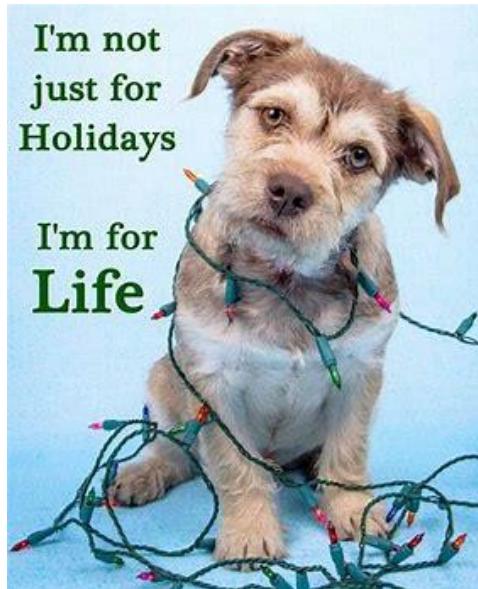


# Pet News

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

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

December 2018



I start off by wearing my Scrooge hat in this article. There are many reasons *not* to adopt a companion pet as a Christmas present, such as . . . . 1) *Gifting a family member or friend with a 10- to 20-year commitment to a live animal is not something one should do on impulse.* 2) *If you subtract Christmas week from the rest of the year, you still have 358 days to bring a new furry loved one into your home and heart.* 3) *Chances are if you visit your local shelter in late January or February, you'll have your pick of pets who've already worn out their welcome as Christmas gifts. It happens every single year.*

Of course, we would love to have all of our adoptable animals in loving homes for the new year. My fact-finding in the above paragraph should not deter you from finding that perfect companion pet. However, we do ask that you do your research *before* adopting a rescue pet. 1) *Try to find the animal that fits your lifestyle – i.e if you can't exercise your dog, don't adopt a Border Collie.* 2) *Realize that rescue animals sometimes come with past baggage – you will need to be patient and give your pet the time to adjust to its new home.* 3) *This is a LIFETIME commitment – your new pet is a member of your family, not a disposable one.* 4) *Perhaps think about adopting an adult or senior dog instead of a puppy – most adult dogs come already housetrained and require much less work than a puppy during the busy holiday season.*



## It Was Christmas After All

- Author Unknown

Did you hear that?" the old dog shouted. They all ran to the front of their kennel doors to see if someone was coming to "pick them." "Sorry," he said to the other dogs as his ears fell down from their perked position. "I could have sworn I heard voices saying, 'Isn't he cute? It's Christmas, can't we take him home with us?'" "You must have been dreaming again old man," said the dog in the cage next to him. "Anyway, what's the big deal about getting picked up as a Christmas gift. We've all been through that routine and look where it got us." The word "home" meant little to these shelter dogs. "Just once, I'd like to feel the warmth of a hand stroking my head," said the old dog. "I'd like to be the one who kisses the tears off a sad face. I'd like to curl up next to a fire instead of this cold concrete. It hurts my bones." He curled up and sighed as the others said, "The only place you're going to find that is in your dreams old man."

Hank's wife had only been gone a year but the pain was as fresh as if time had stood still. He was an old man now, alone and longed for the comfort that he knew no other person would ever be able to give to him again. What would his life become without her by his side? Hank's cupboards were close to bare now and, although he didn't want to go out, he knew he should at least pick up the basics. He drove slowly down the side streets for freeway driving had become too challenging. Suddenly, the car started chugging and sputtering until finally the engine quit altogether. One of the basic needs he forgot was fuel for the car! So he coasted over next to the curb, spotting a building within walking distance. Hopefully, they'd let him use their phone. He walked into an office area and rang the bell for service but no one came. He spotted another door going outside, failing to notice the sign posted "Employees Only".

As Hank walked out, he was overwhelmed by yaps, barks and insane jumping from dogs all sizes and shapes. He then realized he had unintentionally gone to the dog shelter. Slowly he walked down the concrete aisle looking for an attendant. Should the old dog get excited? No one would want him. But, he sensed a need and couldn't resist offering a kind look and a gentle wag of the tail.

As Hank neared the old dog's cage, he laced his fingers through the chain link to steady his gait and the first feeling of comfort he'd remembered in over a year came from a wet nose and lick across his arthritic fingers.

Just then a voice of authority sounded, and Hank jumped. "I'm sorry sir, you aren't supposed to be in this area!" she said. Luckily Hank didn't know he had walked into the "final area" where unclaimed dogs were scheduled to be put down. There went the nudge and lick thing again. Hank looked down to the most pleading eyes he'd ever seen.

Ignoring the attendants order to leave, Hank asked if could he see the dog closer? Her demeanor changed completely and her sternness melted away. She had forced herself to be this way so she could do the part of her job she despised. She brought the old dog out and instantly the two souls -- once so lost -- found reason to hope.

Hank's cupboards were now filled, a warm fire crackled and the old dog smiled inside as he remembered "only in your dreams." Closing his eyes he felt Hank's hand stroking his head whispering "sleep in heavenly peace."



It was Christmas, after all.

*Adopted in October and November, these rescued animals are looking forward to their first Christmas in their loving, new homes . . . .*



← Geordie and Dana of Crested Butte brought their son, Ethan, to Joan's foster home in Delta on October 7. It was Ethan's responsibility to pick out the kitten for their family, and he picked "Mickey." This little kitten was so comfortable with Ethan that he fell asleep in his arms – definitely a purr-fect choice by Ethan. Our thanks to the entire family for taking a rescue cat into their hearts and home.



↑ Sweet "Mollie" was adopted by Christine on November 14 from Carol at our Crawford facility. Christine's friend, Melissa, knew that Mollie needed a buddy to keep her company – and, as it happened, Christine's dog also needed a friend. Thus, the perfect adoption – now the two dogs can keep each other company, and get lovin' from Christine besides. Thank you, thank you!!

Richard & Aubrie, and their three children, decided in mid-November that "Murphy" would be the perfect dog to fit into their family. Murphy was one of the mama dogs in Carol's care – she took very good care of her five puppies and is now ready to get all the love and attention from her new family in Grand Junction, Colo. Terrific family photo ! →



## DOG BEDS



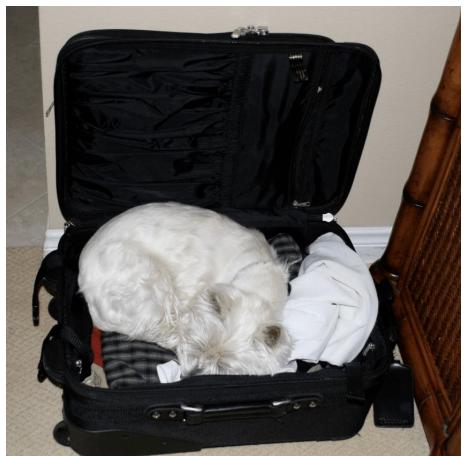
Cozy sofa bed – not for large breeds



He looks comfortable, but must not have a bone in his body.



For small dogs only – a snug fit



Travel bed



Having a buddy for a bed is the best!



Ah, yes, there's always the reliable couch

The two things you always want to keep...Your dog and your integrity!

## *Puppies . . . Puppies . . . Puppies*

Carol, our foster mom in Crawford, was busy again the past two months doing what she does best – taking in mother dogs with their litters. By mid-October, she had 4 mother dogs and 17 puppies at her facility, all given the love and attention that Carol flourishes on her foster dogs. On October 19, the first puppies were adopted . . . .



← Here are Alisha, Emma and John Henry who live in Rifle, Colo. Their mother, Karen, brought them to meet all the puppies so that Alisha and John Henry could pick out a puppy. That decision was tough for two young kids, so Mom allowed them each to pick out their own puppy – Dad didn't make the trip so we can imagine that he was quite surprised when they came home with TWO cute pups. It looks like these two puppies will have a lot of love and attention in this family, and a lot of room to run on 10 acres – thank you!



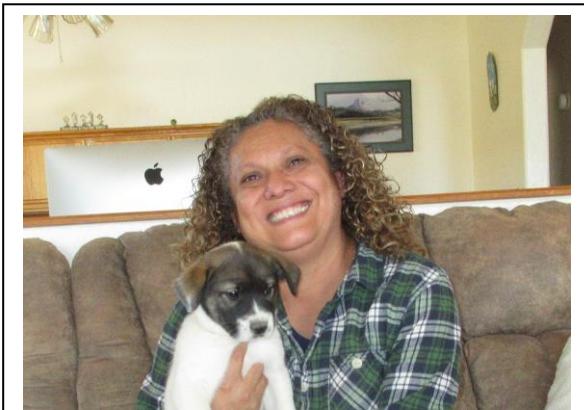
The very next day, October 20, Melanie came to look at the puppies and picked this adorable little chunk of love – the photo doesn't do her justice, as she has such beautiful curly fur. Melanie fell in love with her and now the two of them will be spending time taking walks on Melanie's acreage near Paonia, Colo. Great adoption! →



← Gunnarr got his dog!! He and his mom, Fantham, traveled from Rifle on October 21 to adopt this pup that he had already picked out online. Gunnarr has named his pup "Thea" and made sure that he had Carol answer all his questions about the care of his new dog – smart young man! One of the questions was if Thea could sleep on his bed, so we're guessing that this young man and his dog will become quickly bonded. Happy smiles on everyone!

The second adoption on October 21 was Rosana coming over from Crested Butte to pick up her little cutie. Rosana and her husband, Wayne, lost their old dog a year ago and were finally ready for a new fur-ever friend. We're sure that this little girl will fill their hearts again with puppy love – thank you for adopting a rescue dog!

→



## More Puppy Adoptions . . . .



← October 21 was a very busy day for puppy adoptions for our foster mom, Carol – as this was her 3<sup>rd</sup> adoption in the same day. Brittany lives in Grand Junction, Colo. with her husband, and their little girl, Payton. It was obvious that Payton loved their new pup – and although Payton is only two years old, she knew how to say “doggie” very well. This little guy has nothing but good things to look forward to – thank you!

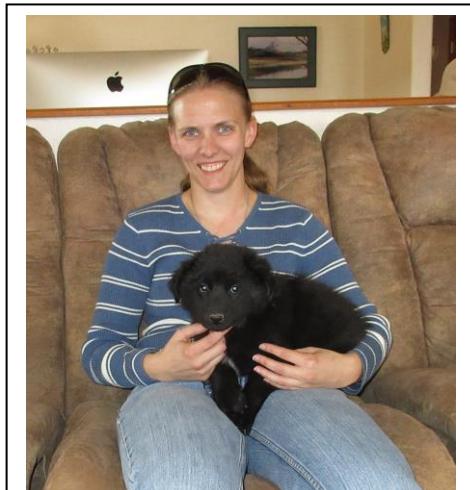
Shawn drove over from Pitkin, Colo. to adopt his little girl pup on October 27. Shawn is a forest ranger and now his new dog will enjoy walking and running through the trees with him. She sure looks comfortable in his arms – probably realizes that she now has a forever home. Thank you, Shawn! →

See page 11 for more photos . . . .



← Isn't this just the most perfect picture? Lisa and her husband, Jerry, came on Oct. 21 and claimed their two new family members, but they were in the middle of moving from Fruita to 30 acres in Delta so they asked Carol to keep the pups until they got settled. On Oct. 28 Lisa came to get their new puppies - she said Jerry said he couldn't come because he was busy earning money to support their new kids.

This looks like the perfect match to us – Jessica lives in Montrose and is a forest service employee. So, this little girl is going to be able to go to work with her new mom for a while. These two are going to have a wonderful life together – be sure to send us updates, Jessica. →



## *A very long distance adoption . . . .*

How does one small pup handle a trip home from Crawford, Colo. to Berwick, Pennsylvania? Yes, I said Pennsylvania. This little pup was officially adopted online thru our web site in October, but had to wait until his mom could make flight arrangements to come and get him. That happened in November when Michelle arrived in Grand Junction, Colo. on Nov. 9, stayed overnight in a motel, and met our foster mom, Carol, at the Grand Junction airport at 8:30am on the morning of November 10. Michelle had pre-shipped his carrier, collar and leash to Carol so this puppy was ready to travel.



← Here's the photo on adoption day, taken just before Michelle and her pup boarded their plane to fly back to Pennsylvania. She named her pup "Gunner." They left Colorado early on Saturday morning, and got home to PA around 10pm (EST) – definitely a very long trip but Michelle reported that Gunner would just whimper a bit and then settle down quickly. What a pup! Gunner was such a good boy that the airplane pilots asked to see him in the cockpit so they could pet him. Little Gunner will have lots of stories to tell all the residents at the nursing home where Michelle works, as she will be taking him to work with her.

Thank you, Michelle, for going that extra mile (or in this case, a thousand+ miles) to adopt your puppy. We hear that hiking and other fun stuff are in store for the both of you – we look forward to more photos of Gunner's adventures!

← one tired puppy waiting for the last flight home – so cute !



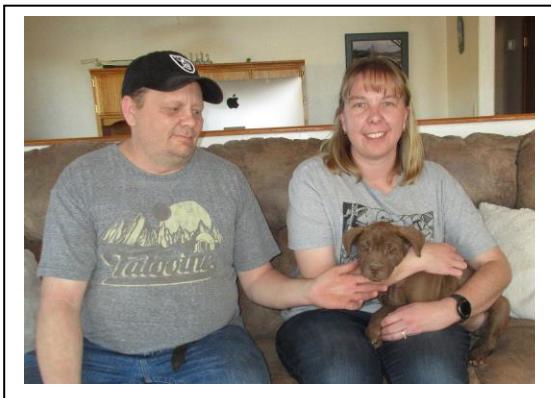
← Sorry, no adopter photo on this one. This pup's name is "Ringo" (named for the black ring around the base of his tail) – he was adopted by Stefan who lives in Carbondale, Colo. We love his new collar. Stefan – be sure to send us a family photo in the near future. Thanks for adopting a rescue pup!



## *The last puppy adoptions. . . .*



← Rosalie adopted her “little bundle of joy” on November 21. She recently purchased a new home, specifically with a large backyard so she would have enough room for her new 4-legged friend. Rosalie loves dogs and even tho she has a large yard for them, she tells us that there are going to be plenty of walks and hikes in the future. Her new pup is just about as big as her other dog, which is a Chihuahua, but we’re sure that they will all be one happy family at her home in Grand Junction. Thanks Rosalie!



← Antonia and Bill, of Johnstown, Colo., decided to come for their puppy 3 days earlier than originally scheduled because they “just couldn’t wait.” This little girl will have two other dogs to play with, along with getting all that love and attention from her new owners. Super adoption!

This little cutie was the “shy guy” in the last litter of pups, and almost the last one to be adopted. Jody and Mary of Fruita, Colo. lost their dog about a year ago and figured that they needed to fill that void – and, of course, this pup was exactly what they needed to accomplish that. With all the attention he will get from his new owners, we are sure that his shyness will fade away in no time. They sure look like a happy family! →



The last of the 17 pups was adopted on Nov. 29 by 4-year-old Dylan, who decided to name his new puppy “Dave.” His mother, Cynthia, drove them over from their home in Aurora, Colo. to pick up Dave – unfortunately, his dad, Lonnie, had to work & could not make the trip. Mom is going to have her hands full with a young boy and a new puppy – please send us updates as they both grow up. Thanks!



## *One pup needed extra attention . . . .*

Carol, our foster mom, named her "Tink." From the very beginning in late September, Tink was smaller than her siblings and not gaining weight. She seemed to have trouble eating. She was checked for a cleft palette, but that test was negative. Carol decided to feed her by putting a tube down her throat, which worked for a while but not always – at this point, little Tink only weighed 1.5 lbs.

Carol made some changes in the feeding process – tube feeding was set aside because it was not working. Instead, she tried putting yogurt in a syringe – Tink loved it! It was a lot of work for Carol to make sure this little girl was fed on a regular basis, but by October 3, Tink had hit the 2 lb. mark! Considering that her siblings were already close to 4 lbs., Tink had a ways to catch up. Weight gain continued, and soon Tink was able to eat gruel (Carol's concoction of mushy puppy food). By Oct. 11, she weighed in at 2 lb. 11 oz. and we were told she had a "junkyard dog attitude" – in other words, even tho Tink was the runt, she didn't take any guff from her brothers & sisters.



← Here's a photo of Tink enjoying her gruel. Things continued on a pretty even keel for Tink during the following week; however, Carol had a "gut feeling" that something was still not right with this tiny pup. On Oct. 11, it was necessary to make another trip to the vet as Tink was not eating again. She was placed on antibiotics and probiotics, as most of her issues appeared to be gastric. At this point, Tink was struggling. She had lost 20% of her body weight in 3 days. In addition to her meds, she was being given B12 shots, but it didn't look good

for this little girl. By now, Carol had moved Tink into her bedroom so she could monitor her more closely. Tink loved sleeping with Carol's bedroom slipper, and, of course, being held by Carol. ↓

In the next few weeks, Tink was the focus of Carol's attention as she was required to give her 3 meds 2x/day plus the B12 shot, in addition to providing numerous syringe feedings. Tink would have good days (where she would eat and start bouncing around like a normal puppy) but also have bad days (she would vomit and have seizures). She could not afford to lose more weight. Carol's love and persistence paid off, because Tink started to gain weight again and by the end of October, she was actually up to 4 lbs.



Then, bad news hit once more. At the end of October, Tink was having difficulty eating again – it was hard to find anything she was willing to eat. Since Tink was now old enough and big enough to endure more tests, Doc Vincent decided to insert dye into her digestive system and take hourly x-rays to determine her health issue. Doc Vincent found that her stomach wasn't emptying properly and surgery would be required. On October 30, surgery was performed – that was the answer! After that, Tink could eat with no issues in her digestive tract. She has gained weight steadily and looks and acts like a puppy should.

Just look at this photo of Carol and Tink – it was worth all the time, feedings and administering meds, sleepless nights, and worrying about one sick puppy. We are happy to announce that Carol has officially adopted little "Tink" – who is not quite so little anymore. As of this writing, Tink weighed in at 10 lbs. !!

Congratulations, Carol, on your new family member!



## Welcome to kitty corner . . . .

All of these kittens were adopted in October and November from our foster mom, Quincy, who lives in Delta, Colorado. Way to go, Quincy!



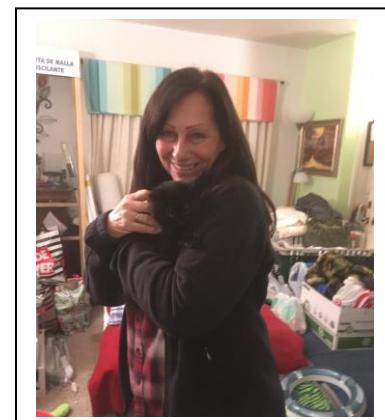
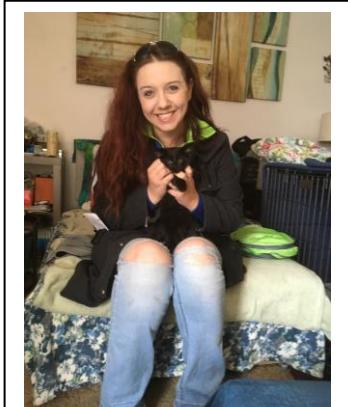
← Ruth, of Grand Junction, Colo., thought it was just as easy to adopt two kittens (as they will play with each other). So, Ruth, along with her helper, decided on "Gracie" and "Hunter." From the smiles we see on their faces, we can tell that these two kittens will have a happy, loving home.



← Cathey and her son, of Hotchkiss, Colo., selected this little black and white cutie to come home with them. If these happy faces are any indication, their holiday season will be brightened by the patter of four little feet in their home.

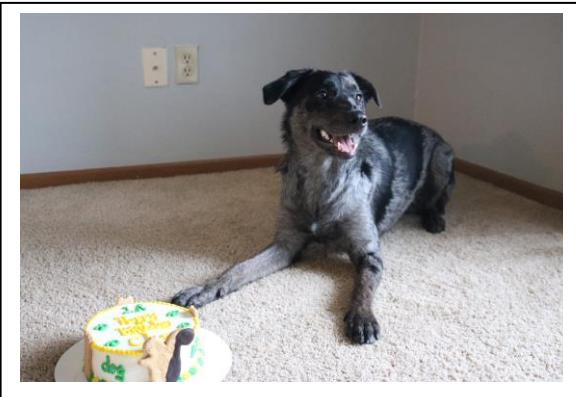


Rose adopted "Zoey," a beautiful black, long-haired kitten and took her home with her to Cedaredge, Colo. We can see lots of cuddling in their future. Thank you, Rose! →



← It's hard to find "Cricket" in this photo, but so easy to see Brandy's wide smile when she adopted her little black kitten. Both of them are sure to experience each other's love in years to come. Super adoption!

*We hope you enjoy these “Pup-Dates” from previous adopters . . .*



↑ Meet “Cleo,” who was adopted in December 2017 and just celebrated her 1<sup>st</sup> birthday on September 5 with a special doggie birthday cake. Cleo’s “mom,” Rachael, and her “grandmom,” Teri, drove from Wisconsin to pick up their pup last year. Obviously, Cleo gets the best care and love from her family – just look how gorgeous she looks! →



Desirae adopted “Henry” in the summer of 2016, and each Halloween he allows his owner to dress him up in various costumes. Here’s Henry in his outfits for the past 3 years – we sure hope that he got plenty of “treats” for being such a good boy . . . we look forward to seeing 2019!



2016 – Vicious Shark



2017 – Prisoner



2018 – The Devil



← These are recent photos of the pup adopted by Shawn (see pg.6). She is now known as “Kiah” and Shawn found out that she loves the snow. Lucky for her, she has the perfect coat to be outside with her dad in the winter weather. We had the feeling that Shawn & Kiah were a perfect fit!

## A Cat's Prayer at Christmas

Although I am too proud to beg,  
And may appear to be a very independent creature,  
I ask for your loving care and attention.  
I rely on you for my wellbeing much more than you may realize.  
This I promise you, my benefactor, that I will not be a burden on you  
Nor will I demand more of you than you care to give.

I will be a quiet peaceful island of serenity for you to gaze upon;  
A soft soothing body to caress,  
And I shall purr with pleasure to rest your weary ears.  
Since I am a gourmet who appreciates different taste sensations,  
I pray you will give me a variety of nutritious foods and fresh water daily.  
You know dear friend, how I love to go.

Allow me, I pray, a warm sheltered place  
Where I can rest peacefully and feel secure.  
If I am wounded in battle or suffering from disease,  
Please tend me gently, and see that I am treated  
By loving and competent hands.

Please protect me from the inhuman humans  
Who would hurt and torture me for their own amusement.  
I am accustomed to your gentle touch and am not always suspicious  
Nor swift enough to avoid such malicious acts.

In my later years when my senses fail me  
And my infirmities become too great to bear,  
Allow me the comfort and dignity that I desire for my closing days  
And help me gently in my pain or passing.  
Hear this prayer, my dear friend, my fate depends on you.

*The author remains unknown*



Hello there,

I'm trying to look my darn cutest when asking you to donate to our rescue group. We most always have the funds to provide food and shelter for our animals, but then there are those pesky additional costs like vaccines, medical checkups, and sometimes surgery.

If you find that you have a few extra dollars to send our way, we would greatly appreciate your help. You can either print the following page and send it to us with your check . . . or you can go online to our website at [www.deltacountyhumane.org](http://www.deltacountyhumane.org) & click on the donation page. THANK YOU SO MUCH !!

**Dear Santa,**

I've been good all year.  
Okay, most of the time.  
Once in a while.  
Never mind, I'll buy my  
own stuff.

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**