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Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Program Saves Lives

Cats are one of the most beloved pets around the world. But unfortunately, not all cats have a loving home to call their own. Stray and feral cats live a tough life, especially in Archuleta County. From drastic weather changes to numerous predators, stray cats face many hardships including hunger, thirst, disease, illness, injury, and cars. They struggle daily just to survive.

Stray and feral cat colonies can multiply quickly, and often start with owner abandoned cats, or at properties where someone does not have the financial means or resources to help these cats survive. By educating our community about this problem and stepping in to help whenever possible, we can save lives and limit suffering.

Contrary to popular belief, cats cannot live through our harsh winters alone. We've seen many cats starve to death, and an increasing number even frozen to death in Archuleta County. Cats suffer unimaginably without food and some sort of heated shelter (such as barns or even heated beds on porches). For those that survive, we've found extremely skinny abandoned cats, or those with painfully frostbitten noses and ears. Summers aren't much easier. Food may be more plentiful but water is scarce in hot weather and our ongoing drought conditions.

(continued inside)

TNR Program Saves Lives *(continued)*



Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) programs are a humane way to manage the cat population and improve the welfare of stray cats. By controlling overpopulation, minimizing disease transmission, and promoting a healthier environment, TNR programs offer a compassionate solution that benefits both cats and people.

Unhealthy free-roaming cats can be carriers of diseases that can be transmitted to/from other animals and even people. In addition to providing spay and neuter services, our TNR program also vaccinates feral cats and provides them with medical care if needed. Providing vaccinations for common contagious diseases like rabies and feline leukemia virus improves the health and happiness of stray cats.

Ear tipping is a common practice to indicate which cats were part of a TNR program. Removing a small part of the tip of a cat's ear provides a quick visual to help people identify which animals are already spayed or neutered. This is especially helpful to veterinarians.

Our TNR staff and volunteers usually set traps in the mornings or evenings and check back within 12 hours. Once trapped, the cats are given a medical examination, vaccinated, spayed or neutered, and released back to their original location, or to another property with their colony where it is safer for the cats to reside. Friendly cats are placed up for adoption.

If you have a heart for the well-being of our community's cats, here is how you can help:

1. Get involved by volunteering for our TNR program. Contact us today at shelteroffice@humanesociety.biz, or call 970-731-4771.
2. Let us know about a cat or cat colony in need at 970-731-4771 or shelteroffice@humanesociety.biz.
3. Adopt a stray or feral cat (often called barn cats).
4. Donate to our TNR program.

At the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs, not only do we offer shelter to our community's animals in need, we are here to support animal welfare in whatever way we can.

Other News & Updates

19th Hole Concert Series a Great Success

Thank you to everyone for coming out to support the 19th Hole Concert this summer! We received a \$2,625 grant from the SW Community Foundation as a part of this great concert series.

Volunteers are the Heart of our Organization

We had more than 24,000 volunteer hours recorded in the last 12 months! That equals to close to \$500,000 in payroll expenses that all our volunteers are able to save us by donating their time and efforts to make our organization a success.

Low-Cost Vaccination Events Helped 70+ Pets


We hosted two low-cost vaccination clinics this year on June 1 and September 16. We were able to vaccinate more than 70 animals as a part of this program. Thank you so the Banfield Foundation for supporting this program!


Pet Pantry Feeds Pets

As of October 1, the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs has donated more than 10,000 pounds of pet food to our community's pet owners in need. That's a lot of mouths fed!

Stay Connected

Follow us to see the latest thrift store deals and sales, read adoption success stories, learn about cats and dogs available for adoption, and so much more!

 /hspagosa and /hspagosathrift

 @hspagosa and @hspagosathrift

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.

Help Us Clear Our Shelter



Romeo has been with us for TWO YEARS, almost his entire life. Our no-kill commitment to animals means dogs like Romeo will always have a safe and secure place to live, no matter how long it takes to get adopted.

Romeo is a 2-year-old Staffordshire mix that is more than ready to be in his forever home. Romeo can be a bit cautious with people at first but once you gain his trust, his heart is yours forever. Romeo really enjoys walks and with a little training and focus, this boy will master tricks for treats!

Sadly, for animals like Romeo, adoptions have slowed, which means that great dogs like him are living months, and sometimes years in our shelter. Although we do our best to provide an enriched and fulfilled life for our shelter animals, our hope is to find every animal a loving, forever home as quickly as we can.

In 2023, shelters nationwide are struggling with higher intakes, while adoptions, fosters and rescues are not keeping pace. Our shelter here in Pagosa Springs is no exception.

For almost two years now, our animal shelter has been running at capacity. Amid surging inflation and rising economic anxiety, more pets are being given up. Compound this issue with lower adoptions, higher operating costs and fewer donations, the Humane Society of Pagosa Springs is facing a difficult time where we have more mouths to feed and limited resources to feed them.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you have extra space in your home to foster or adopt a new furry friend, please contact us to learn more by calling 970-731-4771 or emailing shelteroffice@humanesociety.biz. If it's not a good time to foster or adopt, consider making a donation. Every dollar will help feed our animals and provide medical care to those in need.

In Honor Of

Adam Brown

from Karoline & Bob Brown

Darcy, adopted 6/20/2010

from Sarah Menapace-Walker

Ellen Seylar

from Anne Hickman

Ellen Seylar's birthday

from Steve Ross

Ellen Seylar's birthday

from Yolanda and David Parker

Holly Boyd for Mother's Day

from Carli Boy

Kathy Stevnton

from Tammy Van Winkle

Maise Casias

from Irvin and Andrea Casias

Romeo's care

from Karen and Rick Bartholomew

Stacy & Holly Mazur

from Wayne and Sandra Mazur

Wicket

from Olin & Sharon Garrison

In Memory Of

Your beloved Airedale

from Barbara and Don Rosner

Walter, beloved dog of Cindy Cunningham

from Diana Peto

Teeny

from Jeff & Jan Hester

Stella

from Terry & Andrea Wyatt

Shirley Martin

from Aly Shanks

Roxie, beloved dog of Duncan & Linda

Lawrie from Nita Niece

Rex and Ann Shurtleff

from Judith A. Meyer

Melanie M. Morgan

from Patti Johnston

May Callaham

from Robert Obenour

Maisie Casias

from Irvin and Andrea Casias

Larry Brogan

from Aly Shanks

Josie & Puma

from Rade & Linda Orell

John Byrnes

from Marilyn Falvey

Jettee

from Thelma Smith

Gravy Shanks

from Aly Shanks

Gigi Flick

from Lucy Mac Millan

Clayton Watson

from Amy, Liv & Kenneth Kerntke

Cheyenne

from Ventura & Sharon Armenta

Chase

from RPM Performance Motorsports LLC

Cassie, beloved dog of Brian & Wanda Duffin

from Richard & Bennie Anderson

Cassie

from Patricia Hatcher

Carol Shewbridge

from Tim Dippel

Bob Arnold

from Nita Niece

Beloved Ramsey

from William James and Helen Hoff

Bandit

from Jean & Jim Carson

A loved one of Ruth Watson

from Evan Thomas

Memorial Bricks

In Loving Memory of Gravy Shanks

from Aly & Buddy Shanks

In Loving Memory of Gigi Flick

from Aly & Buddy Shanks

In Loving Memory of Tiger

from Robert Kozlowski

In Loving Memory of Butters

from Sheila & Brent Rumsey

In Loving Memory of Krista S. Jacobson

from Kent Robbins

In Loving Memory of Buster

from Pamela & Wesley Walk



Humane Society of Pagosa Springs

Administration Office

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www.humanesociety.biz
hsadmin@humanesociety.biz

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Animal Shelter

465 Cloman Boulevard, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Mon-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 A.M. to 5 P.M.
(970) 264-6424 | hsthiftstore@humanesociety.biz

Board of Directors and Executive Staff

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Phil Rosenstein – Board Member
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THANK YOU

LOCAL RESTAURANT PARTNERS

These generous restaurants have partnered with us as a part of our new restaurant partnership program and generously donated a portion of their sales to our animal shelter:

Thai Paoga
Riff Raff Brewing Company
Papa Murphy's Pizza
PS Froyo
Pagosa Baking Company
Papa John's Pizza
Subway
Sage Eatery
Meltdown on Main
Colorado Roadhouse
The Rose

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A big thank you to ALL of our generous and supportive 2023 event sponsors!