

# POLITICS ARE GOING TO THE DOGS!

and cats and ferrets and rabbits and...

Advocates for a Violence-Free Community and Grand County Pet Pals Present

THE ELECTION OF GRAND COUNTY'S



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: Does the Grand Dog have to be a dog?

A: Your Grand Dog nominee can be whatever kind of critter you choose! We welcome any of your favorite pets from cats and rabbits to turtles and fish!

### Q: Why are the Advocates for a Violence-Free Community and Grand County Pet Pals collaborating for this event?

A: Domestic violence is one of the most detrimental experiences inflicted on a family and ultimately a community. Most people readily make the connection between child abuse and domestic violence, but what keeps many victims from seeking help is the thought of leaving their pets behind and the fact that abusers use threats of violence or actual acts of violence against pets to gain or maintain control over their partners. Most domestic violence shelters have

provisions for children, but few are able to accommodate pets of the victims. Victims who do not have children frequently have an even stronger bond to their pets, making the idea of leaving them with an abusive partner unbearable.

In Grand County many of the safe home options are able to take a pet. Additionally, Advocates for a Violence-Free Community has a partnership with the Grand County Animal Shelter to take the pets of victims while the victim looks for more suitable arrangements.

Studies have shown that women seeking shelter at a safe house, 71 percent of those having pets affirmed that their partner had threatened, hurt or killed their companion animals according to American Humane's – "Understanding the link between domestic violence and animal abuse".

### Q: When will the results of the Grand Dog election be announced?

A: The results will be announced on Sunday, August 19, 2018 at the Grand Election at the AA Barn in the Arapaho National Recreation Area at Green Ridge (see web site for directions).

### Q: Do the Grand Dog nominee and their campaign manager (owner) need to be present at the Grand Election in September in order to be elected Grand Dog?

A: Yes! The Grand Dog nominee and their campaign manager must be present at the Grand Election in order to be elected Grand Dog. If the nominee with the highest number of votes is not present, the nominee with the next highest number of votes will be elected Grand Dog!



*This event is a fundraiser in collaboration between Advocates for a Violence-Free Community and Grand County Pet Pals, both 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations dedicated to the welfare of families and animals.*

If you have any questions please call 970.725.3442 or 970.887.2988 or email us at [GrandDogGC@gmail.com](mailto:GrandDogGC@gmail.com)