

MAKING TRACKS

A PUBLICATION OF ANIMAL PROTECTION OF NEW MEXICO 2019 ISSUE 1

VICTORY FOR THE UNDERDOG





Dear Friend of the Animals,

Late last year, Animal Protection of New Mexico launched its *Promoting Plant-Based Eating* program, and we couldn't be more excited about the possibilities this program creates. As people everywhere on the planet grapple with the sobering reality of the climate crisis, it is especially timely that Animal Protection of New Mexico engages in a meaningful way to help limit the damage to our planet and all life who share it.

Indeed, it is indisputable that adopting a plant-based diet is one of the most powerful ways each person can have a significant and positive impact on the climate crisis. The benefits include reduced water and land usage by growing plants people eat directly, versus raising animals who consume plants and water only to be killed for food that feeds fewer people. In addition, animal agriculture accounts for a staggering amount of greenhouse gas emissions—including methane and carbon dioxide—in fact more than the entire transportation sector. Massive amounts of untreated fecal material flows off the land as waste from factory farms and into our waterways, harming fish and other aquatic and plant species on which so much life depends.

Of course these reasons complement another compelling and obvious reason to switch to a plant-based diet: to avoid participating in an industrial agriculture system that harms and kills about nine billion animals—every year—just in the United States.

A plant-based diet also benefits New Mexico's native wildlife, like the much-maligned coyotes who are unfairly blamed for almost every difficulty faced by ranchers in the West. This year, our legislative arm, Animal Protection Voters, and other key allies in our state succeeded in banning coyote killing contests, grotesque body-count competitions that are ineffective, cruel, and harmful to healthy ecosystems. When you don't eat cows and other grazing animals, you're also not supporting the indiscriminate and indefensible killing of wild neighbors just trying to survive on the landscape.

With facts like these, the course is clear: changing to a plant-based diet is an ethical imperative.

Animal Protection of New Mexico is determined to make it easy, accessible, and enjoyable for you to adopt a plant-based diet. Keep reading this issue of *Making Tracks* for your inspiration.

Sincerely yours,

Elisabeth Jennings
Executive Director

MAKING TRACKS™

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On the Cover

Photo by J E Newman

A Busy Legislative Session, Hard Work, Dedicated Volunteers, **AND A GROUND-BREAKING LAW IS PASSED**



The 2019 state legislative session, mid-January to mid-March, was one of the most grueling sessions in recent years. ***Legislators introduced a staggering 1,663 bills, memorials, and resolutions in 2019. With the help of Animal Protection Voters' incredible volunteers, we were able to review all of them.*** Thirty-six bills required either monitoring or lobbying throughout the session due to their potential to impact animals for better or for worse. Of those 36 pieces of legislation on our radar, we actively supported 22, four of which were major Animal Protection Voters-driven priorities for the year.

By the end of the session, only 309 bills passed the Legislature and reached the Governor's desk—including one Animal Protection Voters priority bill and three other pro-animal bills, all of which were signed into law.

The most groundbreaking animal bill to cross the finish line was Senate Bill 76, banning coyote killing contests statewide.

We are proud of this victory, the culmination of a long-fought campaign that began when Animal Protection Voters first documented a coyote killing contest in 2000, then attempted to have the contests stopped under the animal cruelty statute, and ultimately pursued legislation to ban them outright starting in 2013. We are enormously grateful to every single one of our allies and supporters who sent emails, made phone calls, circulated petitions, lobbied lawmakers, and testified at hearings in order to pass this legislation. At last, gruesome competitions to kill the most coyotes will be prohibited in New Mexico, starting July 1, 2019. Read more about this victory on page 4.

Other pro-animal bills that Animal Protection Voters supported and were signed into law were:

- **Senate Bill 228 (the Wildlife Corridors Act)**, directing the New Mexico Department of Game & Fish (NMDGF) and Department of Transportation (NMDOT) to develop a Wildlife Corridors Action Plan to include identification of

existing highway crossings and other human barriers that pose a risk to wildlife migration, and development of a list of projects that minimize habitat fragmentation, allow for safe wildlife passage, and increase public safety;

- **Senate Bill 383**, allowing the NMDGF to promulgate rules on use of certain technology data (like GPS collar locations) acquired from public information requests in order to prevent individuals from unfairly using that data to locate and kill vulnerable animals wearing collars; and
- **Senate Bill 234**, creating a new special pollinator protection license plate, to raise funds for the NMDOT to conduct pollinator protection activities, such as roadside vegetation planting, educational signage, and demonstration gardens.

We were disappointed that our other priority bills did not pass, despite immense public support and hundreds of hours of advocacy by Animal Protection Voters and others. **Senate Bill 367** to create a spay/neuter funding mechanism via pet food manufacturer fees, **House Bill 218** to give equine shelters the first chance to take in, rehabilitate, and find homes for homeless and abused horses in state custody (rather than requiring they be automatically auctioned), and **House Bill 366 (Roxy's Law)** to restrict traps, snares, and poisons on public lands ultimately failed to pass the legislature. But we refuse to be thwarted by the slow, vexing legislative process and vow to be back, year after year, until these important changes in law are achieved.

For more in-depth information on the 2019 state legislative session's challenges and moments of celebration, look for Animal Protection Voters' 2019 Scorecard, which will be published later this year. Until then, let's enjoy the progress we've made and let out a "yip, yip, hurray!" for New Mexico's coyotes.

(Continued from previous page)

The End of Gruesome Coyote Killing Contests



Bill co-sponsors Senators Mark Moores (left) and Jeff Steinborn (right).

Photos: Courtesy of the Legislative Council Service

Coyotes have been vilified and exterminated for over a century. As an outgrowth of the misguided hatred toward this resilient species, gruesome “killing contests” have cropped up across New Mexico—and across the country—capitalizing on coyotes’ unprotected status and glorifying their massacre.

Coyote killing contests are organized competitions in which participants compete for prizes or entertainment by attempting to kill the most coyotes over a time period. The coyotes are randomly targeted and lured with calling devices. Often, contests feature special prizes for the largest and smallest coyotes killed. One recent “small dog winner” in New Mexico was a 9 lb. coyote pup.

These contests are appalling and pointless. Published scientific research confirms that mass killing of coyotes disrupts pack social structure, often increasing breeding within the pack and resulting in overall population increase and rogue behavior. Myriad non-lethal coexistence and deterrence measures can prevent conflicts with coyotes.

Thankfully, on March 12, 2019, Senate Bill 76 (Prohibit Coyote Killing Contests) passed the Legislature, having been approved by the New Mexico Senate with a 22-17 vote and the New Mexico House of Representatives by a 37-30 vote.

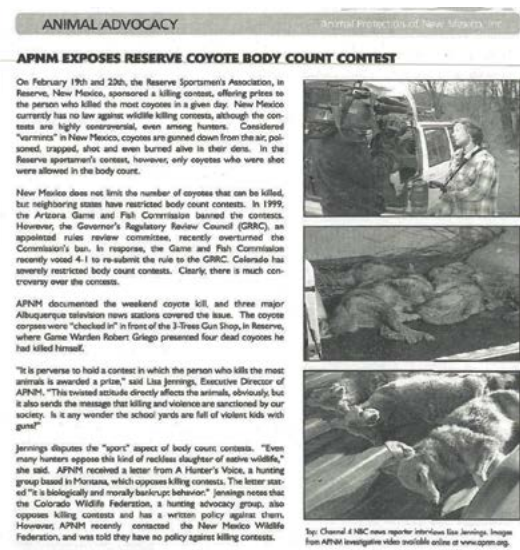
Then, on April 2, 2019, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham signed Senate Bill 76 into law—making New Mexico the third state in the country to ban coyote killing contests.

This victory has been almost two decades

in the making: It’s the culmination of work to draw attention to and outlaw coyote killing contests since Animal Protection Voters staff first attended and documented a carcass check-in at a contest held in 2000 in southwestern New Mexico.

Our work to stop these contests began with an unsuccessful effort to prohibit them through applying provisions that already existed in the animal cruelty statute. When that approach was not fruitful, it was clear a new law had to be passed. Legislative efforts rose to a fever pitch starting in 2013, in the wake of the very provocative promotion of a killing contest by an Albuquerque business in late 2012. It was clear the public wanted to see these gruesome contests stopped, leading us to work with the bill’s first sponsor, Rep. Nathan Cote (D-Organ), in 2013. Like with almost all legislation, it took time for some legislators to fully understand and eventually support it. Since 2013 we have worked closely with new bill sponsors, the intrepid team of Sen. Mark Moores and Sen. Jeff Steinborn, navigating bill language, lobbying, and coordinating with allies. In 2018, we and other allies brought even more pressure to bear on the issue, when the Albuquerque city council passed a resolution in support of killing contest ban legislation, and when New Mexico’s new State Land Commissioner, Stephanie Garcia Richard, signed an executive order prohibiting killing contests on 9 million acres of state trust land.

By supporting Animal Protection Voters, you have made this change possible.



**We were told time and again
that a bill like Senate Bill 76
could never pass in a state like
New Mexico. We didn't listen.
Together, we persevered.**

Animal Protection of New Mexico newsletter from 2000, showing Executive Director Lisa Jennings being interviewed by Channel 4 NBC news, and photos of killed coyotes piled in pickup trucks.

“When I saw those pictures [of bodies of coyotes killed in a killing contest, piled high on a truck, being driven around town], I decided alright, as a libertarian, as a freedom-loving Republican, that’s enough. Because I don’t want to live in a culture of wanton killing. I stand up for life.”

—Sen. Mark Moores, speaking on the Senate floor, in support of SB 76.

“Many hunters that I know don’t consider these contests to be hunting. In fact, they view this as a blight on hunters who actually hunt according to the North American Model, which means you do not waste wildlife, you do not kill wantonly, you do not kill wildlife to commercialize it. . . This is an abhorrent fringe activity.”

—Sen. Jeff Steinborn, speaking on the Senate floor, in support of SB 76.



the year of the

VEGAN

Congresswoman Deb Haaland

Senator Cory Booker

Beyoncé

Want some ideas on *where to eat, what to cook, and more?*
Visit apnm.org/plantbased

The weekly news magazine, *The Economist*, named 2019 “The Year of the Vegan” and there couldn’t be a more fitting slogan for this year. With millennials leading the charge in so many aspects of our lives, each day more and more people are pursuing plant-based diets or at least are decreasing the amount of animal products they consume. Businesses are scrambling to keep up with the increasing demand for plant-based products. Even fast food giants such as Burger King, Carl’s Jr., and Del Taco have added plant-based faux meat products to their menus in select areas. Plant-based eating is also being adopted more among athletes, with members of the Tennessee Titans and New England Patriots crediting their plant-based diets for their improved performance and recovery. Carl’s Jr. aired a commercial during the 2019 Super Bowl advertising their new plant-based burger, which was the first time a vegan food product has been featured and promoted in a Super Bowl ad!

While many celebrities have also been talking about plant-based diets in recent years, 2019 kicked off with superstar couple **Beyoncé** and **Jay-Z** joining the movement by offering fans a chance to win concert tickets for life in exchange for pledging to adopt a more plant-based diet. Veganism has even become a topic in politics, with vegan **Senator Cory Booker** announcing his presidential bid, **Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez** making headlines by talking about meat and dairy’s impacts on climate change, and New Mexico’s own **Congresswoman Deb Haaland** advocating for plant-based eating. With so many social influencers behind the movement, it’s safe to say plant-based diets are breaking into the mainstream.

Animal Protection of New Mexico’s *Promoting Plant-Based Eating* program is building on this momentum by working to expand local plant-based options throughout the community, and providing community outreach, education, and resources for switching to a plant-based diet. For more information visit www.apnm.org/plantbased or email plantbased@apnm.org.

SWITCHING TO A PLANT-BASED DIET

With so many different ways to protect animals, switching to a plant-based diet is perhaps one of the most impactful actions an individual can take. Adopting a plant-based diet means cutting meat and other animal products (such as milk, eggs, and cheese) out of your diet, and building your meals around plants like grains, fruits, vegetables, nuts, seeds, and beans. There is no “right” way to follow a plant-based diet; what’s important is focusing on what works for you and making sure you are getting a variety of foods to meet your nutritional needs.

There are delicious plant-based versions of just about any animal-based product you can think of including beef, chicken, cheese, milk, butter, and so much more! With these replacement products, you can recreate traditional foods and comfort foods that you might miss when switching to a plant-based diet. Animal Protection of New Mexico’s *Promoting Plant-Based Eating* program is one of several initiatives in New Mexico offering resources to aid in adopting a plant-based diet. In addition to helping protect animals with your food choices, switching to a plant-based diet comes with additional bonuses such as improved health and wellness and reducing your carbon footprint.



Tofu “Bacon” Strips

These Tofu “Bacon” Strips are a favorite at the home of *Promoting Plant-Based Eating* Program Manager Tony Quintana. The kids especially love their sweet and savory flavor. While these delicious strips taste nothing like meat-based bacon, they are a delectable addition to any breakfast.

Recipe adapted from:
allrecipes.com/recipe/22980/faken-veggie-bacon/

Ingredients

- ¼ cup maple syrup
- ¼ cup low sodium soy sauce
- 1 Tbsp nutritional yeast
- 2 tsp onion powder
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 block extra firm tofu
- Vegan Butter or oil (for pan frying)

Directions

Place tofu in freezer at least 24 hours before preparing. (Freezing the tofu gives it a tougher texture and makes it easier to cook without it falling apart.)

When ready to prepare, completely defrost tofu and drain as much water out of the tofu as possible.

Whisk all ingredients, except for the tofu, in a wide shallow dish.

Cut the tofu into 12 strips. Dip each strip into the mixture and allow to soak up as much of the mixture as possible. (You may have a little mixture left over; it comes out a little differently each time, depending on how well the tofu is drained.)

Fry the tofu in a small amount of vegan butter or oil over medium-high heat for about 3 minutes on each side or until crispy.

Note: photo above shows Tofu “Bacon” Strips in a TLT (tofu, lettuce, tomato and Veganaise) sandwich.

All around the state

Following the passage of state legislation in 2017, the state's Animal Sheltering Board (ASB) recently got its own "forever home" by becoming the Animal Sheltering Committee (ASC) under the New Mexico Board of Veterinary Medicine. The ASC will continue to ensure New Mexico's shelters receive guidance and technical assistance to provide the best animal care possible with limited shelter resources, and that spay/neuter services are optimized to help the most animals possible in our state's neediest communities. For more details about the ASC, go to www.nmbvm.org.

McKinley County

Thanks to a generous donor, our Humane Communities-McKinley County program services provided 40 doghouses and straw to the Gallup-McKinley County Humane Society, whose dedicated team deployed the lifesaving supplies to dogs who were in immediate danger of freezing to death during the coldest weather at the beginning of 2019. Outreach continues, including providing free spay/neuter surgeries for these animals in need, and encouraging people to consider sharing their own homes with their companion animals.

Valencia County

The Animal Connection (adult version) curriculum is underway at the Central New Mexico Correctional Facility. Animal Protection of New Mexico's Sherry Mangold teaches carefully vetted inmates how to appropriately train pups from the Valencia County Shelter. The inmates also attend classes that provide information on all aspects of humanely caring for a companion animal. After 12 weeks, the pups are adopted by families on a waiting list, and the inmates then prepare for the next group of dogs. Because the pups live in the pods with the inmates, more space is available at the shelter for other animals, and the inmates rebuild feelings of empathy, learn patience, accept responsibility, and gain structure and purpose in their lives. As of February 2019, 42 dogs from this program have been placed in loving homes.

Sandoval County

An Animal Protection of New Mexico staff member is serving as a citizen member of the Sandoval County Free-Roaming Horse Advisory Council, tasked with studying issues and making recommendations to the Sandoval County Commission regarding the Placitas wild horses. This is an important opportunity for our expertise to help the community find consensus around humane, sustainable management and protection for the horses.



The Animal Connection at Central New Mexico Correctional Facility



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.*

A Tribute to Kaye Ballard

The staff and board of Animal Protection of New Mexico were lucky Kaye Ballard found her way to New Mexico, following a lifetime love of our Land of Enchantment, a place she called “inspiring.” Ballard, a legendary Broadway, television, and nightclub star from the golden era of Hollywood, was also a vocal advocate for animals.

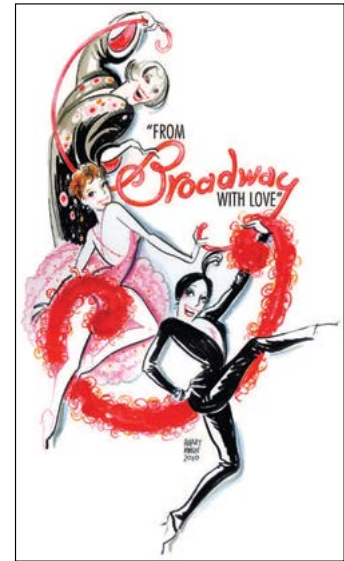
In September 2010, Ballard teamed up with Broadway and Hollywood stars Donna McKechnie and prima ballerina Liliane Montevecchi, to star in a gala performance “From Broadway with Love” at the historic Lensic Performing Arts Center in Santa Fe. The Santa Fe show, an ensemble of music, comedy,

and dance, was produced as a benefit for Animal Protection of New Mexico. The Broadway show was performed in several other locations in the United States and even overseas, delighting audiences and raising funds for other animal protection organizations as well.

For the last decade of her life, Kaye spent long periods of each year in Santa Fe, enjoying the beautiful blue skies, and time spent with local friends. During that time, she learned about Animal Protection of New Mexico’s effective programs and she told us often how much she loved and appreciated the depth of our work.

Kaye Ballard died at her Rancho Mirage, California home, with her beloved rescue dogs—Cracker, Cherí, Jacqueline, and Emma—at her side, on January 21, 2019. She provided

a bequest for Animal Protection of New Mexico as her final gift to the animals and a meaningful legacy of a compassionate life well lived.



“From Broadway with Love” playbill



Kaye Ballard with her beloved, adopted dogs. Photo courtesy of her estate.

When the New Mexico community comes together, great things can happen for animals.

Animal Protection of New Mexico is honored to receive support from Sweetwater Harvest Kitchen and Nusenda Credit Union.

Sweetwater Harvest Kitchen

We extend a big thank you to Soma Franks and Fiona Wong, owners of Santa Fe's Sweetwater Harvest Kitchen, for choosing Animal Protection of New Mexico to be the beneficiary of a recent restaurant fundraiser. During February, 2% of all cash sales were donated to Animal Protection of New Mexico, with almost \$500 raised. Patrons were able to enjoy a vegan meal, learn about our work in the community, and make a difference for animals. "Our community inspires us. It is our pleasure to

invest in the organizations that keep Santa Fe progressive, thriving, and dedicated to serving each other," exclaimed Soma. On behalf of New Mexico's animals, we are very grateful.

Nusenda Credit Union Supports Humane Education for a Second Year

Thanks to a \$5,000 grant from Nusenda Credit Union through their Community Rewards program, presentations from *The Animal Connection* curriculum were provided for 457 elementary and mid-school students and over 600 adults in New Mexico. The Community Rewards program is the primary giving program of the Nusenda Foundation. Animal Protection of New Mexico was selected



as an "Environment and Wildlife beneficiary" through an application process that included a review of our mission, vision, community impact, and unique services.

The giving program is made possible through the financial partnership between Nusenda Credit Union and its members, who contribute with qualifying use of their Visa® debit cards.

Thank you, Nusenda, for supporting Animal Protection of New Mexico's unique and influential curriculum that teaches both children and adults awareness, responsibility, and empathy for animals, peers, and adults alike.



Sherry Mangold, Animal Protection of New Mexico's Education Program Manager, engages 1st-grade students at East San Jose Elementary school to read, assisted by therapy dog, Erizo. Photo courtesy of Nusenda Credit Union.

Generosity is Contagious. Are You Inspired?

To raise sufficient funds for our powerful work, we aim to expand our community of dedicated individuals. Over time, our well-informed friends and businesses know so much about our cause and its importance, that they then become our mission advocates in the larger community.

We invite you to talk to your networks. Perhaps your neighborhood restaurant, brew pub, gym, or school will hold the next fundraiser for Animal Protection of New Mexico? You may also designate your United Way, Benevity, or other workplace giving campaign donations to Animal Protection of New Mexico (applicable fees may apply). Your employer might even agree to distribute our literature at your workplace, thereby encouraging other employees to learn more about how to support our programs.

Do you know any businesses or individuals who might be interested in supporting our work? Share your feedback and ideas with us at dorothee@apnm.org or call Dorothee Hutchinson at 505-553-4703.





Animal Protection Lobby Day attendees
Photo by J E Newman

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU

The grassroots power of New Mexico's animal advocates was evident at this year's Animal Protection Lobby Day. Many thanks to everyone—from advocates and volunteers, to the PERA and Capitol building staff, to the local businesses that provided refreshments—for making the event a great success. There's no doubt that the power of your collective voices and actions were instrumental in building momentum for animal protection legislation.



PLEASE SUPPORT ANIMAL PROTECTION VOTERS: apvnm.org/donate



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

Chimp Freedom

PARTY 6.22.19 11:30am-1:00pm
@Hollow Spirits Distillery ABQ *celebrate chimps in sanctuary*

RSVP by June 13: Marisa at 505-933-0572 or marisa@apnm.org

APNM FACES



Tisha cuddles with *The Animal Connection* therapy dog, Erizo. Photo by Daniel Abram.

Tisha Edmonds, Animal Protection of New Mexico's and Animal Protection Voters' Donor Relations Manager, has worked with the organizations in a variety of roles for nearly a quarter century.

Tisha was born in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and as she grew, so did her early empathy for animals and interest in animal-related issues. In 1993, she moved from the shores of Lake Superior to the high desert of Albuquerque, falling in love with the diverse landscapes and wildlife of New Mexico.

Tisha first became involved with Animal Protection of New Mexico in 1994 when she visited a Sangre de Cristo Animal Protection (the organization's former name) booth at the State Fair. As a new vegan, she wanted to do more to help animals, and after picking up a brochure on volunteering, began her journey with Animal Protection of New Mexico. Today, twenty-five years later, Tisha's devotion and service to all animals continues through her work to help inspire other caring individuals to become active and engaged with our powerful programs.

A lifelong writer, Tisha earned her B.A. in English with a creative writing emphasis at the University of New Mexico, graduating Magna cum Laude in 2013. Tisha's other interests include science, philosophy, and music, and in recent years she's become an avid fan of bicycle racing. She shares her home with her husband, Animal Protection of New Mexico's Cruelty Hotline Manager, Alan Edmonds, and their two rescued cats, Nona and Chauncey.