

A PUBLICATION OF LARIMER HUMANE SOCIETY To further the compassionate, safe, and responsible relationship between animals and people.

# PETSPECTIVE

### **ONE OF MANY MIRACLES**



In September, a community member found a puppy injured and stranded on the side of a highway in Fort Collins. Luckily, she knew just what to do, and drove the seven-week-old pup straight to Larimer Humane Society.

Once in the hands of Larimer Humane Society staff, it didn't take long to recognize the severity of the trauma on the left side of the puppy's face. "It looked like the eye had been ruptured at some point, which caused an infection," said Dr. Garcia, Larimer Humane Society Supervising Veterinarian. "The infection and swelling had spread up to her forehead and she was in significant pain." Having come to Larimer Humane Society as an injured, abandoned animal at such a young age, a staff member gave her the name Miracle.

Initial treatment was provided to ease Miracle's discomfort and to decrease the severe swelling. Four days later she underwent surgery to remove her left eye. "That's when the broken bone was found," said Dr. Garcia. Underneath the trauma, swelling and infection, Miracle was suffering from a fractured cheek bone. Veterinary staff tended to her newly discovered injury and prescribed her pain medication as she awoke from the anesthesia.

After such a difficult week, Miracle needed time to rest and recover. Larimer Humane Society's Foster Care team stepped up to help her find the perfect volunteer home to do just that. "When I first saw Miracle, I was very shocked to see what she endured before coming to our shelter," said Luisa Salas, Larimer Humane Society Foster &

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Transfer Coordinator. "However, I knew that we were able to help her and place her in a foster home to heal and recover from the medical procedures."

Miracle traveled to foster volunteer Chelsea's home and settled in. "I just couldn't imagine how a little puppy ended up injured on the side of the road all by herself," said Chelsea. "We were excited to help out and spend some time with her. She recovered from her injuries well and I'm not sure she even knows the difference for only having one eye."

Miracle's story was shared at the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Top Cat & Tails Gala this past October, illustrating the impact that Larimer Humane Society has on the lives of animals in our community. Miracle is one of nearly 6,000 animals that come through our doors needing help, resources, and love. Fortunately for Miracle, she found all three of those things, as well as a family to call her own! Miracle was happily adopted by a family in attendance at the gala. Congratulations to Miracle for finding her forever family!



# TOP CAT & TALS GALA MIDNIGHT IN PARKS PARKS TALS GALA HE TALS GALA

In late October, the community came together to celebrate high quality animal welfare in northern Colorado at the 24th Annual Top Cat & Tails Gala, presented by Hill's Pet Nutrition, Horizon Mechanical Solutions, and Poudre Pet and Feed Supply. This year's theme was Midnight in Pawris, putting a French twist on an elegant evening. A big thank you to everyone for your support in making this event possible! We raised a record-breaking \$190,000, helping ensure safety and comfort for all animals who come through our shelter.

#### **PRESENTING**







#### **PLATINUM**



#### GOLD









#### **SILVER**

ERIN LEVAN, STATE FARM 970-372-2919 MIDTOWN VETERINARY MEDICAL CENTER

#### BRONZE

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CREST INSURANCE GROUP • NOCO STYLE MAGAZINE



#### **GIVE HOPE TO ANIMALS**

#### THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Choose Love and 'Give Hope' to thousands of animals in northern Colorado this holiday season! Below are some easy ways you can make a difference and have a huge impact.

- Make a donation to our Give Hope campaign! Did you know it costs \$26 each day per animal to provide medical treatment, care, nourishment, and shelter? Your dollar goes a long way and makes a huge difference for animals!
- Purchase a 2023 Celebration of Second Chances calendar: They make great holiday gifts for friends and family and also support local breweries. Learn more and purchase yours today by scanning the QR code on the back page of this newsletter.
- Want to donate via cryptocurrency? We've got you covered! You can easily make your crypto gift through our website and provide much needed assistance to animals in need.

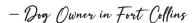
Head over to www.larimerhumane.org to make your gift today!

#### ASK THE EXPERTS

#### LEASH REACTIVITY

Dear Larimer Humane Society,

I have a three-year-old dog named Cooper and he LOVES walks, but I'm starting to dread them. He is the sweetest and most playful dog I've ever had, but when we are walking, he gets very riled up and almost uncontrollable when we pass by other dogs and sometimes humans. Any thoughts on how to manage Cooper's behavior during our walks?





#### Hi there!

Thanks for reaching out, and I'm sure you're not the only one with this issue. This brings up the topic of leash reactivity – being reactive on the lead which tends to be displayed with unwanted behaviors, such as: pulling, whining, barking, lunging, and flailing, just to name a few. Why do dogs display this? For some, it is due to fear and is a clear way to create distance between the stimuli such as people or other dogs and themselves. For others, it is due to the frustration that they can't interact with whatever they see.

First, you want to determine what the triggers are and take notice when and why Cooper becomes unruly on leash. Once identified, create space between Cooper and the trigger, and then give him a treat once he is back to displaying appropriate behaviors. This should help to limit unwanted responses and create new ways to cope with those triggers. Additionally, here are some behavior techniques that we use at the shelter:

- **LAT** (*Look At That*) Rewarding your dog for seeing the trigger as a counterconditioning technique that will create a positive association with that trigger.
- BAT (*Behavioral Adjustment Training*) Rewarding your dog for any minimal reduction, improvement, or absence of aggression. A gradual counter conditioning technique that uses shaping to change the emotional response to a trigger.
- CAT (Constructional Aggression Treatment) Appropriate or healthier behaviors towards a negative trigger are rewarded by allowing distance between the dog and the trigger.

#### 2023

## CELEBRATION OF SECOND CHANCES CALENDAR

Looking for a way to stay organized and support a great cause at the same time? The 2023 *Celebration of Second Chances* calendar is now for sale! All proceeds benefit the animals that will come through Larimer Humane Society's doors in 2023.

Each month, you'll not only learn about an animal that received their second chance with a new family, but you'll also receive a Buy One Get One (BOGO) pint at each featured brewery! Support local, support animals in need, and support your schedule with the 2023 *Celebration of Second Chances* calendar! Limited supply — first come, first served — act now!







#### FORT COLLINS

622 N. College Ave. (970) 482-2741

6204 S. College Ave. (970) 225-1255

2601 S. Lemay #18 (970) 226-0277

2100 W. Drake #6 (970) 682-2585

#### LOVELAND

2400 N. Lincoln Ave. (970) 800-3967

#### WINDSOR

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#### **CONTACT US**

3501 E 71st St, Loveland, CO 80538 970.226.3647 larimerhumane.org

#### **MISSION**

To further the compassionate, safe, and responsible

#### VISION

Larimer Humane Society is a trusted, responsive community eader, providing programs and services essential to the high quality of life for animals and people in northern Colorado.

#### ABOUT LARIMER HUMANE SOCIETY

Larimer Humane Society is an independent nonprofit agency. We are not a division of any county or city and are not funded by any national animal-welfare organizations. We are a 501(c)(3) corporation and we are governed by a volunteer board of directors. We turn no animals away.