



The Paw Print

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

Keeping people and pets together



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Dear Friends,

Welcome to the second issue of *The Paw Print*, our new monthly newsletter. I want to take this opportunity to say how proud I am of the progress this community has made in the last ten years in moving toward a goal of no more homeless pets. This has been made possible by the cooperation and collaboration among the animal advocates in our community.

For example, Second Chance Center for Animals announced it found homes for 109 homeless dogs and cats in June, more animals than in any other month in the history of the agency. Another milestone was reached by the Coconino Humane Association (CHA) when it reported its euthanasia rate for last year was an all-time low of 13 percent and is only eight percent through the first half of this year. Contributing to these low rates is The Ark Cat Sanctuary which took in 582 cats and kittens in the last year from CHA, the Holbrook shelter, and the public. This is really remarkable and due in large part to people working together toward a common goal.

Paw Placement is partnering with CHA to apply for a grant from the ASPCA Pet Retention Fund. This is in perfect alignment with the PPNAZ and Task Force goals of owner retention - surrender prevention to help reduce the number of animals ever getting to the shelter. To apply for the grant, we need to interview 50 owners who come in to CHA to surrender a pet. The last question we ask

is "if there were a program to help you with {reason for surrender} would you change your mind?" Our grant will be written to address the top three surrender issues in our community.

Not only will this project allow us to apply for this grant, it will be very helpful in applying for other grants and in helping us pinpoint what work needs to be done in our effort to reduce euthanasia and make sure that every adoptable pet finds a home.

Diane Jarvis, President

Vouchers for Spay/Neuter Surgeries

In June, eleven spay/neuter vouchers were redeemed for eight cat surgeries and three dog surgeries. Three of the cats were in heat so intervention at this time had the immediate effect of preventing three litters of kittens being born in the near future and needing homes or being surrendered to the shelter.

Financial Assistance for Emergency Veterinary Care

Luckily June was fairly quiet, which was good as the fund is getting low again. Happily we were able to help Rayne, who had a little tiff with a younger sibling that resulted in a nasty abscess. Rayne's mom, Jessica, said "*I will be forever grateful to this organization. If it weren't for Paw Placement, I would have lost my fur-baby... Thanks Paw Placement.*" And as we go to press, there is a little puppy named Pebbles who is fighting for her life against Parvo with the help of our medical fund.



Rayne

Community Cats

Since the last newsletter three more Working Cats have moved from The Ark Cat Sanctuary to their new homes and Paw Placement has conducted two site visits for the placement of two or three more Working Cats. Eighteen cats now 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>.

Collaboration in Action



On a Thursday afternoon, ten tiny, sickly kittens were surrendered to CHA. Although their goopy eyes and sneezes were treatable, the shelter doesn't have the isolation space to treat them nor a budget large enough for vet care for all of them. Paw Placement turned to one of our Pets for Life partners, Canyon Pet Hospital, and asked if they could take the kitties into their lovely large hospital and treat them until well enough to go into a foster home.

The kittens were examined by a vet, treated for parasites, upper respiratory infections, and monitored closely for four days until deemed well enough to leave. The entire bill was reduced by more than 70 percent, with Paw Placement and a GoFundMe account picking up the tab. CHA placed the kittens in foster homes and paid for ongoing medications, food, and other supplies. Soon the kittens will be well enough to be spayed/neutered, vaccinated, and adopted! This is another great example of our community working together to save precious animals' lives.

Pet Food Bank

In June, Paw Placement volunteers distributed pet food to 33 families for 78 dogs and 54 cats for a total of 132 pets helped. The Coconino Humane Association's 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 Flagstaff Animal Welfare Task Force

At the June Task Force meeting, Coconino Humane Association (CHA) announced that it had a new building to house feral cats. At the July meeting, Michelle announced that CHA had received a large donation that will enable them to complete the inside of the building with drywall, vinyl flooring, heat, and air conditioning.

Progress is being made to conduct a citywide assessment of the number of feral/community/stray cats to identify the area of greatest need to focus initial trap/neuter/return (TNR) efforts. This initial assessment will target one or two neighborhoods and also will include an assessment of where there are service gaps in animal welfare.

The Task Force members who have taken on the task of drafting guidelines or a definition of unadoptable animals will have a final draft for the group to review in August.

With regard to the pet resource line, several Task Force members will develop a data collection form to be used by Coconino Humane Association, Second Chance Center for Animals, The Ark Cat Sanctuary, and Paw Placement to document the most common pet-related issues of concern for people. This will be the foundation to establish what information needs to be readily available.

You Can Help Us Maintain These Programs

Giving to Paw Placement of Northern Arizona is easy. You can go online to ppnaz.org/donate to make a tax-deductible one-time donation or you can 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.

Other Ways to Give

Shop at AmazonSmile

Shop at Fry's Foods and participate in the Community Rewards Program

Shop online through adoptashelter.com

Visit ppnaz.org/othergiving for details to sign up for these programs.

Pets for Life - Partner Profile

The Ark Cat Sanctuary

PO Box 30098
Flagstaff, AZ 86003

10800 E. Spring Valley Rd
Parks, AZ 86018

928-635-5909
928-773-1330

info@arkcatsanctuary.org

Volunteers needed to:

Foster kittens,

Transport cats/kittens to
medical appointments,

Raise funds for medical
care including grant
writing,

Act as adoption
counselors,

Help with social media,

Coordinate rescues,

Anything to help save more
lives!

The Ark Cat Sanctuary

The Ark Cat Sanctuary is a 24/7/365 no-kill operation dedicated to the rescue, care, and placement of cats and kittens that are in "at-risk" situations either at a municipal shelter, home environment, or on the streets.

The most critical operation of The Ark is the medical rehabilitation of sick cats from public humane facilities which would otherwise be euthanized. These cats are taken to The Ark and nursed back to health so they can be returned to both public and private adoption venues. Local humane society and veterinary personnel all work closely with The Ark, knowing that many cats can be saved through The Ark's intervention and together more than 2,300 cats and kittens have been saved since 2006.

In the last year, of the 582 cats and kittens taken in by The Ark, 546 found loving, forever homes. Of the remaining 36: 18 were community cats who had been living on their own for too long to return to being companion animals and now live, very happily, at The Ark; another eight are true ferals and are waiting their turn for an opportunity to become part of Paw Placement's Working Cats program; six are more than 10 years old and may eventually find loving homes but are currently living at The Ark, and four were orphaned "bottle baby" kittens who could not develop the strength to survive.

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