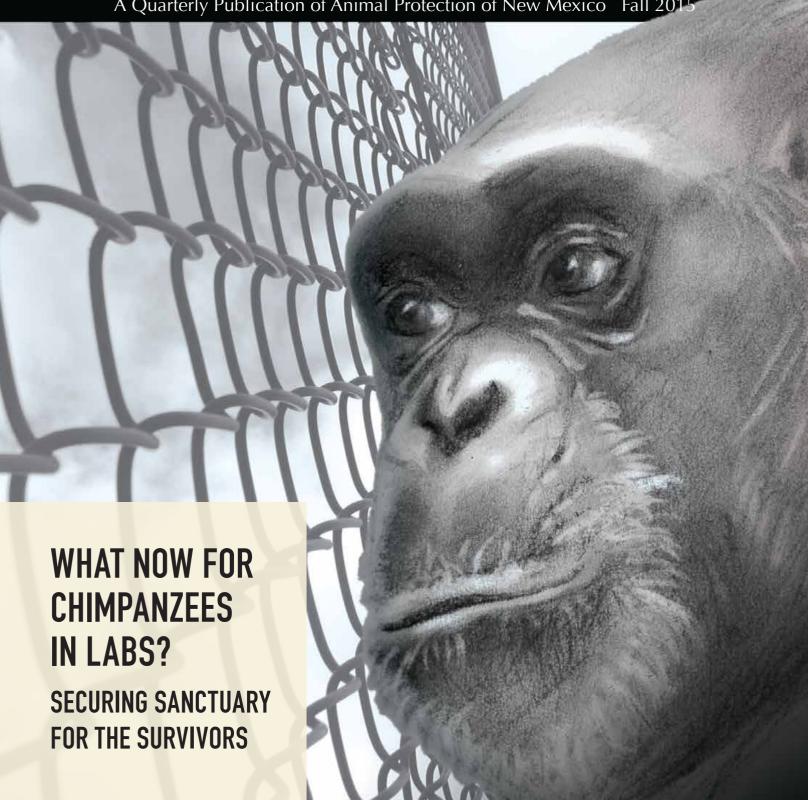
# A Quarterly Publication of Animal Protection of New Mexico Fall 2015



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR





Dear Friend of the Animals,

We imagine you already know the staff of Animal Protection of New Mexico and Animal Protection Voters devotes their time and efforts to helping animals in every single New Mexican community, no matter how remote. Our programs are geared toward addressing animal suffering throughout our gigantic state. Our aim is to make the biggest difference for the greatest number of animals with the resources we have.

As the need and support for our lifesaving mission continue to grow, we're excited to once again have an office in our state capitol of Santa Fe, which serves as a kind of gateway to many northern New Mexican communities. Some of you may not know that our organization, which began as Sangre de Cristo Animal Protection, was based in Santa Fe for many years. We hope our founders feel great pride in what they started 36 years ago.

The new Santa Fe office is well equipped to help our positive campaigns and programs succeed, even as our opposition becomes more unscrupulous and desperate to maintain the status quo in which animals suffer in unbearable and often hidden ways. It isn't always easy to understand why change is viewed as threatening, especially when both people and animals stand to gain by the change we seek.

Nonetheless, you can be assured APNM and APV will continue to work for the long-term changes that matter the most to animals—all of them—companion animals, those kept in misery and out of public view on factory farms, and wild animal families harassed and killed by so many cruel means. The change we are building will ensure we don't always have to have our fingers in the dike, holding back the waves of abuse that constantly threaten animals but also erode our communities and our human dignity.

If you live in the Santa Fe area, we hope to see you at our new office; we need dedicated volunteers and interns to magnify our voices and actions that we know translate into meaningful improvements in animal-related laws, policies and practices. This serious and relevant work is what the animals need and deserve.

Sincerely yours,

Elisabeth Jennings

Elisabeth Jennings, Executive Director

#### MAKING TRA&KS

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

FALL 2015 Edition

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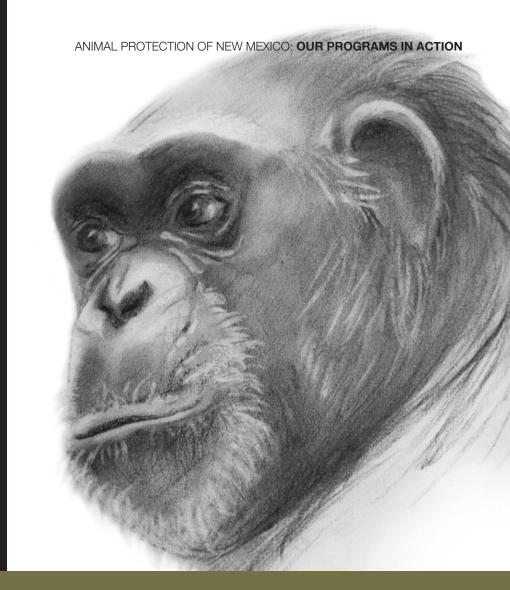
Animal Protection of New Mexico is a Guidestar Exchange Gold Participant.

#### On the Cover

Rosie, a chimp whose last known location was the Texas Biomedical Research Institute, awaits retirement to sanctuary.

Illustration by Jessi Princiotto.

Meet Rosie, a New Mexico chimpanzee born in the lab in 1981 and first used in research when she was only six months old. In her 34 years, Rosie has survived 15 liver biopsies and at least 100 "chemical immobilizations" (an often violent procedure where a chimp is shot with a dart gun).



#### SECURING SANCTUARY FOR CHIMPANZEES IN LABS

Rosie was safe from painful invasive research in New Mexico for a while.

But in the summer of 2010, Rosie was part of a group of chimpanzees taken from New Mexico and shipped to the Texas Biomedical Research Institute by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Animal Protection of New Mexico (APNM) has worked for years to protect Rosie and all her chimp colleagues, with remarkable achievements, including the fact that U.S. taxpayers are no longer spending \$50 million/year on cruel, ineffective, invasive research protocols using chimpanzees (for a history of APNM's decades of work to protect chimpanzees from invasive testing, please visit www.retirethechimps.org/timeline/).

This past summer the movement for chimpanzees realized a long-overdue change. In a press conference on June 12, 2015 with Dr. Jane Goodall, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that captive chimpanzees will be listed as "endangered" under the Endangered Species Act, providing an additional level of protection to the hundreds of chimpanzees still held in U.S. laboratories.

It's a groundbreaking victory for animal protection that would not have happened without tireless efforts from advocates including The Humane Society of the United States, who worked with many others to file the petition years ago.

The expanded, endangered listing means that any activity that can harm a captive chimp in the United States—even privately funded research—will require a special permit, public notice, and must benefit wild chimp populations. This will obstruct needless biomedical research and deter interstate trading of chimpanzees in the pet and entertainment industries.

The ruling means that our country now is finally recognizing that we have an obligation to protect chimps, not treat them as mere objects to be used for making money.

But still, there are New Mexican chimps like Rosie, held at Texas Biomedical Research Institute, the lab whose former director said chimps were equal to "books in the library."

Continued next page

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Some of our chimps with especially horrifying research histories, like Ken, have died waiting in this lab. Despite the huge changes our federal government has made, more must be done.

Following media attention about the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service listing of captive chimpanzees as endangered and stories about the plight of these New Mexico chimps stuck at a research lab, New Mexico's U.S. Senators Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich took another big step. The Senators requested in writing "the plan, timeline and criteria the NIH is using" to retire more chimps from labs, and also presented evidence that Rosie and the other "government-owned chimpanzees" at Texas Biomedical Research Institute should be the next group to get out of the lab and into sanctuary.

When our leaders take strong action for animals, they deserve thanks. Now is a good time to send a note thanking Senators Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich for their leadership to protect chimpanzees and ensure that the NIH is living up to its promise to taxpayers to retire hundreds more chimps.



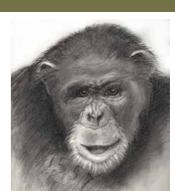
#### And there's more you can do.

Please learn Rosie's story and realize the role we all have in creating a new future for her and all the chimps who have survived long, hard years in the lab. Elijah, Opal, Fred, and many more: these chimps would not be stuck in a lab were it not for humans. We do have the power to get these survivors out of the lab and into sanctuary.

If Rosie's story moves you, you can make a gift to support more

As APNM wrote in an op-ed for the Albuquerque Journal earlier this year, "When more chimps get into sanctuary, they have a chance to experience life as a chimpanzee rather than as an invasive test subject, and scientists can better focus on humane and effective research. We will know we did the right thing."





Fred

Elijah

chimps getting into sanctuary through our Chimpanzee Sanctuary Fund at **www.ChimpsToSanctuary.org**.

The struggle continues. Thank you for never giving up and persevering so that Rosie and others may at last see peace and dignity in sanctuary.

Illustrations by Jessi Princiotto

#### Why I Support APNM

"Many years ago, I learned of the numerous chimpanzees that remain exploited in laboratories. I also learned of APNM's relentless efforts to retire hundreds of chimpanzees to sanctuary from New Mexico to a sanctuary like Save the Chimps in my home town, Fort Pierce, Florida. I believe that this is not only a political issue, but also a barometer of how we, as humans, continue to evolve. APNM keeps this subject relevant by raising awareness and educating the public to change society's perceptions of all animals.

I have had the honor to witness firsthand how chimps, after 40 years of being test subjects, in cages and living on concrete floors, are able to quickly adapt and live harmoniously in this beautiful

sanctuary. However, there are so many other chimps that remain captive in research facilities, and deserve to be retired. That is why APNM will need continued support.

APNM has made many changes in the way citizens of New Mexico regard animals, but there is so much more



that can be done. I will pledge my continued support of APNM as they tirelessly rally to protect those who do not have a voice."

Tamara Pardo, with her companion animal, Manny.

## Cam You Adopt a School?

GIVE IT A TRY AND DISCOVER

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A

COMMUNITY-WIDE DIFFERENCE,

FAR INTO THE FUTURE.



Photo by Jessi Princiotto

During the 2014-2015 school year, APNM's humane education program, *The Animal Connection*, served well over 500 students in elementary and middle schools throughout the state. Year after year, teachers whose classes have participated in the program have requested it for the following school year. And, once in a school, the program grows as other teachers and students learn of it and ask to participate as well.

An example of the need and popularity of the program is illustrated by what is happening within the Los Lunas elementary schools. Five years ago, *The Animal Connection* pilot program was introduced in two classes at Valencia Elementary. By the third year, the program grew from two classes to six. Principals, teachers, parents, and students are sharing their enthusiasm for the programs with their peers.

Neighboring school, Desert View Elementary, requested *The Animal Connection* for the 2015-2016 school year, but there were no funds for the program. In the request, one teacher said, "We have a serious problem here. Animals run loose,

multiply quickly, and are found dead on the roads. This is what our children see every day as they go to and from school." APNM donor Sharon Bice, who is also a member of the Valencia County Spay and Neuter Coalition, heard the request and decided to "adopt" Desert View Elementary so *The Animal Connection* can be delivered there starting this fall.

There is a compelling need for humane education throughout New Mexico. Instilling responsibility, empathy, and concern for animals is a huge step toward bringing about the systemic change that will not only improve the lives of animals but will help children become more empathetic to others and improve New Mexico's communities overall.

Please consider "adopting" one of the schools on the waiting list for *The Animal Connection*. Consider the many hearts and minds you'll be changing. For more information, contact APNM's Education Director, Sherry Mangold at sherry@apnm.org or 505-797-3977.

#### Valencia County Animal Shelter: A Spay/Neuter Clinic in Progress

After years of planning, a clinic dedicated to providing lowand no-cost spay/neuter services for dogs and cats of Valencia County residents will soon open at the Valencia County Animal Shelter. Exterior and interior renovations to a portable building adjacent to the shelter facility are now complete, according to Shelter Director Erik Tanner, who plans to hold at least one clinic a month in the first year. Along with lining up the necessary medical equipment and supplies over the summer, Tanner has been coordinating with as many local veterinarians and veterinary technicians as possible to allow for a rotation of their services at the clinic. Shelter staff and volunteers will provide administrative help.

The Valencia County Animal Shelter takes in roughly 7,000 dogs and cats annually, a disproportionate number for the area populated by just over 76,000 residents. This clinic will help address the dire need for more accessible, affordable spay/neuter options for the public's animals in that county. Los Alamos National Laboratory donated the portable building five years ago and an Albuquerque veterinary

hospital donated nearly \$10,000 in surgical equipment in 2011. A capital outlay appropriation of \$150,000, secured by Sen. Michael Sanchez (D-Belen) in 2013, paid for the building's construction and renovation costs.



Hard hit by overwhelming dog and cat overpopulation and suffering, Valencia County takes a crucial step to solve the problem.

ANIMAL PROTECTION OF NEW MEXICO

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WARD

HONORING CHAMPIONS FOR ANIMALS

Saturday, October 3, 2015

HYATT REGENCY TAMAYA RESORT & SPA

5:00pm – Reception Music by the UNM Jazz Quartet Silent Art Auction 7:00 – Gourmet Vegan Dinner & Awards Ceremony

#### Celebrating this year's winners:

Jolo Animal Award

Sena Fitzpatrick Board of Directors' Award
Patty Mugan Direct Animal Services Award
Pam Wiseman Executive Director's Award
Robyn Albani Humane Education Award
Mary Katherine Ray Humane Citizen Award
Ruben Lucero Law Enforcement Award
Senator Nancy Rodriguez Lawmaking Advocacy Award
Maryln Zahler Mary Jane Garcia Champion for Animals Award
Jenny Rabinowitz Media Award

Join us for this special event to honor those doing good things for animals, and recognizing their humanitarian efforts. Tickets are still on sale. APNM members get 10% off. Contact Daniel Abram at 505-265-2322, ext. 32 or email daniel@apnm.org. **Visit MilagroAwards.com.** 



In 2011, I was honored to receive the Milagro Award for Humane Education from APNM. As an animal rights advocate and educator, it was one of the proudest moments of my life. To receive such validation from individuals I respect so much was life-changing. Fighting to bring empathy, compassion, and kindness into every classroom can be difficult, lonely work, but it can also be the most rewarding when you know your voice has been heard. Thank you, APNM!

- Peggy Lynch Hill, Winner of the 2011 Humane Education Milagro Award

#### Santa Fe

This summer marked the grand opening of APNM/APV's new Santa Fe office, located just steps from New Mexico's state capitol building. Complementing the Albuquerque headquarters, the Santa Fe office offers considerable space and facilities for staff, interns, volunteers, public presentations, vegan cooking classes and other training to serve our northern New Mexico members, supporters and communities.

#### Albuquerque

In April and June, Animal Protection Voters' Phil Carter discussed highlights (and lowlights) of the 2015 state legislative session with the Animal Law Section of the New Mexico State Bar, with reported record-breaking section attendance for the April lecture.

#### Pueblo of Isleta

In July APNM proudly accepted an invitation to once again take part in the Pueblo of Isleta's annual Environmental Fair, one of the most diverse and interesting educational gatherings of the summer. By visiting the booths hosted by numerous pueblos, tribal conservation agencies, animal advocates and

wildlife rehabilitators, those attending took part in games and activities that introduced them to the many wonders of nature. A special thank you to The Pueblo of Isleta's dedicated Animal Welfare Officers, Esquipula Garcia and Virgil Lucero, and to Milagro Award winner, Ruben Lucero, who organized the event.

#### **Taos**

On June 13, APNM spoke at the public meeting of the state Game Commission, voicing our members' concerns over the Game & Fish Department's lack of scientific justification in its proposals to increase hunting and trapping opportunities impacting cougar.

#### Statewide

This summer, APNM met with representatives of the Native American Humane Society, a new organization working to bring humane programs for animals on tribal nations across North America, including humane education and equine welfare for New Mexico tribes.

New Mexico's Animal Sheltering Board recently provided \$70,000 in state funding to benefit 16 low-cost spay/neuter programs in nine communities and surrounding counties: Portales, Clovis, Roswell, Farmington, Hobbs, Los Lunas, Gallup, Carlsbad, and Las Cruces. The public animal shelters in these areas suffer the state's highest intake and euthanasia rates of dogs and cats. Animal Protection Voters staff worked with legislators during the 2014 Legislature to appropriate the funding.

Recognizing the needs of animals and APNM's capacity to provide critical networking and support during a disaster response, New Mexico Dept. of Agriculture included our article on Emergency Planning for Companion Animals in their 2015 Wildfire Season publication distributed in newspapers statewide (apnm.org/wildfireseasonNM2015).

#### wish list:

★ **Donations to the Chimpanzee Sanctuary Fund** to help get more chimps out of labs and into sanctuary. Help prove that it's not too late to do the right thing: www.ChimpsToSanctuary.org

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**★ Used but late model Macintosh computers** for our volunteers and interns.

#### can you help us out?

Visit apnm.org/WishList for links to the items on our wish list.

Contact Daniel Abram at daniel@apnm.org or 505-265-2322 ext. 32.

### **BREAKING NEWS:** Extreme Cougar Trapping Proposals Pass—APNM Will Continue the Fight

The room was packed. Even when custodians brought in more seats, dozens still had to stand. After months of collecting 6,000+ signatures, after thousands of phones calls and emails to the Governor's office, and after statewide poll results showed the majority of New Mexicans opposes the use of cruel traps and snares to kill more cougars, we hoped the State Game Commission would heed the public's outcry.

#### Unfortunately, despite overwhelming opposition, the Commission voted to allow:

- Cougar trapping using leg-hold traps and snares on state trust lands, totaling **nine million acres** in New Mexico.
- The removal of the NMDGF permit requirement for landowners to use traps and snares on cougar.
- One person to kill up to four cougars in game species management zones where current enormously high cougar harvest quotas are not being met.

After a brief presentation by the NM Department of Game & Fish, who did not point to any science to justify expanded cougar trapping, the commission's Vice Chairman William Montoya put a motion on the floor to pass the proposal before public comment could even begin. Ultimately, Commission Chair Paul Kienzle allowed only one hour of public comment, 30 minutes from each side. During

testimony, we and many other organizations and citizens opposed to the proposal repeatedly brought to the Commission's attention the lack of scientific evidence to justify the increased methods of cougar killing. Just

a handful of usual suspects (the New Mexico Cattlegrowers and New Mexico Trappers Association) praised the cruel and indefensible proposal. But the New Mexico Bowhunters and Trout Unlimited, who also supported these policies that offend conservation principles, should be held accountable.

It was clear that the commission had already made up their minds.

The majority of the estimated 200 attendants opposed the Department of Game & Fish's proposal, but their voices weren't enough to convince the Commission this time. These extremely cruel cougar killing measures are scheduled to go into effect in January 2016.

Though the Commission's misstep introduces a new challenge in protecting New Mexico's wildlife, we—along with thousands of advocates and organizations—plan to

continue our efforts to protect New Mexico's cougars from this cruel and deadly assault. To learn how you can join our steadfast effort to stop cougar trapping once and for all, contact Jessica Johnson, APNM/APV's Chief Legislative Officer, at Jessica@apnm.org.



#### **EVERY VOICE MATTERS.**

ANIMAL PROTECTION OF NEW MEXICO: CRUELTY HOTLINE

#### Cooperative Efforts Result in Rescue for 40+ Animal Victims of Hoarder

In January 2015, twelve Chihuahuas were relinquished to Animal Humane New Mexico's shelter in Albuquerque. The Chihuahuas, who had been transported in two small carriers, were covered in ice, feces, and mud and were shaking from the cold. Two had severe medical issues. The man who surrendered the dogs denied ownership and said he had found them on one of his rental properties in the mountains east of Albuquerque.

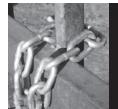
The intake manager suspected a hoarding or breeding situation, so he

contacted Animal Protection of New Mexico's Cruelty Case Manager, who referred the complaint to Bernalillo County Animal Care Services as a possible animal hoarding case.

County authorities traced the dogs to an elderly woman who initially claimed she had only five dogs. However, when officers visited her property, they discovered over thirty dogs, seven goats, and many cats and fowl suffering in cold, muddy conditions. Two dogs were impounded immediately, but because the road to the property was virtually impassable, a return visit was postponed until the following day. Relatives cared for the woman and animals overnight.

The next day Bernalillo County Animal Care Services removed the remaining animals from the property, which was declared unfit for human habitation. The woman moved in with her relatives. Albuquerque Animal Welfare took the dogs into their shelter system, and most have since been adopted. This one case involving the welfare of dozens of animals is a great example of how

animal advocacy groups, law enforcement agencies, and municipal shelters can achieve positive results for animals through cooperative efforts.



#### For Elijah...

Elijah was born in the lab in 1990 and records show he was used for hepatitis A and B studies and inoculated with the hepatitis C virus. Clinical records from a 1997 liver wedge biopsy operation state "pulling at abdomen" indicating Elijah may have had inadequate anesthesia and/or no pain medication.

Should Elijah get to live out his remaining years in sanctuary...or be doomed to a life and death in the lab?

Please help *Elijah, Rosie,* and *all the surviving New Mexican chimps* held at Texas Biomedical Research Institute get to sanctuary as soon as possible. Take action now:

- ➤ Email NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins at www.RetireTheChimps.org and ask for swift action to permanently retire the 20 chimps from Alamogordo Primate Facility who are being kept at Texas Biomedical Research Institute.
- ➤ Pledge a monthly gift of \$25 or more in support of chimp retirement. Step by step, we can still do what's right: www.ChimpstoSanctuary.org



#### In Memory of a Lifelong Champion for Animals

On July 31, 2015 we lost a soft-spoken champion for animals who was fiercely committed to animal rights. For the decades she lived in New Mexico, **Pat Ehlinger** was always directly rescuing needy animals, financially supporting Animal Protection of New Mexico and local rescue organizations, and exercising her civic duty to be a citizen lobbyist to support stronger animal protection laws. For many years, Pat served on APNM's board of directors, helping guide the organization in its earlier days. Her passion was humane education and reaching young people with the message of empathy and compassion. She and her quiet but powerful approach to advocacy will be missed beyond words.

"APNM's Humane Education Program is the most innovative and effective program I've ever had the honor of supporting. It was designed by award-winning former educator, Sherry Mangold, who now runs the program. My favorite is the 12-week version, where educators repeatedly visit the same classroom, sometimes with therapy dogs, teaching the students about everything from bite safety, animal care, spay and neuter, and compassion for animals. The program is creatively designed to fulfill curriculum requirements, which serves as an incentive to teachers to invite the program to their classrooms. I believe children have a natural love of animals, their books and toys are animal-related.



Children are open to making changes in their lives. There is no better investment for animals than humane education. I encourage more people to donate specifically for this program, because more funds are needed to fill all of the requests from schools wanting the program."

—Pat Ehlinger, Member of APNM's Compassion Circle ANIMAL PROTECTION OF NEW MEXICO: EATING VEGAN

## EASY VEGAN MEALS Start with a Well-Stocked Pantry

It can be surprisingly simple to create healthy and delicious meals that don't include animal suffering. A key thing is to have the right food staples at your fingertips, so you only need to add fresh or frozen ingredients for a great meal.

Here are some suggestions for a well-stocked vegan pantry:

whole grains: brown rice, wild rice, rolled oats, steel-cut oats, quinoa, millet, barley

**a variety of beans:** green lentils, red lentils, black beans, pinto beans, white "navy" beans

**dried herbs or a kitchen herb garden:** oregano, basil, cumin, sage, thyme, parsley, rosemary, savory, dill weed, bay leaves

**vegetable bouillon cubes** such as Rapunzel brand with no salt added

nutritional yeast reduced sodium soy sauce

**spicy peppers:** red chile powder, cayenne powder, dried chipotle peppers, red/green curry paste, such as vegan Thai Kitchen brand

a variety of pasta types light coconut milk

tomato products: diced, whole, sauce, stewed

raw nuts: walnuts, cashews, almonds

fresh garlic and onions

Essential cooking gear includes a crockpot (so making a pot of beans is easy), a steamer basket to steam vegetables or vegetarian tamales, cast iron pans for superior sautéing, and a food processor (for making cashew cream for exceptional chowders).

Coupled with a supply of tofu, tempeh, fresh miso, frozen "faux" meats and fresh/frozen vegetables, these staples will help you create many unforgettable meals.

**TIP:** If you've already tried all of APNM's recipes featured in *Making Tracks* (apnm.org/vegan), there are thousands more recipes waiting at humanesociety.org/recipes. Bon appetit!





#### Super Simple, Super Delicious Kale Chips

Kale chips are all the rage now—with good reason. This deep green, low calorie, nutritional powerhouse is a great source of protein, fiber, vitamins A, Folate (B), C, K, and minerals, and makes a great alternative to potato chips. Don't be surprised by how quickly this snack will be devoured!

- 1 10-ounce bag of chopped, fresh kale\*
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 3 TBS Parma\*\* vegan parmesan cheese
- sprinkle of finely ground pepper
- baking parchment
- \*\* Parma is a delicious brand of vegan parmesan cheese. If necessary, substitute with your favorite brand of vegan parmesan cheese.

Preheat oven to 250 degrees F.

Sort through the kale, removing stems. Place kale leaves into a very large bowl.

In a separate smaller bowl, thoroughly mix olive oil, Parma cheese, and pepper. Pour the mixture over the kale and toss to coat all the kale.

Line two large baking sheets with baking parchment. Distribute the kale evenly between the baking sheets, spreading it as evenly as possible, in as thin a layer as possible.

Bake for 50 to 60 minutes, until kale is crispy. When done, remove from oven and let cool for ten minutes before serving.

\*Note that bagged kale is chopped small. For bigger, potato chip size kale chips, use two bunches of fresh kale and chop into bigger pieces.



#### The Faith Community Embraces the Virtues of a Vegan Diet

The National Catholic Reporter (NCR) recently published a column by award-winning journalist/reporter/teacher/peace activist/ethical vegetarian, Colman McCarthy. Here is an excerpt:

**Are you willing to change your diet?** Five questions for NCR readers, to which I suspect and would wager the answers will be yes, definitely yes:

- 1. Do you want to decrease ruthless cruelty?
- 2. Do you want to decrease global warming?
- 3. Do you want to decrease hunger and starvation?
- 4. Do you want to decrease destruction to the environment?
- 5. Do you want to decrease risks to your health?

As the yeses are being counted—unanimity, right?—a sixth question looms: Are you willing to change from an omnivore to a vegan diet, to personally stop paying money to the suppliers of animal flesh and animal products and do one's part that way—the noncomplicit way, a morally effective way?

Let APNM help you transition to a humane diet. Visit apnm.org/vegan for fabulous recipes, dining guides, and all the helpful resources you'll need to ensure your diet matches your humane values.



Making sure animals matter in every New Mexican community.

#### Help Our Horses... into the Future

Because we want to help horses as long as they need a safety net, the Equine Protection Fund (EPF) has a long-term endowment component that will provide life-saving services into the future for all New Mexico horses, donkeys and mules. In 2014 a very generous donor gave the EPF a \$50,000 challenge grant to establish the endowment and encourage others to give

generously as well. The "Help Our Horses" endowment was created in the New Mexico Community Foundation (http://www.nmcf.org/2015/04/help-our-horses-endowment/) and is accepting donations so we can completely match this challenge grant by December 31st. We are 5% matched so far. Each gift you give is matched dollar-for-dollar!



#### ANIMAL PROTECTION OF NEW MEXICO: FACES OF APNM



Kelly Fischer

As APNM/APV's Chief Financial Officer since May 2014, Kelly is our resident expert in everything finance-related, including record keeping, reporting, and nonprofit tax returns. The role of Finance Director for a suite of organizations like APNM, APV, and APNM Foundation is complex to say the least, and Kelly helps ensure the financial work is done efficiently, accurately, timely, and reflects the lifesaving programs APNM/APV conducts on behalf of donors to help New Mexico's animals.

Born and raised in Las Cruces, Kelly worked on her family's chile farm every summer. After graduating high school, she moved to Baltimore and there she was surrounded with companion animals and even parrots.

Kelly came to APNM with a BS in Business/Accounting and extensive experience, but she recently earned her MBA in Finance. Through her expertise and innovations, Kelly has already helped APNM reduce by hundreds of hours annually the time spent on essential administrative duties like payroll and cost allocations. She has streamlined financial systems, reducing or eliminating data entry altogether, and has created online portals for financial tasks. Every hour saved in administrative duties means APNM can spend more of its resources on its lifesaving programs.

In addition to a passion for a career that contributes to helping animals through accounting, Kelly is also passionate about her family, their companion animals, and education. Kelly lives with her husband and daughter, as well as two dogs and a cat. In her spare time she loves to relax by camping, painting, and gardening.