



# The Paw Print

The monthly newsletter of Paw Placement of Northern Arizona (PPNAZ)

Dear Friends,

Welcome to *The Paw Print*, our new monthly newsletter. Our goal is to use the newsletter as a way to keep you informed about what we are doing and give you an opportunity to see how you can be involved in advancing Flagstaff as a compassionate community for people and their pets.

You may remember that in April of 2015 I informed you that Paw Placement of Northern Arizona was moving in a new direction. This change was prompted by the measurable improvements in the Flagstaff animal welfare community. In addition, we saw that there was an unmet need in our community to help people and their pets by:

- providing vouchers to help people get their pets spayed or neutered (to keep them healthier and prevent pet overpopulation),
- helping families financially when faced with a medical emergency with their pet when the cost of care was more than they could afford, and
- providing alternatives to euthanasia through Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) and a Working Cats Program for community cats.

I also told you there was an exciting atmosphere of cooperation and collaboration among the animal advocates in our community

Keeping people and pets  
together



and we want to work together toward a goal of ensuring that every healthy, adoptable dog or cat will be adopted into a loving home, and none will be euthanized for time, space, or treatable medical condition. As a result, the Flagstaff Animal Welfare Task Force has been formed.

We will use this newsletter to keep you up-to-date with these activities and programs.

*Diane Jarvis, President*

## Vouchers for Spay/Neuter Surgeries

Since October 2009, **927** vouchers have been redeemed. As a result, **626** cats/kittens have been spayed or neutered and **301** dogs/puppies have been spayed or neutered. Of those, **282** were feral or strays and **645** were family pets.

These efforts will prevent the birth (and potential surrender) of thousands of unwanted and homeless dogs and cats.



"After five-month old Sage broke his leg in three places, I was desperate for help with the cost of amputation." Nadia K.

## Financial Assistance for Emergency Veterinary Care

This much-needed program has assisted more than 70 families to date with financial help for emergency veterinary bills. Dogs with Parvo, broken legs, tumors, and cats with abscesses and injured eyes, all with families who love their pets dearly but just don't have the money for unexpected, life-threatening medical bills, have benefited from this fund.

**The need is great and your support is needed to continue to help keep pets and their families together.**

## Community Cats

In October 2015, The Arboretum at Flagstaff "hired" our first Working Cats, Cleo and Girlie, to help with their rodent problem. This mother/daughter pair, from a hoarding/cruelty case, was turned in to the Coconino Humane Association pregnant in April 2015. They gave birth at the shelter where they had to stay until the



"We no longer have a rodent problem now that Cleo and Girlie are in residence. I feel good about rescuing them."

Lynne Nemeth, Director

case was adjudicated in July. They then went to The Ark Cat Sanctuary for about six months where they were cared for but didn't warm up to humans enough to be candidates for adoption at PetSmart.

Since this first placement, fifteen cats have been rescued and placed in caring environments where they can do what cats do and provide an environmentally safe way to protect property from rodents and other vermin.

If you are interested in "hiring" a working cat or know someone who may be, go to our website for more information: <http://www.ppnaz.org/communitycats>.

## Pet Food Bank

Paw Placement volunteers assist the Coconino Humane Association's Pet Food Bank by boxing/bagging food and distributing it each month. The Pet Food Bank provides pet food as a temporary resource to eligible Coconino County residents to supplement their pet's food supply. Food is donated by Purina and distributed on the third Saturday of the month at the Coconino Humane Association. The Pet Food Bank has been helping 25-35 families each month with a combined total of 100 to 150 pets.

## The Flagstaff Animal Welfare Task Force

PPNAZ established the Task Force which is comprised of representatives from Paw Placement of Northern Arizona, the Coconino Humane Association, Second Chance Center for Animals, The Ark Cat Sanctuary, local veterinarians, and engaged community members.

The Task Force notes that the greater Flagstaff area is a compassionate community, with an ongoing focus on creating a better environment for all companion animals. To that end, the mission of the Task Force is to ensure that every healthy, adoptable dog and cat will find a home, and none will be euthanized for time, space, or available resources.

## You Can Help Us Maintain These Programs

Giving to Paw Placement of Northern Arizona is easy. You can make a tax-deductible donation online by going to [www.ppnaz.org/donate](http://www.ppnaz.org/donate) and even sign up (subscribe) to make a monthly donation in an amount that works for you. You also can mail a donation to P.O. Box 942, Flagstaff, AZ 86002. We appreciate your support as do the pets and their families.

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