

# PAW PRESS



A NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF PAGOSA SPRINGS



## An Unexpected Companion

**At only three years old, Khaleesi Rose already had the odds stacked against her. For her, being in public places was a terrifying experience.**

Imagine you're sitting in a very over lit restaurant. The lights are so bright your eyes hurt. You are having a difficult time understanding what's happening around you so you get scared.

Imagine all the sounds of people, the TVs, the vehicles on the street outside becoming so loud you can't hear yourself think. Everything sounds like nails on a chalkboard. The noise is physically painful for you.

Now imagine your clothes start to itch and you can't take them off. Your shoes feel too tight. You feel like you might suffocate. You start to panic and your heart starts beating and hurting. You can't breath and you can't calm yourself down.

You open your mouth to scream but no words come out. Everyone is looking at you now. They keep asking "what's wrong? what do you need?" but you're unable to get the words out so you just sit there scared and crying, unable to stop. Someone touches your shoulder to calm you down and it feels like fire on your skin.

**This is what autism feels like...**

*(story continued inside)*

# An Unexpected Companion *(continued)*

Story provided by *Carrie Turnbow and Jed Pilant*

Even at home Khaleesi Rose began to seclude herself. Her only way of communication seemed to be through yelling or overstimulated tantrums.

Rose's Mom and Dad started researching ways to help their daughter, and themselves. They spoke to doctors, therapists and school teachers as they worked hard to understand their daughter and how they could help her in any way possible.

During a visit to Texas, family gathered to see Rose and her brother, but with all the people around, panic set in. Rose laid on the floor, covered her ears and began screaming, as her parents began to cry because no matter what they did, nothing helped.

Her mom couldn't hug Rose or she would scream louder. She couldn't talk to her or she would cover her ears. The look of terror and helplessness in Rose's eyes broke her mother's heart. Rose was begging for her mom's help with her eyes, but there was nothing her mom could do, except sit next to her and try to reassure her that everything was going to be ok.

The room cleared and down the hall a massive, white, drooling American Bully walked over to Rose. Even for an adult, an American Bully can seem intimidating. So imagine how worried Rose's parents were when this big, intimidating dog walked straight to Rose.

He looked at Rose for a moment, then plopped his large body down next to her. Rose wrapped her arms around his neck, pulled him close and he just laid there as she squeezed him tight and stroked his ears. The calmness that swept over Rose was incredible. "It was incredible to watch this dog sense what Rose needed and provide her that safety she so desperately needed in that moment", said Rose's mom. "Her dad and I knew then, we needed to begin our search..."

After contacting a doctor, several therapists, and more than five organizations, they determined that because of the severity of Rose's autism, which can become crippling, a service dog that can sense Rose's triggers would be best. Rose's mom said, "we knew after speaking to several professionals that we wanted to adopt. They gave us several criteria that the dog had to meet in order to become a service animal..."



We called every shelter within 200 miles of us, giving them a list of things we needed in an animal. Every shelter told us they didn't have anything they felt would fit our needs.

One evening, I received a call from the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs. They told me they had a dog named Corkey they felt could be a perfect fit. We immediately set up a visit.

As I walked my daughter to the kennel where Corkey was being held, Rose covered her ears and began to shut down. We opened the kennel and she pet him for a moment, but then backed out of the kennel. Rose was scared, I could sense it.

I rubbed Rose's back and she leaned against the kennel with her ears covered. She looked down the rows of kennels and two down was this medium-sized Pharaoh Hound, tan in color, who was sitting as close to the door as possible, whimpering and staring at my daughter. Rose pointed to this animal she had never met and said "my puppy".

I asked the kind young lady helping us if we could see her and she said yes, of course, but she warned us that this dog could be a little rambunctious. She had come in to the shelter as a stray, so she had little back story.

As the kennel door opened, my daughter stuck out her hands to this strange dog and then hugged her neck. The dog allowed Rose to hug her, and then licked her face.

I asked to take her to the dog park so I could get a better feel for the dog. As I watched Rose and the dog run around and play with each other, I had a sense that this might be the perfect fit.

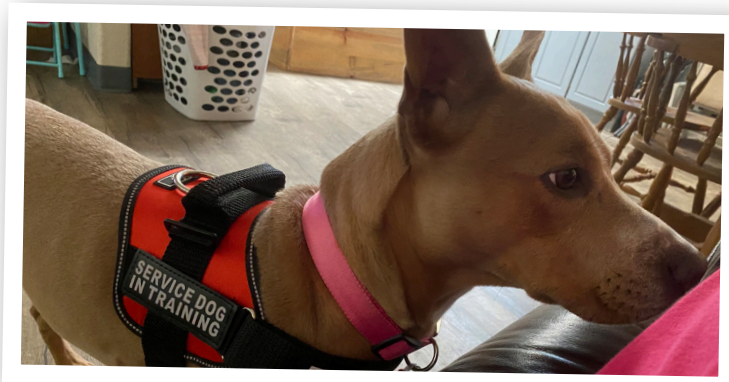
A few moments later Rose's dad and brother, Damian, joined us in the dog park. Damian fell walking in and immediately this dog ran over to check on him. She sat and



patiently waited for him to stand up, then nudged his hand with her head.

Rose had climbed up on one of the obstacles set up in the dog park and got too scared to get down. She screamed and began crying. The dog ran as fast as she could over to her little human, nudged her and let my daughter wrap her arms around her neck and eased her off of the obstacle. My husband and I knew then that this was our dog, who we named 'Baby'."

After three weeks of visiting Baby at the shelter, Rose's parents were ready to bring her home. As our shelter staff knows, it can take time for an animal to acclimate and adjust to a new home, especially after spending ample time at a shelter. But not for Baby. Baby instantly began doing the job she was intended for. She shadowed Rose, laying next to her and rushing to her side when she noticed Rose needed her.



Rose's parents began training her on simple commands before sending her to a training facility for her more intense service animal training. Within a week, Baby had learned sit, stay, lie down, leave it, drop it, come and rest. She also learned that when Rose says "Baby here", Baby is to immediately go to Rose and sit next to her.

"Baby had incredible intuition", said Rose's mother. "We were very impressed that a stray was so smart and would learn new things the first time it was presented to her." After weeks of intense training with wonderful trainers, Baby has become Rose's official Service Dog.

"The purpose of this story is to hopefully inspire more people to adopt, not shop," said Rose's mom. "Shelter animals are not useless, no good, damaged, unusable animals. If you can be patient, you will find the perfect fit for your needs. A diamond in the ruff, so to speak."

Baby is such an asset to Rose's family simply by being their daughter's "safe place". And we are so grateful to this family for providing Baby with purpose in a loving, forever home.

## Please Support Our Work!

We can't provide critical care to our community's animals without you! Send your donation in the envelope provided or give online at [www.humanesociety.biz](http://www.humanesociety.biz).



### **DID YOU KNOW?** HSPS offers the following services for our community:

#### **Cremation and Memorial Services**

Honor your faithful companion and cherish the memories left behind with our cremation and memorial services.

#### **Dog Park**

An active pet is a healthy pet! We offer a free local dog park open to the general public.

#### **Pet Financial Assistance**

Programs including a pet food bank, spay & neuter vouchers, and emergency medical aid are offered to those in need.

#### **Microchips and Tags**

Lost pets with ID have the best chance for a speedy reunion with their owner.

## **A Second Chance for Shadow the Cat**

**Shadow was found in a ditch cold and all alone at just a few months old.**

After getting a thorough vet exam and spending some time at the shelter under the supervision of our expert staff, Shadow went to a foster home where she was able to cuddle with other cats and kittens.

At first, Shadow had a tough time. She was small, underweight and lethargic due to an infection. After being treated, Shadow started to gain plenty of energy! She started getting into lots of trouble running around, climbing on beds and knocking all kinds of items off of counters and dressers...just as a kitten should do!

Thanks to her wonderful foster family, Shadow has been growing into a strong, healthy and adoptable cat. She has been trained to wear a harness and walk on a leash, play with toys, and have her nails trimmed. She loves to be held, cuddle under the covers and be carried around.

Every cat like Shadow deserves a second chance at a better life. We are so grateful to the kind folks who found and brought Shadow in to the shelter, and to her foster family who loved and cared for her until she was adopted.



# Barkus Parade and Penguin Plunge a Great Success!

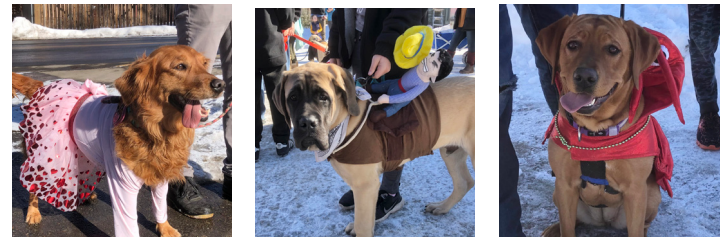
We just want to say a big **THANK YOU** to everyone and every pet that joined us for our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Barkus Parade! We also are incredibly appreciative of our brave (and maybe a little crazy?!) Penguin Plungers who helped raise a record-breaking \$4,490 in support of our animal shelter. Thank you to everyone who joined, participated and donated - we can't do what we do without you!



On January 22, dozens of dogs showed up in their best costumes to strut their stuff through downtown to raise awareness for our organization. The Barkus Parade was once again organized and sponsored by our generous partners at The Lost Cajun, thank you for your ongoing support! "Best Dressed" went to Barley in his adorable and colorful llama herder costume. Icing on the cake - Barley is a senior dog who was recently adopted from our shelter by a loving local family.

After the parade, five daring plungers were cheered on by hundreds of spectators as a part of the Annual Pagosa Springs Penguin Plunge, where individuals are encouraged to jump into the freezing San Juan River to raise funds in support of their favorite charities. This year, Pat, Robyn, Amber, Grace and Briana braved the cold waters of the San Juan River to generate much-needed funds that will help us continue to provide quality care and shelter to our community's animals in need. We are so grateful for all you do for our organization and animals. A special thanks to Pat for his 6<sup>th</sup> year plunging on behalf of HSPS!

Community partners, donors, volunteers and supporters are the backbone of our organization. Thank you so much for once again showing up to support the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs!



## Special Mention

January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – In loving memory of Betty White from all of us, celebrating her would be 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday

## In Honor Of

Our fabulous veterinarian Dr. Polly Thibault, who has been a blessing to Milo & me,  
from Penny Kiple  
Linda King & Susan Mercer  
from Jeff & Jan Hester  
Buckley, my 15 year old cat  
from Scott Goodman  
Biggie Glotnis, from Gwendolyn Glotnis  
Missy, from Victoria Lazzell  
Heidi, sweetest cat ever from Susan Mercer  
Darcy Cat, from Sarah Walker  
Robson Reyes from Gale Kohlhagen  
Jean Carson from Gale Kohlhagen  
Gracie Burke from Linda & Robert Burke  
Alex Davis from Sandra & Darin Dillon  
Lisa Cowell from Marie & Robert Hernandez  
Stormy Shear from Carol & David Shear  
Pandora from Donna Williams  
Missy from Victoria Lazzell  
Allie - our beautiful girl we adopted over 10 years ago from Pagosa from Laura Colby  
Rusty and Berry Jones from Coye Jones  
Karma, Blue, Scooter & CC  
from Marianne Kavli  
Ranch Ladies from Bernie & Elizabeth Garcia  
Rags & Zach from Richard Ress  
Ed & Ginny Kaumeyer  
from Cheryl Kaumeyer-Wethey  
Ron Mears from Sam Cassidy  
Carol Shewbridge from Tim Dippel  
Ria, Bailey & Woody from DJ Mathews  
Buddy & Velocity from Randy & Jo Ann Senzig  
Princess from Theresa & Rob Baracker  
Mike Ward from Chris & Barbara Johnson  
John Graves from Ann Graves  
The Pagosa Pups Play Group on Antelope Ave from Patrick & Deborah Donovan  
Maggie from Thomas & Gayle Broadbent  
Chloe from Susan Vandenberg  
Remy from Nancy & Richard Yeomans  
Family from Sandra Thoma & Max Borden  
Patsy Kissick from Lana & Toby Summers  
Thomas Myers from Alice Myers  
Sherlon Russell from Edwin & Cheryl Hill  
Sushi Lietzke from Duane & Christine Lietzke  
Phoebe & her mum Eowana  
from Christine Young  
Morey Myers from Glenn Myers  
My Parents from Stacy Mergens  
My dog Sean from Patricia Brown  
Vickie Ferguson from Sharon Pfeiffer  
Carol Stewart from Shahab & Christie Shary  
Rick & Lauren Zak from Arlene Don  
Maise Casias from Irvin Casias  
Kristen & Tyler Albers  
from Thomas McConnell  
Jack and Geraldine Crouch  
from Rhonda Young  
Frances Martinez from Thomas Martinez  
Pat Mckenzie from Dann Fisher  
Matt Hissey from Sue McAvoy  
Roy Boy from Anita Hooton

Amber from Barbara Renner  
Barley Jones from Raymond & Nancy Bush  
Diane Fleming  
from Scott & Suzanne Holmgren

## In Memory Of

My Beloved Rescue Dog Sam  
from Loretta Conder  
Bentley Spears from Will & Christi Spears  
Prize from Jeff & Jan Hester  
Kai & Kenai, beloved huskies of Kevin Weiser & Jennifer Martin, from Jeff & Jan Hester  
Layla Nolte-McCuller from Kristen Nolte  
Cocoa, beloved dog of Jo Ann Stockwill  
Don Macleod, from Siri & Roger Cooper  
Carole Shewbridge, from Gloria Todd  
Taylor Sue, Beloved dog of Russ & Jacqui Weidner, from Connie Treadwell  
Sandy & Tom Artzberger's dog Lucy and cat Quigley from Joan Ward  
Kelley Melton from Jackie Leonard  
Mr. Bo from Stephanie King  
Heidi, the Queen of Santa Fe,  
from Jeff & Jan Hester  
Dan Fitzpatrick from his parents  
Our beloved kitty Ramsey James,  
from Will & Helen JamesScrunchee, from Julie Wilhelm  
Ginger & Brandy, from Jane Manzanaras  
Prince, from Victoria Lazzell  
Julie, from Dorothy Mathews  
Wicket, our beloved corgi boy  
from Sharon Garrison  
Luther from Gerald Shoaf & Claire Harrison  
Catherine (Katy) Threet from Jack Threet  
Sonny & Foxy from Pauline Benetti  
Katie, our beloved long haired chiweenie  
from David & Shanna Robb  
Allie & Tinsel from Susan Fager  
Cheyenne from Sharon Armenta  
Mark May & Furry kids Jake, Peejay, Rambo  
from Debra May  
Jake Quijada, beloved kitty of Vicki Quijada  
from Elmer & Peggy White  
Dale Schwicker from Thomas Taylor  
John Andreas from Kim and Art Dilione  
Loud Girl from Mark & Kurt Holtsclaw  
Gaby from Jean Woods  
Tory the terrific cat from Carla Evans  
Sam Andrew from Carolyn Estes  
John Andreas from Kathleen Andreas  
Mandy Oegerle  
from James & Barbara Oegerle  
Sam I am from Donna & Roger Hagenruber  
Bella from Betty Clouse  
Scout & Ella from Barbara Parada  
Piper VanHalen Jones from Diane Word  
All my pups from Steven & Denyce McPeek  
Mollie from John & Becky Campbell  
Charlie Brown  
from Richard & Lauren Wolan Zak  
Henry & Elizabeth Marugg  
from Winston & Mary Marugg  
Donald Guyll, San Diego Animal Rescuer  
from David & Luann Martinez  
Sadie & Sophie Butler from May Latson  
Alberta Oelgoetz from Gregory Foss  
Penny Lyon my wonderful companion dog  
from Madeline Lyon

Jaiet from Eowana Jordan & Lenny Krieg  
Pat Mckenzie  
from Elizabeth Bruce & Brian Patton  
Brynlee from Erika Riethmiller  
My big brother, Jim Kelley from VeAnn Kelley  
Ed and Ginny Kaumeyer  
from Linda Kaumeyer  
Taylor from Mary Gamache  
Mater from Christine Sullivan  
Bo, Bella & Bailee  
from Terrence & Aubrie Limebrook  
Dora from Laverne & Donald Chong  
Trudy Tellian from Nancy Tellian  
Maise Casias from Irvin Casias  
Jessie from Judy Johnson  
Spud from Joyce Givan  
Peter Van Hercke from Joan & Karin Hoot  
Gilbert & Vada Robinson  
from Shannon Smith  
Champ, Cinnamon, & Bows from DJ Mathews  
Beaumont, Beloved Dog from Ann Graves  
Arbuckly, Gabriel & Katie  
from Thomas & Gayle Broadbent  
Bucky Boy from Rod Marler  
Jaiet- Beloved Tibetan Terrier  
from Christine Young  
Maddie from Karen LittleJohn  
Ashley & Oscar from John & Helen Richardson  
Jackie Mcguire from Ronald & Judith Taufen  
Mosa - beloved poodle of Benny Lohman  
from David & Carolyn Piirto  
Mellie & Mac Anderson from Keith & Jo Ellen Anderson  
Nancy Cusack from Anna Cusack  
Coleen, Beloved Cat of Karl & Katie Propst  
from Mary Lou Hudson  
Sweet Pea from Terri Ranken  
Tango, Blue & Beau from Lark Beaugureau  
Bodie from Cynda Green  
Boce & Limi from David & Edith Blake  
Oscar Coleman from Victoria & Paul Coleman  
Brawley & Gypsy from Roger & Judith Puryear  
Shadow from Stephany Bouchier  
Sampson from Susan Snyder  
Clare Skaggs & Christy Swirl  
from Winifred Plager  
Blaze from Michael Nesbitt  
Tanner, best pup ever from Claudia Howell  
Pat Mckenzie from Michael Heraty  
Archie, Our lovable man-cat from David Minor  
Pat White from Lynn & Melody Munyon  
My precious boy, Ozzie  
from Jacqueline Sissenstein  
Stuart Greenberg  
from Mark Guetig & Judy Greenberg

## Memorial Bricks

In Memory of Nolan Olsen  
from Susan & Lynn Weiland  
In Memory of Snowball "Cutest Little Thing-  
1/26/2007- 11/26/2021" from Sherri Trujillo  
In Memory of Our Beloved Lady Stormie Mesa  
from Ruben & Erma Mesa  
In Memory of Pat Mckenzie  
from Elizabeth Bruce  
Sweet Douglas  
from Julie Nelson  
Fond Memories of Pat Mckenzie  
from Anne Flaherty

# Humane Society



## Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

### Administration Office

279 Pagosa Street • P.O. Box 2230  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
(970) 264-5549  
www.humanesociety.biz  
hsadmin@humanesociety.biz  
hsdirector@humanesociety.biz

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### Animal Shelter

465 Cloman Boulevard, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Mon-Sat 10 A.M. to 5 P.M., Sun 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.  
(970) 731-4771 | sheltermanager@humanesociety.biz

### Humane Society Thrift Store

279 Pagosa Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
Mon-Sat 9:00 A.M. to 5 P.M.  
(970) 264-6424 | hsthriftstore@humanesociety.biz

### Board of Directors and Executive Staff

Do Engelhardt – President  
Richard Zak - Vice President  
Eric Burt – Treasurer  
Susan Weiland – Secretary  
Phil Rosenstein – Board Member  
Kitty Neal – Board Member  
Robson Reyes – Executive Director

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Animal Shelter **Baby Shower**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 2 FROM 3-5PM  
AT THE PLPOA CLUBHOUSE**

230 PORT AVE, PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO 81147

Every spring, our shelter is overwhelmed with kittens and puppies in need of care until they are ready for adoption. **We hope to see you at our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Animal Shelter Baby Shower to support your local Humane Society and the upcoming puppy and kitten season.** Light snacks, drinks, games and more will be provided!

**ENTRY FEE: \$25 TICKET PRICE**

**Limited number of tickets available!**

Visit [www.hspagosa.org](http://www.hspagosa.org) or call 970-264-5549  
to purchase your ticket today!



**BUY TICKETS AND PURCHASE BABY SHOWER GIFTS AT [WWW.HSPAGOSA.ORG](http://WWW.HSPAGOSA.ORG)**