

# Paw Press

Newsletter of the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs



Spring 2019



## Lassie Come Home!

Lassie, as she came to be called by shelter staff, was a stray found sitting along the side of the road in a remote part of the county late last fall. She appeared to be very young, maybe only nine months old, but early in her stay it became evident that her back hips were causing her trouble and pain. Maybe that's why she was lingering along the road, too much pain, even for a young dog, to keep on moving.

X-rays and veterinary examinations, along with consultation with a canine orthopedic specialist, determined that the cause of Lassie's hip pain was a congenital condition that would require surgery on both hips. Earlier this year HSPS had applied for and received a grant from the Lil' Bub Foundation to help with the cost of medical treatments for special needs animals in our shelter, and Lassie's congenital condition definitely qualified her as a special needs shelter dog.

The cost of performing two hip replacement surgeries was far beyond

financially feasible, so the decision was made to perform a femoral head osteotomy (FHO) on both hips instead. FHO surgery removes the head and neck of the femur, essentially removing the ball part of the ball-and-socket that comprises the hip joint. Following FHO surgery the developing scar-tissue and surrounding muscles work together to support the area and ultimately act as a false joint. FHO brings relief by eliminating the abnormal contact between the hip joint bones that was the source of Lassie's pain.

Lassie was a great candidate for FHO surgery: under forty pounds and with youth on her side to aid the recovery process. Even though FHO surgery is less expensive than hip replacement surgery, the cost of two FHO surgeries would significantly deplete the Lil' Bub Foundation grant money we had received.

There was never any question that we would support the surgeries that could help relieve Lassie's pain, so we covered a portion of the surgical costs with HSPS revenues as a supplement to the grant funds. We do our best to help every shelter animal in our care, whatever their needs may be. Donations and other fundraising efforts supplement our emergency veterinary medical fund each year.

Between this fund and any grant money we receive we are able to bring aid and quality care to all of our shelter animals in need.

Lassie's first hip surgery was in January of this year. After two months recovery time she underwent successful surgery on her other hip in mid-March. The prognosis for full recovery looks very good and Lassie appears to be well on her way to enjoying life free from the chronic pain she has suffered. FHO surgery may result in some decreased range of motion in her back legs,

but as Liz, our shelter manager, observed, "Even though she won't be a marathon runner, she should be able to live a fairly normal dog life."

All the pain Lassie experienced in her young life did not prevent her from letting her sweet personality shine through. During recovery after each surgery Lassie spent much of her time in the front office where she could be kept quiet and observed. She quickly became a staff favorite. She is very social and loves all the other dogs she comes into contact with, kind of like a shelter greeter. She's even good with cats. She is also a favorite of some of our older dog walkers because she is gentle and good on a leash.

Once recovery from her second surgery is complete you can bet she'll be on the lookout for her Timmy to give her the call, "Lassie come home!"

If you would like more information about Lassie stop by our shelter or give them a call at 970-731-4771. If you would like to help other shelter animals like Lassie please consider making a donation to our emergency medical fund. Shelter animals come in all shapes, sizes and conditions. Each one of them is special and deserving of the best that life can bring!



# Community Cats

Community cats – a designation that includes feral cats and formerly domestic stray cats – are unowned free-roaming cats living outdoors year-round with little or no consistent human interaction. Community cats often live in social groups or colonies, both small and large, in locations that provide both food and shelter. Community cat colonies are one of the sources of litters of kittens that often find their way to the animal shelter each year, part of what we call the annual *kitten tsunami*. In the summer of 2011, HSPS implemented a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program in response to the growing local community cat population and its direct impact on the animal shelter population.

The extent of the community cat population in our town and county often takes people by surprise. It's a case of *out of sight, out of mind* because free-roaming cats, especially the feral variety, are more likely to be nocturnal, wary of people, and fearful of human contact. Consequently, it is impossible to generate an accurate count of local community cats, but a bit of our TNR data can add some perspective. Since 2011, HSPS has trapped, sterilized and vaccinated just over 1,300 community cats through our TNR program. That's a lot of cats no longer breeding in backyards or around local businesses. TNR benefits our community by keeping the free-roaming cat population from exploding and by enhancing feline health through inoculations against common diseases and rabies.

Historically, attempts to eliminate community cat populations around the world have been both inhumane and unsuccessful. By contrast, TNR is a humane approach to controlling – not eliminating – the community cat population. Once trapped, the free-roaming cats are taken to a local veterinarian to be sterilized. While under anesthesia, the cats are given an examination, inoculated against common feline diseases, and given a rabies vaccination. This may be each cat's one and only vet visit during their lifetime, so it's an opportunity to protect their health before they return to their preferred home in the outdoors. HSPS pays for all of the veterinary services and other related TNR



*TNR in action: A tipped or notched ear identifies a feral cat that has been neutered*

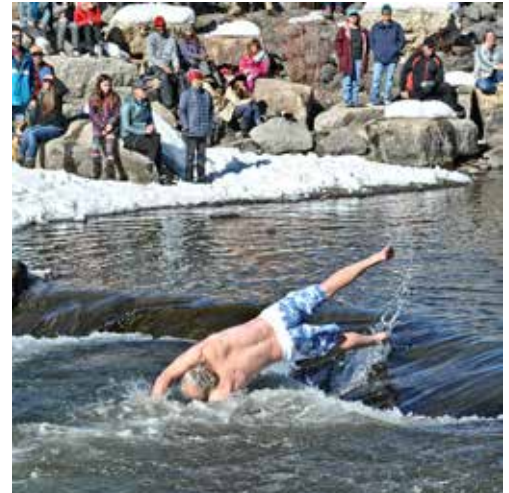
costs through grants and HSPS funds.

The TNR program of a smaller animal welfare organization like HSPS has to rely on the help of volunteers to be truly effective. The work of locating community cat groups and identifying members, establishing feeding routines to facilitate trapping, and then trapping (often in the evening) and transporting cats to veterinarians, is more than HSPS staff can handle on their own. The data from our TNR program bears that out. In the years when more volunteers have been involved, an average of well over 200 cats have been trapped and sterilized; in the years with fewer volunteers, the average is less than half that number.

That's why we're extremely grateful that a group of new community cat volunteers has recently stepped forward to help ramp up the TNR program this year. The goals for 2019 are to not only trap and sterilize more community cats but also to help spread the word and educate our community about the free-roaming cat population and humane solutions for controlling population growth among outdoor felines. It's a gratifying endeavor that helps both the local cat population and the community as a whole.

If you would like more information about TNR in general or to inquire about how you can volunteer, please contact our volunteer community cat coordinator Carol at [cablechschmidt@gmail.com](mailto:cablechschmidt@gmail.com), or call the animal shelter at 970-731-4771.

For those unable to volunteer who would still like to help, donations toward the cost of TNR are needed and appreciated too. The expense of equipment, food, transportation, and veterinary services is considerable and never entirely covered by grant funds. Thanks for helping our outdoor felines and the animal shelter and for supporting the many programs of HSPS!



*Penguin Plunge in January, Pat White, volunteer*



*Penguin Plunge in January, James Smith, shelter staff*



*Barkus Parade in January, HSPS float with Rex, a shelter puppy, now adopted*



Delta loves to High-Five!

## Give Me Five!

We know that animal shelters can be stressful environments for their residents, which is equally true for cats as well as dogs. An already shy cat tends to become more reclusive, hiding under blankets or retreating into the far reaches of its kennel, and even a more social cat is not immune to becoming nervous and less outgoing during a prolonged shelter stay. In addition to impacting the mental and physical health of the cats, the manifestation of these anti-social behaviors can make these cats appear less adoptable to the point of being overlooked by prospective adopters. When adoption options are diminished it can lead to a lengthy shelter stay and a downward spiral.

Over the years the HSPS shelter has implemented a variety of procedures and activities that have enhanced the shelter environment to make it more enriching for animals living there: Kuranda beds to elevate the dogs up and off the kennel floor; chew toys stuffed with food and a variety of play toys in all the kennels; clean and comfortable outdoor dog kennels for daily fresh air; daily time out of the kennels for the adoptable cats to socialize and play; individuals and groups of volunteers who regularly walk and exercise the dogs and groom and socialize with the cats, and so

on. One by one, these activities became part of the shelter operation with the purpose of improving the well-being of the animals in our care, but they were never thought of formally as a *shelter enrichment program*.

Approximately six years ago, as the benefits of shelter enrichment became more evident and the importance of enrichment programs more broadly discussed in animal welfare literature, our shelter staff began to expand and implement a more organized and targeted enrichment program for the animals in our care. This program started on a relatively small scale by working on positive-reinforcement skills training with the shelter dogs and included teaching them a handful of tricks to have fun and alleviate boredom. From there, enrichment activities gradually grew to include such things as nose work and scent enrichment, play and social groups, and the installation of an agility course for enhanced mental and physical stimulation. We now have numerous regular great enrichment activities for our shelter dogs!

All those activities are great for the dogs, but what about the cats? A few awesome volunteers did build a wonderful outdoor cat enclosure adjacent to the shelter building so cats could experience fresh air and outdoor sights and sounds on a regular basis. When a doorway was added through the exterior wall between the enclosure and the indoor adoptable cat room, it gave the cats the freedom to move from indoors to outdoors when out of their kennels. Yet, when compared with organized dog enrichment at our shelter, we realized that cats were definitely being engaged in fewer directed enrichment activities.

That disparity is reflected somewhat in available literature, too. A Google search for “animal shelter enrichment programs” turns up entries either exclusively or primarily addressing dog enrichment. This is why we were really excited when HSPS was selected to participate in the *Jackson Galaxy Project’s Cat Pawsitive* shelter cat enrichment initiative earlier this spring.

Anyone familiar with the TV show *My Cat From Hell* will recognize Jackson Galaxy, the cat behaviorist. Galaxy is a fellow with a big personality and an equally big

commitment to making life more rewarding for cats and their human companions. *Cat Pawsitive* was developed by Galaxy and a team of animal behaviorists with the aim of enriching the day-to-day life of shelter cats by building new skills for cats, shelter staff, and volunteers through positive-reinforcement training. The goals of the program are to promote the human-cat bond and improve shelter cat adoptability.

The positive-reinforcement training of *Cat Pawsitive* is designed to counteract those potentially negative influences of the shelter environment by teaching cats tricks and skills. The teaching process itself engages the cats both mentally and physically to stimulate them on multiple levels and improve their overall health while in a kennel environment. Learning new skills also encourages the cats’ interactions with staff and volunteers, which helps them become more at ease with human interplay. A shy cat can learn to leave its hiding spot and be comfortable coming to the front of its kennel to greet a prospective adopter, and a playful cat can learn to jump through a hoop and give an enthusiastic high-five that might just help put the stamp of approval on a new adoptive home!

HSPS was one of only sixty-six shelters around the country selected to participate in the spring 2019 session of *Cat Pawsitive*. It has been a structured and rigorous fourteen-week program that has required the commitment and dedication of both staff members and volunteers. The Jackson Galaxy Project supplied HSPS with training materials, detailed instruction, support, and encouragement throughout the process and helped to improve our cat enrichment program by jumping through hoops to get those kitty high-fives! The new skills that staff and volunteers developed during the training session will now become an ongoing part of what our shelter can and will do to improve the well-being of shelter cats in our care while enhancing their chances of finding new and loving homes.

Sommer Davidson, our shelter enrichment coordinator, has served as the designated *Cat Pawsitive* team leader throughout the program session. She had this to say about the experience. “We love to show off all the tricks these cats have learned when people come to visit. Everyone is always

so impressed! We have also learned more about the cats in our care and have absolutely enriched their lives while they are at the shelter. I have also surprised myself with the new ability to train cats! It has been a super fun program to be a part of and worth every bit of time and effort everyone has invested.”

Enrichment training is a wonderful way to teach cats and dogs new tricks while stimulating both their brains and bodies—actions that help keep them mentally and physically fit during their shelter stay. For shelter animals, the skills they develop during enrichment training can also help modify behaviors and improve their social interactions with humans, all of which can greatly enhance their opportunities for adoption. Our shelter staff does a good job with enrichment training but volunteers can also make a huge difference. If you would like to learn more about shelter enrichment in general or how to participate in our Cat Pawsitive enrichment training in the future, please contact our shelter at 970-731-4771 or email our shelter manager Liz Andreas ([sheltermanager@humanesociety.biz](mailto:sheltermanager@humanesociety.biz)) or Sommer Davidson ([hsfoster@humanesociety.biz](mailto:hsfoster@humanesociety.biz)) directly for information. Learn how to high-five with a cat. You’ll be glad you did!



Tootsie demonstrates her hoop jumping skills.

## On Beyond Chocolate

The annual HSPS Chocolate and Other Decadent Desserts Auction this past March 16 was truly a fun and festive evening. The live auction featured some surprising *added-value* desserts. Every year has desserts that bring out the *oohs and aahs*, yet this year’s auction had truly spectacular entries from some amazingly talented and creative bakers: a stupendous stained glass bird bath topped with chocolate goodies was the top money item; a copper bird feeder full of candy, and a new DeWalt drill crowned with a chocolate cake were among the other novel items to spark both smiles and bids.

The sold-out crowd enjoyed a well-timed beautiful evening and a respite from our snowy winter. The balloon pop, buy-it-now desserts, and an array of fine beverages got the festivities rolling to a wonderful dinner from Mutu’s Italian Kitchen and delightful dessert from AD Cakes. The live auction portion of the evening featured forty wonderfully creative and tasty desserts that made the rounds and raised more funds for the shelter animals than even last year’s highly successful event! Auction proceeds will go a long way toward buying the food, medicine, and vaccines required for the nearly 700 dogs and cats that are likely to pass through the animal shelter this year.

A huge thank-you goes out to all our sponsors, dessert donors and attendees who made this year’s auction so successful. This is truly a collaborative effort, so an extra special thank-you to all the many volunteers who worked tirelessly to bring it all together. This year’s auction was a sweet treat for all the shelter dogs and cats!

After dodging blizzards and other winter weather hazards these past few years, we’ve decided to move the *Chocolate and Other Decadent Desserts* auction to mid-spring. **Save the date for May 2, 2020 for the next sweet installment!**



## IN HONOR OF...

Emmy, Rose and Sparkle (cats) from Barbara J. Dickson  
Nash (pet) from Sarah and Justin Hyman  
Our shelter pet (adopted from HSPS 5/22/15) from Allison and Benjamin Qualls  
Sadie (previously Mia) adopted from HSPS 6/27/17 from Tom and Debbie Bentley  
Cally Garrett (adopted from HSPS 7/4/17) from Linda Garrett  
Savvy KNA Sassy (adopted from HSPS 7/8/18) from Criselle and Stephen Tuckel  
Merry Christmas, Kristen & Tyler Albers from Thomas and Mary McConnell  
The Wednesday Dog Walkers, staff and animals from Gale and Steve Kohlhagen  
Auggie from Sheri Covey and Rob Bleiberg  
Jack Crouch's Birthday from Scott and Rhonda Young  
John Webb's Birthday from Thomas and Lisbeth Klein  
Maise Casias from Irvin and Andrea Casias  
Merry Christmas, Miss Pat Bremer from Kristin and Lee Vorhies  
Bob Crowe from Larry Crowe  
Marlie and Maggie Anderson (border collies) from Keith and Jo Ellen Anderson  
Merry Christmas, Zack and Rags Davis from Richard Ress  
Kim Dilione from Bernard and Ethel Kolbor  
Happy Father's Day to John Duvall from Nicole Fry  
Merry Christmas, Kim Kett & Family from Robert and Marilyn Mumby  
Happy Birthday to my daughter, Karla Fellin from Nancy Olson  
Mary Kay Hanily Frost from Julie Wilhelmi  
Our cat, Gracie from John and Helen Richardson  
Jan & Jeff Hester from Tina Hester  
Happy, adopted from HSPS from Dick and Carol Vogel  
Katie from Fred and Mary Webb  
My dear friend, Gale Kohlhagen from Jocelyne Tufts  
Benny Lohman from David and Carolyn Piirto  
Eleanor Lohman from Erik Lohman  
Maurine Marshall from Phyllis Smallwood  
Merry Christmas, Doreen Mumby from Robert and Marilyn Mumby  
Our grandson, Cameron Olson from Ceil and Fred Reese  
Merry Christmas, Eric Pipkins-Burt from Gene Kiernan  
Patrick White (Penguin Plunge) from Teresa Grella, Helen White  
The Penguin Plungers from Gale and Steve Kohlhagen  
Noah's best friends, Lucy & Puzzle from Tom and Gayle Broadbent  
Ryan Rechner from Leo and Candy Rechner  
Carole Shewbridge from Tim Dippel  
Rosie, Robby & Kodi Smith from William and Ann Smith  
Noah on his 15th birthday from Nana & Tom from Tom and Gayle Broadbent  
Happy Father's Day, Walt Tormohlen from Tamara Tormohlen  
Dr. Polly, High Peaks Mobil Vet from Terri Theisen  
My friends, Pat Bremer & Kristin Vorhies from Jean Zirnhelt  
Samantha Bulick (aka Ester Williams) from Jeff and Melanie Bulick  
Lauren Zak from Arlene Don  
Merry Christmas, Miss Jean Zirnhelt from Kristin Vorhies

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF...

Bruiser (cat) from Marc and Susan Yalom  
Callie (cat) from Laura Metallo and Cheryl Flynn  
Gretchen (cat) from Stacey Couch  
Hollis (cat) from Coye and Priscilla Jones  
Kidden (cat) from Deborah Hutchinson  
Missy (cat) from Victoria Lazzell  
Nikolai (cat) from Doug Kimbrough  
Todd (cat) from Rick and Janet Santopietro  
Walker (dog) and Buffett (cat) from Paula Liermann  
Buffy and Holly (cats) from Barbara J. Dickson  
Blair (dog) from Donald and Alice Stidham  
Blondie (dog) from Jan and Claud Hardie  
Brandy (dog) from Sally and Herbert Rode  
Buddy (dog) from Randy and Joann Senzig  
Cheyenne (dog) from Ventura and Sharon Armenta  
Cooper (dog) from Ed and Cathy Alosio  
Drift (dog) from Adrian Toto and Joanna Manganaro  
Gertie (dog) from Bill and Nancy Wert  
Honey Girl (dog) from James and Cheryl Petty  
Jackie (dog) from Jeanne Hanson-Colburn  
Jake (dog) from Carol and Warren Darrow  
Kali (dog) from Robert and Linda Burke  
Lily (dog) from Laura and Ross Isaacson  
Lola (dog) from M'Liss Arnold  
Mally, a beloved friend (dog) from Barbara and Don Rosner  
Mikey Pooh (dog) from Laddie and Nancy Lou Mills  
Otis (dog) from Bryan and Jane Weitzel  
Pochetta (dog) from Judy Showalter  
Shatzie (dog) from Elizabeth and Vossa Leach  
Wendell (dog) from Rick and Julie Jacobsen  
Brandy & Ginger (dogs) from Jane and Gerald Manzanaras  
Cappy, Opie and Tea Cup (dogs) from Julie Wilhelmi  
Chloe & Scruffy (dogs) from Andrew Dudzinski  
Leia and Scout (dogs) from Douglas Coxon and Janice Flomerfelt  
Midnite and Skippy (dogs) from Nancy Mae Tellian  
Ann Shurtleff, a true lover of animals from Judith A. Meyer  
Skyler, beloved cat of Bob and Carol Ashmore from Carol and Steve Blechschmidt  
Cashmere "Caz" Bailey from Donna Brombacher  
Peachie, beloved cat of Diana Baird from Carol and Steve Blechschmidt  
My pal, Rick Beasley from Thomas and Elizabeth Griffin  
Bond from Nancy and Michael Ray  
Rascal, friend to Michael & Nancy Ray & Mr. Bond from Tom and Teresa Lydick  
Kirby, beloved dog of John & Diane Bower from Krista and James Miner  
Maggie, beloved pet of Dianne Burnside from Candice Sinclair  
Olive Cardwell from Joanne Bridges  
Our cat from Ted and Patsy Thurston  
My cats from Brigitte V. Friesl  
Mollie and Mac Anderson (border collies) from Keith and Jo Ellen Anderson  
Nancy Cusack from Kris Cusack  
Dixie, Ginger & Daisy from Charlotte and Mark Westby  
Drew, a great dog! from Terry and Andrea Wyatt  
Cajun – my sweet Hurricane Katrina rescue dog from Rick and Karen Bartholomew  
Cassie, our sweet dog from William and Patricia Curtiss  
Carol, for her love of dogs from Timothy and Judith Patton  
Domino from Larry Crowe  
Joe Donovan from Carol Mullavey, Pagosa Piecemakers

Daniel Goodcase, DVM from Chuck and Judy Jordan  
Lulu, best dog ever from John and Joyce Webb  
Minka, beloved dog of Bill & Beth Filiowich from Dianne Burnside  
Floyd, beloved dog of Wesley Keen from Brittany Dudley  
Mookie and Fritz from Nancy and William Esterbrook  
Zasu, beloved dog of David & Becky Garcia from Mike Grimm and Lynn-Michael Anthony  
Phyllis Gibson from Ruth Blanchard  
Terry Hershey from Ted and Kathy Fink  
Max, beloved whippet of Renee Hester from Jeff & Jan Hester  
Oscar, beloved dog of Judy Patton & Hal Jaeke from Jeannie and Dave Donahoo  
Jake from Nancy and Michael Ray  
My beloved husband, Michael Jaworskyj from Diana Von Der Muhll Jaworskyj  
Ed and Virginia Kaumeyer from Cheryl Kaumeyer-Wetey  
Jim Kelley from Ve Ann Kelley  
Chandon Larsen from Marilyn and Harry Harris  
Reggie Lawrie from Robert and Barbara Rawlings  
Bond Lydick from Rachel Duran  
Fuzzy, beloved pet of Marcie Norris from Janet Furukawa  
Huaoponga (19.5 years), pet of Jorge & Patti from Mike Grimm and Lynn-Michael Anthony  
Oscar, beloved dog of Judylee Patton from Jeff and Jan Hester  
Rascal Ray from Paula Miller, Nancy and Michael Ray  
Rascal, beloved dog of Michael & Nancy Ray from Pam and Gary Hopkins  
Gabe, beloved Boston Terrier of Linda Robertson from Mike Grimm and Lynn-Michael Anthony  
Maggie Mae Ryan, beloved kitty of Joyce Ryan from Joan Ward  
Sadie, Lynn Sampsell's sweet dog from Terry & Andrea Wyatt  
Maya, beloved cat of Mary Ann & Bill Sayre from Barbara and Don Rosner  
Scout from Christopher Wardle  
Ann Shurtleff from Barbara and Don Rosner, Terry and Andrea Wyatt  
Long-time friends, Rex & Ann Shurtleff from Dave and Sandy Filleman  
Clare Skaggs from Christina Easterling  
Mary Jane Stoeckert from John and Joyce Webb  
Sugar from Steve and Beverly Sutterfield  
Wilhelm, beloved pet of Blair & Penny Watson from Annie and Charlie Jacobi  
Bode Bear Miller Weeden from Glenda Weeden and David Curtis  
Zoe & Reba, pets of Paula Miller & Lowell Wiles from Annie and Charlie Jacobi  
Lucy, beloved dog of Aileen Wolfer from Tobi Wilton  
Wolfgang from Brigid McCarthy  
Annie and Woody from Rade and Linda Orell  
Reba and Zoe from Nancy and Michael Ray

## MEMORIAL BRICKS

"In loving memory of Lulu, best dog ever, John & Joyce Webb" from John and Joyce Webb  
"Mojo 2003 – 2018, beloved companion" from Phil & Karla Rosenstein  
"Maggie Mae Ryan, beloved kitty of Joyce Ryan, 2018" from Joan Ward  
"Our Sweet Boy Drift, Joanna and Adrian" from Joanna Manganaro & Adrian Toto  
"In loving memory of Dixie, Ginger & Daisy" from Charlotte Westby  
"Cashmere "Caz" Bailey" from Donna Brombacher  
"In loving memory of Floyd Keen" from Brittany Dudley  
"In loving memory of Rascal Ray" from Paula Miller



## Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

Administration Office: 279 Pagosa Street  
P.O. Box 2230 • Pagosa Springs, CO 81147  
(970) 264-5549 • Fax (970) 264-5593  
www.humanesociety.biz  
hsadmin@humanesociety.biz  
hsdirector@humanesociety.biz

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PAGOSA SPRINGS  
CO 81147  
PERMIT NO. 7

PSRT STD

### Animal Shelter

465 Cloman Blvd  
Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4  
(970) 731-4771  
sheltermanager@humanesociety.biz

### Humane Society Thrift Store

279 Pagosa St  
Mon-Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5  
(970) 264-6424  
hsthiftstore@humanesociety.biz

### Board of Directors

Lauren Wolan-Zak – President  
Jan Karn – Vice President  
Phil Rosenstein – Treasurer  
Florence Hall – Secretary  
Gwen Glotnis – Board Member  
Shirley Keno – Board Member  
Kimberly Knab – Board Member  
Leslie Sargeant – Board Member  
  
Mike Stoll – Executive Director

## 2019 HSPS Events: Save These Dates

### June 22

A combined **animal shelter open house and shipping container painting party** will happen in collaboration with the Pagosa Springs Art Council. Local artists will team up and apply their talents to adorn our drab 40' shipping container (used to store shelter emergency equipment) with colorful and fun images of animals. This will be one of Pagosa's first public outdoor art projects, on view to share with the community. Shelter tours, food, entertainment and activities for kids will complement the painting party. It will be a fun way to welcome the arrival of summer!

### August 23

Join us for the **25<sup>th</sup> annual Auction for the Animals** at the Ross Aragon Community Center. We plan to make it a gala silver celebration of thanks to the community for many years of supporting the auction and the shelter animals. Expect awesome auction items, great food and spirits, and a few surprises along the way!

### November 30

Come to the PLPOA clubhouse for a fun and festive holiday shopping experience at the **4<sup>th</sup> annual Art for the Animals** in collaboration with the Pagosa Springs Arts Council. This event has grown in size and scope each year since its inception, and 2019 will be no different. Numerous local artists will have their wares for sale with a portion of the event's proceeds going to support the animal shelter. Food, entertainment and holiday beverages make this event an extra fun stop to shop.



## Horn Toot

During the Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce annual meeting in January, the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs was awarded *2018 Non-Profit of the Year*. Numerous non-profit organizations, large and small, make very valuable contributions to the vitality of our local community. Being recognized among our peers is both humbling and gratifying. In addition to providing shelter and care for homeless animals, the award ceremony highlighted an array of HSPS services, programs and direct actions that also benefit our community. We owe our success as an organization to the dedication of our animal shelter and thrift store teams as well as the support of many wonderful volunteers who give freely of their time, energy and expertise. A huge thank you to everyone who helped to make this award a reality!

