

MAKING TRAILS

A Quarterly Publication of Animal Protection of New Mexico Spring 2016



SPECIAL GUEST FEATURE: **Animal Protection Voters**

**A Challenging 2016 Legislative
Session and a Lagging Economy
Stoke Even Greater Determination**



Dear Friends of the Animals,

On August 18, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granted women the right to vote. That action on that day was the culmination of countless actions by countless advocates to fight for the right to have an opinion that mattered. Throughout that long period of fighting for suffrage (the right to vote), many women suffered at the hands of those determined to keep them from weighing in on matters of public policy. Women were arrested and incarcerated, sometimes brutalized by their jailers. Many of the leaders of the movement for women's suffrage died before they could see the success for which they sacrificed so much.

That this change in the law happened fewer than 100 years ago is hard to believe. My own grandmother lived for nine years before women were granted this most basic right for citizens.

Similarly, it wasn't until August of 1965–1965!—well after I'd been born, that the Voting Rights Act was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson. That act aimed to prevent legal barriers at the state and local levels that were keeping African Americans from exercising their right to vote under the U.S. Constitution. This legislation became law almost 40 years after women got the right to vote.

Many of you reading this were alive when African American citizens were systematically stymied from voting. And once again, many people suffered and died fighting for that most basic right.

Yet frequently I meet people who say they're not registered to vote, or they are registered and just don't bother to vote. I want to change that reality, and not just to honor the painful sacrifices of those who fought for my rights. The fact is, we live in a society governed by the rule of law, and we own the laws by which we live. As Huey Long, former Governor of Louisiana from 1928-1932, was portrayed as saying in the movie *All the King's Men*, "Listen to me. If you don't vote, you don't matter."

If you aren't voting, if your voice doesn't matter, then the animals' interests definitely won't matter, either. So when you speak up with your vote, animals' lives can suddenly matter, too.

If you're not registered to vote, make it a priority to do so. And if you are registered, take time to vote. Every time. Beyond that, be sure you know which candidates are the best for the animals' interests, and share that information with everyone you know. Visit apvnm.org/scorecard.

Sincerely yours,

Elisabeth Jennings
Executive Director

MAKING TRACKS™

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Animal Protection of New Mexico is a
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On the Cover

Jean Pierre, our handsome cover model, was photographed at the state capitol by photographer Jill Fineberg.

Obstacles WERE MADE TO BE Conquered



The 2016 State Legislative Session and Where Energy Must Be Channeled Next

Since its inception in 2002 as a separate legislative arm of Animal Protection of New Mexico, Animal Protection Voters (APV) has driven the advancement of legal protections for animals in our state and celebrated many victories over the years. But we are not ones to rest on our laurels—there remains much work to be done. So, we enter each new legislative session determined to make more progress for New Mexico's animals.

However, we sometimes face obstacles beyond our control. State revenues plummeted over the past few months, meaning resources were extremely scarce for funding statewide projects and programs. Lawmakers' decisions on how to spend the dwindled fiscal year 2017 budget were often difficult and sometimes discreet, making it challenging to make animal-related projects stand out among so many competing interests. Time and time again, we were told there was simply no money available—and many agency budgets would in fact be cut.

Even in the face of that grim reality, we had no choice but to ask for help where help is needed: from ensuring animal shelters and equine rescues have the resources they need to save the lives of dogs, cats, and horses; to finding the desperately needed funds to curb the companion animal overpopulation crisis; to expanding capacity to meet the increasing number of domestic violence victims seeking safe haven for their animals as they escape an abusive home. Unfortunately, no funds were ultimately available for these needs this year.

However, we consider it a great success that the recurring \$50,000 appropriated for the Companion Animal Rescue Effort (CARE) program (secured during the 2015 legislative session) remained intact, meaning domestic violence victims and their animals will continue to have access to an existing level of CARE program assistance.

APV is incredibly thankful to the lawmakers who, despite the dire financial outlook, agreed to nonetheless advocate for funding important programs that help New Mexico's animals and communities: Senator Nancy Rodriguez (D-Santa Fe), Representative Carl Trujillo (D-Santa Fe), Senator George Muñoz (D-Gallup), Senator Richard Martinez (D-Española), and Representative Stephanie Garcia Richard (D-Los Alamos).

Beyond the Constitutionally-required passage of a state budget, part of every legislative session seems to ultimately involve fighting bills that harm or perpetuate cruelty to animals, and this year we were disappointed to see the return of yet another version of "right to farm" legislation.

Senate Bill 72—passed by the legislature and signed into law by Governor Susana Martinez—will severely limit the ability of longstanding New Mexico residents, who watch as the small farm next door turns into a massive animal factory farm, to seek relief from the resulting pollution, odors, and flies by filing a nuisance claim. In the face of enormous outcry against the bill, and despite efforts by Senator Peter Wirth (D-Santa Fe) and Representative Brian Egolf (D-Santa Fe) to amend the bill to protect New Mexico citizens' rights, Republican leadership in the Senate and House fast-tracked the bill through both chambers (notably, a small number of GOP Representatives supported the beneficial amendment and/or voted against the bill).

Despite the passage of this damaging bill, there is no time to be discouraged. APV knows that with the hard work and dedication of New Mexico animal advocates, the trajectory of the animal protection movement is undeniably upward. We aim to correct this short-term setback in the future.

Continued next page

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In the wake of the 2016 session, our path forward is simple and powerful. Humane laws are only possible with humane lawmakers. We advise our APV supporters to take any lingering frustration about legislative obstacles and channel it into a redoubled commitment to participation in democracy. There are many ways to get involved—visit www.apvnm.org to find out more.

We and the animals need your involvement now more than ever. Please don't wait!

Become a member of Animal Protection Voters to receive the 2016 APV Scorecard, get a more comprehensive look at the session, and see every legislator's vote on animal issues.

Join today at apvnm.org/donate



APNM ACTIONS EVERYONE CAN TAKE

APV Has Made It *Even Easier* for You to Spark Change with Your Policymakers

Do you want to change the way animals are treated in your community? Great idea. Want to change how animals are treated across the whole state? You can do that, too. APNM has made it easier for you to sign and share our petitions and engage your policymakers at the state and federal levels. We've integrated a new online advocacy platform—Salsa Labs—with our brand new Animal Protection Voters website.

When you visit the "Take Action" tab on APVNM.org, you can see the latest urgent advocacy needs, including directly communicating with policymakers on animal issues. You can send letters, sign petitions, learn about upcoming elections and key issues, view a directory of those who directly impact your community, and so much more.

This tool, combined with our new 2015 Scorecard, will help you to fuel powerful change for animals in New

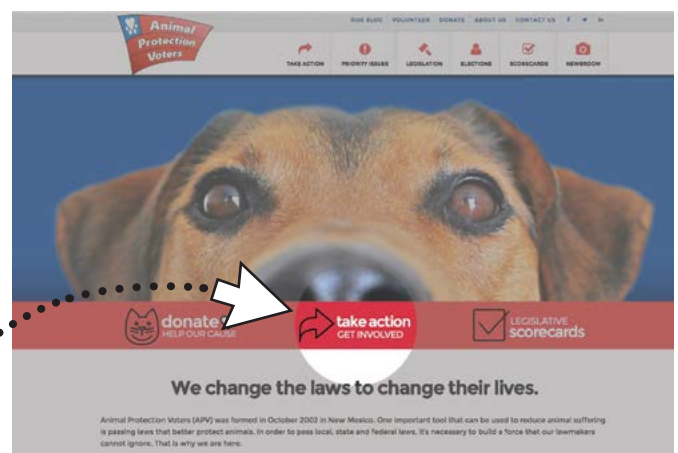
How many New Mexico citizens are registered to vote? The answer may shock you.

Only 58% of New Mexico residents are registered to vote, and less than half that number actually voted in the 2014 statewide general election.*

Don't be part of the voiceless who don't bother to cast a ballot. Your voice *does* matter for the animals. Be sure to register to vote before the upcoming Primary Elections on June 7, 2016, and the General Election on November 8, 2016.

And now, it's easier than ever to make your voice heard. Visit www.apvnm.org/RegisterToVote to register to vote or update your registration online. Do it today!

*Statistics according to NM Secretary of State (Feb. 2016) and U.S. Census Bureau (Jul. 2015)



Mexico. Changing laws can create long-term, permanent change, and it is the most sustainable way to improve the attitudes about and treatment of animals in New Mexico. Now, creating this change is even easier with our new "Take Action" page on apvnm.org.



You're invited to join us in celebrating a hard-won victory years in the making—no more cruel, ineffective, invasive testing on chimpanzees. We have changed the world for chimpanzees and for all of us. Come party as we press onward to get our chimps to sanctuary.

We'll also be raising money for our Chimpanzee Sanctuary Fund, now making grants to help more chimps get a chance at peace and dignity. If you can't come to the party but want to help, please make a gift at www.ChimpsToSanctuary.org

The Chimps are on the Path to Freedom **Let's Celebrate!**

Saturday, March 26 11:30am to 1:00pm

APNM Santa Fe 1111 Paseo de Peralta

RSVP to Marisa Sleeter at 505-933-0572
or marisa@apnm.org

Enjoy excellent company, light refreshments, and
chimp-inspired vegan banana splits!

Why We Support APNM

"We believe that all four-legged creatures are sentient beings. How we treat them is a reflection of how we treat each other. We support APNM for their mission of humane treatment of all sentient beings."

Monica Morris and Steve Gaber
(with beloved companions Bodi, Max, and Tess)



Photo by Eileen McCarthy

Jemez Pueblo

The Elders of Jemez Pueblo proved to be excellent students when the APNM education team was invited to share information on bite safety and the rewards and responsibilities involved with caring for companion animals. The presenters were assisted by energetic and playful therapy dog teams from Southwest Canine Corps of Volunteers. Milagro Award winner Lynne Kito of Animal Amigos of Jemez Valley and Samuel Adams, an outstanding animal advocate from Jemez Pueblo, also provided information and assistance with the topics of spay/neuter and vaccinations.

Santa Fe

On February 2 and February 11, Animal Protection Voters and Animal Protection of New Mexico shared information about important animal issues and programs with those at the New Mexico state capitol during this year's 30-day session. On Feb. 2, several therapy dogs helped "staff" the outreach table, and on Feb. 11, APV participated in the Sierra Club's Water, Wild Lands, and Wildlife Day.

Albuquerque

APNM's *Help Kids, Save Animals!* crowdfunding campaign exceeded our \$5,000 goal! The campaign ran from November through December, collecting funds essential to direct services provided by *The Animal Connection*, APNM's humane education program. Thanks to these generous donations, we were able to continue our commitment to teaching compassion for animals to students in high poverty areas.

Los Lunas

The Animal Connection is educating and enlightening sixth grade students at Desert View Elementary in Los Lunas during the spring 2016 semester. Animals in Valencia County's Los Lunas community face serious challenges with neglect, cruelty, and overpopulation, making humane education a critical component for creating systemic change.



**Witness animal cruelty or neglect? Call the APNM
Cruelty Hotline 1-877-5-HUMANE**

We can help and refer the situation to the right agency in your area. *Confidentially.*



Remembering Sophie

(1999-2015)

Photo by Jessi Princiotta

In the Summer 2014 edition of *Making Tracks*, we shared the story of Sophie, an Italian Greyhound who was the victim of a traumatic domestic violence incident that resulted in serious injury to herself and her human caretaker. "This delicate little dog, who was stabbed by the abuser and lost one of her lungs as a result, demonstrated astounding resiliency and trust around strangers," recalled Sherry Mangold, APNM's Education Outreach Director who subsequently adopted Sophie.

Sherry realized that Sophie's trusting nature made her a perfect candidate for becoming a therapy dog, so Sherry began training her for this important work. After becoming a registered therapy dog, Sophie joined Sherry in *The Animal Connection* program, bringing delightful and unforgettable experiences to thousands of students throughout the years. Students shared their thoughts about meeting Sophie: "Sherry, that story about Sophie made me cry. Thank you so much for being comfortable with us, Sophie," and "...you guys touched my heart. I also thank Sophie for being strong and letting us touch her."

This winter, at age 16, Sophie's heart started to slow down. By December of last year, she could no longer walk due to poor circulation. When it became clear her condition was not reversible, she was humanely euthanized. Sophie's courage and trusting of humans shows the power and importance of the social bonds between humans and animals. Sophie will be missed by all of us at APNM and by all those whose lives she touched with a message of compassion and hope.

If you'd like to make a donation in Sophie's honor that will benefit *The Animal Connection*, visit apnm.org/remembering-sophie.

APNM CRUELTY HOTLINE

APNM Supporters Help Rescue Abandoned Pig

An observant driver saw a burlap sack on the side of the road and pulled over. Inside was a young female pig, whom they brought to Bernalillo County Animal Services. There, the pig was named "Charlotte."

Charlotte quickly became a media star. Stories noted that once the county's 10-day waiting period expired, she would be awarded to the highest bidder. Concerned individuals successfully rallied together to win the bid from Bernalillo County, assisted by APNM Cruelty Case Manager Alan Edmonds.

Charlotte's new home is a farm sanctuary with other rescued animals, including pigs. She now has plenty of space to root and live a comfortable, natural life. Pigs are intelligent and social, on par with dogs, and are naturally friendly and affectionate.

Charlotte, like all creatures, deserves space and freedom to live her life. She is a lucky pig, but for most of her kind, suffering is a way of life: On any given day in the U.S., there are more than 65 million pigs suffering on factory farms. 110 million are slaughtered every year for food. When in confinement, as they are when being raised for slaughter, pigs can feel extreme levels of stress and pain.

Killing and eating pigs is bad for individuals like Charlotte, but it's also dangerous for humans. The World Health Organization warns that products made from pigs such as bacon and sausage can be as carcinogenic as cigarettes. For Charlotte's sake—and your own—learn more about moving to a plant-based diet at www.pcrm.org/health.



Charlotte

Photo by Sara Palmer

The Animal Connection's**Therapy Dogs****Provide Invaluable Life Lessons for Kids**

The Animal Connection program has a staff of volunteers that consistently receives hugs, treats, and kisses on their noses. We're not talking about *The Animal Connection* teachers, but rather, the incredible therapy dogs from Southwest Canine Corps of Volunteers (SCCV).

SCCV's therapy dog training program is the most stringent in New Mexico, resulting in a well-trained, confident team that is eager to please. SCCV teams provide many valuable experiences in *The Animal Connection* program. They are there for students to practice how to safely approach an animal and when not to approach an animal. They teach loose dog and bite safety. They stand patiently as little hands practice newly learned grooming skills. Eyes see and fingers touch the scars left by having been continually chained or injured in a domestic violence dispute.



Photo courtesy of Sherry Mangold

**"This was
the best
day in class
ever!"**

– Tyrone, 3rd grader,
Valencia Elementary

Perhaps the greatest lesson taught by the therapy dogs rescued from neglectful and abusive situations is that with time, love, patience, and training, they can make the most wonderful companion animals.

Teachers comment that their students may not always remember their multiplication tables, but they never forget Gus, Belle, Dennis, Buster, Bogie, Radar, Ellie Mae, and the countless other SCCV therapy dogs who deliver unforgettable memories.

APNM YOUTH ACTIVITIES**Lessons Learned in *The Animal Connection* Inspire Students at Home**

Seven years ago, when APNM's humane education presentations began, the hope was that the children would share their lessons with family, friends, and neighbors. APNM's aim to "make humane the new normal" is indeed being fulfilled—by New Mexico's children.

**Spay/
Neuter**

Classes on "Life and Death in the Shelter" and the "Need for Spay and Neuter" at Valencia Elementary in Los Lunas helped one fifth grader realize that her family's six animals were not spayed or neutered. She was devastated knowing that those litters contributed to overcrowded shelters and high euthanasia rates. So young Natalie advised her parents of the free and reduced-rate clinics in their area that she had learned about in *The Animal Connection* program. Three weeks later, a proud Natalie announced to her class that all of her family's animals were now spayed and neutered.

**Dog
Safety**

A Tesuque Elementary kindergartner ran up to APNM staffers and politely asked, "May I pet your dog?" He stood to the side of the dogs and allowed them to sniff, without reaching his hand

Adoption

out or putting his head at the dog's level. When asked how he knew to approach the dogs in this way, Miguel answered, "Oh, my big brother is in your class. He showed my Mommy, Daddy, and me and had us practice at home."

First grade students read to Rico, a rescued greyhound, with the book, *Pele's Forever Home*, the story of a greyhound yearning for his forever home. Alamosa Elementary first grader, Olivia, fell in love with Rico and begged her parents to adopt a greyhound. They agreed instead to adopt a small dog from the Albuquerque shelter: that weekend, a rescued Chihuahua joined Olivia's family. His name? Rico!

APNM is proud of *The Animal Connection* program and especially the children who practice and teach humane stewardship within their extended communities.

Over 700 Horses Helped: The Equine Protection Fund in Action

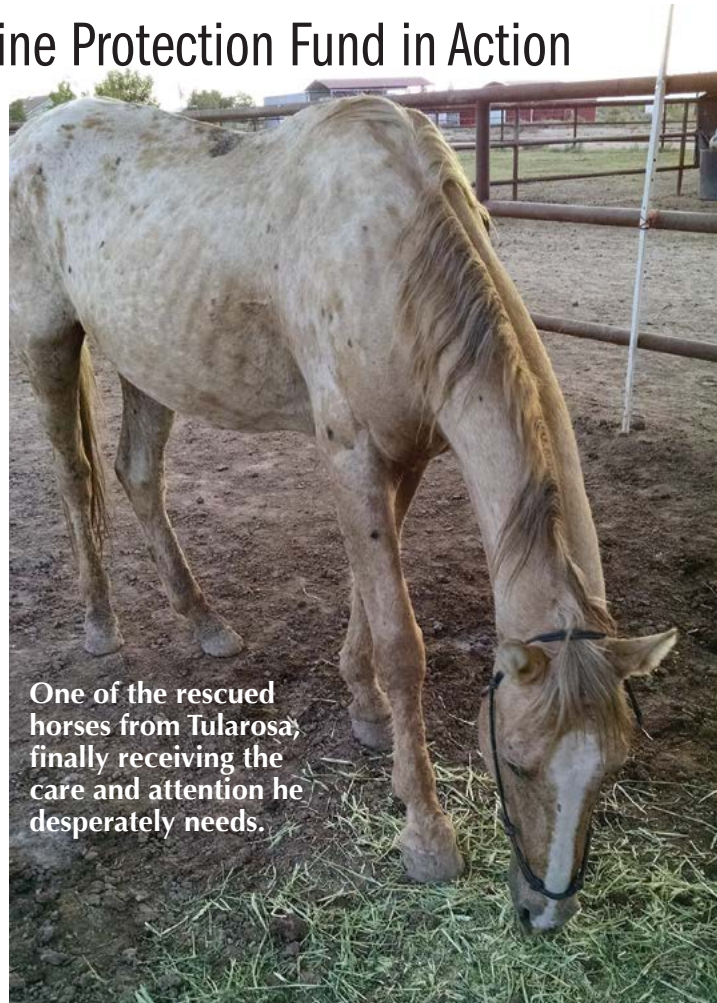
In 2015, APNM's Equine Protection Fund passed a monumental milestone: Since its inception in 2010, the Fund has provided services to more than 700 horses in our state. APNM founded the Equine Protection Fund—the first statewide welfare and safety net programs for horses, donkeys, and mules—with the belief that bringing together New Mexicans who care about equines would have game-changing results for our hooved companions.

In this spirit, APNM marked the November 2015 milestone of 700 animals helped through the Fund by highlighting stories of people utilizing our programs to assist horses in immediate need.

September 2015 saw one of the more unusual animal hoarding cases to ever hit Los Alamos County, with law enforcement discovering over thirty Pomeranian dogs and five horses in dire need when a local resident was hospitalized. Working quickly, APNM, CWW Feed Store of San Ysidro, and a kind, local landowner helped to ensure weeks of feed and shelter for these horses caught in a desperate situation.

In October 2015, the Equine Fund assisted a compassionate horse lover in saving the lives of horses on death row. Kathy Collins, a retiree in Tularosa, placed a bid on four seized, emaciated horses up for stray auction by the state Livestock Board. With the animals now secure on her property, Ms. Collins received complete financial assistance in gelding three of the horses, all stallions.

These caring individuals show what can be achieved as long as infrastructure is in place for immediate care for horses. Help ensure this safety net for our horses is always available by contributing to the Equine Protection Fund's Help Our Horses Endowment. **For more information, please visit HelpOurHorses.org or call 505-265-2322.**



One of the rescued horses from Tularosa, finally receiving the care and attention he desperately needs.

Photo courtesy of Kathy Collins

APNM YOUR GIVING MATTERS

Today, Tomorrow, and Far into the Future: Horses Need Your Help

The challenges facing New Mexico equines reflect the same obstacles that horses, donkeys, and mules endure all across the United States: an overpopulation problem that leaves too many equines without care. In 2010, Animal Protection of New Mexico created the Equine Protection Fund, a safety net to help needy and neglected equines in our state. It provides emergency feed assistance, emergency veterinary care, gelding assistance, and humane and compassionate end-of-life care.

To ensure humane care for the foreseeable future, we have created an endowment component (named the Help Our Horses Endowment) of the Equine Protection Fund, and our goal is to raise \$2 million by December 2016. This endowment will then generate close to \$100,000 each year for direct services and equine program needs,



Photo courtesy of Los Alamos Animal Control

ensuring the sustainable and robust safety net our state's equines deserve. Generous donors have helped launch this Help Our Horses Endowment, with a balance of already more than \$172,000. But ***much more support is needed*** to ensure horses are cared for in perpetuity.

Please Help Horses by Donating to the Help Our Horses Endowment

♥ Visit EquineProtectionFund.org and click on the red "donate" button.

♥ By mail, send a check made out to NMCF (with "Help Our Horses Endowment" in the memo) to APNM, P.O. Box 11395, Albuquerque, NM 87192.

Questions? Please contact Victoria Kanof at 575-405-8567 or victoriak@apnm.org.



**WILDLIFE
KILLING
CONTESTS,
TRAPS AND POISONS
ON PUBLIC LANDS,
DOG CHAINING,
SPAY/NEUTER
FUNDING,
PROTECTING ANIMAL
VICTIMS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

There's so much work to do but
we can't do it without your help.
Please make a donation today.
APVNM.org/donate



We change the laws to change their lives.

PO Box 11651 Albuquerque, NM 87192 505-265-2322 APVNM.org

Contributions or gifts to Animal Protection Voters are not tax deductible. Your donation supports our effective grassroots advocacy and lobbying efforts.



Chewy Fudge Cookies

- ½ lb. soft tofu (preferably organic)
- ½ cup high-quality baking oil, like sunflower oil
- ½ cup turbinado sugar
- ½ cup pure cocoa powder
- 3 cups flour (suggest using a mixture of flours, such as spelt, wheat, unbleached white, etc.)
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. salt

- Preheat oven to 250° F.
- Blend tofu and oil in blender until smooth.
- Pour tofu mixture into a medium mixing bowl, and add sugar and cocoa powder. Stir well.
- In a separate bowl, mix well the flour, baking soda, and salt. Add dry mixture to wet mixture. Mix well. The dough should be fairly stiff.
- Roll dough into 1½" balls and place on a lightly oiled or parchment-lined cookie sheet 1" apart.
- Bake for 12-15 minutes. Cool on wire rack. Dust with powdered sugar and/or cocoa powder.

Makes 48 small, chewy cookies. Recipe adapted from one in the classic vegan cookbook, *Tofu Cookery*, by Louise Hagler.

Photo by Jessi Princiotta

Eating Vegan is **G**ratifying **R**espectful **E**fficient **E**nergizing **N**atural

Did you know that it's **green** to go vegan? Not only does a plant-based diet help save animals, it also helps save the environment. Here's how:

- ♥ A vegan diet reduces greenhouse gases. Raising animals for food generates more greenhouse gases than all the cars and trucks in the world combined!
- ♥ A vegan diet reduces the rate of global warming. The livestock industry generates 64% of ammonia, 37% of methane, and 65% of human-related nitrous oxide, all of which contribute substantially to global warming.

♥ A vegan diet saves water. The amount of water required to produce a kilo of wheat is somewhere between 1,000 to 2,000 liters. The amount needed to produce a kilo of beef varies between 13,000 liters and 100,000 liters.

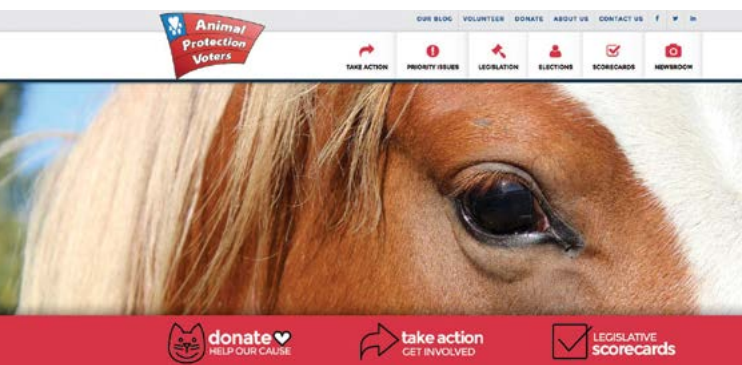
♥ A vegan diet saves wildlife. Every year, deforestation for the livestock industry tears apart the natural habitat for wildlife, evicting them from their homes and damaging their livelihood. For example, since 1998, Brazil has lost 1.8 million hectares (over 4.4 million acres) per year to deforestation for livestock.

Numbers from the United Nations Newsroom and UN News Center.



PO Box 11395
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www.apnm.org

*Making sure animals matter in
every New Mexican community.*



Our New Websites

Animal Protection of New Mexico and Animal Protection Voters are getting a digital face-lift. Our new websites are designed to be more engaging and user-friendly, providing easier access to the tools and resources you need to make sure animals matter in your community. Plus, they'll help our mission and work reach wider audiences, ready to be enlisted in the fight to protect our animals. Visit the new, bold, bright APV site at apvnm.org and stay tuned for the launch of the new APNM website in the coming months.

APNM **FACES OF APNM**



Photo courtesy of Jessica Johnson

Jessica Johnson joined Animal Protection of New Mexico as its Chief Legislative Officer in 2015, bringing with her valuable skills and years of experience honed as a Senior Grassroots Advocacy Manager in the ASPCA®'s Government Relations department in Washington, D.C. She has led efforts to organize support for state and federal legislation, ballot measures, voter registration, and get-out-the-vote efforts, engaging many thousands of caring citizens in speaking up for animals. Jessica's expertise includes special event organizing, grassroots lobbyist training, legislative analysis, campaign strategy, and social media. She has been a key part of 2015 efforts to stop the expansion of cougar trapping and killing in New Mexico.

Jessica earned a J.D. from Lewis & Clark Law School, specializing in environmental and animal law. She lives with her husband, Ben, and beloved canines, Brody and Polly, with whom she enjoys exploring New Mexico's beautiful landscapes.