



LYCOMING ANIMAL PROTECTION SOCIETY, INC.  
FELINE SHELTER AND ADOPTION CENTER

195 Phillips Park Drive  
South Williamsport PA 17702

# Newsletter

LapsShelter@windstream.net  
www.LapsShelter.org

570-327-8707

Summer 2010

**"One at a time, we will make a difference!"**

# CASINO NIGHT



**Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**7 pm – 11 pm**  
**Scottish Rite Grand Banquet Hall**

Join us for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Casino Night fundraising event to be held on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Grand Banquet Hall in downtown Williamsport, PA. Last year's event was a huge success thanks to our generous donors, supporters, members and volunteers; and we are anticipating an even greater turnout this year! Sponsorship opportunities are now available, and include table sponsors, as well as food and prize sponsors. For more information about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Gwen at 570-279-7116 or visit [www.LapsShelter.org](http://www.LapsShelter.org).

## Event Details:

**\$20 per person\***  
**Includes \$5,000 in chips**

**Door Prizes & Drawings**  
**Refreshments Provided**  
**Must be 21 years or older**

*Purchase tickets in advance by calling  
570-279-7116*

*\*Tickets will be \$25 at the door*

## OPEN HOURS

Monday 9 am – 12 noon  
Tuesday 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
Wednesday 8 am – 10 am  
Thursday 12 noon – 3 pm & 6 pm – 7:30 pm  
Friday 12 noon – 3 pm & 7 pm – 9 pm  
Others by Appointment

LAPS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible. The official registration and financial information of Lycoming Animal Protection Society may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

## LAPS Board of Directors

<i>President:</i>	James Cleland
<i>Vice President:</i>	Linda Williard
<i>Recording Secretary:</i>	Debbie Berry
<i>Corresponding Secretary:</i>	Gwen Uber
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Cyndi Eck
 <i>Members:</i>	
Patti Barclay	Holly Kline
Toni Clark-Moulthrop	Sandy Rigby
Nancy Cohick	Shelly Sheppard
Brandy Kift	

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/DONATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street

City

State

Zip

*Annual Associate Membership is a \$15 donation, Annual Senior Membership is a \$10 donation (Seniors are 55 years and over). All Members receive the LAPS Newsletter, are entitled to vote in the Board of Director Elections and can be nominated to the Board of Directors. LAPS is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Donations are tax-deductible. All donations are greatly appreciated!*

Is this:  New Membership \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Renewal of Membership \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## MEMORIAL GIFTS, HONORARIUMS & REMEMBRANCES

In Memory of Mr. Tyler Weber.

- Dr. Marjorie A. Baney

In Memory of our beloved cat Max.

- Mary Dunphy & George Hill

In Memory of my aunt, Eloise Drais.

- Jackie Carson

In Memory of our beloved Spitty & Gibbs. We love and miss you so much!

- Mommy Tiffany & Daddy Matt

In Memory of Kitty.

- Michele Gauger

In Honor of JJ McComb, a loving, smart cat owned by Joanne McComb.

- Joan Krick

In Memory of Tama Lynn Pelczynski.

- Williamsport Garden Club  
- Nanci Giacomi & Duncan  
- Mary & John Mincemoyer  
- Barbara & Bob Koch  
- Tabitha Hansen  
- Judith & Charles Hummel  
- Janet & Jorge Querimit  
- Alison & Joseph Cardone  
- Joni & Frank Perchinski  
- Mary E. D'este

In Honor of Lawrence Hamm's Retirement.

- Tiffany Narowski  
- Lawrence Hamm  
- Kathleen Duchelle

In Honor of Daniel Mosso's Birthday.

- Pat Bailey

In Memory of Eleanor Moore Bower.

- Bob & Carol Pursell

In Memory of Natalie Giacomi.

- Nanci Giacomi

In Memory of Ellen Tinsman.

- Susan Kelly

In Memory of Katie Ann.

- Ellen Houser & Ray Masters

In Honor of Susan Mann's Birthday.

- Joanne Cromley  
- Nancy Cohick

In Honor of Joanne Cromley's Birthday.

- Nancy Cohick

In Memory of Helen Kuykendall, Sammy's Mother.

- Barbara & Mark Sunner  
- Shirley McPherrin

## FAREWELL

The beginning of 2010 was a little rough for LAPS volunteers emotionally. Five of our beloved residents crossed the Rainbow Bridge in a two month period. Deep down, I think we were expecting something like this, due to the fact that we have an aging population, but one is never prepared to say goodbye.

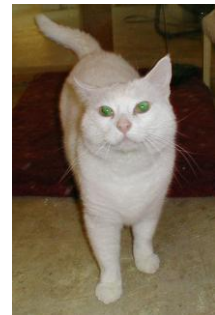
### DJ

DJ came to us when his elderly owner could no longer care for him. He had the most inquisitive eyes and was full of life and energy. Unfortunately, DJ developed a massive infection which lead to septic shock. DJ was assisted across the Rainbow Bridge on February 8. He was 8 years old.



### Bert

Bert was one of our FIV positive kitties and came to us as a stray. FIV positive kitties have a harder time fighting off infection than a non-FIV positive kitty. This was the case with Bert. Bert came down with an upper respiratory infection that got progressively worse. On top of this, he developed anemia. Bert was assisted across the Rainbow Bridge on March 1. He was 15 years old.



### Polly

Polly came to LAPS as a young stray. She was a somewhat timid girl who never really did learn to trust people, so Polly lived at LAPS for the better part of her life. Polly's body started to shutdown and she was assisted across the Rainbow Bridge on March 14. She was 14 years old.



### Christine

Christine came to LAPS after her elderly owner passed away. She was an elderly gal herself at approximately 16 years old! When she started to deteriorate, it was discovered her little body was full of tumors. Christine was assisted across the Rainbow Bridge on March 24. She was 18 years old.



### Catrina

Catrina came to us when her owner passed away. She was such a sweet little lady. It is suspected she had a tumor and/or infection and her body started to shutdown. Catrina was assisted across the Rainbow Bridge on April 6. She was 13 years old.



## ADOPTEE UPDATE

You met **Mel** in our Fall 2009 Newsletter. Mel was a recently diagnosed diabetic being fostered until we could find his forever home. Suzanne from NY was the answer to all of our prayers, and it's quite obvious she is doing an exceptional job with Mel!

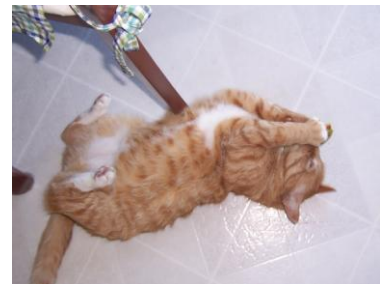
*Hey Everybody!*

*I wanted to say thank you to those of you who are still thinking and asking about me, and special thanks to foster mom Gwen and Willy for the new toys recently. As you can see from the picture, I sure do like 'em!*

*I can't believe it's been about eight months since I left my "management position" at the post office! Time flies. I'm enjoying life here in upstate NY. I have a big brother, Nemo, who I really love hanging out with. He's a sweetheart like me. My older sister Spotty – well, she wasn't too sure about me for awhile (women!) – but eventually my cuteness wore off on her and we're pretty good buddies now.*

*I had my last insulin shot in January and have been in remission ever since. It's great not to get those shots twice a day! My new mom is very proud of me, and says she owes a lot to Gwen and everyone there for their love, caretaking and support in the early days of my diabetes. Thanks for everything!*

*Love,  
Mel*



**Stevie** was a resident in our FIV room. FIV (Feline Immunodeficiency Virus) is a virus that suppresses the immune system. FIV positive cats can live a normal life if you are careful not to expose them to a sick or untested cat. Cheri came to LAPS looking for an FIV positive cat to keep her current FIV positive shop cat company. We don't know who is luckier, Cheri, Stevie or Cali Alley!

*Hi,*

*Attached are a few pictures of Stevie. He and Cali Alley are our shop kitties at Cheri's House of Flowers. Stevie and Cali have a great life. Stevie greets the customers (well he used to) now he waits for the customers to come and pet him. He's gotten rather lazy.*

*My husband built a cat tower for Stevie and Cali. We have a warming light on the one tier and they take turns sun bathing.*

*He is a real joy. Our customers stop just to see Stevie. They all love him and so do we. Thank you for allowing us to adopt him. We can't imagine life without our loving giant.*

*Cheri*



## ADOPTEE UPDATE (continued)

**Miracle**, who was featured in our Winter 2010 newsletter, has been adopted! Thank you to all of our wonderful supporters who helped us raise enough money to cover Miracle's medical expenses. We're happy to report that Miracle's broken leg healed nicely and that she now has a home to call her own.



**Katie Ann** and her housemate Sabrina Louise were both adopted from LAPS when they were seniors. Both girls wrote to LAPS frequently and have even submitted to our newsletters on occasion. We were sorry to hear of Katie Ann's passing at the age of 18. However, we were ecstatic when her people chose to adopt another senior LAPS cat, Mickey. (See her submission on page 6.) Godspeed Katie Ann.



### Dealing With the Guilt of Euthanizing a Beloved Pet

By Amy Dickinson  
*Tribune Media Services*

**Dear Amy:** I euthanized my beloved cat less than a week ago. Aside from the grief of losing my pet of 15 years, I feel a tremendous guilt at having made the decision to have her put to sleep. She was 17 or 18 years old (I got her from a shelter) and was recently diagnosed with an illness that was affecting her ability to breathe. Because of age-related, underlying health conditions, we were not able to use the medicine that was most likely to help her. After several days of agonizing over whether she was suffering, I made an appointment to have her euthanized. Ever since she died, I have been reliving the conversation and wishing I hadn't made the call – or wishing that when it came time for the procedure that I had said, "No, wait, let's try another medicine. Let's do anything to help her live longer." Instead, I made the decision to kill a sweet animal that had done nothing but love me for 15 years. I am absolutely beside myself with guilt. I feel like I "bailed" on her. Amy, how do I forgive myself? - Full of Regret

**Dear Regret:** Those of us who love our companion animals have to love them all the way – and that means we have to be responsible stewards all the way to the end of their lives. Trying to extend the life of a pet with painful or invasive medical treatment can be an act of human selfishness. Any vet will tell you that when it comes time to euthanize an animal, many people delay beyond the point of mercy. Many animal lovers face guilt along with their loss; talking with others will help you to face the inevitability of your choice. Your vet's office should help you connect with a bereavement group. Honor your memory of this animal and, when you are ready, visit a shelter to offer another cat the joy of a long and loving life with you.

# The Lucky Black Cat

by Mickey, a former LAPS resident

Say the words “black cat,” and some people immediately think “bad luck.” However, I am one black cat that has been very lucky, not just once, but twice.

My first stroke of good luck happened when I landed at Lycoming Animal Protection Society, Inc. (LAPS) in August 2005. I can’t remember much about the time before I began living at LAPS, and my previous owner didn’t provide the shelter with any information about me other than a note stating that I was approximately 11 years old. It was a scary and confusing experience.

Being abandoned as an older cat doesn’t sound like a very lucky occurrence. Fortunately for me, though, LAPS is a no-kill shelter. This refuge for homeless felines, a non-profit organization that is staffed entirely by volunteers, provides care and adoption services for cats and kittens at its South Williamsport facility.

I had a safe place to live, got plenty of food, and was kept up-to-date on my vaccinations. I was tended to by numerous volunteers and had the companionship of many feline friends. Although I was being cared for, what I wanted more than anything was for someone to take me home. I watched, day after day, month after month, year after year, as people visited with and adopted other cats. Most of the time, they were drawn to the younger ones. People often worry that something might be wrong with a senior cat in a shelter, but there was nothing wrong with me. Still, it looked like I might spend the rest of my life at LAPS.

I lived at the shelter for over four and a half years. Then in April 2010, I had my second stroke of good luck. A retired couple contacted LAPS and said that they were interested in adopting a mature kitty, one that was friendly, gentle, and maybe even a little bit on the chubby side. They completed the shelter’s application form and then asked for information about a few cats pictured on the LAPS website. A volunteer answered all of their questions, telling them that I was a sweet older gal and that I had good litter box habits.

When these people came to the shelter to meet me, they were charmed by how nice I was, and they realized that I was even prettier than my web photo. They decided then and there that I was a perfect match for them and their current kitty, Sabrina Louise. She is a 12 or 13 year old calico cat and an earlier LAPS senior adoptee. (This couple’s other LAPS cat, Katie Ann, had passed away in March 2010 at the age of 18.)

Finally, my wish had come true! Someone had chosen me, and I moved in with my new family. The other kitty and I get along really well and are ideal companions for each other. I am quite grateful to LAPS for taking care of me during my time of need. I am so happy to know that I have a home for the remainder of my nine lives. And you know what? The people who picked me feel like THEY are the fortunate ones, because once again LAPS provided them with the information that helped them select the perfect pet: a friendly, mature cat to care for and love ... forever.

I am a black cat, and I have been very lucky, not just once, but twice.

(About the author: Mickey, like her feline housemate Sabrina Louise, was adopted from LAPS as a senior cat. These lucky kitties are living a life of leisure with a retired couple in State College.)



# A Letter From Your Pet in Heaven

Author Unknown

To my dearest family,  
some things I'd like to say.  
But first of all, to let you know,  
that I arrived okay.

I'm writing this from the Bridge.  
Here I dwell with God above.  
Here there's no more tears of sadness.  
Here is just eternal love.

Please do not be unhappy  
just because I'm out of sight.  
Remember that I am with you  
every morning, noon and night.

That day I had to leave you  
when my life on earth was through,  
God picked me up and hugged me,  
and He said, "I welcome you.

It's good to have you back again;  
you were missed while you were gone.  
As for your dearest family,  
they'll be here later on."

God gave me a list of things,  
that he wished for me to do.  
And foremost on the list,  
was to watch and care for you.

And when you lie in bed at night,  
the day's chores put to flight,  
God and I are closest to you...  
in the middle of the night.

When you think of my life on earth,  
and all those loving years,  
because you are only human,  
they are bound to bring you tears.

But do not be afraid to cry:  
it does relieve the pain.  
Remember there would be no flowers,  
unless there was some rain.

I wish that I could tell you  
all that God has planned.  
If I were to tell you,  
you wouldn't understand.

But one thing is for certain,  
though my life on earth is o'er.  
I'm closer to you now,  
than I ever was before.

There are rocky roads ahead of you  
and many hills to climb;  
But together we can do it  
by taking one day at a time.

It was always my philosophy  
and I'd like it for you too;  
That as you give unto the world,  
the world will give to you.

If you can help somebody  
who's in sorrow and pain;  
Then you can say to God at night...  
"My day was not in vain."

And now I am contented...  
that my life was worthwhile.  
Knowing as I passed along  
I made somebody smile.

God says: "If you meet somebody  
who is sad and feeling low;  
Just lend a hand to pick him up,  
as on your way you go.

When you're walking down the street  
with me on your mind;  
I'm walking in your footsteps  
only half a step behind."

"And when it's time for you to go...  
from that body to be free.  
Remember you're not going...  
you're coming here to me."

## HELP SUPPORT LAPS

LAPS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and does not receive any federal or state funding. Therefore, we are constantly trying to find ways to help support our organization financially. Below are our current fundraisers. **If you wish to purchase Bon-Ton, Mr. Sticky's, Sheetz coupons or raffle tickets, please send a check for the amount due and a self-addressed stamped envelope.** You may purchase T-shirts and mugs at any of our events or stop by the shelter during open hours. We appreciate your support!

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Our new **T-shirts** have arrived! Once again, local artist Cathy Frey has designed artwork for a T-shirt for LAPS. This artwork is based upon three residents from LAPS. These shirts are available in lavender and green in adult sizes Small-2X and white in adult sizes Small-3X. Youth Large is available in lavender and white. These shirts are \$15 each.



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**Bon-Ton Community Day 2010 coupon booklet.** Bon-Ton's fall Community Day is November 13, 2010. Coupon booklets can be purchased for \$5 each with 100% of booklet sales benefiting LAPS! You can feel good about shopping and great about giving back! Each booklet is filled with:

- \$10 off coupon featuring minimal exclusions
- 30% off early bird coupon
- Six additional savings coupons
- Exclusive Community Day Bonus offers
- Three amazing web-exclusive offers



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LAPS now has **mugs**. These ceramic mugs are white with our logo and lettering in black with a pink heart. They are \$5 each.

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**Sheetz MTO Coupon.** These coupons are \$4 each and are good for any 6" sub, burger, chicken sandwich, deli sandwich, nachos, salad, wrap, melt, panini, quesadilla, 2 slices of pizza, 2 hot dogs or 1 deli dog, plus any size Fizz City Fountain Drink or self serve brewed coffee. Coupons are valid at all Sheetz locations. No expiration date.

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**Mr. Sticky's Coupon.** These coupons are \$2.50 each and are good for one regular sticky bun. Coupons may be redeemed at the store or concession trailer.



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**Cash Raffle.** "Christmas Cash" raffle tickets are \$1 each. First prize: \$500; Second prize: \$250; Third prize: \$100. Drawing will be held at 7 pm on November 15, 2010 at the shelter.



# LAPS Calendar of Events

## September 2010

Saturday, September 11  
8 am – 4 pm

### BOOK SALE

First Ward Fire Co.  
(across from Dairy Queen)  
South Williamsport

## September 2010

Saturday, September 18  
9 am – 9 pm  
Sunday, September 19  
9 am – 6 pm

### ROTARY FESTIVAL

Lycoming County Fairgrounds  
Hughesville

## October 2010

Saturday, October 9  
8 am – 4 pm

### YARD SALE

First Ward Fire Co.  
(across from Dairy Queen)  
South Williamsport

## October 2010

Saturday, October 16  
7 pm – 11 pm

### CASINO NIGHT

The Grand Banquet Hall at The Scottish Rite  
348 Market Street  
Williamsport

## November 2010

Monday, November 15  
7 pm

### Cash Raffle Drawing

LAPS  
195 Phillips Park Drive  
South Williamsport

## January 2011

Sunday, January 2  
2 pm – 4 pm

### HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

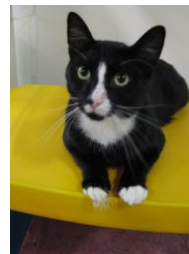
LAPS  
195 Phillips Park Drive  
South Williamsport

## MEET OUR RESIDENTS

Meet some of our wonderful residents currently available for adoption. You may view more of our residents online at [LapsShelter.org](http://LapsShelter.org) or [petfinder.com](http://petfinder.com). Or, better yet, stop by the shelter and visit them in person!

### Spanky

Spanky is quite the character! This handsome guy has a super personality and is guaranteed to add laughter and joy to your home. Spanky has tested positive for FIV and can only go to a home as a single cat or one with another FIV positive cat. FIV positive cats can live the same life span as a non-FIV positive cat.



### Silver

Silver is a lovely cat who wants no more than a home to call his own. He, too, has tested positive for FIV and should also go to a home as a single cat or one with another FIV positive cat. Silver came to us with an old, untreated injury and does have a limp that is more pronounced on some days.



### Rusty

Rusty is an awesome cat! This handsome boy came to us when he started to exhibit inappropriate behavior as a way of acting out. Rusty is extremely sensitive and does not do well with other animals or stressful situations, such as a lot of activity or young children. He needs a special home where he will have a constant routine and a lot of attention. Rusty loves to give hugs and love bites!



### Simone

Simone is an exceptionally sweet girl! She came to LAPS a couple of months ago after her elderly owner passed away. Simone is 16 years old and deserves nothing less than to spend the rest of her years in a home, like when she was young. Won't you please consider welcoming Simone into your life and your home?



## **You Can Help Even if You Can't Adopt**

- Transport shelter animals to veterinary visits and back.
- Sponsor a spay or neuter for a resident at LAPS.
- Pay for a spay/neuter for a friend, neighbor or family member who needs financial help.
- Spay/neuter a feral cat from the neighborhood.
- Groom a cat here at the shelter any day of the week.
- Donate stamps or long distance calling cards.
- Encourage anyone who's thinking of getting a cat to adopt one of the many great animals available at the shelter, not buy from a pet store.
- Make a bequest to LAPS in your will.
- Get some friends together to help with repairs and maintenance jobs at the shelter.
- Organize a fundraising drive at work, school or church for the shelter animals.
- Have a yard sale and donate the proceeds to LAPS.
- Save your spare change in a jar and donate it to LAPS every month.
- Ask friends and family to donate to LAPS in lieu of gifts on birthdays and holidays.
- Foster a needy animal.

## **Cash For Cans**

Don't forget that LAPS has a year-round Cash For Cans Campaign and the money received from recycling aluminum cans adds much needed dollars to the shelter budget. Like many organizations, LAPS is feeling the pinch of the poor economy. Donations are down but expenses are not. Since LAPS receives no federal or state funding, we depend upon fundraisers like recycling to help offset the loss of other contributions. Please donate your clean aluminum cans to this worthy fundraiser. Not only will this fundraiser turn aluminum cans into cash; it will reduce litter in the community, help conserve natural resources and save energy! Aluminum cans are 100% recyclable and can be recycled over and over again. Recycling just one can saves enough energy to run a TV for four hours or a 100-watt bulb for four hours.

Please drop off your aluminum cans at the shelter and help the animals who depend on us for their very lives. You may leave your aluminum cans outside the shelter doors if no one is at the shelter when you arrive. If you want to set up a time to drop them off, please call 570-327-8707 and leave your name and phone number. We will contact you as soon as possible.

## **Now Accepting**

We are now accepting items for our upcoming book sale and yard sale. Please call the shelter at 570-327-8707 to make arrangements. Due to limited space, we are now unable to accept these items until closer to our sale dates. We appreciate your donations and thank you for your understanding!



LYCOMING ANIMAL PROTECTION SOCIETY, INC.  
FELINE SHELTER AND ADOPTION CENTER

195 Phillips Park Drive  
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Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Williamsport PA  
Permit No. 208

### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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#### Shelter Wish List

If you are able, please donate any of the following items used in the everyday care of the shelter residents. All donations enable us to stretch our precious dollars much further than would otherwise be possible.

Bleach (must contain 6% sodium hypochlorite)  
Paper Towels  
Laundry Detergent  
Dish Detergent  
Antibacterial Hand Soap  
Tall (kitchen) Garbage Bags  
First Class & Post Card Postage Stamps  
Canned Cat Food – Pate Style  
Dry Cat Food  
Dried Catnip  
Gift Cards (Wal-Mart, Giant, Target, etc.)  
Scoopable Cat Litter  
Brooms

#### Purrs & Head Bonks to:

**Loyalsock Animal Hospital** for their continued care of our residents.

**Beth L. Crombie DVM**, from **Lewisburg Veterinary Hospital**, for administering the vaccines for our Rabies Clinic.

**Wain Schroeder** for hosting and managing our website.

**Cupp's Auto Service/Penske Truck Rental**, South Williamsport, for the use of a truck for our book sale.

**Cathy Frey** for her artwork design for our new T-shirts.

**Danny Scaife** for designing our mug.

**Ed Jacobson, Malcolm Mussina & John Shireman** for servicing and maintaining our heat pump/air conditioning unit.

**Our Volunteers and Supporters** who make it all possible!