudson | Sean Nicholson | | |
| David & Arlene Aldrich | Jennifer McNaigal | Lucy Achenbach | Sharilyn & Paul Braly | | |
| David & Karen Monroe | Jennifer & David Ciancio | Lynn Fish | Sharon Schutz | | |
| David & Mercy Liu | Jennifer & Paul Adams | Margaret Dustin | Sharon McCarrell | | |
| David & Sharon Passarelli | Jessica Crites | Margaret Corcoran | Sharon Jahr & Betty Bracewell | | |
| David & Yvonne Andrews | Jill Duncan | Maria Weber & James Bassett | Sharry Reid | | |
| David and Cindy Phillips | Jo Caissie | Marilyn Fields | Shawna Paulin | | |
| David and Jacqueline Williams | Joan Pease | Marlene Stott | Sheila Hellen | | |
| Dean Crymble | Joan Lydy | Marsha & Larry Brady | Sherry Thomas | | |
| Debbie Coats | Joanie Barbier | Martyn & Elizabeth Webb | Soulcraft Brewing, LLC | | |

"Hi there, I'm Trixie, available for adoption from AVHS! I wanted to thank everyone who donates to AVHS-you're helping so many animals just like me find loving homes!"



Over the Rainbow Bridge

Human Memorials

- | | | | |
|----------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bob Hickman | David Chancellor | Farrell Perdrevaille | Leota Nyberg |
| Bryan Lally | Dr. Ernest Lokey | Jim Schutz | Orthel Family |
| Craig | Ed Sampson | John Baron Coleman | Vi Hardy |
| Darlene Novack | Ellen Bailey | John Elliot | Sarah Kathleen Grigsby-Reiser |



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

Pet Memorials

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Ally Cat Bell | Chica Carl | Izzy Sparrow | Oliver Kleber | Sally |
| Balls | Chickpea Sere | Laika | Pip Hamontre | Sam |
| Bitzy | Chloe Jack | Lilly Spence | Polly Bowdish | Saul |
| Blankie | Cloudee Burke/Brabant | Lily | puddy cat | Snowy & Raven Arrambide |
| Boomer | Connor Sawyer | Lincoln | Raz Walton | Soot |
| Brooklyn Hargrove | Crystal & DOT-COM | Lucky | River | Storm |
| Buttons | Dogger | Maci | Roxie Rozek | Sydney Mascarenas |
| Cap Berndt | Eanie & Meanie | Marcus Jungnitsh | Roxie Spriggs | Tigger |
| Cassidy Sandquist | Ellie, Cisco, Lobo & Toby | Max | Rudy Salazar | TJ |
| Cheeseburger Landers | Flower Krawcin | Miss Pinon Kitty | Sadie | |
| Chet | Gypsy-Creed | Mittens | Sage Slikfa | |



701 Gregg Drive
Buena Vista, CO 81211

return service requested

Save The Date: Bow Wow Film Festival February 26th



DONATE

\$10 can
help an animal



VOLUNTEER

sign up
online today



EMAIL

stay up-to-date
on AVHS news



CONNECT

connect with
AVHS online



701 Gregg Drive, Buena Vista, CO 81211
(719) 395-2737 www.ark-valley.org