



The Paw Print

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

Keeping people and pets together



Dear Friends,

I'm happy to report that the strategic planning meeting for the Flagstaff Animal Welfare Task Force went very well! When we started the Task Force last April we weren't sure how it would work out - it was a first for Flagstaff. But we have a wonderful group of dedicated, talented, and experienced animal welfare and community "thought leaders" who are now working together to make our community truly pet-friendly. You can read the report in this newsletter - and if you are inspired by some of the projects please step up and get involved.

We held our community conversation on cats at the library on March 7. Attending were several volunteers who have been working to help feral cats as well as representatives from Paw Placement, The ARK, and the Animal Defense League of Arizona's Flagstaff cat coordinator. It was a good start and we hope to build on the network and resources identified. We are looking for a committee chair (crazy cat person?) for this effort!

We hope you are enjoying the newsletter and that you are pleased with the direction PPNAZ has taken to fill the gaps in service and programs in our town. Kudos to Jeanette Baker for her hard work each month.

Happy Spring to you all!

Diane Jarvis, President

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Vouchers for Spay/Neuter Surgeries

FACT: The medical benefits resulting from spaying and neutering pets lead to longer and healthier lives. In addition, the majority of animals will be more relaxed and less prone to undesirable behavior.

Twenty-four vouchers were redeemed in February for twelve dogs and twelve cats. Half of the animals belonged to individuals; half were strays. There were equal numbers of males and females. Vouchers redeemed between August 2015 and February 2017 total 324, preventing the birth of about 1,800 unwanted puppies and kittens.

If you know of anyone who needs help with the cost of the surgery, please have them call the Pet Resource Line at 928-300-4510.

Community Cats

This month we feature another **Community Hero**. We do this from time to time to recognize the efforts of individuals who take the time and resources to reduce the number of stray or feral cats around their home or where they work.



Tim works for a large company in Flagstaff which has a large operation with several warehouses. About eight years ago a tiny kitten came into the warehouse, starving and cold. It didn't like people but ate the food Tim put out. He gave it a warm place to sleep and kept feeding it. Other cats started coming around and Tim, with the help of the local Animal Defense League of Arizona, was able to trap and spay or neuter six or eight cats.

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

Over the years some cats have disappeared and a few new ones have shown up. Tim got help to have them spayed or neutered and the "warehouse" cat population stabilized. The management was happy that the cats kept the rodents out and Tim and his coworkers enjoyed the cats' company. It is a great example of how working cats are good for businesses and their employees. And it is good for our community when we show kindness and compassion.

There are many of these community cat heroes out there; if you know of one please email us so we can highlight them in future newsletters.

Volunteers are needed to help distribute the food from noon to 3 p.m. on the third Saturday of the month. To help, contact Sarah Farris at sarah.farris@deckers.com.

Pet Food Bank

Paw Placement volunteers distributed pet food to 45 families in the month of February. This made a difference for 201 pets (112 dogs and 89 cats). 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

The Task Force held a successful planning meeting in February. Reviewing the accomplishments of the Task Force for 2016 served as a platform from which to guide the direction for this year. Accomplishments included establishment of the Findlay Pet Resource Line, establishment of strong ties and a working relationship with NAU for animal welfare, adding a representative from The Ark Cat Sanctuary to the group, collaboration across the represented groups that resulted in placement of more animals, and save rates that were the highest ever (see Pets for Life section), benefiting not only the animals but bringing the Coconino Humane Association staff greater job satisfaction..

The initiatives identified for 2017 are:

- **Surrender Prevention** - will include an education/awareness/marketing program to inform the public of resources available to address situations that may lead to the surrender of a pet.
- **Cats: Keep Them Out Of The Shelters** - will include exploring the possibility of requiring cat licensing for adoptable cats in the same manner as dogs, focusing on the benefits to the city and county. This initiative also will include a broad educational program addressing the benefits of spay/neuter, the management of community/unsocialized cats through trap/neuter/return (TNR), and the role of unsocialized cats in the community.

Findlay Toyota Pet Resource Line

your local source for pet-friendly information

928-300-4510

- **General Education/Awareness/Marketing** - will build community awareness of the Animal Welfare Task Force as well as gather input from stakeholders and maintain communication channels with veterinarian community and the university.
- **Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR)** - will develop and implement a collaborative TNR plan, including ways to measure success of the program, among Paw Placement, the Coconino Humane Association and The Ark Cat Sanctuary.

None of these initiatives can be realized without the help and commitment of volunteers. As these Task Force plans develop, be on the lookout for a Call for Volunteers and be thinking about how you might help the Task Force improve the lives of companion animals in our community.

You Can Help Us Maintain These Programs

Giving to Paw Placement of Northern Arizona is easy. You can click on 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.

Other Ways to Give

Visit ppnaz.org/othergiving for how to sign up for community support programs through AmazonSmile, Fry's Food, and AdoptAShelter.com.

Pets for Life - Partner Profile

Coconino Humane Association

The partnership between Paw Placement and Coconino Humane Association (CHA) began in 2006. PPNAZ was founded then to partner with CHA with the goal of providing foster care leading to adoptions of adoptable dogs and cats CHA no longer could house. In the last 10 years, both organizations have contributed significantly to improving the lives of companion animals in northern Arizona.

The mission of the Coconino Humane Association (CHA) is to operate a humane and caring shelter that will give aid to unwanted, abandoned, and mistreated animals in Flagstaff and across northern Arizona. CHA goals include to investigate cruelty and

COCONINO HUMANE ASSOCIATION, INC.



Coconino Humane Association

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take appropriate action, to disseminate information about the humane treatment of animals, and wherever possible to foster humane education throughout the northern Arizona area. CHA is a voice for dogs, cats, and other domesticated animals in Coconino County.

In 2016 Second Chance Center for Animals and the Coconino Humane Association strengthened their ten-year relationship with an agreement that together they would focus on Flagstaff and Coconino County animals first. With this more robust partnership and the existing relationship with The Ark Cat Sanctuary the Coconino Humane Association was able to transfer more than 20 percent of the animals, who were at risk for euthanasia, out of the shelter. As a result of these and other efforts, there were 2,285 adoptions last year.

“When shelters, rescues, veterinarians, and the community come together with a common goal – the results are fantastic. 2016 was the first year where Flagstaff was truly a safe place to be an animal in a shelter. With amazing partnerships and our hardworking compassionate animal foster parents, the Coconino Humane Association no longer had to euthanize for space starting in 2014 and we no longer had to euthanize for treatable illnesses and injuries starting in late 2015...Our shelter Save Rate is above 90 percent, which is a shelter first! We hope this great progress remains sustainable through continued partnerships and community interaction.”

*Michelle Ryan
Executive Director*



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