

MAKING TRAILS

A PUBLICATION OF ANIMAL PROTECTION OF NEW MEXICO 2018 ISSUE 2



CHANGE AHEAD

2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION COULD BE A
TURNING POINT FOR NEW MEXICO'S ANIMALS

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friend of the Animals,

The 2019 state legislative session looms large in front of us all. Those of us who spend 60 hard-charging days, evenings, and even nights at the state capitol during the “long sessions” are already preparing for this once-every-two-years opportunity to pass stronger laws for New Mexico’s animals. Our animals’ agenda will be ambitious as usual...and it needs to be.

New Mexico’s animals are vulnerable and harmed by so many flawed or nonexistent policies and our efforts have to be focused and strong to give them some relief. Our 2019 legislative priorities will be to:

- Establish a substantial spay/neuter funding mechanism
- Abolish appalling coyote killing contests once and for all
- Restrict traps and poisons from public lands
- Establish humane outcomes for equines in New Mexico Livestock Board custody

Enacting these laws will make our community stronger and healthier overall.

Animal advocates should never apologize for expecting humane and functioning systems, infrastructure, and laws that govern the very lives of so many animals in our state. A majority of New Mexicans want to know animals are treated humanely, and systems at every level should reflect those humane values. We will continue to aim high for the animals and those who care about them.

If you’ve always wondered what we mean by “systemic change,” which is the essence of APNM’s mission, let me explain with an example. If a horse is seized by the New Mexico Livestock Board because his guardian refused to care for him, what happens to him next is the “system for seized horses.” It stands to reason that it’s far better to have laws in place that require the horse to be offered for adoption by a registered horse shelter, rather than having laws/regulations that require the horse to be auctioned to the highest bidder, with the real risk that the horse would be sold for slaughter in Mexico. This system I’m describing is one that the legislature fixed in 2017, but the bill was vetoed by Governor Martinez after months of work by APNM’s legislative arm, Animal Protection Voters, and horse shelter representatives. This bill needs to pass and be signed into law to protect equines and to put in place a more commonsense process.

As APNM and APV navigate the many barriers to our calls for change in 2019, we will remain flexible and nimble to achieve the most we can for animals. And as always, we need you—our donors and supporters—to raise your voice and be strong right along with us. Over and over. Until we change the harmful systems for good.

Thank you for your tenacity, your strength, your empathy, and your generosity. It’s what helps us achieve our vision of “making humane the new normal.”

Sincerely yours,

Elisabeth Jennings
Executive Director

MAKING TRACKS™

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On the Cover

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2019

MAKING IT THE YEAR TO TAKE ANIMAL PROTECTION TO THE NEXT LEVEL

As the 2019 legislative session nears—spanning from mid-January to mid-March next year—Animal Protection Voters is calling on New Mexico animal advocates to get ready for the 60-day push to pass legislation to address some of the most serious animal cruelty issues facing our state.

Many of the efforts that will be taken up next year will not be new, as several bills expected to be reintroduced have already been considered by the state legislature two or three times before. But the bills will be navigating a new playing field in the wake of Election Day results.

To replace Governor Susana Martinez after having reached her term limit, New Mexico voters elected animal protection champion Congresswoman Michelle Lujan Grisham to occupy the Governor's office come January. She will be joined by the new Lieutenant Governor, another long-time animal protection superstar, state Senator Howie Morales.

The entire State House of Representatives was up for reelection in November as well. Pending any late-breaking changes due to recounts at the time of this writing, the number of pro-animal legislators appears to have increased substantially. That means new pathways to success are opening up and a better future for New Mexico's animals is very possible.

The opportunity to see a dramatic shift in who fills these important policymaking positions created a lot of excitement and determination in New Mexico voters who want humane lawmakers in office. After all, humane values are not Republican, Democratic, or Independent values—humane values are universal across our state and rooted in compassion, justice, and respect for life.

As the dust settles from the 2018 election cycle, APV will be gearing up to do everything possible to advance animal protection in New Mexico.

Continued next page



Photo: Charles Fox/APNM

HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT TO SEE IN THE ROUNDHOUSE IN 2019:

FIGHTING TO END BARBARIC KILLING CONTESTS

One of the most perverse displays of animal cruelty is the slew of coyote killing contests taking place statewide every year. These competitions, where individuals try to kill the most, largest, or smallest coyotes to win prizes, are barbaric, wasteful, and should be stopped. Thousands of wildlife advocates, conservationists, and ethical sportsmen have supported banning these grotesque contests.

Animal Protection Voters has led the effort to legislatively ban coyote killing contests since 2013, and by 2017 the bill was one House floor vote away from passing the legislature. With the help of growing public outcry and allied organizations, we will fight hard to ensure the bill to prohibit coyote killing contests passes once and for all next year.

GETTING SPAY/NEUTER SERVICES FUNDED

According to the most recent data available, more than 135,000 cats and dogs enter our state's animal shelters annually, and almost half are euthanized simply for lack of adoptive homes. This endless cycle of suffering is due in large part to the lack of affordable spay/neuter services in many areas of New Mexico.

However, the answer to reducing euthanasia rates has been found in a bill modeled after measures in other states proven to be

successful and effective: a manufacturer-level \$100 fee, phased in over three years, to be paid by dog/cat food corporations for every label sold in the state, to fund the statewide low-cost spay/neuter programs. Multiple analyses—by Animal Protection Voters and state legislature experts—have shown that this measure will have little to no impact on consumers who purchase pet food, but it will have a monumental life-saving impact on New Mexico's dogs and cats.

RESTRICTING CRUEL TRAPS AND POISONS ON PUBLIC LANDS

Every year, New Mexico's majestic public lands are littered with dangerous, outdated leg-hold traps and snares by fur trappers looking to make money. Also hidden within New Mexico's beautiful landscapes are lethal poisons aimed to exterminate native species for commercial gain. These indiscriminate, ecologically destructive, and inhumane devices have no place on the wild lands that we, our companion animals,

and wildlife all share.

Despite immense opposition from those special interests promoting the status quo, Animal Protection Voters will continue the fight to restrict the unfettered use of traps, snares, and deadly poisons on public lands. New Mexico's neighboring states of Arizona and Colorado, in addition to other states and countries, have already enacted bans.



HUMANE CARE FOR HOMELESS HORSES

New Mexicans value horses and their equine relatives as companions, athletes, partners in work and restorative therapy, among many other roles. Most people want to see equines treated humanely throughout their lives, including when they are homeless after being abandoned or seized from cruelty situations. The same legislation that was passed and pocket-vetoed in 2017

is expected to be reintroduced to ensure that the New Mexico Livestock Board will first give these equines a chance to be rescued, rehabilitated, or adopted out through a registered equine shelter—before auctioning the animals, putting them at risk of sale to slaughterhouse buyers.

AND MORE

Aside from these priority issues, Animal Protection Voters will work to develop and support other initiatives for animal protection, including new ideas for reforming outdated mandatory dog euthanasia laws or ensuring all types of injured wild animals can be treated at wildlife rehabilitation facilities. And if legislators decide to introduce bills that will harm animals, you can bet that APV will do everything possible to prevent those bills from passing.



What can you do to help animals in the policymaking arena? The answer: A lot! See *Actions Everyone Can Take* below.

APNM ACTIONS EVERYONE CAN TAKE

Here's How You Can Make 2019 *Better for Animals*

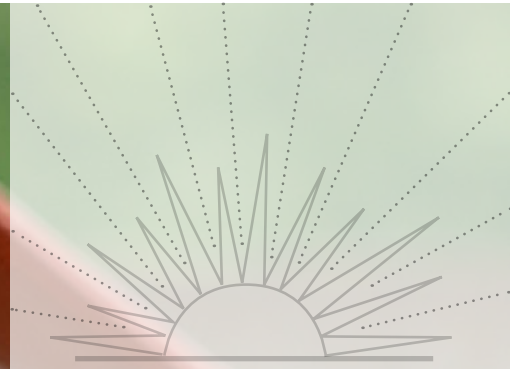
<i>Talk to your legislators right now. Don't wait.</i>	Once the session starts, hectic schedules and heated politics can make it much harder to have your message heard. An invite for a quick cup of coffee or polite request to meet in an office this fall will give you a chance to have one-on-one time with your elected official. Bring a fact sheet, be courteous, and maintain the relationship.
<i>Get ready to lobby your legislators during the session.</i>	Emails work well, and phone calls are even better. Plan a trip to the Roundhouse, if you can. A great way to follow up your excellent pre-session lobbying is to see your legislators while they're in the state capitol during the session.
<i>Attend Animal Lobby Day on Jan. 29, 2019</i>	Mark your calendar! Every year a big animal protection issue is on the table, Animal Protection Voters hosts a Lobby Day to facilitate your participation in the legislative process as a citizen lobbyist, bring attention to animal issues, and celebrate our movement. Stay tuned for more information and start planning your visit to Santa Fe now.

JAN 15 First day of 2019 legislative session

JAN 29 Animal Protection Lobby Day

MAR 16 Last day of 2019 legislative session

APR 5 Governor's signature deadline



A Chimpanzee Named Hope

Everyone wants to be seen with Hope, one of 23 incredible Alamogordo Primate Facility (APF) chimpanzees who reached Chimp Haven earlier this year. Thirty-three years old, Hope was born with alopecia, so she does not have hair, unlike most other chimpanzees. Hope is known for making friends and giving great, reassuring hugs to her fellow chimpanzees at the sanctuary.

Are you ready to hear a remarkable fact?

Our Chimpanzee Sanctuary Fund has now contributed \$600,000 to Chimp Haven to directly support their care of former APF chimpanzees. To all of our generous donors who have made this life-changing support real, thank you. **You made this possible.**

True systemic change is rarely linear, and earlier this year we asked for your help to stop the latest sinister attempts to prevent further movement of chimpanzees out of laboratories (read the *New York Times* story “How to Decide Whether Ailing Chimpanzees Get Moved to Sanctuary” (<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/29/science/ailing-chimps-sanctuary.html>) and our blog at www.ChimpsToSanctuary.org for more information).

If you were one of thousands who spoke up this summer to press the National Institutes of Health for the continued movement of chimpanzees out of laboratories and into sanctuary, thank you again. Our collective dedication has forever changed the lives of hundreds of deserving chimpanzees, in addition to ending the cruel, ineffective, and wasteful practice of invasive research on this species across our nation.

As of this writing, 53 chimpanzees remain in Alamogordo. Many of these survivors are older and diagnosed with multiple chronic illnesses. They all deserve a chance at a richer quality of life, and we continue to work toward the day when the last chimpanzee has been moved out of substandard housing at APF.

Right now, we are grateful for Hope’s resilient soul and all the opportunities for friendship and family she is enjoying at Chimp Haven. We know you will stay with us as we press onward.

We won’t leave the rest behind.

Deb Trattel INVOLVED, IRREVERENT, AND PASSIONATE FOR ANIMAL RIGHTS



In early July, New Mexico’s animal protection community lost a dear friend who was a devoted and generous supporter of positive change for animals in our state. Deb Trattel, a long-time resident of Placitas and decades-long supporter of both APNM and APV, died in her home of pancreatic cancer.

Deb moved to New Mexico in 1986 and shortly thereafter became a volunteer for APNM’s predecessor group, Sangre de Cristo Animal

Protection (SdeCAP). Not content just to volunteer at work parties and be involved in public campaigns for the all-volunteer organization at the time, Deb joined SdeCAP’s board of directors. She served as the board secretary from 1994-1998, helping to forge a stronger and financially healthier organization. As a board member, Deb participated in many sound decisions made at the time, such as changing the organization’s name, focusing on systemic change, and pursuing first-ever strategic planning.

Subsequent to that era, Deb continued to be a very loyal APNM donor, and was also very interested in and supportive of Animal Protection Voters’ efforts. She was passionate about all animal issues but was particularly bothered by vivisection (the use of animals in research). Deb made sure APNM knew she was extremely proud of its work to protect the Alamogordo Primate Facility chimps who had been exposed to so much suffering and trauma for so many years, and for our crucial role in the successful campaign that ended invasive research on chimpanzees in the entire United States.

Deb owned and ran a very successful court reporting business that continues to operate ([Deb Trattel Court Reporting](#)), and she often found a way to support APNM through that business.

Those who knew Deb loved her vibrant personality, fabulous sense of humor, and quick wit. She was extremely generous and compassionate. So many of us will miss Deb and everything she contributed to animal protection efforts over many years in our state.



Deb was the Talking Cow speaking up at a “Milk Dump” demonstration staged at the federal building in downtown Albuquerque in February 1995 to protest the use of rBGH growth hormone in cows.

Top photo of Deb courtesy of her family



OVER 1000

That's how many equines we have helped since the Equine Protection Fund launched in 2010.

In September, we marked the milestone of 1,000 equines helped through the Equine Protection Fund. We're inspired by the ingenuity and tenacity of New Mexicans who continue to meet suffering with hope. Because of our donors, we have helped families, equine rescues, and law enforcement agencies all over the state provide direct care for horses, donkeys, and mules, and we're eager to do even more.

Please join us in celebrating not only this wonderful milestone but also the power of hope and cooperation in helping horses.
equineprotectionfund.org



Dolly's Story COLLABORATION AND DETERMINATION SAVE A YOUNG FOAL AND TWO HORSES

If you're not already rooting for Dolly the foal who is getting stronger with each passing day, let her story of resilience speak to your heart.

In August, Dolly was orphaned, emaciated and weak. She was in a band of three horses running east of Hagerman, New Mexico, in Chaves County. We can't know from Dolly exactly what happened before she was rescued or what led her to where she was found, with a mare who does not appear to be her mother, and a stud who she's bonded to but is also likely not her biological father. All of the horses were feral and at risk of being cruelly slaughtered. Dolly was in grave danger.

Today, thanks to expert care from Mustang Camp, supported in part by the Equine Protection Fund, Dolly is enjoying high quality food, safe spaces to nap, and positive reinforcement training.

Mustang Camp co-founder Patricia Barlow-Irick speaks about the recent rescue of Dolly's band of horses with pragmatic determination. "Four rescues worked together to make that happen—nobody had the resources to do it on their own."

McKinley County Humane Society-Equine Aid, Mustang Camp, Walkin' N Circles Ranch, Four Corners Equine Rescue and their Estray Fund all worked together to place

bids on the three horses from Chaves County, coordinate their transport, and apply for our Equine Protection Fund assistance.

Dolly's case illustrates that healing and helping can be magnified when our community works together.



Top photo: Dolly resting after breakfast; bottom photo: Dolly enjoys high quality hay. *Photos courtesy of Mustang Camp*

All around the state

APNM's 2018 New Mexico Animal Shelter Survey is nearing completion. Updated statistics compiled from over 60 shelters will enable animal advocates to communicate clearly to the public, lawmakers, and others the extreme challenges caused by companion animal overpopulation and demonstrate the need for statewide spay/neuter funding.

Mora

Helping to prevent unwanted dogs and cats in rural northern New Mexico, APNM's new Humane Communities: Mora County initiative has been making an impact in the region by subsidizing spay/neuter surgeries and vaccinations. Since January, 191 spay/neuters have been performed, and 171 rabies vaccinations have been administered. We honor local coordinator and volunteer, the late Patt Lovato, who helped make this program highly effective, visible, and meaningful to residents there.

McKinley County

Thanks to a transformative bequest from McKinley County animal advocate, Valerie King, APNM launched its Humane Communities: McKinley County initiative, by funding the highly effective transport program for the Gallup/McKinley County Humane Society (MCHS). So far, 2,666 dogs have been given a second chance at a forever home in highly screened shelters in Colorado and elsewhere. This support has freed up MCHS resources to dramatically increase spay/neuter surgeries in the region to 2,021 already this year, putting the shelter on track to doing twice as many surgeries as they did in 2017.

Valencia

APNM's Leslie King collaborated with Valencia County's Jess Weston to secure a generous \$11,353 grant from the Dennis Friends Foundation to construct a comfortable "Meet and Greet" area at the Valencia County Animal Shelter. This more private space allows dogs and potential adopters to interact in a stress-free zone to increase the dogs' chances of finding their best match for a forever home.



The new Meet and Greet area at Valencia County Animal Shelter



Witness animal cruelty or neglect?

CALL THE APNM Animal Cruelty Hotline

1-877-5-HUMANE
(1-877-548-6263)

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

HOARDING HURTS



Animal hoarding is a tragic and all too common problem across the United States. However, an especially large number of high-profile animal hoarding cases in rural parts of New Mexico have been in the news recently. These cases have also been dominating the work of APNM's cruelty case manager for many weeks. What is particularly disturbing is that in several of these cases, self-described "rescues" and "sanctuaries" were the perpetrators.

Many of the animals in their "care" came from open admission shelters, which are inundated with unwanted animals daily. These well-meaning people thought they were "saving" the animals from humane euthanasia at the shelter, but the animals then suffered in atrocious conditions at the hands of their "rescuers."

How Spay/Neuter Programs Can Save Lives and Reduce Hoarding

It is a very worthy goal for shelters to work toward not having to euthanize animals because they lack enough space for all the animals in their custody. But in order to achieve that goal, much more spay/neuter of companion animals is needed. This will reduce the number of intact animals and the unwanted offspring they generate, thereby reducing the numbers of animals brought into shelters. We know that the biggest barrier to people spaying and neutering their animals in New Mexico is access to affordable services. By working towards the availability of affordable, accessible spay/neuter services, we can reduce the number of animals in shelters, and lessen the likelihood that hoarding will develop.

Each of us can help by spaying and neutering our own companion animals. And if you suspect animal hoarding, please contact your local animal control or law enforcement agency (find out who they are in our Animal Resource Guide: <http://apnm.org/publications/nmarg/>). You can also call APNM's Cruelty Hotline at 1-877-5-HUMANE.

What is Hoarding?

According to the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders**, animal hoarding is described as a condition associated with Hoarding Disorder and defined by "the accumulation of a large number of animals and a failure to provide minimal standards of nutrition, sanitation, and veterinary care and to act on the deteriorating condition of the animals (eg, disease, starvation, death) and the environment (eg, severe overcrowding, extremely unsanitary conditions)."

Simply put, animal hoarding occurs when someone has more animals than they can properly care for. Often the animals aren't spayed and neutered, and the hoarder keeps taking in more and more animals. As the number of animals grows larger, clear signs of hoarding develop: crowded conditions, animals not receiving adequate care, increasing odor from excrement, and even noise issues from barking and howling. Animal excrement, sick, and even deceased animals combine to produce a very powerful smell, even far from the hoarding site or on the hoarder him/herself.

While legitimate rescues facilitate animal adoption, hoarders who call themselves "rescues" often will not adopt out animals, believing no one can care for them as "well" as they do. If a local rescuer takes in animals but never adopts any out, that warrants serious inquiry. Likewise, legitimate sanctuaries don't take in animals if they are already full, but hoarders generally can't resist "rescuing" another animal (or two or three), even if there isn't enough space or there aren't enough resources.

*<https://www.psychiatry.org/psychiatrists/practice/dsm>

Albuquerque Public Schools (APS) Honors *The Animal Connection*

At the September 5th meeting of the Albuquerque Public School board, APNM's *The Animal Connection* and *The Animal Connection Jr.* curricula were honored for their **effective programs delivered**, in partnership with Southwest Canine Corps of Volunteers (SCCV), for numerous elementary and mid-schools in the Albuquerque school district.

We were honored to be recognized by APS. Our popular humane education curricula have grown far beyond Albuquerque. What began with just three classrooms in Los Lunas now stretches from Mora to Magdalena. The map below indicates where we have provided humane education lessons.

AC= *The Animal Connection*; **AC Jr.=** *The Animal Connection, Junior*
SP= Special Presentations



Left to right: Mike Salo with SCCV therapy dog Dennis; Todd Torgerson, Chief of APS HR and Legal Support Services; Sherry Mangold, APNM Education Director with SCCV therapy dog Erizo; Cindy Wacek, APNM educator with SCCV therapy dog Xena; and Delores Chamberlain with SCCV therapy dog Pretzel.

BERNALILLO COUNTY

- Alamosa Elementary: AC Jr. for 1st grade; AC for 5th grade
- Dolores Gonzales Elementary: SP for 4th grade
- East San Jose Elementary: AC Jr. for 1st grade; AC for 4th grade
- La Mesa Elementary: AC Jr. for 1st grade; AC for 4th/5th grade split classes
- McCullum Elementary: SP for 1st and 5th grades
- Mitchell Elementary: SP for all grades
- Valle Vista Elementary: SP for 4th grade
- 7-Bar Elementary: AC for 4th grade classes
- Cleveland Mid-School: SP for 6th grade
- Van Buren Mid-School: SP for all grades in-house suspension
- Vision Quest Alternative Mid-School (Hayes and John Adams): AC programs for grades 6-8
- Washington Mid-School: SP for all grades in-house suspension
- East Mountain High: SP for 11th and 12th grades
- South Valley Academy: SP for all grades

CIBOLA COUNTY

- Laguna Pueblo: Summer Academy for HS students: SP

MORA COUNTY

- Mora Elementary: AC Jr. for 1st grade; 3 SP for summer school

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY

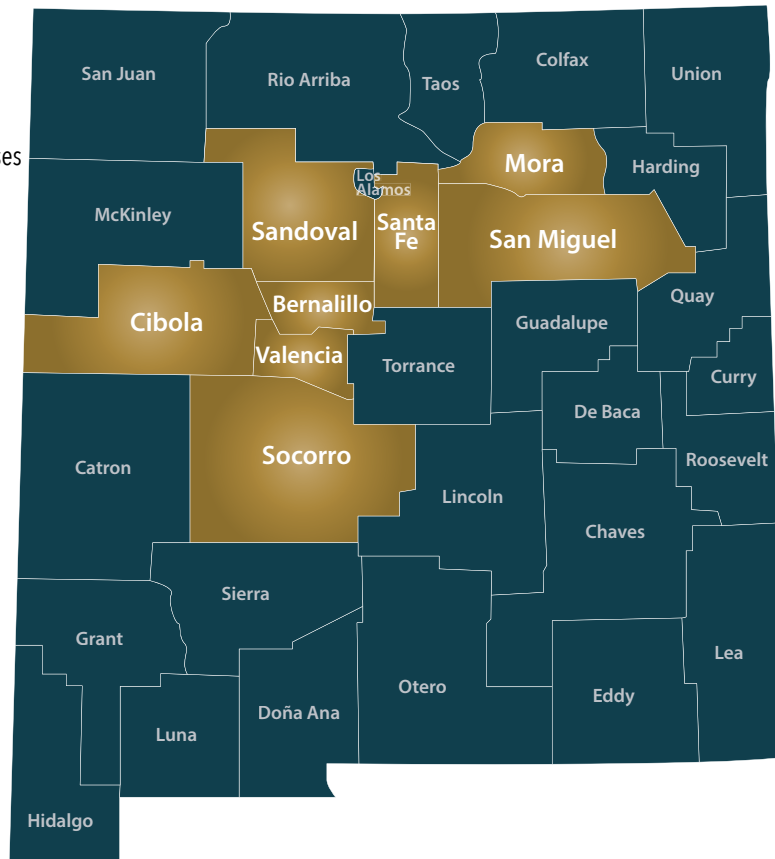
- Rio Gallinas Charter School: AC Jr. for 1st/2nd grade combined classes

SANDOVAL COUNTY

- Cochiti Elementary: AC Jr. for 1st grade, SP for 5th grade
- Jemez Elementary: SP for 1st, 5th grades
- Santo Domingo Pueblo Elementary: AC Jr. for 1st grade
- Santa Ana Pueblo: SP for Summer Students and Elders
- Algodones Elementary: AC Jr. for 1st grade; AC for 4th grade
- Colinas Del Norte: SP grades 1-3
- Maggie Cordova: SP grades 1-3

SOCORRO COUNTY

- Parkview Elementary: SP for 1st-3rd grades
- Magdalena Elementary: SP for 1st-3rd grades



SANTA FE COUNTY

- Gonzales Elementary: AC Jr. for kindergarten
- Kearny Elementary: AC Jr. for 1st grade and AC for 5th grade
- Nava Elementary: AC Jr. for 1st grade and AC for 6th grade
- Eldorado Community School: AC Jr. for 1st grade
- Route 66 Elementary: SP for grades 1-3

VALENCIA COUNTY

- Isleta Elementary: SP for 5th grade
- Isleta Pueblo: SP for Pre-K, 1st- 5th grades and Elders
- Valencia Elementary: AC Jr. for 1st grade; AC for 3rd grade
- Desert View Elementary: AC for 5th grade



FOR YOU. FOR ANIMALS.

plant-based eating

ANIMAL PROTECTION OF
NEW MEXICO

The damaging effects of meat consumption by Americans include misery and suffering felt by farmed animals, unparalleled negative health consequences for people, and the carbon footprint which contributes inordinately to human-caused global climate disruption.

This year, Animal Protection of New Mexico is dramatically magnifying its efforts to promote and expand plant-based eating in New Mexico through a new Plant-Based Eating program. Supported by a generous grant, APNM's recently hired Plant-Based Eating program manager, Tony Quintana, will be exploring ways of reaching the greatest numbers of New Mexicans to make plant-based eating easier and more accessible.

Cafeterias in colleges, universities, private and public schools, corporations, and even prisons provide great potential for helping people eat healthier and more humane diets. Savvy restaurant owners will know that restaurants that offer plant-based options are more successful because they can accommodate a broader segment of the public. APNM will be looking at opportunities with government institutions, public offerings such as plant-based cooking classes, and health-related continuing education classes. APNM is confident this program will lead to a meaningful and positive shift in how people eat in New Mexico.

Connect: [Facebook.com/PBENM](https://www.facebook.com/PBENM)

Santa Fe's New Vegan Food Truck Supports APV

"Ninety five percent of people love animals, but 95% of people eat animals, so there is a real disconnect." This is how Dave Holland, Animal Protection Voters (APV) board member, describes his inspiration for the recent launch of the Root 66 Food Truck in Santa Fe. Dave and fellow APV board member and vegan activist, JC Corcoran, have been pondering how best to promote plant-based eating in New Mexico for a long time. Both have always felt strongly about the value of plant-based eating as a way to reduce suffering and harm to animals, improve health, and protect the environment.

About two years ago, Dave purchased and renovated a food truck from El Paso, Texas. Dave and JC teamed up with Gail Patak, a PCRM *Food for Life** Instructor

and celebrated vegan chef, and her husband Ron Patak who has been in the business of running restaurants for over 40 years. Together they formed Root 66, LLC, a private entity that will rent and operate the vegan food truck in the Santa Fe area. "The goal of Root 66," Dave explained, "is not only to provide a place for vegans to eat, but also to offer traditional and 'comfort food' that everyone is familiar with. We want a place for non-vegans to discover and be amazed by the quality and taste of the food." A percentage of the food truck profits will be donated to Animal Protection Voters.

*Learn more about Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine's *Food for Life* program here: <https://www.pcrm.org/health/diets/ffl/classes>



THE WHEEL OF LIFE

It takes a village to raise a child, and it takes whole communities to support the work to improve animals' lives. This year, Animal Protection of New Mexico has been privileged to receive support from two special sources.

505 Cycling Thanks to APNM board member Dr. Susan Diaz, a pedaling enthusiast, the club picked APNM as its nonprofit partner in the 505 Cycling Classic. The second-largest bike event in New Mexico, held every April, the race drew cyclists from New Mexico, Texas, Colorado, and Arizona. The nearly 200 riders braved high winds on the East Mountain route as APNM volunteers cheered them on.

Afterward, at a special reception, 505 Race Director Silvio Menezes presented APNM with a check for \$3,200. Every dollar will go to life-affirming programs and policy work on behalf of animals. Thank you, 505 Cycling!



Photo:Joan David

Sophia's Giving Circle of Placitas and New Mexico Peace Corps Association

Remember reading about Sophia's Giving Circle of Placitas in the Making Tracks 2018—Issue 1? This group of philanthropic friends has supported APNM's humane education curriculum in their own Sandoval County, for 4th graders at Algodones Elementary. This year they went a step further, securing a \$300 grant from the New Mexico Peace Corps Association, a group of returned Peace Corps volunteers, to expand *The Animal Connection* to 1st graders.

Michael DeLongchamp, who applied for the NMPCA grant, added: "After learning about *The Animal Connection* from one of our Giving Circle members, another individual wrote us a check for \$250 to cover the remaining costs. We are very excited to be able to expand the curriculum this year."

It just goes to show, sharing your joy in giving can inspire others to give, too.

"*The Animal Connection* has a far-reaching impact beyond the elementary school classroom. This curriculum touches the lives of the children and their families along with all the animals in those children's lives. We believe that anything we can do to prevent animal cruelty and improve the thoughtful decision-making of children is a plus for us and our future. We also have come to believe that the *The Animal Connection* helps the children expand their understanding of what

responsibilities there are in having animals as part of their family. The decisions those children help to make in their homes also appear to reflect an increased understanding of the impact of kindness toward other people as well. Sophia's Giving Circle of Placitas is happy to support *The Animal Connection* and proud of the effect it has on the children, school-yard relationships, families, and the communities that are touched by this curriculum."

—Sophia's Giving Circle of Placitas



Lyndi Martinez, one of APNM's humane educators, teaches *The Animal Connection* to a 1st grade class at Mora Elementary. Photo by Cindy Wacek



WILL YOU STAND UP FOR THOSE WHO NEED YOUR HELP?

Join Animal Protection Voters for Lobby Day this January at the state capitol. We are **the** voice for all animals in New Mexico. More details soon at [facebook.com/events/1170212253127794/](https://www.facebook.com/events/1170212253127794/)

**ANIMAL
LOBBY DAY**
Jan. 29, 2019





PO Box 11395
Albuquerque NM 87192
www.apnm.org

Making sure animals matter in every New Mexican community.



You are the guest of honor...

APNM and APV create lasting, meaningful change for animals only because of you, our supporters. Let us show you some love at our annual Donor Appreciation Party. Come enjoy delicious vegan refreshments with board, staff, and fellow animal advocates. Together, let's celebrate 2018 accomplishments and gear up for a powerful, compassionate new year!

**Thursday, December 6th
5:30 to 7:00 p.m.**

APNM/APV's Santa Fe Office
1111 Paseo de Peralta
Santa Fe, NM 87501
RSVP: tisha@apnm.org

APNM **FACES**



Photo by Steve Romero

Dr. Susan Diaz

Susan's concern for and advocacy on behalf of animals began at the very early age of three years, according to her mother. Since then, she's been committed to speaking and acting for those who cannot do so for themselves. She began her career as a social worker with deaf and hard of hearing adolescents in the Boston Public Schools. In 1989, she came to New Mexico when she shifted her focus to medicine, completing medical training and pediatric residency at the University of New Mexico in 1999 and specialized training in pediatric critical care at Rady Children's Hospital, San Diego in 2002. She then returned to New Mexico to work at Presbyterian Healthcare Services.

Since 2014, she has been proud to serve on the board of APNM. She and her husband share their home with two rescued dogs, and a pond filled with fish and local toads. They follow a plant-based diet and are avid cyclists. Through their involvement with 505 Cycling, they were able to forge a new collaboration in which the team now supports APNM with proceeds from their cycling events. They continue to rescue and rehome many companion animals and wildlife, and support the work of multiple animal welfare and rescue organizations in the U.S. and abroad. Serving on the APNM board of directors and speaking and acting on behalf of children and animals in the state of New Mexico are activities Susan finds enormously rewarding.