



Roice-Hurst Humane Society

Promoting bonds between pets and their people

P.O. Box 4040
Grand Junction, CO 81502

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The Animal Resource Center offers one-on-one animal behavior counseling, pre- and post-adoption support to adopters, and informational classes on a range of cat and dog subjects. To schedule an appointment with our Cat or Dog Behavior Counselors, call 970-434-7337 ext. 103 or email behavior@rhumanesociety.org. For a full list of classes, visit rhumanesociety.org/calendar.

ARC Classes

November 3
5:30 p.m.
Canine Q&A

November 6
10 a.m.
Feline Nutrition 101

November 10, 12, 14
5:30 p.m.
Kitten Kindergarten
(Bring your own kitten or borrow one of ours!)

November 13
10 a.m.
Feline Q&A

November 19
3 p.m.
Canine Q&A

970-434-7337
rhumanesociety.org

Fall 2016

Forever Home

News from RHHS

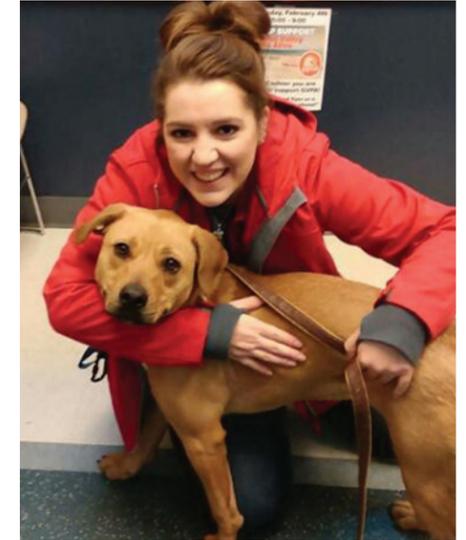
Happy Tail

When Katie Flinn walked through the doors of the Roice-Hurst Humane Society, she knew exactly what she was looking for. A month before, her rescue dog of 11 years, Dawson, had passed away three days before Christmas. Katie lives with serious health problems, including seizures, PTSD, chronic migraines, and night terrors, **so she needed a dog who would be a protector as much as a companion.**

Katie spent a month trying to find someone to train a service dog, aware of what that might cost her. The month she spent without a dog was awful and she was beginning to feel desperate. Eleven years before, she had adopted Dawson from Roice-Hurst, so she decided to visit the shelter first.

When she walked back to the kennels at Roice-Hurst, she laid eyes on Ava. The staff brought her out to meet her, and **Ava jumped up and put her paws around Katie in a gentle dog hug.** It was the first time anyone had seen Ava connect with a person, and the connection was deep and immediate. Everyone had tears in their eyes.

From the first day she spent with Katie, Ava began her role as a service dog. She seemed to know exactly what to do. When Katie has seizures, Ava gently crawls on top of Katie and lays on her arms and legs to protect



It was the first time anyone had seen Ava connect with a person.

her and won't get up until she senses the seizure has ended. When Katie has night terrors, Ava lays calmly beside her until they pass, comforting Katie until she wakes up. She never barks and she's always by Katie's side.

Katie has suffered from 24-hour migraines for 13 years and has undergone some 25 surgeries, and **Ava seems to sense when her mom doesn't feel well.** As Katie describes her: "She always does something to make me laugh or smile. She's my angel." Katie and Ava are inseparable. "We're our own little family," Katie says lovingly. "Thank you guys so much for what you do. You are such a huge blessing."

Roice-Hurst is trying to make it easier for renters to find pet-friendly housing. Learn more inside...

Board and Leadership

Sonya Foster,
President
Kelsey Sharpe,
Vice President
Sue Gormley,
Secretary
Linda Dannenberger,
Treasurer

Directors
Julie Butherus
Sharon Currie-Mills
Mark Davis
Mara Ferris
Suzy Keith

Anna Stout,
Executive Director
Brittany Bishop-Ridgway,
Operations Manager

The Shelter's Shopping Wish List

Please cut out this list and take it along on your next shopping trip:

Pet-related items:

- Purina Dog Chow (dry and wet)
- Purina Puppy Chow (dry and wet)
- Grain-free dog food (Purina)
- Canine Carry Out beef-flavored treats
- Earthborn Holistic Primitive Feline cat food (dry and wet)
- KMR kitten formula
- Cat litter
- Kongs (all sizes)

Cleaning/office items:

- Bleach
- Dish soap
- Laundry detergent
- Paper towels
- Office paper
- Canon 210XL and 211XL ink



You can also order on Amazon and have it shipped directly to the shelter. Find a link at rhumanesociety.org/wish-list/

970-434-7337 rhumanesociety.org

WeCARE Conference

On August 8 and 9, RHHS staff and board members attended the 1st Annual Western Colorado Animal Welfare Conference at the Mesa County Fairgrounds. The conference was presented by the Western Colorado Animal Resources (WeCARE) coalition and was organized by RHHS, Colorado Animal Rescue, Rifle Animal Shelter, and Mesa County Animal Services. Attendees learned about a range of animal-related issues during the two-day conference which featured both local and national presenters.



Congratulations to RHHS Executive Director Anna Stout, who was recently elected to the Colorado Federation of Animal Welfare Agencies (CFAWA) board of directors and voted secretary of the WeCARE coalition board.

Our organization's new role in the leadership of these regional and statewide coalitions will bring increased opportunities for networking, partnerships, advocacy, and information sharing.

Couple's Bequest Leaves Legacy for RHHS Pets

For Kermith and Dorothy Dahling, their dogs were part of the family. They were avid volunteers at animal shelters throughout their lives.



Kermith and Dorothy Dahling

After moving to Grand Junction from Red Wing, MN, about 20 years ago, they began volunteering at Roice-Hurst. Kermith took on a number of repair projects at the shelter. Dorothy made sure there was plenty of paint for everything that needed it, and they both made sure there was extra love for the animals.

They made many new friends and lasting friendships while at the shelter. **The couple so loved the animals that they decided to leave a generous bequest in their will**, which we recently received to help care for our homeless pets. We wanted to take this opportunity to extend our sincerest gratitude and kind wishes to their family and friends.

GJ Subaru Chooses RHHS for "Share the Love" Again

For the third straight year, Grand Junction Subaru has chosen Roice-Hurst as its Hometown Charity for Subaru of America's year-end "Share the Love" event.

For every new car purchased or leased at the local dealership from Nov. 3 through Jan. 2, Roice-Hurst will receive \$250. Last year, Roice-Hurst received \$15,750 from this campaign.

Buying local supports both businesses and charities in our own backyard, so **please join us in thanking owner Ron Bubar and his staff for their compassion and generosity on behalf of our homeless pets!** "It feels great to be able to give back to such an amazing organization that is near and dear to so many of our customers' hearts," says Ron.

Mark Your Calendar for CO Gives Day December 6

More than 20 local nonprofits have joined the "Grand Valley Gives" collaboration promoting Colorado Gives Day, an annual online campaign held the first Tuesday in December.

For 24 hours on Dec. 6, donors can visit www.ColoradoGives.org, select the charity or charities of their choice, and make tax-deductible donations. (Donors can also go online and preschedule donations starting Nov. 1.) Contributions made online that day will also be enhanced by a \$1 million Incentive Fund created by FirstBank.

This year, the local collaboration is aiming to raise a collective \$150,000; Roice-Hurst's individual goal is \$10,000 (we raised \$9,355 last year).

It's a wonderful chance to partner with an established, statewide program and keep your money local!

And Meow This...

Meet Brittany, Our New Operations Manager

Roice-Hurst is excited to introduce Brittany Bishop-Ridgway, who joined our team as operations manager in July. Brittany comes to RHHS with nonprofit and leadership experience, ranging from the Western Colorado Conservation Corps to the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness.

She worked as a veterinary assistant to an ophthalmological veterinarian in North Carolina and interned at the NC State School of Veterinary Medicine.

Brittany's focus at Roice-Hurst is on maintaining the exceptional standards of care for our shelter animals and strengthening our culture of customer service.

Brittany is enthusiastic about the ways RHHS can continue to work with our community to promote the treasured bond between people and their pets. We welcome you to stop by the shelter and get to know Brittany in person!



Come down and meet Brittany, RHHS Operations Manager

From The Executive Director's Desk

Pet-Friendly Rentals by Anna Stout

"I have to move and my new landlord doesn't allow pets." Unfortunately, this is something we hear all too often at Roice-Hurst, as pet owners tearfully hand over their beloved cat or dog to our shelter staff. **So far this year alone, we have taken in 16 cats and 18 dogs for reasons related to housing**, and many of the animals on our waiting list for surrender

are due to landlord restrictions. We also hear people constantly say, "I wish I could adopt a shelter animal, but I'm not allowed to have pets where I live."

Roice-Hurst is working to change that. Step one was the creation of a place on our website where landlords can advertise pet-friendly rentals for free.

Countless owner-pet bonds are broken or never allowed to form, due to strict pet policies in our rental market.

Our next steps include working with other western Colorado shelters and agencies to gather data, engaging landlords and property management companies in a conversation about their concerns, and then crafting a plan forward for making our local rental market more pet-friendly.

With so many pets waiting for their forever homes in shelters and so many animal lovers unable to have pets at their rental homes, we have some work to do as a community to promote and strengthen the bonds between pets and the people who love them.

