

MAKING TRA^{PAW}KS

A PUBLICATION OF ANIMAL PROTECTION OF NEW MEXICO 2020 ISSUE 1



Plants.
A safer,
humane
solution *for*
everyone.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friend of the Animals,

We at Animal Protection of New Mexico are always focused on *making humane the new normal* right here in our own back yard. Obviously, “New Mexico” is in our name!

Just recently you likely joined us in celebrating the passage and signing of a new state law (Senate Bill 57) that will create desperately needed funds for low-cost, accessible spay/neuter services, especially for the animals of low-income and rural New Mexicans. When fully implemented, this one law should prevent the unwanted birth, suffering, and death of tens of thousands of animals—every year—just in our state!

Then just weeks after that law was enacted, the City of Santa Fe passed a groundbreaking law that prohibits chaining/tethering of dogs and ensures that they cannot be kept outside in extreme weather. APNM’s cruelty hotline manager was deeply involved in supporting Councilor Signe Lindell as she crafted that law.

In addition to these “heavy lifts” achieved because of your collective support and strength, our staff remains busy maintaining other crucial programs and services that make life bearable for the animals of our state...as well as for people who care about them. Among those are our Equine Protection Fund services, our humane education curriculum, CARE domestic violence victim services, and numerous humane communities projects that save lives while also demonstrating that humane approaches are feasible and sensible.

Our newest program—Promoting Plant-Based Eating—is perhaps the most relevant at this moment in time, when our state, and indeed the entire world, is struggling to adjust to life with the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. Our cover story emphasizes the direct connection between our relationships with animals—particularly our food choices—and the spread of this dangerous virus. New Mexicans have been embracing our new plant-based eating program and the immediate benefits it bestows on individuals, whole communities, animals, and our beleaguered environment since it began. Now a new urgency about our food systems is upon us, given the acceleration of a new infectious disease reportedly rooted in animal markets, and animal agriculture’s considerable contribution to global climate change.

In this way, our New Mexico-based programs become relevant across the globe, and our ground-breaking and meaningful work reverberates far beyond our borders.

We trust that you see and feel the positive impact we are making, together, for animals in our communities and throughout our world, and are proud of your involvement with us. We know you are determined, like we are, to keep pressing for more positive change in our little corner of the world.

Sincerely yours,

Elisabeth Jennings
Executive Director

MAKING TRACKS™

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A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a potato plant. The plant has green leaves and several red potatoes are visible, some still in the soil. The background is a clear blue sky.

Solutions Just Keep Pointing Toward Plants

Plant-based eating has remained a top food and consumer trend over the past few years as many individuals are shifting their diets toward more (or solely) plant-based foods due to rising concerns for animals, personal health, the environment, and human rights. Scientific evidence shows that the climate crisis cannot be adequately addressed, nor can the world produce enough food to feed the growing human population, without a global shift toward a plant-based food system. Moreover, protecting endangered species greatly depends on a plant-forward shift as well.

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While concerns about diet-related diseases, the climate crisis, and species extinction have caused increased attention to plant-based eating in recent years, the current pandemic from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has raised additional concerns about the dangers of including animals in the food system.

The majority of the viruses that make humans sick—such as coronaviruses, Ebola, and HIV—originate in non-human animals.



Top: a live chicken market
Bottom: intensive factory farming of pigs
Photos: DepositPhotos

The Suspected Origin of COVID-19

*In order for a virus to be able to jump species and infect humans, all hosts (humans and animals) need to be in close proximity, which occurs frequently in so-called “wet markets” and factory farming.*¹ The current coronavirus outbreak of COVID-19 is believed to have originated in a wet market in China. A wet market is a market where vendors sell fresh meat and produce—many wet markets include the sale of live animals for human consumption, and sellers may slaughter animals on site. Some wet markets, such as the Huanan Market in China where COVID-19 is believed to have originated, include wild animals.

The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly focused attention on the potential dangers of consuming wild animals, but it has also drawn attention to the fact that intensive animal farming also has the potential to greatly increase the risk of viruses infecting humans and causing infectious disease outbreaks.

Shifting to a food system that relies less on animals and more on plants greatly reduces the risk of viruses jumping species and ensures improved food safety.

Part of China’s response to the novel coronavirus outbreak was to shut down thousands of wet markets and place a temporary ban on wildlife trade. While this is a small victory for the animals, permanent bans on wildlife trading, hunting, and trapping are needed everywhere for the sake of the animals and our public health.

New Mexico and the Commercialization of Wildlife

In New Mexico, the commercialization of wildlife remains an issue primarily in the form of private trapping, where individuals without training in public health and safety—for a mere \$20 license—come into contact with, kill, and handle the carcasses of thousands of wild animals every year, and many of those animals carry diseases that can jump species and infect humans.

You can take action against this cruel, dangerous, and local trade in wildlife by contacting your New Mexico state legislators (visit www.nmlegis.gov) and urging them to support a ban on traps, snares, and poisons on public lands.

The novel coronavirus is just the latest evidence from nature that it is time to stop treating wildlife and other animals as commodities, and seriously re-think our food system, rely more (and preferably, solely) on plants, and adjust our diets accordingly.

In light of recent events, some large Chinese food manufacturers have contacted JUST, Inc.—a company that produces plant-based proteins including the Just Egg—to discuss potential partnerships, suggesting that these manufacturers understand the need to shift toward plant-based food production.²

Converting to Plant-Based Agriculture

While there is clearly a need for a plant-forward shift in the food system, some may argue that this is not practical due to the economic impact this would have on farmers, especially small farmers. While removing animals from the food system would inherently put all animal farms out of business, the fact is most animal agriculture takes place at large factory farms owned by gigantic global corporations (factory farms produce 99% of animal products in the U.S.).³ The remaining small farms that produce 1% of animal products could convert to growing produce, as more and more consumers are making dietary changes that reflect their values and concern for the environment, including a preference to “buy local.”

Rather than continuing business as usual while the demand and price value of the products that animal farmers produce are declining, perhaps it is in their best interest to transition their farm to producing plant products that are more environmentally and financially sustainable.

Some farmers have already made such transitions, including a former chicken farmer in West Virginia who now grows hemp and has increased his profit margins considerably. Although this transition can be costly, there are programs that help farmers make the transition, including Mercy For Animals’ new Transformation program, and efforts currently in development by Miyoko’s Creamery®.

While these programs will certainly not provide enough support and resources to make an impact on the global food system, they provide a model that others can replicate, and they demonstrate the viability of such transitions. Furthermore, U.S. government subsidies that ordinarily

support meat and dairy farmers—amounting to tens of billions of dollars each year—could be reallocated to help these farmers transition to different products. This shouldn’t seem like a far-fetched concept, considering that publicly available data has shown that after adjusting for subsidies, American dairy farmers have lost money every year from 2005-2016.⁴ As demand for dairy products continues to fall, it is almost certainly in farmers’ best interest to consider alternative means of income, and plant-based agriculture has shown great potential in that regard.

As a result of the increased awareness of the need to eat more plants and fewer (or no) animal products, companies such as Impossible™ Foods and Beyond Meat® continue to release new foods made entirely of plants that match the taste, texture, and nutrition profile of animal meat. Impossible Foods is on the brink of releasing their newest product, Impossible Pork, which will be available nationwide this year and sold at Burger King restaurants. Burger King’s Impossible Whopper is currently available nationwide, and consumers have reported they cannot tell the difference between the Impossible Whopper and the meat-based Whopper.

The company says that they also have plans to work on creating Impossible bacon and chicken in the future. Beyond Meat is also available in fast-food chains nationwide including Carl’s Jr. and Del Taco, and their Beyond Chicken is expected to be available at KFC restaurants nationwide. Many additional companies are continuously releasing new products that are plant-based alternatives to animal-based foods, and their availability in restaurants and grocery stores steadily increases as well. With the many and various societal elements that benefit from people switching to a plant-based diet, there has never been a more convenient time to make the switch.

1. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2546865/>; <https://www.msh.org/blog/2017/05/30/factory-farms-a-hotspot-for-emerging-pandemics>

2. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-03/virus-spurs-chinese-interest-in-vegan-eggs-as-protein-source>

3. <https://www.sentienceinstitute.org/press/animal-farming-attitudes-survey-2017>

4. <https://markets.businessinsider.com/news/stocks/american-dairy-farmers-depend-on-government-subsidies-1015126442>



Interested in learning more about how you can switch to a plant-based diet? Visit our website: apnm.org/plantbased

MASSIVE SUPPORT PROVIDED FOR HORSES,

It began in March, just as the impact of COVID-19 was being felt throughout the country. Our Equine Protection Fund Helpline started to see an uptick in requests for assistance. By May those requests had become a deluge. By the end of June, we helped nearly **90 times** more than the number we fed during the same time period in 2019.

When we told one feed assistance client from the Crownpoint area that horse feed was available, he broke down and cried. He thanked us for giving support as he struggled to figure out how to provide for both his family members and his horses and he was down to his last two bales of hay. He is the only family member employed, while others are quarantined.

Requests for assistance have been especially prolific and urgent from the northwestern part of the state, where the COVID-19 pandemic has been particularly devastating. In communities without access to running water, basic utilities, fresh food, or transportation, keeping companion animals fed—including horses—has been very challenging, and in some cases would have been impossible if it weren't for our Equine Protection Fund. In their own words, here is what some recipients of our assistance have shared with us.

“I work in the restaurant industry which has been hit hard. I’m faced with the choice of which bills to pay and how many bales of hay I can afford a week on a 200-300 dollar income. After the restrictions are lifted concerning dine-in constraints, I will be financially capable again.”

–Equine feed assistance recipient, Edgewood, NM

“I am having to buy water and supplies for my family. We have no running water and need help to get hay for the horses. I was working housekeeping for the hotel industry prior to COVID-19. I was laid off and my old job will not be available until July if at all. I would try a food sale if the assistance was not available in order to pay for hay.”

–Equine feed assistance recipient, Cuba, NM



“The pueblo has remained on ‘lock down’ since March 18th and due to recent positive COVID tests in our community it is anticipated that those restrictions will not ease for an additional 2-3 months even though Taos County will begin to reopen. Many of our tribal members are employed here and are therefore now unemployed. Tribal members have not accessed the Pandemic Unemployment due to limited access to internet. Our department will begin to assist with these applications next week for approximately 230 households.”

–Christy Olsen, Taos Pueblo social services manager

Doing Everything Possible to Help Horses

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on families and their beloved animals, APNM has improved accessibility to emergency feed assistance, including offering online and mobile-friendly assistance applications. We have also identified feed store “hubs” in different regions of the state, and have established pre-paid accounts to reduce response times for feed assistance cases. This has streamlined our process, and allowed us to deliver more support faster to help needy equines and families facing extended periods of quarantine.

To support families caring for horses through the pandemic, APNM has improved accessibility to emergency feed assistance, including implementing mobile-friendly online applications, and over-the-phone interpretation.

DONKEYS, AND MULES DURING THE PANDEMIC

Some Community Heroes Step Up to Help

As the weeks have passed, some extraordinary individuals have emerged, offering their own meaningful support, time, and encouragement to our equine protection efforts.

♥ **Michael Berry of JJM Farms LLC** in Dexter donated 756 bales of alfalfa hay—worth almost \$7,000—to the Equine Protection Fund. He told us, “I’m looking forward to getting this started so as to bring relief to the very animals that help keep all of us humans in a better place. I hope it will make a difference for the families and animals impacted.”

♥ Two different teams of drivers/helpers—**Gilbert Louis (Acoma Pueblo)** and **Kevin Leon (Laguna Pueblo)** in team one, and **Ron Malone, Executive Director of Roswell-based Assurance Home***, and three youth in team two—volunteered to drive a semi-truck and trailer over a thousand miles in two trips to deliver the hay from JJM Farms.

♥ **San Ysidro-based CWW Feed** donated their labor to unload, account for, and distribute Mr. Berry’s donated feed to needy families in the area, working hand-in-hand with APNM.

Connie Collis, of CWW Feed, said “This is the hardest thing I’ve ever had to do, but it’s also the best thing I’ve had to do.”



Volunteers Gilbert and Kevin load, unload, and transport the hay.



“Merci thanks you from the bottom of his stomach, and I thank you from the middle of my heart because that’s where it counts and beats! We both thank you very much and God bless your organization. I truly appreciate your help at this time. THANK YOU. THANK YOU!!!!”
–Pine Hill equine feed assistance client



“I got the feed thank you again so so much, I don't know how I would feed them right now with the shutdowns and would have to give them up if it wasn't for you guys!”
–Edgewood equine feed assistance client



“Thank you, you are truly a blessing, may God bless you and keep you safe. How can I ever repay you for blessing my family of horses?!”
–Los Lunas equine feed assistance client

*Assurance Home provides a home for mistreated and homeless teens. The nonprofit received APNM’s 2002 Youth Milagro Award for its “Mustang Project”: <https://apnm.org/what-we-do/honoring-champions-for-animals/2002-milagro-award-winners/>

HELPING HORSES, DONKEYS, AND MULES: KEEPING UP WITH DEMAND



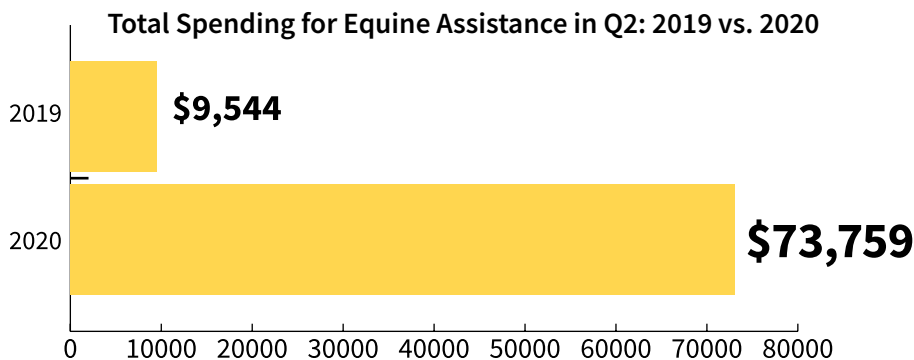
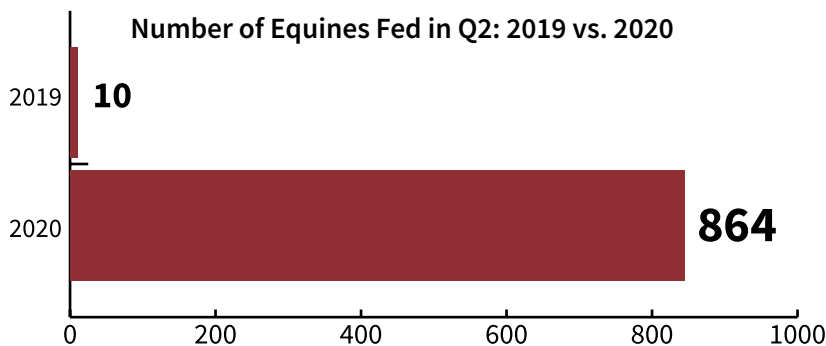
“Hay delivery is coming Thursday. The horse owners have already heard and we’re getting excited calls to our office. Elders and those who do not have access to fields (for horses) will get it first. Thank you so much, so great, I wish you and your staff could see the positive impact.”

–Christy Olsen, Taos Pueblo Social Services Manager



“I am writing you to express my heartfelt thanks for the assistance you gave me this month. I worked for over 20 years in the therapeutic riding industry in many capacities and had finally geared up to getting a little program going with my rescue Donkeys Taco and Burrito when the Corona virus hit the US. I was very concerned about getting them thru this temporary but life altering crisis and am so grateful to have been a recipient of your wonderful program.”

–Truth or Consequences feed assistance client



An Urgent Need to Keep Up with Demand

Along with the dramatic increase in calls for help, we've had an equally dramatic increase in our spending to help equines. These charts tell the remarkable story of how we've been able to respond to the enormous need, when no other help has been available.

We anticipate the needs for equines will continue unabated for many months to come, and your support of our life-saving services is essential.

Please consider giving to the Equine Protection Fund by visiting apnm.org/protecthorses

Chimpanzees Are Dying in a New Mexico Holding Facility

Chimpanzees used for research remain in a laboratory facility on Holloman Air Force Base (AFB) in Alamogordo, New Mexico because the National Institutes of Health (NIH) refuses to send them to sanctuary.

For decades, the NIH spent tens of millions of dollars annually on painful and cruel experiments on chimpanzees. Animal Protection of New Mexico worked for years to end the use of our closest relative in invasive research.

Finally, in 2015, the NIH announced the retirement of all government-owned chimpanzees from laboratories. Sadly, the process of moving chimpanzees from Alamogordo to Chimp Haven, the national sanctuary, unnecessarily ground to a halt in 2018.

Now the NIH claims about 40 of the Alamogordo chimpanzees, who survived years of testing and experiments, are too sick to transport to sanctuary. This pronouncement and decision is unacceptable.

While the NIH wastes your tax dollars to keep them at an outdated, extremely costly lab facility that cannot and does not meet the chimpanzees' needs, APNM continues to fight to send them to sanctuary where they will receive far superior care.

Their plight is dire, and meanwhile, as the NIH stalls and as we push for their release to sanctuary, chimps are dying.

Chimpanzees have lived into their 60s at Chimp Haven. With your continued support, we can help ensure Sherril, Sho-gun, and the others languishing in Alamogordo can live out their remaining days in a sanctuary.

Please Help Us Get Them to Permanent Sanctuary

In honor of Danny and Ann, please ask your members of Congress to insist that the surviving Alamogordo chimpanzees be moved to Chimp Haven before it's too late.

Visit apnm.org/movechimpsnow to add your voice.

Help chimps like Sherril and Sho-gun get to sanctuary...before it's too late.

REST IN PEACE



- * Born on Holloman AFB
- * Spent "several hours" with his mom, Lisa who was noted as a "good mother"
- * Shipped off to a laboratory for testing when he was an infant.
- * Leg amputated when he was six years old
- * **Euthanized on 11/13/19 at 37 years old**



- * Born on Holloman AFB
- * Hand-reared by humans
- * Loaned to the Center for Disease Control as a baby for three years
- * **Euthanized 11/25/19 at 36 years old**



Sherril: 46 years old



Sho-gun: 33 years old

SB 57: AFFORDABLE SPAY/NEUTER

A Win for New Mexico Families & Pets



Struggling Families and Homeless Animals Aided by Passage of Senate Bill 57

How many of you have driven around our state and seen starving animals along highways, congregating at gas stations, hoping passers-by will offer a morsel to eat—or worse, the carcasses of those animals lying on the side of the road? Or opened the newspaper to read a report that someone in our community was mauled by a pack of feral dogs? Or spotted stray cats skittering around our neighborhoods, suffering from disease, but multiplying with every litter of kittens?

For years, Animal Protection of New Mexico and its legislative arm, Animal Protection Voters, have fought for the right answer to this problem—conducting vigorous research and advocating for a data-driven, equitable, and sustainable approach to a long-term solution: affordable statewide spay/neuter services. A formal Senate-requested study of the most feasible way to fund low-cost spay/neuter services across New Mexico identified a spay/neuter funding mechanism proven to work in Maine, Maryland, and West Virginia: a modest fee on large pet food manufacturers.

During the 2020 state legislative session, Animal Protection Voters redoubled efforts to enact this optimal funding mechanism and pass Senate Bill (SB) 57. We launched a powerful campaign, SaveNMPets, with a brand-new dedicated website for grassroots advocates (saveNMPets.org) that included the bill's details and helped set the record straight on false opposing arguments. The campaign also featured a hard-hitting, statewide, multi-channel TV commercial that emphasized the life-saving and cost-saving impacts of SB 57, and urged advocates to fight back against giant out-of-state corporate lobbyists trying to kill the bill.

The years of hard work and intensified focus in 2020 paid off when New Mexico's elected officials passed and signed SB 57 into law. The bill's passage is a groundbreaking step forward, giving our state the best tools yet to aggressively curb pet overpopulation—including improving public health and safety, and dramatically reducing shelter animal euthanasia—by helping struggling New Mexico families afford and access vital spay/neuter services for their animals.

What's more, by sustainably funding low-cost spay/neuter services, New Mexico will also begin to gradually decrease the tens of millions of taxpayer dollars that our county and city governments are forced to spend annually to deal with dog and cat overpopulation. Animal Protection of New Mexico's

2018 statewide shelter survey showed that while shelter intake and euthanasia rates are beginning to decrease, the cost of animal control and sheltering in our state has skyrocketed to more than \$51 million annually (three-quarters of which come from taxpayer dollars).

The law took effect July 1, 2020, and beginning in January 2021, the New Mexico Department of Agriculture will begin collecting the additional \$100 registration fee for each product pet food manufacturers register to sell in our state. The vast majority of those fees will be transferred to the New Mexico Board of Veterinary Medicine to be used for the statewide spay/neuter program, and available funds will be distributed to spay/neuter service providers according to the need-based recommendations of the Board's Animal Sheltering Committee. Animal Protection of New Mexico intends to continue being proactive to make sure the spay/neuter funding is successful at driving down euthanasia rates, including monitoring outcomes through future animal shelter surveys and staying engaged with the state agencies tasked with carrying out duties around this program.

Once fully implemented after a three year phase-in, SB 57 will generate over \$1.3 million for low-cost spay/neuter services for communities in the state, especially benefitting rural and low-income areas. Other states with this program have shown dramatic reductions in euthanasia, saving tax dollars spent on the tragic cycle of euthanasia and with no apparent impact on consumers, retail pet food shops, or pet food availability or prices.

Addressing this critical issue is not just about animal welfare, but about the wellbeing of New Mexico's families and entire communities. This is our chance to fund substantial numbers of spay/neuter surgeries in strategic and concentrated areas, reduce animal shelter intake and euthanasia rates, improve public health and safety, save taxpayer dollars, and help struggling families.

The successful SaveNMPets campaign was only possible because of donors and supporters like you who fuel Animal Protection Voters' work. Thank you to each and every one of the advocates and allies who have lent their voices, hands, time, and resources to achieve this breathtaking milestone. This is a huge win for a humane and more compassionate New Mexico.

Rio Arriba County: When a vetted Colorado rescue agreed to provide a home for New Mexican horses in dire need, we were thrilled. APNM arranged transport for the four mustangs who were transformed at their new home, with more safety, feed and water,

space, and choices. The softer, happier sides of themselves shone through. Thank you, Blue Rose Ranch!



Arriving in Colorado

Pueblo of San Felipe: Lack of access to drinking water can be dangerous or deadly for wild horses. APNM financially supported the solar power upgrades of four pueblo wells to keep the water flowing. Tremendous thanks to the Pueblo of San Felipe Department of Natural Resources for this significant work.



Well upgrades at two of the four sites

APNM and APV were instrumental in developing and promoting humane local ordinance changes in the **City of Santa Fe**: prohibiting all dog chaining and leaving dogs outside in extreme weather or temperatures; and requirements to provide humane shelter and safe living conditions for outdoor dogs. At a March City Council hearing, APNM's Cruelty Case Manager, Alan Edmonds, and APV's Chief Legislative Officer, Jessica Johnson, offered public testimony. The measure passed unanimously, with all council members and Mayor Alan Webber voting in favor.



Santa Fe City Council

In February, animal advocates from around the state gathered at the **State Capitol** for Animal Protection Day, to urge lawmakers to support the passage of Senate Bill 57 (see Breaking News article on page 10). APV's press conference featured bill co-sponsors Rep. Dayan Hochman-Vigil and Rep. Joanne Ferrary; Cibola County Commissioner and esteemed Ramah Navajo community leader, Martha Garcia; and others active in animal rescue/sheltering in Pecos, Deming, and the Mesilla Valley.



Animal Protection Day at the State Capitol

**STAY
SAFE
OUTDOORS**

In these times, as individuals and families seek out COVID-safe activities, more and more New Mexicans are hiking, riding, wildlife-watching, and camping on our public lands.

Please look out for indiscriminate and dangerous traps, snares, poisons, and other threats to wildlife!

On most public land, trapping and other unjustifiable wildlife killing happens year-round. If you spot a trap, snare, poison—or wildlife suffering from cruelty—call **APNM's Cruelty Hotline at 1-877-5-HUMANE (1-877-548-6263)**.



She Was Always There for All Animals

Animals and their advocates across New Mexico—and indeed our nation—lost a dear friend when Judy Paulsen died this past February. Several of our staff received the devastating and jarring news while we were sitting in the Senate Finance Committee, waiting for the hearing to start for Senate Bill 57, the spay/neuter funding bill.

Judy could best be described as a fierce and consummate defender of all animals. No matter the species or the situation, if an animal was in jeopardy, Judy spoke up for that animal, and she spoke eloquently and with determination. For decades, Judy was an active and engaged supporter of APNM/APV and was regularly in contact with our staff. She would report terrible things happening to animals, brainstorm how to help them, and ask for our involvement in stopping the various abuses. But she didn't stop there. She led her own charges with grace and strength.

Whether it was challenging greyhound breeding (when so many already needed adopting), or speaking out against the cruelty of greyhound racing and actively working to shut down the industry, or adopting out over 1,000 greyhounds who came off tracks (and paying for many who were sick or injured), or adopting a homeless horse that wandered into Gallup from places unknown, or monitoring social media for stories of wildlife abuse, or pushing to change television ads that falsely depicted bull terriers as “fighting dogs,” or helping Animal Protection Voters (APV) fundraise for its crucial legislative efforts, Judy was always there for the animals.

Judy was an effective and reliable outreach volunteer for so many important organizations, including Animal Protection of New Mexico, Animal Protection Voters, Project Coyote-New Mexico, Grey2K USA Worldwide, and Greyhound Companions of New Mexico. Judy hosted fundraiser/house parties at her home for both APV and animal-friendly candidates, and she secured silent auction prizes for fundraising. She was a staunch and important advocate for the years-long fight to ban coyote killing contests in New Mexico, and she was always looking out for coyotes in her home area, Corrales, encouraging people to coexist with wildlife. She abhorred trapping, and she not only reported cases that could be used to expose the horrors of trapping, but also she worked to ensure the media showed the public the consequences of trapping on the vulnerable animals harmed.

As intrepid an animal defender as Judy was, Judy always wanted to make sure that other advocates were recognized for their efforts. That's just who she was. Generous, fearless, dedicated, selfless, focused, determined, kind, smart.

Judy, we miss you desperately, and know you continue to be a guardian angel who is helping guide our steps as we carry on with the honorable work to which you devoted your beautiful life. We will carry you and your spirit in our hearts for all eternity.

In Memory of Judy Paulsen



Photo of Judy from APNM; Coyote photo courtesy of JE Newman Photography

A Fearless and Driven Advocate

Animal advocates across New Mexico, and particularly those in our state's southern tier, lost a long-time friend to the animals when Bob Young died in early March of this year.

Robert "Bob" Powell Young, passed away in his home, after living in the Las Cruces area for many decades. Bob was born in Missouri in 1937, and served honorably for two enlistments in the United States military. Bob was a force of nature, fighting for animal rights in southern New Mexico and beyond for as long as we and many of his other friends can remember.

Bob was dedicated to all animals, but was particularly appalled at and vocal about sport and trophy hunting, killing contests, and animal fighting. He was a huge proponent of spaying and neutering companion animals.

In the early 1990's Bob served for some time as a chapter representative for APNM's predecessor group, Sangre de Cristo Animal Protection. In that role and throughout his activist "career" he organized outreach booths throughout the Las Cruces area, and used his own money to place regular advertisements in the local newspaper to encourage people to report animal abuse and neglect. Bob always enthusiastically attended any protest that was organized in the southern part of New Mexico, including early demonstrations against the Coulston Foundation where chimps were harmed in vivisection experiments, circus protests, and at the Otero County Fairgrounds where rattlesnake roundups used to be held. Bob even extended his activism into the El Paso, TX region, protesting a 1988 Miss USA pageant held there. That year, the pageant's longtime master of ceremonies and animal rights activist in his own right, Bob Barker, resigned in protest over a full-length fur coat being awarded as a prize to the winning contestant.

Bob was instrumental in garnering national attention from a television talk show host who was intrigued about cockfighting remaining legal in New Mexico as recently as 2007. The talk show host gave the issue prime time focus, adding to pressure to ban the cruel practice in our state.

Bob will always be remembered by those of us in APNM for his wonderful sense of humor, his brutal honesty, and his fearless and enduring defense of animals. His midwestern drawl, combined with his patient approach, disarmed even the worst critics. Bob was unpredictable, determined, creative, relentless, and unwavering, even though he eventually preferred to be a "lone ranger." His departing message was: "Animals have feelings also."

Bob, we miss you tremendously, and will always remember your many important contributions to our movement in New Mexico.



In Memory of Bob Young



Bob loved all animals.

Photo taken for an article about him in the Las Cruces Sun News (date unknown).

Top: Bob helping APNM spread the word about cruel wildlife killing methods employed by Animal Damage Control (ADC), the precursor to the federal Wildlife Services.

Bottom: : Bob Young joining Elisabeth Jennings and APNM at protest of (now defunct) Alamogordo Rattlesnake Roundup event circa 1996.



During This Pandemic: A Compassion-Based

➡ Action Guide ⬅

As each month passes this year we are realizing the true impact of COVID-19, and what it means to be living through a global pandemic. Add in the fight for racial justice, and it can feel overwhelmingly sad. When you are a compassionate person, how can you cope through it all? Ask anyone who has been involved in social services work and you'll hear the same answer: **take action**. Choose the issue or issues you feel most strongly about and get involved in a way that feels right for you.

By focusing on the ways in which you can make a difference, right where you are, right now, you can channel any heartache you feel into healing and strength. And you'll be making the world a kinder, better place.

As a supporter of Animal Protection of New Mexico and/or Animal Protection Voters, we know you care deeply about kindness and justice for animals. There are so many ways you can help animals right now. Here are just a few:



- 1 **Help horses.** In light of the unprecedented number of people needing help to feed their companion horses, donkeys, and mules during the current economic crisis, consider making a donation (apnm.org/protecthorses). Our Equine Protection Fund is coordinating a massive, statewide relief effort, providing feed and other assistance for equines in need.
- 2 **Register to vote.** Make sure you are registered and ready to vote. Reach out to your friends and family and encourage them to be sure they too are registered and ready to vote. Animal Protection Voters' (APV) Scorecard will be published later this year. In it, you'll find information on how your legislators voted on animal protection bills. If you donate to APV (apnm.org/donate), you'll automatically receive a copy in the mail.
- 3 **Eat more plants.** Include more plants in your diet. If you haven't already adopted a plant-based diet, make an effort to learn more and try making more of your meals as compassionate as you are. Our Promoting Plant-Based Eating program is a great source of information, learning, and more. Try a recipe, attend a free webinar, listen to our podcast—you'll find all this and more on our website (apnm.org/plantbased).
- 4 **Help chimps.** Please ask your members of Congress to insist that the surviving Alamogordo chimpanzees be moved to Chimp Haven before it's too late. Visit apnm.org/movechimpsnow to add your voice.
- 5 **Volunteer.** Despite the stay-at-home recommendation, there are many ways to help animals from home, particularly if you're comfortable working on a computer or using the telephone. Fill out a volunteer application at apnm.org/volunteer

BIG THANKS TO OUR BUSINESS SPONSORS!





Mia K. Leaves a Legacy for All Animals

“When I think about my personal end-of-days, I think about what I would like my legacy to be. I live in little San Miguel, south of Las Cruces with three Boxer Boys, a feral cat colony, and numerous wild birds and hummingbirds.

My little Joe was feral when at five weeks, his eye had fallen out of its socket. I rushed him to the veterinarian and he survived the removal and a raging case of ringworm from the stress. But through it all, he trusted me to take care of him, to do our best. Joe left us a few days ago, a victim of Feline Immunovirus. His beautiful face in his last hour shows the love and trust he had for me.

I am a continuing APNM monthly donor because of our shared values: The health and well-being of all animals, with a special place for horses, donkeys, and burros. I trust APNM to make the best decisions for animals in New Mexico. My trust in them and our shared values are the two best reasons for including APNM Foundation as a beneficiary in my estate planning.”

–Mia K., San Miguel, NM

For the Love of Bandit

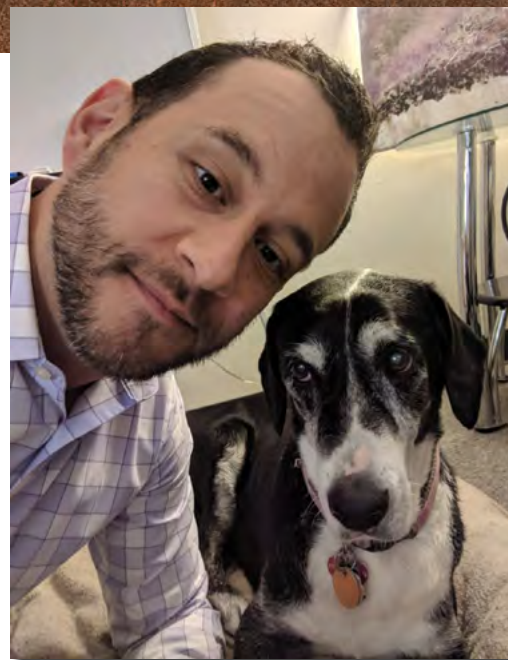
AN APNM MONTHLY DONOR
EXPLAINS WHY HE GIVES BACK

“When I was a teen, I was the very definition of a ‘troubled youth.’ Gangs, drugs, and absolutely no trust for any human. Still, when I look back, I always come back to the one person I did trust: my dog, Bandit. He came into my life when I was maybe 7 years old. I loved him and he loved me. No conditions, no expectations. The most striking memory I have from that time is when he got old and sick. I was in the toughest phase of my teen years. I called my mom names. I didn’t trust my dad. I never said ‘I love you’ to anyone and I never cried. Finally, the day came when it was time to let Bandit go. He was sick and not eating and the vet said it was the best we could do for him. I remember meeting my mom and Bandit at the vet’s office and when I walked in, Bandit just wagged his tail so hard and came to me. Before I knew what

was happening, I started crying uncontrollably. I literally hadn’t cried in years. I look back now and I realize that Bandit made it possible for me to trust, to love, and to feel safe. He allowed me to stay human. If it weren’t for him, I may have lost that. ***He made it possible for me to become who I am now.*** I owe him, along with my other dogs and all dogs, my entire life.”

–Demian R.

Today, Demian is a psychotherapist and owner of two counseling services. He chooses to give back to APNM with a monthly gift in honor of Bandit and so many animals like him. Thank you, Demian, for your generosity and for sharing your story.



Demian with his dog, Kamala. Photo courtesy of Demian.

Animal Protection of New Mexico relies on the generosity of its monthly donors to help us make humane the new normal. If you would like to give monthly, please visit apnm.org/donate. It is the easiest, most efficient way to fight the inhumane treatment of animals in New Mexico all year long.



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



Listen to our new **PODCAST!**

Hosts Tony and Mickey Quintana share from their experiences, both personal and professional, advice for how you can go vegan.

apnm.org/podcast

APNM **FACES**



Tony and his dog, Otis; Photo: Mickey Quintana

Antonio “Tony” Quintana joined the APNM team in October 2018 as its Plant-Based Eating Program Manager. Tony had the right combination of health and human service background with a personal story of his own journey toward a vegan lifestyle. Tony had always been “veg curious.”

As a “Conscious Eating Hip-Hop” artist (his stage name is “I.Q. the Professor”) he noted that many of his musician idols were vegan or vegetarian. His desire to improve his own health, combined with his love for animals and their welfare, moved Tony to adopt a completely plant-based diet. Tony developed and implemented an HIV prevention and education program at UNM Truman Health Services, he has been a fitness instructor, and he worked on delivering a diabetes prevention program on Isleta Pueblo.

Tony’s work in developing APNM’s first Plant-Based Eating program has been comprehensive, including recruiting a team of plant-based eating ambassadors who are reaching restaurants, institutions, cafeterias, and other businesses to promote the addition of more plant-based items to their menu options. Through Tony’s leadership, APNM has been hosting inspiring plant-based cooking classes to a variety of eager audiences.

Outside of work Tony has volunteered for Save the Kids, Vegan Outreach, and the Tijeras-based animal sanctuary, Santuario de Karuna. Tony lives in Albuquerque with his wife Mickey, his two sons, Constantine and Fortune, and his dog, Otis—all of whom are vegan.