



LYCOMING ANIMAL PROTECTION SOCIETY, INC.
 FOSTERING THE TENDER AND ADOPTION CENTERS

195 Phillips Park Drive
 South Williamsport PA 17702

Newsletter

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 www.lapsshelter.org

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Late Winter 2009

“One at a time, we will make a difference!”

Lycoming Housing Authority Helps Make New Facility A Reality!

Oftentimes, blessings come from unexpected places and when they are least expected. Last year, LAPS was blessed many times. As many of you know, we have long been searching for a new place to call home. But those aren't exactly easy to find, considering most apartment rentals don't take pets, let alone a commercial rental taking 75-90 of them! But as luck would have it, last winter some members of the LAPS board of directors toured a property in the River Front South Complex. When we opened the door to the space, the landlord's representative cautioned us that it would need some work but that they would do what they could to bring it up to par. We looked at each other wondering if this basement roofing shop-basically a dimly lit garage-could be the new home we were hoping for all these years?

Once we worked out some of the improvement plans with our soon-to-be landlord, the deed was done. By late spring the new concrete floor was poured, the drywall was up and the storefront windows were in place. It almost seemed too easy...and it was because the hard work for us was still to come...rooms had to be built and the shelter made ready for the residents. Once again, we came to the “now what?” point. Sure we could gather volunteers and work on it during nights and weekends, basically whenever there was a spare moment (though spare moments usually aren't plentiful!) but how long would that take?

As you all know, word gets around in our small town. Well, one of the board members heard about Lycoming Housing Authority's (LHA) Day of Caring-when the organization donates their employees' time one day a month to help non-profit organizations. After a quick phone call, a deal was struck. LHA's entire workforce, roughly 40 people, would come to the shelter on Wednesday, June 25, to help...with one stipulation...we had to feed them lunch. Easy enough! (Continued on Page 6)

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”
 --Winston Churchill

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 Board of Directors

President: James Cleland
Vice President: Tracy Haas
Recording Secretary: Charlotte Myers
Corresponding Secretary: Gwen Uber
Treasurer: Cyndi Eck

Members: Nancy Cohick
 Linda Williard
 Patti Barclay
 Holly Kline
 Brandy Kift
 Sheri Lozak
 Kristen Fleckenstein

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/DONATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Street
City
State
Zip

Annual Associate Membership is \$15 donation, Annual Senior Membership is \$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 Anne E. Seidel
 - Patricia A. Kerbein
 - Nanci Giacomi

In Honor of a few of my close friends/family members:
 Gwenn Rosato, Doris Gephart, Sue & Gary Bachman
 - Kelley Socling

In Honor of Mittens & in Memory of Sophie
 - The Rancks

In Honor of Terrance Clever
 - Cindy & Joseph Krall

In Memory of Shadow (aka Bruce)
 - Harold & Janet Stugart

In Honor of Kelley & Garrette Socling
 - Gary & Sue Bachman

In Honor of my Kit Kats
 - Greta Elliot

In Memory of Ellen Weber
 - Charlotte Myers
 - Jenn Jacobs
 - Rhea Bennett
 - Dr. Marjorie Baney
 - Nanci Giacomi
 - Jackie Carson
 - Lycoming-Clinton Joinder Board

In Honor of Jill Webb
 - Kristen Leonard

In Loving Memory of Taffy McGregor & Darlean Herr
 - Theresa McGregor

In Honor of Richard Lewis, founder of LAPS
 - Karen Lewis Young

In Memory of Audrey E. Snyder
 - John & Mary Mincemoyer
 - H. Ray & Barbara Spotts
 - Al & Paul Clapps of Gentry Development
 - Sarah, Jessica, Hanna & Michelle Kreger
 - Andritz
 - Construction Specialties

In Honor of my 16-month old grandson Damien
 - Bonnie Bryan

In Memory of my dear Sandy
 - Michelle Hopkins

In Memory of Max Dunphy/Hill, our precious tabby cat
 - George B. Hill
 - Mary L. Dunphy

In Honor of Jason & Bethany Mickel
 - Harry & Linda Felton

In Honor of Cindy & Joe Krall
 - Terrance Clever

In Memory of Fay Bastian and all our precious strays
 - Diane Bastian
 - Harry Boyer

FAREWELL

Pixie came to LAPS with her mother and 4 siblings when she was approximately 2 weeks old. You could tell from the beginning that Pixie was special even though her mother and her siblings didn't treat her any different. Her pupils faced downward and outward and her eyes were smaller than normal. As Pixie and her siblings got older, her siblings started to become mobile but Pixie was having difficulty getting her back legs to cooperate. Pixie was taken to Loyalsock Animal Hospital where she was diagnosed with hydrocephalous or water on the brain. We were instructed to observe her as she could start suffering from seizures and it was unknown as to how long of a life she would have. Pixie actually thrived for the next month. The volunteers worked with her on a daily basis doing leg-strengthening exercises and she received several chiropractic adjustments. We were amazed at Pixie's progress and how well she was adapting. When Pixie got going, she actually hopped around like a rabbit! We were all deeply upset when we came in one morning and found that Pixie had passed away at the approximate age of 2 months. We were all blessed to have been touched by this special girl.

Lend Me A Kitten



I will lend to you for a while
a kitten, God said.
For you to love while she lives,
and mourn after she's dead.

Maybe for twelve or fourteen years,
or maybe just two or three.
But will you, 'til I call her back,
take care of her for me?

She'll bring her charms to gladden you
and should her stay be brief,
you'll always have her memories
as solace for your grief.

I cannot promise she will stay,
since all from earth return.
But there are lessons you can give
I want this kitten to learn.

I've looked the whole world over
in search of teachers true,
and from the fold that crowds life's land
I have chosen you.

Now will you give her all your love,
nor think the labor in vain?
Nor hate me when I come to take
my kitten home again?

And my heart replied,
"My Lord, Thy Will Be Done."
For all the joys this kitten brings,
the risk of grief I'll run.

We'll shelter her with tenderness,
we'll love her while we may.
And for the happiness that we've known,
forever grateful stay.

If by our love we've managed
your wishes to achieve,
in memory of his sweet sweet love,
please help us while we grieve.

And when our cherished kitten
departs this world of strife,
please send yet another needing soul
for us to love all his life.

Author Unknown

PET CPR

It's not a scenario you want to imagine: finding your dog unconscious on your living room floor or your cat hit by a car. Finding your pet not breathing or with his heart not beating can be a terrifying experience, but there are things you can do. The most important step you can take is staying calm. If there is another person with you, have them call your veterinarian while you perform CPR.

Check for responsiveness

- Before you begin doing anything to your pet, make sure he is actually arrested and unresponsive. Talk to the animal first. Gently touch and attempt to awaken the pet. You could be seriously injured should you attempt to perform CPR on a pet who was only sleeping heavily and was startled awake.

Check for breathing

- Check his breathing by placing your hand in front of his nose and mouth. (Be sure not to cover them and block his airway.)
- Check for his heartbeat by placing your ear against the area where your pet's left elbow touches his chest.

Secure an airway

- If you don't see or feel your pet breathing, you immediately need to make sure his airway is clear.
- Carefully pull his tongue forward out of his mouth. (Even an unresponsive animal can bite by instinct.)
- Look into the throat for a foreign object. If you find one, remove it carefully. This can also be done by holding the animal upside down with its back against your chest. Wrap your arms around the animal and clasp your hands together just below its rib cage. (Since you are holding the animal upside down, it's above the rib cage, in the abdomen.) Give 5 sharp squeezes to the abdomen in an attempt to force the object out.
- Move the head until the neck is straight. (Don't move the neck if you suspect it is injured.)

Observe for effective breathing

- Sometimes an animal will begin to breathe spontaneously when the head is put in the position discussed above (head and neck extended, tongue pulled forward). Watch for the rise and fall of the chest while listening closely for sounds of breathing. If no breathing is evident in 10 seconds, begin rescue breathing.

Begin rescue breathing

- Rescue breathing is performed by covering the animal's nose with your mouth and forcefully blowing your breath into his lungs. In cats and small dogs, you must hold the corners of the mouth tightly closed while you force the air in. In larger dogs, the tongue should be pulled forward and the mouth and lips held shut using both hands cupped around the muzzle. Force the air into the lungs until you see the chest expand.
- If the chest doesn't expand, check again for a foreign object in the throat and reposition the airway so it is straight.
- After several breaths are given, stop for a few seconds to recheck for breathing. If your pet is still not breathing, continue rescue breathing 20-25 times per minute in cats or small dogs or 12-20 times per minute in medium or large dogs. Push down on the stomach area every few seconds to help expel the air that may have blown into the stomach. If the stomach is allowed to distend with air, the pressure will make the rescue breathing efforts less effective.

Chest compressions

- Gently lay your pet on his right side. The heart is located in the lower half of the chest on the left side, behind the elbow of the front left leg.
- Press down gently on your pet's heart. Press down about one inch for medium-sized dogs; press harder for larger animals and with less force for smaller animals. To massage the hearts of cats and other tiny animals, compress the chest with the thumb and forefingers of one hand.
- Press down 80-120 times per minute for larger animals and 100-150 times per minute for smaller ones.
- Alternate chest compressions with rescue breaths.

Continue the heart massage compressions and the rescue breathing until you can hear a heartbeat and feel regular breathing. Once your pet is breathing and his heart is beating, call your veterinarian immediately. Unfortunately, even in the hands of well-trained veterinary health professionals, the overall chance for success with resuscitation is low. In an emergency, however, it may give your pet his only chance.

FROM OUR ADOPTERS/ADOPTEE UPDATE

Dear LAPS Family,

We found out about LAPS from your volunteer and our friend Kerri R. We lost our cat Morgan suddenly in June and he left a bigger hole in our family than we could have imagined. We do have a young adult female cat so I decided we should adopt another older cat who was already spayed/neutered. We also have an almost 3-year old (daughter) so we weren't looking for the craziness of a kitten either. I visited LAPS and spent time there meeting all the cats. I met Suzy who had just been dropped off and was still in quarantine. She had everything I was looking for-she was fluffy, lovely, spayed and declawed. However I couldn't deny the attraction I had to a kitten named Louie who was everything I wasn't looking for. He still needed to be neutered and he not only had claws-he was polydactyl! I made a second trip to LAPS and was still drawn to Louie. He crawled up on my lap, nuzzled into my neck and rubbed his little face against mine. On our third trip to LAPS, we applied to adopt Louie. Kerri R. brought him to our house the end of July and it was like he had always lived there. By the evening he was laying on his back in the middle of the living room! He is so wonderful with our daughter, too. She puts him in her stroller like a doll and he loves the ride! And he never scratched her, even with all those toes! We absolutely love Louie and are grateful to LAPS for providing such a wonderful environment for these cats. It was great that I could come in and spend time and get to know so many cool cats. Thanks for all you do!

Love,

Kerri, Donovan, Jenna, Chloe (dog), Nina (kitty) and Loveable Louie McLoughlin



Jenna & Louie



Jenny (aka Ebbers)

Hello!

In September of 2007 my husband and I adopted a cat from your shelter for a neighbor who is unable to leave her home very often. This cat has been an angel for our neighbor! She was the perfect fit and keeps her very good company. Our neighbor receives the newsletters and wondered if I could email you an update to be included in the next newsletter. Below is the update from her:

"I adopted a 5-year old black cat in September 2007. Her name at the time was Ebbers, but she now goes by Jenny. She quickly made herself at home and became the "queen of the house" within the first day of being in her new home. She comes to bed with me every single night and even has her own pillow and blanket. She is a quiet, calm cat that enjoys lots of attention! She is a wonderful friend and we thoroughly enjoy each other's company!" (Dorothy Quigel)

Thanks for all you do with these fine animals!

Lisa Fisher

Lycoming Housing Authority Helps Make New Facility A Reality! (Continued from Page 1)



Our friends at LHA in front of LAPS



Before



After

Now it was time to make sure we made the most of our new space. So in stepped Tiadaghton Contractors to generously donate their time to draw up floor plans. After that, Brian Heatley, LHA employee, put in many hours prior to the big day to prepare numerous projects so everyone could hit the ground running. When the big day finally arrived, it was really more than anyone could have expected. Every LHA employee was there; from directors to accountants to carpenters to maintenance folks...everyone pitched in and gave us their best! And by the end of the day, the shelter was about 75-80% complete.

Then LAPS' ever-dedicated group of volunteers and supporters picked up the ball. After all, there was lots of finish work to be done...caulking, stapling chicken wire, cleaning and other preparations for the big move. And keep in mind; this all took place on numerous nights and weekends during the busy summer months when picnics, gatherings and other fun activities are plentiful. But the group pulled together to finish strong for our cats.

Finally, on Saturday, July 26, the cats were packed up one by one and brought to their new home. Some were curious, others terrified, but most were just happy to flop down in their beds for a rejuvenating snooze (the humans also felt the same way that night).

A special thank you to each and every person or business who helped make our new facility a reality. We were truly amazed and overwhelmed by everyone's generosity, whether it was swinging a hammer, hauling dirty drywall out of the old facility at the eleventh hour or carefully transporting the cats to their new homes. We couldn't have done it without you and will forever be grateful for your generous spirits!

LAPS Receives New Logo and Website

Lori Wannop, designer extraordinaire, graciously donated her time to help LAPS develop a new logo. As you can see, she did an outstanding job!



As if the year wasn't fruitful enough already, LAPS received two additional blessings-a new logo and website. Wain Schroeder, "proudly owned" by a former LAPS cat, kindly offered to build and host a new website. And thus www.lapsshelter.org came to be. The site offers lots of new features: secure donations via PayPal, a resident's section with photos of the cats, electronic copies of the newsletter, an "In The News" page and much more. Check it out for yourself today!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Book Sale

Saturday, February 21
8 am – 4 pm
First Ward Fire Co.
573 Hastings Street
South Williamsport

Yard Sale

Saturday, March 21
7 am – 3 pm
First Ward Fire Co.
573 Hastings Street
South Williamsport

Mother's Day High Tea

Sunday, May 3
1:30 pm
Park Place
800 W. Fourth Street
Williamsport

Community Bazaar

Saturday, March 14
10 am – 9 pm
Lycoming Mall
300 Lycoming Mall Circle
Pennsdale

Rabies Clinic

Saturday, April 18
9 am – 11 am
Clinton Twp Fire Co.
Route 54
Montgomery

West Branch School Fair

Saturday, May 9
Noon – 5 pm
West Branch School
755 Moore Avenue
Williamsport

Millionaire's Row Tour A Huge Success



Susan Kelly on the grand staircase at Park Place

Though the weather outside was truly frightful, the Millionaire's Row Tour on Sunday, December 7 was a huge success! Over 50 people braved single digit wind chill factors to board the Herdic Trolley and learn about the history of Williamsport's famous Millionaire's Row. Susan Kelly-a volunteer with the Lycoming County Visitors Bureau-suited up in Victorian attire and provided a truly entertaining and informative tour. She even shared some of the juicier details of our city's history, including the story of a famous Williamsport husband who may or may not have poisoned his wife! After the tours were complete, participants happily made their way into Park Place where they warmed up with coffee, tea, cocoa and delicious treats. A special thank you to Susan Kelly for donating her time to LAPS and providing everyone with a delightful afternoon!

Open House



On Sunday, December 28, LAPS hosted an Open House. The community showed up in full force to take tours of the new facility, meet the shelter's residents and bring gifts to place under the shelter's Christmas tree. The cats really enjoyed the attention and some even found new homes. Believe it or not, we even had visitors from as far as Las Vegas! The event was so successful we are considering doing a holiday Open House every year.



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FELINE SHELTER AND ADOPTION CENTER

195 Phillips Park Drive
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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 (any brand)
Paper Towels
Laundry Detergent
Dish Detergent
Antibacterial Hand Soap
Copy Paper
Tall (kitchen) Garbage Bags
First Class & Post Card Postage Stamps
Cat Food (dry & canned)
Dried Catnip
Gift Cards (Wal-Mart, Giant, Target)
Scoopable Cat Litter
Brooms

Purrs & Head Bonks to:

Susan Kelly for planning and hosting the Trolley Tours.

Tony Visco/Park Place for providing the facility for the Trolley Tours.

Hilsher Graphics for making the signs for our Open House.

Anne Moore for making the catnip bags for our fundraisers.

Dunkin Donuts for donating coffee for our fundraisers.

Lamar Advertising, Sun-Gazette, East Lycoming Shopper & Webb Weekly for media support.

Haas Construction

Montoursville Veterinary Hospital and Lewis Veterinary Clinic for their donations of food.

Everyone who donated to and helped make our Open House a success.

All the businesses who adopted LAPS during the holidays.

Our Volunteers and Supporters who make it all possible!

