



AUTUMN 2024 NEWSLETTER

"Working together to improve the welfare of reservation dogs and cats"

"Diné Bikéyah bikáá'góó, ahil-neilnishgo lééchaai dóó mósí baa' ádahwiilyáago"

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A great work ethic, indomitable spirit, selfless compassion. All traits any country would want in its citizens — and America was lucky enough to get a brand new citizen last month who checks all those boxes.

Tjasa Vesel Ames has been fostering, serving on our board of directors and helping out on our Petfinder page for four years now, along with her demanding day job teaching math at Ganado High School. It never occurred to us she did all this while not possessing the most coveted immigration status.

Although she moved to the U.S. from Slovenia with her parents as a teenager, Tjasa explained, she always thought she might go back to her home country. Once she fell in love with and married her American husband, Gregor, she was able to get a green card, and citizenship went on the back burner.

This year, with media reports of immigrants being demonized and hassled, she decided it was time to make her future more secure.

The process went smoothly, down to her interview where she just happened to get a question about Native Americans!

The swearing-in ceremony in Phoenix was "incredibly welcoming and inclusive," Tjasa noted.

"I've felt more American than Slovene for a long time now," she mused. "Now I just feel a little more official."



The Numbers

June through September, Blackhat Humane found homes for **52** dogs and cats and transferred **6** to other rescues. We currently have **58**.

The Money

From June through September 2024 Blackhat spent **\$11,324** on veterinary expenses,

\$10,138 on foster support and supplies, and

\$829 on community support

Ahehee' Thank you!

Airport Animal Hospital, Cedar Animal Medical, Chino Valley Vet, Coconino Humane Society, Continental Animal Wellness, Durango Animal Hospital, Kaibab Veterinary Clinic, Montezuma Veterinary Clinic, Navajo Nation Resource Enforcement, Prescott Animal Hospital, Rez Solutions, San Juan Veterinary Hospital, Dr. Sand, S. Alden, K. Arrington, K. Ashcraft, P. Simonson, J. Barbour, L. Beach, L. Burke, B. Carll, C. Conway, B. Coyne, C. Eberts, L & S Eustice, D. Gallagher, L. Gilbert, T. Sharp, J. Goheen, B & C Gothard, J. Hoit, K. Hood, L&M Krumdieck, P. Massey, E. McCollum, M. Mitchell, J. Myers, B. Peacock, J. Patterson, L. Quinn, L. Reed, R. Sherwin, C. Starr, D. Wren, M. Pfothenauer, and all who fostered, adopted, donated, prayed, transported or contributed in any way.

As the year winds down ...

- Check our website for early Christmas shopping! Calendars will soon be in and we just restocked T-shirts! <https://www.blackhathumanesociety.org/shop/>
- Get your ducks in a row for filing income tax! We are a 501(c)(3) charity so everything you spent on a foster pet that we didn't reimburse is tax-deductible, along with any donations you made to Blackhat! Save your receipts for dog food, leashes, crates, collars, etc., and let us know if you need a letter acknowledging your donation!



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B L A C K H A T H U M A N E S O C I E T Y

Adoptions are way down from the height of the pandemic, but even now most of our foster pets find a home within two or three months. Then there are Jupiter (below) and Bunny (right), our two longest-term Blackhat fosters. Both have been with their foster families over three years. Jupiter is a big guy, about 70 pounds, and was completely out of control when Susan took him in at the age of nine months or so. He's still pretty boisterous, but after work with two trainers, he doesn't bark constantly, is crate-trained and will walk on a leash. Bunny is a harder case. Trapped on top of a mountain pass in the middle of winter, she was as wild and feral as her foster mom Maureen had ever seen, and she's seen a few. "She was mad and mean," Maureen recalled, "growling and charging everybody." After about six months, she decided Maureen was OK, and after two and a half years or so, she grudgingly became part of Maureen's pack of pets. "She's really sweet now — but only with me," Maureen explained.



"She's going to take a very patient adopter." Contact us if you're up for a challenge and feel drawn to one of these pets!



**The
long-
timers**