



HUMANE SOCIETY
of Weld County

The Paw Print

January 2016

Humane Society of Weld County

1620 42nd Street
Evans, CO 80620
(970) 506-9550



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Denali – A Christmas Miracle

Just over a week before Christmas, as people were out frantically shopping for their loved ones, a 1 ½ year old pit bull mix was found by a Greeley Animal Control Officer wandering aimlessly around 10th Ave and 11th Street.

She was obviously starving, looking for somewhere warm to rest, and barely able to continue holding herself up. Upon arriving to the shelter she was immediately examined and found to be severely dehydrated, emaciated, and weighing only 40 pounds.

Over the next day, although she wanted to eat, she was unable to keep anything down. Although it was late in the day, our veterinary partner, Dr. Liz Clark of Alpine Veterinary Hospital, agreed Denali needed hospitalized attention right away.

Dr. Clark rushed her to radiology and it was confirmed that there was an obstruction in her intestines. After a long and difficult 2-3 hours of emergency surgery, Dr. Clark pulled out large amounts of yarn in 8 different areas of Denali's intestines.

Denali's will to live was stronger than the odds that were against her-the next 72 hours were critical. Time and Denali's inner strength would determine if she would be able to survive the life-threatening damage to her intestines. Thanks to Dr. Clark and the amazing,

wonderful staff at Alpine Veterinary Hospital, Denali survived the surgery and recovered with amazing resilience. Denali will now be going into foster care for several weeks to be pampered and cared for as she recuperates, gains weight, and simply learns to be loved as all dogs should be loved.

Although her previous humans failed her, she greets everyone she meets with a wagging tail and big, soulful eyes. We anticipate that she will be in excellent health and available for adoption in 2-4 weeks so watch our website to see this wonderful dog.

Due to the extensive nature of her surgery and hospitalization, please consider a donation towards Denali's care and Alpine Veterinary Hospital so that we can continue to save these precious animals. Please note "Denali's care" on your donation. She was truly a Christmas miracle that was saved by Alpine Veterinary Hospital, our Christmas angels.



A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



As 2015 comes to a close and we look forward to 2016, it is with sincere appreciation and gratitude that I thank our donors, sponsors, patrons,

grantors, employees, volunteers, and community for the continued success of the Humane Society of Weld County.

Over the past 10 years, the HSWC has experienced growth in many areas, but most importantly in the provision of quality animal care and programs. All of this would not have been possible without the support of each and every one of you! To continue with our success into the New Year, the HSWC is rebranding itself with a new look, logo and expanded services.

Again, thank you for your continued support of the HSWC and our community's animals. They need us to be their voice and a safe haven until they find their "forever" homes! Best of everything to you and your family in 2016!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elaine Hicks".

Elaine Hicks
Executive Director

OUR GOALS

-  Ensure financial sustainability and diversification of revenue sources.
-  Improve animal health and welfare in our community.
-  Improve our internal capacity to provide quality services.
-  Strengthening our impact on the community

OUR MISSION

To promote the humane treatment of animals through care, advocacy and education.

OUR VISION

Bringing pets and people together in our community.

Meet Our Behaviorist



This holiday season is full of hustle and bustle here at the Humane Society of Weld County! As the year winds down, we are looking forward to next year with lots of excitement. Our new Behavior Technician, Ashlea King, comes to us with a Masters degree from CSU and 15 years of shelter experience. Ashlea is a passionate force-free, science based trainer with big ideas for the Humane Society.

While the community practice program is helping people care for the medical needs of their pets in whole new way; our behavior department is also expanding. We have already begun renovations on our kennels to help reduce stress for dogs during their stay with us and continue to come up with new ways to make our animals happier and healthier while they are in our care. In addition, we are improving our post-adoption support program. Have a question or concern about your adopted pet's behavior? Give us a call!

The New Year will bring several expansions to the existing program. We will be creating a training program for our high energy pitties that are truly diamonds in the rough as well as a Kitten Kindergarten program to prevent common behavior problems.

Force-free, science-based training techniques are employed by the most progressive shelters across the country and never use fear, pain, or intimidation to get what we want from our pets. We strongly believe that training should be fun for everyone involved! Have a dog that takes you for walks? Have a dog that dashes out the door? Would you like to be able to trim your kitten's nails and give medications with ease? We can help you improve your bond with your pet along with reducing the day to day stress of having an unruly fur kid around!

This is going to be a great year for the Humane Society and we can't wait to share it with all our amazing supporters. Through both our behavior and medical programs, we plan continue our mission of promoting the humane treatment of animals through care, advocacy, and education.



NEED HELP NOW?

Patrons can contact our Behavior Helpline for help with your new furry friend!

behaviorhelpline@weldcountym humane.org or

970-506-9550 Ext. 12

FAREWELL

Board President, Larry Selzle



It was a cool autumn afternoon in 1986. I looked at my wife Shirley and said, "I'd sure love to have a calico cat." Her responses? "Let's go see if we can find one at the Humane Society." Outstanding! I love calicos! So we took the long drive east on 8th Street. Are we going to the airport? Shirley sensed my puzzlement and said reassuringly, "Don't worry. The shelter is out here too." We soon came upon a rather bizarre looking domed structure. A friendly volunteer showed us around the very cramped facility and, after a short search, we found a cute, cuddly calico. I said to Shirley, "Can't adopt just one kitty!" Before you knew it, we had picked out a happy tabby cat too. The shelter did not require animals to be spayed or neutered in those days. We assured the volunteer we would have the kitties taken care of by our vet. This was my first encounter with the shelter. My how things have changed!

Shirley and I began volunteering at the Humane Society, on a limited basis, in the 90's. In 2003 I was asked to become a board director. In those days the shelter offered very few services. We went through a succession of executive directors who generally had a great deal of compassion for the animals, but lacked the proper training and education to run a shelter. In 2006 the board did a nationwide search for an executive director who could not only run our shelter, but grow it in new directions. We hired Elaine Hicks, our current executive director. She's been with us ever since.

Under Elaine's leadership, the Humane Society has improved in so many areas. It has always been our

mission to re-unite animals with their owners and to find homes for the homeless ones. But we needed to do more. So we added low cost spaying and neutering clinics, along with low cost vaccination clinics. We expanded the size of our shelter and improved living conditions for the animals, especially in the isolation ward. The cat habitats were added, allowing animals to roam and interact with one another. The dogs now have their own dog park and exercising area just behind the shelter. We hired an on-staff veterinarian to insure that everyone is healthy. These are just a few of the things I've seen happen since I've been on the board at the Humane Society. However, the most exciting thing to happen at our shelter is happening right now! New construction is taking place. It's not just another facelift. It's the addition of a new service. Early next year we'll announce the opening of our brand new wellness clinic. Pet owners will be able to bring their animals to the Humane Society for basic veterinary services.

These are exciting times at the Humane Society. None of this would be possible without Elaine Hicks and her dedicated staff and volunteers, and it certainly would not be possible without the tremendous support of the community. As for me, I am term limited by rules in our bylaws, and will be leaving the board at the end of 2015. We have a very capable board and they are completely committed to the mission: To promote the humane treatment of animals through care, advocacy, and education.

Are you looking for a way to help animals and make a difference in your community? The HSWC Board of Directors is accepting applications for board members. For more information, please contact Elaine Hicks, Executive Director, at ehicks@weldcountymane.org.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



From left to right: Larry Selzle, Jodi Cantin, Jordan Flagg, and Elaine Hicks

Dennis White Humanitarian Award & Outstanding Youth Service Award Recipients

The 2015 recipient of the Dennis White Humanitarian Award is Jodi Cantin. Jodi has been a volunteer since 2009 in many capacities including foster parent, behavior volunteer, and graphic designer. She has been a dedicated supporter of the Humane Society in many ways and we know we can always count on her to lend a hand, and spread the word throughout the community about our work to save homeless animals, and to get others involved. We are so grateful for all of the work Jodi has done on behalf of the animals in our care!

In its inaugural year, the Outstanding Youth Service Award goes to an exceptional young woman who has logged over 830 hours in the past 2 years in a variety of volunteer activities. These activities include foster care, behavior help, vaccination clinics, and off-site events. Her commitment to animal welfare and bully breeds in particular led her to organize the first pit bull awareness day in Northern Colorado. We are thrilled to recognize Jordan Flagg for her dedication to animal welfare in Weld County with the Outstanding Youth Service Award!

Our goal is to place you in the most rewarding volunteer position possible. Based on your availability and interests we will schedule you for an upcoming orientation. Please contact our Contact Dana Montgomery-Gair, Volunteer Program Manager, at 970.506.9550 x11 or volunteermanager@weldcountym humane.org

-  In 2014, 393 animals were cared for by loving, volunteer foster families.
-  On average, each animal stayed in foster care for 39.12 days.
-  The longest stay in foster care was 102 days.
-  On average, it took animals 9.63 days to be adopted after returning to the shelter.

Thank you 2014 Foster Families!

We would like to thank the following families for their care and support of orphaned kittens and puppies.

Rachel Curtis	Jane Monson
Karin Morrow	Mary Egan
Anne Kremer	Colleen Griffin
Dianna Pickett	Lovey Rubio
JB Schmidt	Andrea Swan
Heather Weir	Nancy Smith
Carly McClees	Tiffany Kyle
Judy Hauff	Jennifer Babcock
Betsy Lyons	Jenae Oudekerk
Emily Andrade	Brittany Robinson
Stephanie Nettles	Nicole Chambers
Tammy Hill	Heather St Peters
Ana Caudillo	Candida Romero
Jodi Cantin	Dana Miller
Annie Boeckerman	Charlotte Thompson
Carol Kaplan	Vinnie Augden
Jill Sturmer	Betty Edney-Milner
Tiffany McCall	Dana Montgomery-Gair
Elaine Wood	Shannon Ruff
Lyndsey Reichert	

WELCOME DR.KAMINSKI

Dr. Lisa Kaminski, a 2012 CSU graduate, has been with the Humane Society of Weld County since May 2015. Prior to her tenure at the HSWC, Dr. Kaminski worked in private practice with small animals as well as volunteering in her spare time for the Nevada ASPCA and Humane Society of Northern Nevada. She always had an interest in shelter medicine so when a veterinary position opened at the HSWC, she jumped at the opportunity!

Her passion for affordable veterinary care is based on the 2013 U.S. Pet Ownership & Demographics Sourcebook that states “Nearly 90% of dog owners and 75% of cat owners surveyed indicated that routine check-up and preventative care are either very or somewhat important.” Yet 49% of dog owners and 54% of cat owners do not take their pets’ to a veterinarian due to them either not being sick or injured or

due to the cost. With our low cost spay/neuter clinic as well as the vaccine clinics we already offer, the affordable preventative medicine and wellness clinic will offer routine blood work and exams to screen for illness and even manage some minor diseases and injuries. We are very excited to enhance our veterinary services by offering this clinic to our community.

Check us out on Facebook and look on our website, www.weldcountyhumane.org, for upcoming dates and services offered. The HSWC looks forward to meeting you and becoming an avenue to keep your beloved pet happy and healthy.

Dr. Lisa Kaminski, DVM

2014-15 STAFF



From left to right: Emma Miller, Matt Roberts, Daniela Anderson, Rachel Vint, Elaine Hicks, Heather St. Peters, Cydney Naill, Stan Baker, Liz Lucas, Jessica Lozano, Tiffany Kyle, Dana Montgomery-Gair, Kaitlyn Rink, Ashlea King, Anne Bellinrath, Eric Bailey, Anthony Barcelona, Cherie Hutchins, Dr. Lisa Kaminski, and Lisa Torres. (Not Pictured: Kristen Cabrera, Amber Clifford, Manda Hess, Jaron Jackson, Carol Kaplan, Ashley Pulda, and Richard Rivers)

We wholeheartedly thank all the individuals, corporations, organizations and foundations that have contributed so generously to help the homeless animals in Weld County.

2015 Donor Report



Estate Gifts

George Christolm
William Trowbridge

Foundations

Colorado Health Foundation
Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund
Monfort Family Foundation
OtterCares Foundation
PETCO Foundation
The Community Foundation
Wenaas Family Foundation

Corporations

Agfinity Inc.
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West Ridge Animal Hospital

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HUMANE SOCIETY
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PAWS AND SNEAKERS
Saturday, April 30th 2016

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