



Lycoming Animal Protection Society, Inc.

195 Phillips Park Drive  
South Williamsport, PA 17702

570-327-8707  
www.lapsshelter.org  
lapsshelter@alltel.net

# LAPS Newsletter

*Shelter Open Regular Hours  
Friday From 7pm til 9pm • Other by appointment*

Summer 2008

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

## LAPS HAS A NEW HOME!

LAPS has a new home in South Williamsport providing better access for the surrounding community. We are now located just off the Maynard Street Bridge in the Riverfront South Business Park, on Phillips Park Drive, all the way in the back. In the very near future we will be sending out an invitation to our open house.

## 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Burger Burn at Sam's Club, Muncy. Friday,  
August 29, 8 am to 6 pm.

Adoptathon, Ard's Market, Lewisburg  
Saturday, September 13,

PA P.E.T.S. Dog Walk & Festival at Shikellamy State  
Park Marina, Sunbury. Saturday, September 6, 10 am to 4 pm.

Milton Harvest Festival, Downtown Milton. Saturday,  
September 20, 9 am to 5 pm.

LAPS Book Sale at  
St. Matthews Lutheran Church  
2233 Linn St., Williamsport  
Saturday, October 18, 8 am to 4 pm

More events are in the works, watch our website  
or join our email list for updates. We are always  
looking for help staffing our fundraising events.  
If you are willing to volunteer a few hours of your  
time at one of our events, please contact Gwen at the  
shelter or via email. Also, we are always looking for  
fundraising ideas. If you have an idea, please  
contact the shelter.

A night filled with music and food  
with Tickled Pink  
Saturday, September 13th 4pm to Midnight  
Clinton Twp. Fire Hall  
Tickets on sale soon!

# Do You **Love** CATS?

*Want to make a difference?*



**Then VOLUNTEER!**

**Contact**  
**Lycoming Animal**  
**Protection Society**

**(570) 327-8707**  
**lapsshelter.org**

### LAPS Board of Directors

*President:* James Cleland  
*Rec. Secretary:* Charlotte Myers  
*Corr. Secretary:* Gwen Uber  
*Treasurer:* Cyndi Eck

*Members:* Nancy Cohick  
Linda Williard  
Patti Barclay  
Tracy Haas  
Holly Kline

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/DONATION FORM**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

Street City State Zip Code

**Annual membership is \$15 donation (\$10 for Senior members 55 years and over). All members receive the LAPS Newsletter, are entitled to vote in the Board of Director elections and be nominated to the Board of Directors.**



*All donations are greatly appreciated!*

**LAPS is a registered 501(c)3, non-profit, charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible.**

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Email Address

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

[www.lapsshelter.org](http://www.lapsshelter.org)

**LAPS SPONSOR PROGRAM**

If you can't adopt due to allergies or already have a pet and don't feel that you can bring another into your home but you would still like to help, LAPS has a sponsorship program that may meet your needs.

As a no-kill organization, LAPS provides housing, food, companionship and medical care for an indefinite period of time, sometimes for the balance of an animal's life. Some of the shelter residents may be hard-to-place due to age, personality or disability. As long as a good quality of life is possible, the kitty will always have a home with proper veterinary care, regular vaccines, a healthy diet, spaying/neutering and other necessary care. This can all be costly but it is the commitment of the organization.

The Sponsor Program helps to provide funding to continue the care that the cats receive in the shelter. For just \$15.00 per month, your special friend will be assured of the best care possible and, if an emergency arises or care beyond a normal situation is required, this special funding helps to ensure that the other operating funds of the shelter will not be strained.

Your special friend will be chosen at random from the residents, unless you choose to visit the shelter personally and make your own choice. LAPS will provide you with a photo of the kitty you sponsor, if you request one, along with other information you may wish to know about your new friend. If the kitty is adopted, you will be notified and, hopefully, you will decide to choose another friend to sponsor.

If this sounds like a great idea to you, please contact LAPS at 570-327-8707 or send us a note expressing your wish to become a participant in the LAPS Sponsor Program.



**FAREWELL to some friends**



Bruce arrived at LAPS after his owners moved and couldn't take him with them. He was a friendly guy with a stocky build and captivating eyes. Bruce resided in the main compound for many years until it was discovered he had a large mass. Bruce was kept comfortable for a few months, however, on February 25, 2008, we had to assist Bruce across the Rainbow Bridge.

**MEMORIAL GIFTS, HONORARIUMS & REMEMBRANCES**

- In Honor of Maryanne Rossello  
- Leitha Huff - Margaret Bieber
- In Memory of Samson  
- Judy & Wainwright Schroeder
- In Memory of our daughter, our sister  
and our friend, Bert Fisher,  
a loving and caring individual to all.
- In Memory of Taffy McGregor  
+ Darlean Herr
- In Memory of Don Wilson  
- Bob & Darlene McBryan
- In Honor of Richard Lewis, LAPS Founder,  
for Father's Day - Karen Lewis Young
- In Fond Memory of Dewey Waugh  
- LaVera & Bill Gehron
- In Memory of our feline friends  
- Betty Gehron
- In Memory of Campbell  
- Sandy Ludwig - Lori Smith & Maggie
- In Memory of Clarence Williard  
- Bob & Darlene McBryan
- In Memory of (Joe) Lynn Sharpless  
- Bob & Darlene McBryan
- In Memory of Turtle
- Daphne Herrold - Sondra Hayhurst
- In Memory of the Wigster
- In Memory of Tweety  
- Michele Gauger

## MISC. THINGS

### KEEP THOSE CANS COMING!

Remember that LAPS recycles aluminum cans all year round.

The money that is received from recycling aluminum cans adds needed dollars to the Shelter budget. Currently, like many other organizations, LAPS is feeling the pinch of the poor economy. Donations are down but expenses are not. Since LAPS receives no government funding, the organization depends on programs like recycling to help offset the loss of other contributions.

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 cans (just aluminum - no steel) 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, phone number, and a time when you can be contacted.

If you have more than you are able to bring yourself, please call and we will arrange a time to pick them up from you.

### CELL PHONE RECYCLING PROGRAM

Help the environment while helping LAPS! Do you have a cell phone or cell phone accessories you don't know what to do with? If so, please donate them to LAPS for a recycling program. Cell phones and cell phone accessories may be dropped off at the shelter or at any of our fundraising events.

### PLANNED GIVING

As a supporter of LAPS, you may wonder how you can continue your legacy of caring for the homeless animals at LAPS after you are gone. One way is to make a bequest to the shelter in your will.

A bequest may take several forms including:

- A specific dollar amount
- A percentage of your estate
- The remaining value after all other gifts to your family
- A specific, definite asset (a house, land)

To make a bequest, please meet with your attorney to discuss and update your will. You may wish to have your attorney notify us as to the terms and conditions of bequests you make to ensure your gift is handled as you desire.

The Lycoming Animal Protection Society is a tax exempt 501(c)3 charitable organization under IRS guidelines. Please contact us at 570-327-8707 for more details on our Federal Tax ID# and any other details you may need.

When providing for LAPS in your will, it is very important to use our full corporate title: Lycoming Animal Protection Society, Inc.

Disclaimer: This information is not offered as legal advice or should be taken that way. If you wish to make a planned gift, you should consult an attorney to evaluate your circumstances and to develop any needed will and/ or estate plan.

### LAPS CASH RAFFLE

Tickets are currently on sale for our annual cash raffle. First prize is \$150, Second Prize is \$100 and Third prize is \$50. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Drawing will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2008. Winners need not be present to win. If you are interested in buying or selling tickets, please call us at 570-327-8707 or email us at lapsshelter@alltel.net. We appreciate your support!

### LAPS BOOK SALE

Do you have books that you just don't know what to do with? Consider donating them to LAPS. LAPS is planning on hosting a fall book sale at the shelter 8 am to 4 pm on Saturday, October 18 and would love to add your used books to our selection. You may contact the shelter via telephone or email to get more information on donating your books. We're looking forward to seeing you!

### LAPS YARD SALE

LAPS accepts donations all year long for our yard sales. However, we only accept those items that are sellable and in good, clean condition. Otherwise, we have to pay to dispose of items that aren't sellable.

Please remember that LAPS is a 501(c)3 organization and all contributions are tax-deductible. Tax receipts are available upon request.

### LAPS IS ON EBAY

Thank you to Kim Weber for volunteering her time to sell our better items on ebay. If you have better items that you would like to donate to LAPS to be auctioned on ebay, please give the shelter a call or email us. This is an exciting new venture for LAPS. Don't forget to check out our auctions under seller lapsshelter.

### SHOW YOUR SUPPORT, BUY A LAPS T-SHIRT

Local artist Cathy Frey has designed T-shirts for LAPS. The shirts have a row of kitties across the front and the LAPS logo on the back. Shirts are available in both long and short sleeve. Sizes S-XL short sleeve are \$15, 2X are \$18, Sizes S-XL long sleeve are \$18, 2X are \$20. Short sleeve are available in gray and green, long sleeve are available in gray and tan. Youth M-L short sleeve are available in gray and blue and are \$10 each. If you are interested in purchasing a T-shirt, you can call us at 570-327-8707, email us at lapsshelter@alltel.net or visit us at any of our fundraising events.

### 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 the shelter every month
- Ask friends and family to donate to LAPS in lieu of presents on your birthday this year
- DONATE funds!
- FOSTER a needy animal



## ARE YOU ALLERGIC TO YOUR PET?

### **Are You Allergic to Your Pet? Breathe easy---you can still keep your animal companion!**

Although more and more people are discovering the beneficial effects of owning a furry bundle of joy, the fact remains that roughly 15 to 20 percent of the population is allergic to animals. The result? Countless owners in unhappy, unhealthy situations--and their beloved pets are the cause! Allergen is the medical term for the actual substance that causes an allergic reaction. Touching or inhaling allergens leads to reactions in allergic individuals. Symptoms can include red, itchy, watery eyes and nose; sneezing; coughing; scratchy or sore throat; itchy skin, and most serious of all, difficulty breathing.

The most common pet allergens are proteins found in their dander (scales of old skin that are constantly shed by an animal), saliva, urine and sebaceous cells. Any animal can trigger an allergic response, but cats are the most common culprits. People can also become allergic to the urine, dander and saliva of exotic pets such as ferrets, guinea pigs, birds, rabbits and rodents. There is no species or breed to which humans cannot develop allergies. Fur length and type will not affect or prevent allergies. Certain pets can be less irritating than others to those who suffer from allergies, but that is strictly on an individual basis and cannot be predicted.

Once the diagnosis of a pet allergy is made, a physician will often recommend eliminating the companion animal from the surroundings. Heartbreaking? Yes. Absolutely necessary? Not always. Keep in mind that most people are allergic to several things besides pets, such as dust mites, molds and pollens, all of which can be found in the home. Allergic symptoms result from the total cumulative allergen load. That means that if you eliminate some of the other allergens, you may not have to get rid of your pet. (Conversely, should you decide to remove your pet from your home, this may not immediately solve your problems.) You must also be prepared to invest the time and effort needed to decontaminate your home environment, limit future exposure to allergens and find a physician who will work with you. Our three-part program follows:

### **Improving the Immediate Environment**

1. Create an allergen-free room. A bedroom is often the best and most practical choice. By preventing your pet from entering this room, you can ensure at least eight hours of freedom from allergens every night. It's a good idea to use hypoallergenic bedding and pillow materials.
2. Limit fabrics. Allergens collect in rugs, drapes and upholstery, so do your best to limit or eliminate them from your home. If you choose to keep some fabrics, steam-clean them regularly. Cotton-covered furniture is the smartest choice, and washable blinds or shades make good window treatments.

3. Vacuum frequently using a vacuum equipped with a HEPA (high-efficiency particulate arresting) filter or a disposable electrostatic bag. Other kinds of bags will permit allergens to blow back out of the vacuum.
4. Install an air purifier fitted with a HEPA filter. Our modern, energy-efficient homes lock in air that is loaded with allergens, so it's smart to let in some fresh air daily.
5. Use anti-allergen room sprays. These sprays deactivate allergens, rendering them harmless. Ask your allergist for a product recommendation.
6. Clean the litter box frequently. Use lowdust, perfume-free filler. Clumping litter is a good choice.
7. Dust regularly. Wiping down the walls will also cut down on allergens.
8. Invest in washable pet bedding and cages that can be cleaned often and easily.

### **Decontaminating Your Pet**

1. Bathe your pet at least once a week. Your veterinarian can recommend a shampoo that won't dry out his skin. Bathing works to wash off the allergens that accumulate in an animal's fur.
2. Wipe your pet with a product formulated to prevent dander from building up and flaking off into the environment. Ask your veterinarian to suggest one that is safe to use on animals who groom themselves.
3. Note any symptoms of dermatitis exhibited by your companion animal. Dermatitis often leads to accelerated skin and fur shedding, which will up your allergen exposure.
4. Brush or comb your pet frequently. It's best to do this outdoors, if possible. (The ASPCA does not recommend keeping cats outdoors, so make sure your feline is leashed if you take him outside.)

### **Taking Care of Yourself**

1. If possible, have someone other than yourself do the housecleaning, litter box work and pet washing, wiping and brushing. If you must clean the house or change the litter, be sure to wear a dust mask.
2. Wash your hands after handling your companion animal and before touching your face. The areas around your nose and eyes are particularly sensitive to allergens.
3. Designate a "pet outfit" from among your most easily washed clothes. Wear it when playing or cuddling with your companion, and you'll leave other clothing uncontaminated.
4. Find a physician, preferably an allergy specialist, who will make sure that your pet is the cause of your allergies and will help alleviate your symptoms. Medications and immunotherapy (desensitizing shots) can often allow you and your companion animal to remain together happily ever after.

## ADOPTEE UPDATE



**Smokey Joe**

Hello LAPS,

We've been wanting to let you know how happy we are with our newest family addition. We adopted Smokey Joe February 28th for our youngest daughter's sixth birthday. We were so excited to bring him home to "meet the rest of the family" - which included 2 other cats, one dog, 2 girls, my husband and myself. It's been quite a change for all of us. The first week or so was a little crazy. We would only "see" him a few minutes of each day. He was VERY scared at first and would hide on us to the point it would take literally all day to find his new hiding spot. Smokey didn't know what to think of the dog. Having been with you for 3 years, I'm not sure if he had ever seen a dog. I believe he just thought it was a really HUGE cat that sniffed him too much. Things are great now. This guy has so much personality. And best of all, he doesn't hide on us anymore! Sadly, 5 days after bringing Smokey Joe home, our beloved Bear (our older cat) passed away. Something we knew was coming - but you are never prepared. The girls and I are happy that Mr. Smoke (as we sometimes call him) got to meet Bear. We truly believe they are long lost cousins. Their similarities are uncanny - right down to a crook at the end of their tails. Having Smokey here has made the passing of Bear more "bearable". We adopted Bear 12 years ago after the flood. He was a stray that stole my heart and will never let go. I can see now that the Smoker Joker (he has many nicknames) is doing the same thing. I don't plan on ever getting a kitten again. These older guys still have so much love to give - I only hope more people would give the older guy a chance. Thank you so much for allowing us to bring Smokey Joe into our home. I think he is as happy to be with us as we are with him - as you can tell from the picture. This is his happy face after licking the milk from the cereal bowl - no milk mustache - but that is definitely a milk beard!

**C. Packard & Family**

Chip tested positive for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus or feline aids. FIV attacks and weakens the immune system making the animal susceptible to infections and diseases that don't usually affect healthy cats. FIV is transmitted from cat to cat via deep bite wounds; it is not transmissible to dogs or humans. Unfortunately for most cats that test positive for FIV, people's lack of knowledge greatly decrease their chances for a home, and often times it causes people to make the uninformed decision to euthanize. Thank you to Mindee Lyon and her family for giving this awesome cat a chance to show the disease is, more often than not, just a name. With two boys in the family, Chip has fit in well, wrestling around with them as well as following them around during whatever adventure they may encounter. Chip loves his new family and his new family loves him!



**Chip and the boys.**



**Sabrina Louise  
&  
Katie Ann**

Sabrina Louise & Katie Ann - Sabrina Louise was adopted in September 2006. Her new family already consisted of Murphy, a senior red tabby. Sabrina Louise and Murphy quickly became good pals. Sadly Murphy crossed the Rainbow Bridge a few months ago. This left Sabrina Louise longing for a pal. Luckily LAPS resident Katie Ann was chosen to be that pal. Katie Ann's human owner passed away earlier this year leaving 16-year old Katie Ann longing for a pal too. These two older ladies are just in the getting acquainted stage of their relationship, however, with their wonderful and patient humans, they are sure to get along just fine. A HUGE THANK YOU to Ray Masters and Ellen Houser for giving not one, but two, of our senior residents a forever home!

**If you have adopted a LAPS resident and wish to share your story, send us an email or a letter.  
The volunteers love to hear about our former residents.**

## HOPES AND PROMISES OF AN OLDER SHELTER CAT

Everyday I sit by my bowl and wait for my meals. I am polite and don't crowd the bowls like the rowdy youngsters seem to do. I meow my thanks to the caring human who brings my food and hope that he or she will speak a kind word or just pat me on my head. The feeling of fingers running through my fur is really comforting to me.

There are days that are better than others, and I get some attention every day, but often my human caregiver is just too busy helping all of the other cats in the shelter. They don't have time just to concentrate on me.

Today we got a visit from a family who were thinking about adopting one of us, so I cleaned my fur and tried to look my best, hoping that they would pick me. But, as usual, I was overlooked again because they wanted a kitten or a younger cat that is not like me.

So I wait and I wait and I wait. You see, I am an older cat at the shelter. Although I am happy for the food and care provided to me by the kind volunteers, I would much rather have a home and a family to call my own! I am not as cute as a kitten, or as active as a younger cat, but I still have lots of affection to give to anyone who would like me to live with them and be their very own companion.

Will you take me home to be your friend? I will sit on your lap and snooze while you watch television or read a book. If you have other cats, I'll get along with them since I'm already used to living with lots of other cats. I won't make any trouble. I will be so grateful and will show you how much I love you everyday! I promise.

Darlene McBryan and Steve Styers

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Charmin is a gorgeous pure white front declawed female who loves to talk!



Mickey is a beautiful black four-paw declawed female who is extremely nice.



Blinkey is a large white with black & gray tabby female who is the world's Number 1 couch potato.

Taz is a petite brown tabby female who is exceptionally sweet.



Patience is a pretty gray tabby female who enjoys the slow life.



*LAPS has many more senior residents to choose from, visit them at [www.lapsshelter.org](http://www.lapsshelter.org) or call to make an appointment to stop by.*

### THE WONDERS OF ADOPTING an adult cat *Rene Foster DVM*

Here are some reasons that an adult cat from a shelter might be ideal for you:

- They require less supervision than kittens
- They may be accustomed to young children
- They are more likely to be litter trained and better behaved
- You may be saving a life. Adult cats from shelters are often passed over for "cuter" kittens.

### MYTH VS REALITY

The vast majority of adult cats in shelters were not given up because they were sick or had bad habits. Many are cats whose owners can no longer care for them because the owners:

- Are moving but cannot take their pet
- Have health problems or have passed away
- Have had a change in lifestyle
- Have a child who develops an allergy
- Have other pets who do not get along with this one.

Properly cared for adult cats often live into their late teens and beyond. If you're aching for some feline companionship, consider an adult cat. You'll be glad you did!



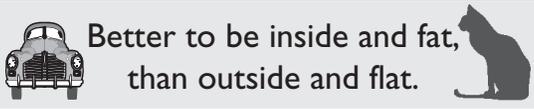
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195 Phillips Park Drive  
South Williamsport, PA 17702

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### *Inside This Issue...*

- 2008 Calendar: page 2
- LAPS Sponsor Program: page 2
- Farewell to Friends: page 2
- Memorial Gifts, Honorariums & Remembrances: page 2
- Miscellaneous Things: page 3
- Are You Allergic: page 4 & 5
- Adoptee Update: page 6
- Hopes and Promises: page 7
- Senior Spotlight: page 7

## 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 (any brand)
- Paper towels
- Litter (Scoopable)
- Laundry Detergent
- Dryer Softener Sheets
- Antibacterial Dish Detergent
- Antibacterial Hand Soap
- Computer/Copier Paper
- Tall (kitchen) Garbage Bags
- First Class & Post Card Postage Stamps
- Cat Food – Dry & Canned
- Dried Catnip
- Gift Cards (Wal-Mart, Giant, Tractor Supply)
- Fleece Fabric (to make cat beds)
- Phone Cards

## PURRS & HEAD BONKS to:

**Lycoming County Housing Authority**

**Cindy Crozier** for making our Rabies Clinic Signs.

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

**Clinton Twp. Fire Co.** for the use of their truck bays for our Rabies Clinic.

**Pet Platoon** in Lewisburg for their continuous contributions.

**Bill Crawley** for donating this year's raffle tickets.

**Dan Scaife** for typesetting the Newsletter.

**Loyalsock Animal Hospital** for their continuous care of the Shelter residents.

**Wolyniec Construction & J+F Ready Mix Concrete** for their generous donation.

**Tiadaghton Contractors** for volunteering their time and expertise.

**John Hettinger** for the canopy for our outdoor events.

**Jeff Wright** at **Consolidated Graphic Communications** for donating screen prints for our shirts.

**Brenda** at **Brenda's Pets & Grooming** for making our residents beautiful.

**All of our generous supporters for all your continuous support through your donations of cash, manpower and supplies. You keep us going!!!**