



HUMANE SOCIETY
of the White Mountains

Officers & Directors

President Mark Sterling

Vice President Jamie Dye

Secretary Laurie Palazzolo

Treasurer Bernard Huser

Gayle Basso

Bev Best

Jeff Phillips

Terry Young

Executive Director

Debbie Neff

Shelter

Shelter Manager

Maya Vasquez

3212 N. Porter Mountain Road
P.O. Box 909
Lakeside, AZ 85929

Phone: (928) 368-5295

Tuesday - Saturday
Noon to 5 pm
Closed Sunday & Monday

DOGhouse Thrift Shop

DOGhouse Manager

Bonnye Knoche

3002 White Mountain Blvd.
Lakeside, AZ 85929
Phone: (928) 368-2248

HOURS

Monday - Saturday
10:00 am to 5:00 pm

www.hswm.org

The Latest Poop

SPRING
SUMMER
2026



A biannual newsletter for friends of the
Humane Society of the White Mountains



Spring has Sprung

by Debbie Neff,
Executive Director

It's hard to believe that we are already in spring! I love springtime as it brings new life back to all of the flowers and plants and makes the world around us so beautiful and colorful! It makes me think of all the new fresh beginnings we are gearing toward and can accomplish.

I want to take a second to thank our dedicated staff and amazing volunteers at both the Humane Society's shelter and the Doghouse Thrift Store. The dedication and love that everyone brings to make the animals know they are loved is truly admirable! The staff and volunteers at the shelter are providing care and exercise, while the staff and volunteers at the Doghouse are processing and selling treasures donated to help raise funds. Though in two different parts of town, the team work is outstanding!

Spring and Summer are exciting times of the year for us. We have many wonderful events and fundraisers that we're already doing. For example, we had Arizona Gives day in April. Coming up in June, we will have Critter Camp over two weeks for kids ages 7-12 years old. Then there's our Annual Meeting of the Members, 4th of July Parade in Show Low, Happy Tails, followed by the Fall Festival Parade and Pet Sitting at the Run to the Pines Car Show. Throughout the summer, we have numerous offsite adoptions at PetSense and other venues. If you'd like to be a part of any or all of these wonderful events, please consider becoming a Volunteer. We have volunteer applications both online at www.hswm.org or in the Front Office at the Shelter.

Speaking of Happy Tails, which is our largest fundraiser of the year, make sure to mark your Calendar for August 29th, this is our 21st Annual Happy Tails Auction and BBQ. As always, we get even more excited than we were the year before and that is all thanks to our wonderful Donors, Supporters, Volunteers and, of course, our Amazing Community!

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you out and about this year!!

Introducing Our New Shelter Manager

by Debbie Neff



I'd like to take a moment to introduce our New Shelter Manager, Maya Vasquez. Maya has been an employee with us for 1½ years, and just recently promoted to Shelter Manager. Maya brings animal experience from a previous job where she had worked for a Rescue Group in Texas. That organization took in pets that were placed on euthanasia lists at other facilities.

Maya is a very hard-working individual. If she sees something that needs to be done, she gets it done! Her compassion for the animals is top tier. Maya is very eager to learn all there is to know about being the Shelter Manager. In her first month of being the Manager, she has done a fantastic job. I look forward to teaching her all I've learned and also having her as my righthand person!

If you haven't met Maya yet, stop by the shelter and meet her.

Overcrowding - My Focus as Shelter Manager

by Maya Vasquez

Animal shelters across the United States are facing a serious overcrowding crisis. Every year millions of dogs, cats, and other pets enter these facilities. Many of them are abandoned, lost, or surrendered by owners who can no longer care for them. When shelters become overcrowded, resources such as space, staff time, and medical care become limited. This situation increases stress for the animals and makes it harder for shelters to provide the attention each pet deserves. Overcrowding can also lead to difficult decisions for staff as every empty kennel means another life can be saved. Please consider adopting or fostering to help ease overcrowded shelters.

The public can play an important role in helping solve this problem. One of the most impactful actions people can do is open your home and heart to adopt an animal instead of buying them from breeders or pet stores. Fostering animals temporarily and volunteering time are great ways to

help. Also, donating supplies, like dog or cat food, helps not only our shelter pets but also people who are struggling to feed their own pets. One of our goals is to help pets stay in their own homes. Here at HSWM, we have our kibble program where we give out pet food, when it's available, to animal owners who can't afford to buy their own. Additionally, spaying and neutering pets helps prevent unwanted litters that, frequently, end up in shelters. By spreading awareness and making compassionate choices, communities can work together to reduce overcrowding and give more animals the safe and loving homes they deserve.



What's Happening at the DOGhouse Thrift Shop

by Bonnye Knoche, Manager

As we get ready for the spring and summer, I want to share some exciting news with everyone. We have a new covered area outside the store, in the "Yard". It will be used for furniture. This is going to make it so much easier for our customers to shop and for us to care for the items. We are so pleased with the comments we've already received from customers. Please come and check it out.

During the winter, we have completed many remodel plans which are making a better shopping experience for you. There are more shelves for our merchandise, more open areas in the yard and an enclosed storage area for our donated Happy Tails items.

As a reminder, if you are donating to the Happy Tails Auction, please be sure to tell our staff. We will fill out the correct form for you and set your items in the reserved area before they go to the Donation Center. We love seeing the fantastic items that come from all of our customers. Please remember that we need large baskets desperately for Happy Tails baskets.

Our Summer hours from May through September are Monday-Saturday, 10am -5pm.

Our Donation Area is receiving items Monday-Saturday, 10am-3pm.

Do you like to save money? Our Sale Days are:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday are Senior and Military Days with 25% Off everything.

Thursday, Friday, Saturday are 50% off sales on selected items

"Sale Saturday" is the first Saturday of every month. Save 50% Off everything in the store.

We post our most recent information on the DOGhouse Thrift Shop Facebook page. Please follow us.

Thank you for shopping and donating to us! Without your support, we would be unable to afford the care of the fantastic fur babies at the Shelter. Every dollar, dime, nickel and penny spent at the DOGhouse goes directly to the Shelter! We could not do it without our Wonderful Customers!

www.facebook.com/The-DOGhouse-Thrift-Shop-1539090302976736/



Volunteer Coordinator and Outreach

by Ella Williams

Before joining the Humane Society of the White Mountains, I had been working with animals for the past four years. Animals have always held a special place in my heart, and adopting my own dog from a shelter was one of the experiences that inspired me to pursue this path. I

love being the Volunteer Coordinator because it offers the perfect balance of caring for animals while also connecting with people in meaningful ways. I was drawn to this role because I wanted to make a difference, and I quickly learned just how essential volunteers are to both our shelter and the animals in our care.

Moving forward, I am excited to attend more community events and outreach opportunities to help increase awareness and visibility for our shelter. By connecting with more people in our community, we can expand our support network, find more loving homes for our animals, and continue to grow our volunteer base. I look forward to building these connections and making an even greater impact together.

One of my main goals is to continue growing a dedicated and compassionate team of volunteers. Volunteers are the backbone of everything we do, and we could not accomplish our mission without them. I would like to focus on recruiting individuals who are committed, dependable, and passionate about animal welfare and have other skills which we always need. If you are interested in volunteering, please fill out a volunteer application online or stop by the shelter to complete one in person.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out at volunteer@hswm.org.



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Humane Society of the White Mountains provides the highest standards of care for all animals entering our shelter. We educate and assist local communities regarding quality companion animal care, and serve as a voice for the voiceless pet, seeking always to end animal cruelty and neglect.

Delilah

by Laurie P. CVT

There was no resisting this face! Just look at her! This little pup was a stray that came to the Humane Society of the White Mountains, with her brother, in June of that “crazy year”, 2020. The staff took them in and gave them the names “Samson” and “Delilah”. Everyone thought they were some type of shepherd mix, but the only thing “shepherd” about them was their coloring.



My daughter wanted to adopt a German Shepherd. Well, there was Delilah with her sweet face and shepherd coloring. She instantly adopted the pup, brought to her forever home, and renamed her “Rey”. (If you are a StarWars fan, you get it!)

Rey adjusted quickly to her new home and family of two, at the time. She was smart, super fast, and loved to be picked up so she could hug you. Before Rey knew what was going on, my daughter and her husband had a new addition to the family, a baby boy.

Many people get concerned if the family dynamics change and their pet now has to share the attention and love. Sadly, many pets get turned in to shelters because they weren't given a chance to accept the new family member. Rey was included in everything that involved the baby and immediately loved her big-sister roll. She never lets her boy out of her sight.

Rey's little human brother is now four years old and she is his playmate, protector and babysitter. She never turned into the big German Shepherd they had hoped she would but she sure thinks she is. Rey is happy to run around on the ranch and keep her boy safe. She has the best recall too.



So, if you ever hear anyone say that shelter dogs come with baggage or you can't train them or trust them, don't listen to that false information. Most shelter dogs are extremely loving, dependable, and grateful to be a part of the family, no matter how many additions may be added. They all deserve a chance to prove it. ADOPT. Your life will be filled with unconditional love.



Rip

by Tammy Helzer, DVM

Rip was one of 9 kittens that arrived at the Humane Society when they were 7 to 8 weeks old. When they all arrived, they appeared to be healthy, so they were vaccinated, dewormed and were well on their way to being put up for adoption. Unfortunately Rip, his sister Beth and brother Casey became ill. They were so ill that I decided to bring them home so that I could monitor them closely and treat them.

Fortunately, Beth and Casey responded quickly to treatment and nursing care and were well on their way to recovery in a few days. Rip, on the other hand, was a very sick kitten. Every time I would go to check on him, I would slowly peek into the kennel to see if he was still alive. I have been a veterinarian for over 30 years, and I still get emotional over the sick little guys. I spent quite a bit of time just holding and cuddling with Rip, as he began to gain strength he would cuddle back, laying his head on my chin.

Thankfully Rip started to slowly come around and made an almost complete recovery. He had been so ill it left him with some neurological dysfunctions. When he is standing still, his head looks somewhat like a bobble head, when he walks, he looks like he is marching, and when he runs: his front end and his hind end don't look like they are attached to the same cat. Rip could care less that he has neurological issues.

I did adopt Rip. I think his neurological condition made him really cute, but the main reason I wanted to keep him, was because he is so sweet. Every morning when I'm going to get his breakfast, he will walk right in front of me and I must pick him up. He always lays his head on my chin. In the evening, if I am watching TV, he will climb on top of me and lay down.

Rip came with the name Rip but he never responded to his name. One day, as my husband was watching him march around the kitchen, he commented that we should have named him: Jarr Jarr Binks (a character in a Star Wars movie who has a unique gate). Since it fit him so well, we just added Jarr Jarr to his name, so his full name is now Jarr Jarr Rip. He does seem to respond to this name better now but he's a cat, so he only responds if he really wants to. Jarr Jarr Rip has been a great addition to our house and I am so thankful he survived from being so sick.

Spring & Summer Safety

by Debbie Neff, Executive Director

With the warmer weather upon us, we would like to talk about some pet health and safety tips to keep you and your pets cool as cucumbers during those dog days of summer.

First and foremost, vaccinating your animals is very important not just during the summer but throughout the year. During the summer months with more animals traveling here, there and everywhere, it's a very wise idea to make sure that your animals are up to date on their vaccinations. They could pick something up anywhere that will have detrimental effects on their overall health. So, before planning to go on that fun family vacay with Fido and Fifi, get their annual boosters.

You may want to talk to your veterinarian about a flea and tick preventative for your pets to keep those pesky parasites off and away from your pets and your home.

Anytime you are traveling with your animals make sure they are never left in a hot vehicle. This could result in extreme thirst, heat stroke or worse. Be conscience of the decisions you are making for your animals prior to taking them with you.

Our feline friends do not acclimate to the heat well at all. Some folks work on the Trap, Neuter and Release on feral cats during the warmer months. If you do, make sure that traps are not set during the hottest part of the day and are checked every morning to ensure that the cats are able to be taken in to your vet or released from the trap in a decent amount of time. Never set a live trap for an animal before going away for more than a day.

As always, watch your kids and your pets around water! Have a great summer. Please join us at Happy Tails Fundraising Event Aug 29 in the Orchard at Charlie Clark's, Pinetop!



Mark your Calendar for Happy Tails 2026

This year's Happy Tails Auction & BBQ will be here before we know it! Please join us for this very special annual event, which is also the shelter's largest fundraiser. It will be held on Saturday, August 29 from 10am - 4pm in Charlie Clark's Orchard, Pinetop. You'll enjoy traditional sections such as live and silent auctions, raffle packages, blitz raffle, general store, BBQ, special beverages and, of course, pet adoptions! Plus, we'll have a new area for this year; a photo booth with a few of our very special dogs who were adopted from the HSWM.

If you're interested in volunteering – before or during the event – please contact the Shelter Office at (928) 368-5295. We are already collecting donations. If you have special items to donate, please take them to the DogHouse Thrift Store or hold onto them until mid-July, when we open the Donation Center. Stay tuned for more details on our Facebook page or website hswm.org. We look forward to seeing you and having fun together.

HUMANE SOCIETY of the WHITE MOUNTAINS

SUMMER RAFFLE



2012 POLARIS RANGER XP 800

A versatile, high-performance side-by-side powered by a 50 hp, 760cc liquid-cooled twin-cylinder EFI engine, capable of speeds of 55 mph. It features on-demand AWD, a 1500 lbs payload capacity, 2000 lbs towing capacity, & independent rear suspension.



RANGER DONATED BY
The Lavender Family

\$10
TICKETS

WINNERS NEED NOT BE
PRESENT AT THE DRAWING
DRAWING WILL BE HELD
AT HAPPY TAILS

Raffle tickets are available at The Humane Society,
The DOGhouse Thrift Shop and from
any HSWM FundRaising Committee Member

21st Annual
HAPPY TAILS
AUCTION & BBQ

**Saturday,
August 29, 2026**

10am to 4pm in the ORCHARD
at CHARLIE CLARK'S

for more info call | **the Humane Society**
at 928-368-5295



ALL PROCEEDS go to the Humane Society of the
White Mountains a non-profit tax exempt 501(c)(3)
charitable organization committed to actively ending
companion animal suffering in the White Mountains.



*"What greater gift than
the love of a cat"*

Charles Dickens



The Humane Society of the White Mountains is excited to announce that once again, we are the recipient of a \$10,000 Spay/Neuter grant from AZ Pet Plates! Access to this grant money is open to all residents of our Navajo County communities. With the continuing overpopulation of companion animals, everyone is strongly urged to have their dogs and cats spayed or neutered. Do you know that early S/N can help reduce certain infections and cancers in your pet, as well as lessen the urge to roam, which could lead your pet to get lost or injured in traffic?

Pet owners will be charged a low-cost copayment of \$25 per cat and \$35 per dog regardless of sex

Limit of 3 pets per resident

To schedule an appointment for your dog or cat, please call the HSWM Shelter at (928) 368-5295

The Humane Society of the White Mountains is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of cruelty to animals

Welcome to the P.A.W.S. Clinic



Yes! Pets Are Worth Saving!

Spring has sprung, which means everyone, (including your pets), is looking forward to warmer weather and enjoying more outdoor ACTIVITIES.

Your unspayed and unneutered pets tend to wander, jump fences, and dig out in search of a mate, especially during this season. Dogs usually have only two cycles, or "Heats" per year. They can have two litters a year consisting of one to twelve pups depending on the size and breed. Cats, on the other hand are induced, or spontaneous ovulators, which basically means the female cat can become pregnant when a male cat comes a "calling", or mates with her, which can release eggs from her ovaries, resulting in pregnancy. Female cats can become pregnant at the young age of four months. They are pregnant for about nine weeks and could have anywhere from one to twelve kittens in a litter! You do the math!

The shelter is always full of unwanted, abandoned, stray, and surrendered cats and dogs of all ages. It is so important to spay and neuter your pets not only for the overwhelming increase of dogs and cats in shelters, but for the health of your pets. Not spaying or neutering your dog or cat can result in serious, sometimes fatal conditions, like pyometra in females or testicular cancer in males. "Pyo" in females is caused by a bacteria infection in the uterus, causing the uterus to become filled with pus. Sometimes the symptoms are obvious such as discharge, foul odor, swelling in the abdomen, lethargy, not eating and excessive thirst. Sometimes symptoms are not noticeable until it is too late and becomes an emergency. Spaying your female pet can prevent this from happening and save her life. Your unneutered male pets can start bad habits, such as urinating/marketing everything, running off to find that special someone, or worse they could develop testicular cancer. Neuter your male pet and keep him safe and healthy.

Call us today and make an appointment for your pets to be spayed and neutered at our low-cost PAWS Clinic. Keep them safe, healthy, happy and help make a difference in the influx of dogs and cats at large, and in the shelters.

Stay "Pawsitive", Laurie P.

Upcoming Events and Fundraisers Plan Ahead. Get Involved.



- June** Critter Camp, 2 weeks
- June** Pinetop Lakes Association "Dog Days"
- June 20** Annual Meeting of the Members
11am-1pm at the DOGhouse
- July 4** 4th of July Parade, Show Low
Float & Walkers Needed
- Aug. 29** 20th Annual Happy Tails Auction
& BBQ, Charlie Clark's Orchard
- Sept.** Fall Festival Parade, Pinetop
Float & Walkers Needed
Also Pet Sitting at the Car Show

Please check our website HSWM.ORG for event updates

petsense in Show Low

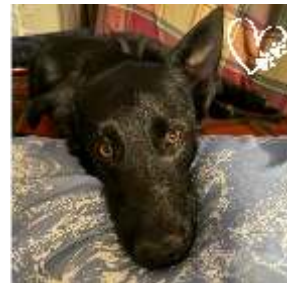
Saturdays - adoption events, call the shelter
for further information

See all of our adoptable animals on our website:

www.HSWM.org



See our facebook page
for the Pet of the Week



*You can't change
a Dog's Past,
but you can rewrite
their Future*

Become a member or renew today. Your membership makes all the difference!

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

New membership Renewal Donation Amount \$ _____

Junior (16 & under) \$10 Supporting \$100 Sponsor \$500

Individual \$25 Business \$250

Family \$50 *Memberships are renewed on an annual basis*

Gift Membership From _____



**HUMANE SOCIETY
of the White Mountains**

P.O. Box 909
3212 N. Porter Mtn Rd
Lakeside, AZ 85929

928.368.5295

www.hswm.org

Our Wish List . . .

Organic Hemp Oil for Pets

Canine Items:

Canned Food Adult and Pup
Pedigree Dry Puppy Food
Dog Treats
Treat Puzzles
Toys (Rope, Kong, Etc.)
Puppy Teething Toys
Powder Puppy Formula
Miracle Nipples (Amazon)

Feline Items:

Canned Cat & Kitten Food
Purina Kitten Chow
Purina Cat Chow
Cat Toys
Powder Kitten Milk
Scoop-able Litter
Pelletized Horse Bedding (Tractor Supply)
Treats
Small Animal Bottles
Miracle Nipples (Amazon)

Cleaning & Laundry:
Bleach
Laundry Soap
Dish Soap and Dish Sponges
Fabuloso or OdoBan
Window Cleaner
Disinfecting Wipes
Latex Gloves
Paper Towels
13 Gal/55 Gal Trash Bags
Toilet Paper
Deck Brushes w/Handles
Floor Squeegee w/Handles
Bathroom/Toilet Bowl Cleaner
Pet Friendly ICE Melt

Professional Services:

Pro Bono
Electrician
Plumber

Utility Donations Welcomed:

Navopache Electric
Unisource Energy
Sparklight / AZ Water
Pinetop/Lakeside Sanitation

Office Supplies:

Pens & Printer Paper
Receipt Books - Duplicate or Triplicate
Disposable Cups
Hand Sanitizers
Dry Erase Markers
USB Drives
Manilla Envelopes (9x12)
Manilla Clasp Envelopes (Legal Size)
AA & AAA & 9V Batteries
Masking Tape
Sharpie Markers

Other Services:
FOREVER HOMES
VOLUNTEERS
FOSTER HOMES

Gift Cards:
Welcomed



HSWM is a member of Walmart's Spark Good Round-up, a great way to donate.

Thank You!



Thanks to the volunteers that prepare our mailings.

EDITOR: Gayle Basso

CONTRIBUTORS:

Debbie Neff, Ella Williams,
Maya Vasquez, Bonnye Knoche,
Laurie Palazzolo, Mary Hovden
& Tammy Helzer DVM

Newsletter layout donated by



www.HSWM.org



HUMANE SOCIETY
of the White Mountains
P.O. Box 909
Lakeside, AZ 85929

**Bringing People and Pets together
to enrich the lives of both**

If you are receiving duplicate mailings, help us to cut down on waste by notifying us. Thank you.

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LAKESIDE, AZ 85929
PERMIT NO. 30



the **DOGhouse**
THRIFT SHOP
3002 Wht Mtn Blvd, Lakeside
Monday - Saturday
10:00 am to 5:00 pm

