



DOÑA ANA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY  
"MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY & IT'S ANIMALS SINCE 1955"

# HUMANE NEWS

SPRING 2020 EDITION

## CONTACT US

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**INSTAGRAM:** @DonaAnaHumaneSociety

## WHAT WE DO

**ANIMAL RELIEF FUND:** Assistance for veterinary care for low-income families and their pets

**RUFF-TO-READY:** Free behavior training for dogs coming out of the shelter into their new adoptive homes.

**PETS FOR SENIORS:** Adoption fees waived for people age 60 and over adopting pets from the Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley.

## DACHS BOARD

Teryl Beck, President  
Willie Apodaca-Fisk, Vice President  
Alisha Munn, Secretary  
Cristie Stuart, Treasurer  
Jorge Aguirre  
Kelsie Boswell  
Robert Moreno  
Jeremy Phillips  
Sheri Rials  
Janice Shiflet  
Wayne Sinclair, Advisory Committee Member  
Christie Getz, Advisory Committee Member  
April Anaya, Executive Director



## COME ON GET YAPPY!

With a new season comes an exciting new lineup of Yappy Hour events for 2020. An annual tradition, the Doña Ana County Humane Society, together with the Spay & Neuter Action Program (SNAP), team up to bring you monthly pet-friendly events where you and your four-legged family members are invited to gather for an evening of fun at D.H. Lescombes Winery & Bistro (formerly St. Clair). Each month is themed, and you and your pets are encouraged to dress up and be a part of the costume contest.

Take a look at what's in store and make sure and save the dates on your calendar: April 15: Doggie Disco, May 20: The Yappiest Place on Earth, June 17: Crazy for the 80's, July 15: Beach Party, August 19: Woofstock, September 16: Roaring 20's, October 21: Yappy Halloween.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, or check out our blog on the website at [www.dachslc.org](http://www.dachslc.org) for up-to-date information on all of our Yappy Hour events. See you there!





# DACHS HUMANE NEWS

## FROM OUR DIRECTOR



As we start a new season, many people see this as a fresh opportunity to make positive changes and evaluate what inspires us. In my short time with the Doña Ana County Humane Society, I can genuinely say

that our supporters and their generosity truly have inspired me. On Giving Tuesday, the global day of giving, you helped raise over \$1,500 for DACHS through online giving and social media fundraising. While this may not seem like a lot, these contributions alone helped six pets receive emergency veterinary care. With donations and grant funding limited, and no other programs like ours in our county, this support truly helps to save the lives of pets in our community. We also saw many of you selflessly contribute around the holidays, which impacted many pets in need during an already financially stressful time for their families. It was especially touching to see many of you give gifts to DACHS in honor of your friends and family members! From the birthday Facebook fundraisers you create to support the Doña Ana County Humane Society, to the monthly checks you send in to ensure there are resources to help pets in need, please know you are investing in programs that change and save lives.

I look forward to working alongside you this next year and learning more about you, what inspires you to give, and sharing the many stories of the people and pets that are able to stay together thanks to your generosity!

*April*

## DACHS WELCOMES THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

As a nonprofit organization with only one employee, the individuals who serve on the board of directors for the Doña Ana County Humane Society are vital to the continued success of the agency. From providing governance and leadership, to rolling up their sleeves and pitching in to volunteer at our many events, people who serve on the DACHS board make a tremendous impact in the animal welfare community. Please help us welcome the three newest additions to our board of directors.

### JORGE AGUIRRE



Jorge Aguirre is a Mexican immigrant with an engineering background and entrepreneurial spirit. He graduated as a Digital Systems Engineer at the Public University of Juarez, and a few years later with a Masters of Business Administration from NMSU.

Aguirre has worked in insurance for 5 years and is the agent/owner of a Farmers Insurance Agency and a local employer.

### KELSIE BOSWELL



Kelsie Boswell is active in the southern New Mexico agriculture community. An NMSU graduate, Boswell has a Bachelor's in Animal Science with a minor in equine science and is currently attending NMSU to receive her Master's in Agriculture specializing in Animal Science.

She is employed at a local CPA's office and also raises Nigerian Dwarf Goats that local 4-H students show.

### JEREMY PHILLIPS



As a local Las Cruces, Jeremy Phillips believes in giving back to the community he calls home. Phillips is the local branch manager for Frost Mortgage Lending Group and works to help his clients realize the dream of homeownership. He also serves on

the Executive Board for Crime Stoppers of Las Cruces and Doña Ana County.



## PETSMART CHARITIES AWARDS \$52,500 GRANT TO DACHS!



One of the most common reasons pets are surrendered to local shelters is the lack of affordable pet wellness, training and education programs. Due to cost and other barriers, pets in under-resourced communities like Doña Ana County often do not have access to basic veterinary care such as spay/neuter services, vaccinations, dental care and other medical and preventative care.

With a recent \$52,500 grant from PetSmart Charities, the Doña Ana County Humane Society aims to support pets and pet parents in need of these services through the Animal Relief Fund. The Animal Relief Fund helps low-income pet owners receive vouchers to be used on emergency, quality-of-life and preventative veterinary care. "With poverty levels in our region well above the national average, we know how hard pet owners in our county work to make ends meet", said Doña Ana County Humane Society Executive Director, April Anaya. "With support from PetSmart Charities, families in need are able to access life-saving medical care for their pets and not be forced to make tough decisions, like surrendering their pets to already overcrowded shelters and rescue organizations."

On behalf of the DACHS staff, board of directors and families and pets we serve, we would like to extend our gratitude to PetSmart Charities for their generous support of the Animal Relief Fund!

## BLUE SKIES AHEAD FOR JETT

Sometimes we never know when a new furry family member will come into our lives. Vanessa and her husband were not looking for a new dog, but one evening while checking the mail an emaciated puppy came running out of the desert expanse near where they live, limping along and unable to use one of her back legs. With scars, scratches, bite marks, and small patches of missing hair on her face, as well as a large tear in one ear, it was evident the young dog had been living a very hard life. Vanessa carried her inside, gave her a water and a small bowl of food, then proceeded to examine and clean her injuries. All the while, this sweet little puppy didn't put up any resistance, and despite light sensitivity due to extreme dehydration, her hopeful little eyes sparkled. It didn't take long for Vanessa and her husband to decide that they could not give the puppy up, so they took her in and named her Jett. When asked about the inspiration for her name, Vanessa said "We named her after the musician Joan Jett because this dog is a rock star for having survived such an ordeal."

Shortly after, it was determined that Jett had several fractures in her hind leg and was going to require multiple veterinary visits. Vanessa and her husband wanted to do all they could to ensure Jett received the proper care and a fresh start to a new life, but these un-



expected vet bills were causing a financial crunch for the couple. With help from the Doña Ana County Humane Society's Animal Relief Fund, they were able to financially qualify for a voucher to help get Jett the medical care she needed.

Now, Jett has gained 7 pounds, is friendly, thriving and is loving her new life, especially her big sister, Meara. Her light-sensitivity issues have also completely disappeared. When asked about the impact the Animal Relief Fund has had in Jett's life, Vanessa said "Everything the Doña Ana County Humane Society has been able to do for Jett has been truly amazing and her recovery is going so well thanks to the organization. We really can't thank you enough!"



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Please make checks payable to DACHS, P.O. Box 1176, Las Cruces, NM 88004 or pay by clicking the donate button on our website, [www.dachs.org](http://www.dachs.org). If you wish to pay through credit card by telephone, please call (575) 647-4808. Thank you for your support!

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 annually: Great Dane level membership
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 annually: Golden Retriever level membership
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 annually: Calico level membership
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 annually: Adult membership, 18 and over
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 annually: Minor membership, 18 and under

Yes! I believe in keeping people and pets together and would like to become a member of the Doña Ana County Humane Society.

I'd like to make a difference and make a one-time donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 I'd like to invest in the Animal Relief Fund in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY!**