

# MAKING TRACKS

A Quarterly Publication of Animal Protection of New Mexico Summer 2012

**Get Outside  
with Cougar Smart  
New Mexico**

**Recreation with Wildlife in Mind**



## From the Executive Director



Dear Friend of the Animals,

At this time of year, you're undoubtedly grateful that it's finally warm, but perhaps you're wishing the mercury wasn't going quite so high on the thermometer just yet! As you figure out ways to keep cool and enjoy our famously fabulous weather, this issue invites you to explore ways to include your dogs in your summer wanderings. Central to dogs' well being is spending quality time with their human pack. That means daily walks of course, but it can also include vacations. A little planning will make it fun for you and your four-legged family! APNM's Cougar Smart outreach program, featured inside, will help keep your travels to wild places safe for everyone, too.

With wildfires around the state, our thoughts are with those who've been evacuated from—or even lost—their homes. APNM is providing in-depth support to the state's disaster preparedness efforts that include keeping animals safe from harm.

Back at the APNM office, everything horse-related is a priority right now. APNM's strategic and deep involvement in horse welfare since 2009 means we understand the issues and are pushing for reforms across the spectrum of harms threatening horses. Read what you can do to fuel change.

Thank you for helping us ensure that animals matter in every New Mexican community!

Sincerely yours,

Elisabeth Jennings,  
Executive Director

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***Making Tracks*** is a publication of  
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### On the Cover

Two young hikers explore the wilderness  
with cougar safety knowledge in tow, thanks  
to their Cougar Smart backpack tags, available  
through APNM.

*Photo by Jessi Princiotta*



*As we kick off summer, Animal Protection of New Mexico wishes you and your family a safe, enjoyable season. Whatever your outdoor pleasure—be it hiking, camping, boating, climbing, sports, or backyard barbecuing—we encourage you to always be mindful of the creatures who call New Mexico’s awesome landscapes home.*

## Cougar Smart New Mexico: Outdoor Recreation WITH WILDLIFE IN MIND

New Mexico’s borders contain some of the highest diversity of wild animals in North America. Rather than a time of rest and relaxation, the hot summer months are when these creatures are stocking up on food in preparation for winter.

Meanwhile, the manner in which people play outdoors has real consequences for wildlife. Beyond intentional culling of animals via hunting and fishing, simple unthinking or irresponsible behavior—including actions you may have never thought of—can be devastating to animals. Historically, one such animal that has been persecuted on behalf of human shortsightedness is New Mexico’s majestic wild cat, the cougar.

Attacks by cougars on humans are extremely rare; nonetheless, public safety is often cited as an excuse to destroy the animals. This is unacceptable, particularly when methods of mutual safety and coexistence between people and cougars are simple and reflect common sense rather than any surrender of enjoyment of the outdoors.

**Cougar Smart New Mexico**—a partnership among APNM, the U.S. Forest Service, New Mexico Dept. of Game &

Fish, New Mexico State Parks, and other land agencies—has worked since 2010 to develop and distribute posters, brochures, and clip-on tags (like the ones our young hikers are wearing in the cover photo, and Whiskey is modeling in the photo below) featuring information to prevent conflict between recreationists and cougars. Through the efforts of APNM and these agencies, thousands of the tags have been distributed to New Mexico children and the posters can be found at trailheads and campsites across the state.

APNM continues to raise awareness of carnivore coexistence via Cougar Smart and other efforts. You can help spread the ideals of responsible recreation and sharing the land with our wildlife. Contact us to order free educational materials and to schedule a public presentation.

So what are you still doing reading this? Get outside and play with your companion animals!



# SAY YES TO HUMANE HORSEMANSHIP

## SAY NO TO HORSE SLAUGHTER



New Mexico's news is filled with coverage related to horses and our disregard for their humane treatment, despite our country's absolute dependence on them for centuries, and our continued reliance on them for robust industries and entertainment. These stories intersect with the homeless horse population crisis whose genesis was the economic downturn of 2008.

Right when our instincts and actions should involve swift changes to truly humane conditions for our state's equines, there is a cynical and tired refrain that wants to add insult to injury. Advocates for regurgitating the grisly business of horse slaughter are mostly ignoring practical solutions to the homeless horse problem that should be a mandate in our state.

### **Horse Slaughter Anywhere is Cruel and Unnecessary**

APNM was recently thrust into the limelight in the national debate surrounding horse slaughter: APNM's Elisabeth Jennings and The Horse Shelter's Jennifer Rios were part of a lengthy *CBS This Morning* broadcast this May that covered a Roswell couple's quest to open a horse slaughterhouse there. Since last fall, it once again became possible to legally slaughter horses in the United States, since federal funding was restored for the inspection of slaughter plants. While not yet approved, an application for such a grotesque enterprise has been submitted to the U.S. Department of Agriculture by Pecos Valley Meat (PVM), the operators of a cattle slaughter plant. Records show PVM routinely violated New Mexico's laws for properly disposing of animal carcasses. In fact, the company has ignored state regulations and regulators for years.

Immediately upon hearing of the proposed horse slaughterhouse in April, many state leaders lined up in fierce, justified opposition to the idea. Their views mirror the American public's, who want horse slaughter banned in America.

### **A New Vision For Horses**

New Mexico and all of America needs to embrace and pursue a new vision for how horses are treated throughout

their lives, including the very end. Right now, pragmatic and humane programs are already in place in New Mexico, both through a network of equine shelters, and through the Equine Protection Fund, which provides feed assistance, equine care guidance, subsidized gelding, subsidized euthanasia, and is formalizing plans for racehorse rehoming. These crucial equine programs honor the meaningful role horses play in our lives, and ensure these magnificent animals live and die with dignity.

### **It's Time To Pony Up**

In order to ensure all horses get the humane care they deserve, equine welfare programs need to be dramatically expanded. That can happen only with will, determination, and adequate financial resources. For far too long, those who enjoy and benefit from horses, including the many equine-related industries in New Mexico, have looked to horse slaughter as a "convenience." People involved in any sort of equine enterprise, such as horse racing, performance riding, and rodeo all need to "mount up" and be part of the solution. Setting a standard of humane euthanasia instead of gruesome slaughter will lead horsemen and horsewomen to start closely examining breeding practices and the cavalier approach of casting off horses when they're no longer useful. The inexcusable horse overpopulation problem in New Mexico and other parts of America is avoidable, but people need to change.

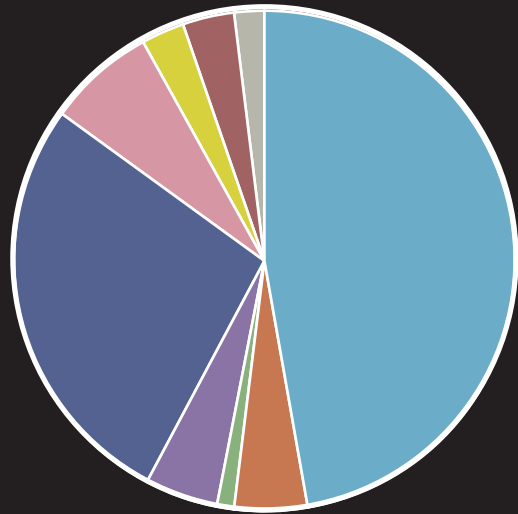
For much more information, including a Horse Slaughter Fact Sheet, links to media stories, quotes from our state's visionary leaders, and much more, visit <http://bit.ly/HumaneHorsemanship>.

*"New Mexico touts its national status for breeding quarter horses and thoroughbreds, and simultaneously wrings its hands about its homeless horse problem. Practical and truly humane solutions are within our reach if we put our minds to it."* —Elisabeth Jennings, APNM Executive Director



**Start By Giving Back 1%** If those who benefitted from horses were to give back just 1% of the wealth gained from transactions made involving these “equine athletes,” there would be no homeless horse problem in New Mexico. The following chart estimates the relatively low annual cost of ensuring the humane disposition of thousands of homeless horses in our state.

### Annual Dollars Needed for Equine Protection Fund Programs for 6500+ Horses



\$36K	Law Enforcement Training
\$74.5K	Program & Services Development
\$54K	Education & Outreach
\$150K	Free Roaming Horses
\$574K	Subsidized Euthanasia
\$100K	Equine Feed Assistance
\$20K	Subsidized Gelding
\$100K	Racehorse Career Change
\$1 Mill.	Horses to Shelter

## GIDDY UP! WHAT YOU CAN DO:

1. Learn the facts about slaughter. Read APNM's Fact Sheet at <http://bit.ly/HorseSlaughterFacts>.
2. Write USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack ([AgSec@usda.gov](mailto:AgSec@usda.gov)) and ask him to reject the Roswell slaughterhouse application.
3. Contact your New Mexico legislators. (<http://bit.ly/cgZbDO>). Ask them to support horse welfare programs funded from industries and activities that rely on horses.
4. Call Congress and ask them to support the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act (S 1176 and HR 2966). In New Mexico, contact Senators Udall and Bingaman, and your Representative (Congressman Heinrich (who co-sponsored the bill), Pearce, or Lujan).

• To help horses directly through donations or volunteering, visit [www.HelpOurHorses.org](http://www.HelpOurHorses.org).

• If you live out of state, visit [ContactingtheCongress.org](http://ContactingtheCongress.org) to find your legislators.

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

## Four Heroes AND A Ferdinand



Sam, Ferdinand, and Josh.

Thanks to these compassionate New Mexicans, Ferdinand has found a wonderful new life.

Sam Beam and Josh Brinkin hadn't planned on saving a life when they set out to ride their motorcycles and ATVs west of Albuquerque last November. But had they not investigated what vultures were focused on in a watering hole near the Rio Puerco, a two-week old calf, who was stuck up to his neck in mud, would not have lived.

The scene was horrific to see and smell, as Ferdinand's dead mother was also caught in the mud of the sun-baked tomb. The little calf had obviously struggled to free himself but was no match for the infamous New Mexican clay. His mouth and nose were filled with mud, his eyes almost sealed shut.

Sam and Josh took turns forging into the muck, struggling to free the calf for almost an hour. Finally they prevailed. After being freed, Ferdinand blatted weakly just once, but then collapsed and began going into shock. His rescuers realized they had to act fast or they would lose him.

They loaded the muddy, near-death bovine onto their ATV and drove 25 miles back to their truck. They wrapped Ferdinand in their coats and Sam built a fire to warm up the shocky calf, while Josh sped towards I-40 to catch cell service. He called Bernalillo County Animal Care Services (BCACS), who immediately responded, even though it was a Sunday.

County animal services personnel nursed Ferdinand back to health, and he now lives on a large ranch south of Albuquerque with Robbin Burge and Becky Koster, both veteran law enforcement officers. The little calf, now not so little at nearly 300 pounds, became the mascot for the County's inspiring work to challenge animal abuse, specifically its Pro-active Enforcement Team (PET), a collaboration between BCACS and Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office.

## Animal Protection of New Mexico: Around the State



### Supplies for Investigators

Last year, APNM distributed supplies to aid animal control and law enforcement officers in handling cruelty cases, like hoarding, that might otherwise be beyond the capacity of local agencies. In April, APNM staff visited Red River Animal Control, managers of the northern portion of supplies.

### Run the Caldera



In June, APNM and Valles Caldera National Preserve teamed up for the preserve's annual weekend of marathons. 2012's event, named Year of the Cougar Run, featured APNM's Cougar Smart New Mexico program. APNM will be involved in next year's animal-themed run. Thanks to Valles Caldera for promoting cougar coexistence!



### Team Teddy Rides Again!

On May 20th, "Team Teddy," a group established by APNM to raise money for professional training scholarships for animal control officers, completed the 100 mile 2012 Santa Fe Century bicycle ride. The group elicited pledges for their mileage and raised over \$900 to pay for officer training through the National Animal Control Association. Go Team Teddy!



### Trapping Road Show

This spring, the Trap Free NM coalition, which includes APNM and other partners, hit the road for a series of presentations around the state. In Grants, Farmington, Española, Taos, Portales, Roswell, Silver City, Los Lunas, and Albuquerque, people learned of the toll on animals from cruel traps and the growing movement to ban the devices from New Mexico's public lands.



### Saying "Whoa!" to Slaughter



APNM has been leading efforts to stop a gruesome horse slaughter plant in Roswell. Governor Susana Martinez, Attorney General Gary King, State Lands Commissioner Ray Powell, Jr., and State Senator Mary Jane Garcia are just some of New Mexico's humane voices saying we must do better than discarding our state's wonderful and majestic equines to be slaughtered.



## Summer Learning

For the past three summers, APNM has partnered with Bernalillo County Animal Care Services to bring presentations to children attending summer camp at all seven of the Bernalillo County Community Centers. This year, the program "Animals: Our Responsibilities for Their Health and Happiness," grows into a six-week adventure of exploration into topics such as: Care and Responsibility, The Work of an Animal Welfare Officer, Loose Dog and Bite Safety, The LINK Between Bullying and Animal Abuse, Co-Existing with Urban Wildlife, and The Need for Spaying/Neutering.

Each topic will be explored through presentations from animal welfare officers, members of the APNM staff, hands-on games and activities, and follow-up discussions designed to lead the children to awareness and the ability to act on their commitment to animal welfare in the community.

APNM is proud and honored to partner with Bernalillo County Animal Care Services, the Bernalillo Community Centers, and Southwest Canine Corps of Volunteers. Together, these organizations are delivering positive messages about animals that will inspire our youth to care about animals and each other.

Sherry Mangold serves as APNM's Senior Cruelty Case Manager and Educational Outreach Director. Animal education presentations are available for adult and children's audiences by contacting Mangold at 505-797-3977 or [sherry@apnm.org](mailto:sherry@apnm.org).



## Kids Helping Chimps

Kids in Santa Fe have been outspoken for the 200 chimpanzees still waiting for permanent retirement at the Alamogordo Primate Facility. This April, Santa Fe's La Montañita Co-op generously hosted a day full of chimp activities, complete with a raffle, food, puppet making, and postcard writing to President Obama.

Youth with Jane Goodall Institute's Roots & Shoots program gathered signatures at both the Santa Fe Children's Museum and opening weekend of the DisneyNature film "Chimpanzee" to retire the chimps.

A third-grade class at Amy Biehl Community School made bookmarks and handed out postcards to help Flo, the eldest chimp in Alamogordo. "The kids were so excited about working for this organization and community activism is becoming their second nature now!" said their teacher, Brenda Dominguez.

You can help chimps today at [www.RetireTheChimps.org](http://www.RetireTheChimps.org) and by contacting Laura Bonar for materials and activities for kids at 505-265-2322, ext. 28 or [laura@apnm.org](mailto:laura@apnm.org).



## Vacations with DOGS: Adventures for the WHOLE Family

The suitcase: harmless container of vacation supplies... or anxiety trigger for your pup? If your canine family members start to sulk when you take out the luggage, perhaps it's time to investigate pup-friendly vacations.

✪ **Traveling by Air** Truly the safest air travel for companion animals is with you, inside a carrier, in the passenger cabin. That means little dogs only. (Many airlines will not allow large dogs to fly in warm weather months, as the temperature of the cargo cabin is not regulated; Southwest does not allow dogs in the cargo area at any time: dogs must be small enough to fit in an underseat carrier.) A visit to your vet before traveling will allow you to determine the exact type and amount of mild sedative appropriate for your dog. Investigate the policies of the airline you choose. Southwest Airlines offers an affordable \$75 Pet Fee and friendly service. But no animals are allowed outside of their travel cases in the airport or on the plane. And potty breaks during stopovers mean trekking to the designated Pet Relief Area outside the terminal.

✪ **Traveling by Car** For dogs of all sizes, car travel can be lots of fun! The rush of new scents and sights can be truly exhilarating. Prep your car with a comfy zone for pup, and be sure to make regular stops for potty breaks and sips of water. A collapsible water bowl is easy to fill when needed, and stow when not. Best not to feed a large meal before heading out on the road, to keep pup's stomach calm.

✪ **Accommodations** With the popularity of "Pet-Friendly Travel," your options for accommodations are broader than ever. Most hotels require a daily pet fee, and some restrict size or number of pets allowed. Read

customer reviews if possible to help select the ideal place. Wherever you do stay, know that pets are never allowed to be left in the room alone. So if visiting all the museums in town is on your agenda, have another family member dogsit, or check into local doggy daycare facilities.

✪ **Don't Forget to Bring** Food, medications, natural insect repellant that is safe for animals, proof of vaccines, your veterinarian's phone number, an extra leash, treats, toys, and cushion or blanket for a comfy, familiar place to sleep. By keeping some familiar things around, your dog will be less likely to become overly stressed in a new environment.

✪ **One More Thing** Be sure that your dog is welcome in the city you will be visiting. Unfortunately, Breed Specific Legislation can restrict legal access for dogs of certain breeds.

✪ **Resources** There are hundreds of websites for finding great travel information when travel includes your beloved animal, whether you're traveling a few hours away or across the country. We've rounded up a few helpful resources to get you started:

[www.PetFriendlyTravel.com](http://www.PetFriendlyTravel.com)

[www.BringFido.com](http://www.BringFido.com)

[www.PetsWelcome.com](http://www.PetsWelcome.com)

[www.TripsWithPets.com](http://www.TripsWithPets.com)

[www.DogFriendly.com](http://www.DogFriendly.com)







## HOW TO REACH OUT TO Your Legislators: Become Someone They Know and Trust FOR INFORMATION

*In the Spring 2012 edition of Making Tracks, we urged you to find out more about your state legislators; now you're ready to become an engaged voter and citizen advocate for the animals. (If you live in a district in which your current legislators have decided not to run again, you may not know both of your legislators until the general election. These tips will apply to you after the November election.)*

Before meeting with your legislators, keep these important facts in mind:

- ★ New Mexico's legislators are volunteers and they don't get paid a salary to be a legislator. Many hold full-time jobs and have families, so their time is very valuable.
- ★ Lobbying, by citizens or paid lobbyists, is about developing relationships. That takes time, and this is your first of what should be many fruitful meetings and contacts with your legislators from now on. You want to develop the kind of relationship in which they are glad to hear from you and respect you.

### Take these steps to begin to reach out to your legislators:

★ *Contact each of your two legislators, introduce yourself, and ask if he/she would meet with you over coffee.* Tell them you're grateful for their service to the state and that you would like to talk with them about things that matter to you. We're lucky in New Mexico that our legislators are usually very accessible to us. Find contact information for them online at [www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/legislatorsearch.aspx](http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/legislatorsearch.aspx).

★ *When you meet with your legislators, take time to inquire about them and the things that matter to them.* They are people too, and they have likely been working hard while serving in Santa Fe. If they are a champion for animals (refer to Animal Protection Voters' scorecard at [www.apvnm.org](http://www.apvnm.org)), thank them for standing up for animals in New Mexico. Let them know about yourself, and talk about the things that matter to you. Providing personal stories about why you think animals deserve stronger protections is a compelling way to convey your points. Once you meet your legislators, you may become particularly motivated to work on their re-election campaign if they are involved in a competitive race. Even better! Volunteers are golden!

★ *After your meeting, be sure to follow up on anything you promised.* Also, be sure to send a thank you note to your legislators. They took their valuable time to meet with you and they will appreciate being thanked, just like anyone would.

★ *Think about how you might help make your legislators' challenging work easier.*



“I realized very early on that the way to get things done that are very important to you is through the political process. And politics is friendships.” —Zora Hesse, 2011 Milagro Award Winner



## Restaurant Review: Thai Vegan

From the moment you walk through the doors of Thai Vegan, you're enveloped in sultry, exotic colors of deep red and gold. This is good preparation for the culinary delights to follow.

Forget about the 'vegan' for a moment and think about what makes great Thai cuisine: fresh market ingredients, South Seas spices, fire and sweetness with citrus overtones. Your palate will indeed be ablaze with flavors when you dig into the luscious offerings at this cozy, NE Heights restaurant.

For a light, fresh start to your meal, the *Spring Rolls* will ruin you for Spring Rolls anywhere else. These are light, healthy, and deep-fried—though you'd be hard-pressed to believe that they are, since there is no visible oil anywhere on the rolls. *Freshy Rolls* take things one healthy step further: wrapped in rice paper and served cold, they are a cool, light, appetizing start to your meal.

The salads are fresh, crunchy, creative, and topped with perfect dressings. For the epitome of powerful raw flavors, the *Green Power Salad* combines Romaine lettuce, tomatoes, carrots, red cabbage, avocado, cucumber, edamame, red onion, and a heart-healthy Omega-3 source: walnuts.

Don't visit Thai Vegan without indulging in their curries: red hot *Red Curry*, infused with coconut milk, basil, bell pepper, bamboo shoots, and spices; perfectly medium *Green Curry*, which highlights spicy green chili paste; and mild but intense *Yellow Curry*, which tempers the heat with potatoes and carrots.

On a recent visit, we tried the day's special, *Spinach with [Soy] Shrimp and Noodles*. That simple name was a much too demure title for the intense, mouth-watering flavors. Spinach

and coconut married with spinach noodles, vegetables, and fresh cilantro became an irresistible combination.

The Thai cuisine stand-bys, such as *Pad Thai*, *Fried Rice*, and *Spicy Noodles* are anything but stand-by here. When you aren't relying on animal fat to flavor your dishes, the extra care and artful creativity that goes into the preparation shows here. For the true meat die-hards, they do offer soy chicken, soy beef, and soy shrimp, which pair beautifully with their vegetable recipes.

Service here is attentive, polite, and may even include a visit from Chef/Owner "Pat," to make sure you are thoroughly enjoying your meal. The menu is extensive, with perhaps the most intriguing section in the A la Carte section in the back. Here, the chef's talents are truly on display. *P.E.T.* stands for pumpkin, eggplant, and tofu stir fried in garlic sauce with bell pepper, basil, and chili. *Mint Leaves* is a spicy dish seasoned with stir-fried mint leaves, and the *Cashew Nuts* dish brings this protein-rich nut to life in a flavorful Thai sauce.

If you're overwhelmed by the choices, sample a bit of several dishes with the moderately priced Lunch or Dinner Combination plates. Steamed brown rice in a heart shape reminds you that you're eating heart-healthy...and compassionately.

### **Thai Vegan**

**5505 Osuna Rd NE**

**Albuquerque NM 87105**

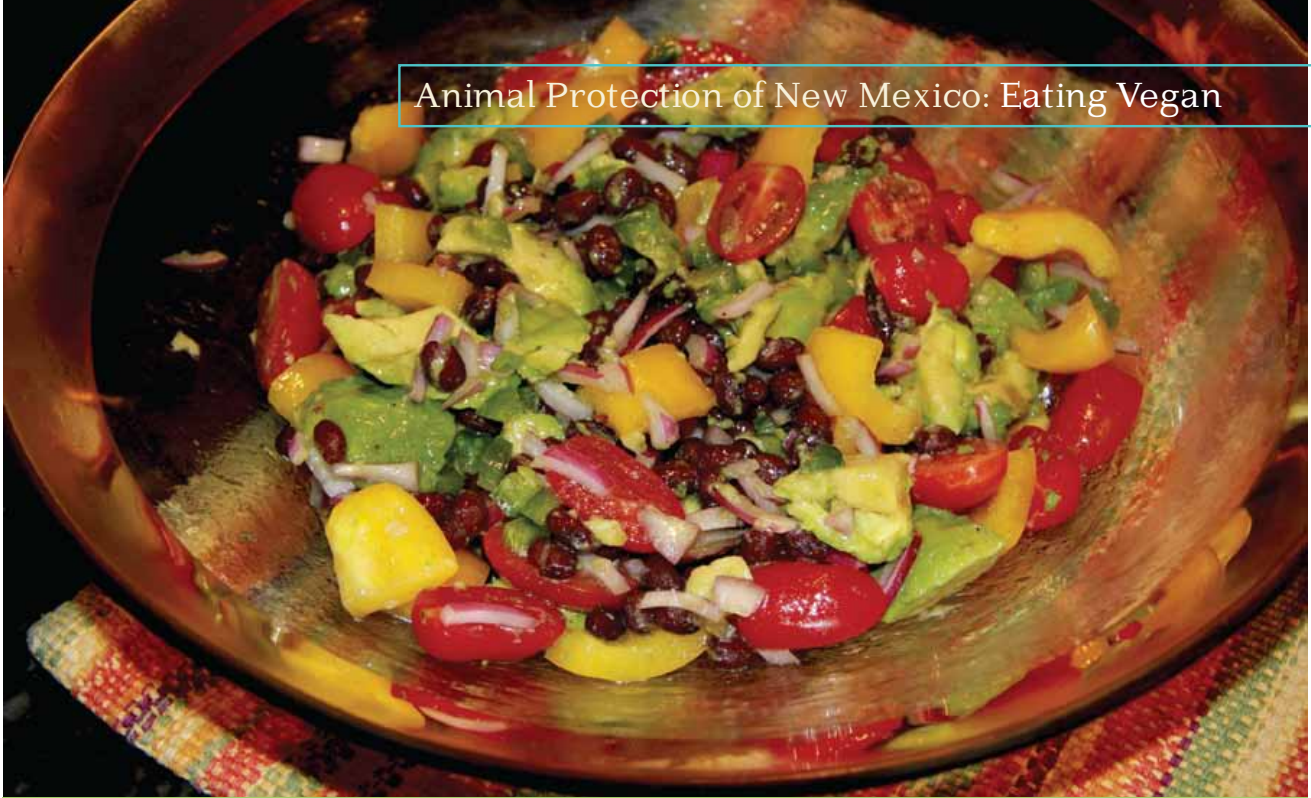
**505-884-4610**

**Mon. - Sat. 11:00 AM to 9:00 PM; Sun. 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM**

**No alcohol served.**







## Avocado Bean Salad Light and Fresh!

*For a perfectly light yet filling summer salad, try this easy to assemble dish. The tomatoes, peppers, and avocado combine perfectly with the black beans and lime vinaigrette. With fresh bread, this is a satisfying summer meal. Serves four. Recipe from APNM Board President, Anne Collier.*

- 1 pint grape tomatoes, halved
- 1 yellow bell pepper, seeded and diced
- 1 (15 oz.) can black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1/2 cup small diced red onion
- 1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and diced
- 1/4 cup freshly-squeezed lime juice (2 limes)
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tsp Sea salt
- 1/4 tsp ground cumin
- 1/2 tsp black pepper
- 1/2 tsp minced garlic
- 1/4 tsp ground cayenne pepper
- 2 ripe Hass avocados
- 1/4 cup fresh cilantro, chopped

Place the tomatoes, yellow pepper, black beans, red onion, and jalapeno pepper in a large bowl. Whisk together the lime juice, olive oil, salt, black pepper, garlic, and cayenne pepper and pour over the vegetables. Toss well.

Cut avocados in half. Remove the pit by tapping a knife into it and gently twisting the pit out. Use a paring knife to criss-cross cut the avocado into 1/2-inch cubes and scoop out of the skin just before mixing into the salad.

When you are ready to serve the salad, fold in the avocados and cilantro. Serve at room temperature.





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



**Laura Bonar**, the phenomenal director of APNM's vibrant Chimps to Sanctuary campaign, was recently recognized by her colleagues and peers as a truly outstanding advocate. The National Council for Animal Protection (NCAP), a collaboration of national animal protection organizations whose mission is to help its members achieve individual and collective goals to improve the treatment and status of all animals, named Laura the recipient of its first Distinguished Grassroots Leadership Award.

*"This honor was created to recognize a significant and positive contribution by an individual and/or grassroots organization who has '...taken animal advocacy to the summit' by advancing greater respect, compassion, and justice for animals and whose actions exemplify the Code of Ethics of NCAP. The NCAP board is pleased to announce that Laura Bonar has been selected to receive the first Grassroots Leadership Award. I know you will agree that she represents the best of animal advocacy." – Bee Friedlander for the NCAP Board*

## Animal Protection of New Mexico: Faces of APNM



*"I have seen you in action and you have a real gift with people and campaigning. Thank goodness, because the animals need and deserve the best advocates." – Sue Leary, President, American Anti-Vivisection Society*

*"Laura Bonar has spear-headed an impressive and professional effort that has contributed to significant public awareness and positive change on behalf of chimpanzees during her relatively short time as Program Director at Animal Protection of New Mexico...." – Peggy Cuniff, Executive Director of the National Anti-Vivisection Society*

*"Of course we're so proud of Laura! We congratulate her for her tenacity, her effective and strategic organizing, and her contagious positive energy!" – APNM's staff and board of directors*