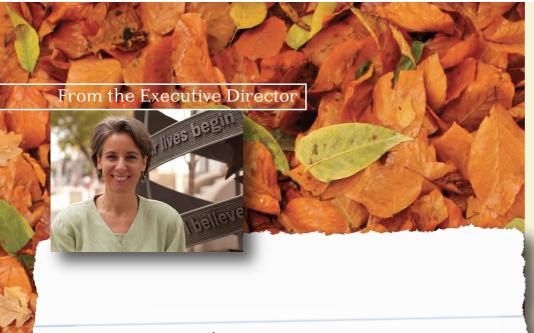
MAKING TRASS

A Quarterly Publication of Animal Protection of New Mexico

Fall 2012



Understand the Value of Reporting Animals in Jeopardy



Dear Friend of the Animals,

It's back to school time and young New Mexicans are already in classes once again. When I contemplate the collective potential of students to be eager learners, to embrace new ideas, and to foster change, I'm hopeful for the future of animal protection efforts.

Children have a natural curiosity about their world, and it's up to adults to share relevant and meaningful information with them, and to challenge them to examine things through critical thinking. An exciting APNM program is doing just that.

In Valencia County, where the incidence of cruelty calls is the highest statewide, APNM is expanding a groundbreaking, humane education program aimed at 5th graders. The seven-week, Open Heart=Open Mind curriculum was developed in accordance with the state education department's Benchmarks and Standards, and has already been greeted with tremendous enthusiasm by teachers, parents, and students. APNM also hopes to develop a 7th and 11th grade curriculum, and measure students' attitudes about the humane treatment of animals over time.

Coupled with APNM's substantial adult outreach programs and other youth education initiatives like the Kind News publication being distributed to elementary students in more than 200 classrooms across the state, we are creating communities of kindness throughout the Land of Enchantment.

If these programs excite you, please consider investing in this fundamental change by making a monthly contribution to APNM's Humane Education Program. Thank you for knowing that your engagement means the world to us and to animals!

Sincerely yours,

Elisabeth Jennings

Elisabeth Jennings, Executive Director



Making Tracks™ is a publication of Animal Protection of New Mexico.

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It is now indisputable that when animals are being harmed in a household, people are vulnerable, too. Of course, the opposite is true as well: When people are at risk, so are animals.

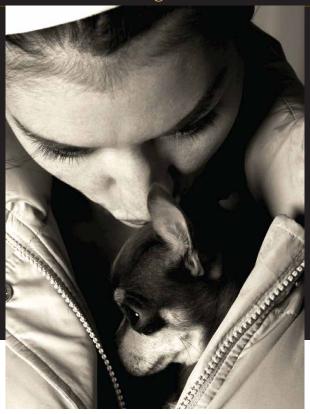
State Agencies Reach Out to Help Entire Communities

In the wake of a tragic incident last year in which a pack of dogs attacked and killed a woman in Truth or Consequences, it became apparent that social service workers and others who work in New Mexico's communities could benefit from a greater understanding of the cost and consequences of unaddressed animal neglect and cruelty. The dogs involved in the attack had reportedly been subjected to ongoing, intentional torture, yet their plight may not have been fully understood or investigated. With better information about the link between family violence and animal cruelty, as well as how to report animal cruelty or potentially dangerous dogs, social workers who encounter abuse of a family member or animals will have the tools they need to intervene and keep everyone safer.

Animal Protection of New Mexico (APNM), the Animals and Society Institute (ASI), and state agencies are now collaborating to provide this crucial information. Throughout the rest of 2012 and into 2013, APNM will be coordinating a series of training sessions on 'The Link Between Animal Cruelty and Family Violence'. It is now indisputable that when animals are being harmed in a household, people are vulnerable too. Of course, the opposite is true as well: When people are at risk, so are animals.

With the intention of getting more eyes and ears in the community to more quickly identify and report animal cruelty and neglect, APNM, ASI and its partners in state government aim to make New Mexico's communities safer for people and animals. New Mexico's Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) and New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD) will be participating in a four-hour training for adult and juvenile probation and parole officers. Both agencies are very enthusiastic about the training, and NMCD has made this Link Training mandatory for all current officers.

APNM is providing this important training throughout the state, with the hope that it will become a permanent and



mandatory part of staff training and development for both agencies. After initial sessions in Albuquerque, the training will be extended to regional offices in Farmington, Santa Fe, Roswell, and Las Cruces. Additional sites for CYFD are in the works.

Participants learn about the AniCare treatment model for animal abusers, as well as the Barbara Boat Inventory, a valuable assessment tool for asking critical questions about relations between family members and their companion animals. The responses can reveal clues about whether animals and/or people are being abused or may be in danger. In juvenile cases in particular, children are often more comfortable talking about their family in a discussion about their dog or cat than they would be through direct questioning.

A critical component of the training is to provide essential information and resources for on-the-scene response. Toward that end, APNM created a Pocket Resource Guide that includes the Link concept, brief overviews of New Mexico's animal cruelty laws and the Dangerous Dog Act, emergency resources for reporting animal abuse, vicious dogs, domestic violence or other life-threatening situations, and other essential contact information.

While producing this handy compact pocket guide for CYFD and NMCD officers, APNM now realizes that it may be useful for people in many other professions whose work brings them in close contact with residents in neighborhoods throughout the state. Providing this information to assessors, insurance adjusters, utility workers, real estate agents, and others could help interrupt the crushing cycle of violence that often begins at home, behind closed doors.

DRINGING CULTURES TOCETHER

The University of New Mexico's graduate program, "The Refugee Well-Being Project," examines the effects and outcomes of supporting refugees by pairing graduate students with a family who is having a difficult time assimilating into American culture. Housed in the Cesar Chavez Community Center in southeast Albuquerque, the program provides assistance with job applications, interviews, procuring a rental property, applying for utilities, learning English, American customs and preparing for the U.S. Citizenship Examination.

Based on participants' requests for information on local and state regulations regarding companion animal care and regulations, Animal Protection of New Mexico's Educational Outreach Director, Sherry Mangold, met with families from Iraq and the African nations of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi and Rwanda to share and interpret cultural differences regarding animals.

Because veterinary care is considered unprofitable in these counties, both vaccinations and dog/cat kibble are totally absent. As a result, rabies is a constant threat, as are parasites and zoonotic diseases (those that can be passed between humans and other animals). These circumstances and existing customs cause many Iraqis and Africans to fear dogs and consider them vermin.

Strict bathing rituals are believed necessary if one should touch a dog.

To try to help dispel these fears, local ordinances and state statutes were carefully explained and certified service dogs and registered therapy dogs took active roles in the presentations. Both children and adults learned tips on determining if a dog is friendly, and how to be safe around loose dogs and prevent bites. Canine Companions for Independence demonstrated how dogs can assist the physically challenged by answering telephones, turning on lights and opening doors. Therapy dogs from Southwest Canine Corps of Volunteers ran agility courses and performed tricks, amazing their audience with proof of what can be accomplished through training, good health care, and loving stewardship.

APNM applauds the work done by the Refugee Well-Being Project in all its endeavors, and we particularly welcome the opportunity to introduce a new audience to the potential in—and value of—animals. As new refugees enter the program, APNM will be there to participate in acclimating them specifically to the joy and wonder of companion animals.

Call the Animal Cruelty Hotline at 1-877-5-HUMANE.

Cruelty. It's abhorrent in every form. APNM manages two statewide animal cruelty hotlines. Sometimes the cases are resolved quickly, but many cases require weeks or months of work to see resolution. Some cases and types of cruelty are intractable and remain virtually unchallenged.

Is it frustrating, sometimes heartbreaking, and difficult work? Yes. But cruelty casework forms the backbone of all of APNM's work for animals. Animal cruelty casework not only directly helps animals in need, but also reveals specifically where stronger laws, more robust programs, and education and training are needed in our state. That information helps guide APNM's allocation of resources.

Valencia Co.: Puppy Mill

Report: Dog breeder living in mobile home keeps dozens of dogs in small cages inside and outside the home.

Casework: Months of follow up, fact checking, reporting, and coordination with law enforcement. Animals are found to be starving. Local law enforcement seizes dogs and charges individual with multiple counts of animal cruelty under the local ordinance. Adult Protective Services is also engaged to help the human who is suffering from cancer.

Outcome: All dogs removed from the home and placed with local breed rescue groups to ensure they receive the physical and psychological care needed.

Grant Co.: Animal Hoarding

Report: Individual living in unsafe conditions has at least 35 animals, has moved to multiple locations to evade law enforcement, is not capable of providing treatment to sick animals, including an animal with a broken leg.

Casework: Months of tracking and documentation, affidavits, assistance with adoptions and placement of animals, follow up with social services and probation.

Outcome: Many animals were removed and placed into homes. One untreatable animal was humanely euthanized. Individual is allowed to keep three dogs after receiving assistance to sterilize and agreeing to license these dogs.

Portales: Backyard Breeder

Report: Woman reports purchasing a dog from a local breeder, dog became sick, diagnosed with parvovirus less than 24 hours after purchase.

Casework: Coordination with local law enforcement. According to local ordinance, breeder is over the limit of animals allowed, has no license for breeding dogs.

Outcome: Dog breeder surrenders all the breeding animals to local law enforcement and ends breeding operation.

Animal Protection of New Mexico: Pequeños Milagros (Little Miracles)

Amu-te-nee-Hi-ya-k'a-tsi (Love Your Animal)



Santa Ana Pueblo's Cheryl Russell, Five Sandoval Indian Pueblos Community Health Representative, is no small miracle! Although Cheryl choreographed, produced, and directed the inaugural "Santa Ana Love Your Animal Health Fair" in June, she is the first to give credit to her committee members: Laura Pena, Abby Lujan, Ana Ortiz, Alan Hatch, Jon Wooldridge, and Sherry Mangold.

Over a period of several months, Cheryl deftly coordinated multiple departments within the pueblo with APNM, Greyhound Companions of New Mexico, Long Leash On Life, New Mexico Dogs Deserve Better, the Southwest Canine Corps of Volunteers, and The Santa Fe Animal Shelter & Humane Society's Mobile Spay and Neuter veterinary team who completed 29 surgeries. In addition, a free rabies and low-cost vaccination clinic serviced over 100 animals. The result was a well-attended, highly successful event featuring booths, educational presentations, contests, horseback riding, agility dog demonstrations, rescued Greyhounds, and therapy dogs. These organizations provided educational materials, animal care coloring books, and nutritional food samples for companion animals. Long Leash On Life donated cases of dog/cat food to create and supply an Animal Food Bank for the Pueblo.

Thanks to the hard work of Cheryl Russell, both children and adults learned how patience, good health care, and love create a loving and talented companion animal.

Animal Protection of New Mexico: Around the State

Teamwork for Animals

This summer, Valencia County's new Manager began partnering with its Animal Control Director, APNM staff, and a local rescue organization to develop an approach for comprehensively evaluating the county's animal control and sheltering department. Stay tuned!

Disaster Preparedness

APNM is bringing concerns for companion animal safety to emergency planning and response. A trained APNM staff member is working with New Mexico's Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, participating in state emergency exercises and national dialogues, assisting local and county planning efforts, and assessing local capacity for emergency animal sheltering.



Law Enforcement
Conference in Belen

In June, APNM showcased its *Field Guide on Animal Cruelty Investigations* at the Annual Gangs, Drugs & Prosecution Conference conducted by the 13th Judicial District Attorney's Office. Along with copies of the Guide, APNM provided posters and brochures about dogfighting and cockfighting and the Attorney General's Animal Cruelty Task Force.

Equine Solutions

APNM was invited by the NM Department of Agriculture to take part in stakeholder meetings convened to address the lack of a statewide infrastructure to provide relief to homeless horses in the state. APNM is pressing for creation of a robust and humane equine safety net.

Have Dog, Will Travel

A request from the City of Socorro brought APNM's educational outreach presentation "Loose Dog and Bite Safety" to over

50 children at the Socorro Recreation Center. Therapy dogs provided opportunities for hands-on practice with newly learned skills...and fun!

Advocacy for Race Horses

As advocates for all horses, APNM is an important stakeholder in recent debates about how to address widespread scandals and abuse in horseracing. APNM recently attended a Legislative Finance Committee meeting in Hobbs, where state legislators questioned the New Mexico Racing Commission. APNM will be following racing activity and keeping advocates updated to ensure the horses' best interests are promoted in the process.

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"Open Heart = Open Mind" : Compassionate Animal Care Education Program

APNM's innovative humane education program was successfully piloted last year at Valencia Elementary in Los Lunas. Students chose an animal from a variety of species and conducted research on the financial realities of properly caring for that animal and their ability to provide for the animal's emotional, physical, and veterinary needs. After recording all the needs, costs, and local/state laws governing the animal, the students composed a five-paragraph formal paper in which they came to a conclusion as to whether their selected animal was a viable choice for them. The students followed up by giving creative presentations of their findings to an invited audience.

The unit incorporates math, computer technology, research, art, oral and written communication, and civics in alignment with the New Mexico Department of Public Education's Benchmarks and Standards. Equally important, the program affects positive changes in attitude, self-esteem, empathy toward others and awareness of responsibilities to the community. Throughout the unit, guest speakers and registered therapy dogs provide interactive presentations.

Comments from last year's students are very telling of the program's success. When asked what they enjoyed most, responses included, "learning how to speak up against animal cruelty" and "working with my group to put the presentation together." Suggestions for making the unit better included,

HAMSTEA

"You need to stay longer and come more often" and "help stop all dog fighting. It is a bisness [sic] and no one cares about the dogs."

Because APNM does "care about the dogs" and all other animals, five other area schools are being approached for delivering this highly successful program during the 2012-2013 school year.

Animal Protection of New Mexico: Youth Activities

Kind News is Good News for New Mexico's Schools

It's no secret that humane education and the lessons it imparts to children about kindness to others are wise investments that pay off when children treat animals and each other with respect and compassion. To help deliver those messages, Animal Protection of New Mexico provides paid subscriptions of the award-winning humane education magazine, *Kind News*, to elementary children in more than 200 classrooms in dozens of rural and urban New Mexican communities. For the 2012-2013 school year, students in Carlsbad, Las Cruces, Farmington, Peñasco, Grants, Crownpoint, Española, Roswell, Ribera, Church Rock, Deming, Seboyeta and many more are benefiting.

The magazine is filled with colorful articles, short features and fun activities that children and teachers love. *Kind News'* emphasis on treating animals with kindness and respect, the importance of proper animal care, and wildlife appreciation captures student interest and makes abstract values like compassion, citizenship, and responsibility come alive. It covers several content areas, including science, social studies, math, and language arts, and is aligned with state and national educational standards.

To help APNM extend these valuable lessons to more schools, donations can be sent to APNM with 'Kind News' noted on the gift. \$25 sponsors a classroom for one year.

Housetraining SUCCESS!

Imagine you've just arrived in a foreign country where you don't speak the language and can't understand the signage. That's how a newly adopted puppy or dog feels upon arrival at your house. "Where am I? Who are these people? When do I eat? Where do I poop?" are just some of the thoughts likely crossing his mind.

they mature, so be prepared for occasional potty

Whether your new family member is a puppy or a mature dog, the principles of housetraining are the same: with observation and positive reinforcement, you hold the key to your dog's learning. In fact, most dogs young or old—are easy to housetrain. It just requires simple, consistent actions on your part. Here are some suggestions for success:

- When your dog first arrives home, keep his leash on, carry a bag of tasty treats, and take him on a tour of the house. Start with the backyard (or the area outside where you want him to go potty). Let him sniff as long as he likes and when he urinates or defecates, praise him and give him a treat. Continue walking outside for a few minutes, then bring him in and show him the areas you have set up for him: a bed, food and water bowls, toys, etc.
- Consider using a crate, especially for a puppy. When used properly, a crate is a humane approach to housetraining when you aren't able to directly supervise him. If using a crate, you **must** give pup regular trips (every two hours) outside for potty. For an adult dog, consider creating a temporary, designated area that is safe and easy to clean—an exercise pen or a partitioned off room—until he is housetrained. Dogs want to keep their 'den' clean, and they will naturally keep their food, water, toys, and bedding unsoiled. As they get the idea that the 'bathroom' is outside, you can slowly expand the size of their den to include the whole house.
- Take time to observe your dog and his habits. What does he do before he relieves himself: does he circle? paw at the door? whine? By watching for signs, you'll learn when he needs to go outside. Your response at this point is key. Take him outside immediately and reward him when he goes.
- Have a plan if you will be gone for long periods of time. You can't expect a new dog to hold it all day. Options include a dog door, a trusted dogsitter, or a friend. If none of these options is possible, using a 'litter box'/potty pad on the far side of a crate or pen area can work, but you'll then have the extra step of training the dog to transition from the pad to the outdoors.
- Puppies develop the ability to hold their bowels as

accidents until then. When a dog or pup has an accident, you must do the following:

- Do NOT yell at the dog or react negatively in any way! Just clean up the spot and move on. Realize that **you** haven't been paying close enough attention to the signs your dog was giving you, telling you that he had to go.
- Use an enzymatic cleaner (like Nature's Miracle) to clean the spot thoroughly. Although you may not see or smell any remnants, if not properly cleaned, your dog will smell the urine and think that's where he should be going. A black light can be used to view organic stains that aren't easily visible.
- Develop a routine for you and your dog. Feed your dog at the same times each day, and help him establish regular potty patterns. Avoid "free feeding," which conflicts with developing consistent eating and potty times.

Problem-Solving

If your dog is having regular accidents, a visit to the veterinarian can determine if he has a medical issue (like a parasitic infection or illness) that can be the cause of frequent urination. Behavior modification won't work if there is an underlying medical condition causing the problem.

If your dog holds it for the entire length of his walk, then pees as soon as he returns home, realize you might have unwittingly taught him to do this by taking him out for a walk and then immediately returning home right after he goes potty. This is interpreted by your dog as a negative consequence for having gone potty (his fun and interesting walk comes to an abrupt end when he goes potty). A dog's walks should be for fun, exercise, and sensory stimulation—not to mention bonding with their humans. When he goes potty on a walk, praise him for going potty and continue the walk.

Remember: Observe. Praise. Routine. These add up to a dog who will learn to speak your language quite fluently and fit in perfectly with his new family!

APV Needs You to Help Pass Stronger Animal Laws

OCTOBER
OCT. 9: VOTE ROLL
OCTOBER
OCTOBER
OCTOBER

"Believe this: You have the power to persuade your lawmakers to vote for animal protection bills. We can show you how." – Animal Protection Voters

Animal Protection Voters (APV), the legislative arm of APNM, works to change the laws that change animals' lives. But the key to translating "wants" into "gets" is the consistent, vocal involvement of citizen lobbyists like you!

★ It's All in the Math

To pass stronger laws for animals, we need enough lawmakers who value animals and translate that sentiment into voting for key bills. When lawmakers hear from enough constituents, they tend to vote with those voices.

* Be a Change Agent

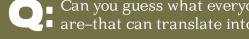
APV's constant lobbying presence at the State Capitol pales in comparison to the power of constituents. If your legislators don't vote for the animals' interests, APV needs you to partner with us to turn those "no" votes into "yes" votes.

Be an Animal-Smart Voter

- 🛪 Join Animal Protection Voters (www.apvnm.org) and become an empowered citizen who understands and engages in the democratic process.
- * Register to vote, and vote in every election. Urge family and friends to do the same.
- ★ Know your legislators' 'animal scores' (APV scorecard at www.apvnm.org/scorecard).
- 🛪 Meet with your legislators (citizen lobbying tips at www.apvnm.org/citizen_lobbyist_tips.php).
- 🛪 Help gather signatures on APV's Animal Cruelty petition in your district (download at www.apvnm.org/petition/)
- ★ Volunteer for APV in preparation for the 2013 legislative session (www.apvnm.org/volunteer/).

"New Mexico's animal cruelty laws don't cut it. Help us change them in 2013!" -Elisabeth Jennings, Executive Director, APV

Your GIVING Matters



🔳 Can you guess what everyone has-no matter how old they are-that can translate into important support for the animals?



Whether it's your 8th or 88th birthday, you can use this annual celebration to do something that really matters to you: help the animals.

Two young APNM supporters recently had their 10th and 12th birthday parties, respectively, but rather than having friends give them typical presents, they asked for a contribution to APNM instead. This selfless approach to two birthday celebrations yielded approximately \$100 in donations that matter for the animals APNM works so hard to help.

What special day can you turn into cash for your favorite cause?

Aside from birthdays, are there other holiday and special occasions for which people might want to give you gifts you really don't want or need? After all, how many potpourri baskets, kitchen gadgets, and foot lotions do we really need? We've heard about creative animal advocates who forego gifts on Mothers Day, Fathers Day, and even for their wedding in order to make a difference for the animals.

Reversal of Fortune: When You're Giving a Gift

When you give a gift, think about whether the recipient might appreciate a gift membership to APNM. For just \$30, a friend or loved one can be introduced to the lifesaving work that APNM does for New Mexico's animals, and they will receive APNM's Making Tracks magazine four times per year. Maybe your generosity will inspire the state's newest animal advocate!

Restaurant Review: Mama Pacha

Mama Pacha Café, Santa Fe's newest addition to its roster of establishments offering vegan cuisine, opened in July 2012 when the owners, Isabelle and Kevin, transplanted their business from Durango, CO. Committed to promoting vegan cuisine to benefit health, animals, and the planet, Mama Pacha offers all-day dining as well as regular, inexpensive cooking classes.

The café is sparsely decorated, reflecting its distance from the Plaza's tourist haunts and the café's local clientele. However, the small location is filled out by shelves of raw ingredients, herbs, and extracts for sale, owing to the owners' belief in the beneficial properties of "powerful energetic plants."

These plants figure heavily into the café's juices and smoothies and, compared to diluted chain-store juices, these drinks pack a wallop. The Alkalize Juice is a deep red mixture of vegetables with a strong but not overbearing ginger flavor. Similarly, Green Juice is a concoction of many healthy ingredients (kale, apple, celery) in a hearty but tasty mix. The juices and smoothies can be enjoyed by themselves but also serve as a good introduction to the café's food.

Mama Pacha offers a wide variety of entrees, including curry, pasta, burritos, and sandwiches. The simply titled Burger is composed much more artfully than a typical restaurant veggie burger. A number of ingredients—including almond-based "steak," cashew "cheese," and raw vegan bread—are combined into a result that never overwhelms the basic ketchup-and-mustard satisfaction. Another take on a summertime standard is the Nacho Plate, listed as an appetizer but easily big enough for an entrée. The "nachos" are a flavorful array of almond chips, spicy "refried beans" made

from sunflower seeds, and, most remarkably, a delicious cashew-based melted "cheese" that is both complex and light on the palate. These clever takes on American standbys bode well for upcoming New Mexican menu offerings including enchiladas and chile relleños.

All of the entrees can come with a side salad, which itself is nearly substantial enough for a meal. The Medicinal Salad, despite its name, is not a hold-your-nose dosage but rather an interesting twist on romaine lettuce salads. The addition of marinated shiitake, seaweed flakes, and black olive makes for a great example of umami, the pleasantly savory fifth taste. For those who like sweeter, more fruit-based greens, the Superfoods Salad contains an appealing mixture of mulberries, pineapple, and goji berries. Two types of dressing, a vegan ranch and a delicious fig balsamic, are available.

Finally, a variety of vegan cakes and pies are on display and available by the slice or whole. The Mocha Cheesecake is another great usage of a cashew-based cream, with perfect balance between the flavors of cacao powder and ground coffee beans.

In all, Mama Pacha Café is a creative and promising endeavor by people who understand the relationship between food and world view. We look forward to returning as they expand their role within Santa Fe's small but vital vegan restaurant community.

Mama Pacha Café 1722 D St. Michael's Dr Santa Fe, NM 87505 505-471-3265 Mon.-Sat. 9:00AM-9:00PM Closed on Sunday





No alcohol served









BEST EVER Butternut Squash Soup

This rich, luscious soup will turn out best if you use locally grown, organic ingredients. APNM Executive Director, Elisabeth Jennings, provided the recipe. She says,"I eagerly await fall produce each year so I can make this soup!" Serve with a green salad and fresh bread for a satisfying fall meal. Serves six to eight.

- 3 TBS cooking oil (grapeseed works well: it's a high-quality, high-heat oil)
- 1 small-medium onion, diced
- 1 medium to large butternut squash, peeled and cut into 1-inch cubes*
- 1 bottle of your favorite, organic, white table wine
- 2 3 cups vegan broth (you can make your own using finely diced carrots, celery, garlic, and any available greens, or try Rapunzel brand, no-salt bouillon cubes)
- 1 small, fresh bunch sage, chopped, OR
 3 4 TBS dried sage, to taste
- 4 6 slices of bread, cubed
- 11/2 tsp salt or more to taste
- Black pepper to taste, but don't be afraid to use quite a lot

Using a thick-bottomed, cast iron Dutch oven (preferably), saute onions in oil over medium heat until onions are very brown and carmelized (the carmelized onions are a very important component of the soup's flavor).

Stir in squash and cook for a few minutes. Then add white wine until squash is almost covered. Leave Dutch oven uncovered and cook down until the liquid is reduced by almost half.

Add broth until squash is covered more than 1 inch. Let cook until squash is cooked through. Add fresh sage and bread, salt and black pepper. Transfer the soup to a food processor/blender, or puree the soup right inside the Dutch oven using a hand mixer on low speed.

Serve immediately, while piping hot.

*To cube and peel the butternut squash, use a sharp knife and cut the squash in half along the short dimension. Place the flat side down on a safe cutting board, and—while always keeping your hand safely above the knife entry point—slice down to take off the peel. You can also remove the peel by using a sharp potato/vegetable peeler.



Making sure animals matter in every New Mexican community.

If you wish to receive future Making Tracks in print via U.S. mail, you must be a member/contributor. Comments? You can reach us at info@apnm.org. We'd love to hear from you.

SIGN UP for E-Alerts and Enter to WIN a Portrait of Your Companion Animal from Acclaimed Photographer, Joyce Fay!

Joyce Fay, acclaimed photographer and founder of Bro and Tracy Animal Welfare, Inc., shares her talent and passion for the sake of animals. She photographs animals at the Albuquerque city shelters, creating beautiful portraits that help attract adopters. When you sign up for our email alerts, you'll be entered into a contest to win a special photo shoot with Joyce for your beloved companion animal. Just email us at arlene@apnm.org with the Subject line: Joyce Fay Contest, and include your full name and email address. Already an eAlert subscriber? You can enter, too. The winner will be notified by email on November 30th, 2012.

Prize is not transferrable nor can it be redeemed for cash. One entry per email address, please.



Photo by Joyce Fav

Animal Protection of New Mexico: Faces of APNM

Don Helfrich, Las Cruces native and extraordinary APNM volunteer and supporter, is also a co-founder and active board member of Doberman Rescue of New Mexico since 2002. He has supported animal rights, wildlife and wilderness groups for many years, and even became trained by New Mexico Wildlife Rescue as a wildlife rehabilitator in 1992.

Don has a Bachelors degree in Psychology from NMSU and a Masters degree in Geography from UNM, with an emphasis on Spatial Data Analysis and Biogeography. He is employed at Sandia National Laboratories as a GIS/GPS Coordinator for Long Term Stewardship/Environmental Management and also does part-time consulting work for American Southwest Ichthyological Researchers.

Using his unique technical skills, he has helped APNM organize program data into useful graphics that can lead to better analysis and problem solving. Don is currently working with APNM's Cruelty Case Manager to map cruelty case data and create a more flexible database of resources to address animal cruelty cases. This information also will be invaluable for disaster response efforts. Don has already mapped the Equine Protection Fund's lifesaving reach into communities across the state.

Don and his wife Jeanette, who is a midwife at Presbyterian Hospital, have two daughters and a son, and they live with two Dobermans and one cat. Don uses his many community networks to promote APNM and APV's work. In his spare time(!), Don also serves on the board of directors of Animal Protection Voters.



Photo by Jessi Princiotto