



1969-2019

Your 50th Anniversary, Your Larimer Humane Society

What an honor and privilege it is to serve as your Larimer Humane Society CEO during this major milestone year. I say "your" Larimer Humane Society because this organization exists today – celebrating 50 years of service – only because of you.

Whether you are a founder of this organization, or you have served on our Board of Directors. Whether you are a donor, sponsor, or partner of our work. Whether you license your animals, voted "Yes on 200," or have added to your family by adopting from this organization. Whether you volunteer or advocate on our behalf. Larimer Humane Society belongs to you.

Reflecting on the past five decades through memories shared and archives saved, I am simply overcome with gratitude for each of you and the family that together we have become. As you'll read within these pages, prior to Larimer Humane Society, no organization existed for the care of homeless pets. The vision, passion, and fortitude of a small but mighty group of pioneers initiated this safe haven for animals and has only continued to grow.

This pioneer spirit is interwoven to Larimer Humane Society's fabric and has paved the way for continued advancements on behalf of companion animals throughout our history. My dream is for this same vision, passion, and fortitude to live long into the future, embracing the needs of our community and the welfare of those without a voice.

Looking to the future, one of the ways that we – together – can respond to these needs is by helping to keep animals with the families who love them. Our Better Together campaign, outlined on the last two pages of this document, creates a safety net of services to alleviate circumstances that so often lead to the relinquishment of beloved pets. You'll see the names of dedicated supporters who have already pledged their support to this effort. I invite your participation in this critical programming as well.

It is because of your commitment that we celebrate this milestone together. My vision is that our family of supporters will continue to grow, ensuring the responsible, compassionate, and safe relationship between animals and people long into the future.

With sincere appreciation,



Judy Calhoun
CEO

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1969-1979



Humane Society Releases Plans for Pet Shelter

Plans and architect drawings for the proposed Central Larimer County Animal Shelter to be located eight miles north of Loveland are set to be released this week.

The Humane Society-Larimer County, Box 271, Fort Collins, has received the preliminary approval of the Larimer County Board of Commissioners to proceed with construction of the building.

According to Charles Lutz, executive vice-president, plans of the shelter will be starting construction this summer on the three-acre tract which the group owns. Lutz notes that the shelter has already raised half of the \$2.5 million needed, much of it through a donation from Bruce DeBaur this fall.

Members will be sent out in the near future, because officials want to be sure that the pet population of Larimer County, including stray animals, are maintained in the humane population three to one. It has become the official goal of the city council.

The Humane Society-Larimer County and the Larimer County Board of Commissioners and the Larimer County Board of Commissioners are working to provide for future growth," according to the society.

The plans to build a modern shelter for the Larimer County between Loveland and



HUMANE SOCIETY ELECTS OFFICERS



HUMANE OFFICERS - Larimer County's newest service organization, the Humane Society, elected a Board of Directors Wednesday night at a meeting at the Fort Collins Federal Savings and Loan. The group plans to become incorporated and then work in the area of humane treatment of animals including stray cats and dogs within the county. Back row, left to right: John Garner, John Walker, Robert Moore, James Kummer. In the front row: Carol Delaney, Jo Schamberger, Rose Brum, and Vicki Coblin. Not shown in picture are directors Louise Fierce and Jane Tester. STAR photo by Jane Tester.



Pet of the week
 Operatory houses aren't so bad, if you've got somebody to play with. Kenny Stone, 5, is using this German Shepherd-Labrador puppy company temporarily. The dog is available adoption from the Larimer County Humane Society's animal shelter. It's seven weeks old but had a blizzard that Kenny's mother took to the shelter. Photo by Greg Smith.

Establishing the Footing

Before Larimer Humane Society, all that existed for homeless pets in northern Colorado was a gravel lot in west Fort Collins, enclosed by a chain-link fence, where law enforcement officers would leave animals in hopes that their owners would reclaim them. In 1967, an ad ran in the Fort Collins Coloradoan, inviting community members to join forces in creating an organization that would better serve homeless pets. Then known as The Humane Society for Larimer County, the organization became northern Colorado's primary resource for lost, homeless, and neglected animals.

Timeline

- 1969** The Humane Society for Larimer County was formed by approximately 30 community members, armed with a passion for creating a better option for pets. On April 1, 1969, the organization achieved nonprofit status.
- 1971** Property was purchased for the organization's first shelter at 6317 Kyle Avenue near Trilby Road in south Fort Collins.
- 1974** At the completion of a \$100,000 capital campaign, and with financial assistance from three separate banks, doors opened at the Kyle Avenue shelter on May 1, 1974. The facility provided 57 dog runs and 65 small animal enclosures.

1980-1989



Animal shelter seeks funding for expansion

More pets soon will be able to find and keep homes if the Humane Society for Larimer County can raise the \$350,000 needed to expand its shelter.

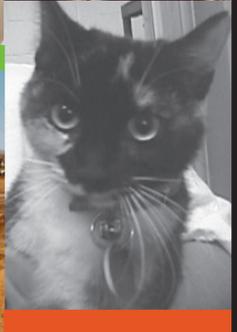
"It's very crowded here," says Development Director Cheryl Sokoloski.

The 7,200-square-foot addition, she says, would be the first serious expansion since the shelter opened on a shoestring in 1974 with three employees. That same shelter now serves Fort Collins, Loveland and all of Larimer County with a staff of 29 and a \$650,000 annual budget.

"We are the only animal sheltering organization in the county and everybody knows how the county has grown," notes Sokoloski.



Sam & family
June '86



Hitting the Road

With solid groundwork laid in its first decade of operations, the 1980s was largely defined by securing agreements with local jurisdictions for animal protection and control services. Until this time, animal control services were carried out by law enforcement agencies across the northern Colorado communities. Adding animal protection and control programming, in addition to the county's growth, put strain on the shelter, necessitating expansion of the Kyle Avenue property.

Timeline

- 1980** Animal protection and control services became fully implemented under the Humane Society for unincorporated Larimer County.
- 1986** The City of Fort Collins contracted for animal protection and control services.
- 1987** \$169,000 was raised to expand the shelter.
- 1989** Negotiations began for takeover of animal protection and control services in Loveland.

1990-1999



Longtime Humane Society employee named to top spot

BY JANE BERRY

After searching for six months and reviewing 20 applicants, Larimer County has chosen its new executive director.

John Wood, a founding member of the Humane Society and an employee since the shelter opened in 1974, recently was named to the post. For the past 15 months, Wood has served as interim executive director.

"I look at it as a challenge," Wood said. "I hope I'm in to a really good job and that I don't disappoint anyone."

Of all the applicants, "she had the most and best experience related to Humane Society issues," said Dr. James Gunnor, president of the society's board of directors.

Wood's plans for the Humane Society's future include a continued focus on decreasing the number of animals brought into the shelter through increased spaying and neutering of pets, as well as educational outreach.

"Hopefully, if we can reduce the number of animals available, cuts in particular, supply and demand will reduce the outflow of animals," she said. "There are times

when we receive a handful of more cats or kittens a week."

Last year, more than 6,000 animals were taken into the shelter. About 20 percent of those animals were euthanized, almost another 30 percent were adopted and about 40 percent were reclaimed by their owners. The median time from the day an animal is taken into the shelter to the day it is adopted is 10 days.



THE NEW Wood believes she has the capability to develop a Humane Society of Larimer County that is a state and national premiere.

Humane Society has open house to honor 25 years of service

BY JANE BERRY

Within a week of opening its doors in May of 1974, the Humane Society for Larimer County was already full of love and animals.

"We didn't realize what we were getting into," said John Wood, the shelter's executive director and one of its founders. "Our August 25th in 1974, people were lined up with animals to get adopted. It was overwhelming. It was a really special day."

Wood and the society celebrated on Sunday 25 years of service to the county with an open house that included live music, more and more animals. They also presented Wood with a special recognition for his 25 years of service to the county.

"Many people realize that opening and operating this shelter is the responsibility that we have," Wood said. "When you're committed to an animal, there's a responsibility to care for them until they're adopted or until they're euthanized."

Wood said he was particularly proud when it opened, the shelter has grown in size and responsibility. It now handles animal control and training in Larimer County.



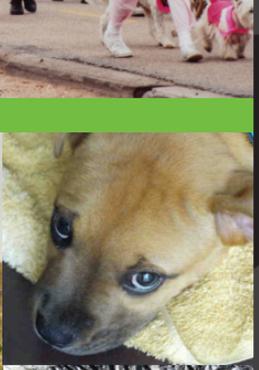
Photo: Heather The Collector



Typically, Wood said, animals are held until adopted. During that time, they're spayed, neutered and vaccinated, all of which is included in the society's \$10 adoption fee.

These weeks after they adopted a pet, Wood said, he and his wife, Theresa Carlson, would be on the phone for weeks, talking to people who were interested in the pet.

Wood said he and his wife have a few dogs and cats, and he said he would carry on without



Community of Care

The 1990s focused on healthcare for homeless animals. The organization did not have a dedicated veterinarian on staff, so relied heavily upon partnerships with veterinary clinics across the community, as well as Colorado State University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital, to provide both emergency care and spay/neuter surgeries for homeless animals. Regulations were only loosely handled by the county's health department. Lisa Sadar, the organization's executive director from 1990-1995 was appointed by the governor to help establish guidelines for facilities that house and care for animals, and contributed to the Pet Animal Care Facilities Act (PACFA), which inspects and licenses facilities across the state still today.

Timeline

- 1991** Fire Hydrant 5 began, a dog-friendly walk/run fundraiser, adding pledge-raising and expo components in its 29-year run.
- 1998** The Top Cat & Tails Gala began, raising funds through a formal wine, dine, and art event.
- 1995** Ilene Wical, founding Board member and the shelter's first employee hired became executive director.

Gaining Ground

The 2000s brought a substantial identity change for the organization, with the rebranding of both the organization's name and logo. And medical care for animals entered a new era with the addition of the first staff veterinarian. The Kyle Avenue shelter revealed further wear and tear, as upwards of 1,000 animals per month entered through the building's doors, reflective of the continued population growth – including both animals and people – across northern Colorado. After considering several locations, property was purchased on the north side of the Northern Colorado Regional Airport for the home of a new shelter.

Timeline

- 2000** The organization's name officially changed from The Humane Society of Larimer County to Larimer Humane Society.
- 2002** The shelters first staff veterinarian was hired, allowing for the care of sick and injured animals on-site, in addition to spay/neuter surgeries and vaccines.
- 2007** Property on County Road 30 in Loveland was purchased for the site of the future shelter, publicly unveiled to supporters at the 9th annual Top Cat & Tails Gala.

2010-2019



Opening New Doors

The decade started off defined largely by crisis. With the High Park Fire in 2012, and the September Floods in 2013, Larimer Humane Society maintained its open-admission policy by welcoming owned animals for temporary care while their displaced owners focused on rebuilding and recovering. With the need for expansion becoming more evident by the day, northern Colorado demonstrated its commitment to the animals through the passage of ballot initiative 200. This funding, along with the generosity of supporters to the building's capital campaign, allowed for the opening of the 71st Street facility in September of 2017.

Timeline

- 2012** Larimer Humane Society housed more than 700 animals displaced by the three-week-long High Park Fire, which claimed more than 87,000 acres and nearly 260 structures in Poudre Canyon.
- 2014** Northern Colorado voted "Yes on 200," approving a one-penny per \$10 sales tax initiative to help fund the new shelter.
- 2016** Ground broke for Larimer Humane Society's 71st Street shelter.
- 2017** People and animals moved into the new, 39,000 square-foot facility in northeast Loveland, with the new facility's official opening on September 5, 2017.

Anniversary Eve

Toasting 50 Years

On March 31st, the eve of Larimer Humane Society's official 50th anniversary, nearly 70 guests gathered at the shelter for a special celebration. Comprised of several organizational founders, current and former Board members, and other key supporters from throughout Larimer Humane Society's history, the event honored those who have shared the vision of a better world for pets.

Jim Kummer, Larimer Humane Society's first Board chairperson, gave heartfelt remarks of his experience and a special toast was given by current Board chair, Jim Watson. The event featured tours of the facility, providing many attendees a first look at what has grown from the efforts they put into motion decades ago.

"It is beautiful. Words can barely convey the exceptional quality of the facility and the dedication of the staff."

Jim Kummer, Larimer Humane Society's first Board chairperson, visiting the shelter for the first time with wife, and fellow organizational founder, Lee.

Larimer Humane Society CEO, Judy Calhoun, also shared her gratitude with attendees, with a special message to the organization's founders, "Thank you for establishing this organization, thank you for believing in your community, and for believing that we could make a difference."

To learn more about the organization's history, visit Larimer Humane Society on YouTube to view our special commemorative 50th Anniversary video (<http://bit.ly/LHS50Years>).



Memories Through the Years

Recollections from Key Contributors

"Despite differences, temperament and other clashes, we had a common interest in helping animals, and went out and did it."

John Walker, Founding Board Member, on the group of founders that launched Larimer Humane Society

"Our biggest challenges in the beginning were getting the word out, and trying to change the culture in the community at that time. Folks thought of pets like they thought of farm animals by in large, so getting buy-in was difficult."

Vicki Paulsen, Founding Board Member

"After becoming a nonprofit, in order to secure enough financing to build the [Kyle Avenue] shelter, we had to take loans out from three different banks."

Ilene Wical, Founding Board Member, Staff Member, and former Executive Director

"Sometime around the late '80s or early '90s, we became the first shelter in Colorado to do 'early' spay and neuter surgeries, meaning animals were altered at 8-12 weeks of age."

Carol Thomas, Former Board Member, Former Staff Member

"Around 1988 or so, due to State budget cuts, the line item for the health department to oversee shelters was vetoed, so we lost all oversight of animal-related facilities ... We regrouped and incorporated other animal-related groups, and began drafting legislation for new regulation. After that legislation passed, I was appointed by the governor to sit on the committee that drafted the regulations for PACFA in its original version."

Lisa Sadar, Former Volunteer, Former Board Member, Former Executive Director, on Colorado's Pet Animal Care Facilities Act

"In the '90s, we raised money by running bingo games in downtown Fort Collins. It was a fun evening!"

Michele Lier, Former Board Member, Volunteer

"It's been a whole teamwork approach over the years. Individuals and animal welfare professionals with different skillsets have happened upon the organization at different times and sort of brought their specialty at that time and moved it a little further ... It's just a good, strong, ethical organization. And I'm happy I got to be part of that."

Ellen Taylor, Former Director of Operations

In Your Words

Messages of Love, Passion, and Inspiration



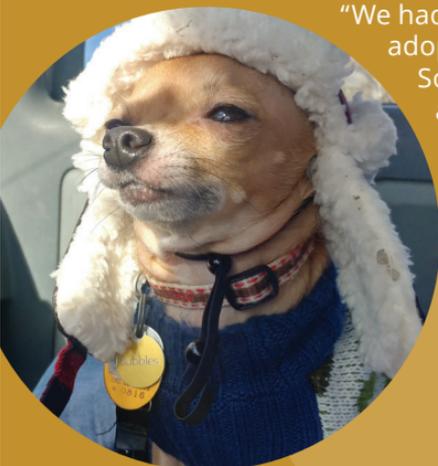
"In the summer of 2007 we adopted an adorable 9 month-old female Boxer, Honey, who found herself homeless due to California wildfires. A rescue group brought her, and many others, to Colorado to find new homes. Honey lived with our daughter until the stress of work and moving made it necessary to find Honey a new home. My husband and I already had two big dogs in our house, so Honey went back to the shelter and was quickly adopted out. In January of 2016, I received a call from [Larimer Humane Society] and was told that a Boxer that had been relinquished by the owner had my phone number on her microchip. So, we adopted Honey a second time! Honey is 12 years old now and is happily in her forever home."

Roberta Leirer, Adopter



"I began volunteering at LHS at the beginning of my senior year at CSU. Over the past four years, I've enjoyed my time spent socializing with cats (and staff), learning more about the behavior and enrichment department, and helping to train new volunteers. In April of this year, I took a work opportunity in Cheyenne and haven't been able to volunteer regularly since. I've definitely missed it, but my three volunteer fails (cats) at home keep my snuggle quota filled!"

Hanna Vik, Former Volunteer



"We had a wonderful experience adopting from Larimer Humane Society. Bubbles has had many adventures with our family since. He keeps us grounded. We love him so very much."

Jose Vigil, Adopter



"I adopted my cat Gracie from LHS in February of 1997. I was mourning the loss of my childhood cat and needed a new baby kitty in my life. At the time I was working at the CSU VTH in the surgery department as a tech helping with all of the LHS spays and neuters and other surgeries. A sweet little tabby kitten with white feet was being spayed that day and I instantly knew that she was my new kitten! The day after her surgery I was able to adopt her and take her home. I started veterinary school at CSU in the fall of 1997, graduated with my DVM in 2001, and Gracie (along with many other cats and dogs) was with me and my family through multiple moves. We settled back in Fort Collins in 2006 and have happily been here since then. Gracie celebrated her 22nd birthday in November 2018 and we euthanized her on December 21st, 2018. Thank you LHS for my "heart kitty" who I still miss dearly!"

**Dr. Kerry Hoobler-Riek,
Fort Collins Veterinarian, Adopter**



"One day on my lunch break from work I decided to go in and visit and see what dogs were on the adoption floor. Like fate, there was a little black dachshund, my favorite breed. She had come in as an unclaimed microchipped stray and when they handed her to me, she wrapped her arms around my neck and never let go. I don't know why anyone would not have claimed our dear Ellie, but I am sure glad they didn't. She is the light of our lives. She can do no wrong and is spoiled rotten these days. We will always have a special place in our hearts for the people of Larimer Humane!"

Casondra Holub, Adopter & Former Volunteer



Legacy of Loyalty

Poudre Pet & Feed Supply's 30 Years of Support

Henry Cabbit Hen House III – this was the name that Karen Horak gave to her first chicken when she was ten years old. Henry was one of about fifteen pets that Karen cared for growing up on an Indian reservation in Nebraska. “I spent most of my free time cleaning cages and taking care of animals,” says Karen. She also helped with vaccination clinics and performing flea dips for the stray dogs on the reservation. Unsurprisingly, years later when a local feed store was posted for sale in Fort Collins, Karen saw an opportunity.

“I was a paint contractor” says Karen, “but I was ready to do something animal-related.” Together with her partner, Karen Morris, she formulated a plan and purchased the original Poudre Pet & Feed Supply in 1988. At first, Karen admits, “It was a struggle. But it was fun.” The storefront was only about 150 square feet. “We kept the dog beds in the attic.” When customers would come in search of a dog bed, Karen would climb into the attic and hold them out for the customer to see – “What about this one?”

Poudre Pet & Feed Supply opened its second location in 1996; then another in 2011, 2012, 2014 and a sixth store in 2015. Through its successes and continued growth, one thing has remained the same: Poudre Pet & Feed Supply's support for Larimer Humane Society.

Karen was first acquainted with Larimer Humane Society through a chance meeting with an animal control officer. “I would go on ride-alongs,” recalls Karen, “mostly out on calls about stray dogs.” This connection started a 30-plus year relationship between Poudre Pet & Feed Supply and Larimer Humane Society.



Poudre Pet & Feed Supply

From handing out coupons to adopters, to fundraising, sponsoring, and even donating the shelter's pet food for many years, Karen is a longtime supporter and advocate. She has also adopted a few dogs and cats from the shelter.

But it's more than Karen's love for her rescues that inspires her continued support. "I feel there is a necessity for a shelter where any animal is accepted whether it's stray, ill or unwanted. Limited admission facilities are great partners, but we're all in it together and someone has to hold up this important end. That's why I support Larimer Humane Society."

Today, Poudre Pet & Feed Supply is the presenting sponsor for Larimer Humane Society's Fire Hydrant 5K and the Top Cat & Tails Gala, raising a combined \$250,000 for Northern Colorado's animals each year. "We try to be very community involved," says Karen. Through support of numerous other regional shelters and rescues, Poudre Pet & Feed Supply is doing more than its share to ensure that animals have the opportunity to live healthy, happy lives.

As for Poudre Pet & Feed Supply's healthy and happy life? "It's because we have wonderful customers," claims Karen; some of the very same customers that purchased dog beds from the attic in 1988. When asked about plans for a seventh store, Karen was quick to point out their new online presence: "Our new site is up and we deliver! You could call that our seventh store. You can shop local and still shop online."

And as for Henry Cabbit Hen House III – his legacy lives on through the thousands of animals that are cared for thanks to Karen Horak, Karen Morris, and Poudre Pet & Feed Supply.

Then & Now

A Visual Representation of Past to Present

Though the images have changed through the years, we see the common thread that connects them all – support and compassion from individuals like you. Thank you for your commitment to growing, expanding, and improving upon this mission to ensure every animal has a safe place to call “almost home.”

Shelter



Animal Care



Animal Protection & Control



Veterinary Services



Community Events



Iconic Moments of 1969

Notable Happenings Outside Larimer County

The end of a decade tends to produce some of the biggest moments in history, and such was certainly the case in 1969.

Aside from the incorporation of Larimer Humane Society, the year was filled with iconic events impacting culture and society still today. Richard Nixon was just taking office, famous West-Mex restaurant Taco John's was created, the Boeing 747 took its first test flight, and the Haunted Mansion ride at California's Disneyland Resort opened to the public. Not everything was amusement rides and tacos in 1969, though. The year is also credited as the beginning of the modern gay-rights movement, resulting from New York's Stonewall Riots.

'69 also produced some of the most historically recognizable music. The Beatles' released Abbey Road, an album now regarded as the band's best; Led Zeppelin released their first album; The Rolling Stones released Let It Bleed, featuring hits such as Gimme Shelter and You Can't Always Get What You Want. And the Woodstock Music Festival, which brought the best musicians of the time together, unfolded on one giant stage in New York.

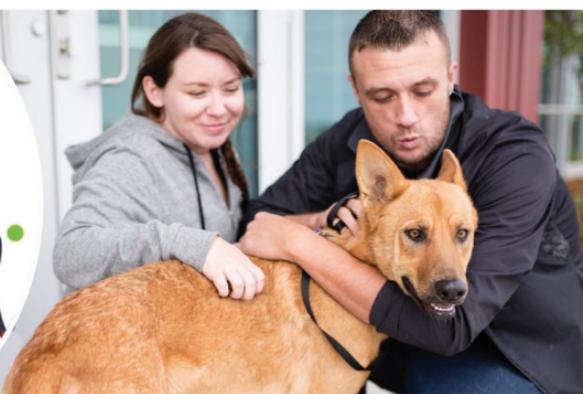
A little closer to home, the State of Colorado also experienced some historic moments. The city of Lakewood was incorporated, along with the city of Wheat Ridge, just west of the Denver Metro area. The International Olympic Committee selected Denver to host the 1976 Winter Olympics, though the city withdrew in 1972, at which time the games were subsequently awarded to Innsbruck, Austria. The final 21-mile segment of I-25 opened to traffic, completing the enormous 305-mile interstate. And the Denver Broncos finished their first ten seasons with a record of 39 wins, 97 loses, and 4 tied games.

As families across Colorado sat down to watch TV with dinner, critically-acclaimed shows like Sesame Street, The Brady Bunch, and Scooby-Doo were just getting their start and gaining momentum – a far cry from their respective pop culture following now. But nothing on television received such undivided attention as the Apollo 11 lunar landing. More than 500 million people worldwide watched as Neil Armstrong took his historic steps on the surface of the moon





**BETTER
TOGETHER**



Pets and Their People are Better Together

Born from the belief that pets and their people are 'Better Together,' and that the bonds owners share with their animals should remain intact, Larimer Humane Society is initiating programming to help maintain those bonds. The Better Together campaign, launched in conjunction with Larimer Humane Society's 50th anniversary, is making strides toward helping to keep pets with the owners who love them.

With funding in place to launch, program will provide:

- **Medical support** – Including free or reduced-cost vaccines, spay/neuter surgeries, and pet care clinics for at-risk neighborhoods across our community. Additionally, we will work with owners on easily-treatable medical conditions that may otherwise result in the surrender of a pet.
- **Behavioral support** – Helping owners following adoption with tools to reduce anxiety in pets, increase confidence, and become closer to the family. We are also expanding behavior programming within the shelter to help better prepare pets for successful placement with a new family.
- **Food and supply support** – Collaborating with partners in the human services and animal welfare community to place pet food and supplies into the hands of pet owners who may be experiencing a challenging time.
- **Disaster and crisis support** – Safety – whether from a disaster or an abuser – should never be avoided due to the fear of leaving a pet behind. Larimer Humane Society will provide a safe haven for pets, along with emergency supplies, for owners who are temporarily displaced.

Of course, Larimer Humane Society realizes that for some owners there is no alternative to the relinquishment of a pet. In those situations, our doors will remain open to any animal – and owner – in need. For others, we can help alleviate the pain of having to say "goodbye."



Golden Paw Society

During Larimer Humane Society's anniversary year, several dedicated supporters have stepped up to voice their belief that pets and their people are 'Better Together.' Please join us in thanking these contributors of \$500+, for creating a brighter future for animals in northern Colorado*.

Judith Aranow

June Baker

Mary Baldwin

Judy Calhoun & Cheryl Weill

Bobbi Cipriano & Lu Callahan

Carole Egger

Robert Gregory

Lois & Arn Hart

Pam Jones & Mark Bianchi

Jerry King

Patricia Kingsbury

Kathy Kregel & Jim Smith

Michele Lier

Timiry & Jason McCaskell

Keith & Colleen Meyer

Margaret Olsen

Kara & Neil Pappas

The Estate of Carlene Roberts

Catherine & Byron Sayers

Ryan & Melissa Schaefer

Susan Shattuck & Tim Gallagher

Jane Sullivan

Kit Sutherland & Scott Kintz

Jim & Nikki Watson

Sallie Youngman

*Supporters as of 9/5/19

If you, too, believe that animals and their people are Better Together, your support today – in any amount – will make a meaningful difference. Supporters of \$500 or more will be recognized as members of our Golden Paw Society, with a golden commemorative pin and engraved tribute tag permanently placed in Larimer Humane Society's adoption lobby. Learn more or make a gift today at LarimerHumane.org.



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

Intake Lobby:
Mon-Fri 8am-7pm
Sat/Sun 8am-5pm

Adoption Lobby:
Mon-Fri 11am-7pm
Sat/Sun 10am-5pm

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