

MAKING TRAKS™

A Quarterly Publication of Animal Protection of New Mexico Winter 2012



CHALLENGING ANIMAL CRUELTY

THROUGH THE CRUELTY HOTLINES WE HELP
Solve Immediate Problems
Determine Future Priorities

From the Executive Director



Dear Friend of the Animals,

As winter holidays approach, this is my cue to take stock of what I'm most grateful for: family, good friends, meaningful work that I love, the company of "the best dogs in the world," a roof over my head, a full stomach every night, and more. I wonder what's on your list. As APNM's Executive Director, I count you—our generous supporters—among the blessings I celebrate.

Of all the human virtues, probably the one I value most is gratitude. Regardless of our circumstance, we can always be thankful. It's that search for and discovery of the positive that keeps me determined in this challenging and rewarding work to enrich the lives of vulnerable animals who need us.

The dark and cold of winter can be a hard time for people and especially for animals. The shortage of daylight can make us yearn for spring. Many animals yearn just to be fed or warm, or free from a chain, or to know a gentle hand.

In the midst of the darkness of animal cruelty and neglect that we work to interrupt, please remember this: Animal Protection of New Mexico is there for the animals and you who care about them, day in, day out, across all seasons. I hope that casts some important light on things.

We sustain this work only with your generous support, so as we challenge animal cruelty in its many gruesome forms, please try to give meaningfully to our efforts. We promise to make the most of the hard-earned dollars you entrust with us. Happy and healthy holidays to you and yours!

Sincerely yours,

Elisabeth Jennings,
Executive Director

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Since its inception in 1979, Animal Protection of New Mexico (APNM) has been responding to animal welfare issues raised by concerned New Mexicans. To learn about the grim reality for animals in the community, APNM manages two statewide animal cruelty hotlines: its own, and that of the Attorney General's Animal Cruelty Task Force.

The hotlines, which allow concerned citizens from all over New Mexico to report incidents of animal cruelty and neglect, are the first and most crucial element of an effective and comprehensive animal cruelty case management system. The hotline manager receives information from callers who witness animal abuse and neglect first hand, and creates a case file and documentation for each incident.

This robust case management system, *which is unmatched anywhere in the country*, helps secure law enforcement intervention in specific cruelty cases. Daily implementation of this system has resulted in a heightened community awareness of animal cruelty and neglect, an engaged and active public that regularly reports animal cruelty, prosecution of and consequences for animal abusers, and relief for animals removed from cruel and neglectful circumstances.

The hotline manager responds to calls pertaining to everything from failure of people to provide basic sustenance like food, water, and shelter for their companion animals, to incidents of deliberately cruel acts against animals resulting in bodily injury, prolonged suffering, and death—crimes that can result in a fourth degree felony conviction under state law. APNM coordinates timely and critical referrals to the appropriate law enforcement agencies that can intervene when animal laws or policies in a particular county or municipality are being violated. Further, APNM helps citizens help themselves by providing guidance in researching the applicable laws in their locality, and encouraging callers to make contact directly with law enforcement. The two hotlines staffed by APNM provide a place where the public can report animal cruelty and be assured the information will remain confidential and be taken seriously.

APNM's partnership with the Attorney General's Animal Cruelty Task Force and the management of that hotline was established in 2007 to respond to more complicated cases such as animal hoarding and animal fighting. Since that time, law enforcement officers across the state have successfully carried out dozens of interventions on illegal cockfighting, dog fighting, and animal hoarding activities. This activity has taken place in both rural and urban New Mexico and demonstrates that the criminality and cruelty of animal fighting, animal hoarding, and random animal abuse don't stop just at animals: cases have turned up illegal drugs and weapons, and have revealed that children are often forced by perpetrators to live in dangerous and abusive situations. In many cases, APNM has helped animal control officers, county sheriffs, state police, border patrol, special drug interdiction units, and others organize their response in conjunction with human service agencies, veterinarians, and animal shelters.

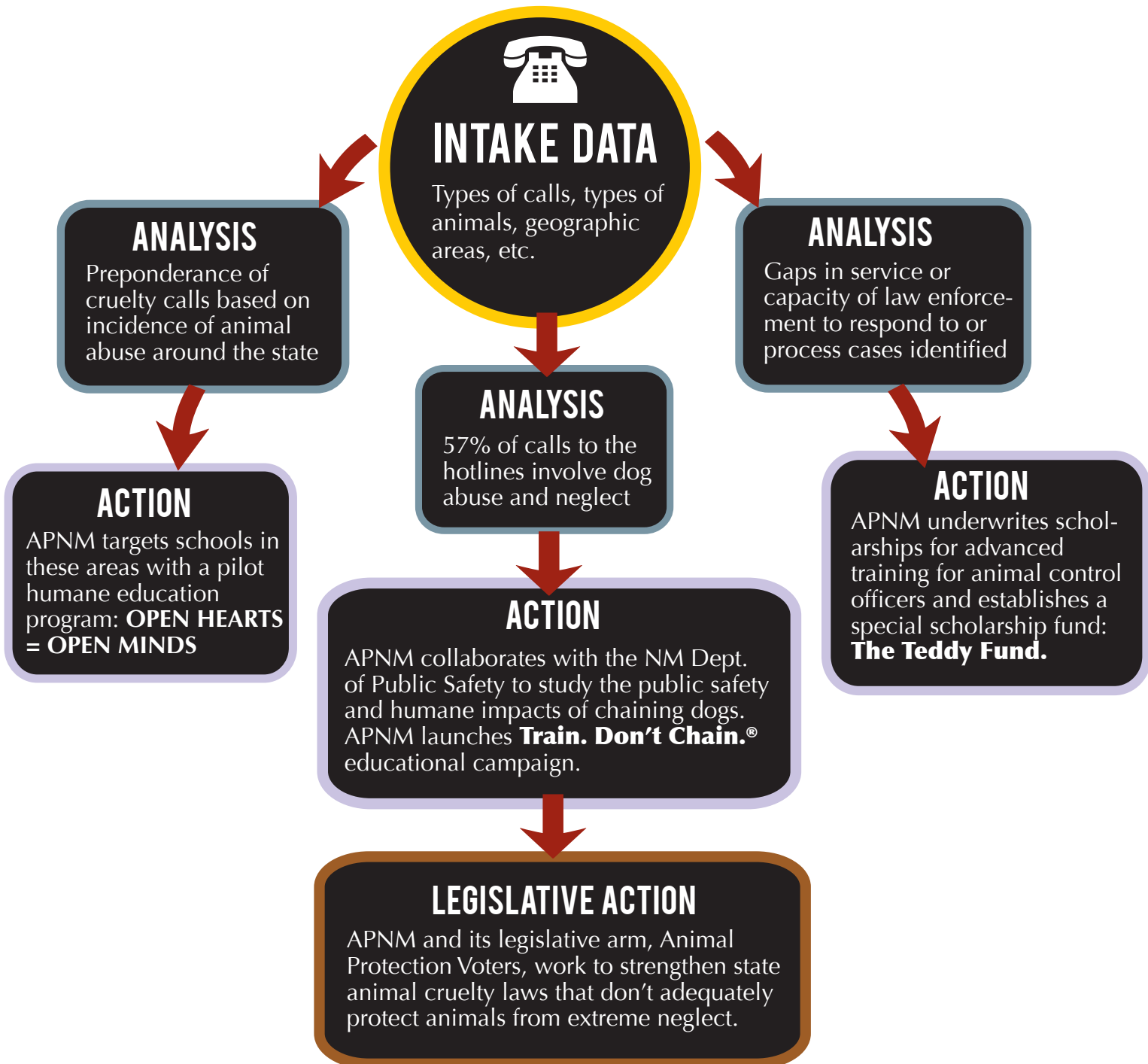
Public awareness has increased considerably due to APNM's ambitious outreach campaigns concerning cruelty and the availability of the hotlines. This effort has resulted in significantly reduced tolerance of heinous acts against animals. People living in other states have told APNM they wish they had the same system in their state.

However, not every case ends well for animals in need of our help. Weaknesses in one or more systems can mean animals don't receive the care and consideration they should have. It is these weaknesses that APNM pays attention to the most, identifying unacceptable policies, practices, enforcement, and attitudes. These shortcomings identified through the hotlines drive the lasting change APNM pursues for animals.

HOW THE HOTLINES IDENTIFY COMMUNITY NEED

Challenging animal cruelty doesn't stop with the day-to-day response to animal cruelty reports from around the state. APNM uses information gathered through its animal cruelty case management system to inform its deeper outreach into New Mexican communities in need. APNM tracks and analyzes the data it obtains from the hotlines to

evaluate trends in animal cruelty reported and to determine priorities for potential policy changes of all kinds: local and state laws; legislative and non-legislative policies; and indicators of services that are lacking. The hotlines also identify areas of the state that could benefit from humane education and additional outreach to animal control, other law enforcement agencies, and the greater criminal justice system. In this regard, the hotlines are absolutely crucial as incubators for longer-term, systemic change central to APNM's mission.



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

New Mexico's laws need to change. Many cases of animal neglect are not taken seriously by New Mexico's criminal justice system. Even in cases where animals have been starved to death or died of thirst or exposure to heat or cold, too often the perpetrators are charged with misdemeanors, if they're charged at all. This is unacceptable and needs to change.

Isn't it reasonable to hold people accountable for providing necessary food, water and shelter for the animals whose very lives they hold in their hands? Setting this sustenance standard is the bare minimum we should expect, since companion animals ideally should also receive regular play, exercise and positive attention from their humans. The least we should expect is that their bodies be protected from harm.

It's time to stop accepting the flimsy excuses that protect those who neglect their animals!

Rio Arriba Co.: Misdemeanor Cruelty, 2012

Report: Davis, a one-year old dog, was paralyzed in his hind legs by a gunshot in January. A veterinarian recommended humane euthanasia, but Davis' caretaker did not take this advice and did not provide any treatment for him. In May, 2012, Davis was relinquished to the Española Valley Animal Shelter & Humane Society. By this time, Davis' left lower leg was literally worn off from dragging it, and his right leg was similarly injured, to a lesser extent.

Charge: Misdemeanor Cruelty.

Outcome: Davis was humanely euthanized by the shelter on May 17, 2012. The legal case was Dismissed with Prejudice.

Taos County: Cruelty, 2011-2012

Report: A man allegedly tied his donkey to a truck in sub-freezing temperatures. Despite the pleas of a woman to get the donkey veterinary treatment after the animal had collapsed, the man refused, and the donkey died. The man also had padlocked a heavy chain around the neck of a miniature horse. The chain became embedded, and the man reportedly removed it himself and refused to provide veterinary treatment. A few other animals had more minor untreated injuries. Most of the animals were reported to be malnourished.

Charges: No charges were filed, despite evidence including multiple eyewitness statements and veterinary records.

Outcome: The donkey died, and the man relinquished many of the animals to the New Mexico Livestock Board and a local animal rescue organization. Many of these animals required veterinary care upon intake, including the miniature horse with the embedded chain injury.

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

In Memory of Santo



On May 19th, Sheri McWethy-Kennedy, owner of Cimarron Rose Bed & Breakfast in Grants, received an unusual visit. While doing chores, Sheri was approached by a man traveling from Oklahoma who asked for water for his horses, one saddled and one on a lead rope. Sheri, a horsewoman of many years, noticed that the roped colt—who was under a packsaddle—looked in bad shape, seemingly suffering from a respiratory infection. While agreeing to offer water, Sheri asked the man to stay near the entrance to avoid any risk of infection to her own horses.

The man became defensive and turned to leave. Thinking quickly, Sheri offered to take in the colt. The man removed the pack and, with a simple "He's yours," left without watering his other horse.

Upon removing the saddle, Sheri realized the colt was in much worse condition than she'd thought. The long ride, without padding under the saddle, had left severe sores that were infected and potentially life-threatening. But, even with finances tight from low tourism volume, Sheri and her husband sent the colt they named Santo to be treated for his infection and injuries at a local veterinary clinic.

After prolonged veterinary care, it was unfortunately determined that because of previous mistreatment, Santo had endured a dislocated shoulder that had atrophied and couldn't be repaired with surgery. The Equine Protection Fund helped by covering the cost for Santo to be humanely euthanized. But he spent several months in Sheri's loving care, and Santo's fighting spirit has been memorialized in a garden on Sheri's property.

Animal Protection of New Mexico: **Around the State**



Equines Up North

In October, APNM and Equine Spirit Sanctuary sponsored a presentation and Q&A session in Taos about the Equine Protection Fund. Involved attendees including horse advocates, law enforcement, tribal residents, and interested members of the public made for an engaging session.

Spay/ Neuter Infrastructure Development

The collaborative work of APNM, Valencia County's Animal Control Director, and a local rescue organization will continue throughout 2012. We will be turning our attention to the county's development of a facility to provide affordable, accessible spay/neuter services for area residents.



Link Training Update

"Very informative." "This training is extremely needed." "Great resources given – Thanks." Lots of praise for our Corrections Dept. and CYFD trainings on The Link Between Animal Cruelty and Family Violence. The NM Children's Law Institute is our first stop in 2013!

Equine Protection Fund Enhances Lives

A Capitan resident and recipient of Equine Protection Fund Emergency Feed Assistance recently expressed her gratitude for crucial help given her horses and donkeys—she became an annual contributor to the Equine Fund so others may also benefit.



Shelter Operations Outreach

APNM's new Animal Shelter Program Manager has begun a series of meetings with local government officials in Truth or Consequences to help determine the best sheltering options for the city, following an ownership change at the Sierra County Animal Shelter.

Animal Protection of New Mexico Goes to the “Little Island:” Partnering with Isleta Pueblo

Just south of Albuquerque lies Isleta Pueblo (Spanish for “little island”). This fall, when the school bell tolled and the 5th and 6th graders said goodbye to summer, little did they know what awaited them.

Isleta Pueblo’s Animal Welfare Officer, Ruben Lucero, has worked closely with Animal Protection of New Mexico to obtain continuing education and to offer rewards leading to the successful prosecution of those responsible for the needless suffering of animals. This school year he invited APNM to partner with him in providing a three week program for students which included: “Shelter Life: The Process an Animal Experiences When Found Loose on the Streets and the Work of an Animal Welfare Officer,” “Loose Dog and Bite Safety,” and “The LINK” that can lead from animal abuse and bullying to domestic violence and assaultive behaviors.

These very serious topics were met with understanding, concern, and a desire to make things better for all animals on the Pueblo. The students and their teachers decided to explore these subjects further and determine what form of community service they can undertake to educate others, keep their own animals safer, and bring comfort to the animals living in the Valencia County shelter.



Animal Protection of New Mexico commends Officer Ruben Lucero for his outstanding work on behalf of the safety and health of both the animals and the residents of Isleta Pueblo. We thank teachers Dr. Shutiva and Ms. Gonzales and their wonderful, enthusiastic, and compassionate students. All have come together to improve their community for both residents and companion animals.

After Brenda Dominguez’s 3rd grade students at Amy Biehl Community School learned about the plight of chimps in biomedical research, they were particularly interested in Flo, the oldest chimpanzee at the Alamogordo Primate Facility, and eager to support APNM’s work to see retirement and sanctuary for chimpanzees. “The kids were so excited about working for this organization, and community activism is becoming their second nature now!” wrote Dominguez.

The class raised over \$100 for APNM’s Chimps-to-Sanctuary campaign by selling bookmarks and hosting a raffle one Wednesday evening after school. APNM thanked the students with a special certificate honoring Flo and all chimps in labs.

“I printed out the beautiful certificate you made for them. Each student received a copy, and they were holding them to their chests as though they were gold,” Brenda said. “Very sweet...I hope all is well, and I hope that your organization continues to touch more lives – human and non-human. Thank you for sharing information and inspiration with us.”



Cures for Winter Boredom

Dogs are naturally active and like to have a job. Don't let the cold weather turn you and your dog into couch potatoes.



Winter weather can mean more indoor time for both humans and canines. While we have plenty of options for indoor entertainment, our dogs can use some additional enrichment during this time of year.

Enrichment activities include games, puzzles, and activities that are mentally stimulating. All animals, including humans, need mental stimulation for total well-being. When the activities involve positive rewards, it's a beneficial experience for everyone.

☞ **Stay active.** When snow and rain and winter winds arrive, it can be tempting to skip your morning walk. But if your canine companion is up for it, a winter walk can be a beautiful, refreshing experience. Bundle up, take your camera along, and enjoy the experience.

☞ **Learn something new.** Pick up a book or video on Clicker training or take a class that uses positive, reward-based methods (*Animal Humane | New Mexico* and *Petsmart* both offer these types of classes). It's never too late for you and your pup to learn new things, and indoor classes are a great winter activity.

☞ **Play challenging games.** The Nina Ottosson line of games is an example of fun and irresistible puzzle play for dogs. Puzzle games involve moving pieces that hide treats. A dog must use all his senses, memory, and problem-solving skills to discover the location of the treats. The activity is centered around the toy, making it an excellent choice for dogs of all sizes and physical abilities.

Using high-value treats, you simply load the puzzle's many compartments, then set it down for your dog to explore. There are numerous puzzle-type games available for dogs in many sizes, shapes, and configurations. For dogs who eat dry, kibble-type food, these puzzles can even be used to make their meal time a more interesting experience.

☞ **Offer treats in novel formats.** In addition to puzzle games, you can also use food-stuffed toys to create an active and challenging play experience. Kongs and other sturdy, stuffable chew toys can be stuffed, chilled or frozen, then given to your dog to brighten up a dreary winter day.

☞ **Take up a new sport or activity.**

—*Have you always been curious about what Therapy Dogs do?* Contact the *Southwest Canine Corps of Volunteers* (www.sccvtherapydogs.com) to learn more about what's involved.

—*Does your pooch have a knack for finding things?* Perhaps he'd enjoy becoming a volunteer Search and Rescue Dog. *Sandia Search Dogs* (<http://pages.swcp.com/SSD/>) offers training and information.

—*Is your pup an active genius who loves a challenge—and do you enjoy running?* Take an Agility Class together at *Animal Humane | New Mexico* (www.animalhumanenm.org).

—*Do you love to dance and suspect your pup does, too?* You can both get your swing on with the *Rio Grande Canine Freestylers* organization (www.riograndecaninefreestylers.org).

When temperatures drop, there's no need for boredom to rise. Investigate the endless possibilities of challenging, enriching fun for you and your pup. Whether you take up a new activity or simply play a rousing game of "Find the Cookie!" around the house, winter can become both your and your pup's favorite time of the year.





How to Get Ready to Make Your Voice Heard in Santa Fe

New Mexico's animal cruelty laws don't cut it. Help us change them in 2013.

Now that the general election is over, it won't be long before the state legislature is in session. The session dates are Tuesday, January 15, 2013 through Saturday, March 16, 2013. Here's how to get ready to make a difference:

★ **Know who your state legislators are (Senator and Representative) and find out their contact information.**

To easily find your legislators, visit: www.apvnm.org/legislators.

★ **Contact both your state legislators and arrange to meet with them now, before the session starts in January.**

Get to know them and help them get to know you. You want this first meeting to be the beginning of a long and positive relationship. Read these citizen lobby tips to make sure you begin the relationship on the right foot: www.apvnm.org/citizen_lobbyist_tips.php.

★ **After your meetings, thank your legislators in writing.**

Be sure to also follow up on anything you promised to get them.

★ **Plan ahead now so you can attend Animal Protection Voters' Animal Lobby Day on Monday, February 25th.**

This all-day event will inspire you and help you be your most effective with lawmakers. Spend a day off with a huge crowd of other animal advocates. For more details, visit www.apvnm.org/lobbyday/.

★ **Help Animal Protection Voters identify people who want to help pass stronger laws for animals.**

If you can volunteer, contact us at laura@apvnm.org and we'll get you started.

Thank you! Constituent voices are strongest when used.

Animal Protection of New Mexico: Your Giving Matters

Would APNM Fit Among Your Monthly Obligations?

What we spend our money on says a lot about what is important to us.

For some right now, just sheer survival is top of mind. But for others, there is still some healthy 'cushion' after the bills are paid.

APNM's staff works tirelessly every day, tackling some of the worst animal abuse and often encountering ignorance all along the way. Today, hundreds of generous donors contribute to our lifesaving work. 59 of those donors consider it an important part of what they 'buy' every month, through a monthly donation to APNM. Is there room in your monthly budget for investing in lasting change for animals?

If APNM were to find 100 more donors who each give \$30 per month, we'd be able to tackle even more of the stubborn cruelty that hurts animals and threatens our communities. This is a small but attainable goal that will pack a powerful punch against animal cruelty.

Could you be one of those 100 Sustainers?

Thank you for considering becoming a monthly donor, or for anything you're able to contribute. APNM's just-released 2011 audited financial statements show more than 83% of donations go toward programs. Your donations help APNM make positive changes for animals.

Restaurant Review: Loving Vegan

On the east edge of Albuquerque's West Side, **Loving Vegan** is tucked into a small row of stores, next to Domino's, on Coors Blvd. at Dellyne, just south of Montañño Blvd. This new sushi restaurant is easy to get to and a delicious, indulgent experience for the sushi lover who wants to keep it purely vegan. Owned by an experienced restaurateur, the cozy restaurant is colorful and comfortable, with bright windows at both ends, offering a view of the mountains to the east.

The sushi connoisseur will not be disappointed with this traditional menu of sushi rolls, rice dishes, and tempura. Vegan fish and meat substitutes contribute to the extensive array of rolls like Vegan Spicy Scallop, Alaska Roll (with Vegan Crab), and Vegan Crazy Roll (with Vegan Spicy Salmon).

Age Tofu is tofu perfection in a sweet sauce, and a wonderful beginning to a meal. The Vegetable 'Egg' Rolls, although deep-fried, are light, not overly-stuffed, and make a mouth-watering appetizer choice.

Digging into the sushi delights both the eyes and the tastebuds. Rolls arrive in artful, sushi master designs, and encompass a luscious blend of flavors. The Spicy Scallop Roll packed an intense kick for a fresh and lively treat. The New Mexico Roll blends deep-fried green chili, avocado, cucumber, and a creamy sauce that balances the spicy chili. If you've never tried a chili-packed sushi roll, this is an excellent introduction to the blending of Southwest and Japanese cuisines.

A Bento Box will satisfy the most ravenous of appetites. The Bento Box offers a choice of four pieces of Vegetable Tempura or three pieces of Spinach Vegetable Gyoza or four pieces of Avocado Cucumber Roll. All those choices guarantee you'll find exactly what you like.

The Grilled Portobello & Vegetable Bento Box arrived in a beautiful display of colors and fresh ingredients. The portobello mushroom and veggies beneath it (asparagus, zucchini, peppers, and onions) were grilled and rich with flavor. A fresh, mixed green salad is topped with carrots and peppers and an exquisite sweet miso dressing. The Vegetable Tempura was a crispy, indulgent experience, well worth the calories! Although alcohol is not served, it's wonderful to select from a choice of Green, Jasmine, or Ginger teas, as well as carbonated beverages.

Whether selecting traditional sushi fare (made with non-traditional soy-based meats) or simpler selections, you'll love the delicious Japanese offerings at **Loving Vegan**.

Loving Vegan: Vegan Sushi & Bento Boxes
5109 Coors Blvd NW #E Albuquerque, NM 87120
505-890-1555
Mon.-Thur. 11:00AM-9:00PM
Fri. & Sat. 11:00AM-9:30PM
Closed on Sunday
No alcohol served





Coconut Curry Stew

APNM's Executive Director makes this warming and luscious soup to comfort family and friends on a cold winter evening. Serve with warm bread for a satisfying meal. Serves six to eight.

- 3 TBS high-temperature cooking oil (grapeseed oil works well)
- ½ to ¾ medium onion, diced (about 1 cup)
- 4 to 5 large cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 stalk celery, diced
- 1 carrot, diced
- 10 fresh kale stems and leaves, chopped (keep lower, thicker stems separated from chopped leaves)
- 1 cup red lentils
- 2 veggie bouillon cubes (Rapunzel brand, unsalted)
- 1 small can or jar Red Thai chili paste (vegan: read labels, some contain fish)
- 1 organic sweet potato, washed well and cut into approximately 1" cubes (leave skin on)
- 3 - 4 TBS fresh cilantro, chopped
- 4 TBS lime juice
- 1 can organic coconut milk (lite, if preferred)
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Using as many organic ingredients as you can, make a rich broth by heating the oil in a thick-bottomed Dutch oven (cast iron is the best), and then add diced onions. Let them brown well but not burn. Add diced garlic, celery, carrots, and the kale stems (only). (The kale leaves will be added later). Let cook until soft.

Add 4+ cups water, red lentils, and two veggie bouillon cubes diced up. Then stir in red curry paste and add the sweet potatoes (cubed) and cook. As things cook, you might have to add more water.

Once lentils and sweet potato are cooked, add the rest of the kale, fresh cilantro, and lime juice to cook just a few minutes. Turn off the burner and add the coconut milk (never boil coconut milk). Add salt and pepper to taste.

VEGAN Facts: Athletes Do It!

Arian Foster, considered one of the best football running backs in the National Football League who now plays for the Houston Texans, became a vegan in July 2012! Arian was born in Albuquerque, attended Valley High School, and his dad was a former UNM wide receiver.



For hundreds of vegan recipes, visit www.humanesociety.org/recipes.



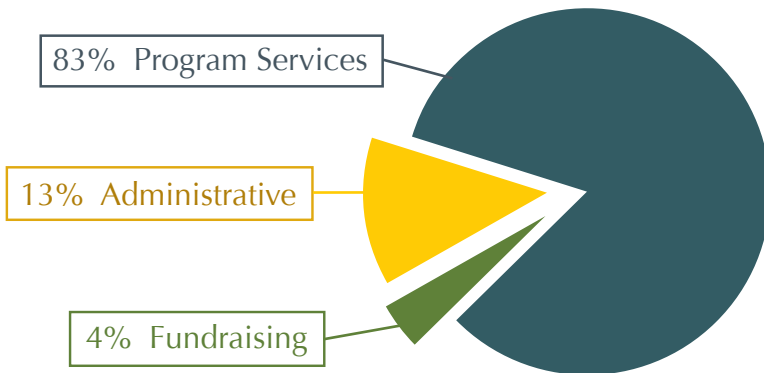
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Making sure animals matter in every New Mexican community.

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2011 EXPENSES

APNM's 2011 audited financial statements show more than 83% of donations go toward programs.



"Two years ago, Erik Tanner of Valencia County, referred me to Sherry Mangold of Animal Protection of New Mexico in regards to a cruelty case we were working on. As an Animal Control Officer at Isleta Pueblo, it was one of the best contacts I ever made. To this day, Sherry and APNM continue to help out our Pueblo tremendously. Whether it's helping with reward funding for animal cruelty cases or community outreach funding programs, APNM never hesitates to help out the Pueblo. Sherry and APNM recently did a workshop at the Elementary School which was a huge success and we hope to make more programs like this available to our community."

Ruben Lucero, Animal Control Officer, Isleta Pueblo

Animal Protection of New Mexico: Faces of APNM

Alan Edmonds, the high-energy force behind APNM's animal cruelty hotlines, brings determination, organization, and pragmatism to the job, easily considered one of the most challenging in APNM.

Day in and day out, Alan takes calls from people who report animal cruelty to APNM, either because they aren't sure who to call or they've tried reporting the case themselves with no success. Managing hotline calls well is no simple task. Case follow-up requires skills in customer relations, fact-finding, knowledge of jurisdictions, local, state, and even federal laws, and investigative and warrant procedures. Alan possesses these skills and more, and answers most calls within 24 hours. APNM receives no government funding for this crucial hotline service.

Alan moved to New Mexico in 1997 from New Jersey, where he received a BA in Communications from William Paterson College. To maintain his health and a healthy attitude on the job, Alan loves spending time—especially outdoors—with his wife, Tisha, and their youthful dog, Hope. He also enjoys the company of their five elderly cats: Gwenifurr, Flea, Tiger, Punk, and Goth, all rescues. Tisha is APNM's bookkeeper and has served in many crucial roles for APNM since 1994.

Alan plays electric, acoustic, and lap steel guitar and dobro, and plays in two local bands: Skulldron and Sandia Man, for which he also provides vocals. Alan has raced mountain bikes, won two New Mexico Cross-Country Championships, and recently ran in the Duke City marathon to raise funds for APNM's Teddy Fund that underwrites law enforcement training scholarships.

