



HUMANE
SOCIETY
OF BOULDER VALLEY

The Dish

SUMMER 2020

Dear Friends,

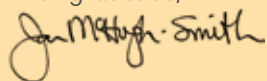
Sunny summer is here and with it comes time for naps in the grass or a bright window, outside adventures, and long days with our pet companions. As we enjoy the sun with our pets, our hearts are warmed, knowing thousands more are doing the same because of what we have accomplished together so far in 2020. Thank you to everyone who has made a critical, lifesaving gift during this time of great need.

After moving more than 120 animals to community foster homes, we opened our first ever Virtual Adoption Center, helping 410 dogs, cats, birds, and small animals find loving homes by implementing virtual introductions and appointment calendars. Our Training & Behavior Center continued to offer behavior support and online classes to help relationships thrive. The Veterinary Clinic had a busy spring helping pets in our community stay healthy, and supported 109 low-income families and those experiencing the economic impact of COVID-19 by providing discounted and free veterinary care for their pets, keeping families together even during crisis. Meanwhile, HSBV's Transfer program was restored in May and is bringing pets to Boulder, just in time to join new families this summer. Throughout these efforts, our Animal Services and Community Resource Center teams have been hard at work offering supplies to our community – providing meals to animals of families facing financial hardship and offering free gently loved used goods from our Thrift Shop to families in need.

Our Safety Net is needed now, more than ever, and we are committed to creatively meeting the needs of our community, and asking how we can help, and who else needs support. We are excited to invite you to our first ever **Puttin' On The Virtual Leash**, an online auction and virtual event to raise funds for the animals and community safety net of HSBV. Throughout July, leading up to the live-stream event, get your bid in during our online auction, name a future shelter pet, and more! On July 18, we hope you will join us for our livestream virtual event to hear stories of lives saved and families supported, get your inside look at the animals at HSBV, and toast to you and the pets we love! Funds raised will support the thousands of pets relying on HSBV this year and ensure families in need have access to help them weather any storm they face, together. We will be there for the animals with love, kindness, and lifesaving support. But we can't do it without you. We hope you will join us online for Puttin' On The Virtual Leash, to continue to strengthen healthy and happy relationships between pets and people.

To save your seat, visit boulderhumane.org/potl2020!

With gratitude,



Jan McHugh-Smith, CAWA, CEO



A TAIL OF *Thirty-Two Kitties...*

Our Transfer program has been working behind the scenes to build sustainable and health-conscious practices to assist neighboring shelters in and around Colorado during the COVID-19 crisis. With each incoming animal, our team works hard to ensure happy and healthy animals thrive with loving families.

It was the best of times...

In mid-May, HSBV's in-state transfer efforts resumed after a several week halt due to Colorado's the stay-at-home order. On May 23, we welcomed 32 kittens from a local transfer partner. Sweet and silly, these little ones ranged in age from four weeks to six months and were looking for a fresh start with loving families in our community. Some would need foster care until they grew big and strong, others were ready for spay/neuter surgeries and their check-ups.

It was the worst of times...

The day after the group arrived, a few kittens were looking lethargic. It's not uncommon for a day of travel to cause them to be tired and need a little extra rest, but our team knew something else was wrong. After examining the group, our Shelter Medicine team confirmed the group had been exposed to, and some had contracted, panleukopenia. This highly contagious disease can quickly and easily spread (between cats), especially among young kittens, and has no treatment other than intensive around-the-clock support. The Animal Care team jumped into action, swiftly setting up the kittens' living space for quarantine, designating daily caretakers, and providing supportive care to kittens who had tested positive. For two weeks, our team worked tirelessly to provide lifesaving support to those who had contracted the virus and safe enrichment to those isolated under quarantine.

Because of you...

With each passing day, positive tests dwindled, kittens regained their strength, and our team's hope remained resilient. Until recently, stories like this were hard to comprehend. Now, we are all too familiar with the seriousness of quarantining, and the lifesaving measures that keep ourselves, and those around us, healthy. Sadly, five kittens were just too vulnerable to fight the disease. Our compassionate and caring team ensured they knew nothing but love and care during their time with us. Amazingly – thanks to your support – 27 kittens pulled through their battle against panleukopenia. Because of your commitment to helping pets in need, all 27 kittens are thriving in loving homes!

Pet Health Tip: Fleas, Ticks, and Bugs!

It's summer in Colorado, and we're all eager to get back outside and enjoy nature! While we have been socially distancing – our pets internal and external parasites have not. Spring and summer are their favorite seasons, and they love to be close to you and your pets. These pesky pests can grow and spread a variety of ways.

Here are a few common problems that pop up when the weather warms up:

Bugs bug us! Heartworms are spread by the bites of mosquitoes, flea bites can transmit typhus, plague, and tapeworms, and ticks can carry Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. These are just a few of the zoonotic (transmissible between animals and humans) diseases these parasites spread.

Bad gut feeling... In addition to being aware of hosts in the form of the creepiest crawlers, there are also environmental conditions that can cause disease and infection. Wildlife droppings, rodent infestations, still water, trash, pet waste (pick it up!), and other conditions can spread parvovirus, leptospirosis, intestinal parasites, among many other

infectious diseases, some of which can be passed onto people.

Keep wildlife wild! An important part of preventing exposure to these parasites is keeping your pets (and yourselves) away from wildlife. Even though they may seem cute and cuddly – wildlife carries bugs, and their waste spreads parasites. While different than the parasites previously mentioned, wildlife can also carry deadly viruses like distemper and rabies.

Prevention

The great news is that there are a wide variety of products available to help prevent your pet from becoming vulnerable to these vermin. These products can be administered in a variety of ways (topical, oral, or injectable). These treatments can change your pet's "recipe" for wellness, as some of them interfere with other medications or preventatives. Recommendations for their use differ among species, breeds, and other considerations so, consult your veterinarian about your options and what's best for your pet.



Some questions you can ask include:

- What does this product protect against?
- How often should I use/apply the product?
- Is there a need for more than one product?
- How would I apply or use multiple products on my pet?

By staying on track with your pet's care plan, you can prevent these little pests from becoming painful problems later.

Enjoy your summer fun with your healthy and happy pet!

Love Letters



You made possible Finnegan

Finnegan (formerly Sammy) burst into our lives in April bringing energy, love, and entertainment. The staff at the shelter said he had been very shy when he was transferred from Texas. Since we got him home, Finn's been a happy kitten; very different from what we thought he'd be! He loves to talk about everything: food, playtime, attention. He purrs easily, loves to play with his wand toy, snuggles occasionally, and is always with us. We love him dearly, and he loves us. Thank you for trusting us with him!

– Jane L.

Poppy

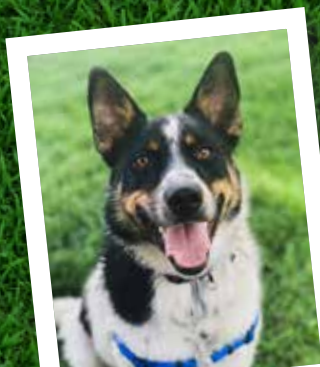
For 9 months – every day – my 11 year old daughter scoured the HSBV website seeking her perfect soul dog match! On May 13, a little black Chihuahua (originally found in a skunk trap in Texas!) came home with us! Poppy was in the Behavior Modification program, and was very fearful and shy. Poppy was going to take some work! And it's been the best work ever! Her brave heart and her resilience is so inspiring. Now, she is an athletic hiker, a stick chaser, the sweetest snuggler, so loving, and a playful rascal with her human and dog friends. We are smitten! And, Paco – our older rescue boy . . . has a new best friend! Thank you HSBV!

– Mary + Margaux



ORGANOLAWN.COM

Thank you to Organo-Lawn for donating their services to HSBV and making our outdoor spaces beautiful and comfortable for pets and people to interact and relationships to grow!



FLATIRONS SUBARU
PRESENTS

PUTTIN' ON THE VIRTUAL LEASH

BARK DECO



HUMANE
SOCIETY
OF BOULDER VALLEY

STREAMING LIVE: JULY 18 • 6-7 PM



AUCTION
OPENS:
JULY 6

SAVE YOUR SEAT
boulderhumane.org/potl2020

BID, STREAM THE SOIREE, AND CHANGE LIVES

Join us for exciting behind-the-scenes moments at HSBV, see inspiring stories of the animals in our care, and make a difference for pets & families in need!

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Do you wish your dog could tell you what they want, need, and how they feel? **Good news – they are!**

Dogs might not be able to talk to us (we wish!), but they are excellent communicators and great listeners. Our dog's people-skills help them learn new tricks, understand our "rules," master incredible jobs like service work, and provide us life-changing emotional connections. It's time us humans worked on our dog-skills!

We might joke that our dogs are master manipulators, but in fact, they are expert communicators – they know how to get what they want and need, when they want and need it! Think about a day in the life of your dog – how do they show you they love you, or that they are engaged or happy? They might put their head on your lap and give you their best puppy eyes as they tempt you for a bite of your sandwich. Maybe when you utter the word "walk," they run to the door, bouncing, barking, and stomping their feet in excitement. These moments of adorable silliness make us laugh, probably honor their request, and definitely result in some extra pets and doggy-voice gibberish.

Think again about a day in the life of your dog – how might they be reaching out to you for support, clarification, or safety? As their guardians, it is our responsibility to be their safety net. What happens when your dog says "no?" Your dog might tuck their tail and widen their eyes when they go to the veterinarian. They might growl when they need space, and snap if they aren't being listened to and further express their need for distance. Maybe your dog runs to the basement, wide-eyed and trembling, because they think it's time for a bath. They are talking, and we need to listen.

Science has proven that dogs (and people) learn best and thrive when they are comfortable in their environment and feel safe. Whenever you want to work on a new behavior, whether it's a fun new trick, or getting them used to riding comfortably in the car, the most important step is motivating them with rewards and encouragement. Some dogs will enthusiastically take kibble, others want you to up your ante with high-valued hot dog or cheese, some prefer a tennis ball toss, or a safe, off-leash romp.

If you look carefully, what is your dog trying to tell you? Are you listening with your ears as well as your eyes? As we resume our normal activities again, your listening skills will come in handy! Loving relationships are characterized by good communication, understanding one another's needs, and respecting and supporting our individuality that makes us who we are.

The best way to lay a foundation of good communication is to listen. We promise, by listening to your dog, love, trust, and confidence will flourish.



Allison Hartlage, CTC, KPA-CTP, CBCC-KA, CNWI

Manager of Animal Training & Behavior

In addition to providing over 950 shelter animals with behavioral support, HSBV's Training & Behavior Center offers animal behavior classes on a variety of topics throughout the year! Our team is here to help you and your dog's relationship blossom and thrive. Visit training.boulderhumane.org to sign up for a class or consultation!

What are these puppies saying?



"Let's play!"

This puppy's body, muscles and eyes are loose, his mouth is open, his ears are neutral and overall he looks relaxed. This puppy might be saying, "I want to play; come get me!"



"Can we take it slow?"

This puppy's mouth is closed, ears are flattened, and weight is back. They may be saying, "I'm not sure. Can we go slow? Do you have treats?"

Your Impact by the Numbers Q1 2020

Adoptions: **884**

Spay/Neuter Surgeries: **722**

Transfers to HSBV: **425**

Donate to help the animals:

Reunifications: **160**

Behavior Care Animals: **183**

Pet Food Share Meals **3,502**
to Community:

boulderhumane.org/give



2323 55th Street, Boulder, CO 80301

FOLLOW US ON:



Community Resource Center

**THRIFT
SHOP**



Book &
Jewel



Community Resource Center

The Community Resource Center (CRC), including the Thrift Shop and Book & Jewel team is ready to welcome you back to our retail centers and resources for our community members.

We need your help! Consider donating your gently loved items so we can turn them into critical funds for the animals in our care and your community neighbors. Through your donations we can ensure everyone has access to the love and brightness pets bring, especially when faced challenges and uncertainty.

The CRC will continue to focus on improving quality of life for members of our community with critical resources when they are needed most. Throughout the year we will offer pet care packages, wellness clinics, animal-related expert speakers, and of course, keep our community informed about HSBV pet resources like Food Share, Senior Support, and our Medical Access Fund. Together, these safety net efforts can keep pets and people together in happy and healthy relationships, through sunny days as well as stormy ones.

Our goal is to be resource for community members experiencing hardship, especially pet parents. At our core, we believe that when the community has access to fair-priced essentials, animals ultimately benefit. People are gentler, kinder, and happier when they feel comfortable, respected, and are surrounded by a community that cares about them. Animals experience their best life when the people they love are loved.

Thank you for supporting families and pets in our community!

f @HSBVCommunityResourceCenter



Happy and healthy pets start with a nutritious diet! Because the animals in our care receive consistent, healthy food, they look and feel their best as they await their new homes, recover from medical treatment, and receive behavior care. Thank you, Purina, for feeding 6,500 animals at HSBV each year!

In response to COVID-19, HSBV also received a generous grant from Purina in support of animal care. Thank you for your lifesaving gift during our time of need!

