

# Pet News

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

July-August-Sept. 2018

Web Sites: [www.deltacountyhumanesociety.org](http://www.deltacountyhumanesociety.org) or [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com)



## LOUD NOISES MAKE FOR FRIGHTENED DOGS

As a lot of dog owners know, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks, and the loud noise caused by rolling thunder and cracks of lightning during our summer months, are both things not appreciated by our pets. In fact, we come to dread fireworks and thunderstorms almost as much as our dogs because we know how frightened our 4-legged pals can become during these events. Here are a few hints which may help you to calm your dog (*Courtesy of Purina.com*):

- If there are windows in the room, close the blinds or curtains, or cover the windows so the dog can't see outside.
- Provide a safe indoor area, like a crate. A plastic crate is preferable, but if you have a wire crate, you can cover it with a sheet to create the feeling of a haven. Leave the door open so the dog does not feel trapped.
- Play calming music to drown out the thunder claps.
- Stay with the dog.
- Try to distract your dog with treats and familiar games.
- Use calming massage to reassure the dog.
- Tight jackets such as the Thundershirt provide a sensation of pressure, which can alleviate pets' anxiety. (Swaddling a baby operates on the same principle.) You can also make a DIY version by buying a small T-shirt and putting the dog's front legs through the armholes of the shirt. The shirt should fit snugly around your dog's torso.
- On a personal note, I adopted a 3-yr-old pit bull about a month ago. Fearing that he might be afraid of loud noises, I have been playing fireworks noises loudly on my computer. The first time went as expected with my dog running to me with saucer-shaped eyes and trembling – but as each day went on, he became accustomed to the loud noise. It's definitely worth a try.

Your veterinarian is the best person to talk to when it comes to helping your dog cope with storms. He or she will be best equipped to pinpoint exactly which stimulus is troubling your pet.

Make sure your pets have current ID tags on their collars, just in case they should escape from your property during the noise.

## *It's been a long road for this little girl . . . a sad beginning,*



← We would like you to meet “Sally.” In this photo, taken January 26, our foster mom, Carol (Crawford DCHS), already had Sally in her care for a week. And before that, she was in Dr. Vincent’s care for two weeks after a kind UPS driver picked her up from the road near Somerset. Poor Sally had been starved, her rectum was protruding, and who knows what else. Doc Vincent did two operations within 3 days to correct the issues on her rectum and intestines.

Carol’s job was to fatten Sally up and get her healthy again. As you can see by the above photo, Sally’s ribs and spinal column are very visible – this poor little gal was lucky to be alive. It was slow going at first because Sally was only allowed a limited amount of food due to her intestinal issues – it wouldn’t do her any good to have huge volumes of dog food going through intestines that had just been repaired. But Carol was patient and within two weeks, Sally had gained 4 lbs. and by Feb. 15, she was up to 26.9 lbs., which was a 10-lb. weight gain since she was brought to Dr. Vincent’s office. This little gal is a Hound/Black Cur mix, and at 7 months old, she only weighed 16.9 lbs – we continue to wonder how she managed to survive by herself.

Now for the good news – by March 6, Sally was up to 36 lbs. and cleared for adoption – and by the end of March, she weighed in at 42 lbs. !! She was eating normally, playing “fetch,” and acting like a real dog again. →

## ***But a happy ending !!***

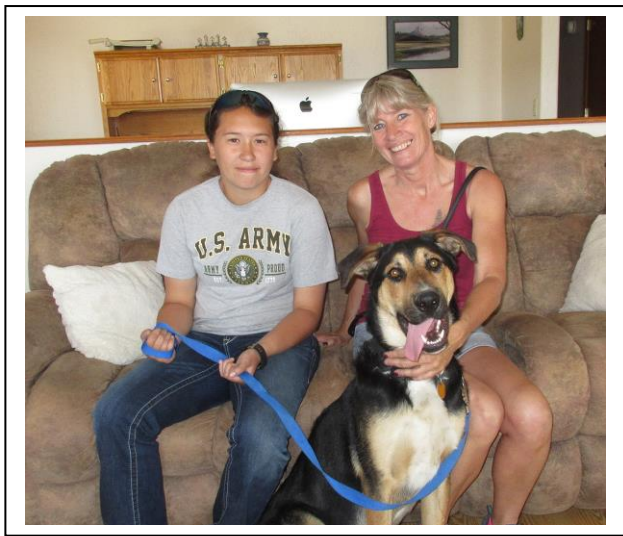
And here’s more good news – a very nice lady fell in love with Sally’s photos/video and wanted to come and meet her. Melissa, who lives in Fruita, already had adopted a 12-yr-old pit bull named Gary who suffered from anxiety problems. At their first meeting, the two dogs hit it off and Melissa adored Sally – there was no question that Melissa would be taking her home that day. This turned out to be a wonderful adoption of a happy & healthy dog – when it could have been much worse had it not been for the kindness of that UPS driver, the talents of an experienced vet, and the loving care of our foster parent, Carol. We wish Melissa, Sally & Gary the very best and hope to hear about their future adventures together. →



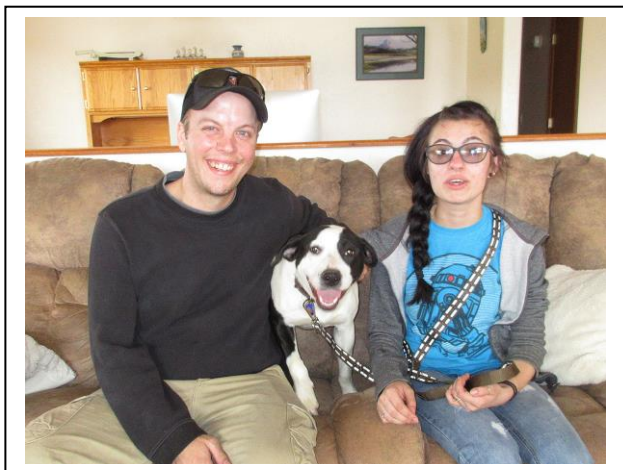
*More adoptions we are proud to announce . . .*



← April 6 was a lucky day for “Gomer,” (on right) when Kevin and Denise found him up for adoption through DCHS on Petfinder. Of course, upon meeting him, they immediately knew that Gomer would fit nicely in their family, but their present dog, Trixie, also had to approve. Once Gomer accepted the fact that Trixie was the boss, they became instant friends. He now has a wonderful home in Gunnison where he can show off his “mouse-catching” abilities and possibly learn the sport of paddleboarding with his new owners. That’s a picture we’d like to see – thank you both!



← If you remember seeing “Tank” in our previous newsletter, you’d be right. Unfortunately, Tank proved to be too much for his first adopter – as you can see he’s a big boy at 7 months old. Pictured here are Kathy, who adopted Tank on April 10, and her daughter, Sarah. Kathy said she needed Tank because she was suffering from “empty nest syndrome,” but we also know that she fell in love with the big galoot. Kathy is a runner (exercise for Tank) and he will be enrolled in an obedience class (to learn his manners). We’re sure that Tank now has his forever home with Kathy at her home in Clifton. Thank you, Kathy!



← Ryan and Cierra, of Grand Junction, had officially adopted “Lulu” a week before, but had to patiently wait until April 13 to take her home. Between their work schedules and waiting for Lulu to recover from her spay operation, it was 7 more days until the three of them became a family. As it turned out, Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> turned out to be the luckiest day for Lulu – no more scrounging for food as a stray, now she has a forever and loving home, and Ryan is a photographer, so he promised us lots of photos. Great adoption!

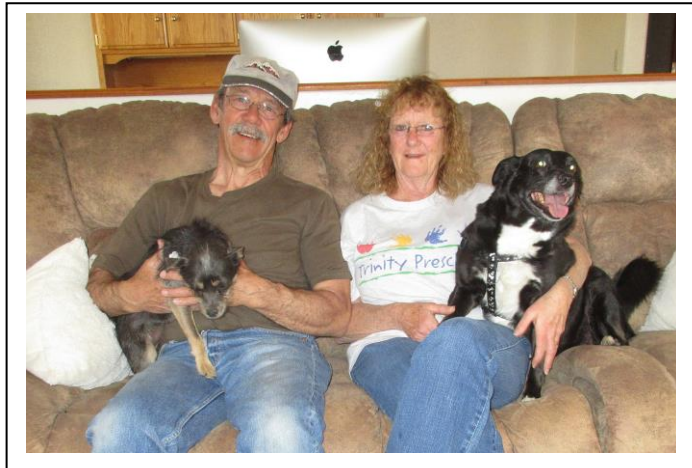
*August 26, 2018 is National Dog Day*



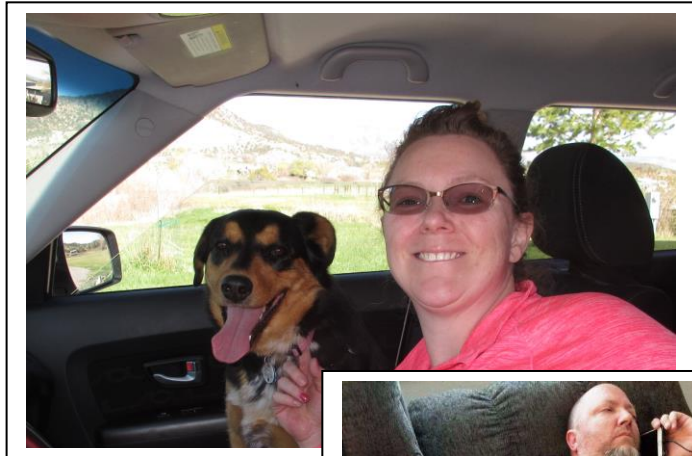


*... and even more adoptions to share with you ...*

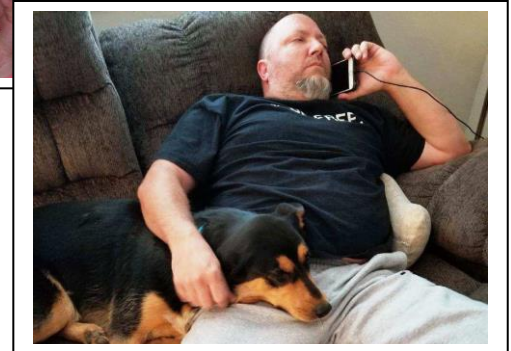
Roy and Ila, of Paonia, are return adopters to DCHS and we are delighted that they decided to adopt another dog. On April 23, they adopted "Cricket" (Chihuahua-Schnauzer mix) on the left. Their current dog, Rissa (on right), lost her long-time companion of 10 years, and they decided that she needed a new friend. Thank you both for returning to DCHS to find that fur-ever friend for your family! →



"Xena" is a Kelpie mix who loves women. Although Crystal is married, she also has FIVE teenage daughters, so we figured that Xena would be right at home with all those females. In addition, they recently adopted a Labrador Retriever named Lucy that will be a playmate for Xena. Now she has a great home in Grand Junction that will give her all the love and attention she can handle – how great is that! →



Surprise, surprise – with all those females, Xena, nka "Zena" just loves her Dad. This photo was received on May 3. We hear Zena also gets bed privileges in her new home – spoiled just a little? →



Do these two look like they're having fun? When Wesley, of Aspen, met "Ollie" on May 9, the two of them spent a lot of time rolling on the floor together. Not only was that a good start to this adoption, but Wesley says that Ollie will ride with him when he works, and plans are in the making for hiking, boating, swimming, and camping this summer. What an awesome life for Ollie! →

... also, see new photos on Pupdate page



*Learn a lesson from your dog – No matter what life brings you, kick some grass over that shit and move on.*

# Heartworm 101 (reprinted from Pet Basics/Bayer)

You've probably heard of heartworms, but did you know that heartworms really are worms that live in your dog's heart? That's right, dogs with heartworm disease can have worms up to a foot long living in their lungs and heart.

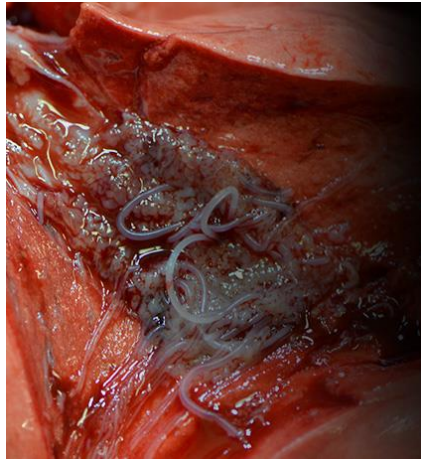


Photo courtesy of Dr. Joe Hostetler

You're probably not surprised that this can cause some serious, life-threatening health problems. Fortunately, there are ways to prevent heartworms in dogs. The first step is understanding how infection happens.

## How do dogs get heartworms?

When a mosquito bites and feeds on a heartworm-positive dog, it inadvertently ingests baby heartworms, called *microfilariae*, circulating in the bloodstream. Once the babies are in the mosquito, they grow and develop into larvae. When that mosquito bites another dog, it can pass on these infective larvae. Once a dog is infected, these tiny larvae grow and develop into adult heartworms that live in your dog's lungs and heart, leading to severe consequences and even death if not treated.

## Signs of heartworm disease

Even though adult heartworms can cause some big problems, your dog might not show symptoms or illness right away. Eventually you may notice these symptoms of heartworm disease in your dog: fatigue, loss of body condition, a persistent cough and difficulty breathing. As time passes, cardiopulmonary disease, heart failure and kidney disease are possible.

## Testing and treatment

To help avoid illness, the American Heartworm Society (AHS) recommends that all dogs are treated with heartworm prevention and that puppies are started on prevention as early as possible and no later than 8 weeks of age. The AHS also recommends all dogs and puppies, even those currently on heartworm prevention, are tested for infection once a year. Your veterinarian will test a blood sample for the presence of heartworms. Heartworm disease is a serious and progressive illness, and the earlier it's detected and treated, the better chance dogs have of surviving and limiting permanent damage to their lungs and heart. If your dog tests positive, treatment is expensive and can come with risk. However, treatment will be necessary to save your dog's life.

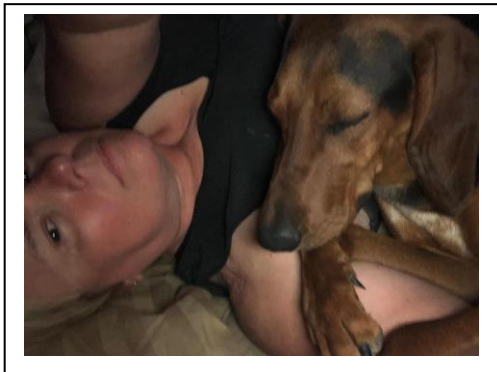
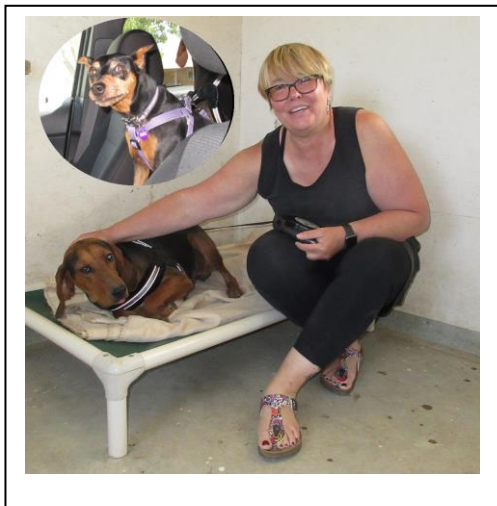
## What's the key? Prevention

Prevention is the best medicine. Thankfully, there are safe and effective ways to prevent heartworm disease. Ask your veterinarian how to get a prescription for your dog.

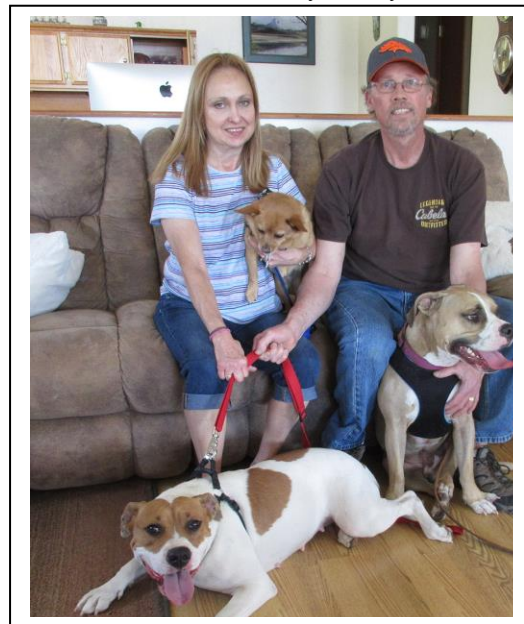


*... and more adoptions – as you can see, the past 3 months were very busy ...*

Denise and Tod, of Collbran, Colo., love their dogs and have now added “Penny” (left, lower) to their family. They love the Boxer/Pit Bull mix and adopted Penny on May 19. She will now have a wonderful home with two acres to play on with her new friends - Milo (on right) and Peaches (on sofa w/Denise). What a great home! →



Cliff, Linda & Otis (dog on left) came to check out “Emma Lou” and found they couldn’t live without her. They asked her foster mom, Carol, to keep her another day while they bought a few things (bowls, two new beds, treats, collar, leash, etc.) – apparently Emma got the royal welcome at her new home. We hear that she and Otis have become best friends, and from the looks of the lower inset photo Emma has decided that her new parents are the best thing in her life. Thank you Cliff & Linda! →



← Another quickie adoption! Suzie (nka “Xena”) was placed online for adoption on June 10 around 11:30am – ten minutes later (yup, 10 minutes!) our foster mom, Carol, received a phone call from Irene in Silt, Colo. saying that she wanted Xena. Irene loves the hound breed and she needed Xena in her life. Now this sweet dog has a loving owner, and a new pal (Lil Mama – upper left of photo) to play with at her new home.

Although Xena looks a bit stand-offish in the first photo, you can see by the lower photo that it didn’t take her any time at all to get comfortable with Irene – both are napping together on the afternoon of her adoption – just shows you what a little love can do!



## **WELCOME BACK !!**

*We would personally like to welcome back our volunteer, **Joan Taylor**, of Delta, to the kitten adoption ring. Joan suffered a broken hip last year, had two operations, and two re-hab periods – but now she is back with us, healthy again, and able to handle caring for kittens – as you can see by her three adoptions below. Love you, Joan!*



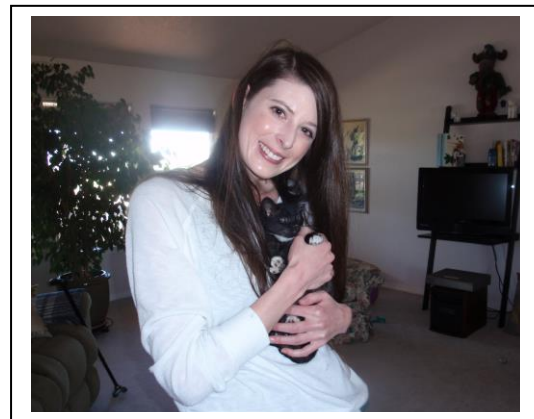
Joan's first return to adopting kittens turned out to be a "two-fer." "George" & "Rowdy" were both adopted by Terry, of Durango, on May 22. They will have another big sister cat, 8 yrs. old, to play with at Terry's home and show them the ropes. Thank you, Terry!



← Jessica and her husband, of Norwood, adopted "Rylee" on May 23. It was love at first sight on the part of the new adopters and Rylee – she went right to them to play and asked to be picked up. You can't ask for a more perfect match – Rylee will have a wonderful home!

**CAT FACT:** Cats are North America's most popular pets: there are 73 million cats compared to 63 million dogs. Over 30% of households in North America own a cat.

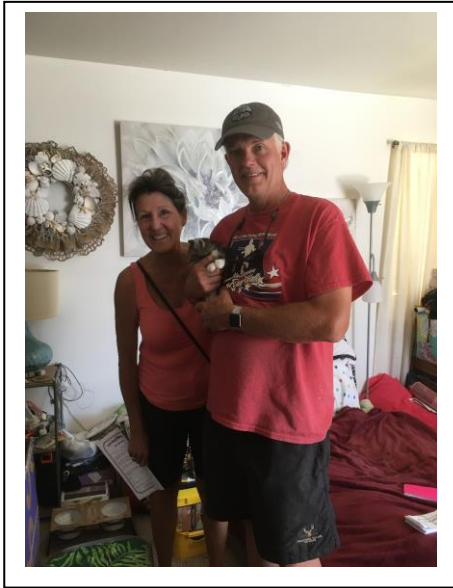
Kimberly came to pick up her kitten on June 2 and took her home with her to Aspen, Colo. Little "Tulip" and Kimberly bonded immediately, and our foster mom, Joan, tells us that she will be one spoiled kitty. Thank you, Kimberly, for making the long drive to adopt such a special girl! →



← DCHS is fortunate to have another foster mom who likes to care for kittens. Chris, at our Paonia foster home, recently adopted out "Socks" to Samantha of Montrose, Colo. She will have two other cats to play with at Samantha's house, along with all the toys she bought for her. BTW, this was a record adoption for Chris – Socks was posted online on at 9pm on a Wednesday, and she was on her way home with her new family by 7pm on Thursday. Thank you both, Chris and Samantha!

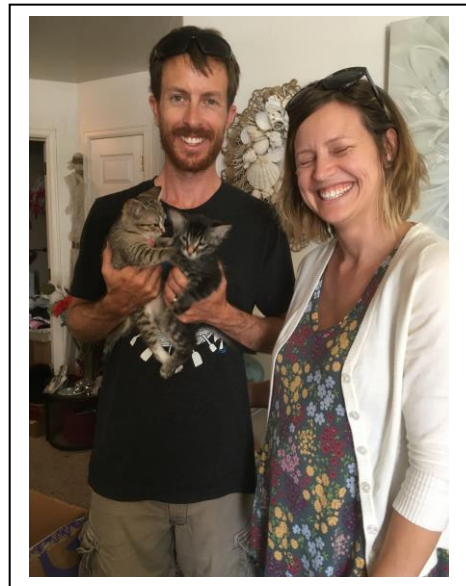


*... can you believe it? More kitten adoptions . . . Woo-hoo!!*

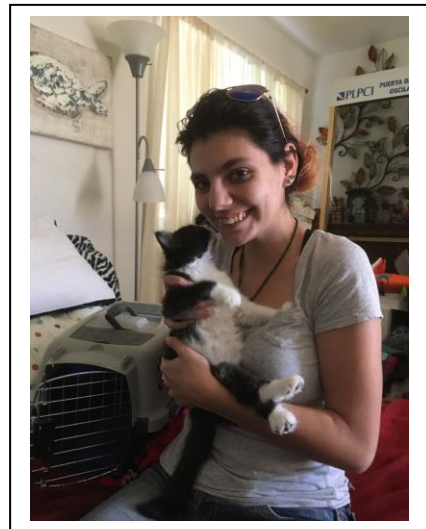


← Quincy is our foster mom, mostly for feral kittens, and since she had 12 kittens at the beginning of June, she was extremely busy finding homes for them – but, as you can see by the following adoptions, she was quite successful. The first one out the door was little “Benji” who now has a loving, forever home with Eric and Beth in Montrose, Colo. Benji is hard to see in this photo because Eric is holding him close – a very good sign – but you can see his little white paws over Eric’s fingers. We can tell by the smiles on their faces that Benji is destined to have a terrific family. Thank you! - be sure to send us photo updates as he grows!

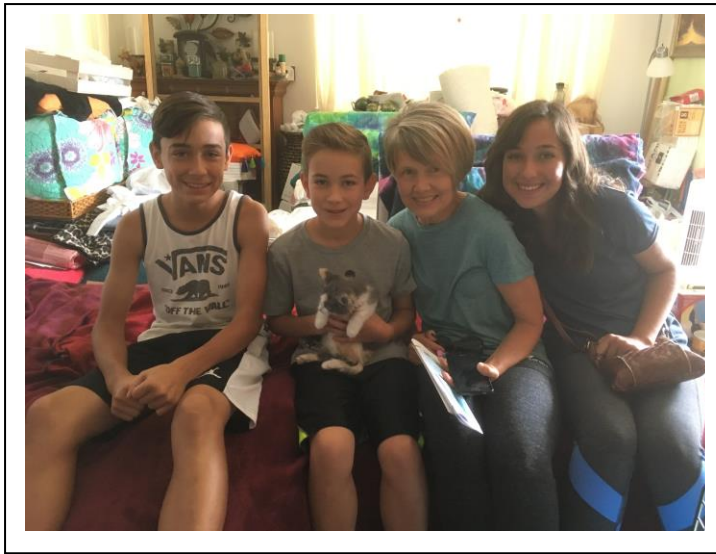
There is just total happiness in this photo ! Quincy’s second adoption was to Megan and Charles of Montrose, Colo. They opened their hearts to TWO kittens – “Rowdy” and “Spicy.” We can just picture these two little ones running and playing together in their new home – to watch them will be free entertainment for their parents. Thank you for considering two kittens for adoption – you are a good-looking foursome! →



Burgundy decided to adopt this little black and white cutie and named him “Onyx.” So that’s #4 adopted out by Quincy and out the door to a good home – you can tell by Burgundy’s smile and the kisses given by Onyx that they are a good match. →







← Adoption #5 from Quincy's foster care was this little fluffball called "Ambrosia." Mom, Debbie, and her three children will certainly give this little one the love and attention it deserves.

Amanda, who lives in Telluride, traveled with her friend to adopt little "Roo," who looks to have some Siamese markings. This makes Adoption #6 out of the 12 kittens Quincy started with at the beginning of June. →

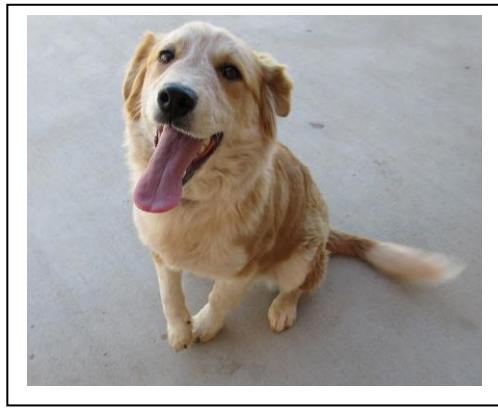


← The Panzarella family made it Adoption #7 from Quincy. This fuzzy little beige & white kitten is sure to receive lots of lovin' from that cute little girl and her mom at its new home in Paonia, Colo.

It is impossible to keep a straight face in the presence of one or more kittens. - *Cynthia E. Varnado*

That makes a total of 22 canine and feline adoptions for April, May & June – that's a pretty darn good adoption record for the six foster moms we have in the Delta County Humane Society – give yourselves a pat on the back. We also want to thank all of the adopters who opened their hearts to these wonderful animals!

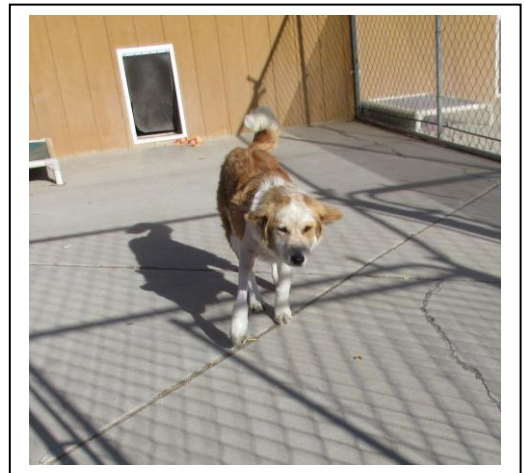
*... and one last adoption ... makes 23 animals who have new homes ...*



← She was called “Dolly” when she arrived on May 8 at our Crawford foster home. As you can see by the photo, she was favoring her right front paw, and seemed to be in pain when trying to use it. Carol, her foster mom, took her in to Doc Vincent for a check-up, shots and to be spayed. The good news was that she was a relatively healthy dog, but the bad news was that her leg needed surgery, and Carol was warned by Dr. Vincent that she might lose the leg.

In the meantime, Ryan of Crawford, Colo., dropped by at our Crawford facility to see our adoptable dogs and first met Dolly then. Ryan fell in love with this dog and arranged for her adoption, knowing that she might come out of the surgery with only 3 legs.

Dolly had to recover from her spay first, and then went into surgery for her leg on June 10. Great news! Doc Vincent was able to save her leg – it was a little stiff at first, but she would no longer be in pain. The key was to get her to use that leg again – here’s where Ryan came to the rescue. He would come to visit his dog every day and take her for a walk. The two of them bonded during this time, knowing that the worst was over. Now all Dolly had to do was continue to recover and she could go home.

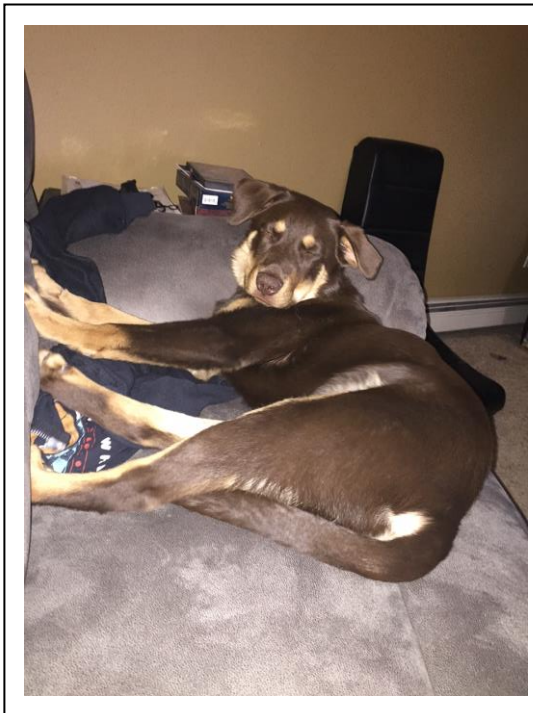


The best day for Dolly, now known as “Daisy,” was June 23 when Ryan was able to take her home with him. As you can see by the photo, both of them have great smiles on their faces. This is definitely a good news story – Daisy has a wonderful home now, and Carol tells us that she even uses her right paw to shake hands! →





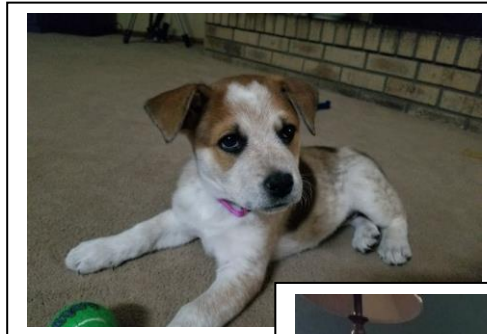
*We love the “Pupdates” - keep ‘em coming . . .*



← Oh My, how big you’ve gotten! When “Rolo” was adopted on January 13, 2018, he was a pretty big puppy, but look at him now – and he’s only 6 months old in this photo! Derek, Crystal and their 2 children are certainly taking good care of him – and we see he has no shame about lying wherever he wants. The photo below shows him as a puppy on the day he was adopted – what a change! ↓



← Yael adopted this pup and named it “Darcy.” She and her mother came on March 20 and picked her up – as you can see by the photo, Yael and Darcy have totally bonded. Thank you, Yael, for being such a good friend to your pup!



Beau and Mysti adopted “Molly” when she was so little. ↑

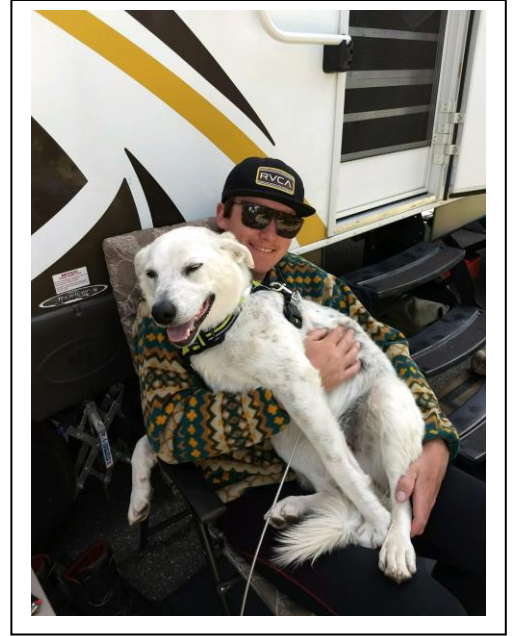
As you can see, Molly has grown a LOT in the past six months. Mysti wrote to DCHS in May to say that not only does Molly take up more space in their home now, but also more space in their hearts. She has proven to be a wonderful addition to their family, and is even allowed to sleep at the end of their bed each night. Good girl, Molly – we are so proud of you! You deserve the wonderful home you have.



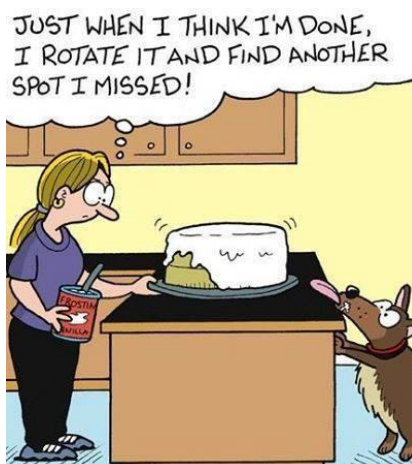
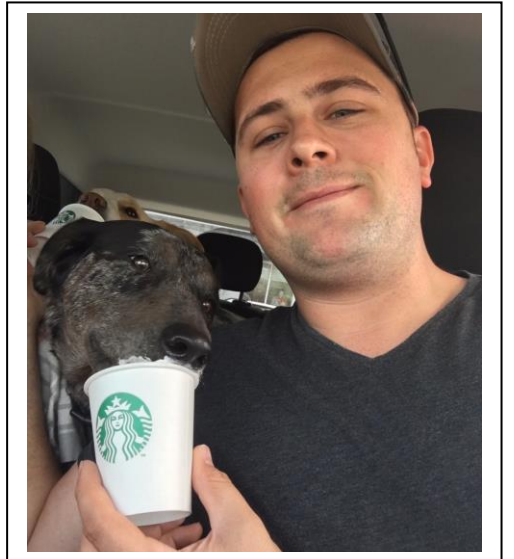
*... more pupdates. . . these adopted pups are getting some serious lovin' . . .*



← Some adoptions don't take too long to prove that the owner and the dog were meant to be together. Such is the case of Wesley and his dog, "Ollie," that he adopted on May 9 (see pg.4). Within a month's time the both of them were taking lots of hikes, and Wesley found that Ollie loves the water and camping. He also loves being a lap dog, as you can tell by the photo. Great adoption! We love those smiles on the both of you →



← He's ba-a-ack! Little Arlo was shown in our last newsletter, but he has now won a \$100 prize for winning the Cute/Funny Pet photo contest with the photo on the left. His parents, Alex and Mikaela of Flagstaff, AZ will spend the \$\$ on Arlo and his friend, Daisy, but also thought he deserved a puppachino from Starbucks – looks like he is one happy dog! →





# JOKE: Cat vs. Dog — War of the Diaries

## The Dog's Diary

8:00 am - Dog food! My favorite thing!  
9:30 am - A car ride! My favorite thing!  
9:40 am - A walk in the park! My favorite thing!  
10:30 am - Got rubbed and petted! My favorite thing!  
12:00 pm - Milk bones! My favorite thing!  
1:00 pm - Played in the yard! My favorite thing!  
3:00 pm - Wagged my tail! My favorite thing!  
5:00 pm - Dinner! My favorite thing!  
7:00 pm - Got to play ball! My favorite thing!  
8:00 pm - Wow! Watched TV with the people! My favorite thing!  
11:00 pm - Sleeping on the bed! My favorite thing!

## The Cat's Diary

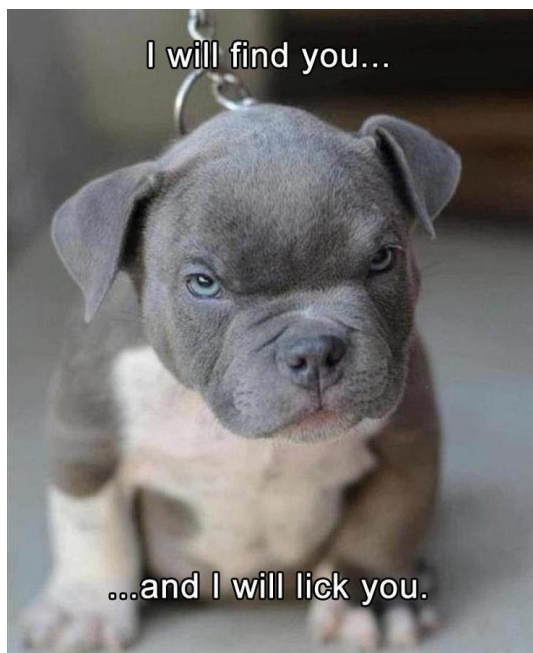
### **Day 983 of My Captivity**

My captors continue to taunt me with bizarre little dangling objects. They dine lavishly on fresh meat, while the other inmates and I are fed hash or some sort of dry nuggets. Although I make my contempt for the rations perfectly clear, I nevertheless must eat something in order to keep up my strength.

The only thing that keeps me going is my dream of escape. In an attempt to disgust them, I once again vomit on the carpet. Today I decapitated a mouse and dropped its headless body at their feet. I had hoped this would strike fear into their hearts, since it clearly demonstrates my capabilities. However, they merely made condescending comments about what a “good little hunter” I am. Bastards!

There was some sort of assembly of their accomplices tonight. I was placed in solitary confinement for the duration of the event. However, I could hear the noises and smell the food. I overheard that my confinement was due to the power of “allergies.” I must learn what this means, and how to use it to my advantage.

Today I was almost successful in an attempt to assassinate one of my tormentors by weaving around his feet as he was walking. I must try this again tomorrow, but at the top of the stairs. I am convinced that the other prisoners here are flunkies and snitches. The dog receives special privileges. He is regularly released, and seems to be more than willing to return. He is obviously retarded. The bird must be an informant. I observe him communicate with the guards regularly. I am certain that he reports my every move. My captors have arranged protective custody for him in an elevated cell, so he is safe. For now ...



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