Cori: moving forward with love

Three pages. Imagine distilling the love shared between you and your pet into three simple pages. That’s how long the letter from Cori’s first family to Animal Humane (and Cori’s new adopters) was. It covered everything from the origin of her name to what she ate and when; not to mention the 25 cues Cori had mastered during nearly a decade with them. Though they couldn’t keep this sweet senior Labrador, they loved her enough to make sure she moved with everything she needed to feel at home as quickly as possible with her new family — her toys, crate and even a bag of her food & dietary supplements.

In closing their letter, Cori’s first family grieved, “We love her and will miss her greatly. We’ve been through a lot with her, and she’s helped us and others in many ways as well. Thank you for your consideration in taking this amazing, gentle, and sweet dog home. We hate giving her up, but life has forced our hand.”

Because of your generosity, this heartbroken family was able to take comfort in leaving their beloved dog in Animal Humane’s care. They knew that the programs and services we offer to pets in transition — from medical care & behavioral support to tummy rubs & individualized attention, would not only smooth Cori’s transition, but would help her find a perfect new family, and they were right.

Cori spent less than a week at Animal Humane, where her joyful smile and playful attitude endeared her to our Team and volunteers. In fact, her slobbery smile reached all the way to Peñasco, New Mexico, and straight into the hearts of her adoptive family.

Kathleen and Emanuele were looking for an adult role model for their 10-month-old puppy, Rufus, who had lost his elderly companion a few short months before and when they saw Cori, they knew immediately she was a perfect fit. In a post-adoption email to Cori’s first family, Kathleen recounts, “Since we live a few hours north of Albuquerque, we were worried Cori would be snatched up before we arrived. I kept calling from the road – Is she still there? Yes.” Twenty miles later, “Is she still there? I don’t know, let me check. All I could think was: drive faster!”

Today, Cori has the run of five acres, an endless supply of tennis balls (& sticks) and the never-ending love of not one but two dedicated families who want what is best for her. At Animal Humane we know that, while our Team may be the hands that make stories like Cori’s happen, you are the heart that makes them possible.
love & lessons to last you a lifetime

Pets impact our lives in countless ways...the ones we adore today...as well as the ones we’ve been fortunate enough to love through the years.

Each day, I experience a flood of emotions brought on by my children, Orbit & Sassafras. Happiness from their comedic & acrobatic feats. Calmness as I hold them in my arms. Gratitude for all they teach me. Love for the friendship we share. And that’s the beauty of having pets in our lives...their love & lessons stay with us forever.

These important lessons arrive spontaneously as well as through years of cohabitation and, in some cases, though shared instruction. The Center at Animal Humane, following the completion of our Phase I construction, offers numerous new ways to learn & connect with your beloved pets. From agility classes, which attract pet owners throughout the metro area and Land of Enchantment as well as neighboring states to behavior training offered in our renovated 2,500 square-foot dedicated building. In both arenas, dogs & owners are learning new tricks, honing skills & strengthening their bonds with one another. The same is true for cat owners who benefit from our seminar classes taught in our new training space. In every instance, our two & four-footed pupils increase their understanding and appreciation of one another.

Life is full of important lessons...and to be fortunate enough that some lead to more happiness, laughter and love is the ultimate reward. Our newest development is focused on sharing our expertise with pet owners so that they and their pets experience years of bliss together. The added benefit of receiving valuable instruction at The Center is that it’s part of our 501(c)(3) organization, and all classes ultimately sustain our shelter’s diverse and impactful programming. So, by training at The Center, you’ll experience our expert instructors, bond more closely with your pet and help us save more lives!

If you are looking for the perfect present this holiday season — or wish to start the New Year off on the right paw — visit TheCenter.AnimalHumaneNM.org to enroll in the gift that keeps on giving. We welcome the opportunity to work with you and your pets to create more love that lasts a lifetime!

Wishing you happiness always,

Donna & Simon,
Adopted from Animal Humane

The Center Development: 72% of funding secured!

To tour The Center & receive details on our exciting tax-deductible naming opportunities, please email DonnaS@AnimalHumaneNM.org or call 505.938.7888.

Nacho learns to "sit pretty" in our Tricks & Games Class.

Trainer Susan & AKC Master Agility Champion Leo

steal the agility show
Tina Guo: reflecting on the gifts volunteering brings

We frequently refer to our donors and volunteers as the heart of our organization. If you ask these dedicated individuals who the heart and soul of Animal Humane is, however, the answer you’ll probably receive is simple. It’s our pets. This answer is certainly the case for one dedicated dog walking volunteer, Tina Guo.

“Volunteering is a gift,” Tina relates, “It’s given me an understanding of empathy, compassion and forgiveness. When life becomes busy, coming to Animal Humane and volunteering — changing the lives of these innocent dogs & cats who have nothing to give but love — really changes my perspective on life.”

Asked for a specific example of a shelter pet who has touched her heart, Tina recalls the first dog she met when she started volunteering, soon after she turned 18. “Padma was this little, black Pit Bull cross. She was off-the-wall energetic but so sweet. If you sat down with her, she’d just climb right up in your lap and enjoy being petted. She stole my heart immediately.” That is the reality of Animal Humane. Our volunteers give love to the pets in our care, and with every happy tale (and tail!) their hearts are warmed (and their faces are licked) in return.

When she isn’t walking dogs on our Main Campus, Tina is a full-time Biology student at the University of New Mexico. Additionally, she has a Terrier cross, Charlie, two pet rats, Cliff and Hermes, and a Betta fish, Allister, who, along with countless shelter pets, are the lucky recipients of her affection. With so much passion for homeless pets in our volunteer family, not to mention the extraordinary generosity of our donors, it is no wonder that the cats & dogs who spend time in our care have such amazing success stories.

peace & passion: Lori’s story

Growing up in New York, Lori has had cats most of her life. When she and her family relocated to New Mexico four years ago, she started following Animal Humane on social media. After our Project Humane renovations were completed, Lori decided it was time to come by our Main Virginia Street Campus for a tour. Upon meeting the beautiful cats in our care, Lori was ready to put her love for pets to work. She began socializing the wonderful felines at our Westside Adoption Center in 2016.

A common theme among animal lovers is that they don’t volunteer because it’s “too hard” or “too sad.” In fact, many of our current volunteers put off volunteering for exactly that reason, only to regret time lost once they finally gave into their passion for homeless pets. Lori was no different. Now, however, she’s not only a friend to our cats, but an advocate for volunteering as well.

“I’m grateful,” Lori explains, “It brings me peace, in its own small way, that I’m helping pets find their loving families!” She continues, “It’s hard to identify the best part of volunteering. I love seeing a kitten’s guard come down and their personality start to shine, but I also love the miracle of the match.”

Seeing people and pets come together in harmony is truly Lori’s inspiration as an advocate. In her spare time, she combs her neighborhood app for lost & found pets, working to bring families back together. She also loves cuddling her own cats — two sweet senior felines, Kobe & Itty Bitty, who picked Lori to be their perfect person.

Follow your passion for homeless pets by volunteering today!

Visit AnimalHumaneNM.org/Get-Involved/Volunteer or email NewVolunteer@AnimalHumaneNM.org for more information.
the 35th annual DOGGIE DASH & DAWDLLE

you dashed, you dawdled, you delighted in all things dog (and cat): THANK YOU!

On Sunday, November 5 thousands of canines and their human companions took part in Animal Humane's largest event of the year, our 35th Annual Doggie Dash & Dawdle. Whether they dashed, or they dawdled, pet lovers from across New Mexico came together to celebrate the human + animal bond while raising valuable funds for our life-saving work at Animal Humane. Presented by the Leader of the Pack, Garcia Subaru East, this year's Doggie Dash & Dawdle continued its paw-some tradition of being the biggest party for pets and people.

Starting with an early morning 5K Dash where humans and dogs can take advantage of the fabulous fall weather as they sprint toward the finish line, this timed race was again a furry favorite. For couch potato pets, the more relaxed 1-mile Dawdle was the perfect event. We kept things interesting this year at the Balloon Fiesta Park, by expanding our Dash layout across the north end of the field.

The return of our ever-popular Agility & Behavior shows, Fly Ball & Barrel Racing demos, and live entertainment on the Main Stage meant more activities for you to experience with your perfect pet by your side. Back by popular demand, we once again held our Small Dog Sprint — a short 5-meter course where the pocket-sized pups we all adore had their own moment to shine.

If you missed our Doggie Carnival, sponsored by HUB New Mexico, Best Friends Pet Cremation Services, and New Mexico Bank & Trust, then you'll have to wait a whole year for the excitement that comes with our unforgettable Pup-arazzi photo tent, the chance to build your own gourmet dog biscuit, and of course the wildly popular opportunity to get the perfect pet caricature portrait!

Unsurprisingly, one of our annual highlights of the event has always been the adorably entertaining Canine Costume & Trick contests! Our long-time partners at Cumulus Media are always thrilled to be our honored judges for this event. And, if our human attendees weren’t spoiling their canine companions and taking care of some holiday shopping at our Barketplace, you could probably find them treating themselves to a fun flow yoga class, music, and delicious local food trucks.

With your generous support, and that of our amazing sponsors, vendors, Dashers and Dawdlers, this year’s event was a complete success, raising $313,237 to support homeless pets in New Mexico. A very special thank you to our top individual fundraiser Megan Edwards, who raised over $23,000 and our Top Dog Team — PNM for raising over $2,900 to better the lives of thousands of New Mexico cats and dogs. Start networking now, and next year the star of the show could be you!

join us next year on November 4!
Ben Affleck: your love in action

Pets arrive at Animal Humane via a variety of paths. Some come from other shelters through our Project Fetch program; others arrive as lost pets looking for help returning to their loving family. Occasionally, we are lucky enough to meet a pet that was surrendered at one of our local veterinary partners. Often these pets have lived through exceedingly difficult situations and they are ready for the compassionate care and extraordinary love that awaits them. **With your support, their lives change for the better once they arrive on our Campus.**

One of these pets was Ben Affleck, a 3-year-old American Pit Bull mix. When Ben arrived, our outside veterinary partner had already cleaned his wounds and splinted the break to his left hind leg, injuries resulting from a gunshot. **Your dedication to Animal Humane and the pets in our care not only saved Ben's life, it saved his leg as well.** Our talented Clinic Team quickly took X-rays, while our Foster Care Team lined up a wonderful volunteer who was skilled in caring for pets with medical needs.

 Shortly after he arrived, our veterinarians performed extensive surgery on Ben. In addition to neutering him, they reset his tibia and placed an external skeletal fixator — a device that uses pins attached to an external frame to hold the bones in place. This allowed our Veterinary Team to ensure Ben’s leg healed correctly while still monitoring and caring for his soft tissue wounds. A significant advantage of the external fixator is that, unlike a cast, the leg will bend normally and can bear weight, allowing dogs to walk while their bones heal.

During his entire journey, which included weekly wound cleanings and dressing changes, our Foster and Clinic Teams marveled at how Ben calmly laid still through every treatment; never fidgeting or resisting. **Your generosity made it possible for Ben to take the time he needed to heal.** 77 days after arriving, he was adopted by a lucky family.

Today, Ben is poised to spend the coming holiday season in his loving new home. He’s adored by his new dad, Jorge, and three human siblings. Jorge reminisces, “When I heard what Ben had been through, I knew I wanted to adopt him. I thought he deserved a good home.” It is difficult for us to say who received the better present this year, Ben or his family, but we know what they think. Ben’s dad continues, “He is perfect — a great family pet!”

**Thank you for giving Ben, Jorge and their whole family the opportunity to experience the joy and love of a perfect pet this year.**

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Our Veterinary & Foster Care Team check the progress of Ben’s healing.

Adoption Day!

Ben Affleck, Adopted from Animal Humane
HER FUTURE CAN BE YOUR LEGACY

You can make the world a better place for pets in need. When you leave a gift to Animal Humane New Mexico in your will, trust, or by beneficiary designation, you are protecting over 10,000 dogs & cats annually. It’s easy to ensure you will make a lasting difference.

Create your own special legacy that will safeguard vital, loving care of homeless pets for generations to come.

To discuss your bequest options or arrange a private tour, please call 505.938.7938.

Financial & Pet Planning Series, January 19, 2018

Savvy Social Security, Noon - 1 pm
Presented By: Brad Yablonsky, UBS Financial Services

Pet Planning Beyond Your Lifetime, 1:15 - 2 pm
Presented By: Animal Humane New Mexico

A Good Good-Bye, Advance Planning for People & Pets, 2:15 - 3 pm
Presented By: FRENCH Family of Companies

Light lunch will be provided. Please RSVP by January 16 at RSVP@AnimalHumaneNM.org or 505.938.7899

In Honor of People

Anthony Ian Alvarado Cotten
Shirlee Cohen
Brandi & Ray’s Wedding
Catherine Alvarez
Raymond Martinez
Janice Wittrock
Ron Bronitsky’s Birthday
Gordon J. Bronitsky
Leslie Brooks
Karen & Robert Martinez
Norma Jean Christensen
Sharon Meeke & Tony Cubillas
Dr. John Cornali & Dr. Drew McDonald
Janet Squires
Ellen Eldott
Karen Cuntshall
Terrie & Doug Moore

In Memory of People

Vincent Assieimo
Larry Coon
Bryan ‘Jim’ E. Arthur
Grayle & Art Schanidt
Robert ‘Bob’ W. Beck
Alda B. Beck
Jerry Bednorz
Dorothy L. Schug Marzorini
Dr. William ‘Bill’ Black
‘Sugar’ Ray Saavedra
Richard A. Lofstrom
Becky Swords
Luo Sundoula’s Birthday
Marina Munoz de Martinez & Dustin Martinez
Robert Shaw
Marshak & Donald Simonson
Catherine Berry Stidsen’s Birthday
Lori & Brian Berry
Nancy Sue Gagne
Anne & Richard Gonzales
Kate Nambly
Jene Garcia
The Bunko Group

Alfred W. Gluth
Betty Humphrey
Catherine ‘Rosey’ Green
Anonymous Donor
Nancy Jo Hand
Sherry & Richard Barnes
Erna Lee & Bob Widgren
Dr. William R. Hardy
Stanley Curtice
Kathy DeLucas
Cheryl & Bill Foote

In Memory of People

Savannah & Eric Olivia
Dorothia A. Cunningham
Nora Padilla
Patricia & Kory Ingersoll
Mabel & Norman Padilla
Mette & Larry Pedersen
Karen H. Grimes
Devi Piper & Alecia Moll
Terese Kampthorne
Sue Randallz, Trevor Driggs & Animal Humane Behavior Staff
Gustavina Kramer
‘Sugar’ Ray Saavedra
Richard A. Lofstrom
Becky Swords
Luo Sundoula’s Birthday
Marina Munoz de Martinez & Dustin Martinez
Robert Shaw
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Kathy DeLucas
Cheryl & Bill Foote

Honorary & Memorial List
July 1 – September 30, 2017

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Shirlee Cohen
Brandy & Ray’s Wedding
Catherine Alvarez
Raymond Martinez
Tamra Wittrock
Ron Bronitsky’s Birthday
Gordon J. Bronitsky
Leslie Brooks
Karen & Robert Martinez
Norma Jean Christensen
Sharon Meeke & Tony Cubillas
Dr. John Cornali & Dr. Drew McDonald
Janet Squires
Ellen Eldott
Karen Cuntshall
Terrie & Doug Moore

Cheryl Foote
Terrie & Doug Moore
Helen Gabriel
Henry Gabriel
Dr. Kimberly Humel
Ladion Wickiff
Deb Hundleby’s Birthday
Joan Annalora
Sally A. Barber
Kare & Shannon
Marlene & Steven Baum
Barbara Knocel’s Birthday
Karen Shutick
Leroy
Tara Lor
Sharon Lofstrom
Richard A. Lofstrom
Joan Martin
Lisa Tannebaum
Lori McClave’s Birthday
Scott McClave
Ed McCullough’s Birthday
Lynn DuBose
Brian Mihalec
Oscillot Solar Electric
Mike & Connie Monk’s Retirement
Marina Munoz de Martinez & Dustin Martinez
Evan Morgan
Monica Freeman
David P. O’Brien
Amy O’Brien
Savannah & Eric Olivia
Dorothia A. Cunningham
Nora Padilla
Patricia & Kory Ingersoll
Mabel & Norman Padilla
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Flapjack, Adopted from Animal Humane