

Pet News

Delta County Humane Society
PO Box 1111
Delta, Colorado 81416
(970) 874-2149

April – June 2019

Web Sites: www.deltacountyhumanesociety.org or www.petfinder.com

National Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 14-20, 2019

The following is by an unknown author, written as a tribute to all animal rescuers. We feel it describes our own volunteers, those who give of their time and of their hearts every minute, every hour, every day, to make sure that the animals rescued and entrusted to them are given all their love, and their care which involves feeding, medications, and security – and they continue to care for those animals indefinitely until they are adopted into their forever homes.

To Love a Rescuer

To love a rescuer, you must love all of her. You must love the scars covering her body from the panicked animals she was trying to help. You must love her fractured heart that has been broken so many times she no longer even takes the time to mend the pieces.

To love a rescuer, you must embrace her grit and determination, and know that although she fights a war that she can never win, she can and does win a few battles. You must love the tears she shed over those she lost. You must give her comfort that she refuses to accept, as she blames herself for things she could have never foreseen.

To love a rescuer you must acknowledge the rage she feels toward the world at times, and know that anger is driven by a love of life too few have. You must give her space and room to cry and mourn for the losses that others have caused out of carelessness or cruelty.

To love a rescuer you must understand her passion to heal and save is a calling, not a choice. You must accept that to save animals is part of her soul and without that she could never be happy.

To love a rescuer you must be patient. You must accept her work comes first. She will forego sleep, forego food, and forego her life for animals in need. She will work tirelessly until her body and mind fail her completely and she cannot go on.

To love a rescuer you must be strong. You must not be threatened by her focus and love of animals. You must accept that the things you love about her, the strength and convictions and loyalty are also what drives her sense of duty to animals in need; you cannot have one without the other.

To love a rescuer you must never ask her to choose, because she will, and it will not be you.

**Our thanks go out to Jackie, Carol, Joan, Kathie, Chris and Quincy – our own rescue angels !!
... and to Renee' (spay/neuter coupons) ... and Sharon & Edna (voice mail response) !!**

Be Kind to Animals Week is May 5-11, 2019

It's a simple concept, really. BE KIND. Treat your animals like you would want to be treated – make sure they have food and water on a daily basis, provide them with shelter, and give them all of your love and attention.



DO THIS – Be Kind



DON'T DO THIS – EVER!

This starving, abused [Pit Bull](#) was found in the garbage bin of a 22-story apartment building. The 19-pound pooch was skin and bones, but thanks to 24-hour care, and a blood transfusion, [he recovered](#). The pooch was named [Patrick](#) after the annual St. Patrick's Day.

A hundred years from now it will not matter the sort of house I lived in, what my bank account was, or the car I drove . . . but the world may be different because I was important in the life of animals and the creatures on this earth.



Farewell, Doc . . .



Pictured above is a beloved veterinarian in our community - Norman Vincent, DVM. The entire Delta County community was saddened to hear that "Doc" Vincent would be retiring from his practice at the end of February, 2019. Doc Vincent opened his office in Paonia in August 1980 under the name of North Fork Veterinary Practice, and since DCHS has been in existence since 1981, we are proud to say that we have known Doc Vincent during all of our rescue years.

The list of attributes we could pin on this veterinarian are many, but mainly he is a man who truly loves animals, who never turned someone away at their time of need (whether it was during office hours or the middle of the night), and always believed that every animal should be given the chance to survive. Our rescue animals were given the same superior care in his hands as were the companion pets of his clients – the number of DCHS rescued dogs and cats treated by Doc Vincent since 1981 has to number in the thousands – and for that, we are extremely grateful.

"Doc," you will be missed, but will remain in our hearts forever. Thank you for your kindness and your expertise when caring for our rescues. You deserve to take time off now and enjoy your retirement. You will not be forgotten, but always remembered as a kind person and a valued member in our community.

Love and best wishes from everyone here at the Delta County Humane Society - we wish you well !!

Dog Bite Prevention Week May 12-18, 2019

(Article courtesy of Center for Disease Control & Prevention)

Preventing Dog Bites

Dogs can be our closest companions – in the United States, over 36% of households own at least one dog. Dogs have been proven to decrease stress, increase our exercise levels, and are playmates for children. But sometimes man's best friend will bite. In addition to causing pain, injury, or nerve damage, dog bites can become infected, putting the bite victim at risk for illness or in rare cases death.

Although the idea of being bitten by a dog is scary, it doesn't mean you need to avoid dogs completely. If you work or live around dogs, be aware of the risks and learn how to enjoy being around dogs without getting bitten.



Children are at highest risk for dog bites. Small children should never be allowed to play with dogs unsupervised.

Know the Risks

Children are more likely than adults to be bitten by a dog, and when they are, the injuries can be more severe. Over half of dog bite injuries occur at home with dogs that are familiar to us. Having a dog in the household is linked to a higher likelihood of being bitten than not having a dog. As the number of dogs in the home increases, so does the likelihood of being bitten. Adults with two or more dogs in the household are five times more likely to be bitten than those living without dogs at home. Among adults, men are more likely than women to be bitten by a dog.

How to Prevent Dog Bites

Do:

- Always ask if it is okay to pet someone else's dog before reaching out to pet the dog.
- When approached by an unfamiliar dog, remain motionless ("be still like a tree").
- If a dog knocks you over, curl into a ball with your head tucked and your hands over your ears and neck.
- Immediately let an adult know about any stray dogs or dogs that are behaving strangely.

Don't:

- Don't approach an unfamiliar dog.
- Don't run from a dog.
- Don't panic or make loud noises.
- Don't disturb a dog that is sleeping, eating, or caring for puppies.
- Don't pet a dog without allowing it to see and sniff you first.
- Don't encourage your dog to play aggressively.
- Don't let small children play with a dog unsupervised.



Do not pet a dog without allowing it to see and sniff you first.

What to do if an unfamiliar dog approaches you and you do not want to interact with it:

- Stop! Stay still and be calm.
- Do not panic or make loud noises.
- Avoid direct eye contact with the dog.
- Say “No” or “Go Home” in a firm, deep voice.
- Stand with the side of your body facing the dog. Facing a dog directly can appear aggressive to the dog. Instead, keep your body turned partially or completely to the side.
- Slowly raise your hands to your neck, with your elbows in.
- Wait for the dog to pass or slowly back away.

What to do if you are bitten or attacked by a dog:

Protect Yourself

- Put your purse, bag, or jacket between you and the dog.
- If you are knocked down, curl into a ball with your head tucked in and your hands over your ears and neck.

Wash Wounds with Soap and Water

When you get to a safe place, immediately wash wounds with soap and water. Seek medical attention, especially:

- For minor wounds:
 - Wash the wound thoroughly with soap and water.
 - Apply an antibiotic cream.
 - Cover the wound with a clean bandage.
 - See a healthcare provider if the wound becomes red, painful, warm, or swollen; if you develop a fever; or if the dog that bit you was acting strangely.
- For deep wounds:
 - Apply pressure with a clean, dry cloth to stop the bleeding.
 - If you cannot stop the bleeding or you feel faint or weak, call 911 or your local emergency medical services immediately.
 - See a healthcare provider as soon as possible.
- See a healthcare provider:
 - If the wound is serious (uncontrolled bleeding, loss of function, extreme pain, muscle or bone exposure, etc.).
 - If the wound becomes red, painful, warm, or swollen, or if you develop a fever. If you don't know if the dog has been vaccinated against rabies.
 - If it has been more than 5 years since your last tetanus shot and the bite is deep.

Report the Bite

- Because anyone who is bitten by a dog is at risk of getting rabies, consider contacting your local animal control agency or police department to report the incident, especially:
 - If you don't know if the dog has been vaccinated against rabies.
 - If the dog appears sick or is acting strangely.
- If possible, contact the owner and ensure the animal has a current rabies vaccination. You will need the rabies vaccine license number, name of the veterinarian who administered the vaccine, and the owner's name, address, and phone number.

Any dog can bite, but if you understand the risks for dog bites and know how to protect yourself, you will reduce your likelihood of getting sick or injured.

What has black and brown spots, and white all over ?

... well, in our world, it's a litter of adorable puppies !!



← Carol, our foster mom in Crawford, received a call from the Surface Creek Animal Shelter in Cedaredge, Colo. asking if we had room for 5 puppies and their mom. There was no hesitation on Carol's part to take in these cuties on December 13, 2018 – 4 girls & 1 boy.

Once they were vaccinated and reached the appropriate age for adoption, they didn't last long after Carol put their photos online. Four of the pups were in their new homes on January 5, and the last one on January 6, 2019.



Tyler & Amber of Parachute, Colo. came for 1 puppy and ended up with 2 pups! Little Gabriel is going to have great fun growing up with two best friends.



Ronald & Ramie of Grand Junction, Colo. had already picked out this little girl online before adoption day so they were ready to take on a pup with a "big personality." She'll also have a 4-legged brother in her new home.



Dennis & Judi, of Grand Junction, Colo., recently loss their best 4-legged friend and needed this little girl to fill the void. Dennis even said the pup looks a lot like their previous dog.



Only 1 pup left, and Melanie of Grand Junction was thrilled to adopt her. She'll have fun with Melanie, her husband, two young children and another dog.

We absolutely love these ladies !!!



These ladies from the Re/Max Today real estate office in Delta, Colorado held their annual pet food drive at the end of 2018 – the result of their hard work and love of animals resulted in a donation to the Delta County Humane Society of 500 lbs. of food !!

We want to send them our sincere thank yous for all the food – please know that our rescue animals will eat well and they would give you all slobbery, wet kisses themselves if possible. We truly appreciate your kindness and your love of animals !!

WOW!! Look at all this food these ladies collected – just think how many meals will be fed to our rescue animals. Thank you all !! →



We don't like saying goodbyes but we love the welcoming hellos . . .



"Doc Steele", aka Dick Steele, DVM, has retired from his veterinary practice here in Delta County. Doc Steele operated the Grand Mesa Veterinary Hospital in Delta for 35 years, and more recently, an additional office in Cedaredge, Colo.

We could always count on Doc Steele to give our companion rescue animals his undivided attention and experienced care – we will miss you, Doc. In addition, he tended to the needs of the larger animals too - horses, cows, goats.

Known for his love of horses, we're sure that we'll see him again, riding off into the sunset on one of his beloved steeds. Thanks, Doc, for the love and dedication you have shown our rescue animals, and all animals – we can't thank you enough!



. . . but now we would like to welcome Dr. Natalya O'Regan into our community. Dr. O'Regan has purchased, and is now operating from, the Grand Mesa Veterinary Hospital.

Dr. O'Regan completed her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at the Colorado State University, where she studied both large & small animal medicine & surgery – she sounds like the perfect fit to operate her own vet clinic for animals of all sizes.

Dr. O'Regan and her husband reside in Montrose, Colo. and she previously ran a mobile vet practice called Black Horse Veterinary Services. Now she is a part of the Delta County community, and we would like to welcome her with open arms . . and all the rescue animals she can handle. See you soon, Doc!

ADOPTIONS . . . ADOPTIONS . . . ADOPTIONS . . . YEA !!



← We are so happy to tell you about this adoption. Sweet “Hannah” (on the left in photo) had been waiting patiently for two months to be adopted, watching her fellow kennel pals get their forever homes. Then, on January 12, Sherry and Jessica, came to visit Carol’s facility with the express purpose of meeting Hannah, and to find out if Hannah and their elderly dog, Juno, would be compatible. It turned out the two dogs got along beautifully, and now it was Hannah’s turn to be adopted and have a wonderful life with her forever family. Thank you both for choosing Hannah!

Our apologies go out to some of the following adopters who actually took their kitties home back in November 2018 – we neglected to insert your photos in our last two newsletter issues, and this should not have happened. Apparently some of our clerical procedures need brushing up. Again, our apologies.



Shawna DeVinny of Delta, Colo. adopted “Tyler” but her friend got to hold him in the adoption photo.



This little Siamese kitten didn’t have time to get a name because Tracey Merrall of Montrose, Colo. adopted her so quickly.



One gray kitten and one orange kitten got a forever home with Dona, who lives in Delta, Colo. Thanks for taking two !

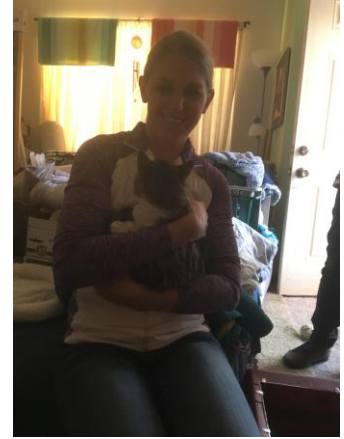
We always seem to get photo updates on dog adoptions, but we know that most of you kitty adopters have digital cameras too. We would love to receive follow-up photos from you as your feline friends grow up and make themselves at home with your family. Your emails with attached photos can easily be sent to deltacountyhumanesociety@gmail.com – hint, hint. . .

. . . another page of wonderful adoptions . . .



Roxanne, of Austin, Colo., adopted "Joey" and took him into their home as the newest family member.

*A true friend leaves
pawprints on your
heart . . .*



Megan made the trek all the way from Steamboat Springs, Colo. to pick up "Hunter" and take him home.



← "Sandy" got her forever home on Feb. 2 with a wonderful family from Grand Junction, Colo. Pictured here are Julie, Stacy, and their daughter, Bettyne. There are two other older children in their family, along with another dog, so Sandy will be kept quite busy with all the family attention. As you can see in the photo below, her new friend "Gus" has taken on the responsibility of being her protective brother. What a great home for her!



← "Beau" (brother to Sandy above) had to wait until Feb. 6 to be adopted, but as you can see, he was very happy with his new forever home. His new "mom" is Morgan (on the right) and they will live in Grand Junction where Morgan goes to school. The gal on the left is Miranda, who is Morgan's roommate. With two young women in his life, and a new grandma living in Montrose, Colo., Beau can be sure of receiving lots of love and attention. Great adoption!

... the adoptions just keep happening ... and we love it !!



← Due to health reasons, “Deanie’s” previous owner had to relinquish her care to DCHS. Luckily, for her, and her new owners, Scott and Valerie, once she was put up for adoption online, it was love at first sight between the three of them. Scott and Valerie made the drive from Denver thru some rather treacherous weather to pick her up from Carol at our Crawford facility. Happy times are ahead for Deanie in their home – lots of room for exploring!

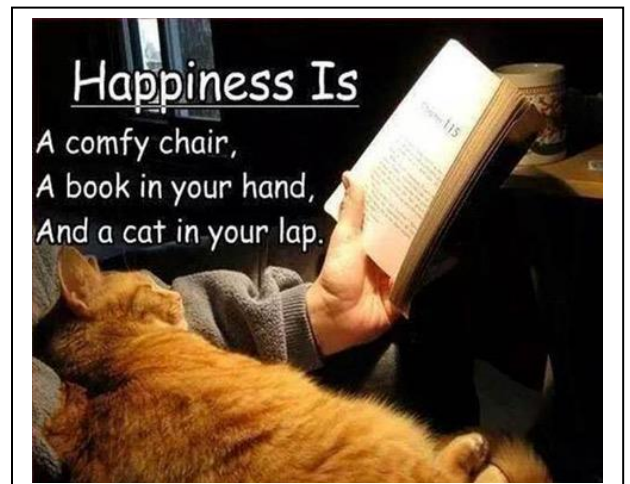
“Sissy,” a 2-year-old Heeler, came to Carol at our Crawford facility on Feb.24, just full of pep and energy. In just a week’s time, Rhonda and Ronnie, of Hotchkiss, Colo., found her picture online and really wanted her as part of their family. They recently lost one of their dogs and needed a friend for their Border Collie, John. These two dogs are going to have great fun running together – Sissy had no qualms at all about her new family as she jumped right into their truck cab when everyone was ready to leave for home. Looks like happy faces all around – thanks for adopting a rescue dog! →



← ... and here is Sissy ready to go to work on the ATV. We understand that Sissy & John also go on all the farrier jobs with their owners. Great home for Sissy!

Thank you, Doc Vincent !!

... for sharing, and giving to us, a portion of your leftover dog/cat food and medical supplies. Thanks for continuing to help our rescue animals even after retiring. Your kindness and generosity are much appreciated !!



... and here are the latest “adoption updates” from our former adopters ... keep ‘em coming!

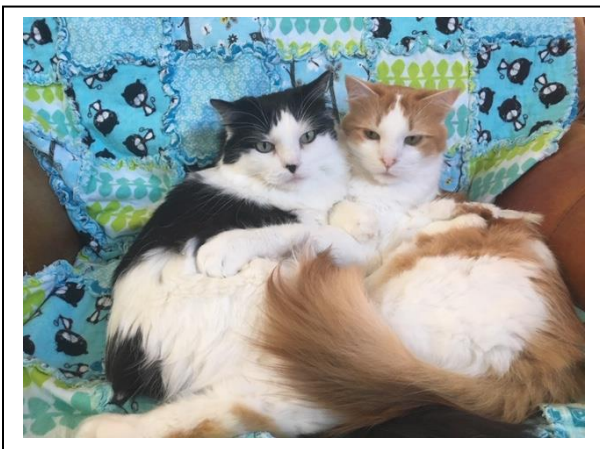


← We would like you to meet “Ziggy” who was a 2013 adoption. His owners, Sharon and Mike of Grand Junction, Colo., recently sent this photo to Carol, his former foster mom. As you can see, Ziggy has grown into quite a handsome fellow, and his mom and dad are so proud of him. He loves his four other 4-legged family members, follows commands obediently, has turned into a great trail runner, and we hear that he also loves to snuggle. What a good boy! We are proud of you, too, Ziggy!

Here we have “Cleo” with her mom and dad. They were kind enough to send us a recent photo taken during Christmastime at home in Wisconsin. Cleo was adopted in late 2017 and has now grown to a healthy 43 lbs. and is the best snuggler! →



← “Ruger” (Aug. 2018 adoption) extolled us with her obedience skills in our last issue, and here she is sporting her fancy sunglasses – her owner, Jim, of Grand Junction, Colo. took her for a stroll on Grand Mesa and didn’t want her to risk being snow blind. Looks like Ruger has someone to “watch her back” at all times, and the love between them is abundant.



← Please meet “Mink and Tink” who were adopted together in November 2013 by Kris. We all think this is a fabulous photo of both kitties which shows how well they are taken care of – in fact, Kris is planning to make a quilt out of this photograph. Thanks for sharing this adorable picture with us, Kris, and we would love to see a photo of your quilt when it is finished.

. . . . and here we have even more previous adoption “updates” which make us smile. Thanks for sending them!



← “Gunner” was adopted in November 2018 and his mom, Michelle, flew to Colorado from Pennsylvania to pick him up. He was such a good traveler on the plane, and Michelle tells us that he continues to be a good boy. In this photo, he just got a bath, and we’re told that he likes to watch television also. Thanks, Michelle – we look forward to future adventures with Gunner.

“Properly trained, a Man can become a Dog’s best friend”

. . . Corey Ford

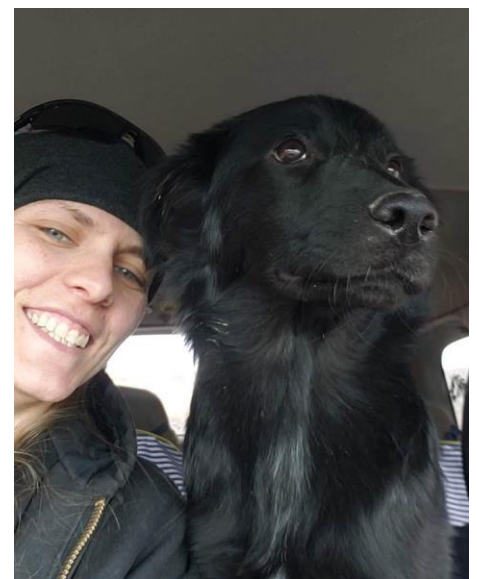
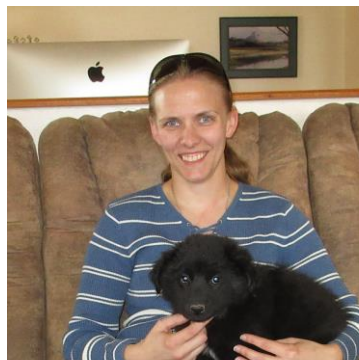


← Isn’t she beautiful? That’s what love and caring will do for an animal. “Sadie,” a teacup Chihuahua, was dumped to fend for herself in August 2017. After being fostered at our Crawford DCHS facility, she was soon adopted by Diane, who tells us Sadie is now a happy & healthy girl! We love these happy endings!



← “Emma Lou” was adopted by Cliff and Linda in June 2018. We were told that she immediately fit into their family, and as you can see by the photo we received in February, Emma gets, and gives, lots of love. We always say that the perfect adopter will come along for every dog or cat, and this adoption confirms that concept. Thank you !

Jessica adopted “Karigan” in the fall of 2018 and they get to travel together as Jessica works for the Forest Service. Karigan has certainly grown into a gorgeous girl – look at the difference between her adoption photo and now Thanks for sharing, Jessica! →



**THE BEST
THINGS
IN LIFE
ARE RESCUED.**

The Delta County Humane Society is a non-profit organization. This means all of your donations of money and materials are tax deductible. The organization is not funded by your government tax dollars. This is why YOUR membership and donations are so very vital to us. As many of you are aware, we have only a small force of volunteers who care for the abandoned and unwanted animals in their homes until they can be provided with a permanent and suitable home. If you are concerned with the well-being of our animals and would like to help financially with a membership or donation, please fill out this form and return it with your check. If you have material items with a value, please call our office (970-874-2149) and leave a message. (We are always in need of blankets, towels, dog houses and runs, pet food, carriers, collars, leashes, food bowls, large food storage containers, wire fencing, etc.)

(-----)

MEMBERSHIP: \$10 (annual) \$20 (supporting) \$100 (lifetime)

MEMBERSHIP: \$_____ DONATION: \$_____ PHONE: _____

GYPSY FUND DONATION \$_____ (feral cats)

Name: _____

ADDRESS: _____

MAIL TO: *DELTA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 1111
DELTA, CO 81416*

THANK YOU FOR HELPING THE HOMELESS ANIMALS
OF DELTA COUNTY